



RULES & REGULATIONS

2021 Edition

RULES & REGULATIONS

The information contained in this edition of the Guam Bowling Congress Rules and Regulations are guidelines in accordance with United States Bowling Congress and International Bowling Federation standards.



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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION AND MISSION STATEMENT

The Guam Bowling Congress (GBC) is a service-oriented sports organization of tenpin bowlers consisting of a board of directors and all administrative staff, of officers and members.

The GBC strives to instill respect for the organization and pride in membership without regard to race, color, religion, age, or national origin.

The GBC's aim is to promote with all bowling integers, the universal appeal of tenpin bowling and to provide quality programs and services to its members.

The GBC follows specifications of the USBC and International Bowling Federation (IBF) to provide for standardization and to maintain the integrity of the sport.

The GBC pledges to maintain the strength of the organization and to engage in other endeavors in order to reduce dependence on membership dues.

The GBC exists to provide adults and youth league bowlers the opportunity to join together for a unified, representative voice in maintaining the integrity, credibility and popularity of the sport of bowling.

The GBC is recognized by the Guam National Olympic Committee (GNOC), International Bowling Federation (IBF), Asian Bowling Federation (ABF) and Oceania Bowling Federation (OBF). The GBC is also a member of the East Asian Pacific Tenpin Bowling Council (EAPTBC) and Asian Intercity Bowling Council (AIBC).

Membership Dues

The GBC Board of Directors sets membership dues. Membership dues for the calendar year are \$10.00. Membership dues must be paid on or before the fourth night a bowler competes in any calendar year.

Upon payment of the annual dues and completion of a membership application through the IBF website, each individual who becomes a member of a league applying for sanction, or a league already sanctioned, will be given a temporary membership receipt. Such applications must be submitted to Guam Bowling Congress and become the official record of membership.

On receipt of a league sanction application and the GBC dues from each individual applying for membership, a league sanction certificate and individual membership cards will be issued by the Guam Bowling Congress.

Possession of a valid membership card entitles the individual member to bowl in all GBC Sanctioned leagues and in all tournaments sanctioned by GBC when, otherwise qualified.

Bowler is ineligible for GBC membership if he/she is currently under suspension from any member organization of the IBF.

Affiliate Membership

Affiliate membership is available to any person who does not obtain membership through a sanctioned league. Full privileges are provided with this type of membership. The affiliate membership fee shall be \$10.00.



CHAPTER II PLAYING RULES

Leagues and Tournaments

Rule 1. Leagues and tournaments must be organized and bowled in accordance with the GBC rules and regulations. These events must be scheduled on lanes that are currently GBC, USBC or IBF certified and only GBC, IBF or USBC approved equipment may be used.

- NOTE: USBC refers to the United States Bowling Congress and IBF refers to the International Bowling Federation. GBC recognizes all equipment and lane specifications of the IBF and the USBC. In all cases of conflict, the GBC recognizes the equipment rules of the USBC unless the event is sanctioned by the IBF or is a qualifier for a IBF event, in which case the rules of the IBF shall apply.

Game - Definition

Rule 2. A game of tenpins consists of ten frames. A player delivers two balls in each of the first nine frames unless a strike is scored. In the tenth frame, a player delivers three balls if a strike or spare is scored. Each player bowling in regular order must complete every frame.

Game - How Scored

Rule 3a. Except when a strike is scored, the number of pins knocked down by the player's first delivery is to be marked next to the small square in the upper right-hand corner of that frame, and the number of pins knocked down by the player's second delivery is to be marked inside the small square. If none of the standing pins are knocked down by the second delivery in a frame, the score sheet shall be marked with a (-). The count for the two deliveries in the frame shall be recorded immediately.

Strike

Rule 3b. A strike is made when the full set up of 10 pins is knocked down with the first delivery in a frame. It is marked by an (X) in the small square in the upper right-hand corner of the frame where it was made. The count for one strike is 10 plus the number of pins knocked down on the player's next two deliveries.

Double

Rule 3c. Two consecutive strikes is a double. The count for the first strike is 20 plus the number of pins knocked down with the first delivery following the second strike.

Triple or Turkey

Rule 3d. Three successive strikes is a triple or turkey. The count for the first strike is 30. To bowl the maximum score of 300, the player must bowl 12 strikes in succession.

Spare

Rule 3e. A spare is scored when pins left standing after the first delivery are knocked down with the second delivery in that frame. It is marked by a (/) in the small square in the upper right-hand corner of the frame. The count for a spare is 10 plus the number of pins knocked down by the player's next delivery.

Error

Rule 3f. An error is made when the player fails to bowl down all ten pins after two deliveries in a frame unless the pins left standing after the first delivery constitute a split.

Split

Rule 3g. A split is a set up of pins left standing after the first delivery, provided the head pin is down and:

1. At least one pin is down between two or more standing pins; i.e. 7-9 or 3-10.
2. At least one pin is down immediately ahead of two or more standing pins; i.e. 5-6.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NOTE: A split is usually designated by a (O), but any other symbol may be used.

Automatic Scoring Devices

Rule 3h. An approved automatic scoring device may be used in sanctioned league and tournament play. The device shall comply with the scoring and playing rules and be capable of providing a printed record of the score that can be audited frame by frame.

Legal Delivery

Rule 4a. A delivery is made when the ball leaves the player's possession and crosses the foul line into playing territory (see Rule 8). Every delivery counts unless a dead ball is declared. A delivery must be made entirely by manual means. No device may be incorporated in or affixed to the ball that detaches on delivery or is a moving part during delivery except as provided in Rule 4b and c.

Special Equipment to Grip the Ball

Rule 4b. A player may use special equipment to aid in grasping and delivering the ball if it is in place of a hand or major portion thereof lost by amputation or otherwise.

Mechanical Aids to Grip the Ball

Rule 4c. Permission to use special equipment necessary to grasp and deliver the ball because of other disability may be granted as follows:

1. A description or drawing and model of the aid are submitted to GBC.
2. A doctor's certificate is furnished to GBC describing the disability and recommending that the aid should be used.
3. The aid does not incorporate a mechanical device with moving parts that would impart a force or impetus to the ball.
4. Permission to use the aid is given by each league or tournament the player enters.

When authorization is given, the player will be provided with a special card stating that the use of the specified mechanical aid has been approved by GBC.

Special Considerations to Deliver the Ball

Rule 4d. A player unable to execute a delivery in accordance with any of the foregoing procedures may bowl in sanctioned competition provided:

1. The league's board of directors or tournament management authorizes such participation.
2. The league's board of directors or tournament management establishes specific provisions to govern such participation.

The average established by the player is not acceptable in another league or tournament unless allowed by the rules of that league or tournament. The bowler is eligible for all GBC awards.

Definition of a Foul

Rule 5a. A foul occurs when a part of the player's body encroaches on or goes beyond the foul line and touches any part of the lane, equipment or building during or after a delivery. A ball is in play after a delivery until the same or another player is on the approach in position to make a succeeding delivery.

The GBC can require that the foul line be plainly marked on the walls, posts, division boards or any other structure in a bowling center on a line with the regular foul line.

Deliberate Foul

Rule 5b. When a player deliberately fouls to benefit by the calling of a foul, the player shall be credited with zero pinfall for that delivery and not allowed further deliveries in that frame. If questions arise, Rule 10, Provisional Ball, should be followed.

Foul Counts as Ball Bowled

Rule 5c. When a foul is recorded the delivery counts but the player is not credited with any pins knocked down by that delivery. Pins knocked down by the ball when the foul occurred must be respotted if the player who fouled is entitled to additional deliveries in the frame.

Foul Detection

Rule 5d. In sanctioned competition, a automatic foul detecting device shall be used if available. When not available, a foul judge must be stationed in a position to have an unobstructed view of the foul line.

Should a foul detecting device become temporarily inoperative, the following procedures shall be used to call fouls:

1. In tournament play, management shall assign a foul judge or have the official scorers call fouls.
2. In league play, the opposing team captains shall call fouls or designate a foul judge.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note: If rule 1 can't be met, the Tournament Manager shall be responsible for foul line ruling. |
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Apparent Foul

Rule 5e. A foul shall be declared and recorded if the automatic foul detecting judge fails to call a foul that is apparent to:

1. Both captains or one or more members of each of the opposing teams,
2. The official scorer, or
3. A tournament official.

Foul -Appeal

Rule 5f. No appeal shall be allowed when a foul is called unless:

1. It is proven that the automatic device is not operating properly, or
2. There is a preponderance of evidence the player did not foul.

If there is a dispute, refer to Rule 10 - Provisional Ball.

Legal Pinfall

Rule 6a. Pins to be credited to a player following a legal delivery shall include:

1. Pins knocked down or off the pin deck by the ball or another pin.
2. Pins knocked down or off the pin deck by a pin rebounding from a side partition or rear cushion.
3. Pins knocked down or off the pin deck by a pin rebounding from the sweep bar when it is at rest on the pin deck before sweeping dead wood from the pin deck.
4. Pins that lean and touch the kickback or side partition.

All such pins are termed dead wood and must be removed before the next delivery. No pins may be conceded and only pins actually knocked down or moved entirely off the playing surface of the lane as a result of a legal delivery may be counted.

Illegal Pinfall

Rule 6b. When any of the following occur the delivery counts but the resulting pinfall does not:

1. A ball leaves the lane before reaching the pins.
2. A ball rebounds from the rear cushion.
3. A pin rebounds after coming in contact with the body, arms or legs of a human pinsetter.
4. A pin is touched by mechanical pinsetting equipment.
5. Any pin knocked down when dead wood is being removed.
6. Any pin knocked down by a human pinsetter.
7. The player commits a foul.
8. A delivery is made with dead wood on the lane or in the gutter and the ball contacts such dead wood before leaving the lane surface.

If illegal pinfall occurs and the player is entitled to additional deliveries in the frame, the pin or pins illegally knocked down must be respotted where they originally stood before delivery of the ball.

Pins-Improperly Set

Rule 7a. When bowling at a full set up or to make a spare, if it is discovered immediately after the delivery that one or more pins are set improperly, but not missing, the delivery and resulting pinfall counts. It is each player's responsibility to determine if a setup is correct. The player shall insist that any pin or pins incorrectly set be respotted before delivering the ball, otherwise the setup is deemed to be acceptable.

No change can be made in the position of any pins left standing after a delivery, unless the pinsetter moved or misplaced any pin after the first delivery.

Pins-Rebounding

Rule 7b. Pins that rebound and stand on the lane must be counted as standing pins.

Pins -Replacement

Rule 7c. Should a pin be broken or otherwise badly damaged during the game, it shall be replaced at once by another as nearly uniform in weight and condition with the set in use. The league or tournament officials shall determine whether pins shall be replaced.

A broken pin does not change the score made by the bowler. The pins knocked down are counted, after which the broken pin is replaced.

Dead Ball

Rule 8. When a dead ball is called, the delivery does not count. The pins standing when the dead ball occurred must be respotted and the player allowed to rebowl that delivery.

A ball shall be declared dead if any of the following occur:

1. After a delivery, attention is immediately called to the fact that one or more pins were missing from the setup.
2. A human pinsetter interferes with any standing pin before the ball reaches the pins.
3. A human pinsetter removes or interferes with any downed pin before it stops rolling.
4. A player bowls on the wrong lane or out of turn. Or one player from each team on the pair of lanes bowls on the wrong lane.
5. Any pin is moved or knocked down as a player delivers the ball but before the ball reaches the pins.
6. A delivered ball comes in contact with a foreign obstacle.

Bowling on Wrong Lane

Rule 9. In normal league or tournament play, a dead ball shall be called, and the player or players required to rebowl on the correct lane when:

1. One player bowls on the wrong lane.
2. One player from each team on the pair of lanes bowls on the wrong lane.
 - i) If more than one player on the same team bowls on the wrong lane in turn, that game will be completed without adjustment. Any succeeding game must be started on the correctly scheduled lane.
 - ii) In singles match play competition, where a player normally bowls two frames each time it is the player's turn to bowl, and the player bowls on the wrong lanes, a dead ball shall be called and the player required to rebowl on the correct lanes, providing the error was discovered before the opposing player has made a delivery. Otherwise, the score stands as bowled, with all subsequent frames in the game bowled on the correct lanes.

