



BAMA LANES YOUTH LEAGUE POLICIES SUPPLEMENTAL



No one can write a rule or prediction for every circumstance, so the decision of the Youth Director is binding and shall be the final decision on any matter, whether contained herein or not. The Youth League rules will be as per USBC Guidelines with the following exceptions:

1. **Dues:**

- a. The bowling fee for each member in Bumpers, Bantams, Preps, and Junior/Major/Seniors leagues shall be \$8.00 per week.
- b. Fees must be paid each week, **regardless if the bowler is present or not.**
- c. No bowler shall owe more than two week's arrearage at any time. This is to compensate for those who may have had an emergency or illness. In this instance, fees are to be paid current at the next league bowling date. Any bowler who owes more than 2 weeks shall forfeit any scores bowled until paid.
- d. Last two weeks of the season must be paid prior to the 5th scheduled bowling week of each session.

2. **Dress code:**

- a. Pants should fit properly. If pants are too loose to stay on a bowler's hip, a belt must be worn to keep pants in place. If pants are not loose, but are below the waist, the bowler's shirt or blouse is to keep under garments and skin from being exposed during delivery of ball. Pants should not drag under shoes while bowling, as this poses a safety hazard.
- b. For all females, blouses should not show mid-drift or excessive cleavage. Blouse should not pose the possibility to show exposure during the delivery of ball.
- c. For all males, shirts or T-Shirts should not have pictures or writing on it that is in poor taste or promotes alcohol or tobacco.
- d. No hats or sunglasses will be worn during league and/or tournament bowling, regardless if tournament rules are not stipulated as such. If a medical reason exists for the use of eye gear, a medical excuse must be given to the Youth Director.
- e. Absolutely no cell phones, mp3 players or any other media players will be allowed for use during league and/or tournament bowling, regardless if tournament rules are not stipulated as such.
- f. No gum chewing during league and/or tournament bowling as this also poses a safety hazard.
- g. **For Tournaments: Regardless of what the tournament dress code is, as a minimum, all Prattville Youth bowlers will wear a collared shirt (PYBBC issued if owned) and dress slacks/khaki pants.** Exception to this rule is any non-sanctioned event that allows the bowlers to wear jeans in the dress code.

3. **Lane courtesy:**

- a. Will be used at all times. Check and make sure there is no bowler to your immediate left or immediate right lining up to take their turn.
- b. A bowler is not to wait on the approach for his/her ball to return if a spare attempt is to be made or another ball is to be delivered in the tenth frame.
- c. Once you have completed your turn, step off the approach to the pit area.

4. **Horse play:**

- a. Is not to take place in the bowling alley at all. You may sit and converse with your teammates, but no hand wrestling, snapping of towels, or playing around in the pit area. Those found snapping towels will have their towels removed for the duration of the day.

5. **Respect:**

- a. Bowling alley equipment. Do not sit on the score tables or ball returns. Sit in the chairs provided. Abuse of house equipment will not be tolerated.
- b. Other bowlers around you. Allow your teammates and opposing bowlers to concentrate when they are taking their turn. Poor sportsmanship, rude behavior, and foul language are not acceptable.
- c. The coaches, who give their valuable time for free.

6. **Disciplinary Action:**

- a. Discipline for infractions shall be strictly enforced.
- b. Disciplinary action can be, but are not limited to, violations of Code of Conduct, Dress Code, Behavior, or Rule violation of League or USBC.
- c. Penalties for such violations are to be handled by any bona fide Coach, Director, or Administrative Support Staff.
- d. The actions taken shall be in the following order:
 - i. A “tag” warning. This will be considered a verbal warning. For reference, a “tag” will be a slip of paper indicating “Rule Violation”.
 - ii. Probation – 1 week of bowling blind
- e. Repeat offenses shall be handled by the Head Coach, the Coach/Official involved (if any) and the Youth Director. The decision of the Youth Director shall be final.
- f. All league fees must continue to be paid during any and all probation or disciplinary actions.
- g. If a parent or bowler feels that a penalty has been applied inappropriately, they may appeal the decision in the following order: First to the Head Coach, secondly to the Youth Director, and finally to the proprietor of the Center.

