

BYLAWS and TOURNAMENT RULES

NEW ENGLAND BOWLERS ASSOCIATION



Updated February 2023

2022 rule changes are italicized in red

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WELCOME

We endeavor to create a quality bowling experience and hope you enjoy many years of competition as a NEBA member.

Please familiarize yourself with the Bylaws and Tournaments Rules as they contain important information you need to know.

BYLAWS

NAME

The Association shall be known as and called the New England Bowlers Association, and commonly abbreviated as NEBA.

PURPOSE

The purpose of NEBA shall be to unite amateur bowlers to

- a. Promote and run a monthly scratch tournament for the enjoyment of the members of NEBA.
- b. Encourage and maintain the spirit of good fellowship, good sportsmanship, and fair play among the members of NEBA.
- c. Hold meetings periodically to conduct the business of NEBA.
- d. Encourage, educate, inform and promote the game of bowling by utilizing the talents of the higher average bowlers in New England.
- e. Promote bowling as a major sport.

ORGANIZATION

MANAGEMENT

The management of NEBA shall be vested in a Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as the Board, consisting of the following:

- a. President (elected)
- b. First Vice President (elected)
- c. Second Vice President (elected)
- d. Manager (appointed)
- e. Tournament Director (appointed)
- f. Members at large (appointed)
- g. All past Presidents in good standing (emeritus)

The Board shall enforce and carry out the provisions of these Bylaws and Tournament Rules. All Board Members must have been members in good standing for the entire previous calendar year.

The Executive Board consists of the president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary/treasurer and tournament director. The executive board shall be allowed to handle the business of the organization between meetings and may not create rules for itself. The Executive Board is authorized to act for the board in the time in between board meetings and reports to the board.

NEBA MANAGER

The Board shall appoint a qualified individual to perform the duties of NEBA Manager. The NEBA Manager shall remain in that position as long as the performance of duties meets the approval of the Board. If, in the judgment of the Board, the NEBA Manager has failed to uphold the responsibilities of the position, the Board may vote for dismissal. A majority vote of a quorum of the Board shall be necessary for dismissal. In the absence of the NEBA Manager at a tournament site, the Board members present shall appoint an acting NEBA Manager for that tournament.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

The Board shall appoint a qualified individual to perform the duties of Tournament Director. The Tournament Director shall remain in that position as long as the performance of duties meets the approval of the Board.

If, in the judgment of the Board, the Tournament Director has failed to uphold the responsibilities of the position, the Board may vote for dismissal. A majority vote of a quorum of the Board shall be necessary for dismissal.

In the absence of the Tournament Director at a tournament site, the Board members present shall appoint an acting Tournament Director for that tournament.

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE

At the Annual Meeting, the NEBA President appoints Board Members at Large for the next calendar year. Any member in good standing that desires to be Board Member at Large for the following year must submit in writing his or her interest to the President no later than one week before the annual meeting. At the annual meeting, the President shall appoint members at large with the advice and consent of the board. All Applications shall be retained as official NEBA records. The term of membership for a Member at Large shall be one calendar year.

REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBER

No Board member at any time shall exceed the Bylaws of NEBA. If this occurs, in the judgment of a majority of a quorum of the Board, the Board member in question shall be immediately removed.

Any Board member, who fails to attend two (2) consecutive Board meetings, is subject to removal by a majority vote of a quorum of the Board. The Board shall determine the terms and length of the removal.

REPLACEMENT OF BOARD MEMBER

If in the event of death, resignation, or removal of any Board member, the Board may select a successor for the remainder of the Board member's term.

If there is a change in the Tournament Director or an Officer during the middle of the year, the President may appoint the individual leaving the position to the Board of Directors with the approval of the board.

SALARIES

The following positions are salaried with the compensation set by the Board:

- a. Manager
- b. Tournament Director

DUTIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

Duties of the President

The duties of the President are the following:

- a. To act as the Chief Executive Officer of NEBA.
- b. To serve and protect interests of all members of NEBA.
- c. To call for and preside at all meetings of NEBA and the Board.
- d. To appoint working committees as necessary and to designate the committee chairperson with the approval of the Board.
- e. To appoint Members at Large with the approval of the Board.
- f. To approve the use of funds dispersed via checks, debit cards or electronic payments.
- g. To verify quarterly the accuracy of all NEBA financial statements by auditing all deposits, withdrawals, checks, and receipts.

Duties of First Vice President

The duties of the First Vice President are the following:

- a. To serve and protect interests of all members of NEBA.
- b. To perform the duties of the President in the President's absence.
- c. To approve the use of funds dispersed via checks, debit cards or electronic payments in the NEBA Manger's absence.

Duties of Second Vice President

The duties of the Second Vice President are the following:

- a. To protect the interests of all members of NEBA.
- b. To perform the duties of the First Vice President in the First Vice President's absence.

Duties of the Tournament Director

The responsibilities of the Tournament Director are the following:

- a. To serve and protect interests of all members of NEBA.
- b. To conduct tournaments in accordance with the Bylaws & Tournament Rules.
- c. To be available at the tournament site for the duration of the tournament.
- d. To make all rulings relative to the Bylaws and Tournament Rules during a tournament.
- e. To resolve, fairly and justly, all disputes and protests, and handle all exceptional situations that occur during a tournament.
- f. To immediately suspend any member who, in the opinion of the Tournament Director or a Board member, violates Bylaws or Tournament Rules or engages in behavior that injures or destroys the reputation or standing of NEBA.