Provisional Ball

Rule 10. A provisional ball or frame shall be bowled when a protest involving a foul, legal pinfall or a dead ball is made and cannot be resolved by the two team captains or a tournament official. The following procedures apply when a dispute occurs:

1. For the first ball of any frame, or after the second ball in the tenth frame if the first ball was a strike:
 - a. Foul: The player shall complete the frame and then bowl one provisional ball at a full setup of pins.
 - b. Illegal Pinfall: The player shall complete the frame and then bowl one provisional ball at the same setup, which would have remained standing, had the disputed pin(s) not have fallen.
 - c. Dead Ball: The player shall complete the frame and then bowl a complete provisional frame.

Provisional Ball *(continued)*

2. On a spare attempt or the third ball of the tenth frame:
 - a. Foul and Illegal Pinfall: No provisional ball is necessary.
 - b. Dead Ball: A provisional ball shall be bowled at the same setup, which was standing when the disputed ball was bowled.

A record of both scores for the frame, which the provisional delivery was made, shall be kept. The protest must be referred to the league board of directors or tournament managing committee for a decision. If they are unable to make a decision, the board of directors of the GBC can be asked for a decision on submission of the facts relating to the protest. Their decision is final.

Forfeit -Delay of Game

Rule 11. No unreasonable delay in the progress of any game is permitted if a player or team in a league or tournament refuses to proceed with a game after being directed to do so by a league or tournament official, the game or series shall be declared forfeited.

Approaches Must Not Be Defaced

Rule 12. The application of any foreign substance on any part of the approach that detracts from the possibility of other players having normal conditions is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, such substance, as talcum powder, pumice and resin on shoes; also soft rubber soles or heels that rub off on the approach.

Gambling

Rule 13. A member of GBC while bowling in sanctioned competition, shall not participate or be involved in the operation of any gambling scheme which is in violation of any applicable law, where all or part of a score bowled in sanctioned play determines the winner.

Contests or schemes, which threaten the integrity of the game and/or entice a player, to bowl beneath their ability are strictly prohibited.

Membership may be suspended or denied to anyone who is a participant or involved in the violation of this rule.

- NOTE: Programs in leagues where the participating bowlers pay a fee, optional or otherwise, and receive prizes, cash or otherwise, for high game and/or, series, with or without handicap, do not violate tube rule because these involve merit pinfall based solely on the skill of the participant.

Using Assumed Name

Rule 14a. No person shall bowl under an assumed name or under the name of another person scheduled to bowl in a sanctioned league or tournament.

Penalty: Forfeiture of games in which the player was used, and all found to be involved are subject to suspension.

Suspended Bowler Ineligible

Rule 14b. A suspended bowler or a bowler who has been denied GBC membership is ineligible to bowl, pace or hold office in any sanctioned league or tournament until reinstated.

Penalty: When a team knowingly uses a suspended bowler. It shall forfeit all games in which the suspended player was used and all involved are subject to suspension.

Unfair Tactics

Rule 15a. An individual can be charged with attempting to gain an unfair advantage in league or tournament play for the following reasons:

1. Directly or indirectly tampering with lanes, pins or bowling balls so they no longer meet IBF specifications.
2. Misrepresenting an average to gain a greater handicap, or qualify for a lower classification in an event.
3. Establishing an average below the player's ability to gain an unfair advantage in handicap or classified competition.

❖ **Penalty: Loss of games, prize winnings and subject to suspension from or denial of GBC membership.**

Rule 15b. An individual can also be charged with the following violations:

1. Engaging in improper tactics or conduct in connection with the game of bowling, including, but not limited to, physical and verbal abuse toward other persons.
2. Failing to distribute prize money to team members consistent with verbal or written agreements.
3. Failing to pay fees due for participation in a sanctioned league or tournament.
4. Misusing any funds held in trust by an officer of any sanctioned GBC league, or tournament.

❖ **Penalty: Membership may be suspended or denied to anyone who is involved in a violation of this rule.**

Bowling Ball -Private Ownership

Rule 16. A bowling ball is considered the property of the owner. A player is prohibited from using another player's ball without the owner's consent.

Bowling Ball -Altering Surface

Rule 17. Altering the surface of a bowling ball by the use of abrasives while bowling in sanctioned competition is permissible in accordance to USBC and IBF rules. The use of approved cleaning agents such as isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and polishing machines is permissible.

- NOTE: If it is shown the bowler had prior knowledge her/his actions were in violation of Rule 17, the game(s) in which the violation occurred is subject to forfeiture. In addition, the bowler is subject to dismissal from the league and suspension of membership.



CHAPTER III AWARDS

Eligibility

Rule 18. The Congress will issue awards listed in this chapter for scores and special accomplishments bowled by GBC members participating in GBC sanctioned leagues and tournaments.

To qualify for recognition, all provisions of the GBC rules must have been complied with at the time the score was bowled.

Individual Awards

Rule 51a. A member is eligible for one award in each of the following categories during any calendar year:

Single game score of 300.

Single game score of 299.

Single game score of 298.

Eleven (11) strikes in a row, starting in frame one, when the score is 297 or less.

Eleven (11) strikes in a row, starting in frame two.

Single game score of 100 pins over game average.

Three game series totaling 800 to 899.

Three game series totaling 900.

Where a choice of awards is available in any category the member is entitled to a choice of an award for the first score recorded. Any additional score in the same category that calendar year will be officially recognized by GBC but will not qualify for an award.

Lifetime Awards

Rule 18b. A member will qualify for each of the following awards once per lifetime. If he/she qualifies for a higher award, the next highest award he/she is entitled to will be given. (Example: bowler has never been awarded a 200 award and bowls a 225. Only the 225 award will be given and the bowler will no longer be eligible for the 200 award.)

Single game score of 200.

Single game score of 225.

Single game score of 250.

Single game score of 275.

Three game series totaling 600 to 649.

Three game series totaling 650 to 699.

Three game series totaling 700 to 749.

Three game series totaling 750 to 799.

Series Awards

Rule 19. When more than three, but less than six, games is bowled in a series only the first three games count for three game series awards. If six or more games are bowled in a series each succeeding set of three games, following the first three games, shall qualify as a separate series.

To qualify for the three-game series award, the series of games can be bowled consecutively against one or more opponents on the same scheduled date in a league or a squad in a tournament.

Inspection and Reporting Procedures

Rule 20. When any of the following scores are bowled, 300, 299, 298 games or an 800 series for three games the following procedures apply: The league or tournament secretary shall notify the GBC secretary or authorized representative within 48 hours and submit a completed high score award application within 20 days. Failure to comply with of the foregoing shall be grounds for denial of GBC high score recognition.

If an award cannot be approved administratively, the applicant will be notified in writing, setting forth the reasons for denial. If within 15 days of receipt of the written notice the applicant files a written appeal, the claim will be submitted for final decision to the GBC board of directors, WHOSE DECISION IS FINAL.

- NOTE: The above procedures are in effect until such time as a fourth decision of non-compliance occurs. At that time GBC will notify center management, league and tournament officials that when any of the above scores are bowled, the lanes must be inspected for compliance in keeping with the procedures outlined in GBC lane certification procedures.

Award of Merit

Rule 20a. During each calendar year, ending December 31 an award of merit will be issued to the man and woman bowler who bowls the highest single game scratch and three game total scratch in sanctioned league or tournament play under the following conditions:

1. A GBC member bowled the game or series.
2. The final average sheet, or the average sheet as of a date set by GBC, is filed with the GBC secretary.
3. The score was bowled between January 1 and December 31 of the current year.
4. In cases of ties in awards involving cash, prizes shall be divided evenly amongst the winners. Duplicate awards shall be presented in case of ties involving non-monetary prizes.
5. Should the same member bowl the highest single game and three games total, the bowler will receive one award appropriately engraved.
6. The single game Award of Merit will not be issued in a league when a member, during the same season or within the dates set by the GBC, has bowled a 300, 299 or 298 that has or will be recognized by GBC.
7. No claim will be considered if submitted more than 30 days after the close of the bowling season in which the score was bowled.

Special Awards

Rule 21b. Awards will be provided for:

1. Conversion of the 7-10 split.
2. Conversion of the 4-6-7-10 split.
3. All spare game. (When a spare is scored in the tenth frame and the bowler scores a strike on the final ball for count only, an all-spares game shall be awarded if all other conditions of awards have been met.)
4. Conversion of the 4-6 split.
5. Three consecutive games of the same score in a series
6. 150 pins over average in a 3-game series.

Special Awards (Continued)

7. 200 game Dutch.

A member shall be entitled to receive the 150 pins over average in a 3-game series award even though the series may qualify for an award in the GBC individual awards category.

Special Awards -Qualifying Rules

Rule 21c. The following applies to averages on which winners are determined in qualifying for the 100 pins over average in a game award or for 150 pins over average in a 3-game series award.

1. League Play

- a. Last season's average (minimum of 21 games) in the same league for the first 21 games.
- b. Last season's highest average (minimum of 21 games) for new members of the league for the first 21 games.
- c. After a current 21 game average is established, current average shall apply. A bowler with no 21 game average the previous season becomes eligible after establishing a 21 game current average.

2. Tournament Play

- a. In handicap or classified tournaments, the average used in the tournament.
- b. In scratch tournaments, the bowler's current highest average (minimum of 21 games).
- c. If no current average of 21 or more games, the highest previous season's average (minimum of 21 games).

Filing Claims -Award of Merit and Special Awards

Rule 21d. Claims for the Award of Merit and special awards shall be made on forms provided by GBC. A claim must be filed as directed on the application and not subject to inspection requirements of Rule 21.

League Achievement Award

Rule 22. An Achievement Award is issued annually to each league to provide recognition for the member who shows the greatest improvement in average in the league during its season. Each league has the option of adopting its own rules to decide the award winner. However, in the absence of rules adopted by a league the following rules apply:

1. To qualify for the award, a member must bowl at least two thirds of the games scheduled during the league's current season.
2. A bowler's increase in average is determined by comparing the bowler's final average for the current season with that bowler's final or book average of at least 21 games for the preceding season in the same league.
3. For a new member with an established average, compare the bowler's final average for the current season with that bowler's highest final or book average, based on at least 21 games, for the preceding season.
4. For a bowler with no average for the preceding season, compare the bowler's final average for the current season with that bowler's average for the first 21 games during the current season. In leagues bowling 30 games or less, compare the player's final average with the average of the first 12 games.

When two or more members have the same full pin increase, the winner of the award is decided on the basis of the percentage of a full pin.

League Achievement Award (Continued)

EXAMPLE:	Starting Average	Current Season		
(Use full Pins Only)		No. of Games	Final Average	Increase
Bowler 1	170	90	175.60	5.666
Bowler 2	162	105	167.65	5.619

To carry out the extra pins to a percentage of a full pin, divide the extra pins by the number of games bowled by the player.

High Series Award

Rule 23. The high series award is furnished by GBC to each sanctioned league to provide recognition for the GBC member who bowls the highest series during the season. The award is to be given to the bowler who is eligible, regardless of how many league awards he/she is qualified to receive. In order to qualify for the high series award, the following provisions apply, unless otherwise provided by league rule:

- The GBC member must have bowled at least two-thirds of the games scheduled during the league's current season as a GBC member.
- Actual scores are to count in scratch leagues.
- Handicap scores are to count in leagues using the individual method of handicapping, but for leagues using the team method of handicapping, actual scores shall count.

Perfect Game Ring Samples:





CHAPTER IV LEAGUE RULES

League -Qualifications

Rule 101a. A league of four or more teams participating in the game of tenpins, under the management of the board of directors and in accordance with a prearranged schedule, roles and prize list (if any) accepted by the league is eligible to apply for sanction through the GBC.

1. A team may consist of one or more players as decided by the league. Each team shall determine whether it will include additional members, unless the league adopts a rule setting the maximum number of members on a team.
2. Three consecutive games are to be bowled by each team every time the league is scheduled to bowl, unless otherwise provided by league rule. To be considered official in league play, all games must be bowled and conducted in strict compliance with the playing roles.
3. All players in a GBC league must be qualified for GBC membership under the roles of the Congress.
4. The league shall provide for the designation of a team champion by the games bowled in scheduled competition.
5. GBC rules govern all GBC sanctioned leagues and tournaments.
6. All teams are automatically disbanded at the end of the league schedule.
7. A regular member of a team is a bowler who is listed on the roster submitted by the team captain or who is named by the captain as an addition or replacement during the season.

