

SOBA CONSTITUTION AND & BYLAWS

2014/2015

1. Name: This organization shall be known as the **Southern Oregon Bowlers Association.**

2. Membership: Any bowler can bowl as long as they meet the following eligibility criteria:

A. Pay the membership dues as established by the Board of directors. Duration of each membership shall be one year beginning Sept 1 each year.

B. Be a current holder of a valid 2014/2015 USBC card.

C. Members who are eligible for the Grand Finals must bowl in 5 of the 8 monthly tournaments or have bowled 4 and paid for the 5th. A non-bowled entry fee must be paid prior to the start of the last official points tournament. A member who prepays an entry fee will collect 5 points less than last place, without bowling. This will count as a "tournament bowled". If you post pay a tournament you will receive credit for a tournament bowled and will receive 0 points.

3. Officers and Board of Directors:

A. The officers and Board of Directors will be nominated and elected by the members at the end of each season. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary Treasurer and Sergeants-At-Arms. The Board of Directors shall consist of at least six members.

B. Officers will be voted to a two year term. Board of directors will be voted to a two year term with at least ½ being new board members. In case of a vacancy occurring mid-term, the President will appoint a replacement to finish out the term with approval of the Board.

C. The Board (and Officers) shall be responsible for the developing and presenting to the new bowlers at each tournament a short discussion of the rules and responsibilities associated with the Southern Oregon Bowlers Association.

D. The duties of the President shall include presiding over all General Meetings of the membership. Work with each Host Center to help promote and run any SOBA involved event.

E. The primary duty of the Vice President shall be to carry out the duties of the President if the President is unable to perform them.

F. The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for the recording and publishing minutes of the General Meeting, making bank deposits and reconciling the bank account, preparing a financial statement for each tournament, mailing and accepting all tournament entry forms, calculating and presenting to the Board a proposed Prize fund for the Grand Finals, and preparing and filing all required Federal and State tax reports. For these services, the Secretary will be paid \$1 per bowler per tournament.

G. The Sergeant-at-Arms position will be responsible for the monitoring of bowlers before and during tournament play and resolving issues of player conduct, including assessing and collection of fines.

H. The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the operational decisions as requested by the President, the Tournament Director or any member. Any decision involving changes to the playing rules shall be decided by a vote of the General Membership.

I. The Tournament Director shall be responsible for checking bowlers in, handing out lane assignments, entering and running brackets, calculating scores and all other tasks associated with the general running of the tournament. The Tournament Director shall be appointed on a yearly basis by the board of directors. The tournament director compensation is \$4 per bowler per tournament.

4. Non-Profit Organization:

This organization is a non-profit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service. As such, on part of the income or dues paid into the Association shall be distributed to the member, Officer or Directors except to reimburse said individuals for expenses. It is expressly stated that the tournament Director is excluded from "member, Officers or Directors" and is paid for services rendered in running the tournaments.

5. Meetings:

The general membership shall meet annually, on the call of the President or the Board of Directors.

6. Amendments:

Proposed amendments to this constitution and By-Laws or general playing rules may be submitted in writing by any member, 72 hours prior to any meeting. The Board of Directors shall review these amendments before being submitted to the general membership. No changes shall be made until the General Membership Meeting at the last tournament each year, except by majority vote at a Special Meeting. After all members have been notified of a meeting, those present shall constitute a quorum.

7. Awards:

- A. The All-Star team** will be selected from points earned in the current season excluding Grand Finals.
- B. Bowler of the Year** will be presented based on total points earned in all tournaments, excluding Grand Finals.
- C. Senior Bowler of the Year** will be presented to the bowler (age 50 or above as of Sept. 1st of the season) earning the most points.
- D. Women Bowler of the Year** will be presented to the woman earning the most points in the season.
- E. Rookie of the Year** will be based on a 1st season tournament bowlers total points earned in the current season excluding Grand Finals.
- F. Sportsman of the Year** will be voted on by the President, Vice President, and tournament Director.

8. Membership Dues and Fees:

Membership dues for the season shall be \$25.00 per member. Entry fee for members is \$75.00 Non-Members may bowl at a cost of \$85.00 per entry. If the non-member cashes in the tournament they shall automatically become a member and \$25.00 shall be deducted from the prize check to pay the membership dues. All non-members will abide by Southern Oregon Bowlers Association rules and regulations at all times and are subject to any and all rulings, fines, etc. set forth by the organization.