7. **Practice:**

- a. Bowlers may practice at Bama Lanes in Prattville on Wednesday or Friday afternoons from 3:00 pm until 4:30 pm
- b. Bowlers may practice at Bama Lanes in Montgomery on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm.
- c. Bowlers may practice at Woodmere Lanes on Tuesday afternoons from 3:45 pm until 5:00 pm.
- d. Bowlers may practice at Ace Bowling Center in Montgomery during the days and times outlined by the Youth Department (specifics to come later)
- e. Bowlers will sign-in at the counter, pay the \$3.00 required and no new games will be started after 5:00 pm.
- f. Regardless of which house you practice in, ALL lanes are returned to the house promptly at 5:00 pm, regardless of what frame you are in.

8. **Pre/Post Bowling:**

- a. Pre-Bowling is permitted as a team or by an individual when the following conditions are met and may be completed up to the Friday before the next scheduled bowling date:
 - i. Reasons for pre-bowling are outlined in the USBC policy handbook.
 - ii. Weekly fees must be paid to the front counter prior to pre-bowling. No bowler will be allowed to pre-bowl without paying the weekly fees first.
 - iii. You must make arrangements with the Bowling Center **a minimum of 24 hours prior** to pre-bowling to schedule lanes. This should be done far enough in advance so that you will not be turned away. If you do not pre-schedule an appointment with the Center, you will not be allowed to bowl. No Exceptions.
 - iv. If a full team is pre-bowling the opposing team must be given the opportunity to bowl at the same time.
 - v. All bowlers will receive 5 minutes of practice time only.
 - vi. A youth bowler may only pre-bowl up to 9 consecutive games at a time. This is to aid in youth trips, tournaments, and other conflicting events. If you must pre-bowl for more than 9 consecutive games, you must contact the Youth Director for approval.
 - vii. You must make sure that the Pre-Bowl Form is filled out, including your full name and scratch scores and the date that you are pre-bowling for. You must use the Pre-Bowl Youth Form provided in order for your scores to count. Standard score sheets are not accepted.
 - viii. Pre-Bowl scores will consist of the first three games bowled. Any bowler caught cheating or substituting a score from another game will be immediately suspended from bowling for one week. All fees will be required to be paid during suspension.
 - ix. Bowlers will exit the pre-assigned lanes after the end of the third game. If a bowler wishes to practice on regular practice days after pre-bowling, they must move to a lane designated for practice only by the counter attendant, provided there are lanes available. If no lanes are available, the bowling session is then over.
 - x. In the event that a correction needs to be made, the control counter attendant must make the change and they must initial the print out sheet that they made the correction. Under no circumstances is a youth bowler to correct a score on the machine or on the score sheet.
 - xi. **You must make sure that the control counter attendant prints the computer recap sheet and attaches it to your recap sheet and it is placed in the league cubby hole. If no computer recap is attached to your handwritten recap sheet, your scores will not count for the week you are bowling for.**
 - xii. **SCRATCH BOWLERS:** Bowling scores that are completed during a pre-bowl session do not count towards team or individual points. Scores count strictly to the bowler's average only.
 - xiii. Scores are not eligible for honor score awards when pre-bowled unless the opposing team is bowling with your team. This applies to all youth bowlers.
- b. **Post Bowling is not allowed** and will only be permitted under extreme circumstances:
 - i. Examples of extreme circumstances: When there is a death in the family; when an accident occurs on the way to the regular scheduled bowling; when admitted to the hospital or when a family member has an immediate medical emergency that prevents

you from being able to bowl. (Not feeling well, having a headache, oversleeping, prior athletic commitments or lunch dates are not valid reasons)

- ii. You must contact your Youth Director personally to explain the situation and s/he will determine if the situation warrants Post Bowling.

Violation of any of the above policies and/or USBC, USBC CAA rules will be met with a warning for the first offense and suspension for any additional offenses. If a bowler receives three suspensions any time during the season, he/she will not be allowed to bowl the remainder of the season.