Membership Fee Payment Requirements

Rule 101b. All bowlers participating in a sanctioned league must complete an individual membership application and pay or provide proof of payment of the required dues in effect for the current season before completion of the player's first series.

- NOTE: Any team using a player who has not satisfied GBC membership eligibility before completion of the first series shall subject the games in which the bowler participated to forfeiture. This rule also applies to Substitute players and additional players entering a league after it has been sanctioned.

Special Contests

Rule 101c. When a league conducts special contests for its own members, and such contests comply with the rules which govern sanctioned league or tournament play, GBC award eligibility and high score recognition will be extended automatically. This also applies to playoffs between the champions of divisions in a league that is made up of two or more divisions that bowl separate schedules.

League Sanctions

Rule 101d. All bowlers in GBC sanctioned leagues shall pay or have paid membership dues.

Temporary Sanction

Rule 101e. A league is temporarily sanctioned at the start of its current schedule for 30 days counting the first day of competition.

The league will be eligible for all membership services while temporarily sanctioned provided:

1. The lanes on which it bowls are recognized by GBC, and
2. Its application for sanction and membership fees are submitted on or before the end of the grace period.

Only members of GBC will be eligible for GBC awards.

Mixed Leagues

Rule 101f. A mixed league is one in which both women and men participate and identifies itself as mixed. Teams may be composed of all women, all men or both women and men unless otherwise stated in the rules the league has adopted.

Match Point System

Rule 101g. Leagues that decide team position standings by awarding individual match points and points for team scores must follow these rules unless the league has adopted a different procedure:

1. The team scheduled on the odd lane enters its line-up first.
2. No change may be made in the order of players in the lineup during a series. A substitute must take the replaced bowler's position in the lineup.
3. When there is an absentee or vacancy the individual match points shall be awarded to the team winning the game. If each team has the same number of absentees and/or vacancies, the players present must be placed in opposition to each other for individual matches and the winning team credited with the points for the absentees/vacancies.

If one of two teams has an absentee or vacancy and a player on the opposing team is unable to complete the series; any game in progress shall be completed with no change in the competing team's lineup. However, the lineup of the team that lost its player must be changed if necessary, to comply with the provision of Item 3 above for any subsequent game(s) in the series.

Youth Membership

Rule 101h. Possession of a GBC membership card entitles a member below the age of 18, and throughout the year in which they turn 18, to the designation "youth bowler". No other membership payment shall be required for any youth bowler to bowl in any GBC youth event. Any youth bowler bowling in any GBC event or league, youth or adult, must meet all GBC membership requirements, provided however, that any adult league does not have to accept bowlers under the age of 17 if so stated in league rules.

Handicap Leagues

Rule 101i. Handicapping is a means of placing bowlers and teams with varying degrees of skill on as equitable a basis as possible for scheduled competition. GBC league rules shall apply to all GBC sanctioned handicap leagues, in addition to the following:

1. When the rules are adopted, each handicap league shall decide whether the individual or team method of handicapping will be used.
2. Handicap shall be figured from the average of each bowler as provided by league rule. In the absence of a league rule, handicap shall be figured on an assigned average of 140 until a current average has been established. Handicap shall not be limited, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
3. The combined current average of each of the players bowling on a team shall be the team average.
4. When figuring handicap or averages, fractions are to be dropped.

Senior Leagues

Rule 101j. A senior league is composed of participants who are 50 years of age or over. Senior league bowlers are eligible for all GBC awards.

Officers

Rule 102a. Each league shall elect the following officers:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer

A sergeant-at-arms may be elected, and only the offices of secretary and treasurer may be combined.

Two members of an immediate family cannot serve as president, treasurer or secretary-treasurer of the same league or co-sign for withdrawals from a league account.

Only members may hold league office.

Vacancies in Office

Rule 102b. The league's board of directors shall fill a vacancy in the office of president.

For any other vacancy in office, the president shall appoint a replacement to hold office until the next election.

Duties of the President

Rule 102c. The president shall perform the following duties:

1. Preside at all league meetings.
2. Enforce all rules and regulations of the league.
3. **Arrange to have an account set up in a recognized banking institution in the name of the league with the signatures of at least two officers required for all withdrawals.**
4. Appoint a prize committee and an auditing committee, as well as any other committees needed during the season.
5. Arrange to have the prize committee submit one or more prize lists for consideration (See Rule 117a).
6. **Personally verify the league bank balance monthly.**
7. **Retain all monthly financial statements until the league's prize fund has been distributed at the conclusion of the season.**

- NOTE: "Verify" means the president must not only determine the amount on deposit, but also do the arithmetic necessary to determine how much should be on deposit. If the account is found to be short, the president must report the shortage immediately to the GBC board of directors. It is the position of the Guam Bowling Congress that a shortage of league funds is theft. Having knowledge of such shortages and not reporting it to the GBC makes one an accessory to theft. GBC will file criminal charges against any person committing any theft or covering up any theft of GBC league funds.

Audit Committee responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

Receipts: Verify the amount and date of the deposits.

Disbursements: Review cancelled checks and supporting documents.

This shall determine that expenditures are proper.

All checks must bear the signatures of two authorized co-signers.

Checks should not be made out to cash.

The checkbook should be reviewed to verify entries made and reconciled with bank statements.

Review the financial statement prepared by the treasurer.

Ensure that it is a fair representation of the league's finances.

Duties of the Vice President

Rule 102d. In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall perform the duties of the president.

Duties of the Secretary

Rule 101e. In addition to the duties specified by the board of directors, the secretary shall:

1. Have every participant complete a membership card application and collect membership dues.
2. Forward the annual membership dues with completed league sanction application and membership card applications to the GBC secretary within 30 days after the league begins to bowl. Fees for additional members shall also be forwarded to the GBC general secretary within 30 days of receipt.
3. Keep minutes of all league meetings, handle all correspondence for the league, and notify the members or team captains of all league meetings.
4. Have a current standing sheet available for the members to see at each league session. The standing sheet shall contain the average, number of games and total pins for each member, and any scores eligible for special prizes the league awards.
5. Be responsible for a record of the scores bowled by all team members and substitutes. And report scores that are eligible for GBC awards. Notify the GBC secretary or authorized representative within 48 hours of scores that are eligible for GBC 297, 298, 299, 300 awards and 20 days for all other awards.
6. Give each member of the board a copy of the league rules and prize list and see that the complete season's league schedule is either posted in the bowling center or given to each team captain.
7. Give a copy of the final standing sheet to the league treasurer so the awards can be distributed.
8. Turn over to the newly elected officer all league records, such as minutes of meetings, copies of rules and prize lists, bowling average calculator, etc.
9. Furnish a list of individual averages to the GBC secretary at the end of the season, and at such other times as requested. The list must show the full names of all bowlers who competed in the league; the number of games bowled, total pinfall and average for each bowler.
10. Notify league members of all meetings and any proposed changes in league dues. After the election of officers, send a list of the newly elected officers to the GBC secretary.
11. On request of the GBC, provide a list of the names and addresses of the league officers and the names of captains and teams in the league.

Failure of the secretary to fulfill these or other duties set by the league board of directors may be cause for removal from office and/or suspension of membership.

- NOTE: In leagues using a computer and/or average service, the elected secretary remains responsible for all the duties specified in Rule 102e.

Duties of Treasurer

Rule 102f. The treasurer shall perform the following duties:

1. Establish a bank account in the name of the league with the signatures of at least two officers needed for withdrawals.
2. Arrange to have all league funds deposited within one week of receipt.
3. Be responsible for a complete accounting of all receipts and disbursements. On the request of the president or board, furnish a current financial statement to each team captain.
4. Distribute all prizes within 7 days after the end of the league schedule unless:
 - a. The board has set another time for distributing prizes, or
 - b. GBC has authorized holding up payment pending settlement of a claim or protest affecting prize distribution.

5. When the prizes are distributed, give each team captain and/or member a detailed financial statement showing all income received on behalf of the league and an accounting of all money disbursed. The financial statement must also show the prizes distributed and list to whom they were awarded.
6. Turn over all financial records to the newly elected officer upon election.
7. All financial records, whether in possession of the former officer or newly elected officer, shall be retained for at least 120 days following completion of the league schedule.

Failure by the treasurer to fulfill these or other duties set by the league board of directors may be cause for removal from office and/or suspension of membership.

Duties of Sergeant-at-Arms

Rule 102g. The sergeant-at-arms shall perform such duties as may be required by the president or the board of directors.

Board of Directors/Management

Rule 103a. The board of directors shall be the governing body of the league and shall consist of the officers and team captains. A captain may name another team member to act as the team representative at board of directors meetings. Each member of the board is entitled to one vote whether an officer of the league, a team representative or both. A majority of the members of the board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, unless otherwise stated in the league rules.

Board of Directors/Duties

Rule 103b. The board of directors shall be responsible for the following:

1. Adopt the league rules before the start of the league schedule unless the league elects to have its rules adopted by the general membership.
2. Approve the prize list, unless the league rules provide for the members to approve it.
3. Decide on the amount of salary, if any, to be paid to the league secretary or any other officer, unless the league rules provide for the members to establish salaries.
4. Decide all protests in the league that involve GBC, or league rules.
5. Declare forfeited or null and void any game that is protested. When it declares a game null and void, it can require such game to be rebowled.
6. Decide any questionable errors in scoring or calculation.
7. Make a decision on all matters arising in the league.

The decision of the league board is final unless an appeal is made to the GBC board of directors for further consideration. (See Rule 119 for time limit on protests and appeals.)

The adopted rules and approved prize list may be changed during the season only with the written consent of every team captain or designated representative.

The board of directors shall elect the league officers and prescribe their duties unless the league rules vest this authority in the general membership.

- NOTE: When a team and/or individual is found to be ineligible under league or GBC rules, the game shall be forfeited unless there is a decision to declare the game null and void. In the latter case a decision shall also be made as to whether the game shall be rebowled.

Team Captain's Authority

Rule 104a. A team captain is a member of the league authorized to organize and enter a team in league play. The captain is the team representative and shall perform the following duties:

1. Collect GBC dues, where applicable, from each member of the team and remit such fees to the league secretary.
2. Be responsible for the eligibility of the team and its members under the rules of the league and GBC.
3. Be responsible for the conduct and attendance of the team in league play. It is within the captain's authority to permanently remove any player from the team. Good and sufficient reason for the removal must be furnished to the board, if requested.
4. Enter the names of the team players in the score sheet before the start of each scheduled series.
5. Sign the scorebooks and have the scores verified by the opposing captain.
6. Be responsible for the collection of league fees from each member of the team for remittance to the league treasurer.
7. Pay each member of the team within 15 days after receiving prize money in accordance with verbal or written agreements. The league board shall decide a dispute over prize money distribution.

Team Franchise

Rule 104b. A team franchise (team spot) in the league shall be held by the team captain, as long as the captain is acceptable to the majority of the full membership of the board of directors. A franchise cannot be recalled during the season without sufficient cause.

The league secretary must be notified of the captain's intention to retain the franchise on or before a date set by the league. Failure to do so will result in the franchise returning to the control of the board of directors.

Legal Lineup

Rule 105a. A legal lineup in league play is:

1. Three or more eligible players in five-player team leagues.
2. Two or more eligible players in either three or four player team leagues.
3. One eligible player in two-player team leagues.

A league may include in its rules the number of players from a team's roster who must be present to count toward a legal lineup. Substitutes count to determine a legal lineup unless otherwise provided by league rule.

A five-player team league may adopt a rule that two or more eligible players are required for a legal lineup. A three or four-player team league may adopt a rule that only one eligible player is required for a legal lineup.

Absentee and Vacancy Scores

Rule 105b. Leagues may adopt rules for absentee or vacancy scores and handicaps to decide league games. Absentee or vacancy scores may be used only when a legal lineup is present. Absentee or vacancy scores may not replace scores bowled by an ineligible player.

