

IRISH TENPIN BOWLING
ASSOCIATION

RULE BOOK

General Playing Rules

ITBA League Playing Rules

**Rules and Regulations governing Bowling Lane Certificates and
League/Tournament Sanction**

Revision 2

(last changed 22/2/2008)

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GENERAL PLAYING RULES

Rule 1: SCORING THE GAME

A game of tenpins shall consist of ten frames. Each player shall bowl two balls in each of the first nine frames except when a player shall make a strike. When a player makes a strike in the tenth frame, two more balls shall be permitted to be bowled on the same lane. When a player makes a spare in the tenth frame, one more ball shall be permitted to be bowled on the same lane.

Rule 2: STRIKE

A strike is recorded when a player completes a legal delivery and bowls down the full set-up of ten pins on the first ball. It is designated by an (X) in the small square in the upper left-hand corner of the frame in which the complete set of pins is bowled down. The count in each frame where a strike is bowled shall be left open until the player has completed two more deliveries. The count on one strike when followed by a spare is 20.

Rule 3: DOUBLE

When a player bowls two strikes in succession legally delivered, the player shall have scored a Double. The count in the frame where the first ball was bowled shall be left open until the next delivery has been completed. When all pins are knocked down twice in succession, the count for the first strike is 20 plus the number of pins knocked down with the first ball of the third frame following. The count on a Double figuring a nine-pin count on the first ball following the second strike is 29.

Rule 4: TRIPLE

In scoring three successive strikes, a player shall be credited with 30 pins in the frame in which the first strike was bowled. Thus, in a game of ten full frames, a player must bowl 12 strikes in succession in order to bowl the maximum score of 300.

Rule 5: SPARE

A player who bowls down the remaining pins with a legally delivered second ball in any frame shall have scored a Spare. A spare is designated by a (/) in the small square in the upper right-hand corner of the frame in which it is made. The number of pins knocked down after the first delivery before the player bowls for the spare should be marked in the upper left hand corner of the frame. The count in such frame proper shall be left open until the player shall have bowled a first ball in the next frame following. The number of pins knocked down by this first ball shall be added to the ten pins represented by the spare, and the total shall be credited therein. When a spare is scored in the tenth frame, a third ball shall be bowled in that frame.

Rule 6: ERROR

A player shall have made an error when the player fails to bowl down all ten pins after completing two deliveries in a given frame, providing the pins left standing after the first ball is bowled do not constitute a split. The number of pins knocked down by the second delivery shall be marked in the upper right-hand corner of the frame if the player fails to knock down any of the pins remaining after the first delivery, the error is designated by a (-) in the upper right-hand corner of the frame. The count in any frame where an error is committed shall be recorded immediately following the player's second delivery.

Rule 7: SPLIT

A split shall be any set-up of pins remaining standing after the first ball in any frame has been legally delivered, provided the headpin is down and

(a) At least one pin is down between two or more pins which remain standing (for example: 7-9 or 3-10)

(b) At least one pin is down immediately ahead of two or more pins which remain standing (for example: 5-6).

A split is designated by a (0) in the small square in the upper left-hand corner of the frame in which it occurs. The number of pins knocked down on the first delivery shall be marked inside the (0) before the second ball is rolled.

When a player makes a spare of the split it shall be designated like a spare in the upper right-hand corner of the frame; when a player fails, the number of pins knocked down by the second ball shall be marked in the upper right-hand corner of the frame. The count in any frame in which a player fails to make a spare of a split shall be recorded immediately following the player's second delivery.

Rule 8: LEGAL DELIVERY

A ball is legally delivered when it leaves a player's possession and crosses the foul line into playing territory. A bowling ball must be delivered entirely by manual means, and shall not incorporate any device, either in the ball or affixed to it, which is either detached at the time of delivery or is a moving part in the ball during delivery.

Rule 9: LEGAL PINFALL

Every ball delivered by a player shall count, unless declared a dead ball. Specifically

(a) Pins which are knocked down by another pin or pins rebounding into play from the side partition, rear cushion or sweep bar when it is at rest on the pin deck prior to sweeping dead wood, are counted as pins down;

(b) If, when rolling at full set-up or in order to make a spare, it is discovered immediately after the ball has been delivered that one or more pins are improperly set, although not missing, the ball and resulting pinfall shall be counted. It is each player's responsibility to determine if the set-up is

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satisfactory. No change can be made in the position of any pins which are left standing after a delivery. That is, pins which are moved or misplaced by a mechanical pinsetter shall remain in the moved or misplaced position and shall not be corrected manually;

(c) Pins which are knocked down by a legal delivery and remain lying on the lane or in the gutters or which lean so as to touch kickbacks or side partitions, are termed dead wood and counted as pins down, and must be removed before the next ball is bowled.

If a bowler makes a legal delivery while there is dead wood on the lane or in the gutters, and the ball comes in contact with such dead wood before leaving the lane surface, then that bowler shall receive a score of zero for that delivery.

Rule 10: ILLEGAL PINFALL

When any of the following incidents occurs, the ball counts as a ball rolled, but pins knocked down shall not count:

(a) When pins are knocked down or displaced by a ball which leaves the lane before reaching the pins;

(b) When a ball rebounds from the rear cushion;

(c) When pins come into contact with the body, arms or legs of a human pinsetter and rebound;

(d) A standing pin which falls when it is touched by mechanical pinsetting equipment, or when dead wood is removed, or is knocked down by a human pinsetter, shall not count, and must be replaced on the pin spot inscribed on the pin deck where it originally stood before delivery of the ball;

(e) Pins which are bowled off the lane, rebound and remain standing on the lane must be counted as pins standing;

(f) If in delivering the ball a foul is committed, any pins knocked down by such delivery shall not be counted.

Rule 11: DEAD BALL

A ball shall be declared dead if any of the following occurs, in which case such ball shall not count. The pins must be respotted after the cause of declaring such dead ball has been removed, and the player shall be required to rebowl.

(a) If, after a player has delivered a ball, attention is immediately called to the fact that one or more pins were missing from the set-up.

(b) When a human pinsetter removes or interferes with any pin or pins before they stop rolling or before the ball reaches the pins.

(c) When a player bowls on the wrong lane or out of turn.

(d) When a player is physically interfered with by another player, spectator or moving object as the ball is being delivered and before the delivery is completed, he/she must then and there accept the resulting pinfall or demand that the pins be respotted.

(e) When any pins at which a player is bowling are moved or knocked down in any manner as the ball is being delivered and before it reaches the pins.

(f) When a player's ball comes into contact with any foreign obstacle.

Rule 12: NO PINS MAY BE CONCEDED

No pins may be conceded, and only those actually knocked down or moved entirely off the playing surface as the result of a legal delivery may be counted. Every frame must be completed at the time the player is bowling in regular order.

Rule 13: FOUL – DEFINITION

A foul is committed with no pinfall being credited to the player although the ball counts as a ball rolled, when a part of the player's person encroaches upon or goes beyond the foul line and touches any part of the lane, equipment or building during or after executing a legal delivery. A ball is in play and a foul may be called after a legal delivery has been made and until the same or another player is on the approach in a position to make a succeeding delivery.

Rule 14: DELIBERATE FOUL

When a player deliberately fouls to benefit by the call of a foul, that player shall receive a zero pinfall for that frame.

Rule 15: FOUL COUNTS AS A BALL BOWLED

A foul shall be recorded as a ball bowled by the player, but any pins bowled down when a foul is committed shall not count. When a player fouls upon delivering the first ball of a frame, all pins knocked down must be respotted and only those pins knocked down by the second ball may be counted. If the player bowls down all the pins with the second ball after fouling with the first, it shall be scored as a spare. When less than ten pins are bowled down with the second ball after fouling with the first, it shall be scored as an error.