The Tournament Director may appoint assistants who meet the approval of the Board.

Duties of Manager

The duties of the Secretary/Treasurer are the following:

- a. Duties of the NEBA Manager
- b. The Duties of the NEBA Manager are the following:
- c. 1. To serve and protect interests of all members of NEBA.
- d. 2. Administrative:

- e. a. To keep the minutes of all meetings held by NEBA, to write up and send the minutes out for approval within two days of the meeting, and to gather feedback, post, and email the minutes to the general membership within one week of the meeting.
- f. b. To issue the call for such meetings at the direction of the President. To collect topics and publish the agenda for the meetings.
- g. c. To perform the duties of statistician which includes records of all scores, participant averages, and all keep up to date all statistical categories for which there are year-end prizes. These statistics shall be updated within one week after each completed tournament and forwarded to the NEBA webmaster.
- h. d. To publish on the NEBA website and by email a tournament recap no later than 24 hours after each tournament completes that shall include the results, prize list, and income and disbursements for the previous tournament. If two tournaments are held on the same weekend, they may be combined into one recap. It shall also include a listing for the next scheduled tournament, and as appropriate, minutes of the previous month's Board meeting, and the agenda and voting items for the next scheduled Board meeting.
- i. e. To inform the Board of any requests for access to the NEBA mailing list. Approval of the Board shall be required for any such access. The Board shall also determine what fee is to be charged for such access.
- j. f. To facilitate email mailings for surveys, promotions, or other purposes in a timely manner.
- k. 3. Financial:
 - l. a. To coordinate tournament prize lists with the Tournament Director and the tournament committee for special tournaments.
 - m. b. To keep the financial statements of NEBA and collect all money belonging to or due NEBA, and to deposit them into a checking account in the name of the New England Bowlers Association. This account shall have four signatures, those of the President, NEBA Manager, First Vice President, and Tournament Director, any two of which are required for any withdrawal. All funds collected onsite at a tournament shall be deposited on the next business day.
 - n. c. To cosign, with the President, First Vice President, or Tournament Director, all checks drawn on the funds of NEBA.
 - o. d. To report, in writing, the state of the finances of NEBA when required to do so by the Board, and to provide the President with a monthly statement for verification. Such statements shall be made available to the BOD at least one week before any upcoming BOD meetings.
 - p. e. To present a written report each December showing the financial status of NEBA for the year and to publish the report as part of the annual meeting minutes.
 - q. f. The NEBA Manager may appoint assistants who meet the approval of the Board. In the absence of the NEBA Manager at a tournament site, the Board members present shall approve an acting NEBA Manager for that tournament.
 - r. g. To issue 1099s and other required tax documents as needed.
- h. To generate invoices for sponsors as needed upon direction from the sponsorship committee. All funds collected from sponsors shall be deposited within two business days of receipt.

Duties of Member at Large

The duties of a Member at Large are the following:

- a. To serve and protect interests of all members of NEBA.
- b. To assist in the management of NEBA by attending Board meetings and voting on issues before the Board.
- c. To assist in the operation of tournaments as requested.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CODE OF CONDUCT

Each individual Board Member recognizes and acknowledges that by accepting a position on the Board, they become an official representative of the NEBA Organization. Accordingly, it is expected that each individual member of the Board shall conduct themselves and represent the NEBA organization in a manner consistent with the highest levels of integrity and professionalism, shall behave themselves with proper decorum and behavior, and at all times shall demonstrate respect for other members of the Board and all NEBA members. A NEBA Board member may be subject to discipline, suspension, or removal from the Board, consistent with the NEBA Rules, Procedures, and Bylaws, for failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct. An alleged Violation of the Code of Conduct shall be brought in writing and be presented in front of the NEBA Board being duly constituted under the Bylaws. A hearing shall be held, consistent with the Bylaws at the next available tournament, after due notice to the Board, and the individual subject to the alleged Violation shall have the opportunity to present relevant information of whatever form to the Board. Consistent with the Meeting Quorum section of the Bylaws, the Board shall vote, by secret ballot, as to whether the Violation was founded or unfounded and a majority vote by the Board shall be sufficient. The NEBA Manager shall archive all ballots. If the Board determines the Violation to be founded, the Board shall have a further Hearing to determine the proper remedy for the Violation. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Board may formally reprimand or censure a Violator, impose a fine, suspension, or remove of the Violator from the Board, or impose any combination of remedies thereof, with a majority vote being sufficient. In the event of no majority vote, the Tournament Director shall cast the deciding vote relative to whether or not a Violation occurred and/or the appropriate remedy in the event of a founded Violation.

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

NEBA Membership is open to all bowlers who meet the following criteria:

- a. Possesses a current USBC membership card. The USBC membership card may be obtained when applying for membership by paying the current annual USBC fee.
- b. Has attained the age of 18, or has graduated from high school, or has written approval from a parent or guardian in accordance with the current USBC rules.
- c. Any PBA or PWBA member that has not won a PBA, PWBA or PBA50 national tournament in the past five (5) years (US Open and USBC Masters are exempt) or is not in the top 40 on the national PBA points list for the prior season. Any NEBA member in good standing who wins a national title and maintains their NEBA membership can continue to compete in NEBA.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Application shall be made on a form prescribed by NEBA and accompanied by the membership fee to the NEBA Manager. Should an applicant be declined membership for failure to meet the membership requirements, the membership fee shall be returned to the applicant minus a \$2 handling fee.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

Honorary memberships may be granted after a candidate is nominated and subsequently approved by the Board. Honorary members shall not be allowed to vote or to participate in any tournaments held by NEBA.

