



MSUSBC 2012 Women's Tournament Rules



1) ELIGIBILITY: All entrants in the Maine State USBC Women's Tournament must be members in good standing with their Local Maine USBC Association, Maine State USBC, and USBC.

Entrants must have either a valid average from a certified USBC league within the State of Maine from last year, or a current season average, based on a minimum of 21 games as of the closing date of the tournament.

Female youth bowlers who meet the above criteria may enter the singles event **only** offering such prizes, provided, prior to bowling:

- The competition agrees to award the youth's prize in the form of a scholarship; or
- The youth signs a form waiving her rights to any prize in violation of this rule.

Any bowler under the age of 18 must furnish written authorization, signed by a parent or guardian, with their entry form.

Non-MSUSBC members may also qualify for entry and receive all USBC services by paying an Associate Membership fee of \$21 prior to closeout **and** they must bowl scratch unless they can provide a valid USBC average.

No one may bowl in this tournament except those originally entered or such replacements as may be authorized by the Tournament Manager.

2) EQUIPMENT: The Tournament Manager reserves the right to have bowlers' equipment inspected for compliance with USBC rules. If any bowling equipment is determined to be non-conforming, the bowler will be permitted to bring the equipment into compliance. Should a bowler refuse the equipment inspection, or, fail to bring their equipment into compliance, they will automatically be disqualified and forfeit all entry and prize fees, as well as possible prizes won.

3) CHECK-IN: Check-in is one-half hour prior to squad time. All team captains must check in with their team members' USBC cards. Doubles and singles check in themselves.

4) DIVISIONS: The tournament will consist of scratch and handicap divisions, including All-Events.

5) PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS: Exempt professional bowlers **may not** compete in the tournament.

6) HANDICAP: Handicap will be 100% of 240 with no maximum.

7) GAME PLAY: No more than three (3) bowlers will be scheduled on a lane for doubles and singles. All games of each event will be rolled on one pair of lanes.

When a **team is scheduled alone** on a pair of lanes, each member shall complete the frame on one lane, before the team begins the next frame on the adjoining lane.

8) LATE BOWLERS: Any entrant **arriving late** will be permitted to bowl, beginning in the frame being bowled. No score will be given for the missed frames.

9) NOT PERMITTED IN THE PLAYING AREA: Refreshments, cell phones and flash cameras are not permitted in the playing area during tournament play.

10) INJURIES, SUBSTITUTES: If a scheduled entrant is unable to bowl in the team or doubles event, the team captain has the right to substitute a bowler, subject to approval of the Tournament Manager. **Substitutions must be reported to the Tournament Manager at least one hour before scheduled squad time.**

11) PACERS: Pacers are not allowed.

12) PARTICIPATION: Unlimited entry is allowed in team and doubles events subject to: (a) No more than two bowlers can compete on the same team more than once; (b) doubles cannot be bowled more than once with the same partner; and (c) bowlers entering doubles must enter singles and vice versa (with the exception of a youth bowler who may only bowl singles). The first appearance in any event counts toward the bowler's All Events score. Team will consist of four bowlers. There will be no re-entries.

13) ENTRY FEES: Shall be paid by check or money order and made payable to: MSUSBC, postmarked no later than the first post office business day following the entry closing date. **Total entry fee must accompany entry form. ~ Cash will not be accepted.**

In the event of a returned check, all reasonable attempts will be made to notify the bowler by email or a phone call, prior to the start of the tournament. The bowler will not be scheduled to bowl, until a \$35.00 processing fee and the entry fee are paid with a money order or cashier's check. Returned checks will not be re-deposited. Entry fees will not be refunded after entries have been received, except as noted in:

Rules 12, 13 and the disclaimer. See Rule 24. All late entries will be returned.

14) PRIZES: The tournament will consist of scratch and handicap, including All Events with equal prize distribution. All prize fees will be returned 100% in each event with 50% going to handicap and 50% to scratch. The Prize ratio is **at least** 1:10 or major portion thereof for teams, doubles and singles; and 1:20 or major portion thereof for All Events. All averages will be verified through the local association managers prior to issuance of any prize checks.

When a Bowler Qualifies for Both Handicap and Scratch Awards
The bowler will be awarded the prize of greater value. If the prizes are of equal value, the bowler will be awarded the scratch prize. Prior to the issuance of any prize checks, all averages will be verified through the local association managers and USBC database.

