



YOUTH BOWLING LEAGUE RULES 2024 – 2025 Season

Welcome to Stars and Strikes' IRMO Saturday Strikers Youth Bowling! We want to take this time to say "Thank You" for choosing Saturday Strikers as your place to bowl. Bowling is the world's largest participation sport and unlike so many other sports, no one has to sit on the bench. The following rules are put in place to help make league bowling run smoothly.

League Name: **Saturday Strikers**
Divisions are: **Pee Wee, Bronze, Silver & Gold**

SATURDAY PRACTICE BEGINS AT 10:00am
length: 10 minutes (scored bowling following awards and announcements)

This league will consist of four divisions: Pee Wee, Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each division will have a limited number of teams and each division/team may consist of any mix. The Program Director reserves the right to merge divisions if needed based on the number of bowlers to make competition fun and fair.

SCHEDULE *(subject to change due to scheduled events at the bowling center)*

The league will bowl a split season format consisting of a twenty-four (24) week schedule, divided into thirds, three 8-week regular bowling sessions with position rounds at the end of each session. We will also host special "Fun Days" as listed below.

The season will start **September 7th, 2024** and end **March 29th, 2025** with League Championship Roll-Offs on **April 5th, 2025** followed by an Awards Day held at a location to be announced later in the season.

First 3rd will end **November 9th, 2024**
Second 3rd will end **February 1st, 2025**
Third 3rd will end **March 29th, 2025**
League Championship Roll-Offs **April 5th, 2025**

Halloween Contest is **October 26th, 2024****
Christmas Party is **December 21st, 2024****
Awards Day is **TBA**

***Fun Days are paid for by the League. Scores bowled will not count towards league standings or awards.*

The League will **NOT** bowl the following dates:

November 2nd, 2024 *(City Tournament)*
November 30th, 2024 *(Thanksgiving break)*
December 28th, 2024 & January 4th, 2025 *(Winter Break)*



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MANAGEMENT

The Board of Directors is made up of the Director(s), Administration Staff and the Coaches. The BoD, along with the Stars & Strikes Management control the management of the league. (*see last page for list of BoD members*)

FEES

Are paid directly to the league, Saturday Strikers and will be a straight out fee for all divisions: **\$12.00** (lineage - **\$8.30** | award fund - **\$3.70**) per bowler each week.

note: Absent bowlers are not required to pay full amount unless they pre-bowl. However, prize fund fees are due even when you are absent.

The league fees for the last two (2) weeks of the regular bowling season must be paid by **November 9th, 2024** (*which is eight weeks after starting and the end of the first 3rd*).

Make checks payable to **Saturday Strikers**. Fees will be paid to the league before the end of the 1st game.

NO individual will be allowed to be behind in league fees more than **two (2) weeks**. After 2 weeks, a vacancy score will be used until all fees are paid in full. This is at the discretion of the Director(s).

SANCTION FEES

Certification/membership fees (*also known as sanction fees*) **MUST** be paid the 1st week of bowling. This league will be certified with USBC – Youth (*all divisions*) fees are **\$15.00** (\$4.00 to national, \$7.00 to Midlands Association, \$4.00 to league).

RETURNED CHECKS

Our fee is **\$35.00** plus the amount of the original check payable in cash, suitable bank check, or money order.

AWARDS

Scores bowled will count for individual awards and averages. To qualify for individual awards, a bowler must have bowled **2/3** of the sanctioned games during the season. This equals 48 of the 72 games scheduled for all bowlers. Bowlers have a choice to receive trophy or scholarship money equal to the cost of the trophy.

AVERAGES & HANDICAPS

A series of 3 consecutive games (in one set) must be bowled to establish an average. Handicap will be based on **100%** of the difference between the bowler's average and a scratch figure of **200** for all bowlers.



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LEGAL LINE UP & LATE ARRIVALS

For all divisions (Pee Wee, Bronze, Silver and Gold) one bowler per team is a minimum legal – line up. A pre-bowl score counts as a person present. A bowler who arrives late may enter the game provided the 3rd frame has not been completed and frames missed may be made up. If you arrive after completion of the 3rd frame you must use an absentee score (current average minus 10 pins plus handicap) and wait to enter the next game. (**USBC Rule #111**)

UNOPPOSED TEAMS

When a team fails to have a legal line up or bowling against a BYE, the opposing team must bowl an average of within 10 pins per team member, to win points.

ABSENTEE & VACANT SCORES

Once a bowler has established an average, an absentee score can be used. The absentee score is the average minus 10 pins plus their handicap.

Vacancy scores for all bowlers may be used when a team does not have enough members. This will be **120** vacancy score + **80** handicap = 200.

PRE/POST BOWLING

Pre-bowling will be allowed, and scores are counted for individual averages and individual awards, but not USBC Awards.