HONORED TIME MEMBERSHIPS

Members who have been NEBA members for 30 years or purchased first membership 30 years ago and have not missed one or multiple membership years without substantive reason are eligible for \$0 membership with an automatic renew option. Status will be known as Honored Time Members. A three member committee will accept & review applications.

MEMBERS IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

Members called into military service shall be granted continued membership until discharge. Military service members shall not be allowed to hold office or to vote, but shall be allowed to participate in NEBA tournaments.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

NEBA collects membership fees on a calendar year basis. Membership fees collected after November 1 shall apply to the next calendar year.

The annual membership fees shall be as follows:

- a. New Members & Membership Renewal- Determined by the Board
- b. Honorary and Military Service members - No fee

ACCEPTANCE OF BYLAWS AND TOURNAMENT RULES

Upon payment of the membership fee, a member is entitled to enjoy the privileges of membership and is considered to have accepted the Bylaws and Tournament Rules.

MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

A member in good standing shall meet all of the following criteria:

- a. Membership fees have been paid in full.
- b. No fines are outstanding.
- c. No disciplinary action is pending.

BENEFITS FOR A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING

A member in good standing is entitled to all of the following benefits:

- a. To participate in all regularly scheduled tournaments
- b. To receive the monthly NEBA Newsletter
- c. To vote in general elections
- d. To hold a NEBA office

SUSPENSIONS

The Tournament Director has the power to immediately suspend any member who, in the opinion of the Tournament Director or a Board member, violates the Bylaws or Tournament Rules, or engages in behavior that injures or destroys the reputation or standing of NEBA. A suspended member shall be notified in writing and given the privilege of a hearing before the Board. The hearing to determine the length of suspension shall be held at the next tournament site.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting shall be held in December prior to the new NEBA bowling season. This meeting is open to all NEBA members. Only members in good standing are eligible to participate and vote during the meeting. The members present, regardless of the number, shall constitute a quorum.

These Bylaws may be amended only at the Annual Meeting by a majority of those voting. Any Bylaw changes to be voted on must have been submitted in writing to the NEBA Manager by September 15 for publication in the September NEBA Newsletter or publication in the October newsletter prior to the October/November meeting. The “thirty-five mile” rule shall be waived for any member attending the Annual Meeting.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Biannually in November, the following Board members shall be elected by a simple majority of those voting:

- a. Second Vice President
- b. Any other elected positions that are vacant

Candidates for all elected positions must be submitted to the NEBA Manager, in writing, for publication in the November NEBA Newsletter and thirty (30) days prior to any elections.

In the event no written applications are received for an open position, thirty (30) days prior to the election, nominations for that position shall be accepted from the floor during a Board meeting.

Any candidate must have been a member in good standing for one (1) year. Any member restricted from participation in another organization’s activities or tournaments shall not be eligible to hold any NEBA position, elected or appointed.

SUCCESSION TO PRESIDENT

On a biannual basis, the First Vice President assumes the role of President and the Second Vice President assumes the role of First Vice President.

BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings of the Board shall be open to any NEBA member in good standing. Only members of the Board shall be allowed to vote. A Board member must be present to vote; no proxy voting shall be allowed.

The agenda for a Board meeting must be published in the NEBA Newsletter prior to the Board meeting. Other motions from the floor may be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

All rule changes for consideration by the board shall be brought to the attention of the board by means of a proposal in writing and placing said proposal on the agenda

prior to the meeting for which the matter is to be considered. The board shall only consider the proposal as written by the person proffering the proposal. Any variation of the proposal shall be brought as an additional proposal. Any so-called “new business” relating to rule changes shall no longer be considered by the board at any meeting. In the event that a rule change or other such proposal should arise that required immediate attention of the board, the member(s) of the board desiring to address said issue shall notify the board by email of the rule change and request the board convene at the next tournament. The Board shall then vote to determine whether or not a meeting should take place to discuss the issue. A majority vote of the Board shall be sufficient to call a meeting. Should the board vote to convene a special meeting, the meeting shall then be published in the NEBA newsletter and posted on the NEBA website along with the rule change to be considered so as to put the entire membership on notice of the meeting and the rule change.

The Board shall vote on all items & issues including changing Tournament Rules.

A majority vote of a quorum of the Board shall be required to pass any issue. No vote on any issue shall pass unless a quorum of current board members are present at the meeting except at the annual meeting except monetary issues. Monetary issues require a quorum of 2/3 of the Board present and 2/3 approval to pass.

Meetings will be run using Roberts Rules of Order

MEETING QUORUM

The number of Board members present, regardless of number, shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of a quorum of the Board shall be required to pass any issue.

TOURNAMENT SITES

Tournament sites shall be selected at a Board meeting. Selection shall be based on the following criteria:

- a. Area membership
- b. Location
- c. Previous knowledge of tournament history at the bowling center
- d. Time of year

REQUIREMENTS FOR TOURNAMENT SITES

Bowling establishments considered as tournament sites must meet the following requirements:

- a. USBC certified
- b. Minimum of 32 ten pin lanes for open singles and doubles tournaments and 24 lanes for special tournaments.
- c. Snack bar or suitable facilities for hot meals
- d. Lanes conditioned as uniformly as possible prior to the Saturday and Sunday squads and match play.
- e. Bowling fees and lane availability stated in writing by the proprietor/manager in advance of the tournament.
- f. Proprietor/Manager must agree to pay a fee, to be determined by the board, to be used towards the purchase of the championship trophy.
- g. Meeting room for tournament operations and/or a meeting desirable

RECOMMENDATION FOR TOURNAMENT SITE

To solicit tournament sites, every year the Board shall mail bid sheets to a number of bowling centers in New England. Timely return of the bid sheet, containing appropriate information, shall be one of the determining factors for scheduling a tournament at that bowling center. The Board shall have the final determination for tournament site selection.