1. An absentee score is to be used when a member is absent and a substitute is not obtained.
The following provisions apply unless otherwise provided by league rule:
 - a. The absentee score for each game shall be the absent member's current average less 10 pins. In handicap leagues, the handicap shall be based on the absent member's current average. When there are additional members on a team's roster, the absentee score of the absent member with the most games bowled shall be used. If two absentee scores are needed, the average of the absentee with the next highest number of games shall be used. When two absent members have the same number of games; the lower absentee score shall be used.

- b. When a team has an absent member without an established average, a score of 120 will be used. In handicap leagues, the handicap shall be based on the score of 120.
2. A vacancy score is to be used when a team has an incomplete roster. If the vacancy score has not been specified by league rule, it shall be 120. In handicap leagues, the handicap must be based on the vacancy score used.

In a singles league, no vacancy scores shall be used. Absentee scores will not be permitted, unless otherwise provided by league rule.

League Series -How Bowled

Rule 106a. Two lanes immediately adjoining each other shall be used in each game of league play. The first game of a series shall start on the lane where the team is scheduled with each succeeding game starting on the lane where the team finished its previous game. At the option of the league, each game may be bowled on a different pair of lanes, but a full game must be bowled on each pair.

Order of Bowling

Rule 106b. Members of competing teams shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane, and for the next frame alternate and use the other lane until five frames are bowled on each lane of the pair. No changes can be made in the order of players after the start of a game.

- NOTE: It is permissible for the lead off player to bowl prior to or while the anchor player is bowling on the other lane when two teams are bowling against each other.

Interrupted Game

Rule 106c. If equipment failure on a pair of lanes would delay the progress of a series, league officers can authorize the game and series to be completed on another pair of certified lanes. An interrupted game and series shall be resumed from the point of interruption.

Tardy Players

Rule 106d. Unless otherwise provided by league rule, a player who arrives late may be permitted to bowl after a game has started under these conditions:

1. The player shall begin play with the score to count beginning with the frame then being bowled by the team.
2. The player shall receive one-tenth of the absentee score for each frame not bowled.
3. Partial games shall not be used in determining a bowler's average unless league rules require the secretary to maintain averages based on the actual frames bowled by each player.

Bowling Out

Rule 106e. A bowler may finish any one game of a series before teammates or opponents unless league rules do not permit bowling out.

If games one or two are bowled out, the player cannot return to bowl in any subsequent game(s) in the series.

- NOTE: A player bowling out should do so while the others continue to bowl. The player should bowl on each lane immediately after the previous bowler completes the frame, so that the progress of the game is not delayed.

Score Recognition -Tardy Players or Bowling Out

Rule 106f. When tardy players are allowed to bowl the complete game or a member is allowed to bowl out, the score counts in deciding the game; is included in the bowler's average, and qualifies for GBC awards. The score also counts for special league awards unless otherwise provided by league rule.

Bowlers in Corresponding Positions

Rule 106g. When two bowlers in corresponding positions in the lineup of opposing teams are ready to bowl, the bowler on the right is to bowl first. If the pins are not set up for the bowler on the right, the bowler on the left may wait until the opponent's pins are properly set.

Competition Limited To One Game

Rule 107a. Under no conditions may a player bowl on more than one team in the same scheduled game. In addition, a player may not compete on more than one team in the same league for each of the regularly scheduled games in a series, unless otherwise provided by league rule.

- NOTE: Once a player records scores, whether prebowed, post bowled, or at the regularly scheduled time, the player's eligibility for that series has been exhausted. The posted scores must be utilized in figuring team and individual standings, unless declared null and void by the league's board of directors.

Transferring Team Membership

Rule 107b. A bowler listed on a team's roster and whose scores have counted, may transfer to another team in the league during the season provided:

1. The captain of the team with which the player last bowled consents to the player's release, and
2. Two-thirds of the league's team captains agree to the transfer.

Substitutes and/or Replacements

Rule 107c. A substitute is a bowler who replaces another who is scheduled to participate in a GBC sanctioned league, or bowls for a team with an incomplete roster. Scores bowled by a substitute shall count for the games bowled. A substitute must be a member of GBC.

The following shall apply to substitutes and/or replacements:

1. A bowler may not compete on more than one team in the same league for the regularly scheduled games each week, unless otherwise provided by league rule. (See Rule 107a).
2. Scores bowled through the efforts of more than one individual player shall not qualify for league or GBC individual awards.
3. A player removed from a game cannot return to bowl in the same game.
4. When a substitution is made during a game, as provided in Item 6, the game score counts only for team score, unless otherwise provided by league rule.
5. A team must be allowed to add players when its roster is less than the playing strength of the league.
6. A captain may replace any player at any time during a game with another eligible player if a bowler is unable to finish the game because of disability, injury or an emergency. A player may not be replaced during a game for any other reason unless the league adopted a rule granting this privilege,
7. A team using a substitute is eligible for all high team prizes.

- NOTE: When a substitution is made during a game in a handicap league, each player receives 1/10 of her/his single game handicap for each frame bowled- For example, an original player with a single game handicap of 19 pins completes six frames and a substitute with a single game handicap of 22 pins completes the remaining four frames.

- Original player = $1/10$ of 19 = 1.9 pins x 6 frames = 11.4 or 11 pins
- Substitute player = $1/10$ of 22 = 2.2 pins x 4 frames = 8.8 pins or 8 pins
- The fraction is dropped from each individual's handicap not from each frame.

In leagues using the team method of handicapping, the same procedure is used. Determine the team handicap with the original player and with the substitute in the lineup. Then apply the handicap based on the number of frames completed by each player.

Pacers

Rule 107d. A pacer is a bowler who fills in to balance the rotation of the teams" but whose scores do not count. Scores bowled, as a pacer shall not be included in the average records.

Pacers are allowed unless otherwise provided by league rule. A pacer shall not be eligible for any GBC individual awards.

Failure to Complete Game

Rule 108a. When a player is unable to complete a game because of disability, injury or emergency, and another eligible player is not available, the team shall count the actual score for the frames bowled plus one-tenth of the league's absentee score for each remaining frame in the game.

- NOTE: For computing score: take actual score for frames bowled and credit 10 pins for a strike or spare in last frame bowled. Add $1/10$ of league's absentee score for each of the remaining frames. For example, if absentee score is bowler's average less 10: Absentee score 145; $1/10$ of 145 = 14.5 X 3 frames = 43.5. Drop fraction and add 43 to actual score for 7 frames bowled. The fraction is dropped after the total amount is figured, and not from each frame.

Failure to Complete Game Without Cause

Rule 108b. When a player does not complete a game for reasons other than disability, injury or emergency, the player's team shall count zero for each remaining frame in the game.

Partial games and games bowled through the efforts of more than one player cannot be used in determining a bowler's average, unless league rules require the secretary to maintain averages based on the actual frames bowled by each player.

If there is any doubt of a player's reason for not being able to continue a game, the league board of directors shall decide.

Forfeit-Lack of Legal Lineup

Rule 109a. When less than a minimum legal lineup is present to complete the first frame of any game of a series, the game shall be forfeited unless a league has a rule to allow the required number of players for a minimum legal lineup to enter the game by a designated frame. A frame shall be considered completed when all bowlers present on each team have made their last deliveries in that frame.

Forfeit -Failure to Appear

Rule 109b. When one of two teams scheduled against each other fails to present a minimum legal lineup and postponement was not requested, the game(s) are forfeited unless there was an emergency that could not be controlled by the team. The board of directors shall decide whether an emergency existed and, if so, the match shall be rescheduled under the postponement rules.

Forfeit -Lack of Legal Lineup on Both Teams

Rule 109c. If two teams scheduled to bowl each other do not have legal lineups and were not granted a postponement, both teams shall forfeit these games unless an emergency existed or the board directs that the match be rebowled.

- NOTE: A team cannot be required to forfeit if fees are not paid for absent member or a vacancy.

Forfeit -League Fee Arrearages

Rule 109d. A league can adopt a rule to declare games forfeited if participants in a team's lineup are not current in league fee payments.

A league that does not adopt a rule is responsible for any loss incurred by such arrearages.

Forfeit -Procedure for Bowling

Rule 109e. When a team is bowling in a known forfeit situation, the following procedures shall apply.

1. The team present must bowl as though the game was contested. It must complete a team frame on one lane before starting the next frame on the adjoining lane.
2. The forfeiting team is not to receive any point(s).
3. To earn the point(s), an individual must bowl at least her/his average less ten (10) pins, and/or teams must bowl at least the team average less ten (10) pins per player unless the league rules have stated another number of pins. Points not won by the individual and/or team for failing to bowl the prescribed score should be recorded on the standing sheet as "unearned points" points.
4. Players on the forfeiting team who are present may bowl, but the scores shall not be included in the team's total pins.

Scores bowled in accordance with this procedure shall be counted toward averages and qualify for league prizes unless the league rules state otherwise. In addition, such scores shall qualify for GBC awards.

- NOTE: When leagues include series totals in points won and a team forfeits one or more games in a series, that team shall receive a zero for the games it forfeits in deciding the winner of the series point. When a league determines position standings on a percentage basis, the percentage is calculated by dividing the number of points won by the total number of points available to the team. (The total number of points available includes points won, lost and unearned through forfeit situations.)

Forfeit -Refusal to Bowl

Rule 109f. A team that refuses to bowl with less than a full lineup forfeits any games it declines to bowl.

Bowling Unopposed

Rule 110. Opposing teams must bowl each other at the same time except:

1. When a forfeit is declared;
2. When a league adopts specific rules permitting a team or individual members to bowl unopposed before or after a scheduled league match, in which case the following provisions apply:
 - a. Teams or individuals bowling unopposed must complete one frame on one lane before starting the next frame on the adjoining lane.
 - b. A league officer or appointed representative who is not a member bowling must be present.
 - c. The scores count in deciding league games and qualify for GBC awards.

Unless otherwise provided by league rule the provisions of Rules 111a through 111e apply; and, the scores qualify for league awards.

Postponed or Prebowed Games

Rule 111a. League games must be bowled as scheduled unless postponed. The board of directors or a committee appointed for this purpose shall determine what sufficient cause to grant a postponement is, but it cannot adopt a rule that would have the effect of not permitting any postponements.

Prebowed games shall be subject to the same conditions that apply to postpone games. A postponement shall be granted if a team is unable to field a legal lineup because some of its bowlers are participating in a GBC or FIQ sanctioned tournament or attending the GBC Annual Meeting.

Postponement -Request

Rule 111b. A postponement must be requested at least forty- eight (48) hours before the scheduled time except for emergencies. A league must grant a postponement when a team cannot appear for reasons beyond its control.

Postponement -Time Limit for Scheduling

Rule 111c. Postponed games must be bowled prior to the date of scheduled competition for final team standings for the season or each segment of a split season. However, postponements granted for the date of scheduled competition for the final team standings must be bowled not later than seven days after that date.

The foregoing applies when a protest or appeal is pending finalization under Rule 119.

Postponement -Procedures to Follow

Rule 111d. When a postponement has been granted, the following procedures shall apply:

1. The league secretary shall notify the bowling center of the change in schedule and arrange to have a pair of acceptable lanes available for the postponed match.
2. The captains of the teams involved shall agree to a date for bowling the postponed match. If within one week from the date originally scheduled, the captains cannot agree on a date, the league secretary shall set a date and notify both team captains of the date and time. This notification to be given at least three days before the date set.
3. Postponed games must be bowled under the same conditions and rules governing sanctioned league play. The teams shall oppose each other on the originally scheduled pair of lanes if available; otherwise the league secretary may authorize the teams to bowl on any other pair normally used by the league.
4. If a pair of lanes normally used by the league is not available, the league board of directors may authorize the games to be bowled on another pair of lanes even though the league does not normally use the lanes.

Postponement -Figuring Handicaps

Rule 111e. In bowling postponed or prebowed games in handicap leagues, the handicap is figured as of the date the games are bowled. All games bowled prior to the prebowed or postponed match shall be included in determining handicap.

Tie Game

Rule 112. When a tie occurs, each of the teams shall be credited with one-half the value of the point(s) normally awarded. There shall be no playoff of such ties.

Playoffs

Rule 113. A playoff is necessary under the following conditions:

1. To determine the champion when a tie exists for first place at the end of the league schedule.
2. To determine a champion when the league bowls a split season.
3. To determine first place when a tie occurs in any segment of a split season.
4. When the league decides to break a tie for any other position.