Pre-bowled scores will **NOT** count for USBC Special Achievement Awards (300, 299, 298 game scores, 800 series, etc.) or special events such as PEPSI qualifying, City tournament play, Bowler of the Month, Bowler of the Year and League Championship Roll-Offs. (**USBC Rule #51.a**)

If you cannot attend regular scheduled league play, your absentee score plus handicap will be used. Additional guidelines below:

- (1) If you need to pre-bowl, you **can not** be in arrearages with league fees. If you do not know your payment status at the time you need to pre-bowl, check with one of the Directors or the Treasurer prior to beginning to bowl your league games.
- (2) If you know in advance that you will be pre-bowling for the next week of scheduled bowling, **league fees must also be paid in advance or current.**
- (3) You are allowed **two pre-bowls per month.** More than two pre-bowls need to be brought to the attention of the Director(s) for approval.

note: Pre-bowling is not allowed for League Championship Roll-Offs, PEPSI Scholarship Tournament qualifying, Bowler of the Month or Bowler of the Year. If not present, the bowler's absentee score will be used **ONLY** for League Championship Roll-Offs.



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- (4) If you are absent for 2 consecutive league days without contacting the Director(s), you will be removed from the line-up. This may result in you having to join another team when/if you decide to come back. Being absent hurts the entire team.

note: If the bowler is going to be absent, contact needs to be made by the Parent to the Director.

- (5) Post bowling will only be permitted at the discretion of the Director.
Post bowling must be completed by the Thursday before the next scheduled league play.

note: Post bowling is not allowed for League Championship Roll-Offs, PEPSI Scholarship Tournament qualifying, Bowler of the Month or Bowler of the Year. If not present, the bowler's absentee score will be used **ONLY** for League Championship Roll-Offs.

POINTS PER WEEK

All Divisions will operate on a Two (2) Point System each day they bowl. Two (2) - Points per game and Two (2) - Points for total pins for a total of eight (8) points overall.

ROLL-OFF TEAMS *(total of 4 which includes a Wild Card)*

- (1) a. Scores bowled during roll-offs, **will not** count toward final league averages or individual awards.
- b. In the event a team has a point tie for first place at the end of a third, a one (1) game roll-off with handicap for total pin count will be bowled to determine the first place finish for that third. (**USBC Rule # 118.a**)
- c. In the event the same team finishes first in more than one third, the next place qualifying team will be declared the winner of that third. Should a tie in points between two teams first occur, refer to rule (1) b - above.
- d. No team can win more than one third for advancement to the League Championship Roll-Offs. The declared winners of each third along with a Wild Card team will advance to the roll-offs.
- (2) **Wild Card** – The 4th team will be determined by the team who has not won a 3rd but has the most wins for the season. Should a tie occur, the teams that are tied in points won, without winning a 3rd will bowl a one (1) game roll-off with total pins with handicap to determine the Wild Card winner.
- (3) An extra complete 10th frame will be bowled in the event there is a tie for first place at the end of any roll-off game, until the tie is broken.
- (4) The winners of each 3rd plus winner of the Wild Card position will roll-off for League



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Championships. Total pins plus handicap of the three (3) games bowled will determine the League Champion and the final positions for the teams involved in the roll-offs.

- (5) Stars & Strikes will pay for roll-offs.

ROLL-OFF BOWLER OF THE YEAR

note: Scores bowled during the League Championship Roll-Offs, will also be counted toward the Bowler of the Year competition for those that are eligible, thus not requiring any additional games to be bowled.

- (1) To compete for title of Bowler of the Year, a bowler must have won "Bowler of the Month", as scheduled during the regular season.
- (2) The winners of each Bowler of the Month will roll-off for Bowler of the Year title. Total pins plus handicap of the three (3) games bowled will determine the Bowler of the Year for the respective divisions.
- (3) Stars & Strikes will pay for roll-offs.

ADDITIONAL LEAGUE RULES:

NOTE TO PARENTS: Please refrain from coaching your child during league play, as it becomes a distraction to other children. We have volunteer and certified coaches that are trained to work with the youth bowlers. If you would like to become a volunteer, please see a Board of Director member. It is your responsibility to ensure your bowler(s) comply with the following additional rules.

If you ever feel a Coach is out of line with your bowler, please speak to the Director.. do **NOT** handle it yourself. Keep in mind the situation at hand and surroundings, such as other bowlers, loud music or noises and location in general. Parents can be asked to leave the center to prevent further disruptions or altercations from arising.

CONDUCT:

- **ABSOLUTELY NO** horse playing.
- Obscene gestures or language will not be tolerated.
- Bowlers will use and show the utmost respect toward other bowlers, other parents, center employees and league officers (this includes Coaches).
- Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Running, jumping, and/or standing on furniture will not be allowed.
- **ALL electronic devices** (*cell phones, pda's, notepads, notebooks, ipods, ipads, etc*), are not to be used while in the bowling pit area. Please refrain from using devices within the bowling areas.
- Earphones, earbuds, or ear plugs are not to be worn during league play.