These policies are effective 1 August 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Hutchison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

*Youth Director
Bama Lanes Prattville*

BAMA LANES YOUTH LEAGUE RULES

General Overview:

The Youth Bowling League shall consist of teams with a playing strength and youth ages as defined below. In some instances, where the minimum number of teams has not been achieved per league, the Bantams and Preps can be combined to form a joint “Bantam Prep” league. It is generally accepted, therefore, that the age and team strength shall be broken down as follows:

<i>League</i>	<i>Ages</i>	<i>Playing Strength Minimum /Maximum # of bowlers</i>
Bumpers	4 – 6	1 min / 2 max
Bantams	7 – 9	1 min / 4 max
Preps	9 – 11	1 min / 4 max
Jr./Maj/Sr	12 – 19	2 min / 4 max
Jr./Maj/Sr Scratch	13 – 19	2 min / 3 max

Bowler's age will be determined as of August 1st of the current league year. **Bowlers may only be allowed to move up in league based on the recommendation by the Head Coach to the Youth Director.** Once a bowler moves up in divisions, s/he may not move down to the younger league. **Bowlers may only advance to the Scratch Division with prior approval from the Head Coach and Youth Director. All cases to be determined individually based on skill and circumstances.** Bowlers in the Scratch Division may move to the JMS Division as this is considered a lateral move in divisions.

1. The Rules for USBC shall be used in order to resolve any disputes
2. The Bama Lanes Center Proprietor shall appoint a Youth Director. The Youth Director will appoint a Bama Lanes Head Coach and will also appoint a Bama Lanes Coach to collect lineage fees.
3. **League Sessions:** The leagues will bowl at Bama Lanes on Saturday mornings with three (3) sessions. A Fall Session, Spring Session and a Summer Session will be bowled. The length of the session will depend on the calendar. The Fall and Spring session are considered halves of one bowling year for each league.
 - Fall Session: Typically 12-13 weeks. Begins the Saturday around Labor Day (either before or after) and will end the first or second Saturday in December.
 - Spring Session: Typically 17 weeks. Begins the first calendar week in January and will end the first or second Saturday in May.
 - Summer Session: Typically 10 weeks. Begins the Saturday after Memorial Day (although may begin the Saturday before Memorial Day) and ends the second or third Saturday in August.

The coaches or Youth Director will inform the members of the leagues about dates that will be bowled and holidays.

Should the league be canceled due to extenuating circumstances (IE: canceled due to a tournament interfering with league play or inclement weather), the week will be made up.

4. **League Start Times:** All scheduled matches will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Practice bowling will begin 15 minutes before the start time. Starting times will be as stated, unless the prior league has not finished or there are extenuating circumstances.
 - Bumpers, Bantams, and Preps: Start time: Promptly at 8:45 a.m.
 - Junior/Major/Senior & Scratch: Start time: Promptly at 11:00 a.m.
5. **Certification:** Bumpers, Bantams, Preps, and the Jr/Maj/Sr leagues shall be certified with the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) through the Central Alabama Association (CAA).

Each member of the league will be a member in good standing with the USBC, provided all league dues are current and all fees are paid. **Certification fees must be paid to USBC prior to each bowler beginning the league.**

6. **Management:** The management of this league shall be vested in the Coaches and Youth Director. League rules will be the USBC rules and the supplemental Youth Policy Guidelines unless otherwise specified. The decision of the Youth Director shall be final.
7. **Captain:** Each team shall elect its own captain, who will be responsible for:
 - Collecting the bowling fees from each team member and remitting them to the league official in charge of collecting the lineage fees. If possible, a parent will be assigned to each team to assist in the collection of the lineage fees and to help keep the scores.
 - The captain (in the captain's absence, the captain's representative) shall sign the opponent's score sheet verifying the accuracy of the scores.
8. **Fees:** The bowling fee for each member in the **Bumper, Bantam, Prep, and JMS** leagues shall be \$8.00, of which \$6.50 is lineage and \$1.50 is for the prize fund. **Bowlers in these leagues are required to pay the fees each week, regardless if they bowl or not.**
9. **Funds:** League Funds, if any, shall be deposited in a local bank. Bama Lanes Center Youth Program Director shall control and sign for all withdrawals. All funds shall remain in a combined (JMS, Bantam, Prep and Bumper) Bama Lanes USBC account and used for Bama Lanes USBC Youth Leagues. This account is held in accordance with USBC standards and a financial report will be available.
10. **Prizes (non Bumper Leagues):** To qualify for an individual award, a bowler must have bowled 51% of the scheduled games for a session. Awards will be given on a handicap and scratch basis. A bowler may qualify for only one individual award per year with the exception of HIGH AVERAGE and MOST IMPROVED. *[Example: If Joe Smith wins High Game Handicap at the Fall awards, he may not win another individual award at the Spring awards.]* The Most Improved award will be based on the increase between the bowler's average after 21 games and the bowler's average at the end of the session. In the Spring session, a bowler's average from the Fall session will be carried over to compute the most improved, provided that average is based on 21 or more games. Otherwise, it will be computed from when the bowler completes 21 games.

