

Hello NEBA Bowlers:

I wanted to cover a few topics in the letter which include:

1. Raising the entry fee to \$110
2. Board Approval of reallocating High Game Out of the Money prizes to first and second place and the impact on prize funds
3. Sponsorship recap and tracking where the money goes.
4. How to win Storm and Island Bowling Supply bowling balls
5. Upcoming events

\$110 Entry Fee

As you may know, at our annual meeting in December we voted to raise the NEBA entry fee from \$95 to \$110. This is to largely cover the cost of increased lineage, that in some cases has gone up substantially. This year, there is quite a discrepancy in lineage we are paying depending on the house we visit, in some cases as much as \$4.00 a line – the most we have ever paid. In these events most of the increase is going to lineage, in other cases it is going to increase the prize fund. We can expect even higher lineage rates in the future and the \$110 entry fee protects us against those increases.

Board Approval of Reallocating High Game Out of the Money prizes to first and second place and the impact on prize funds

We have also been looking at prize fund breakdowns, and the board has recently voted to eliminate the High Game Out of the Money (HGOOM) \$50 credit prizes and put that money directly to the winner and runner up payouts for NEBA events. One in 20 entries received one of these prizes, so for a 160-entry event there were 8 such prizes totaling \$400.

Here's an example of a changes in prize money payouts due to this change. With 167 qualifiers, \$4 in lineage and no added sponsor money to the prize fund (pretty much a worst-case scenario), our prize fund yielded the left-hand column below. By adding the extra \$400 in HGOOM we can increase first and second place as shown below:

Payouts	Before		After	
	Place	Prize	Place	Prize
First round loss	33-40	\$190	33-40	\$190
Second round loss	17-32	\$225	17-32	\$225
Third round loss	9-16	\$300	9-16	\$300
Fourth round loss	5-8	\$400	5-8	\$400
Fifth round loss	3-4	\$550	3-4	\$550
Second place	2	\$750	2	\$825
Champion	1	\$1,000	1	\$1,325

And remember, all winners receive a free entry into the TOC, a \$125 value. So, in the above after example, first place receives \$1,325 in cash, but first place is actually worth \$1,450.

The upshot of this change is you can expect higher payouts for the top prizes at future NEBAs.

As said above, this example does not account for added money to the prize fund which goes directly into prize fund payouts. To illustrate this let's take another example, such as coming up for the Buddiesproshop.com open at Nutmeg, where there is \$2,000 added money (and a very favorable lineage rate courtesy of Nutmeg lanes). With 175 entries (last year we had 187 entries) and applying the HGOOM prizes to first and second place, we can expect the following prize fund:

Payouts	Place	Prize
First round loss	33-40	\$250
Second round loss	17-32	\$300
Third round loss	9-16	\$400
Fourth round loss	5-8	\$550
Fifth round loss	3-4	\$825
Second place	2	\$1,150
Champion	1	\$1,700

As you can see, this is a healthy prize fund with \$1,700 on top and first round eliminated more than doubling their money. The good news is that almost every NEBA event from now to the end of the year has added money.

NEBA Sponsorship – how much do our sponsors provide and where does the money go?

Speaking of sponsorship, NEBA is supported by 31 [sponsors](#) who add a total of \$69,250 in cash and merchandise to the club. We're often asked how the sponsor money for NEBA breaks down, and here's how:

Prize fund direct additions (19 out of 24 events have added money): **\$33,000.**

General fund (Includes \$250 per event for Livestream, trophies, other expenses such as internet, office supplies, tournament software, etc.): **\$8,750.**

Year End Awards (Bowler of the year, high average, etc.): **\$1,500**

Paul Forry Memorial year-end playoffs (separate prize fund with \$2,000 to the champion): **\$10,000**

Ball Giveaways: 60 balls between Storm/Roto Grip/900 Global and Island Bowling Supply, valued at \$200 per ball: **\$16,000.**

Total sponsor value: **\$69,250.**

As always, thanks so much to all our [sponsors](#) and to Christopher Viale for working with our sponsors to provide this great added value to NEBA!

How to win Storm or Island Bowling Supply bowling balls

By the way, to win a Storm ball, simply preregister for a NEBA event and you are automatically entered into a raffle for a free ball. Likewise, the bowler first out of the cut receives a free ball. This ball is redeemed via a certificate presented at the tournament site and mailed into Storm.

To win an Island Bowling Supply ball, tune in to any Sunday NEBA Facebook Livestream presented by TechVision, like and share the final match, and comment that you liked and shared. Two lucky winners are chosen at random among the comments. You will be contacted and asked for your address and desired weight, then Island Bowling Supply will ship you a ball of their choice. Winners report that Island is shipping high end Storm equipment.

I hope this message shows that not only does NEBA offer the absolute best competition in New England, it is outstanding value as well.

Upcoming Events

Here are our upcoming events (links take you to the reservation page):

[April 27th, 28th: Buddies Pro Shop Open \(\\$2,000 added to the prize fund\)](#)

[May 18th and 19th: Green Mountain Rutland Open Presented by Black Dog Shooting Supplies \(\\$1,000 added to the prize fund\)](#)

[June 8: GMS Decorative Concrete / Turbo Grips Over/Under Doubles \(\\$1,000 added to the prize fund\)](#)

[June 9: GMS Decorative Concrete Regular Doubles presented by Strike F/X Pro Ships \(\\$1,500 added to the prize fund\)](#)

Make your reservations early (and be entered for the Storm ball raffle)! As always you can learn more about NEBA at www.bowlneba.com.

Thanks for reading this, and on behalf of the board of directors we hope to see you at an upcoming NEBA!

Sincerely,
Bruce Hall
NEBA President

p.s. I just heard that NEBA Hall of Famer and former NEBA president Mike Klapik has passed away. On behalf of NEBA we offer our deepest condolences to Mike's family and may he rest in peace.