A player who fouls when delivering a second ball of a frame shall be credited only with those pins knocked down with the first ball, provided no foul was committed when the first ball was delivered. When a player fouls during the delivery of a first ball in the tenth frame and bowls down all ten pins with the second ball (making a spare), the player bowls a third ball and is credited with a spare plus the pins knocked down with that third ball.

When a player fouls while delivering the third ball in the tenth frame, only those pins bowled down in delivering the first two balls shall be counted.

Rule 16: FOUL – DETECTION

Where no automatic foul detection device is available, a foul judge must be stationed so as to have an unobstructed view of the foul line.

If a player commits a foul which is apparent to both captains or one or more members of each of the opposing teams competing in league or tournament on the same pair of lanes where the foul is committed or to the official scorer or a tournament official, and should the foul judge or umpire through negligence fail to see it committed or an improved automatic foul detecting device fails to record it, a foul shall nevertheless be declared and so recorded.

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If an automatic foul detecting device becomes temporarily inoperative, the following procedures shall be used in calling fouls:

- (a) In tournament play, the tournament management shall assign a human foul judge to arrange for the official scorers to call fouls;
- (b) In league play, the opposing captains shall call fouls or designate someone to act as a foul judge.

Rule 17: FOUL – APPEAL

No appeal shall be allowed when a foul is indicated by an approved automatic foul detecting device or is called by a foul judge, except when it is proved that the device is not operating properly or there is a preponderance of evidence that the player did not foul.

Rule 18: FOUL DETECTION ESSENTIAL FOR HIGH SCORE CONSIDERATION

Failure to have an automatic foul detecting device in operation or to provide for foul line observance when an automatic device is inoperative shall disqualify scores bowled from possible ITBA High Score consideration.

Rule 19: PROTESTS – PROVISIONAL BALL

When a protest involving a foul or the legality of a pinfall is entered and it cannot immediately be resolved, a provisional ball or frame shall be bowled. If the protest occurs on the first delivery in a frame, the player shall complete that frame and then bowl another complete frame immediately, unless it involves a question of whether the player should receive credit for a strike or a lesser number of pins on the first delivery. In such event, the pin or pins which were protested as constituting illegal pinfall shall be respotted and the player required to bowl another ball.

When a protest occurs on the second delivery, the player shall bowl a provisional ball against the same set-up of pins which were standing at the time, except when the protest involves a foul in which case no provisional ball shall be necessary.

A record of both scores for the frame in which provisional delivery was made shall be maintained, and the protest referred for decision to the tournament management committee or to the league committee. If unable to reach a decision, the Local Association or the ITBA Legal Committee can be asked for a decision upon submission of all the facts relating to the protest.

Rule 20: PROTESTS – CALCULATION ERRORS

Errors in scoring or errors in calculation must be correction by a responsible official immediately upon discovery of such error. Questionable errors shall be decided on by the league committee or the tournament's managing committee. The managing committee of a tournament may, by rule, set a time limit for the correction of errors.

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Each protest under this rule must be specific in itself and this rule shall not be construed to cover a previous or similar violation.

Rule 21: STYLE OF PLAY

A game shall be played by using two lanes immediately adjoining each other, whereby the player(s) shall change lanes after each frame. Ball gained after a strike or spare in the tenth frame shall, however, be bowled on the lane on which the first ball of the tenth frame was delivered.

Rule 22: ORDER OF BOWLING

One, two or several players may bowl on a pair of lanes. If two or several players are bowling on a pair of lanes, each of them shall in turn delivery the stipulated balls of a frame. Each player shall complete their additional delivery or deliveries in the tenth frame immediately after the regular ball or balls of that frame, before the next player bowls the first ball of that frame.

Rule 23: BOWLING ON WRONG LANE

Team Play: When only one player or the lead-off players of both teams bowl on the wrong lane and the error is discovered before another player has bowled, a dead ball shall be declared and the player(s) shall be required to rebowl on the correct lane(s).

When more than one player on the same team has bowled on the wrong lane, the game shall be completed without adjustment and the next game shall be started on the correctly scheduled lane.

Singles Play: When either or both players bowl on the wrong lane and the error is discovered before a further frame is begun, a dead ball shall be declared and the player(s) shall be required to rebowl on the correct lane(s). When either player has begun a further frame on the wrong lane, the game shall be completed without adjustment and the next game shall be started on the correctly-scheduled lane.

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 lane for these two frames, dead balls shall be declared and the player shall be required to rebowl both frames on the correct lanes providing the error is discovered prior to the time the opposing player has made a legal delivery. If the error is not discovered until the opposing player has bowled, the score shall count and the player shall be required to bowl the subsequent frames on the correct lanes.

Rule 24: NO UNREASONABLE DELAY

The league or tournament officials shall allow no unreasonable delay in the progress of any game.

Bowlers who are ready to step on the approach to deliver a ball shall have the following rights and obligations:

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- (i) They may claim right of way only over anyone moving towards the approach or preparing to bowl on the one lane immediately to their left;
- (ii) They shall give right of way to any player who is moving towards the approach or preparing to bowl on the one lane immediately to their right;
- (iii) Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn, and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery if a lane immediately adjacent to them on the left and right side is clear.

If a player does not observe the procedures outlined in (i), (ii) and (iii) above, it may be construed as Slow Bowling, and the player concerned shall be liable to a warning. No penalty shall be imposed for the first or second offence, but subsequent offences in the same series of games shall result in zero pinfall for the frame concerned, and the player shall not be allowed to bowl that frame.

Rule 25: UNFAIR TACTICS

Any member of the ITBA violating the provisions of this rule as outlined below shall be subject to the penalties indicated, and anyone who is not a member but who has violated the provisions of this rule shall be denied ITBA membership until an application is ratified by the ITBA Executive Committee.

- (a) Attempting to gain unfair advantage:
 - (i) by directly or indirectly tampering with lanes, bowling pins and/or bowling balls so that they no longer meet **ITBA** specifications;
 - (ii) by misrepresenting an average either to gain a greater handicap or to qualify for a lower classification in a sanctioned league or tournament;
 - (iii) by establishing an average below a players ability and thereby gaining an unfair advantage in handicap or classified competition.

Penalty – loss of game or games and/or prize winnings and/or suspension of membership.

- (b) Using dishonest or disreputable tactics in connection with the game of bowling.

Penalty – Suspension of membership.

- (c) Failing to distribute team prize money in accordance with verbal or written agreements.

Penalty – Suspension of membership.

- (d) Failing to pay fees due for participation in a sanctioned league or tournament.

Penalty – Suspension of membership.

Rule 26: THE BOWLING BALL

A Bowling Ball shall be constructed without voids in its interior, be of a non-metallic composition material and conform to the specifications for weight, size and balance.

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(a) *Weight, Size, Markings and Holes:*

The circumference of a ball shall not be more than 27 inches, nor shall it weight more than 16 pounds. The diameter 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.

The following limitations govern drilling holes in a ball:

- (i) Holes or indentations, not to exceed five (5) for gripping purposes;
- (ii) One hole for balance purposes, not to exceed one and one quarter inch (1 ¼") in diameter;
- (iii) One (1) vent hole to each finger and/or thumb hole, not to exceed one and one quarter inch (1 ¼") in diameter;
- (iv) One mill hole for inspection purposes, not to exceed five eighths of one inch (5/8") in diameter and one eighth of one inch (1/8") in depth.