- Team Awards:
 - 1st Place Team
 - 2nd Place Team (League must have a standard 1:6 ratio to support this or a 3rd Place)
- Individual Awards by Ranking:
 - High Series Handicap – Boy/Girl (not applicable in the scratch league)
 - High Game Handicap – Boy/Girl (not applicable in the scratch league)
 - High Series Scratch – Boy/Girl

- High Game Scratch – Boy/Girl
 - High Average – Boy/Girl
 - Most Improved – Boy/Girl
- Participation award – For all Bumpers, Bantams and Preps who have not received an individual or team award. Participation awards are not given to any JMS bowler.
11. **Averages:** With the exception of the Jr./Maj./Sr. and Scratch League, each bowler will establish an average with the first three (3) games bowled. The Jr./Maj./Sr. and Scratch leagues will use the bowlers highest previous season yearbook average (or previous season average of 9 weeks or more, whichever is higher) for the first nine (9) games bowled. [If a bowler enters the Scratch league in the Spring season, the bowler shall use their Fall season average for the first nine (9) games.]
12. **Handicap:** The handicap shall be 90 percent of 210 for all non-scratch leagues.
13. **Legal Lineup:** For Bumpers, Bantams, Preps, and Scratch, a legal line up shall be at least one bowler, which is a regular member of the team. For JMS, a legal line up shall be at least two bowlers, of which there must be at least one regular member of the team and a substitute or another regular member of the team.
14. **Vacancy and Absentee (Blind) Scores:** A vacancy score may be used when a team does not have a full roster. This score shall be 120 plus a handicap of 81. An absentee (or blind) score may be used when a regular bowler is unable to bowl. This score shall be the bowler's average less 10 pins plus handicap for all non-scratch leagues.
15. **Tardy Players:** Any bowler who arrives after the completion of the third frame shall begin bowling at the start of the next game. Games including partial or complete absentee scores can not be credited to the bowler's average.
16. **Forfeitures:** When a game is declared forfeit, the team present must bowl as though the game is actually contested. The points shall be awarded to the team that is present, provided the team present bowls within 30 pins of the team average (based on 3 active members) for each game that is forfeited in order to win. *[20 pins for teams of 2; 40 pins for teams of 4]*
17. **Postponement:** Post-bowling will **not** be allowed except under extreme circumstances.
- Examples of extreme circumstances: When there is a death in the family; when an accident occurs on the way to the regular scheduled bowling; when admitted to the hospital or when a family member has an immediate medical emergency that prevents you from being able to bowl. (Not feeling well, having a headache, oversleeping, prior athletic commitments or lunch dates are not valid reasons)
 - You must contact your Youth Director personally to explain the situation and s/he will determine if the situation warrants Post Bowling.
18. **Pre-Bowling:** Bowling is a team sport and bowling as a team is expected. However, because this is a youth league, individual pre-bowling will be allowed under the following guidelines:
- Reasons for pre-bowling are outlined in the USBC policy handbook.
 - Weekly fees must be paid to the front counter prior to pre-bowling. No bowler will be allowed to pre-bowl without paying the weekly fees first.
 - You must make arrangements with the Bowling Center **a minimum of 24 hours prior** to pre-bowling to schedule lanes. This should be done far enough in advance so that you will not be

turned away. If you do not pre-schedule an appointment with the Center, you will not be allowed to bowl. **No Exceptions.**