A league may establish special playoff rules but under no conditions may the playoff consist of less than one game. In the absence of a league rule, the playoff shall consist of the same number of games and be conducted under the same conditions and rules governing league play during the regular season. When more than two teams are involved in a playoff, total pins from the playoff shall decide the winner unless otherwise provided in the league rules.

If a tie still exists at the end of the playoff, each team will bowl an additional frame. These frames to be bowled by each team on the lane where it bowled the final frame of the last game and it shall be scored like a tenth frame. If the tie is still unbroken, the teams involved will alternate lanes for each additional complete frame needed to break the tie.

Playoff games do not count toward individual averages or special league prizes unless otherwise provided by the league rules. When a playoff is necessary, the league secretary shall arrange to have lanes available.

- NOTE: Leagues may not adopt rules to allow total pins for the season or team average to break position standing ties at the conclusion of the season, or at the end of any segment of a split season schedule. When an extra frame must be bowled, one tenth of the handicap for one game shall be given for the extra frame.

Withdrawals/Resignations

Rule 114a. If a team or individual must withdraw from a league during the season, two weeks notice must be given along with sufficient cause for resigning. The resigning member(s) must pay league fees for two weeks if the vacancy is not filled within that period.

1. A team shall give notice to the league secretary.
2. A member resigning from a team shall give notice to the captain and the league secretary.

If proper notice and sufficient cause is not given, all franchise prize and any other money for which the team or individual may have been eligible will be forfeited. In addition, the member(s) shall be subject to suspension of GBC membership.

A bowler who has resigned may become a member of any team in the same league later that season provided the written consent of two-thirds of the team captains is obtained.

The average of any bowler permitted to return to the league shall be continued.

Replacements

Rule 114b. When a team is replaced, the new team shall assume the position standings of the replaced team, unless the league ruled otherwise. A new team must be advised of the financial status of the team it replaced.

A new member shall be advised of any deficit caused by the bowler being replaced and cannot accept that bowler's average.

Bye/Uneven Number of Teams

Rule 114c. When a league starts the season with an uneven number of teams or a team is dismissed or withdraws and is not replaced; the team scheduled against the nonexistent team cannot be credited with the points by forfeit.

The teams and/or individuals scheduled against the nonexistent team must earn the points for the games, unless the league board of directors, by majority vote, decides to use the bye system.

TO EARN THE POINTS: The team must complete one frame on one lane before starting the next frame on the adjoining lane. An individual must bowl her/his average less ten (10) pins and/or teams must bowl the team average less ten (10) pins per player, unless the league board states another number of pins.

Points not won by the team for failing to bowl the prescribed score should be recorded on the standing sheet as "unearned" points.

BYE SYSTEM: If the league board decides to use the bye system, position standings shall be determined on a percentage basis.

If a question arises on when the team withdrew, the league board shall determine when the bye takes effect. In all cases, the games bowled by the team that withdrew or was dismissed must stand.

Dismissal -League Officer or Player

Rule 115a. A player may be dismissed from the league or an officer removed from league office only for any of the following reasons:

1. Conduct derogatory to the best interest of the league.
2. Any deliberate action, which can be proven to be detrimental to the best interest of the team.
3. Violation of any GBC or league rule.

A player who continues to pay the league fees cannot be dismissed or replaced because of absence from league play unless one of the foregoing reasons is applicable.

If a league member files a written charge asking for removal of a league officer or dismissal of a player, these procedures must be followed:

1. Within one week after receipt of the written complaint, the league president should schedule a meeting of the league board of directors, and members of the board shall be notified. The meeting should be held at the earliest possible date.
2. Written notice and a copy of the complaint shall be provided to the individual(s) charged. Such notice should be sent by first class mail or be hand delivered, and shall notify the individual of the date, time and place of the meeting, as well as of his/her right to attend and offer a defense.
3. A roster shall be prepared listing those present and absent. A quorum of the board of directors must be present at the meeting.
4. Minutes of the meeting and all documents and material relating to the charges must be maintained.
5. A two-thirds vote of board members present and voting shall be required for dismissal and/or removal from office.
6. The individual(s) involved shall be notified in writing of the board's decision and of the right to appeal that decision to the GBC. An appeal under this rule must be filed in accordance with Rule 119.

A player dismissed from the league forfeits all franchise, prize and any other money for which she/he may have been eligible.

A player dismissed from the league may rejoin the league with the written consent of two-thirds of the full membership of the board. If permitted to rejoin, the bowler's average shall be continued.

Dismissal -Nonpayment of Fees and/or Improper Withdrawal

Rule 115b. When a league member is accused of failing to pay league fees and/or withdrawing without sufficient cause, the league must try to resolve the matter. A complaint shall be submitted, in writing, to a league officer, and the league shall proceed as follows:

1. Within one week after receipt of the written complaint, the president should schedule a meeting of the league board of directors, and the board shall be notified. The meeting should be held at the earliest possible date.
2. Written notice and a copy of the complaint shall be provided to the member(s) charged. Such notice should be sent by first class mail or be hand-delivered, and shall notify the member of the date, time and place of the meeting, as well as of her/his right to attend and offer a defense.
3. A roster shall be prepared listing those present and absent. A quorum of the board of directors must be present at the meeting.
4. Minutes of the meeting and all documents relating to the charges must be maintained. An accounting must be made of any arrearage, including dates and amounts, whether the accused was present or absent when the arrearage occurred, and the date of replacement.
5. Two-thirds vote of the board members present and voting shall be required to determine if the accused is guilty. If found not guilty, the charges are to be dismissed. If found guilty, GBC is to be furnished with a copy of the following:
 - a. The meeting notices.
 - b. The meeting minutes.
 - c. The league rules.
 - d. A record of the accounting developed at the meeting, all supporting documents and materials.
 - e. The vote count for the recommendation of the league board.

When the defendant is a GBC member, all of the items indicated above must be furnished to the GBC secretary within 30 days after the meeting. Upon receipt of the file, the GBC secretary shall verify that complete information was provided and submit a copy of the file to GBC board of directors. GBC will notify the member charged that she/he has 30 days to either pay the money or request a hearing on the charge by submitting a written request to GBC. One or more of the league officers who attended the meeting of the league board must appear at the hearing before the GBC board of directors. If the member does not request a hearing, the file will be submitted to the GBC board of directors for a final decision.

Scoring

Rule 116a. In league play, scores must be recorded on a score sheet in plain view of opposing players. Every frame bowled by each player shall be recorded. Each team shall also record the scores of each game in a scorebook kept by the team captain or someone appointed by the captain for this purpose.

The score sheet is the official record, and the team scorebooks must agree with the score sheet at the end of each game. After the scorebooks are verified and signed by the opposing team captains, these are the league's official records for the season. A league official immediately upon discovery must correct errors in scoring or calculation. The league board shall decide any questionable errors in scoring or calculation.

Scores Lost

Rule 116b. A league game(s) or frame(s) within a game, which is irretrievably lost in the scoring process, is null and void. The game(s) or frame(s) must be rebowled unless one of the following conditions is met:

1. Scores of any players that have been lost can be documented.
2. The team captains can completely agree on one or more scores lost.
3. The league board of directors rules the game(s) or frame(s) are not to be rebowled.

If scores on a pair of lanes can be documented or agreed upon, the game shall be continued from the point of interruption. If some but not all of the scores can be documented or agreed upon, those bowlers whose scores cannot be substantiated shall rebowl the game to the point of interruption, at which time the game shall be continued in regular order.

Prize List

Rule 117a. The prize committee shall submit one or more prize lists for consideration within five weeks after the start of the season. The prize list must take into consideration any rules that have been adopted to govern the eligibility of teams and individuals for prizes.

The board of directors shall approve the prize list unless the league rules provide for its adoption by the membership. After approval, the prize list may be changed only with the written consent of every team captain or designated representative.

Prize Qualification

Rule 117b. TEAM -Team prizes shall be distributed according to verbal or written agreements. If there is a dispute on the division of team prizes, it shall be decided by the board of directors.

No team can win more than one prize in any group of prizes, unless otherwise provided by league rule.

INDIVIDUAL -In order to qualify for individual league prizes, a player must actually bowl the required number of games. The following provisions also apply, unless otherwise provided by league rule.

1. A member shall have bowled at least two-thirds of the games of the league's schedule.
2. If a substitute later becomes a regular member, the games bowled, as a substitute shall be included in the required number of games.
3. Scores bowled, as a substitute shall not qualify for individual league prizes.
4. No individual can win more than one prize in any group of prizes.

If a bowler has competed in two-thirds of the league schedule or the number of required games, and cannot be a member at the end of the season because of physical disability or other reasons beyond her/his control, the board of directors shall decide her/his eligibility for individual prizes.

A member who, withdraws during the season without proper notice and sufficient cause, is dismissed, or suspended shall forfeit any money paid into the league.

HANDICAP LEAGUES - All special prizes for team and/or individual high series or high game shall be awarded on a handicap basis, unless otherwise provided by the rule.

- NOTE: The following are considered groups of prizes: 1st and 2nd high individual scratch game; 1st and 2nd high individual handicap game; 1st and 2nd high individual scratch series; and 1st and 2nd high individual handicap series. The same groups apply to team awards. Since scratch and handicap scores are considered separate groups, a team or individual would be eligible for both scratch and handicap prizes, unless the league rules otherwise. If a league rule limits teams or individuals to one award, the rule should also state which prize a member or team will win if a score qualifies for more than one.

Prizes to Proprietors and Employees

Rule 117c. A league may adopt a rule to deny the owner or the employees of a bowling center any individual prize offered by the league when the entire schedule is bowled in that bowling center.

Average- How Determined

Rule 118a. A bowling average is determined by dividing the total number of pins credited to a bowler in one sanctioned league by the number of games bowled in that league in a season.

Extra pins or fractions must be disregarded in using averages for handicapping or classification purposes.

Extra pins or fractions shall be reduced to a percentage of a pin only for the purpose of deciding individual position standings in a league.

HIGHEST AVERAGE - The best average in one of several sanctioned leagues in which a player competes in one season.

COMPOSITE AVERAGE - The average of a bowler who bowls in two or more sanctioned leagues in a season. Adding the total pins for all of the leagues and dividing the result by the total number of games bowled in those leagues determine the average.

Average -How Established

Rule 118b. Each league shall adopt a rule to determine the number of games required to establish an average in that league.

When establishing an average a right-handed bowler must always bowl right-handed. Similarly, a left-handed bowler must always bowl left-handed. Penalty: Forfeiture of game.

No combination of scores bowled both right and left-handed can be used to compute an average.

Changing Delivery

Rule 118c. If because of injury or disability a bowler finds it necessary to change delivery from right to left-handed or vice versa, the league's board of directors, by majority vote, may permit the bowler to change delivery. If approval is obtained, the bowler must establish a new average.

Protest Procedures

Rule 119. A protest involving eligibility or playing rules must be confirmed in writing to a league officer or GBC not later than 15 days after the series in which the infraction occurred is bowled. If a written protest is not filed within that time, the series stands.

A protest resulting from competition in the final two weeks of a league schedule must be filed within 48 hours of the final date of the league schedule or the end of a segment if the league bowls a split season.

A protest involving league playoff games must be filed within 48 hours.

Each protest must be specific in itself and cannot be construed to cover any prior violations.

An appeal from a decision on a protest must be filed in writing:

1. Within 15 days of notification.
2. Within 48 hours when notification occurs in the final two weeks of the league schedule or after the league schedule has ended.
3. Within 48 hours when notification occurs as a result of playoff competition.

Prizes for positions involved cannot be distributed until the protest or appeal is resolved.

Position Matches

Rule 120. A rule may be adopted to include position matches in the schedule. Teams shall be paired according to their league position standings and games bowled count as won and lost. Ties for position pairings shall be determined by draw or coin toss, unless otherwise provided by league rule.

League Fees

Rule 121. League fees consist of the total paid for bowling, the prize fund and any other amount voted by the league. The league shall decide all league fees, including any entry or sponsor fee.
(See Rule 115b - Nonpayment of League Fees.)

Meetings

Rule 122. Rules shall be adopted at a meeting prior to the start of the league schedule by the board of directors or the membership. After the league schedule begins, a change in the league rules can be made only with the written consent of every team captain or designated representative.