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- The following areas are **OFF LIMITS** to bowlers while league play is taking place: *arcade, laser tag arena, bumper cars*

BOWLER'S AREA:

- Bowling area is for bowlers only, parents are asked to remain back at the tables provided. Please leave the area open for both bowlers and Coaches to move freely about the pit areas.
- Bowlers should remain in the bowling area at all times, except for bathroom breaks or obtaining items from the snack bar area.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO** food or drink is allowed in the bowling area.
- Bowl when it is your turn and observe one lane courtesy to the left & right of you.
- Do not use someone else's equipment without their permission.
- Team Captains and/or Parent(s) – *(all divisions)* Make sure all scores have been written on recap sheets and given to either a Coach, the Director or a member of the Stars & Strikes center that is working the counter to be placed in the purple folder marked "League Scores".
- If a bowler needs to leave the area to go to the restroom or snack bar, please have them put on shoe covers or remove their bowling shoes to prevent damage to the shoes.

DRESS CODE:

Bowlers must be modestly dressed during league bowling as followed; this will be **HIGHLY** enforced:

- **LADIES (girls)**
 - a) Saturday Strikers jersey, another bowling jersey, or other bowling shirts should be worn. Shirts should come to the top of pants, and cover all portions of the chest.
 - b) Spaghetti shoulder strap tops shall **NOT** be worn. This also includes tube tops, tank tops, athletic shirts and tops that are cut too low or too revealing.
 - c) Pants or jeans should be high enough that all parts of the buttocks area are sufficiently covered at all times.
 - d) Shorts/Skirts (short pants) must meet school dress code requirements, and be long enough to cover all parts of the buttocks.
 - e) Hats or hoods to sweatshirts/jackets may not be worn while bowling.
- **GENTLEMEN (boys)**
 - a) Saturday Strikers jersey, another bowling jersey, or other bowling shirts should be worn. Shirts should come to the top of pants.
 - b) Pants or jeans should not be so baggy that they show under-garments when bending.
 - c) Hats or hoods to sweatshirts/jackets may not be worn while bowling.

MIDLANDS SC USBC YOUTH TRAVEL LEAGUE

Midlands SC USBC Youth Travel League is scheduled by Midlands SC USBC Youth Committee. Selection of bowlers for competition are made by our coaches and the rules for competition are governed by the latest version of the Midlands SC USBC Youth Travel League Rules.



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If chosen for the Travel League, the bowlers must be at the respective centers by **1:30pm** at the latest. If not, we will start looking for substitutes, so rosters are turned into the Travel League Director by 1:45pm to allow for a prompt starting time frame.

When bowling in Travel League and other tournament competitions, refer to their specific dress code policy to avoid being disqualified. Also, each bowler **MUST** wear their Saturday Strikers bowling shirt, USBC jersey or an appropriate shirt with a collar.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS OF LEAGUE RULES:

- 1st violation Coach may issue a Verbal Warning and notify the Director(s).
- 2nd violation Coach meets with the Director(s) about the issue. The Director(s) will notify the parents, grandparents and/or Guardian to discuss concerns.
- 3rd violation Coach meets with the Director(s) to discuss the issue(s) and previous warnings for further actions including - ineligible to participate in Travel League and Bowler of the Month. Notify the parents, grandparents and/or Guardian to discuss concerns

Should a bowler receive numerous consequences (more than 3) in a scheduled session the Director(s), will ask for a conference with the parent, grandparent, or guardian along with Co-Directors and the Coach of the bowler to discuss other alternatives which could be used to aid the bowler in controlling his or her actions, maintaining modest dress, and/or observing bowler's etiquette. If the bowler has consistent problems with no solution in sight, he or she may be asked to leave the league, based on previous offenses and the Coach's recommendation. A Board of Directors meeting will be called by the Director for a final decision.

STATE TOURNAMENT PRACTICE DAY:

An approved practice day should be scheduled at no cost. This is only for those bowlers going to compete in the annual SC USBC Youth State Championship tournament. It is recommended for bowlers to practice with their team and/or scheduled doubles partners. Scheduled time(s) are **TBA**.



**YOUTH BOWLING LEAGUE RULES
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(League Officers & Coaches)

Director	Rebecca Canfield	(803) 767-5867	rcanfield420@aol.com
Administrator	Jason Canfield	(803) 767-0627	jcanfield15@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jammie McPherson	(803) 543-5772	jmcpherson07@gmail.com
Events			

COACHES

Pee Wee	Mike Branch	(803) 920-9829	mwb1026@yahoo.com
Gold & Silver	Alex Fisher	(603) 231-7514	alexfisher986@gmail.com
Bronze	Johnny McPherson	(803) 429-2263	mcpersonjnr@gmail.com
	Mark Button	(803) 429-5602	buttonsmalk@windstream.net
Stars & Strikes	Brandon Baker	(678) 965-5707	bbaker@starsandstrikes.org

note: *Coaches may be assigned/reassigned as necessary to benefit the program.*

Saturday Strikers Director

Stars & Strikes IRMO