Prize fund (monthly) \$52.00 (This example is based on \$75 entry fee)

Lineage \$13.00

Tournament Director Expense \$ 4.00

Secretary Treasurer \$ 1.00

Grand Finals \$ 2.00

Expenses \$ 3.00

Total \$75.00

9. Additional Revenues:

- A. House Sponsor Fees:** The proprietor has the option to obtain a sponsor(s) for their tournaments. They may retain their sponsor(s) proceeds.

- B. Ball Raffles:** SOBA shall provide a high performance Columbia bowling ball to raffle, with a minimum of \$150.00 going to SOBA. The remaining balance collected will go directly to the house.
- C.** SOBA will also run side brackets during qualifying of each tournament with the proceeds of the brackets going to the Grand Finals.
- D. SOBA Sponsors:** SOBA will attempt to obtain sponsors and advertisers for SOBA events with all monthly proceeds going to the Grand Finals. A number of sponsorship packages are available and all members are encouraged to help raise sponsorship money.
- E. Banners:** Banners for SOBA will be displayed in the establishment that is hosting the tournament. All active members, eligible under 2(D), who have won one or more tournaments, shall have a banner with their name and one star. A star will be added for each tournament win after the first.
- F. Proprietors:** The proprietors will be provided with a contract when they agree to host a tournament. The establishment will receive \$13.00 lineage for each bowler participating in the tournament.
- G. Pro Am:** The hosting center holding a Pro Am event the day before the tournament will provide SOBA with \$4.00 for each bowler who participates in the event. Each Soba Member bowling as a Pro will receive \$10.00 out of the proceeds. The balance will be added to that tournament prize fund.

10. General Playing Rules:

- A. Bowler's Attire:** All bowlers must wear a clean, pressed bowling shirt with the bowler's name permanently affixed on the back of the shirt in English, in letters at least one inch in height, in a contrasting color. Dress pants must be worn in competition, no denim, drawstring, parachute, sweat, cargo pants or hats. Women may wear dress shorts or skorts as long as they are knee length. The tournament director must approve all questionable apparel before it is worn during a tournament. Bowlers in violation of the dress code will not be allowed to bowl until corrected, with the exception of a new member whom may bowl the first tournament without a "Name Shirt".
- B. DNF:** Any bowler who fails to finish their qualifying round or semi-finals for any reason other than illness, injury or emergency from work or family, will be assessed a fine of \$25.00 for qualifying and \$50.00 for the semi-finals.
- C. Non-Bowling Conduct:** Any player who publicly discusses the sponsor, host establishment, lane conditions or pins, employees of the host establishment, fellow players, or SOBA officers in an unfavorable manner, including post on the SOBA website message board, or who otherwise engages in actions unbecoming a member of the Southern Oregon Bowlers Association will incur a conduct violation. For each conduct violation, a fine will assessed by the Tournament Director, Sergeant-at-arms, or Board of Directors. Any bowler receiving two conduct violations in one season must appear before the Board of Directors for possible disciplinary action. This also includes Bowling Conduct Violations, discussed below.
- D. Other Fines:**
 - Not registered by 6:00pm the day prior to the tournament: \$5.00. (Fine waved for 1st time bowler)
 - No show without notifying Tournament Director (first offense: \$10.00, second offense: \$25.00)
 - Qualifying unsigned score sheet (non-cashing): \$5.00
 - Qualifying unsigned score sheet (cashing): \$25.00
 - Score sheet not turned in: forfeit any money that would have been won.
- E. Qualifying Round Bowling Conduct:**
 - First offense \$5.00
 - Second Offense \$10.00
 - Subsequent \$15.00 Semifinals \$20.00

F. Belligerent misconduct:

SOBA will not tolerate verbal or physical outbursts of any kind. Players will show respect to the organization, hosting proprietor and each other at all times. The SOBA board of directors will assess the misconduct and apply the appropriate fines.

First offence \$25.00

Second offence \$50.00

Third offence withdrawal membership

11. Bowlers Duties:

A. It is the bowler's responsibility: to ensure that their score sheet is signed and turned into the Tournament Director no later than 5 minutes after the completion of bowling.

