

# 101<sup>st</sup> UTAH STATE USBC 2026 OPEN TOURNAMENT INFORMATION & RULES

- Eligibility:** All Participants must be a current adult member of USBC, USUSBC, and a local association 18 years or older and located in Utah in good standing. Non-members may purchase a membership for \$15.00(national)+\$2.00(state)+\$9.00 (local dues where tournament is held) total of \$26.00 if living within Utah and \$11.00 if living outside of Utah with a current USBC membership, provided they have a verifiable average from the 2024-2025 season.
- Average Requirements:** Entrants must use his/her Utah State USBC state tournament average (21 games min.) as listed on the website, [www.utahbowling.org](http://www.utahbowling.org). If no such average exists, entrants shall use their composite average of all USBC leagues for the 2024-2025 season as reported on bowl.com with a minimum of 21 games total as of the start of the tournament. If an entrant does not have a verifiable composite average, then the highest verifiable composite average as posted on bowl.com with a minimum of 21 games total from past 3 seasons will be used. If no verifiable previous average, the entrant will use their highest current certified league average of 12 games or more as of March 13, 2026. This includes summer league averages. Sport & Challenge league averages will be adjusted based on the USBC conversion table. If the converted composite average is 10 or more pins higher than the highest reported standard composite average, it will be used as the entering average. If no verifiable average is submitted or available, the participant will be assigned and compete with an entering average of 240. The participant must provide a current average verification from their league secretary at the time of check-in. It is the **PARTICIPANT'S RESPONSIBILITY** to verify the accuracy of their entering average and must be corrected prior to conclusion of the first game of any event. All averages including Winners' averages will be verified. Those submitted higher will remain as submitted. Those submitted lower will be adjusted and the participant's score will be disqualified. **USBC Rule 201a, b, & c, 319a(1b), 3, & 4, 319b & 319c will apply.**
- Reporting Prior Prize Winnings:** Participants will be required to report tournament prize money in excess of \$300 in a single event or in excess of \$500 combined and/or prize money in excess of \$1000 in all tournaments competed in within the last 12 months.
- Handicap:** 90% of 240
- Entry fees must accompany entry for Team, Doubles & Single events. Optional Scratch Events, Optional Handicap and Scratch All Events, and Optional Senior Handicap and Scratch All Events Must be paid prior to the start of the first event bowled and can be paid at check-in. **A \$35.00 fee will be assessed for all returned items. No refunds (USBC rule 314).**
- Participation:** This is a Certified USBC competition and will consist of Team, Doubles & Single events. **Multiple Team Events** may be bowled with at least (2) members different as schedule permits. **Multiple Doubles Events** may be bowled with different partners. Singles may only be bowled once. All Events may be entered once. Scores will consist of (9) games using the participants First Team, Double, and Single event bowled in the tournament.
- Professional Bowlers:** For the purpose of participation in the Utah State Open Championships, PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS are defined as follows:
  - Any bowler under the age of 60 who has won any of the following:
    - A PBA or PWBA national title regardless of professional status at the time of the win.
    - A USBC Masters or U.S. Open title.
    - A USBC Queens or U.S. Women's Open title from 2006 to 2026.
  - Any bowler having applied for membership or held membership in ANY professional bowling organization during the calendar year (Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2025) preceding the event, and up through their dates of their competition in 2026.
  - Professional bowlers will be eligible to compete only in the GOLD Division for Team, Doubles, and Singles, and All Events, subject to the following guidelines:
    - A Team may only have up to (2) professional bowlers max on any one team as defined in item 1a-c. and follow rule #6 if bowling multiple team events.
    - Two professional bowlers as defined in item 1a-c may bowl doubles together in the Gold Division and follow rule #6.
    - Professional bowlers are eligible to bowl Singles/All Events in the Gold Division and follow rule #6.
- Division Structure:**

