

## Plymouth Bowling Club – Rules for the 2015-2016 Season

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1. The league will be known as: **Plymouth Bowling Club.**
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:  
42001 Ann Arbor Road | Plymouth, MI 48170 | (734) 453-4880
4. The league will bowl every **Thursday at 5:30 pm**. Plaza Lanes will make the lanes available for **warm-up at 5:15 pm. We must complete our bowling by 7:15 pm.**
5. The league will bowl 28 sessions. The first session is Thursday, September 10, 2015. The final session is April 7, 2015. The league will not bowl November 26, December 24 and December 31, 2015 for holiday time off.
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 thirteen sessions.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.
  - 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. Nonparticipating bowlers contribute zero to the partnership's total score.
  - Only participating bowlers receive prize payouts.
  - 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 4, 9, 13, 18, 22 and 26.
11. The championship play-off will be based on the number of points won on the play-off session. In case of a tie at the end of a half, we will use USBC Rule #120 which states ties will be determined by (handicap leagues – By total pin fall with handicap).
12. League Dues: The bowling fee is \$15.00 per person per session.
  - Bowlers are required to pay for their sanction fees and first week of bowling on the first night of bowling. Each week after that will be just \$15.00
  - A permanent bowler is responsible for all fees missed as a result of their absence.
  - Deferred Start Bowlers are not responsible for weeks not bowled at the start of the season. Once they have bowled their first week, they are responsible for every week thereafter. (see definition of *Deferred Start Bowler* in item #17)
  - Substitutes pay \$7.00 to cover the cost of bowling.
  - A bowler with dues more than two weeks in arrears will not be permitted to bowl until a payment schedule has been arranged with the Treasurer (we will defer to USBC Rule #115b).

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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 2014-2015 female average.
  - Male bowlers without a book average or established average shall carry a 160 average for the first six games of bowling. This value represents the league's 2014-2015 male average.
14. Handicaps: We use individual 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 team shall also be made up of 2 males or 2 females, but the vacant position and the applicable average of the opposite sex must be used.
  - *Bill Hall Rule* (formerly known as 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. The team with a fourth member is responsible for how the prize fund is divided up for their team.
  - 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.)
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. Deferred Start Bowlers: If you are not able to start at the beginning of the season, your team will use a VACANT position score to fill your absence. This will not count against you or your team.
18. Vacancies: A vacant position (caused by the resignation of a bowler or an unfilled position) will use an average of 160 for a male position and 137 for a female position.
19. 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.
20. Unexcused Absences: 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.
21. 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.
22. 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.

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## 23. Prizes and Awards Rules:

- Plymouth Bowling Club Prizes:
  - i. A bowler must have bowled at least 50% of the season as a permanent league member to be eligible for *PBC* high game and high series end of season prizes.
- USBC Awards:
  - i. USBC Rule #117b requires a bowler to participate in two-thirds of all games in a season to be eligible for any USBC awards or prizes.

24. Handicap awards shall be tracked after the bowler's sixth week of bowling.

25. Team Captain's Duties: Each team must elect a captain. The captain must:

- 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. Postponements must be approved by a league officer and the house (there are certain days and times available and these games need to be scheduled in advance).

26. 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.

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

28. *League officers* will be compensated as follows:

(based on this season's lineage fees paid to Plaza Lanes of \$7.00 per person, per week and the amount of bowlers this season):

- Secretary shall be compensated at the rate of \$0.22 per bowler, per week.
- Treasurer shall be compensated at the rate of \$0.07 per bowler, per week.
- President shall be compensated at the rate of \$0.04 per bowler, per week.
- Vice-President shall be compensated at the rate of \$0.04 per bowler, per week.

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.

29. 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.

30. *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 2013 - 2014

President: Greg Skotzke	248-217-4998 (cell)
Vice President: Marissa Basty	734-716-5155 (cell)
Secretary: Ryan Marino	313-510-4127 (cell)
Treasurer: Tony Kryka	734-259-5038