

Unisys Mixed Bowling League – Rules For the 2008-2009 Season

1. The league will be known as the **Unisys Mixed Bowling League**.
2. This league will be certified with the **United States Bowling Congress (USBC)**. Per USBC requirements, bowlers must pay certification fees on their first session of bowling.
3. The league will bowl at Plaza Lanes.

Plaza Lanes
42001 Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-4880
4. The league will bowl on **Wednesdays at 5:15 pm**. Plaza Lanes will make the lanes available for **warm-up at 5:00 pm**. **We must complete our bowling by 7:15 pm**.
5. The league will bowl 28 sessions. **The first session is Wednesday, September 10, 2008. The final session is April 8, 2009**. The league will not bowl November 26, December 24, and December 31.
6. This is a handicap mixed league. This league shall bowl three games per night.
7. Scoring. Two points are awarded for each game won and one point for each series won.
8. The season will be divided into halves, each containing twelve sessions.
 - a) The team in first place after bowling Week 13 will be the winner of the first half. The team in first place after bowling Week 26 will be the winner of the second half.
 - b) To determine the league champion, the winner of the first half will bowl the winner of the second half on Week 27. These two teams will bowl on the first pair of lanes.
 - c) Final standings for the season are determined by 26 weeks of bowling. Results from Week 27 do not count towards final standings for the season, but they do count towards your personal stats. To determine the final standings for all teams, points that each team has won in each half will be added together. The sum is the total points won for the season.
9. Week 27 will be an optional doubles tournament.
 - a) Bowlers, arranged by descending average, will partner in pairs – but physically bowl with their regular team. The bowler with the highest average will partner with the bowler with the lowest average. Winning pairs have the greatest combined pins over average. Non-participating bowlers contribute zero to the partnership's total score.
 - b) Only participating bowlers receive prize payouts.
 - c) Lane assignments will be determined after Week 26.
10. There will be three position round nights within each half-season (to allow this year's teams to bowl an equal number of games against each other): Weeks 5, 9, 13, 18, 22 and 26.

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11. The championship roll-off will be based on the number of points won on the roll-off session. In case of a tie at the end of a half, there will be a one game roll-off to determine the winner.
12. League Dues. The bowling fee is \$10.00 per person per session, with an additional one-time payment of \$10 to cover the higher base lineage fee this year.
 - Bowlers are required to pay for the last session no later than the third session.
 - A permanent bowler is responsible for all fees missed as a result of their absence.
 - Substitutes pay \$6 to cover the cost of bowling.
 - A bowler more than twenty dollars in arrears will not be permitted to bowl until a payment schedule has been arranged with the Treasurer. Per USBC rules, the bowler may not be charged for more than six sessions.
13. Averages. A bowler must bowl six games to establish an average in this league. For the first six games bowled, a bowler's average is determined as follows:
 - Bowlers with a book average from the previous bowling season or within one calendar year will use that average for the first six games of bowling. If the bowler has a book average in multiple certified leagues, the highest average is used.
 - Bowlers with an established average in another certified USBC league, concurrent with this season, will use that average. The bowler must provide the most recent league standings sheet as proof of the average.
 - Female bowlers without a book average or established average shall carry a **137 average** for the first six games of bowling. This value represents the league's 2007-2008 female average.
 - Male bowlers without a book average or established average shall carry a **163 average** for the first six games of bowling. This value represents the league's 2007-2008 male average.
14. Handicaps. Individual handicaps for bowlers shall be 100 percent of the difference between the bowler's average and 220. The team handicap shall be the sum of the bowlers' individual handicaps.
15. Team Composition. Each team will include three bowlers, and, as a mixed league, must include at least one male bowler and at least one female bowler. A team must use the scores of at least one male and one female in a game.
 - a) Fourth Member. A team may optionally include a fourth member on their roster. The fourth member is considered a permanent member of the team and a permanent league member as well, and may not substitute for any other team. Only three bowlers may bowl in each game. Only three scores are recorded for each game.
 - b) Legal Lineup. The minimum legal lineup to bowl a game is at least one permanent member, or else the team will forfeit that game. (The "tardy" rule does not apply when the minimum legal lineup is not present to be able to start a game.)