B. Late Arrivals: Zero pins will be given to any bowler missing any frames of qualifying, other than for weather delay. The Board of Directors and Tournament Director may waive this rule at their discretion.

C. Re-racks: Two re-racks per game will be allowed for each game. If more re-racks are requested the Tournament Director will rule on whether they will be allowed.

D. Practicing: No entrant into a Southern Oregon Bowlers Association shall practice on lanes being used for the tournament.

E. Other Playing Rules: Any situation not specifically covered in these rules shall be governed by the USBC Rulebook.

F. Entry fees paid by check that is returned to SOBA by their financial institution for any reason will be assessed a \$25.00 fee and will be required to pay in "CASH ONLY" for future tournaments.

12. Standard Format for Monthly Tournaments:

A. Five games of qualifying will be bowled, changing lanes after every game. Number of lanes to skip each game to be determined by the Tournament Director, but shall be the same for all squads of a given tournament. Number of qualifying squads to be determined based on the size of the host center. A 15 minute practice session for all paid entrants. Entries close at the beginning of the practice session for the last squad of the qualifying. No squad assignments will be changed after entries close.

B. Top 24 qualifiers go to semi-finals (min. 72 bowlers). If less than 72 bowlers, the qualifying number will be determined by a 1:3 ratio with the result being an even number. For example, if 65 bowlers, then it will be the Top 20. If there should be a tie for the last qualifying spot, a 9th & 10th frame roll off shall be held immediately between any players involved. Ties in all other positions shall be broken on the basis of the highest game during qualifying, then next highest, etc. Ties for lowest (cashing) positions will be resolved by the players splitting the prize money for those places.

C. Five games in semi-finals. No pin fall shall be carried over from qualifying to the semi-finals. For game 1 the high qualifier bowls the 24th qualifier, 2nd bowls 23rd, and so on. The winner of each match in the semi-finals shall receive 30 bonus pins. In the event of a tie, each bowler shall receive 15 bonus pins. For games 2-5, lane assignments will be determined on the total pins. The bowler in 1st position will bowl the player in the 2nd, 3rd bowls 4th and so on. In the event of a tie for any position of 5th or higher after the 5th game of the semi-finals a 9th & 10th frame roll off shall be held. Ties for any position 6th – 24th will involve the player splitting the prize money for the two places.

D. Any bowler unable to complete the semi-finals will withdraw and receive last place prize money. Any bowler unable to complete a stepladder finals match will be declared the loser of that match and receive the prize money for the lower of the positions being contested.

E. Stepladder finals will be held. The 4th and 5th player will bowl, with the winner then facing the 3rd place, then 2nd then 1st. In each case, the bowler finishing higher in the will have the choice of starting lane. In case of a tie in any match, a 9th & 10th frame roll off shall be held. Each final match game will be bowled on a different pair of lanes (house permitting) with the highest seed drawing lane assignment first.

F. Highest leading qualifier shall receive a \$50.00 credit into the next monthly tournament. The award for the final monthly tournament in a year will be for the first tournament the following year.

G. Pay-off ratio is 1:3 with 100% of the prize fund being disbursed at each tournament.

13. Recruiters Special Outline:

A. The recruiter's special allows each bowler to receive \$10.00 off their entry fee for each non member recruit that has not participated in a SOBA tournament.

B. The recruiter may have more than one recruit.

C. The recruit will pay \$65.00 to bowl a tournament.

D. When the recruit cashes in a tournament, a \$20.00 membership fee will be deducted from their prize check. And they will become a member of the SOBA.

E. The Recruiter Is Defined As:

- The recruiter must be a current 2013/2014 member in good standing.

F. The Recruit Is Defined As:

- Any bowler who has never participated in a SOBA tournament.
- All recruits must stay in good standing and comply with the USBC guidelines.

14. Grand Finals Format:

A. The Grand Finals will consist of 24 bowlers. The top 16 bowlers on the points list for the season will automatically be seeded into the Grand Finals. In the event any top 16 bowler decide not to participate in the Grand finals those spots will be filled from the qualifier. The remaining positions will come from the qualifier held Saturday morning. The qualifying tournament will be a 6 game block with total pins to determine the advancers. Once that has been accomplished, those 24 bowlers will bowl 6 games that Saturday, followed by 12 more games Sunday, total pins for all 18 games will be the winner.