(b) *Balance:* After drilling, the following tolerances are allowed in the balance of the ball:

(i) *For a Ball weighing 10 pounds or more.*

- (a) Not more than three ounces difference between the top of the ball (finger hole side) and the bottom (solid side opposite finger holes).
- (b) Not more than one ounce difference between the sides to the right and left of the finger holes or between the sides in front and back of the finger holes.

(ii) *For a Ball weighing more than 8 pounds but less than 10 pounds.*

- (a) Not more than two ounces difference between the top of the ball and the bottom.
- (b) Not more than ¾ ounce difference between the sides to the right and left or between the front and back of the finger holes.

(iii) *For a Ball weighing less than 8 pounds.*

- (a) Not more than ¾ ounce difference between the top of the ball and the bottom.
- (b) Not more than ¾ ounce difference between the sides to the right and left or between the front and back of the finger holes.

(c) *Ball Surface/Hardness and Altering Ball Surface:*

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(i) 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 are prohibited.

(ii) Altering the surface of a bowling ball by the use of abrasives while bowling in sanctioned competition is prohibited. All bowling balls so altered must be removed from the competition.*

Note: If it is shown the bowler had prior knowledge, her/his actions were in violation of this rule, 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.

*Competition is defined as the remaining game(s) in the series being bowled.

(d) *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 thumb holes may be inserted providing the device is locked in position during delivery and cannot be removed from the ball without destroying the device. The introduction of metal or any other substance not comparable to the original material used in the manufacture of the ball is prohibited.

I.T.B.A. LEAGUE PLAYING RULES

1.1 PREAMBLE

In order for official recognition to be granted for high-score and other achievements by ITBA members, such scores must be bowled in ITBA Sanctioned competition. A league can only be granted ITBA Sanction if it is scheduled to take place in a bowling establishment which has been issued with an ITBA Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate for the current bowling season.

All games of tenpins, to be considered official in league play, must actually be bowled and conducted in strict compliance with the following playing rules and with the General Playing Rules of the ITBA.

A sanctioned league shall bowl its schedule regularly as may be decided by the members. It shall at all times foster the spirit of good fellowship and sociability among its members and associate leagues. It shall furthermore provide for the designation of team and individual champions by the games bowled under its auspices.

The bowling pins used for ITBA Sanctioned league competition must at all times bear only the name and trademark of the original manufacturer or distributor thereof, and be approved by the ITBA. When in use for sanctioned league competition, all pins in each set shall be uniform in appearance including finish, labels and neck markings, reasonable wear accepted.

ITBA League Sanction shall entitle all participants to compete for applicable ITBA awards, provided that every ITBA requirement has been complied with when a claim for high-score award recognition is submitted. Teams shall be composed of the number of players fixed by the rules of the particular league, which shall also establish the maximum number of players permitted on a team's roster.

Play shall begin in accordance with a previously-arranged schedule.

1.2 MIXED LEAGUE

A mixed league shall be defined to include the following groups.

- (i) Leagues in which all or a portion of the teams are made up of a combination of male and female participants;
- (ii) Leagues in which one or more teams are made up entirely of female bowlers, with the remaining teams made up of male bowlers;
- (iii) Leagues which include both adult bowlers, either male or female, who have not attained the age of eighteen (18) years on the 1st day of October previous.

1.3 SINGLES LEAGUES

Any group of four or more bowlers organised to bowl a schedule of games of tenpins with standings based on the outcome of games bowled between individual players shall be defined as a Singles league. Such groups may apply for a regular League Sanction.

1.4 TRAVELLING LEAGUES

A league conducting its schedule at different establishments may apply for a regular League Sanction provided that all the establishments have been issued with a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate for the current season.

1.5 CLOSED LEAGUES

A Closed League is defined as one in which participation is restricted to individuals or group who are bona fide members of a single fraternal or other organisation or are employees of the same firm or company. Such league shall be subject to the sanctioning requirements as set out in Rule 2.6 of the ITBA Sanctioning Regulations.

1.6 LEAGUE RULES

- 1.6.1** An ITBA Sanctioned league shall, at a League Meeting prior to commencement of its schedule, adopt a set of rules which provide for its regular activities, and for the election of a League Committee at that meeting.
- 1.6.2** The rules of an ITBA Sanctioned league must not be inconsistent in any way with the rules of the Irish Tenpin Bowling Association.
- 1.6.3** These rules may be changed during the season only with the written consent of every team captain or his designated representative.

1.7 ORGANISATION AND GOVERNMENT

- 1.7.1** The ultimate control and government of an ITBA-Sanctioned league shall rest with assembly of league delegates and League Committee in session at a League Meeting.
- 1.7.2** The team captains of the league shall normally act as delegates to league meetings, except in Singles Leagues or any league whose rules allow for attendance of the entire membership of the league. Another team member may be designated by a team captain to act as that team's representative at league meetings.
- 1.7.3** The Control and management of the league shall be vested in a League Committee, the members of which shall be elected at a League Meeting prior to the commencement of the league's schedule.
- 1.7.4** The League Committee shall consist, as a minimum, of a President, a Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer (or a Secretary and a Treasurer) to be known collectively as the Officers of the league, and one (1)

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ordinary member. Two members of an immediate family cannot be President and Treasurer of any league, nor can they co-sign for withdrawals from the league account. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined, but no other offices may be combined.

- 1.7.5** (a) Each person attending a League Meeting shall be entitled to only one vote, whether the person is a team representative, a member of the League Committee, or both.
(b) A majority of those entitled to attend shall constitute a quorum, unless otherwise designated in the league's rules.
- 1.7.6** The term of office of a League Committee shall extend until the time of the next election, except in the case of leagues organised by a bowling establishment, where the term of office shall expire with the presentation of prizes.
- 1.7.7** When a vacancy in office on a League Committee (other than the position of President) occurs, the President shall appoint a replacement. If the office of President becomes vacant, a League Meeting shall be convened and an election held to fill the vacancy.

1.8 DUTIES OF LEAGUE OFFICERS

- 1.8.1** (a) The President shall preside at meetings of the League Committee and at general league meetings.
(b) The President shall arrange to have the Treasurer or Secretary/ Treasurer set up an account in a recognised banking institution in the name of the league, with the signatures of at least two officers required for all withdrawals.
(c) The President shall personally verify the league's bank balance monthly (**Note:** "Verify" means that the President shall not only determine the amount of money on deposit, but shall also do some arithmetic to ascertain how much should be on deposit). If the league account is found to be short, the President shall immediately report this shortage to the League Committee for appropriate action.
(d) Unless such details have been previously agreed at a League Meeting prior to commencement of the league's schedule, the President shall arrange to have a prize list, together with rules governing the eligibility of teams and individuals for special prize consideration, submitted not later than five weeks after the start of the league for approval by the league committee.
(e) The President shall retain the monthly financial statements until the league's prize fund has been distributed at the conclusion of the league's schedule.
- 1.8.2** The Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall perform the duties of the President.
- 1.8.3** (a) The Secretary, in addition to any other duties specified by the rules of the league, must keep an accurate record of all individual and team scores and must post weekly averages and standings, which must be available to all league members at least until the end of the following week's schedule, unless such data is furnished weekly to each team captain, each league member, or both. The Secretary shall also furnish each team captain or each league member with a copy of the

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league rules, and shall post a schedule for the season in establishment(s).

(b) The Secretary shall furnish the individual averages to the ITBA Executive Committee on conclusion of the league's schedule, listing the full first names of all bowlers who competed in the league during the season, and showing the number of games and total pinfall.