REPLACEMENT OF TOURNAMENT SITE

The Board shall determine the need for and selection of a replacement site.

TOURNAMENT RULES

USBC RULES CONFORMANCE AND CERTIFICATION

All tournaments and special events conducted, sponsored, or cosponsored by NEBA shall be conducted in conformity with the Bylaws and Tournament Rules adopted by NEBA and the current USBC Playing Rules. The current USBC rules shall prevail where not superseded by the Bylaws and Tournament Rules of NEBA.

All tournaments conducted by NEBA shall be submitted for USBC certification.

USBC MEMBERSHIP

Non-USBC members must purchase a USBC membership at the current fee before bowling in any tournaments conducted by NEBA.

PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS

Non-NEBA members are allowed to participate in NEBA tournaments provided they meet the membership requirements on page 5. Non-NEBA members must pay an additional non-member fee of \$15 per entry. These fees are to be used toward NEBA operating expenses. The non-member fee is waived for "guests." A guest is someone who has not competed in NEBA the prior two calendar years.

BEHAVIOR

All participants in NEBA tournaments are expected to behave in the spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play.

FINES

Fines will be used as a method to enforce NEBA rules. Fines are typically \$10 for the first offense. Higher fines can be imposed at the discretion of the Tournament Director for serious offenses or habitual offenders.

SUSPENSIONS

As described in the Membership section of the Bylaws, the Tournament Director has the power to immediately suspend any member who violates the Bylaws or Tournament Rules, or engages in objectionable behavior. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, profane language, obscene gestures, excessive celebration, un-sportsmanlike conduct, disruption to other participants, and withdrawal from competition without permission.

WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITION

Withdrawal during a tournament shall not be permitted without the permission of the Tournament Director. Penalty for this infraction shall be immediate suspension from NEBA, and/or a fine, with the length of suspension and the amount of the fine to be determined by the Board.

EQUIPMENT

Bowling balls must be on the USBC approved list. The penalty for using a ball which is not on the USBC approved list is immediate disqualification for that squad or round of match play and loss of all prize money.

Balls may not be used before the World Wide Release Date. The penalty for using a ball before the World Wide Release Date is immediate disqualification with no refund of entry fee.

DRESS CODE

NEBA strives to project a professional image. All participants in a NEBA Tournament are required to observe the following dress code:

1. A shirt with a polo type collar, mock neck collar, or crew neck collar with bowling logo is required. The participant's name on the back of the shirt in 2" – 4" high letters is required, in a color that contrasts with the shirt's color. Removal name tags and abbreviated names are subject to Tournament Director approval. Nametags must be horizontally oriented and securely affixed to the back of the shirt. Embroidered names are preferred. The following shirt restrictions apply:
 - a. Advertising and logos are permissible with the Tournament Director's ultimate discretion.
 - b. Only previous NEBA champions are permitted to wear a white shirt.
2. Pants or shorts of a "business casual" quality are encouraged. Denim pants and shorts are allowed but must present a neat appearance. No gym/athletic shorts or pants, balloon pants or sweat pants are allowed.
3. Women may wear capris and skirts. Leggings and yoga pants are not allowed. Skirts and shorts must be at least fingertip length when standing with arms down at sides and the garment's outer material must be at least half the distance of the upper leg.
4. Headbands may be worn if in good taste.
5. No excessive or intentionally tattered or frayed clothing, clothing with excessive or intentional holes, hats, or headbands are allowed.
6. Headphones and earbuds are not allowed.

All decisions regarding attire are at the discretion of the Tournament Director and the decision of the Tournament Director is final.

The following violations of the dress code will result in denial of tournament participation:

1. Wearing t-shirts or other non-conforming shirt.
2. Wearing gym/athletic pants or shorts, excessively or intentionally tattered clothing, clothing with excessive or intentional holes, or wearing of hats.

The following violations of the dress code will result in a \$10 fine for the first infraction with second and subsequent infractions possibly resulting in denial of tournament participation:

1. A shirt without the bowler's name on the back
2. A nametag that is not horizontal and/or securely affixed to the back of the shirt.

New members and members who have ordered a shirt prior to the start of a tournament shall be exempt. New members can compete three times without a name on the back of their shirt without being fined.

PUBLICATION AND BROADCAST CONSENT

Each contestant agrees that if the tournament is broadcast, permission for such coverage shall be given without compensation. If requested, each contestant agrees to allow photographs and coverage of their accomplishments to be used in television or published media.

END OF YEAR AWARDS

To recognize accomplishments of NEBA's members, the following yearly awards using NEBA funds shall be presented with the award amounts to be determined by the Board. Results for tournaments with restricted entries (i.e. Point Leader Invitational, Non-Champions' weekend, etc.) will not be counted towards end of year awards. The Non-Champions and Tournament of Champions held the same weekend are eligible for awards but the winner of the non-Champions tournament will not get points for the Tournament of Champions that weekend. Points for one day senior, women and youth tournaments will not count towards overall bowler of the year but will count towards that award. If a senior, super senior or woman advances to match play via the senior, super senior or women's cut instead of the squad or at-large cut, they will receive 5 points instead of position points in the standings toward bowler of the year. Position points will be given for the appropriate bowler of the year standings in their division (eg a woman makes it via the women's cut and wins, she gets 72 points for Women of the Year and only 5 points for BoY).