State Champions in Handicap and Scratch – will be given USBC awards.



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All Events Scratch Winner – will receive a bowling shirt, a paid entry into the next USBC Queen's Tournament and \$100.00 toward expenses, with the provision that the bowler participates. The bowler who places first in All Events scratch is entitled to the award, excluding cash, whether or not the bowler paid the optional All Events fee. If the first place winner is unable to attend, the second place winner will be eligible to enter the Queen's with the same entitled award. If neither can participate in the USBC Queens tournament, then the scratch winner will receive a paid entry into the next year's Maine State Women's tournament in lieu of the Queens payment;

This award will be funded by the MSUSBC general fund.

15) TIE BREAKER: In case of a tie for the championship, the highest single scratch game of those tied in the competition will be used to break the tie. If a tie still exists the second highest scratch game will be used, etc.

16) AVERAGES: Entrants must use their highest MSUSBC average from the 2010 - 2011 season based on a minimum of 21 games, unless their current MSUSBC average as of January 1, 2012 (21-game minimum) is ten pins or more higher. USBC rule 319a applies.

Bowlers with no 2010 - 2011 averages - will use their highest current MSUSBC season average of 21-games or more, as of January 1, 2012. Entrants who do not have a minimum 21 games must bowl scratch.

17) CORRECTIONS TO AVERAGES: May be made up to the completion of the first competition, or within 48 hours after completion of the first series if the Tournament Manager, prior to the completion of the first game of competition, has given the bowler written consent to correct their average.

18) AVERAGE ADJUSTMENTS: The Tournament Manager reserves the right to adjust any bowler's average prior to bowling. If the bowler refuses the adjusted average, the entry fee will be refunded.

19) BOWLER'S RESPONSIBILITY: It is the bowler's responsibility to verify their average, whether submitted by the bowler, team captain, or others. Failure to use the proper average or to correct the average prior to, or at the time of bowling, shall disqualify the scores only if the submitted average is lower than the actual MSUSBC average. Prize winnings will be based on the submitted average, if it is higher.

20) REPORTING PRIOR PRIZE WINNINGS: All entrants who have qualified for a prize of \$600.00 or more in any event of any tournament within the previous 12-month period, must report their actual score, position, and, amount won at the time of entry whether or not the prizes have been received; and they are subject to possible re-rating. USBC Rules 319c, 319d, 319e apply.

21) SCHEDULING: If entries are received by February 11, 2012 bowlers traveling the greatest distance will be given priority. All other entries will be scheduled as received. Lane assignments will be posted on www.msusbc-maine.com and will be sent to Association Managers and bowling centers.

When an alternate time other than that requested has been assigned, the entrant will be notified of the new time, and if no refusal is received promptly, the entry fee will not be refunded.

22) DRESS CODE: Participants may not wear tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, tube tops, workout attire (Spandex or sweatpants), spaghetti strap tops, short shorts or skirts (if a bowlers fingers are below the hemline, the shorts are considered too short and not suitable), bib overalls, torn or unclean jeans, shirts or T-shirts with offensive language/pictures or hats (except for medical reasons).

The dress code will be enforced by designated tournament staff members. They will make judgment calls relative to dress code questions or concerns, while any questionable items or special circumstances will be addressed by the Manager on Duty.

23) PERFUME, AFTER-SHAVE, & SCENTED BODY CARE PRODUCTS: Please refrain from using these products. Due to the close confines when bowling, people with respiratory problems and allergies may be affected.

24) DISCLAIMER: The entrants whose names appear on the entry form or their authorized replacements hereby agree that the Maine State USBC Association, its officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fees if and when these entrants shall be prevented from bowling any event in the tournament through premature termination of the tournament due to causes beyond the control of the Maine State USBC.

25) RULES: This tournament is governed by the above rules and the USBC Rule Book.

26) ENTRY CLOSING DATE: Midnight ~ February 25, 2012

27) TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT:

Tournament Manager:	(207) 884-6205
Ed Cotter	cotter_emusbc@midmaine.com
Association Manager:	(207) 942-5838
Joseph Mizda	jcm_mstpba@msn.com

*Thank you for allowing us to serve you.
We look forward to seeing you at the
2012 Women's Tournament*