



# **Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour Rules**

2024-25 Season

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## **Table of Contents**

**Chapter 1- Basic Information**

**Chapter 2- Formats**

**Chapter 3- Side Events**

**Chapter 4- Disciplinary Actions**

**Chapter 5- Fees & Prize Money**

**Chapter 6- Competition Rules**

**Chapter 7- Dress Code**

**Chapter 8- Point System & Other Information**

**AYBT Adult/ Youth & Doubles Rules Alterations**

**AYBT + PBA Jr. Affiliate**



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## Chapter 1- Basic Information

1. The Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour is open to any bowler ages 23 and below to bowl for scholarship money into their Smart Fund.
  - a. Bowlers must be 23 years old or younger on August 1st of the current season
2. Every event begins at 9:00am. Check-in will begin at or before 8:00am. Unless otherwise noted.
  - a. It is recommended that bowlers who are wanting to bowl pre-register prior to the day of the event. Walk-ins are accepted if there is room in the division. Maximum amount of entries varies upon the location of the event.
3. Handicap is 80% of 200.
  - a. For a Handicap division bowler's first event, the bowler's current Standard Composite average from [bowl.com](http://bowl.com) will be converted to a Sport Shot average, and used to determine the bowler's handicap.
  - b. If the bowler has a Sport Shot average from the current season established, that average will be used to determine the bowler's average.
  - c. If the bowler is bowling a current league with a minimum of 12 games, the average from that league can also be used, as long as proof of average is presented on the day of the event.
  - d. After the bowler's first AYBT event, AYBT will establish a Sport Shot average for the bowler and that average will be used to determine the bowler's current handicap at every event they bowl. This average is only good for use in AYBT events.
  - e. Handicap bowlers from the 2022-23 season who finished with a 180 scratch average or higher with a minimum of 12 games bowled will be required to move into their respective scratch division for the 2023-24 season.
  - f. If a Handicap division bowler wishes to bowl in their respective scratch division for an event, they will not be allowed to go back to the Handicap division for the remainder of the season.\*
  - i. If a Handicap bowler does change divisions mid-season, the bowler's points will **NOT** transfer to the scratch division. Any accumulated points will remain in the Handicap division, and the bowler will start with zero points in the scratch division.\*

\* Indicates alterations to this rule made for different events and referenced on a separate rules page



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## Chapter 2- Formats

1. Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour will be hosting events with four different formats. These formats are described below and listed with the divisions offered at these events.

**a. Normal Events-** 6 games of qualifying, followed by a 1:4 ratio cut to a two-game Advancer's Round, followed by a 1:5 ratio cut of each division's total field for one game, single elimination match play.

**b. Doubles & Adult/Youth-** 6 individual games of qualifying, a cut will be made based on a 1:4 ratio. Following the cut, single elimination best of 3 matches will be conducted.

**i. Doubles-** U12, U15, U18, U23\* age divisions, and a mixed handicap division will be offered based on the older bowler's age as of 8/1/2023.

**ii. Adult/Youth-** U12, U15, U18\*, and a mixed handicap division will be offered based on the youth bowler's age as of 8/1/2023.

**iii. Match Play-** Match play will be conducted in Baker format. The order of bowler's may be changed in between games.

**c. Finale-** Same format as Normal Events. The Finale event will also be bowled on dual patterns, with one pattern on the left lanes, and a different pattern on the right lanes.

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## Chapter 3- Side Events

1. Brackets and Junior Gold qualifiers will be held at every event.

**a. Brackets-** Brackets are an optional side pot for bowlers to have a chance to earn extra prize money. Brackets cost \$5 per bracket. During normal events, brackets will be ran on games 1-3 or 4-6. Bowlers can join however many brackets they wish to join. If bowlers enter brackets that do not fill, immediate cash refunds will be issued.

**b. Junior Gold Qualifiers-** Junior Gold qualifiers will be hosted at every event. Qualifiers for U12, U15, and U18 divisions will be held. Qualifier payout ratios are 1:4. If an upper division still needs more entries to be able to hold an eligible qualifier, bowlers from lower divisions will be offered the option to bowl up a division, as long as the entry fee difference is paid. Junior Gold membership is also required and can be purchased for \$30. Memberships are \$10 for U12. Junior Gold qualifiers will be ran during Games 1-6

**i. Entry Fees-** The costs for each Junior Gold qualifiers are as listed below

U12- \$25

U15- \$40

U18- \$50



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## Chapter 4- Disciplinary Actions

1. Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour will be enforcing a strict code of conduct policy during events.

**a. Scores Verification-** All scores must be written on a bowler's recap sheet, and must be verified by an opponent's initials. Falsified scores, and scores that were not properly verified are subject to AYBT Disciplinary Actions or disqualification of the bowler per Rule 327b in the USBC Rulebook.