- If a full team is pre-bowling the opposing team must be given the opportunity to bowl at the same time.
- All bowlers will receive 5 minutes of practice time only.
- A youth bowler may only pre-bowl up to 9 consecutive games at a time. This is to aid in youth trips, tournaments, and other conflicting events. If you must pre-bowl for more than 9 consecutive games, you must contact the Youth Director for approval.
- You must make sure that the Pre-Bowl Form is filled out, including your full name and scratch scores and the date that you are pre-bowling for. **You must use the Pre-Bowl Youth Form provided in order for your scores to count. Standard score sheets are not accepted.**
- Pre-Bowl scores will consist of the first three games bowled. Any bowler caught cheating or substituting a score from another game will be immediately suspended from bowling for one week. All fees will be required to be paid during suspension.
- Bowlers will exit the pre-assigned lanes after the end of the third game. If a bowler wishes to practice on regular practice days after pre-bowling, they must move to a lane designated for practice only by the counter attendant, provided there are lanes available. If no lanes are available, the bowling session is then over.
- In the event that a correction needs to be made, the control counter attendant must make the change and they must initial the print out sheet that they made the correction. **Under no circumstances is a youth bowler to correct a score on the machine or on the score sheet.**
- **You must make sure that the control counter attendant prints the computer recap sheet and attaches it to your recap sheet and it is placed in the league cubby hole. If no computer recap is attached to your handwritten recap sheet, your scores will not count for the week you are bowling for.**
- **SCRATCH BOWLERS:** Bowling scores that are completed during a pre-bowl session do not count towards team or individual points. Scores count strictly to the bowler's average only.
- Scores are not eligible for honor score awards when pre-bowled unless the opposing team is bowling with your team. This applies to all youth bowlers.

19. **Unopposed:** In the event that any teams scheduled to bowl against each other are unable to do so for any reason, bowling unopposed shall be permitted.

20. **Bowling a Bye:** Will be bowled in the same fashion as forfeitures. (See Rule 15)

21. **Substitutes:** The league will maintain a list of roving substitutes.

- Any substitute during the last two (2) weeks of the bowling session must have an average in this league and must have bowled at least six (6) games.
- Substitutes will count towards a legal line-up.
- Substitute bowlers must be sanctioned.
- A substitute can not bowl in place of a vacancy.
- Substitutes are not eligible for league awards.
- Substitutes are not eligible for Scratch league bowling.

- Substitutes are not permitted to bowl in Position Rounds.
- Substitutes can bowl in the end of session no-tap tournament for prizes, provided they have an established average of 12 games in the current season. Fees for the no-tap tournament must be paid prior to bowling.

22. Position Standing (non-scratch leagues):

- Position standing shall be determined on the basis of games won and lost. The eight-point (8) system will be used (2 points per game and 2 points for total pins).
- If a team joins after the 2nd week, the percentage won-loss will be used to determine position standing. Games competed for during the first two weeks will not be made up.
- If a team joins the league in the 2nd week and there were an odd number of teams in the league, the new team will be permitted to post bowl for the first week and the scores will be recorded as if they were posting bowling against the team that bowled the vacant team.
- If the league had an even number of teams, the new team will bowl against a bye team in the second week and the make-up week will also be competed against the bye team. If an even number of teams joins the league in the 2nd week, they will bowl each other for the second week and also in the make up week.
- If more than three join in second week, a combination of the above will be used for the make-up week, preventing the teams from bowling each other more than once.
- No new teams will be added after the sixth week.

23. Position Round (non Scratch leagues):

- The league shall be split into two (2) halves. The Fall Season shall constitute the first (1st) half and the Spring Season shall constitute the second (2nd) half.
- Bowlers shall remain on the same team for the entire bowling year. (August through May).
- New bowlers may join the league at the start of the new half (Spring season).
- The league will have two (2) position rounds. The final league week in December and the final league week in May.
- Pre-bowl scores will not count toward team average during position round. Bowlers will be treated as blind for the purpose of team standings. Pre-bowl scores during position round weeks will only count towards the bowler's individual average. No points will be given to the pre-bowled scores.