	Team Divisions		Doubles Divisions		Singles/All Events Divisions	
Gold	701 and above	Gold	351 and above	Gold	176 and above	
Silver	700 and below	Silver	350 and below	Silver	175 and below	
- Check-In:** Prepaid Entrants are required to check in Thirty-five (35) minutes prior to assigned squad time. **Walk-in entrants and those who need to pay must check in 1 hour prior to squad starting.**
- Substitutes:** Substitutes are allowed when necessary and must be reported to the tournament manager or official at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the event. In case of disability after a game has started a substitute shall be allowed if one is available. If no substitute is available only the actual score of frames bowled shall count. Substitutes shall take the place in the lineup of the original entrant. A substitute will not be required or expected to reimburse the original entrant with the entry fee paid and is not expected nor required to give the original entrant any prize money or award the substitute may win. If a bowler is missing from a doubles event the doubles partner can request to be rescheduled; **only if a substitute cannot be found at least five (5) minutes before the squad starting time and only if there is room to move to another tournament time and/or day.** Any participant missing their scheduled singles squad can request a reschedule with the tournament manager or official. **Singles will only be rescheduled if there is room to be moved to another tournament time and/or day.**
- Late or Tardy:** Bowlers arriving after the start of any of their scheduled events will receive zeros for frames missed. The option of requesting a reschedule may or may not be granted based on tournament schedule and lane availability.
- Schedule:** **The Utah State USBC/USBC online entry provides guaranteed dates and times as originally picked and paid for by team captains at time of electronic sign-up. Paper/emailed/texted or any other form of entry received that is not received and processed by a team captain using the online entry system provided by Utah State USBC/USBC website ARE NOT guaranteed.** The schedule will not be changed except for an emergency. Lane assignments and times will be completed by the tournament manager(s).
- Line-Up:** The line-up will be set as submitted on the entry form for each event.
- Lane Conditioning:** Lanes will be conditioned before each event.
- Slow Bowling:** All bowlers are expected to be up and ready to bowl when it is their turn. Squad durations include practice and should be completed in the following time allowance - Team, Doubles & Singles events are each given 2 1/2 hours to complete games. Slow bowlers will be advised to speed up.
- Awards:** 100% of all prize monies will be returned. Prize checks will be issued within Thirty (30) days after the close of the tournament. Prize checks will be mailed to the winners, and the prize listing will be posted online at [www.utahbowling.org](http://www.utahbowling.org).
- USBC Masters/Queens Tournament Award:** Paid entry into Scratch All Events is not required to be eligible. Only (1) paid entry into the 2026 Masters OR Senior Masters Tournament (if they meet the USBC age requirement to participate) will be awarded to the individual male or female with the highest overall All Events Scratch score (if female, she will have the option to choose the Queens OR Senior Masters Tournament, if they meet the USBC age requirement to participate). If the overall 1<sup>st</sup> place winner declines it will be offered to the overall 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner. If both decline, then no participant will be sent. In the event of an overall tie, the participant with the highest (3) game series scratch within the (9) game set will be offered the entry. This is the same for overall 2<sup>nd</sup> place if needed.
- Prize Ratio:** To be based on entries received, the minimum payout will be 1 in 10. In the event of first place ties, co-champions will be declared, and prize money will be divided. In the event of last place ties, extra money will be added.
- Dress Code:** Entrants are expected to wear attire suitable and representative of participation in a state championship event. Participants will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by tournament management or designee. Tournament management or designee decisions will be final. **There are no exceptions.** To reward teams dressed in a "team Uniform" a team "Lookin' Good" award will be given to teams that have all 4 team members in matching attire. Jerseys or collared shirts must all be matching; T-shirts and jeans are not permitted to be eligible for the award.
- Conduct:** Participants are responsible for their conduct, and the conduct of those attending with the participant. Tournament officials have the right to disqualify any bowler whose conduct is derogatory or detrimental to the best interests of the tournament. No unreasonable delay in the progress of any game is permitted. **(USBC rule 11)**
- Liability:** The participants whose names appear thereon or their authorized replacements hereby agree that the Utah State USBC (USUSBC), its officers or agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fee, if and when these entrants shall be prevented from bowling any event in the tournament through delay, unexpected yet necessary schedule change or premature termination of the tournament, which may be brought about by war, national emergency or emergencies of cause relating thereto or resulting therefrom, fire, strikes, lockouts, labor difficulties or other causes beyond its control.
- Entry Submission Dates:** Paper entry closes on post marked date of March 6, 2026 - **Online Entry Close on March 14, 2026** or once tournament is full, whichever occurs first.

All rules are subject to change due to concerns with COVID-19. Any disputes including errors in scoring must be brought to the Utah State USBC tournament officials on site at the time of occurrence and will be settled/corrected at that time. All protests and appeals must be in accordance with USBC Rule 329. Anything not covered within the tournament rules will be governed by tournament management and USBC national playing rules. This tournament shall be conducted in accordance with the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) rules and regulations in addition to rules adopted by the Utah State USBC Bowling Association. The Utah State USBC has authority to make decisions regarding anything not covered by these rules.

**WALK-INS ARE ALLOWED AS SQUAD SIZE AND LANE AVAILABILITY PERMITS – WALK-IN REGISTRATION 60 MINUTES PRIOR TO START OF SQUAD TIME.**

