

MD STATE USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

1. The Maryland State United States Bowling Congress Association (MDUSBC) Open Championship Tournament is open to all members who are USBC certified members of one of the following Local Maryland USBC Associations. Note: Rule 13- Parental consent is acceptable per rule.

Cecil Harford USBC Association
Eastern Shore USBC Association
Greater Baltimore USBC Association
Mid-Maryland USBC Association
Western Maryland USBC Association
2. Entrants who are not a member of the MDUSBC Association can purchase an Associate membership for \$21.00 by the closing date of the Tournament. Failure to meet these criteria shall be cause for disqualification and forfeiture of all entry fees and any prize or awards.
3. Handicap will be based on 90% of 230 with no maximum handicap.
4. **Average Requirement**
 - a. Entrant shall use their highest certified yearbook average established in any USBC certified league from the previous season (winter & summer 2021-2022) based on 21 games or more.
 - b. If an entrant has no previous season certified USBC average, they must use their highest current USBC certified average for 21 games or more from any association per USBC Rule 319a-1. In addition, entrant must furnish a league standing sheet with written verification from their league secretary as of April 1, 2023.
 - c. **USBC rule 319a-2 (10 pin up rule) will NOT APPLY.**
 - d. If eligibility Requirements are met and bowler doesn't meet the average requirements they will bowl scratch.
 - e. If average verification is not received by tournament manager by the closing date, the bowler will bowl scratch.
5. Entries close midnight May 2, 2023. All entries postmarked by this deadline will be accepted provided all other conditions of this tournament have been met.
6. **Entry number shall have precedence in scheduling in all cases where duplicate requests are received. Scheduling will be accomplished on a first come, first served basis.**
7. Team captains may begin to check in their team one hour before scheduled time to bowl and shall present USBC membership cards for each member of their team. Singles and doubles entrants shall check in together and present their USBC membership cards.
8. Team captains can draw for lanes up to 30 minutes prior to squad time, after which time the tournament manager reserves the right to draw the team's lane assignment.
9. Participation shall be in accordance with the following rules: a.) No more than three (3) players can compete on the same team more than once b.) Entrants may bowl two (2) times in the Singles & Doubles event and must bowl in both events. **YOU MUST CHANGE PARTNERS** c.) Singles will be bowled first, and then doubles d.) A bowler's first team and first singles/doubles event scores will count for All-Events. e.) Members of the PBA are limited to two (2) members on a five person team and one (1) member on a doubles team.
10. Cash prizes in the tournament will be awarded in each of the events for Scratch and Handicap performances. Prize fund will be paid out at a ratio of at least 1:7 with a split of 75% for handicap and 25% for scratch. All events will be paid out at a ratio of at least 1:10. The highest scratch All Events winner will receive a paid entry to the USBC Masters or Senior Masters Tournament.
11. A team or an individual can win both titles and the highest cash prize in each of the events. If a team or an individual should place first in both divisions they will receive the titles and chevron for both divisions and the highest cash award to which they are entitled.
12. **Entrants should be familiar with USBC Rule 319e (Average Adjustment for Entry) and USBC Rule 319d (Reporting Prior Prize Winnings).**
13. It shall be each bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of their average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, team captain or others. Failure to use proper average shall disqualify scores if submitted average is lower than actual average. If the bowler has been re-rated in the past 12 months, in any tournament, they must report it in writing to the tournament director. Failure to report such re-rating is cause for disqualification.
14. Prize winnings will be based on submitted average if it is higher than actual average. Corrections of submitted averages will be allowed up to the completion of the first game of each event bowled.
15. All events entries may be transferred provided the transfer is made before the bowlers involved have participated in any event of the tournament as defined in USBC Rule 306.
16. No entry will be accepted without full payment. A \$25.00 fee will be charged for all checks returned by the bank for non-payment.
17. Appropriate attire is required at the discretion of the tournament manager.
18. Tournament director shall decide any questions not covered by these rules.
19. USBC Rules will prevail when not specifically covered in the above.

Signed: _____
Team Captain

Date: _____