The election of officers shall be conducted during the first league night.

The secretary shall notify the members or team captains of all league meetings. A quorum must be in attendance. Absentee and proxy votes are not acceptable, and only members present are eligible to vote.



CHAPTER V EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted all USBC and IBF equipment specifications shall apply to GBC sanctioned competition and bowling centers. The following information is the non-technical equipment specifications.

Bowling Pins -Markings, Labels And Coatings

Pins used in sanctioned competition shall only bear the name and trademark of the original manufacturer or distributor. The pins in each set must be uniform in appearance including finish; labels and neck markings, reasonable wear excepted. The coating of single piece or laminated maple tenpins must be transparent (clear) or white pigmented with the exception of neck markings, identifying symbols or name. Standard all wood or plastic coated pins shall not vary more than four ounces in each set.

Bowling Ball -Approval

Bowling balls used in GBC sanctioned competition shall:

1. Meet USBC equipment specifications at time of manufacture.
2. Be USBC or IBF approved.
3. Meet the following specifications.

Bowling Ball -Material

A bowling ball shall be constructed without voids in its interior, be of a nonmetallic composition material and conform to the specifications for weight, size and balance.

The use of minute reflective particles or flakes for decorative purposes shall be permitted in a bowling ball provided such particles or flakes are made a part of the ball at time of manufacture; are evenly distributed in a uniform pattern under a transparent shell at least 1/4 inch beneath the surface of the ball so as to have no effect on the balance, and the total amount of such material does not exceed 1/2 ounce per ball.

Bowling Ball- Weight, Size, Markings And Holes

The circumference of a ball shall not be more than 27 inches, nor shall it weigh more than 16 pounds. The diameter of the ball must be constant.

The surface of a ball must be free of all depressions or grooves of specific pattern, except for holes or indentations used for gripping the ball, identification letters and numbers, and incidental chipping or marring caused by wear.

Holes

The following limitations shall govern the drilling of holes in the ball:

1. Holes or indentations for gripping purposes shall not exceed five and shall be limited to one for each finger and one for the thumb, all for the same hand with no drilled holes exceeding 1-9/16" diameter and 4-1/2" deep. (Note: This includes holes required to install removeable devices). The player is

required to use all the gripping holes on every delivery with the same hand except when using a house ball.

A house ball is defined as:

- i. Being supplied by the center in which the certified competition is being held.
- ii. Having a polyester or basic urethane coverstock.
- iii. Having a differential RG less than 0.025 inches.
- iv. The ball is not drilled to fit the bowler specifically.

NOTE: A ball left in a bowling center by a bowler for public use is not considered a house ball.

Any gripping hole that does not have the thumb or fingers inserted into it throughout the approach would be classified as a balance hole, which is not allowed. Any secondary hole drilled inside of a gripping hole that is not intended for gripping purpose is considered a void and not allowed except for vent holes.

If a bowler does not have a thumb hole, there must be a scribed or engraved “+” near the center of the palm to indicate the grip orientation. The ball must be delivered in the marked orientation (i.e., palm must cover the “+”).

2. Balance holes are not permitted.

3. No more than one vent hole for each finger and/or thumb hole not to exceed ¼” in diameter. USBC considers a vent hole to be any non-gripping hole that intersects with a gripping hole at any depth. Any hole intended for use as a balance hole that intersects with a gripping hole will instantly be considered a vent hole. This hole may not exceed ¼” at any point throughout the depth of the hole.

4. One mill hole for inspection purposes not to exceed 5/8” in diameter and 1/8” in depth.

Bowling Ball -Balance

The following tolerances shall be permissible in the balance of a bowling ball used in certified competition:

1. For a ball weighing more than 10.00 pounds

- a. Not more than 3 ounces difference between the top half of the ball (gripping holes side) and the bottom half of the ball (side opposite the gripping holes).
- b. Not more than 3 ounces difference between the half of the ball to the left and the half of the ball to the right of the center of grip (side weight).
- c. Not more than 3 ounces difference between the half of the ball toward the thumb hole side of the center of grip and toward the finger holes side of the center of grip (thumb/ finger weight).
- d. A ball used without any gripping holes or indentations may not have more than 3 ounces of difference between any two halves of the ball.
- e. If a bowler does not have a thumb hole and drills a ball to meet the new 3 oz. of imbalance requirement, there must be a scribed or engraved “+” near the center of the palm to indicate the grip orientation. The ball must be delivered in the marked orientation (i.e., palm must cover the “+”).

2. For a ball weighing 8.0 pounds to 10.00 pounds

- a. Not more than 2 ounces difference between the top half of the ball (gripping holes side) and the bottom half of the ball (side opposite the gripping holes).

- b. Not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce difference between the half of the ball to the left and the half of the ball to the right of the center of grip (side weight)
- c. Not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce difference between the half of the ball toward the thumb hole side of the center of grip and toward the finger holes side of the center of grip (thumb/ finger weight).
- d. A ball used without any gripping holes or indentations may not have more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce of difference between any two halves of the ball.

3. For a ball weighing less than 8.00 pounds:

- a. Not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce difference between the top half of the ball (gripping holes side) and the bottom half of the ball (side opposite the gripping holes).
- b. Not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce difference between the half of the ball to the left and the half of the ball to the right of the center of grip (side weight).
- c. Not more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce difference between the half of the ball toward the thumb hole side of the center of grip and toward the finger holes side of the center of grip (thumb/ finger weight).
- d. A ball used without any gripping holes or indentations may not have more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce of difference between any two halves of the ball.

Bowling Ball -Other Requirements

Movable devices are not permitted in a ball except that a device for changing the finger span or the size of finger and thumbholes may be inserted, providing the device is locked in position during delivery and cannot be removed from the ball without destroying the device.

Removable devices shall be permitted, provided:

1. Such devices are used for changing the span, pitch or the size of the gripping holes.
2. Are constructed of a non-metallic material.
3. Are locked in position during delivery.
4. No device shall be employed for the purpose of adjusting the static balance of the ball.
5. No voids shall be permitted under the device.

All such devices must first be submitted and approved by GBC before being used in sanctioned competition. Once approved. The device may not be altered and may not be used in conjunction with any other approved device.

The introduction of metal or any other substance not comparable to the original material used in the manufacture of the ball is prohibited. Also, altering a ball in any way to increase its weight or cause it to be out of balance beyond the tolerances is prohibited.

Plugs may be inserted for the purpose of re-drilling a ball. Designs may be embedded in a ball as guides, or observation or identification purposes, provided the designs are flush with the outer surface of the ball. There shall be no interior voids and the plugs or designs must be of material similar to, although not exactly the same as, the original materials out of which the ball was made; and shall otherwise comply with all bowling ball specifications. No foreign material may be placed on the outer surface of the ball.

Bowling Ball -Surface Hardness

The surface hardness of a ball shall be not less than 72 Durometer "D". The use of chemicals, solvents or other methods to change the surface hardness of the ball is prohibited. (See Rule 19 - Bowling Ball -Altering Surface)



CHAPTER VI CERTIFICATION

- Note: This section shall be implemented in 2021 and is placed in this booklet for future reference.

All GBC sanctioned leagues and tournaments must be so organized and their activities conducted in such a manner that they comply with all GBC rules and regulations, and only approved equipment may be used. The lanes upon which all games are bowled in sanctioned competition must be recognized by GBC.

Measurement specifications and certification requirements can be altered or changed only by the GBC board of directors.

- Note: If GBC is unable to provide certification of lanes, a score will be recognized by GBC provided the bowler meets the Bowling Ball specifications and inspection criteria provided in this rulebook.

Bowling Center Certificates

Section I. APPLICATION/INSPECTION. When a bowling center requests recognition, the GBC inspector shall measure and inspect the lanes and equipment for compliance with GBC physical specifications. In addition, GBC may authorize military personnel to perform annual inspections of bowling centers located within the boundaries of overseas U.S. military installations.

When completed, all required inspection information, together with an application for a Bowling Center Certificate signed by the bowling center's authorized representative, should be sent to GBC.

Certificates once issued shall not expire, unless center refuses to be inspected or refuses to comply with any needed corrections in specifications that are documented in any inspection report.

The following conditions apply:

- Center shall have 120 days following receipt of any inspection report to correct any specifications that are noted as failing to meet required tolerances in the inspection report
- Any center that is currently recognized by GBC is subject to inspection. Any center, subject to inspection that refuses to be inspected within 2 week of an inspection being requested by GBC shall have its certification revoked until such time as time as an inspection has been completed and all specifications have been met.

Any center that fails to perform any needed corrections, as noted in any inspection report, shall have its certification revoked 120 days after deliver of the inspection report to the center.

GBC will recognize any lanes certified by the FIQ or USBC, at the time of inspection for a GBC certificate, as being in full compliance with all GBC certification requirements. GBC shall continue to recognize any such certification provide that the center complies with any needed corrections in specifications within 120 days of receipt of the inspection report.

The fees payable to GBC shall be \$15.00 per lane. Any request for certification following no issuance for the prior year, or withdrawal, will be considered an initial certification. The fees payable to GBC shall include two reinspections if necessary. For each additional visit needed to complete the certification process, the GBC may charge a fee not to exceed \$10.00/lane needing reinspection.

Section 2. ISSUANCE. On submission of an application, if GBC determine that the terms of certification and all other GBC requirements have been met, a Certificate will be issued.

Section 3. REPRESENTATION. A Certificate issued to a bowling center shall be displayed in the center. By doing so, the owner and all operational personnel represent to GBC that their best effort will be given to insure that all bowling equipment, lane dressing and its distribution meets and continues to meet all requirements for GBC sanctioned competition

Section 4. RETENTION. In addition to compliance with all other terms and conditions of the certification requirements, retention of a Certificate shall be subject to the following:

1. If dressing is used, it shall meet GBC specifications and must comply with the following:
 - a. Dressing must be distributed from edge board to edge board for the entire predetermined distance down the lane (for example, and without limiting the distance 35-40 feet from the foul line). Following any application of dressing, in the dressed portion of the lane there shall be a minimum of three (3) units of dressing at all points on, the lane surface.
 - b. A unit is defined as a measurement of dressing film thickness equivalent to .0167 cubic centimeters of dressing per square foot of lane surface.
 - c. Any stripping (cleaning) of dressing from the lanes must be uniform from edge board to edge board and at least from the headpin to the distance to which dressing has been applied.
2. The lane surfaces shall not be altered or conditioned to create a ball path or otherwise affect the course of the ball or pinfall by use of abrasives, dressings or any other materials or methods. (For example, and without intending any limitation of the rule, the resurfacers, owner, manager and maintenance personnel are specifically prohibited from creating grooves or tracks in the lane to form a continuous ball path even though within allowable tolerances.)
3. Any adjustment or modification of lane maintenance equipment to create the conditions described in item "b" above is specifically prohibited.
4. Any use of a bowling pin that does not meet GBC specifications is prohibited for sanctioned competition.
5. Any GBC authorized representative shall be permitted at any time to inspect a certified center for compliance with bowling equipment specifications and lane dressing requirements; and to inspect all equipment the center uses to maintain its lanes.

Whenever any score listed in GBC Rule 53 is bowled, one of the following is required:

1. An inspection must have already been performed within 30 days prior to the date of the score; or
2. An inspection must be performed within 30 days after the date of the score.
3. Inspection information obtained shall be recorded on report form(s) provided by GBC. A copy of the inspection report(s) shall be submitted to center management and GBC within 10 days. References to inspections in this item shall mean unannounced inspections of randomly selected lanes, including:
 - a. Measurement of lane dressing applied before bowling
 - b. Measurement of gutter depths
 - c. Verification of pin spotting accuracy; and
 - d. Weighing and inspection of pins on first inspection each season.

❖ **PENALTY:** Failure to comply with any of the foregoing shall constitute grounds for score denials and suspension or withholding of GBC membership for the action set forth in the non-compliance procedures of this chapter.

Section 5. PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE. Anyone that attempts or directs another to alter or condition lanes to create a ball path or otherwise affect the course of the ball or pinfall, or permits any of the foregoing to occur is liable for suspension of GBC membership. A non-member found to have taken or permitted such actions may be denied GBC membership until the GBC board of directors approves his/her application.