(c) The Secretary shall ensure that all ITBA membership requirements are met, and shall furnish a complete list of participants together with the application for League Sanction. The Secretary shall ensure that bowlers joining or substituting in the league meet ITBA membership requirement.

(d) Failure on the part of the League Secretary to comply with the provisions of this Rule or fulfil other duties as may be specified by the rules of the league shall be cause for removal from office, and may render him/her liable for suspension of ITBA membership.

1.8.4 (a) The Treasurer shall establish an account in the name of the league in a recognised banking institution, with the signatures of at least two officers required for all withdrawals. The Treasurer shall arrange to have all league funds deposited within one week after each session.

(b) The Treasurer shall, when requested by the President or the League Committee, furnish each team captain with a current financial statement.

(c) Within thirty days of completion of the league schedule, the Treasurer must distribute all prizes except when the League Committee has authorised delaying payment pending settlement of any claim or protest affecting prize distribution.

(d) The Treasurer must, together with a prize list, furnish each team captain or each league member with a final financial statement showing all banking charges, and all income, interest or other revenue from deposited or invested league prize money.

1.9 AUTHORITY OF LEAGUE COMMITTEE

(a) The League Committee shall decide upon all disputes, complaints or protests relating to any controversy or violation in the league involving any ITBA or league rule, may declare forfeited, or null and void any disputed games, and may decide upon any other matter arising in its league.

(b) A party to a dispute may lodge an appeal against a decision of the League Committee for consideration at a League Meeting convened for that purpose. A further appeal against the decision of the League Meeting may be lodged with the appropriate Local Bowling Association.

1.10 PROTESTS AND APPEALS – TIME LIMIT

(a) Protests and appeals in sanctioned leagues shall be governed as follows:

(i) Any protest affecting eligibility or playing rules must be confirmed in writing to the League Committee not later than forty-eight (48) hours after the series in which the alleged infraction occurred has been bowled. If no

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written protest is entered prior to the expiration of the forty-eight hour period, the series must stand as bowled:

(ii) Any appeal of the decision on a protest must be filed in writing within fourteen (14) days of notification, or within 48 hours when notification occurs in the final two weeks of the league schedule or as a result of play-off competition.

(b) The prizes for the positions involved in a protest or appeal shall not be distributed until the protest or appeal is resolved.

(c) Each protest under this Rule must be specific in itself, and this Rule shall not be construed to cover a similar or previous violation.

1.11 AUTHORITY OF TEAM CAPTAIN

(a) The Team Captain shall be the team's representative and shall be responsible for the conduct and attendance of all team members in all league play. He/She shall further be responsible for the eligibility of the team and its members under the rules of the league and the ITBA.

(b) It is within the captain's authority to remove any player permanently from the team, if good and sufficient reason can be furnished to the League Committee.

(c) The Team Captain shall be responsible for the collection of league fees from each team member each week. A league may, by rule, declare games forfeited if participants in a team's line-up are not current in the payment of league fees.

(d) The Team Captain shall divide all league prize money according to verbal or written agreements. Where disputes arise because of unavoidable resignations of any member, decisions may be rendered by the League Committee, if so requested.

1.12 METHOD AND ORDER OF BOWLING

(a) Three consecutive games shall be played by each team every time the league is scheduled to bowl, unless otherwise determined by the members of the league.

(b) In league play, the first game of a series shall be started on the lane on which the team is scheduled. Succeeding games shall be started on the lane on which a team has finished the preceding game. Where a league so decides, however, each game may be bowled on a different pair of lanes provided a full game is bowled on each pair.

(c) The members of the contesting teams shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane, and for the next frame alternate and use the other lane, so alternating each frame until five frames are bowled on each lane, completing the game. Each player shall bowl two balls in every frame, except where the player shall make a strike, or strikes or spares in the tenth frame. No pins may be conceded and only those actually knocked down shall count. Every frame must be completed at the time the player is bowling in regular order. When a player shall make a strike in the tenth frame, the player shall then be permitted to bowl two more balls on the same lane. When a player shall make a spare in the tenth frame, the player shall be permitted to bowl one more ball on the same lane.

(d) **Bowlers in Corresponding Positions.** When any question arises as to which of any two bowlers bearing corresponding positions in the line-up of the opposing teams shall bowl first, it shall be incumbent upon the bowlers on the right to do so. In the

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event that the pins are not yet set up for the bowler on the right, the bowler on the left may wait until the opponent's pins are properly set.

(e) **Interrupted Game.** The bowling of ten (10) complete frames on the pair of lanes on which the game was started shall constitute an official game, excepting that the League Committee may authorise the completion of a game or series on another pair of certified lanes when equipment failure on the starting lanes would delay the normal progress of the series. An interrupted game or series which cannot be completed on the same date must be resumed from the point of interruption. Frames already bowled shall stand.

1.13 SCORING

(a) In all league games the scores shall be recorded in plain view of all opposing players and public witnessing such games. Every frame bowled by each bowler shall be recorded. All contesting teams in the league shall also record the scores of each game in a score-book to be kept by the team captain or someone designated for this purpose. The scores entered in the score-book must agree with the displayed scores at the conclusion of each game.

(b) After the score-book is verified and signed by the opposing team captain, it then becomes the league's official record for the season. It must be changed by the League Secretary where an obvious error appears, or when an error is made in calculations.

(c) The League Committee shall decide on any questionable errors in scoring or calculation.

1.14 DECIDING GAMES

1.14.1 The manner in which all league games shall be decided shall be determined by the members of the league. (**NOTE:** Leagues generally decide to award games on the basis of games won and lost or according to a point system. In the four-point system one point is awarded to the winning team for each game bowled, and an extra point is awarded to the team recording the greatest total number of pins for the series.)

1.14.2 Individual Match Point System. The following rules shall apply to leagues which determine team position standings by awarding individual match points as well as points for the team effort, unless another procedure is outlined in the league rules.

- (i) The team scheduled on the odd-numbered lane shall enter its line-up first
- (ii) There shall be no change in the order of players in the line-up during the series. A substitute must take the replaced bowler's place in the line-up.
- (iii) Where there is an absentee the individual match point(s) shall be awarded to the team winning the game. If each team has an equal number of absentees, 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.

1.14.3 Tied Games

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- (a) When a tied game occurs, each of the two teams involved in the tie shall be credited in the standings with having won one-half game, and with the loss of one-half game. There shall be no play-off of the tie.
- (b) In leagues using the point-award system, when a tie occurs for any point each of the two teams involved shall be credited with having won one-half the value of the point or points normally awarded. There shall be no play-off of the tie.

1.15 PLAY-OFFS

- (a) When a tie occurs for the championship of a league an additional series of at least three games shall be bowled to determine the champion.
- (b) This series of games shall be conducted under the same conditions and rules governing league play during the regular season, unless the league adopts special play-off rules prior to the start of the season.
- (c) If at the end of three games a tie still exists, an additional frame shall be bowled. This frame shall be bowled on the lane where the final game of the third game roll-off was bowled, and shall be scored like a tenth frame. If the tie is still unbroken, teams will alternate lanes for each additional complete frame necessary to break the tie.
NOTE: In handicap leagues, credit each team with one-tenth (1/10th) of its full-game handicap allowance for each additional frame required to break the tie.
- (d) When more than two teams are involved in the championship play-off and the league has not adopted special rules, total pins in a three-game series shall determine the champion.
- (e) Play-off games shall not count toward individual averages or special league prizes, unless the league adopts a rule prior to the start of the season allowing such scores to qualify for averages and prizes.
- (f) This Rule shall also apply when a league decides that it is necessary to break a tie for any other position.
- (g) Leagues may not adopt rules which would allow accumulated pinfall or team average to break position-standing ties at the conclusion of the season.