- a. Bowler of the Year
- b. Rookie of the Year
- c. Senior Bowler of the Year
- d. Super Senior Bowler of the Year
- e. Woman Bowler of the Year
- f. Youth Bowler of the Year
- g. High Average – to qualify for this award, the member must have bowled a minimum of one-half (1/2) of the tournaments and the minimum number of games required. The minimum number of games is two-thirds (2/3) of one 5-game qualifying block per tournament.
- h. High five (5) game qualifying block

REPORTING TO IRS

Official tournament prize fund awards, as reported in the NEBA Newsletter, shall be reported as income to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for all bowlers with awards over \$600 in a calendar year. From NEBA, bowlers shall receive a 1099-MISC form.

SINGLES TOURNAMENT FORMAT

Qualifying Format

All participants shall bowl five (5) games of qualifying across a prescribed number of lanes as determined by the Tournament Director. Pairs will move to the right after each game except at special tournaments. For all special tournaments, bowlers on the left lane will move left and right will move right. Random cross can be used during qualifying.

Entry Fee

The fee to enter a tournament shall be determined by the Board. Included in this fee shall be the funds to cover the Prize Fund, bowling fees, and expense money. All entry fees must be in cash, with receipts available upon request. Checks are acceptable for all other fees.

Number of Qualifiers, Byes, and Seeding

The table below shall determine the total number of qualifiers, byes if applicable, and seeding for regular format tournaments..

Number of Entries	Number of Qualifiers	Byes
		Seeding
20 or less	4	None
		Seeding by qualifying score
21-30	6	1 st round – qualifiers 1-2
		Seeding by qualifying score in 2 nd round
31-40	8	None
		Seeding by qualifying score
41-60	12	1 st round – qualifiers 1-4
		Seeding by qualifying score starting with 2 nd round
61-80	16	None
		Seeding by qualifying score
81-120	24	1 st round – qualifiers 1-8
		Seeding by qualifying score starting with 2 nd round
121-160	32	None
		Seeding by qualifying score
161-200	40	1 st round qualifiers 1-24
		Seeding by qualifying score starting with 2 nd round
201-240	48	1 st round – qualifiers 1-16
		Seeding by qualifying score starting with 2 nd round
241-280	56	1 st round – qualifiers 1-8
		Seeding by qualifying score starting with 2 nd round
281 or more	64	None
		Seeding by qualifying score

In the event that there are more guaranteed spots to match play than allotted by the current qualifier's table above, then all guaranteed spots, plus one spot off of the at large will make match-play. The first round will be an eliminator round, with the top scores advancing to the next round. The number of top scores will follow the standard NEBA match play round to determine how many bowlers advance. Entering the second round, bowlers will be reseeded based on NEBA's current seeding rules.

Any ties for spots will be broken by standard NEBA tie breaker rules for the current round.

For every senior, super senior and woman who advances to match play via the senior, super senior or women's cut, a cash spot will be added. The cash spot will be **\$120** for a standard tournament and **\$80** for a low entry fee tournament.

Squad Cut (1:6 ratio)

One of six (6) participants in each squad will qualify for the match play finals.

Senior, Super Senior & Women's Cut

One in six senior (age 50 and over) participants across all squads will qualify for the match play finals with a minimum of one (1) in singles tournaments.

One in six super senior (age 60 and over) participants across all squads will qualify for the match play finals. If there are not six super senior entries, the bowlers will be moved into the senior cut.

One in six women participants across all squads will qualify for the match play finals. If there are not six women entries, the bowlers will be moved into the regular division. If a woman is also a super/senior, said bowler will be considered a woman first. If there are 6+ total women entries, said bowler will be grouped with the other women. If there are 5 or less total women entries, said bowler will be group with the seniors.

One \$50 cash spot will be paid to the woman or senior participant with the highest qualifying score that did not qualify for the match play finals.

If a senior, super senior or woman advances to match play via the senior, super senior or women's cut instead of the squad or at-large cut, they will receive 5 points instead of position points in the standings toward bowler of the year. Position points will be given for the appropriate side cut division in which they made match play (example: a woman makes it via the women's cut and wins, she gets 72 points for Women of the Year and only 5 points for BoY)

For every senior, super senior and woman who advances to match play via the senior, super senior or women's cut, a cash spot will be added. The cash spot will be **\$120** for a standard tournament and **\$80** for a low entry fee tournament.

Ties During Qualifying

All ties for squad cuts will advance to match play. Ties for overall cuts (At-large cuts) will be a one game roll-off. If the roll-off results in a tie, a one ball sudden death settles the tie. Bowlers will start on the lanes they finished for all sudden death rounds. Bowlers swap lanes until the tie is broken using the best ball format.

For roll-offs for overall cuts, each participant receives three balls practice on each lane. The bowler with the highest game in qualifying has the choice of starting lanes. Any bowler who is eliminated from the last qualifying position by a roll-off shall receive a sponsor's prize, if applicable, or a paid entry into a subsequent regular entry fee tournament, which must be used within two months.

In the event of a tie for a seeded position, including a bye, the participant with the highest single game rolled in qualifying will be the winner.