Section 6. NONCOMPLIANCE PROCEDURES. When GBC find non-compliance with lane dressing or surface requirements, or bowling equipment specifications, the following procedure will apply:

1. The inspection coordinator and the bowling center will be notified by GBC of its decision and their right to appeal.
2. If there is no appeal, the GBC decision will be final.
3. If there is an appeal, it will be heard by the GBC Board of Directors.

Whenever a GBC non-compliance decision becomes final, one point will be assessed against the bowling center's record. The accumulation of one or three points will be reduced to zero following six consecutive months of uninterrupted compliance, computed from the date of the last inspection, which resulted in a decision of non-compliance. The accumulation of three points will be reduced to zero following six consecutive months of uninterrupted compliance, computed from the date of the inspection which resulted in a decision of non-compliance; and a minimum of one inspection per month for each of the six months is required. Whenever there is a GBC decision of non-compliance after the accumulation of three points, any application for recognition of an honor score will be subject to the following procedures:

1. The league or tournament secretary shall immediately notify the Guam Bowling Congress inspection coordinator or authorized representative and center management.
2. Center management shall not permit re-dressing or other alteration of the lane dressing distribution on the pair of lanes on which the score was bowled prior to the following noon unless a lane dressing distribution inspection has been completed.
3. The Guam Bowling Congress inspection coordinator or authorized representative shall:
 - a. Make a lane dressing inspection of the lanes on which the score was bowled as soon as possible, but no later than the following noon.
 - b. Measure the gutter depths and inspect and weigh the pins.
 - c. Record all inspection information on report form(s) provided by GBC.
 - d. Give a copy of the inspection report(s) to center management.
 - e. Submit the original inspection report(s) to GBC within 10 days.

When four points are accumulated, GBC shall notify the bowling center that the file will be referred to the certification review committee for possible Certificate withdrawal.

If there is a Certificate withdrawal, GBC will notify the bowling center and each league/tournament that following completion of the current schedule, GBC will not sanction any leagues/tournaments until the Certificate has been reinstated.

References to bowling center notices in this section shall mean written notice to the owner and/or any other representative designated by the owner. References to leagues/tournaments shall mean those bowling or scheduled to bowl in the center, which have applied for or are sanctioned.

Section 7. MISCELLANEOUS. In the event a Certificate is temporarily suspended or withdrawn, any bowler who withdraws from a league in the bowling center shall be deemed to have done so for a satisfactory reason for the purposes of Rule 114a.

None of the provisions of the certification requirements shall be interpreted to limit any action that may be taken by GBC when it is deemed necessary to protect the integrity of bowling. In such cases, a special GBC committee may be appointed to conduct a hearing in the matter. The report of the hearing, with the committee's recommendations, will be submitted for action by GBC and for referral to the GBC certification review committee.



CHAPTER VII SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

Definition

Rule 300. A tournament is a competition, other than a league, in which the game of tenpins is played. Competition can include one or more events. Total pins will decide the champions and other prizewinners in each of the events unless another system, based on merit pinfall, is stated in the tournament rules.

Regular Tournament Sanction

Rule 301a. On application to GBC, a regular tournament sanction will be issued provided:

1. The tournament consists of two or more teams or a singles tournament of two or more individual entrants.
2. A copy of the entry form, tournament rules and advertising material is submitted with the sanction application. (Note: These items should be submitted in draft form, before printing, for review by GBC to assure compliance with the GBC rules.)
3. The lanes used are GBC certified for the current season.
4. Competition among entrants in an event, except all events, is held in the same establishment. When an event is divided in two or more divisions, competition in each division is held in the same establishment.

Notification that a tournament is sanctioned will be sent to the tournament committee. A sanction will not be issued to a tournament when scores bowled in different bowling establishments are compared to qualify for prizes in a common prize list. A tournament sanction may be refused if the tournament does not comply with the GBC rules, and/or the value of the prizes offered or guaranteed, or the number of prizes offered are misrepresented.

Regular Tournament Eligibility

Rule 301b. All entrants in a tournament granted a regular tournament sanction must qualify under the rules of the tournament. The tournament rules shall require all participants to be GBC members or they may establish eligibility as follows:

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP. An individual may apply for affiliate membership by paying affiliate dues of \$8.00, and shall enjoy full membership privileges for the remainder of the current calendar year.

Only entrants who are GBC members before participation in the tournament are eligible for GBC awards.

Management

Rule 302. Tournament management has supervisory control of all technical parts of the operation of the tournament, including drafting the schedule and prize list. In addition, tournament management has the following authority.

1. To adopt and enforce the tournament rules provided they are not in conflict with any GBC rules.
2. To decide all disputes, complaints or protests involving any GBC or tournament rules, or appeals from the decision of tournament personnel.
3. To decide any matter about the operation of the tournament, when not inconsistent with the tournament rules or GBC rules.
4. To accept or reject any entrants.

The decision of tournament management shall be final except where an appeal is made to GBC board of directors for further consideration.

Authority of Team Captain

Rule 303. The captain is the team representative and is responsible for the lineup and conduct of the team in tournament play.

The acceptance of an entry by tournament management constitutes an agreement by the captain on behalf of the team to abide by all rules of GBC and the tournament. In addition, the captain shall:

1. Receive in trust any prize money the team wins, and must divide it according to verbal or written agreements with the team members.
2. Determine who bowls on the team in the team event. If the captain replaces a player originally entered in the team event, ample notice must be given to the player being replaced. If that player paid the entry fee, it must be returned except that any indebtedness may be withheld.
3. If, prior to bowling the captain requests a replacement in the doubles and/or singles event, the bowler originally entered must agree to being replaced.
4. The captain or an authorized representative may replace any team member who is unable to attend or compete at the scheduled time.
5. The captain of a team entered in a tournament cannot be removed except for a rules violation or for failure to appear to bowl when scheduled.

FEES & PRIZES

Fees

Rule 304a. The management of a sanctioned tournament must publicize fees separately per event on the entry form and advertising material as follows.

1. Prize Fee
2. Bowling Fee
3. Tournament expense fee
4. Total, per entrant, per event

Prize fees and expense fees for all events and special features may be charged, but must be listed separately. These collections qualify for participation, such as donations, subscriptions or banquet. Fees must be stated on the entry form and advertising material.

Fund Raising

Rule 304b. Any tournament that is promoted as a "fund raising event" may have any prize fund distribution as set fourth in the tournament rules, provided:

1. All promotional material and the entry form shall state, "fundraising event".
2. All promotional material and the entry form state clearly the recipient of all money raised.
3. Either the total purse or the 1st place prize must be shown as a guaranteed amount (or both).
4. After tournament is over, the tournament director must provide a break down of all revenues including lineage, tournament expenses, prize fund, added money and net profit to the treasurer of GBC. The treasurer of GBC after review will provide a copy of this breakdown, for the membership's review with the monthly financial statements.
5. Any tournament with an estimated prize must have a rule explaining what the procedure will be in case the entries are short of the estimate.

- NOTE: A guaranteed amount means that this amount will be paid (as a single prize, in total OR both) regardless of the number entries. An estimated prize however may be based upon an estimated number of entries and may be lowered if the actual number of entries is not at least equal to the estimate.

All Events

Rule 305a. Participants in a tournament may be charged an optional fee for an all events contest under the following conditions:

1. When two or more events are scheduled.
2. When two or more tournaments are conducted under the same management.

The all events fee must be paid before the advertised closing date for entries or before the participant bowls any of the events, whichever comes first.

- a. An all event entry can be transferred if the transfer is made before either of the bowlers involved has participated in any event of the tournament.
 - b. Where a trophy or award, other than cash awards, is offered for the all events championship, the bowler who places first in all events is entitled to the award unless the bowler did not pay the optional fee. In such instances, the trophy or award cannot be considered as part of the all events prize fund, and must be purchased from other funds.
 - c. Distribution of prizes shall comply with the formula prescribed for payment of regular position prizes and the ratio of return shall be at least one to 20 or major fraction thereof.
3. Expense fees may be charged for participation in an optional all events contest when published in accordance with the requirements in Rule 306.

Special Features

Rule 306. Prize fees may be charged for one or more optional special feature events, provided these events are open to all entrants in the tournament.

Expense fees may be charged for participation in an optional special feature contest when published in accordance with the requirements in Rule 306.

Distribution of special feature prizes shall comply with the formula prescribed for payment of regular position prizes, and the ratio of return shall be at least one to 20 or major fraction thereof.

Distribution of Prize Funds

Rule 307. The sponsor and management of a sanctioned tournament undertake an obligation that funds provided by that part of the entry fee designated, as prize fee, but not including interest thereon, shall be held in trust for the exclusive benefit of tournament participants. Such funds cannot be used for any other purpose. In addition, GBC may, at their discretion, require a bond or in lieu thereof, a satisfactory assurance that the prize fund obligations will be met.

The prize funds must be paid to the participants as follows:

1. In team, doubles and singles events there shall be at least one prize for each ten entries or major fraction thereof.
2. If special prizes exceed 25 percent of the prize fund in an event or division of an event, and a bowler or team can qualify for both a special and position prize, all prizes won by a bowler or team count as one prize in determining the ratio of one prize for each ten entries. Special prizes may include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - a. Scratch prizes in a handicap event.
 - b. Single game prizes.
 - c. Limited group prizes, such as early bird, average category, sponsor and weekend prizes, etc.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note: Squad prizes to which all participants in an event are eligible are not defined as special prizes.
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3. When there are 100 or more entries in an event or division of an event, first place or the amount spent from the prize fund for a first place prize shall not exceed 40 percent of the total prize fund. Second place must be equal to at least one-half of first place, or the amount spent from the prize fund for first place.
4. When special prizes are offered and a team or individual can win a position and a special prize, the total prize paid to second place shall be at least one-half the combined total of first place plus the special prize of greatest value.

Prizes -Proprietors and Employees

Rule 308. If a tournament is conducted by management of a bowling center and all scheduled games are bowled in that center, the owner or employees of the center are eligible for individual or all events prizes unless otherwise provided in the tournament rules.

Prize Payment and Report

Rule 309. Tournament management within 30 days must meet the following requirements after the end of the tournament:

1. Distribute all prizes except when GBC has authorized delay in payment pending settlement of any claim or protest, which affects the position standings.
2. Submit the following to GBC:
 - a. A prize list with the name and score of each prizewinner and the prize issued:
 - b. A financial statement listing all receipts and disbursements,
 - c. Affiliate membership and participation fees received and a list of those paying such fees.

ENTRY RULES

Entry Close in Advance

Rule 310a. If the date for closing entries is before the opening day of the tournament, the following shall apply:

1. Advance notification of time and date of participation must be given to team captains and individual entrants.
2. All entries postmarked the first post office business day after the entry closing date shall be accepted. Additional entries for any event shall not be accepted after that date.
3. If a schedule is not published, a complete list of entrants must be available for review upon request. Tournament management cannot show in the schedule "partner", "reserved", or similar term instead of a team or individual entry.

Entry Close Prior to Last Squad

Rule 310b. When the date for closing of entries is set prior to the time the last squad is scheduled, the tournament management shall post a notice showing:

1. The exact time of day the last squad is scheduled to start;
2. The exact time for closing of entries;
3. Number of entries to date;
4. A complete current list of all entrants, and
5. The high score in each event or division of each event.

Tournament management shall not accept additional entries after the closing of entries.

Submitting Entries

Rule 310c. The receipt of any entry in writing and its acceptance in any tournament-by-tournament management for one or more events shall regulate the number of players who shall participate. The entry form shall contain the names of the players entered and the necessary prize fees must be in the hands of the tournament management prior to the closing date of entries for the tournament.

Entry in Both Singles and Doubles

Rule 311. A tournament that schedules both singles and doubles events may adopt a rule to make entry in both events a requirement for participation.

Conditions cannot change

Rule 312. The conditions under which entries are accepted cannot be changed or modified after the tournament starts, unless otherwise directed by GBC. This includes entry fee charges and the rules governing the competition.

Free or Reduced Entries

Rule 313. Tournament management may not provide or arrange to provide any free or reduced entries that are not stated in the tournament rules. When a free or reduced entry is given, an amount equal to the prize fee for such entry must be paid into the tournament prize fund by management.

No Fees Returned

Rule 314. After an entry has been received, and the dates assigned by tournament management are not refused before preparation of the schedule, the entry fee cannot be refunded.