**b. Disorderly Conduct-** Bowlers who are bowling with poor behavior during events and acting disorderly are subject to the AYBT Disorderly Conduct protocols listed below. Disorderly Conduct can consist, but is not limited to any of the following: poor sportsmanship, excessive yelling of profanities, abuse of equipment, etc. Discipline will be carried over events. Dependant of the severity of the situation, conduct at future events, and timing of disorderly conduct can alter the disciplinary actions. Some disciplinary actions decisions will not be made immediately as it will be subject to alterations from board discretion.

**i. First Offense-** Warning

**ii. Second Offense-** Zero score for a frame and \$10 fine

**iii. Third Offense-** Disqualification and \$25 fine

**iv. Fourth Offense-** Temporary suspension from AYBT events

**v. Fifth+ Offense-** Temporary suspension from AYBT and report submitted to USBC with potential USBC suspension.



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## Chapter 5- Fees & Prize Money

1. Entry fees per event will be dependant on the type of event being held.
  - a. **Normal Events-** \$65 Members/\$75 Non-Members
    - i. \$18 Lineage, \$35 Prize Fund, \$5 Expenses, \$2 Year-End, \$5 Champion Balls
  - b. **Doubles & Adult/Youth-** \$70 per bowler/\$140 per team
    - i. \$36 Lineage, \$65 Scholarship, \$10 Expenses, \$10 Year-End, \$19 Champion Balls
  - c. **Finale-** \$75 Entry Fee
    - i. \$18 Lineage, \$47 Scholarship, \$5 Expenses, \$5 Champion Balls
2. Bowlers who bowl a 300 game or 800 series will receive \$50 in scholarship. 800 series will qualify if bowled in typical 3-game sets (i.e. Games 1-3, 4-6, first 3 games in match play, etc.).
3. Payouts for each event will be posted prior to the conclusion of the event. All champions at every event will receive scholarship, a free AYBT Champion jersey from Bowlifi, and a free Brunswick brands ball of choice.
  - a. AYBT will have pre-designed Champion jersey designs available that can have colors changed.
    - i. For **all** AYBT jerseys, we will not allow alterations or exclusions of any logos on our jerseys (i.e. no changing of the Brunswick logo to a Storm logo, or complete removal of the Brunswick logo). **Only** exception will be for personal staff reasons (Storm staff, Motiv staff, etc.).
  - b. Bowlers will receive a free ball of choice from the brands of Brunswick. Only restrictions that will apply are bowling balls that are currently not released to the public at the time.
    - i. There must be a **MINIMUM** of 60 total entries at an event in order for bowling balls to be offered.
  - c. Bowlers will also receive scholarship money. Bowlers who are USBC sanctioned as an Adult may have the option to accept their winnings as scholarship money or cash.
5. All scholarship money is deposited to the bowlers from the AYBT Smart Fund account #13863\*

\* Indicates alterations to this rule made for different events and referenced on a separate rules page



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## Chapter 6- Competition Rules

**1. Lane Assignments/Movement-** During all events, lanes assignments will be separated into blocks based on divisions. Starting lane assignments will be provided on the bowler's recap sheet at all events.

a. Bowlers will be moving one pair to the right after every game.

b. Bowlers will be moving within their assigned blocks.

**2. Tiebreakers-** In the case of any ties, whether it is for the last position in the cut, or if it is for important seeding purposes, all ties will be broken with a 9th & 10th frame roll-off. If there is a tie in the 9th and 10th frame roll-off, the tie will be broken with a one ball roll-off.

**3. Equipment-** All bowling balls used in competition must meet USBC Equipment Specifications.

a. All holes that are drilled into the bowling ball must be used by fingers or thumb.

b. Cleaning of the bowling ball or altering the surface of a bowling ball is not permitted once practice has concluded. During breaks after qualifying blocks, and in between matches, cleaning and altering the surface of the bowling ball is permitted.

**4. Lane Courtesy-** 1-lane courtesy will be used at all AYBT events.

**5. Match Play-** Match play during all AYBT events will be performed as follows.

a. Higher seed of the match gets choice of who starts and starting lanes.

b. The bowler who begins the match will bowl their first frame, and the competitor will bowl the next two frames, and two frames will be bowled repeatedly until the match has come to a conclusion.\*

## Chapter 7- Dress Code

**1.** Proper bowling attire must be worn at events.\*

a. All bowlers must wear a shirt with a butterfly or mock collar.

b. Boys may wear slacks or golf shorts.

c. Girls may wear slacks, golf shorts, dress capris, or a dress skirt.

i. The fingertip rule will apply to dress skirts.

d. USBC Youth bowling jerseys will be accepted.

e. Hats, jeans, leggings, yoga pants, and t-shirts will not be allowed. Clothing depicting sex, guns, drugs, alcohol, profanities, violence, or harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

**2.** Bowlers who are not compliant with the dress code will be asked to change into proper clothing. If the bowler is not able to change into proper clothing, the bowler will be disqualified for the event.