Match Play Finals

Upon completion of qualifying squads, qualifying spots up to the number specified above will be filled by qualifying score by participants that did not qualify

via a squad cut. Qualifiers shall enter into one (1) game elimination matches with the highest total pinfall determining the winner. The tournament director will assign pairs. The bowler with the highest qualifying block has a choice of lanes on each pair.

The bowler on the left lane shall bowl one (1) frame first. The bowler on the right shall bowl two (2) consecutive frames. Both bowlers shall then continue bowling two (2) frames at a time, alternating turns, until the game is completed. This procedure shall prevail for all matches bowled in the finals.

In the event of a tie in match play, a two (2) frame (9th and 10th frame) roll-off shall be held with the highest total pinfall for the two frames determining the winner. The higher seed has the choice of starting lane. If the tie-breaker results in a tie, a best ball format will be used with each bowler throwing one ball. Each bowler starts on the lane they completed their last tenth frame. Bowlers swap lanes until the tie is broken using the best ball format.

Final Standings

The final standings shall be determined, from highest to lowest, in the order of the losers' total pinfall for the match just completed. In the event of a tie for any position other than 1st, the prize money shall be divided equally.

Distribution of Tournament Prize Fund

The prize fund shall be returned 100% and shall be based on tournament participation, the total number of entries and re-entries, with a minimum of a **1 in 5** cashing ratio. The amount of the last paying position shall be no less than 1.25 times the entry fee.

In the event of more than 321 entries, cash only positions shall be paid starting with qualifying position 65. Multiple cashing positions are allowed, but only the highest position shall be used for Bowler of the Year, Rookie of the Year, and Senior Bowler of the Year points.

An appropriate cash award, trophy, and champions shirt shall be presented to the champion in conformance with USBC requirements. A paid entry into the next NEBA Tournament of Champions shall be presented to the champion. For multiple champions within a year, cash shall be paid instead of the entry into the Tournament of Champions starting with the 2nd championship.

OTHER TOURNAMENT FORMATS

Doubles

The format for a NEBA doubles tournament shall be the same as the singles format, except for the following:

- a. Entries are two person teams. Each person pays the current entry fee.
- b. For regular doubles tournaments, only one previous NEBA champion is permitted per team unless the person has not won a NEBA, PBA or PWBA title within the last ten(10) years. For over/under 50 doubles tournaments, only one previous NEBA champion is permitted per team unless the person has not won a NEBA, PBA or PWBA title within the last five(5) years. PBA and PWBA titles apply to regional or national champions whether won as a member of non-member.
- c. For all doubles, Champions over the age of 60 who have not won in 5 years can bowl with another champion

- d. When there are two tournaments on the same weekend, the rule in section b does not apply to Saturday champions. A non-champion who wins on Saturday may still bowl with a champion for the rest of the weekend.
- e. Re-entries with the same partner are permitted. Bowlers are allowed to switch partners provided both bowlers agree to void previous scores. Both bowlers must state this to the Tournament Director. A doubles team that splits up forfeits their spot on the re-entry list.
- f. All participants shall bowl five (5) games of qualifying across a prescribed number of lanes as determined by the Tournament Director. Total pinfall for each team is used for qualifying and match play.
- g. During the season, one doubles tournament will use baker type scoring for match play.
- h. Doubles teams may defend their title one time. The team that won the baker tournament defends their title at the next baker tournament and the team that won the regular format tournament defends their title at the next regular format doubles tournament. A team can defend an over/under 50 title if one person turns 50 before the next year since both bowlers will be over 50.
- i. In baker doubles, a team not following the rule for order of bowling will be subject to the following penalties. If the error was found within the first two frames, the team gets a zero for each frame out of order and play continues in the correct order. If it was found after the second frame, the match is forfeited

Tournament of Champions

The format for a NEBA Tournament of Champions singles tournament shall be the same as the singles format except that the minimum number of qualifiers shall be sixteen (16) and two (2) game matches shall be used during match play.

Special Tournaments

The board will vote on the format of special tournaments. When using an eliminator format, first round byes will be given based upon entries and the two semi-final matches will be held on the same pair.

RULES OF TOURNAMENT BOWLING

Squad Times

The Tournament Director shall schedule qualifying squads with the approval of the Board.

Entries

All entries shall be assigned in the order of their receipt. Entries close fifteen (15) minutes prior to the last qualifying squad.

Re-Entries

Tournament re-entries shall be allowed for all participants. Those that have qualified via a squad cut may re-enter but their score doesn't affect the squad cut. A guaranteed reentry is last on the re-entry list and may not bowl if another entry is turned away.

The Tournament Director shall maintain a re-entry list to insure re-entries are handled fairly. Re-entries are taken on a first come, first served basis, until the squad

is full, with first time re-entries having precedence over second time re-entries. Re-entering bowlers are allowed to sign in when the Tournament Director announces that re-entries are being accepted.

Squad Reservations

Reservations can be made for a particular squad using a sign up sheet at the previous tournament, by phone or on the NEBA on-line reservation system at www.BowlNEBA.com. The Board requests that no reservations be made after 10 PM on the Friday preceding a tournament. The “35 Mile Rule” must be observed when making a reservation.

Bowlers who fail to claim their reservations without giving notice to the Tournament Director or the NEBA Manager before the squad starts shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$10.

The Tournament Director reserves the right to reassign reservations for any bowler who does not report and pay the entry fee at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to their scheduled qualifying squad time.