1.16 AVERAGES

- 1.16.1 (a) Definitions:** A bowling average is determined by dividing the total number of pins credited to a bowler by the number of games bowled in one league in a season.
 - (b) Composite Average:** A Composite Average is defined as the average of all leagues when a bowler bowls in two or more leagues. This average is determined by adding the total pins for all leagues and dividing the result by the total number of games bowled in all leagues.
 - (c) Highest Average:** A bowler's Highest Average is defined as a player's best average in one of several leagues in which the player competes.
- 1.16.2 (a)** When establishing an average in league play, a right-handed bowler must bowl right-handed at all times. Similarly, a left-handed bowler must bowl left-handed at all times.
Penalty: Forfeiture of Game.

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No combination of scores bowled both right-handed and left-handed shall be used in computing an average.

(b) If because of injury or disability a bowler finds it necessary to change delivery from right-handed to left-handed or vice-versa, the League Committee may by majority vote permit that bowler to establish a new average.

1.16.3 Entering Average: Each ITBA-Sanctioned league shall adopt rules which set out the basis on which a player's entering average will be assessed and which authorise the League Committee to determine the average to be used for players who do not qualify under the provisions of such rules.

Note: Entering averages normally apply until a specified number of games have been bowled following which a player's actual average in the league is used.

1.16.4 In all cases, extra pins or fractions must be disregarded when using averages for handicapping or classification purposes. The extra pins shall be reduced to a percentage of a pin only for the purpose of deciding individual position standings in a league.

1.17 INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

1.17.1 To qualify for individual awards in an ITBA Sanctioned league, a bowler must have bowled at least two thirds (2/3) of the scheduled games.

1.17.2 (a) The ITBA League Achievement Award is presented by the ITBA to provide recognition for the participant who shows the greatest improvement in average in an ITBA-Sanctioned League during the current season.

(b) Each league has the option of adopting its own rules to govern the award. However, in the absence of special rules adopted by the league the following rules shall apply:

(i) A bowler's increase in average shall be determined by comparing the final average for the current season with the final or book average of a least twenty-one (21) games for the preceding season of the same league;

(ii) For a new member with an established average, compare the final average for the current season with the highest final or book average, based on at least twenty-one (21) games for the preceding season;

(iii) For a bowler with no average for the preceding season, compare the final average for the current season with the average for his first twenty-one (21) games during the current season. (in summer leagues use the first twelve (12) games).

(iv) **Note:** Rule 1.16.4 above requires that when two or more members show the same full-pin increase, the winner of the Achievement Award shall be determined on the percentage of a full pin.

For Example: If Player A has a starting average of 170 (use full pins only), bowls 90 games in the current season, and finishes with an average of 176-60 (60 being the extra pinage), while Player B has a starting average of 162, bowls 105 games in the current season and finishes with an average of 167-65, Player A would show an improvement of 5.666 pins, whereas Player B would show an

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improvement of 5.619 pins. (To carry out the extra pinage to a percentage of a pin, divide the extra pinage by the number of games bowled by the player.)

1.17.3 When a league awards a prize to the player with the highest average and two or more players are tied on the same average, the prize shall be awarded to the player who has bowled the greatest number of games. If a tie still exists, the prize shall be shared, unless the league has adopted a rule requiring the winner to be determined on the percentage of a full pin.

1.17.4 Each league has the option of adopting its own rules to govern situations where an individual qualifies for more than one award (e.g. either by specifying that only one prize may be claimed, or by permitting all prizes to be claimed).

1.17.5 Prizes – Proprietors and their Employees

A league may by rule restrict the owner of the bowling establishment or employees from qualifying for individual prizes when a league is bowled solely in the establishment(s) with which they are associated.

1.18 FORFEITURE

1.18.1 Legal Line-up

(a) A legal line-up in league play is defined as three or more eligible players in Team of Five Leagues, two or more eligible players in either Team of Three or Team of Four Leagues and one eligible player in Team of Two leagues.

(b) When a legal line-up is not present to complete the first frame of any game of the series, the game shall be forfeited unless a league adopts a rule prior to the start of the regular league schedule permitting the required number of players for a legal line-up to enter the game by a designated frame.

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 when deciding the winner of the series point.

(c) Member of the team forfeiting a game or games under the provisions of this rule shall be allowed to bowl along with the team winning by forfeiture, and have scores bowled included in league records and qualify for league and ITBA individual awards. When a game is declared forfeited, the forfeiting team shall not be credited with any points in the team standings for that game. However, the scores of all eligible players shall be included in the league records and shall qualify for all league and ITBA individual awards.

(d) A team which does not present its full membership and refuses to bowl with less than its full personnel shall forfeit any games which it declines to bowl.

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(e) In the event that two teams scheduled to bowl each other do not present a legal line-up and had not requested a postponement, both teams would forfeit these games unless an emergency situation arose which would be covered by Rule 1.19.2, or unless the league Committee declares the match null and void or directs that it be bowled.

1.18.2 Failure of Team to appear

(a) When one or more teams scheduled to bowl against each other fails to appear and a postponement has not been requested, the games shall be declared forfeited except when failure to appear is caused by an emergency situation over which the team has no control. In that case, the league shall reschedule the match under the rules which apply to postponements.

(b) When a team or individual fails to appear more than once in a season without reasonable cause, such team or individual may be expelled from the league, and in addition shall be liable for suspension of ITBA Membership.

1.18.3 Procedure for Bowling

(a) When a game is declared forfeited, the team which is present must bowl as though the game was actually contested, completing a team frame on one lane before starting to bowl a succeeding frame.

(b) All points in the match shall be awarded to the team which is present, unless the league has a rule requiring the individuals and/or the team to bowl their average less a designated number of pins (the amount to be determined by league rule) or to bowl in excess of a specified score to receive credit for such points. In such case, individual or team points shall not be awarded to any team should they fail to beat the prescribed score.

(c) The ITBA will recognise any scores thus bowled by one or more teams in any league granted an Official Sanction. The scores likewise shall count for league averages and special prizes unless the league has adopted rules prior to the start of the season which will not allow the scores to be used for these purposes.

1.19 POSTPONEMENTS AND PREBOWLING

1.19.1 All league games must be bowled as scheduled unless they are postponed or pre-bowled by authorisation of the League Committee. The League Committee shall determine what shall be sufficient cause to grant a postponement, but in no case shall a league adopt legislation which would have the effect of establishing an absolute no-postponement rule. Pre-bowled games shall be given the same consideration and be subject to the same conditions as apply in the case of postponed games.

1.19.2 Advance Notice – Emergencies

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All postponements shall be requested at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled time of the match, except those granted for emergencies. Requests for postponements shall be made to the opposing team captain and/or the League Secretary. In emergencies, the captain of the team unable to attend shall notify the opposing team captain and/or the League Secretary at the earliest opportunity. Leagues must grant postponements for emergencies when a team fails to appear for its scheduled match due to reasons beyond its control.

1.19.3 Postponed Games – Limitations

Postponed games must be bowled not later than seven (7) days after the final date of scheduled competition for team standings.