24. Scratch League Specifics:

- Position standing shall be determined on the basis of points won and lost. Bowlers shall be split into three average classes, with the highest group being the anchor bowler (Team Captain). The Head Coach will draft from the other two average classes to make up the team, ensuring all teams start out equally.
- Three (3) games will be bowled at each match. Points are awarded using the Peterson Point System. Two (2) points are awarded to the winner of each team game, two (2) points to the winner of team series, for a total of eight (8) points per

night. One (1) point is awarded to the winner of each individual game, one (1) point to the winner of each individual series, for a total of four (4) points per bowler per night. This is a grand total of twenty (20) points available per team per night (3 man teams). (In Teams of 2, the point total shall be 16)

- When bowling against a blind/bye/vacancy/forfeiture, the bowler must beat the blind/bye/vacancy/forfeiture score to win the point. No individual points are awarded to blind bowlers. Points count towards team standings only.
- A vacancy score will be the aggregate average of the total bowler averages at the start of the league.
- A blind score will be the bowler's book average or previous season's league average, whichever is higher, for the first nine (9) games. Thereafter, the blind score shall be the bowler's average as computed weekly. No ten pin deduction is taken.
- The league shall be split into two (2) halves. The Fall Season shall constitute the first (1st) half and the Spring Season shall constitute the second (2nd) half.
- If new members join during the second half of the season, the Teams shall be reorganized based on the new members.
- New bowlers may join the league at the start of the new half (Spring season) using their previous season's yearbook average or previous league average, whichever is higher.
- The league will have two (2) position rounds. The final league week in December and the final league week in May. The winners of each half will bowl against each other in May to determine the League Champions.
- Pre-bowl scores will not count toward team average. Bowlers will be treated as blind for the purpose of team standings. Pre-bowl scores during position round weeks will only count towards the bowler's individual average. No points will be given to the pre-bowled scores.
- Unless otherwise stipulated or adjusted, all remaining rules and guidelines apply to the Scratch league.

25. **Championship Roll-Offs:** Championship roll-off for a session, if needed, will be scheduled on the Saturday of the end of session awards party.

- If two teams (2) are tied for first place at the end of the session, then a one (1) game roll off will take place, with total pin count, including handicap, determining the winner.
- If three teams (3) are tied, three (3) pairs of lanes would be used. Starting lanes would be selected by draw and teams would rotate after each game as follows:

<i>Game</i>	<i>Lanes A & B</i>	<i>Lanes C & D</i>	<i>Lanes E & F</i>
First Game	Team 3	Team 1	Team 2
Second Game	Team 2	Team 3	Team 1
Third Game	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3

- If more than three teams are tied for first place, then a pair of lanes will be added and the Head Coach will revise the above schedule to incorporate the additional teams.

Starting lanes would be selected by draw, and teams would rotate according to the revised schedule.

- In all instances, if a tie still exists after the required games, then the teams will bowl a 10th frame roll-off, with one tenth (1/10) of the total handicap being applied to the score of each individual on the team.

26. **Behavior and Etiquette:** Discipline for infractions will be strictly enforced. The objective of administering penalties to infractions is to educate the youth bowlers in the proper etiquette of bowling in order to develop better adult bowlers. Teaching the “do’s” and “don’ts” and then enforcing the rules in our USBC leagues is the only way to produce better adult bowlers. The following is a list of penalties that will be administered for violations of the Bama Lanes USBC and League rules. The penalties are listed in the order they should be administered, remembering they should be administered with common sense:

- A “tag” warning. This will be considered a verbal warning. For reference, a “tag” will be a slip of paper indicating “Rule Violation”.
- Probation – 1 week of bowling blind
- Repeat offenses shall be handled by the Head Coach, the Coach/Official involved (if any) and the Youth Director. The decision of the Youth Director shall be final.

If a parent or bowler feels that a penalty has been applied inappropriately, they may appeal the decision in the following order: First to the Head Coach, secondly to the Youth Director, and finally to the proprietor of the Center. (See the Youth Policy Supplemental for more on Behavior and Etiquette)

27. **Score Correction:** A coach or bowling alley representative is the only authorized individual to make score corrections. If corrections are made by anyone other than those mentioned, the coaching staff will review the print outs of the game or games to determine if inappropriate changes were made and the forfeiture of the game or games in question. If games are forfeited because the coaches determined an inappropriate change was made, the games rolled (as corrected) will continue to count for an individual’s average.