Squad Sign In

All participants are required to report to the Tournament Director at least thirty (30) minutes prior to their scheduled qualifying squad time with their NEBA shirt. Failure to do so shall subject the member to a fine of not more than \$10. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify their entry and to find their lane assignment. Fines may be enforced for incorrect or incomplete score sheets.

The “35 Mile” Rule

Entries into the last qualifying squad shall be handled in the following order:

- a. Any Board member attending a Board meeting prior to the squad
- b. First time bowlers residing outside a 35 mile radius from the tournament site
- c. New members that joined at the tournament site
- d. First time re-entries
- e. Second time re-entries
- f. Members residing within the 35 mile radius
- g. Non-members
- h. Guests
- i. Bowlers with a guaranteed spot in match play on a previous squad

Practice Prior to and After Tournament Play

Once lanes are oiled for the tournament, the only bowling allowed in the center is on lanes which have not been oiled with the tournament pattern. Bowlers shall not be allowed to practice on any lanes that have been conditioned with the tournament shot before or after a squad.

Number of Bowlers per Pair of Lanes

The Tournament Director shall determine the number of bowlers assigned to a pair of lanes based upon squad size and lane availability. There shall be no more than five (5) bowlers assigned to a pair of lanes except for a special circumstance agreed upon by the board.

Practice Balls

For all qualifying squads, allow three minutes per bowler of open practice prior to the first game each qualifying squad. This is 9 minutes when 3 on a pair, 12 when 4 on a pair and 15 when 5 on a pair. For subsequent games, no practice balls shall be allowed.

- Prior to a match during the finals, the bowlers on a lane pair shall be allowed either:
- Ten (10) minutes of practice for singles and fifteen (15) in doubles the first round, or
 - Five (5) minutes of practice in match play if either bowler or team is entering competition from a bye, or
 - Two (2) practice balls per lane.

Lane Courtesies

One (1) lane courtesy shall be observed. Bowlers shall make a delivery without an intervening delivery from one of the lanes adjacent to the specific lane. The bowler on the right should bowl if both reach the approach at the same time.

Number of Re-Racks Allowed

During tournament qualifying, bowlers shall be allowed two re-racks per game. No exceptions shall be granted. During the match play finals, bowlers shall be allowed two re-racks per game unless given permission for additional re-racks by the Tournament Director. Failure to adhere to these rules shall subject the bowler to a penalty of zero for the frame.

Notification of Dispute or Protest

In the event of a dispute or protest during tournament play, the game shall cease and the Tournament Director shall be notified immediately. Claims for disputes or protests shall not be allowed if the participants involved continue bowling without such notification. No unreasonable delay shall be permitted while the tournament is in progress.

Mechanical Breakdowns

In the event of a mechanical breakdown, a game shall start or continue on an alternate pair of lanes designated by the Tournament Director. In the event a special ruling is required, the Tournament Director shall make all decisions regarding such matters.

Score Sheets and Verification

All qualifying score sheets must be completed as follows:

- Each qualifying game and the associated plus/minus filled in and initialed by the bowler to verify the game score.
- Qualifying totals and the associated plus/minus filled in and signed by the bowler to verify the total score.
- Qualifying totals cosigned by another bowler assigned to the same pair of lanes to verify the total score.

Incomplete score sheets shall subject the bowler to a fine of \$10 per offense. Errors in scoring that have a direct bearing on the results of that tournament (qualifiers) shall carry a fine of not more than \$10 plus disqualification, forfeiture, and return of all awards won for that tournament.

In the event of a disqualification, each bowler below the disqualified bowler shall move up one place in the standings.

Scoring Errors

Errors in scoring must be reported to the Tournament Director within thirty (30) minutes after completion of the squad in which such errors occurred, or before the start of the match play finals. The Tournament Director disclaims all responsibility for errors unless this rule is strictly adhered to.

Alternates

Bowlers who fail to qualify for the finals shall be designated as alternates, in the order in which they finished in the qualifying rounds. Should a finalist fail to appear at the finals roll call, the alternate present with the next highest qualifying score shall participate in the match play finals. When a senior, super senior or women misses roll call, the spot goes to the 1st alternate in that special cut. If the first alternate isn't there, then spot goes to at large.

Match Play Finals Roll Call

Bowlers who have qualified for the finals must report to the Tournament Director when the call for the finals has been announced. Failure to report shall result in the replacement of the absent bowler with the alternate who has the next highest qualifying score.

Oil Patterns

Oil patterns will be announced at least seven days in advance. The type of pattern, ratio and distance will be provided. *If the pattern has an official name, the name will be provided.* When the center has the capability to provide a printout of the lane graph, it will be posted on BowlNEBA.com and Facebook. NEBA isn't responsible if there is an error in putting down the pattern.

There will be an effort to provide a variety of shots including "standard", "challenge" and "sport" shots.

The Tournament of Champions will be hold on a sport compliant shot and the event will be certified as a sport shot tournament. It can be any sport pattern with the collaboration between the center and tournament director.

The Invitational will be a challenge pattern designed by Kegel. Kegel will design three patterns of different lengths. Each year, the pattern will be randomly drawn by the tournament director.

Oiling

Lanes will oiled before the first squad each day. Lanes will be re-oiled before match play in tournaments **with more than one squad** providing the center is able to do it. All match play and practice pairs for byes will be re-oiled.

Sponsors

All members who find a sponsor for NEBA are entitled to receive compensation of 10% of the sponsorship in NEBA entry free credit.