1.19.4 Postponements – Procedure

- (a) When a postponement has been granted, the League Secretary shall immediately notify the establishment of the change in the schedule, and arrange to have a pair of lanes available which are acceptable for use under this Rule.
- (b) The captains of the teams involved in a postponed match shall agree to a date for bowling the postponed series. If within one week from the date the match was originally scheduled the two captains cannot agree upon a date, it shall be set by the league Secretary, who shall notify both team captains of the date and time. This notification shall be sent at least three (3) days prior to the date set.
- (c) Postponed games must be bowled under the same conditions and rules governing sanctioned league play. The teams involved shall oppose each other on the originally scheduled pair of lanes if available. If this pair is not available the League Secretary may authorise the teams to use another pair, provided they are used by the league in bowling its schedule. If the lanes normally used by the league in bowling its schedule are not available, the League Secretary may authorise the bowling of postponed or pre-bowled games on another pair of certified lanes, even though these lanes are not used by the league in its regular schedule.
- (d) In bowling postponed or pre-bowled games in handicap leagues, the handicaps as of the date the games were bowled shall be used.

1.20 ABSENTEE AND VACANCY SCORES

- (a) A league may adopt rules providing for the use of absentee and/or vacancy scores and handicaps in deciding league games. Absentee and/or vacancy scores may be utilised only when a legal line-up is present.

NOTE: An absentee score is normally based on a player's average less a specified number of pins. A vacancy score is normally a set figure.

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(b) An absentee score shall normally be based on the average of the absent player. However, when there are additional players on a team's roster the absentee score for the absent player with the most games bowled shall be used. If two absentee scores are needed, the absentee score of the absentee with the next highest number of games shall be used. When two absent players have the same number of games, the lower absentee score shall be used.

(c) If a league has by rule specified a vacancy score, such score shall be used when a team does not have enough players on its roster for a full line-up. In handicap leagues, the handicap shall be figured from the vacancy score as set by the league.

1.21 TARDY PLAYERS – BOWLING OUT

(a) Leagues may adopt rules pertaining to tardy players. Any player who arrives late may be permitted to bowl after a game has started, but he shall begin play and his score shall count beginning with the frame when being bowled by the team, unless provision for such instance has been made previously by the league.

(b) An ITBA Sanctioned league may not adopt rules which permit a player to bowl the entire game or a bowler to finish the final game of a series before his team-mates or opponents.

1.22 REPLACEMENTS

1.22.1 (a) An ITBA Sanctioned league may not adopt rules which permit a team captain to replace a player during the course of a game, except in the case of injury, disability or emergency. After a game has started no changes shall be made in the order of players during that game, but a team captain shall be free to change the playing order and to replace any of the players with a qualified player between games.

(b) When a substitution is made during a game, the score of such game shall be credited to the starting player. However, a league may by rule require its Secretary to maintain averages so that each individual average reflects only the actual frames bowled.

(c) A player once removed from a game cannot return to bowl in the same game.

(d) Scores bowled through the efforts of more than one individual player shall not qualify for any ITBA or league individual high score awards.

(e) **Note:** When a substitution is made during a game in a handicap league, each player receives 1/10th of his single-game handicap for each frame bowled.

For Example: If the original player has a single-game handicap of 19 pins and completes 6 frames, and the substitute has a single-game handicap of 22 pins and completes the remaining 4 frames, then the original player's handicap

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for the shared game is $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of 19 (1.9 pins) x 6 frames – 11.4 or 11 pins, and the substitute player's handicap for a shared game is $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of 22 (2.2 pins) x 4 frames – 8.8 or 8 pins. (Note that fractions are dropped from each individual's total, not from each frame.)

In leagues using the team method of handicapping, the same procedure is applied. Separately determine the team handicap with the original and substitute in the line-up, then apply the appropriate handicap based on the number of frames completed by each player.

1.22.2 Injury, Disability or Emergency

When a player is unable to complete a game because of disability, injury or emergency, and a qualified replacement is not available to bowl, the team of which the player is a member shall count the actual score for the frames bowled in the game total, plus one-tenth of the absentee score for each of the remaining frames in the game.

Note: Take the actual score for the frames bowled. Add $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of the league's absentee score for each of the remaining frames.

For Example: If an absentee score is the bowler's average minus 10 pins, the player's average is 155, and the player has completed 7 frames, then the absentee score is 145: $1/10^{\text{th}}$ of 145 is 14.5 x 3 remaining frames = 43.5 or 43 with the fraction dropped (fraction is only dropped from the total figure, not from each frame).

Actual Score: means the pins scored in the last frame bowled. For example, spare or strike = 10 pins, a double = 20 and 10 pins, first ball only = actual pins knocked.

1.22.3 New players may not be added to a team's roster during the second half of a league's schedule without the approval of a majority of those present at a League Meeting at which the matter is considered.

1.22.4 Transferring Team Membership

A player who has competed with a team in a league and whose scores have counted in deciding games may transfer membership to another team during the first half of the season, provided:

(i) that the captain of the team with which the player has bowled consents to their release

(ii) that two-thirds (2/3) of the leagues team captains agree to the transfer.

This provision shall not apply to Closed Leagues, or to any league which adopts a specific rule to govern the transfer of players within itself prior to the start of the season.

1.23 BOWLING UNOPPOSED

(a) Two lanes immediately adjoining each other shall be used in each game of league play. Teams scheduled to bowl against each other must be in direct competition on adjacent lanes, and shall then and there oppose each other, except when a forfeit is declared.

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(b) No team or individual team member shall be permitted to bowl against scores, nor will any individual be permitted to bowl league games before or after the match.

Note: This rule covers all circumstances where scores are compared which have not been achieved in direct competition on adjacent lanes. The practice of using the same games to decide more than one match is similarly prohibited under this rule.

1.24 WITHDRAWALS

(a) When a team or individual withdraws without giving a satisfactory reason, or is expelled from a league for sufficient cause, fees and prize money shall be forfeited. The circumstances shall immediately be reported to the ITBA Executive Committee and the bowler(s) shall be liable for suspension of ITBA membership.

(b) When a team withdraws or is expelled from a league, it may only be replaced if less than half of the league's schedule has expired.

(c) The starting position of a replacement team in the league standings shall be a matter for a two-thirds (2/3) majority decision by the League Committee, but under no circumstances may such a team automatically inherit games or points won by the withdrawn or expelled team.

(d) If a team cannot or may not be replaced, the teams against which it was later scheduled shall bowl in accordance with Rule 1.18 (Forfeiture), but shall be awarded games or points only if they bowl in excess of an absentee score for the missing team. This score shall be calculated as detailed in Rule 1.20, and shall be based on the averages applying when the team withdrew or was expelled.

1.25 USING ASSUMED NAMES

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

Penalty: Forfeiture of all games in which such a player was used, and all involved and found guilty shall be liable for suspension of ITBA membership.

1.26 FUND SHORTAGE

1.26.1 (a) When an officer of a sanctioned league misuses any funds entrusted to him/her, the officer shall be liable for indefinite suspension of ITBA membership.

(b) The officer required to make monthly verifications of a league's accounts may also be liable for indefinite suspension of ITBA membership if found guilty of negligence in performing this duty.

1.26.2 Temporary Suspension

(a) When charges of misusing funds have been filed against a league officer, the league shall temporarily suspend the Officer from all offices held until the matter has been considered by the ITBA Legal Committee. In the interim,

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another officer shall be appointed to perform the duties of the Officer who is under temporary suspension.

(b) This procedure shall apply in all such cases, except where an appeal is made to the ITBA Executive Committee, who may at its discretion authorise the Officer to resume duties pending Legal Committee action.

(c) In the meantime, the member shall continue to be eligible to bowl in ITBA Sanctioned competition.