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## Chapter 8- Point System & Other Information

1. Points will be kept during all AYBT events. The only event points will not be kept is the Finale.

**a. Point System:**

Attendance: 1

High Qualifier: 5

200-250 Scratch Game: 2

251-299 Scratch Game: 3

300 Game: 10

Position Points: Determined on division's entries

(ex. 20 entries; 1st place - 20; 10th place - 10; 20th place - 1; etc.)

2. Information on events can be found at any of the locations below.

**a.** On our website [amateuryouthbowlerstour.org](http://amateuryouthbowlerstour.org)

**b.** Contact any of the directors.

**i.** Edgar Burgos - Tour Director - [eburgosabc@gmail.com](mailto:eburgosabc@gmail.com)

**ii.** Justin Mooney - Assistant Tour Director - [jmooney091702@gmail.com](mailto:jmooney091702@gmail.com)

3. Registration for events can be performed as followed.

**a.** Completing the online registration form and paying for the entry at [amateuryouthbowlerstour.org](http://amateuryouthbowlerstour.org)

**b.** Contact the Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour Facebook page to reserve a spot.

**c.** Entry forms can be mailed to Justin Mooney 11411 Dwyer Lane, Roscoe, IL 61073 or emailed to [amateuryouthbowlerstour@gmail.com](mailto:amateuryouthbowlerstour@gmail.com)

**d.** Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour accepts cash, check, PayPal ([amateuryouthbowlerstour@gmail.com](mailto:amateuryouthbowlerstour@gmail.com)), or Zelle ([eburgosabc@gmail.com](mailto:eburgosabc@gmail.com)) as payment.

**e.** All checks can be made payable to **Amateur Youth Bowlers Tour**

3. Any rules not covered in this rule book will be determined by USBC rule.





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## AYBT Adult/Youth & Doubles Rule Alterations

### 1. Prize Distribution

**a.** More specifically in the U23 Division for AYBT Doubles. If a **single** USBC member sanctioned as a youth bowls in the U23 Division, **all** prize money **must** be disbursed as SMART Fund due to USBC Rule 400 protocols. No exceptions.

**b.** Due to Rule 400 protocols, no cash may be handed out as prize money at the AYBT Adult/Youth event. Ultimately, this means no adult participating in this event will be able to get prize money. All prize fund money from the entry fee will be directed to the youth, who will receive their prize money in SMART Fund.

**i.** Adults will still receive an award and Brunswick ball of choice.

### 2. Match Play

**a.** Match play for the AYBT Adult/Youth and AYBT Doubles will be conducted in baker format.

**i.** Baker format is a format to where the whole team bowls a single game. In this case, bowlers would alternate frames to complete a single game.

**ii.** Lineup changes are allowed in between matches, but are not required.

**b.** There is no alternating of lanes during games. Teams will alternate lanes once the game is completed and continue. Due to this, perform match play to each team alternating turns.

### 3. Entries

**a.** At minimum, there must be 4 teams participating in a division in order for the division to run.

**i.** If the division fails to reach the participation minimum, entrants will have the option to bowl up an age division, bowl in the handicap division, or withdraw from the event.

**ii.** The tournament directors have the right and will warn that the decision to remove a division from the event will be finalized exactly **14** days prior to the event. This is to allow adjustments for lane assignments and space, and to give enough notice to the bowlers to make a decision from the removed division.



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## AYBT Adult/Youth & Doubles Rule Alterations

### 4. Points

a. All youth bowlers will still receive attendance and performance points for their participation in the AYBT Adult/Youth and Doubles events.

b. The adult bowlers in the AYBT Adult/Youth event may also receive points from the event if they have previously participated in the current AYBT Season. AYBT will **NOT** add points from the Adult/Youth event if a bowler bowls in an event after the AYBT Adult/Youth.

c. Bowlers who bowl in any of the age divisions (U12, U15, U18, U23) at the AYBT Adult/Youth or Doubles events will receive their points in their respective Scratch division, regardless of previous attendance in their respective Scratch division.

### 5. Dress Code

a. Adults will be expected to be dressed as closely to proper tournament attire as possible. Jeans with no holes will be allowed. A polo shirt is required.

b. Adults will still be required to abide by no clothing depicting sex, guns, drugs, alcohol, profanities, violence, or harassment of any kind. We will also not allow ripped pants of any kind.

### 6. Handicap Eligibility

a. Handicap bowlers who do choose to bowl in their respective age division (U12, U15, U18, U23) for the AYBT Adult/Youth or Doubles events and will receive their points in their respective Scratch division, do **not** lose their eligibility to participate in the Handicap division at singles events.



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## **AYBT + PBA Jr. Affiliate**

1. AYBT is a PBA Jr. Affiliated tour.

a. Being a PBA Jr. Affiliated tour means that all PBA Jr. members who bowl in our events will receive PBA Jr. points based on their finish at our events.

b. The top PBA Jr. points-earners in their respective regions at the end of the 2024 calendar year will receive a portion of the Jim Welch Memorial Scholarship, which totals \$20,000.

2. Bowlers who are not PBA Jr. members are encouraged to look at the benefits of being a member and sign up at: <https://www.pba.com/join/pba-junior>