APPENDIX – NEBA INFORMATION

Tournament Information

Membership Fee:	\$25 - New Member & Membership Renewal No Fee - Honorary and Military Service members
Entry Fee:	\$ 95 members
	\$72.15 Prize Fund
	\$22.85 Expenses & Lineage
	\$1.00 Invitational prize fund
	\$ 8.50 Salaries
	\$0.35 Software
	\$0.15 General Fund
	\$12.85 Lineage* (based on 201 entries)
	* Lineage is based upon \$2.50 per game.
	\$ 110 non-members

Singles Squad Times: Saturday 6:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM
Sunday 12:30 PM

Other Squad Times: Announced on Website & Facebook

Special Tournament Squad Times: Announced on Website & Facebook

Center Fee

The center fee to be put towards the trophy \$50. The fee is waived for the point leader invitational, Tournament of Champions, and Saturday only tournaments. The NEBA Manager has the right to waive the fee for centers which host other special tournaments.

Salaries

On a per tournament basis, the NEBA Tournament Director receives \$5.00 per entry. The NEBA Manager receives \$3.50 per entry. Incidental expenses, for example hotel, meals, assistants, and so forth are to be covered out of the salary. Both will receive \$100 towards incidental expenses each year.

Board Compensation

On a calendar year basis, members of the NEBA Board of Directors are compensated according to their attendance at scheduled Board meetings and work on committees. The monies will be used toward entry to a tournament or future membership.

- \$25 per board meeting attended, and
- Compensation for Committee Work is Chairman to receive a one-time \$25.00 award for the committee Chairman and a \$20 one time for committee members. The Chairman is responsible reporting to whether committee members are active to the tournament director.

Bowler/Rookie/Senior of the Year Point System

Points are awarded in all tournaments unless noted. No points will be awarded for tournaments with restricted field except for the non-champions and Tournament of Champions, which falls on the same weekend.

When the non-champions tournament and tournament of champions fall on the same weekend, the non-champions tournament winner will only receive points for the non-champions tournament. Senior tournament points will be awarded only for senior and super senior bowler of the year awards.

If a senior, super senior or woman advances to match play via the senior, super senior or women's cut instead of the squad or at-large cut, they will receive 5 points instead of position points in the standings toward bowler of the year. Position points will be given for the appropriate side cut division in which they made match play.

On a per tournament basis, points are assigned for the following:

- a. High qualifier: 5 points
- b. Tournament entry: 5 points
- c. Qualifying for match play finals: 10 additional points (15 total)
- d. Advancing to next round of match play:
 - 7 additional points for advancing to the 2nd round (22 total)
 - 8 additional points for advancing to the 3rd round (30 total)
 - 9 additional points for advancing to the 4th round (39 total)
 - 10 additional points for advancing to the 5th round (49 total)
 - 11 additional points for advancing to the 6th round (60 total)
 - 12 additional points for winning the 6th round (72 total)

For Doubles, the following points are awarded:

- a. High qualifier: 5 points each
- b. Tournament entry: 5 points
- c. Qualifying for match play finals: 7 additional points (12 total)
- d. Advancing to next round of match play:
 - 5 additional points for advancing to the 2nd round (17 total)
 - 6 additional points for advancing to the 3rd round (23 total)
 - 7 additional points for advancing to the 4th round (30 total)
 - 8 additional points for advancing to the 5th round (38 total)
 - 9 additional points for winning the 5th round (47 total)

For The Masters, the following points are awarded:

- a. Participation: Standard Singles Participation Points (5)
- b. Cashing: 15 pts
- c. Top 16 points
- d. Double Elimination

1st:	108 pts
2nd:	90 pts
3rd:	77 pts
4th:	68 pts
5th - 6th:	59 pts
7th - 8th:	45 pts
9th - 12th:	33 pts
13th - 16th:	23 pts

Tournament of Champions:

- a. High qualifier: 5 points
- b. Tournament entry: 5 points
- c. Qualifying for match play finals: 15 additional points (20 total)
- d.
 - 1. Advancing to next round of match play (16 qualifiers)
 - 10 additional points for advancing to the 2nd round (30 total)
 - 12 additional points for advancing to the 3rd round (42 total)
 - 14 additional points for advancing to the 4th round (56 total)
 - 16 additional points for winning the 4th round (72 total)
 - 2. Advancing to next round of match play (24 or 32 qualifiers)
 - 9 additional points for advancing to the 2nd round (29 total)
 - 10 additional points for advancing to the 3rd round (39 total)
 - 10 additional points for advancing to the 4th round (49 total)
 - 11 additional points for winning the 4th round (60 total)
 - 12 additional points for winning the 4th round (72 total)

Eligibility:

Rookie of the Year – Limited to first time members

Senior of the Year – Limited to those who are 50 years old. Points are awarded once a bowler attains their 50th birthday.

Youth of the Year – Limited to those who are youth members of USBC. Youth points will not be awarded once a bowler attains their 18th birthday.

2023 NEBA Board of Directors

President	Bruce Hall	Member at-large	Tim Gagne
1st Vice President	Stephen Major	Member at-large	Andrew Hall
2nd Vice President	Jonathan Van Hees	Member at-large	Jay Johnson
Tournament Director	Dan Kaye	Member at-large	Ed Roberts
Manager	Becky Kregling	Member at-large	Amy Viale
		Member at-large	AJ Villa
		Member at-large	Justin Alves
		All past Presidents in good standing	