

Shore Conference Bowling  
Rules & Regulations

A. TEAM RULES

1. All high school bowling matches shall be played utilizing USBC rules modified according to NJSIAA Bylaws and Sports Regulations.
2. Bowlers are not permitted to use electronic devices, including but not limited to: airpods, earbuds, headphones, cell phones, tablets, computers, cameras.
3. All schools will follow the master schedule provided at the start of the season.
  - a. If a match needs to be rescheduled,
    - i. it must be approved by the bowling center representative:
      1. North A - Brunswick Zone Hazlet Lanes: Christine Wordel
      2. North B - Harmony Lanes: Jeff Kruse
      3. Central A - Shore Lanes: Ralph Ayles
      4. Central B - Howell Lanes: Mark Gold
      5. South A - Ocean Lanes: Karen Derrick
      6. South B - Ocean Lanes: Karen Derrick
    - ii. it must be completed by the end of the last NJSIAA state tournament.
  - b. When reading the master schedule, schools listed on the left side of the matchup are the designated home team. This team's lineup should be entered on the left lane.
4. Both coaches involved in a regular season match will serve as referees, enforcing all NJSIAA regulations and USBC rules.
5. There are no protests allowed for regular season competition. Scoring errors and other disputes must be corrected and resolved before teams leave for the day.
  - a. A match becomes official when all final scores are agreed upon and/or teams leave the bowling center.
6. It will be the responsibility of coaches/players to caution any spectator from interfering with contestants during competition.
  - a. Spectators are not permitted in the bowling settee area at any point during the match.
  - b. Bowlers may not receive coaching advice from spectators.

B. EQUIPMENT

All bowling balls used must adhere to USBC rules for weight and hardness and be in compliance with these terms and conditions.

C. PRE-COMPETITION RULES

1. The host center will have a representative who signals the start of practice by using the intercom within the bowling center. Prior to the start of all Shore Conference matches, the Sportsmanship Bias Statement Pre-Game Declaration, as determined by the NJSIAA, will be read to all competing schools that day.
2. A 10-minute warm-up period will be allowed for practice balls prior to the start of conference matchup, following the reading of the Pre-Game Declaration.
  - a. Warm-ups are expected to be courteous to all with one ball thrown at a time to enable all bowlers getting ample warm-up.
3. To maintain an acceptable pace of bowling, it is proper etiquette to observe a one-lane courtesy and deliver your shot in a reasonable amount of time. Delays are inappropriate and will hinder the completion of competition in a reasonable time.
  - a. A bowler will be allowed to use only one re-rack per game.

D. COMPETITION RULES

1. All Shore Conference matches will consist of 3 regular season games of tenpin regulation scoring. The 5 scores in each game will determine the team's final pinfall per game.
  - a. Competition shall be defined as the point when the first ball is thrown between two or more schools in regular season or tournament play.
  - b. Each game will be worth 1 point for a maximum of 3 points per match.
2. A team will field 5 active players per game.
  - a. A minimum of 3 bowlers must be present to constitute a legal lineup.
  - b. Absent and/or tardy bowlers will receive a score of zero (0) for any Varsity missed frames.
    - i. Missed frames cannot be made up.
  - c. On Junior Varsity, a blind score will be given if a team cannot field 5 active bowlers. The maximum number of Blind scores a team can have is 2.
    - i. Boys JV: 13 per frame, or 130 per game.
    - ii. Girls JV: 10 per frame, or 100 per game.
  - d. Games where a school fails to field a legal team will result in a loss.
    - i. Individual scores will still count towards the individuals' averages.
3. A team's lineup may be changed prior to the start of any game.
  - e. Once a game has begun, the order cannot be changed for that game until the start of the next game.
  - f. A bowler may not be "skipped" for any reason.
4. A bowler may be substituted at any time before or during a game, even if it's in the middle of a frame.
  - a. If a bowler is substituted between games,
    - i. and the new bowler has not previously bowled on this pair of lanes during this match, the new bowler is allowed one practice ball on each lane.
    - ii. and the bowler has previously bowled on this pair of lanes during this match, the new bowler is not allowed one practice ball on each lane.
  - b. If a bowler is substituted in the middle of a match,
    - i. the new bowler is not allowed practice on either lane.
    - ii. the bowler that started the game gets credit for the score towards his/her individual average.
5. Scoring shall be kept using the machines at the host center.
  - a. Should there be a correction, the coaches of the teams involved must alert each other to the changes necessary.
6. Any player who crosses the foul line will be in violation of an illegal delivery and a foul will be assessed.
  - a. A foul results in a zero (0) given for the score.
    - i. If it occurs on the first ball,
      1. and accidental, all pins knocked down are reset to the second attempt.
      2. and deliberate, the entire frame score will be a zero.
    - ii. If it occurs on the second ball, the player's frame is over.
7. If a match has to be moved to another pair of lanes once the match has started, each bowler currently in the lineup receives one practice ball on each lane.
8. Bowlers that are substituted from Varsity to JV, or vice versa, must be in the same game in their respective match.
  - a. A bowler that is substituted into a match from the bench may be inserted into any game
    - i. If a bowler has bowled three games, he/she cannot be substituted into a match still being bowled.

#### E. CONDUCT

1. Spectators or food/drink are not permitted in the bowling settee area at any point during the match. It will be the responsibility of the coaches/players to caution any spectator from interfering with contestants during competition.
2. Head wear of any sort is not permitted unless required by religious or cultural background.