1.27 GAMBLING

(a) No member of the Irish Tenpin Bowling Association may participate in or be involved in the operation of any gambling scheme which uses any part or all of a score bowled in sanctioned league play to determine the winners.

(b) ITBA membership may be suspended or denied to anyone who is a participant or otherwise is involved in a violation of this rule.

1.28 SUPPLEMENTAL FEE

(a) No member of the Irish Tenpin Bowling Association shall pay or be involved in the operation of a scheme or arrangement requiring a supplemental fee of any type or character for the purpose of having any part or all of a score in sanctioned league play qualify for a prize where competing entrants bowl in different establishments.

(b) ITBA membership may be suspended or denied to anyone who is a participant or is involved in a violation of the Rule.

1.29 SUSPENDED BOWLER INELIGIBLE

When a bowler is suspended from or denied ITBA membership, that bowler shall be ineligible to hold office or to bowl in any sanctioned league until reinstated by the ITBA Executive Committee.

Penalty: When a team knowingly uses a suspended bowler it shall forfeit all games in which the suspended player was used, and all involved found guilty shall be liable for suspension of ITBA membership.

1.30 PROCEDURE FOR SUSPENSION ACTION

(a) When the ITBA Executive Committee is advised, after appropriate investigation, that a member has been guilty of acts which render that bowler liable for suspension of ITBA membership, they shall cause the following action to be instituted:

- (i) Notify the person or persons that suspension charges are being preferred and the reason therefore;
- (ii) Such notification shall be sent by mail, and shall specifically state the cause of the action and outline the time and method for filing an appeal;

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- (iii) Such notification of the action shall be filed with the Secretary of the appropriate Local Association, and also with the appropriate league officials;
- (iv) Submit a report and findings to the ITBA Legal Committee.

(b) Reinstatement of membership in all cases where a suspension is imposed shall be available only upon written application to and approval of the ITBA Executive Committee.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING
BOWLING LANE CERTIFICATES
AND
LEAGUE AND TOURNAMENT SANCTION**

In order for official recognition to be granted for high-score and other achievements by ITBA members, such scores and achievements must be bowled in ITBA sanctioned competition.

Leagues and/or tournaments can only be granted ITBA Sanction if they are scheduled to take place in bowling establishments which have been issued with an ITBA Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate for the current bowling season.

The following rules and regulations shall govern the application for and the granting of Bowling Lane Certificates and League and/or tournament Sanctions.

SECTION 1

Applications for and Issuing of Regulation Bowling Lane Certificates

- 1.1 A bowling establishment may apply to the ITBA Executive committee for a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate. Upon receipt of an applications, the Executive Committee shall arrange for the measurement and inspection of the lanes and the checking of equipment and bowling pins in the establishment. The ITBA Inspector shall submit a report to the Executive Committee with recommendations and, if all specifications for the ITBA have been found to be complied with, a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate will be issued.
- 1.2 Applications for Bowling Lane Certificates should normally be lodged with the ITBA Executive Committee at the latest by the last day of July prior to the season (1st October to 30th September inclusive) for which the Certificate is to be in force. Measurement and inspection of lanes normally takes place during the month of August, unless the establishment plans resurfacing or alteration of the lanes for the season in which the Bowling League (? Lane) Certification is to be in force, in which case inspection shall not be carried out prior to resurfacing or alteration.
- 1.3 (a) A Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate issued by the ITBA Executive Committee shall remain in effect until the 30th day of September following the date of issue, unless an extension is granted or a Certificate is suspended or withdrawn in accordance with other provisions of these rules.

(b) The ITBA Executive Committee may grant an extension to the normal life of a Certificate if an establishment plans resurfacing or alteration of the lanes for the following season, subject to a maximum extension until the last day of February.

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(c) Except as specified in part (b) of this Rule, re-measurement and re-inspection by the ITBA Inspector shall be necessary before a new certificate can be issued the following season.

(d) A Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate shall be issued for the season commencing the following 1st day of October without further application of inspection in the following cases:

(i) When lanes in an establishment are resurfaced or altered on or after the 1st day of March and a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate has been issued following inspection.

(ii) When a new installation has been completed and/or opened and issued with a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate on or after the 1st day of March.

1.4 A bowling establishment applying for a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate shall be liable for payment of inspection fees at a rate per lane to be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee.

1.5 (a) When the ITBA Executive Committee issues a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate to an establishment, the Certificate shall be displayed in the establishment in a prominent place, and shall be prima facie evidence that the equipment (including bowling pins) provided for sanctioned leagues and tournaments meets all ITBA requirements. Retention of such Certificate shall be subject to the following conditions:

(i) All equipment (including bowling pins) will be maintained and serviced to meet the ITBA requirement throughout the life of the Certificate:

(ii) If dressing is used it must be distributed, gutter to gutter, for the entire predetermined distance down the lane (for example, and without limiting the distance, 35 – 40 feet from the foul line). Following application of dressing there may be more dressing towards the centre of the lane providing it increases and decreases gradually in a smooth curve from edge to edge:

(iii) The lane surface shall not be altered or conditioned to create a ball path or otherwise affect the course of the ball by the use of abrasives, dressings or any other materials or methods. (For example, and without intending any limitation of this rule, the resurfacers, owner or employees are specifically prohibited from creating grooves or tracks in the lane to form a continuous ball path even though within allowable surface tolerances):

(iv) Any modification or adjustment of lane maintenance equipment to create the conditions described in (iii) above is specifically prohibited.

Note: An ITBA member who attempts to or does alter or condition the lanes to create a ball path or otherwise affect the course of the ball shall be liable for suspension of membership of the ITBA, and anyone who is not a member who is found guilty of such practice may be refused membership in the ITBA until the Executive Committee ratifies his/her application.

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(v) The ITBA Executive Committee reserves the right through its Inspector to inspect all equipment used in sanctioned league and tournament play, including lane maintenance equipment, devices and related implements, at any time throughout the life of the Certificate.

(b) A report of failure to maintain lanes and/or equipment in accordance with the foregoing shall be submitted to the ITBA Executive Committee, who shall notify the establishment of the report and accord such establishment an opportunity to refute the charge. If the Executive Committee determines that the lanes and/or equipment were not maintained in accordance with the conditions for retention of the Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate, written assurance may be requested that there will be compliance in the future. If there is another report that the lanes and/or equipment were not maintained in accordance with these conditions, and the ITBA Legal Committee finds that there had been non-compliance, the Executive Committee may suspend or withdraw the Certificate.

- 1.6 If as a result of any inspection (whether in response to an application for certification or during the life of a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate) it is determined that any of the lanes, equipment or bowling pins in an establishment do not meet ITBA specifications, the proprietor shall be notified of the fact and afforded an opportunity of carrying out remedial action (including resurfacing if necessary) within two months of such notification. A further inspection shall then be conducted, and a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate shall be issued if this inspection establishes that all ITBA specifications have been satisfied.
- 1.7 The ITBA Secretary shall keep and maintain a true record of any and all regulation Bowling Lane Certificates, issued and refused, showing the names of applicants, date of application, date of issue or refusal, and the reason for refusal. This record shall be referred to for information and consideration as required. In case of suspension or withdrawal of a Certificate, the ITBA Secretary shall note on the record the cause of such suspension or withdrawal.