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16. Tardy Players. A bowler must have arrived and be ready to bowl by the end of the third frame. If not, the bowler is considered absent for that game and may start at the beginning of the next game. This rule requires that a legal lineup is already present, to be able to start the game in the first place.
17. Vacancies. A vacant position (caused by the resignation of a bowler or an unfilled position) will use an average of 163 for a male position and 137 for a female position.
18. Absences. If an absent bowler does not have a USBC-certified substitute, the team will use the permanent bowler's average minus 10 pins when computing the absent bowler's score.
19. Unexcused Absences (new rule). Continued no-call, no-show, no-pay behavior will be considered a withdrawal from the league after three weeks. USBC procedures (Rules #114-115) for notification, withdrawals, dismissals, and nonpayment will be followed.
20. Substitutes. Substitute bowlers must be certified with USBC. A substitute's score cannot be used on a position night. If a team roster includes an optional fourth bowler, the fourth bowler is not a substitute and therefore *is* eligible to bowl on position nights.
***Sept 3, 2008: Need to investigate the hypothetical "sandbagging substitute scenario" (i.e. whose high score could earn the team a high score award), and document it here.*
21. If a permanent member resigns from the league on or before session 21, the replacement will be considered a permanent bowler. If a permanent member resigns on or after session 22, the replacement will be considered a substitute.
22. A bowler must have bowled at least 50% of the season as a permanent league member to be eligible for high game and high series awards. (Note that USBC Rule #117b requires a bowler to participate in two-thirds of all games in a season to be eligible for any other awards or prizes.)
*** Sept 3, 2008: Need investigation to define how having an optional fourth bowler on a team roster impacts this percentage.*
23. Handicap awards shall be tracked after the bowler's sixth week of bowling.
24. Team Captain's Duties. Each team must elect a captain. The captain must
 - Retrieve weekly standing sheets from the web site and distribute to their teammates.
 - Collect the bowling fees from their team members. (Fees are to be recorded on the envelope, verified for accuracy, and remitted to the Treasurer before the end of the first game.)
 - Record the results on the score sheet. (Score sheets are to be completed, verified for accuracy, and signed by both captains. Score sheets are to be submitted to the Secretary at the end of each session.)
 - Arrange a postponement session, in advance of bowling, when team cannot bowl as scheduled.

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25. Score sheets are the league's official record of scores bowled. They may be changed by the Secretary only when an obvious error has occurred and both captains agree to the change.

26. The Treasurer will provide a prize list for approval by the Board of Directors before the end of the first half.

27. League officers will be compensated as follows (based on this season's bowling fees paid to Plaza Lanes of \$6.25 per person per week):

- Secretary shall be compensated for eight (8) free weeks of bowling, equivalent to \$50.
- Treasurer shall be compensated for six (6) free weeks of bowling, equivalent to \$37.50.
- President shall be compensated for four (4) free weeks of bowling, equivalent to \$25.
- Vice-President shall be compensated for (2) two free weeks of bowling, equivalent to \$12.50.

The Treasurer may determine how best to distribute these compensations, for example, by applying credits for the compensation amount to the final weeks of the season.

28. Observe one lane courtesy. The bowler on the right should bowl if both reach the approach at the same time. Stay off the approach while you wait.

29. The Board of Directors (team captains + league officers) has the authority to adopt a new rule or amend an existing rule as necessary.

League Officers for 2008 - 2009

President	June Cannon	(734)254-2402
Vice President	Denise Dunn	(734)748-3189 (mobile)
Secretary	Kathy Wyrwas	(734)737-4625 (work) (734)546-2976 (mobile)
Treasurer	Tony Kryka	(734)737-4560 (work)