Multiple Participation

Rule 315. Participation in each event shall be limited to one time unless the tournament rules allow multiple-participation. The number of times participation is permitted must be stated in the rules.

When more than one time participation is permitted, the following provisions apply:

1. Five-player team event - Not more than three players on one team can place more than once in the prize list for position standings.
2. Three and four-player team event - Not more than two players on one team can place more than once in the prize list for position standings.
3. Doubles event - In no case shall the same two players on a doubles team be permitted to place more than once in the prize list for position standings,
4. Singles event - In no case shall the same individual be permitted to place more than once in the prize list for position standings.

When multiple-participation is allowed, the bowler's first appearance in each event counts toward the all events total, unless otherwise provided in the tournament rules.

Singles Event Squad

Rule 316. In singles tournaments, a minimum of two entries constitutes a squad and these entries must bowl on the same pair of lanes. If a bowler competes alone as a squad, the score shall be disqualified.

Average -Conditions That Apply

Rule 317a. The following conditions apply to averages in handicap or classified tournaments, unless the tournament rules state otherwise. Only GBC averages shall be accepted, unless the tournament rules state otherwise. (See Rule 319c for rerating.)

1. Individual averages must be based on a minimum of 21 games in a GBC sanctioned league.
2. When the previous season's average is used, and at the time of bowling an entrant has a current average for 21 or more games that is 10 pins or more higher than the prior season's average, the current average must be used.
3. Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own average, whether submitted by the bowler, the team captain or others. If the submitted average is lower than required and results in a lower classification or more handicap, the bowler's score is disqualified. If the submitted average is higher than required, prize winnings will be based on the submitted average. In the case of a team of two or more bowlers, the averages will be combined to determine if the correct total is higher or lower than the submitted total.
4. Average corrections can be made up to the end of the first game of a series, or, if an extension of time has been granted in writing by tournament management before the end of the first game of a series, the correction can be made within 48 hours after the end of the series.
5. When an association publishes a yearbook, a tournament using previous season averages to determine handicap or classification shall accept the yearbook average as official. Tournament management shall use the book to verify averages, if furnished, and not require the association secretary to verify averages from that association.
6. Averages established in, and recognized by, a FIQ member organization, may be used in tournaments classified as "international", provided that the bowler(s) meet all other tournament qualifications, including approval from their FIQ member organization to participate. No bowler belonging to any other FIQ member organization shall be eligible for any international tournament sanctioned by GBC without the written approval of their FIQ organization, including verified averages in handicap or graded tournaments.

Assign Averages

Rule 317b. REGULAR SANCTION. A bowler having no acceptable entering average under the tournament rules shall bowl scratch unless the rules provide that an average will be assigned. If the rules so provide, the assigned average established by rule shall not be less than 165 for women and 170 for men.

Average Adjustments (Rerating)

Rule 317c. The average of a bowler may be adjusted upward before participation in any event. If the bowler does not accept the assigned average, the entry fee shall be refunded.

Average adjustment for Entry

- NOTE: In the application of this rule, sanctioned and unsanctioned tournament scores must be used. For purposes of items (2) and (3) of this rule, multiple entry tournaments are considered a single tournament.

Rule 317d. A bowler shall adjust their entering average and submit the adjusted average to the tournament manager if during the 12 month period immediately preceding the date and time of bowling:

- The bowler's accumulated average for all, but not less than 21 tournament game: exceeds the average to be used for entry by 15 or more pins. In that case, the number of pins to be added to the entering average is 80 percent of the difference between the entering average and the accumulated tournament average.

Example:	Entering average	183
	Average for 21 or more tournament games in prior 12 months	226
	80% of 43 pin difference	34.4
	Adjusted average under this section of rule- 83+*34	217
	<i>*Any fraction of a pin is dropped</i>	

- The bowler has bowled in 5 tournaments or less and has exceeded the average to be used for entry by 20 or more pins in each of five tournaments; i.e. by 60 pins in a three game series, 80 pins in a four game series, etc. counting the high series in each tournament. In that case, the number of pins to be added to the entering average is 50 percent of the difference between the entering average and the average of the five high series.

Example:	Entering average	177
	Average for high series in 5 of 17 or less tournaments during prior 12 months	212
	50% of 35 pin difference	17.5
	Adjusted average under this section of rule- 77+*17	194
	<i>*Any fraction of a pin is dropped</i>	

- The bowler has bowled in 8 tournaments or more and exceeded the average to be used for entry by 20 or more pins in one-third of all tournaments, considering only the high series in a tournament; and, if more than one-third of the highest series. In that case, the number of pins to be added to the entering average is 50 percent of the difference between the entering average and the average of the highest one-third of all series.

Example:	Entering average	169
	Average for high series in one-third of 18 or more tournaments during prior 12 months	206
	50% of 37 pin difference	18.5
	Adjusted average under this section of rule - $169 + *18$	187
	<i>*Any fraction of a pin is dropped</i>	

When both (1) and (2) or (1) and (3) apply, the greater adjustment is to be used.

The bowler is responsible for keeping a record of the names, dates, scores and prize winnings in all tournaments entered in the previous 12 months, including those still running. A bowler whose tournament scores require an adjustment under (1), (2) or (3) must submit the adjusted average, in writing, before the end of the first game in a tournament, unless tournament rules such adjustment to be made within a specified time after bowling. Failure to use the adjusted average in accordance with the foregoing is cause for forfeiture of entry fees and prize winnings, and the bowler is subject to suspension of membership in GBC. On appeal or protest, the bowler must promptly supply the record of the names, dates, scores and prizes won-or scores that qualify to win-in all tournaments in which the bowler competed within the previous 12 months. Nothing in this rule will be deemed to supersede the authority of tournament management or the Guam Bowling Congress to adjust a bowler's average upward.

4. An organization that sponsors tournaments for its members may, by rule, waive the requirements of (1), (2) and (3) for its tournaments provided:
 - a. It maintains averages based on scores bowled by its members in the tournaments it sponsors, and
 - b. It requires a member to report and use their current tournament average for entry after bowling 21 or more games in such tournaments.

TOURNAMENT PLAYING RULES

Two Lanes Required

Rule 318a. Bowling shall begin in accordance with a previously arranged schedule. Two lanes immediately adjoining each other shall be used in each game of tournament play. The first game of a series starts on the lane where the team or individual is scheduled. Succeeding games start on the lane on which the team or individual finished the preceding game unless each complete game is bowled on a different pair of lanes.

Order of Bowling

Rule 318b. Members of competing teams, doubles and individual entrants shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane, and for the next frame alternate and use the other lane until five frames are bowled on each lane of the pair. Unless the tournament rules allow missed frames to be made up, a bowler who misses one frame or more by not being present and ready to bowl in turn shall not be credited with any pins for the frames missed.

Interrupted Game or Series

Rule 319. If equipment failure on a pair of lanes would delay the progress of the series, tournament officials can authorize the completion of a game and series on another pair of certified lanes. The interrupted game and series must be resumed from the point of interruption.

Tardy Players

Rule 320. Any player or team arriving late shall begin play with the score to count from the frame then being bowled. If a team refuses to start because a full lineup is not present, tournament management, at its discretion, can declare the game forfeited.

No absentee or vacancy scores shall be permitted, and a bowler must bowl on the same lanes and at the same time his/her team bowls.

Pacers

Rule 321. Pacers are permitted to maintain competitive conditions unless otherwise provided by tournament rule. Scores bowled as a pacer shall count in determining prizewinners, and a pacer cannot later enter or compete in the tournament unless the tournament rules permit multiple-participation.

Lineup Changes

Rule 322a. If a change in a team or doubles lineup is desired, it must be requested at least thirty (30) minutes before the time the entrants are scheduled to bowl unless otherwise stated in the tournament rules.

Thereafter, no player shall change position in any team or doubles lineup after the player has been checked onto the lanes to bowl unless authorized by the tournament official in charge. Violation may be cause for disqualification. If a replacement is needed on each of two doubles teams, the entrants present may be paired together.

Substitutions during Game or Series

Rule 322b. After a team or doubles series has started, no changes can be made in the order of the players, but the captain can replace any player with a qualified substitute at any time. A player removed during a game cannot return to bowl in that game. The score of the game is credited to the starting player.

No substitutions can be made in a singles event after the series has started except in tournaments where two or more series or blocks of games are bowled. In such events, substitutes may be permitted at the discretion of tournament management. A player removed cannot return for the balance of the competition.

Scores bowled through the efforts of more than one individual player do not qualify for GBC tournament individual awards, other than position standings prizes, nor can the scores be included in the all events total.

Team Bowling Alone

Rule 323a. A team or individual scheduled alone on a pair of lanes must bowl the games as though they were contested. Each player must complete a frame on one lane before the player bowling lead off starts the next frame on the adjoining lane.

This rule applies to all team tournaments except those, which by rule, schedule each team alone on a pair of lanes and permit the members to follow each other immediately in order on the alternate lane.

Team Bowling Alone-Match Play Tournament

Rule 323b. GBC. Match play tournaments may establish target scores, for purposes of determining whether teams qualify for bonus points, when there is less than a full complement of teams.

Tie Scores

Rule 324a. When there is a tie for any championship in a tournament, it is optional with tournament management to have a playoff or declare co-champions. However, if there is a duplication of personnel on the tied teams, rule 326b applies.

CO-CHAMPIONS. If co-champions are declared, the cash prizes for the positions affected are to be equally divided. Tournament management is required to supply additional medals or awards it makes to champions, which are emblematic of co-championships, from a fund other than the prize fund.

PLAYOFF. In match game or elimination tournaments, the tournament management shall determine the number of games or frames played in deciding ties. In other tournaments, three games shall be played in deciding all ties, unless otherwise specified in the tournament rules, but under no conditions may the playoff consist of less than one game. In playing off a first place tie, the team or individual scoring the highest is entitled to all first place prizes, except when the optional all events cash prize is dependent on whether the winner is eligible. The team or individual with the next high score is entitled to second prize, etc.

Tournament management shall decide ties for other than first prize and position.

Duplication of Personnel Rule

Rule 324b. When multiple-participation is permitted in a tournament and one or more bowlers are members of the teams tied for the championship, the following procedure applies in deciding the championship.

1. When two or more teams are tied, and the same bowlers are duplicated on all of the tied teams, co-champions may be declared. If a playoff is conducted, only those members not duplicated on the teams shall bowl in the playoff series.
2. If three or more teams are tied, and the same bowlers are not duplicated on all of the tied teams, co-champions must be declared.

Scorers

Rule 325a. A tournament is required to have official scorers to record all games bowled in the tournament or use a GBC approved automatic scoring device.

If a full complement of scorers is not available and the bowlers affected cannot be rescheduled, they may be allowed to record their own scores under supervision of tournament management.

In match game tournaments where the pin count is not carried forward, tournament management may authorize the competing players to keep score.

Scoring Errors

Rule 325b. After a score has been recorded, it cannot be changed unless there is an obvious error in scoring or calculation. Obvious errors must be corrected by a tournament official immediately upon discovery. Tournament management shall decide questionable errors.

Tournament management may, by rule, set a time limit for the correction of errors.

Scores -Loss of

Rule 326. A tournament game or frame(s) within a game that is irretrievably lost in the scoring process may be rebowled with approval of tournament management, unless prohibited by rule. The decision of tournament management shall be final, except where an appeal is made to GBC board of directors for final consideration.

Appeal or Protest

Rule 327. A protest or appeal involving eligibility or playing rules may be filed with tournament management. Their decision may be appealed to the GBC board of directors. Any protest or appeal must be filed before tournament prizes are paid. The protest or appeal must be in writing and the grounds for the protest or appeal briefly stated. The decision of GBC is final and binding on all involved parties.

Prizes for the positions affected cannot be distributed until the protest or appeal is resolved.

Changing Delivery in Handicap and Classified Tournaments

Rule 328. In handicap and classified tournaments, once the bowler has taken his/her first shot he/she shall continue to use that hand throughout the tournament unless, due to injury, the bowler finds it impossible to continue bowling with the same hand. The bowler may seek approval of the tournament director to continue with the opposite hand

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| ❖ Penalty: Disqualification in the event in which the violation occurs and loss of entry fee for that event. |
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