SECTION 2

Applications for the Granting of ITBA League Sanction

- 2.1 A league shall be defined as any group of four or more teams or individuals which bowls to a regular schedule as determined by the participants, with standings based on the outcome of games bowled between those teams or individuals.
- 2.2 (a) A league may apply to the ITBA Executive Committee for ITBA League Sanction.
- (b) Applications for ITBA League Sanction must:
- (i) be submitted on the official ITBA League Sanction Application Form within four (4) weeks of commencement of the league schedule;

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- (ii) be signed by the league secretary;
- (iii) be accompanied by a copy of the rules adopted by the league.

2.3 To be eligible for ITBA League Sanction a league must:

- (i) be staged on lanes which have been certified by the ITBA for the current bowling season;
- (ii) be organised and conduct its activities in such a manner as to comply strictly with all ITBA rules and regulations governing league play;
- (iii) be composed solely of ITBA members unless otherwise qualified under other provisions of these rules.

2.4 (a) The ITBA Executive Committee shall grant ITBA League Sanction provided that:

- (i) a valid application has been received;
- (ii) the conditions of Rule 2.3 above are deemed to be complied with.

(b) League Sanction, if granted, shall only apply from the day following receipt of an application.

(c) ITBA League Sanction shall remain in effect until conclusion of the league's schedule provided that:

- (i) the conditions of Rule 2.3 above continue to be complied with;
- (ii) only ITBA approved equipment is used.

(d) Bowlers joining or substituting in any league granted ITBA League Sanction must pay or have paid the required ITBA membership or affiliation fee and any team using a bowler who has not paid the appropriate fee subjects the games in which the ineligible player bowls to forfeiture.

2.5 (a) Scores and other achievements bowled in any league granted ITBA League Sanction shall be recognised as official by the ITBA, subject to the ITBA rules and regulations governing high score awards.

(b) The ITBA shall present a League Achievement Award to each Sanctioned League to provide recognition for the participant who shows the greatest improvement in average during the current season.

(c) Participants in any league granted ITBA League Sanction may appeal any decision of the league committee to the Local Bowling Association within whose jurisdictions the league takes place.

2.6 (a) A league which restricts participation to individuals or groups who are bona fide

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members of a single fraternal or other organisation or are employees of the same firm or company shall be eligible for ITBA League Sanction if:

- (i) it is staged on lanes which have been certified by the ITBA for the current bowling season;
 - (ii) it is organised and conducts its activities in such a manner as to comply strictly with all ITBA rules and regulations governing league play;
 - (iii) its rules require that all participants either are ITBA members or (provided they are not under suspension of or denied membership in the ITBA) become eligible to participate by payment of an Affiliation Fee, the amount of which shall be determined from time to time by the ITBA Executive Committee.
- (b) Individuals opting for affiliation shall be required to pay a separate fee for each league participated in, and shall become subject to ITBA rules and jurisdiction in any such league.
- (c) The League Sanction Application Form for a league involving affiliated members shall be accompanied with all Affiliation Fees received, together with a list of those paying the fees.
- (d) Only those participants who are ITBA members shall qualify for ITBA high-score recognition.
- 2.7** When special contests limited to members of a league which has been granted ITBA League Sanction are held, and such contests are conducted by the league under the ITBA rules governing sanctioned league or tournament play, high-score and other recognition will be extended automatically under the same terms and conditions as outlined for sanctioned league and tournament competition. Likewise, when a league consists of two or more divisions or sections bowling separate schedules, high-score and other recognition will be extended automatically to play-offs between the champions of the divisions or sections.

SECTION 3

Applications for and Granting of I.T.B.A. Tournament Sanction

- 3.1** (a) A bowling tournament is defined as a prearranged contest between teams, individuals, or a combination of both, in which members of the Irish Tenpin Bowling Association are eligible to compete.
- (b) Any tournament consisting of four or more teams, or singles tournaments consisting of four or more individual participants, shall be eligible to apply for Sanction with the Irish Tenpin Bowling Association.
- 3.2** (a) When a tournament other than an ITBA tournament is conducted and members

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of the ITBA participate, a Tournament Sanction may be applied for at the option of the Tournament Management.

(b) Tournaments granted ITBA Sanction shall comply with the ITBA General Playing Rules and the ITBA Tournament Playing Rules.

(c) Such tournaments and the teams and individuals competing therein must conduct and play their games in strict compliance with the rules and regulations governing such games, as adopted by the Irish Tenpin Bowling Association.

(d) When such tournaments are conducted without ITBA Sanction, the participants shall not be eligible for ITBA membership services, including high-score recognition.

3.3 (a) The following requirements must be complied with when applying for ITBA Tournament Sanction:

(i) The establishment(s) in which the tournament is scheduled to bowl must have been issued with a Regulation Bowling Lane Certificate for the current season;

(ii) An application for Sanction must be submitted in writing to the ITBA Executive Committee. Notification that a tournament is sanctioned shall be sent to the tournament management;

(iii) Entry form and/or tournament rules must be submitted with the Sanction Application. These items shall be submitted in draft form as early as possible to enable the Executive Committee to counsel in the event of rule violation or discrepancies **prior to the printing of promotional material**;

(iv) Competition among entrants in an event (with the exception of All-Events) shall be held in the same establishment. When an event is divided into two or more divisions, competition in each division must be confined to the same establishment;

(v) Under no circumstances shall the ITBA sanction mailographic, telegraphic, telephone or other similar tournaments where scores bowled in different establishments are compared to qualify for prizes in one common prize list.

(b) The ITBA Executive Committee may refuse sanctioning of any tournament which does not comply with ITBA rules or which in its opinion misrepresents in its advertising or otherwise the value of prizes which are offered or guaranteed, or the volume of prize payments offered to the participants.

3.4 (a) To participate in a tournament granted ITBA Sanction, an entrant shall qualify under the tournament's rules. However, the tournament rules shall require that all entrants be ITBA members or (provided they are not under suspension of or denied membership of the ITBA) become eligible to participate by payment of an Affiliation Fee, the amount of which shall be determined from time to time by the ITBA Executive Committee.

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(b) Individuals opting for affiliation shall be required to pay a separate Fee for each tournament participated in, and shall become subject to ITBA rules and jurisdiction in any such tournament. All fees received, together with a list of those paying the fees, shall be submitted to the ITBA with post-tournament reports.

(c) Only those entrants who are ITBA members prior to participation shall qualify for ITBA high-score recognition.

3.5 A Moral Support Sanction may be issued to tournaments staged for the purpose of providing international competition where bowlers from nations not served by the ITBA and ITBA members are competing. In such cases the ITBA members participating in the tournament shall qualify for high-score recognition providing the equipment used conforms to ITBA specifications.

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ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SCHEME

Detailed below are the current Achievements Awards which may be obtained by completing an application form and handing it to the Liaison Officer for your Bowling Centre.

Application Forms available at desk or from your Liaison Officer.

Certificates to be awarded for:

Conversion of 4/7 – 6/10 split

4/6 “

7 – 10 “

7 – 9 “

8 – 10 “

Triplicate Series (i.e. three games of same score in a series)

Bantam and Junior members only – first time achievement of 2, 3 and 4 strikes in a row

ITBA Chevrons or Badges to be awarded for first time achievement of any of the following:

<u>Strikes</u>	<u>Games (Scratch)</u>	<u>Series (3 games) (Scratch)</u>
5 in a row	100*	500
6 in a row	150*	550
7 in a row	200	600
8 in a row	220	650
	240	700
	260	750

Special Awards will be given for all new Irish Records bowled in sanctioned competition, High Games of 295 or higher and High Series of 775 or higher.

* Intended for Bantam Members and Leinster Special Olympics Bowlers.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION FOR LEAGUE SANCTION