



# MSUSBC 2016 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 MSUSBC average from last year, or a current season average, based on a minimum of 21 games as of the entry closing date of the tournament.

Female youth bowlers who meet the above criteria may enter the singles event **only** provided that prior to bowling:

- MSUSBC shall 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 entry closing date and they must bowl scratch unless they can provide an MSUSBC 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) HANDICAP:** Handicap will be 100% of 240 with no maximum.

**6) 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.

**7) 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. USBC Rule 322a.

**8) NOT PERMITTED IN THE PLAYING AREA:** Refreshments and electronic devices of any type will not be permitted in the playing

area during tournament play. Cell phones are to be turned off or placed in vibrate status.

**9) 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 by the Tournament Manager. **Substitutions must be reported to the Tournament Manager at least one hour before scheduled squad time.**

**10) PACERS:** Pacers are not allowed.

**11) 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) 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 after entry closing date.

**12) 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 16 and 22. All late entries will be returned.**

**13) 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. Prior to the issuance of any prize checks, all averages will be verified through the Local Association Managers and the USBC database.

**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.

**State Champions in Handicap and Scratch** – will be given USBC awards. If there is a tie for any championship, co-champions will be declared.

**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 entitlement. If neither can participate in the USBC Queens tournament, the scratch winner will receive a paid entry into the next year's Maine State Women's Tournament, in lieu of the Queens



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Tournament entry fee and expense allocation. This award is funded by MSUSBC.

**14) AVERAGES:** Entrants must use their highest USBC average from the 2014 - 2015 season based on a minimum of 21 games, unless their current USBC average as of January 1, 2016 (21-game minimum) is ten pins or more higher. *USBC Rule 319a applies.*

**Bowlers with no 2014 - 2015 average** - will use their highest current USBC season average of 21-games or more, as of the entry closing date of the tournament. Entrants who do not have a minimum 21 games must bowl scratch.

**15) CORRECTIONS TO AVERAGES:** - Can be made up to the end of the bowler's first game of a series. Or, if an extension of time has been granted in writing by tournament management before the end of the first game of a series, the correction can be made within 48 hours after the end of the series. See USBC rule 319a,(4)

**16) 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.

**17) 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 USBC average. Prize winnings will be based on the submitted average, if it is higher.

**18) 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.*

**19) SCHEDULING:** If entries are received by February 14, 2016 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](http://www.msusbc-maine.com) and will be sent to Association Managers and bowling centers.

When an alternate time 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.

**20) DRESS CODE: At check in** all participants must wear the attire they plan to bowl in. Any changes to attire after check in must be approved by the Tournament Management prior to the beginning of event. The dress code will be enforced by designated tournament staff members and they will make judgment calls relative to dress code questions or concerns at the time of check in. If any bowler is not in compliance, the bowler may be disqualified in said event.

All clothing must be neat, clean and in good condition. Bowlers are required to wear: a collared or mock collared shirt, dress slacks, jeans (clean with no holes), Capri's, shorts/skorts/skirts (hem must sit

at or below the bowlers fingertips with arms relaxed at their sides) or bowling apparel. Team T-Shirts are permitted (with no offensive materials displayed). Prohibited items are but not limited to: sweatpants, yoga pants, tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, and hats. Headgear permitted if medically approved.

**21) 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.

**22) 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.

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

**24) ENTRY CLOSING DATE:** Midnight ~ March 7, 2016

**25) TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT:**

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| <b>Tournament Manager:</b>  | <b>Donna Bowden</b>  |
| (207)623-6000               | <a href="mailto:dbowden@sparetimerec.com">dbowden@sparetimerec.com</a>   |
| (207)314-9558               |  |
| <b>Association Manager:</b> | <b>Mark Fortier</b>  |
| (207) 232-8491              | <a href="mailto:mainestatesusbc@gmail.com">mainestatesusbc@gmail.com</a> |

*Thank you for allowing us to serve you.*

*We look forward to seeing you at the  
2016 Women's Tournament*