2018 NJSIAA UNIFIED BOWLING RULES AND REGULATIONS

PARTICIPATION:

- All NJSIAA member schools are eligible to participate in Unified bowling.
- Unified bowling team records will not impact varsity nor sub-varsity team records/standings.
- Students may participate in Unified bowling even if they are participating in another winter sport.
- Bowling teams should arrange matches against other teams participating in NJSIAA Unified bowling.

TEAM COMPOSITION:

Special Olympics Unified Sports were created to give individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to train and compete in sports activities alongside their non-disabled peers.

- Teams may consist of up to five bowlers: 3 competitors + 2 subs
- The three students competing can be comprised of:
  - 1 student with an intellectual disability (athlete) and 2 students without disabilities (partners)
  -OR-
  - 2 students with intellectual disabilities and 1 student without
- One of these two ratios must be maintained at all times during competition.
- Teams may be boys, girls or co-ed

ELIGIBILITY:

All students participating must have a valid school physical from on file.

**Athletes** - *(students with intellectual/developmental disabilities)*

- Students must be enrolled in high school, but may compete up to 21-years-old.

**Unified Partners** – *(students without intellectual disabilities)*

- Students must meet all NJSIAA eligibility requirements
- Varsity level bowlers are NOT permitted to be Unified partners.
Coaches

- Unified Sports coaches will follow the certification standards as outlined by the NJSIAA
- In addition, first year coaches are required to complete the free NFHS Coaching Unified Sports course.

COMPETITION FORMAT:

Baker Format

- Fast-paced and team-based method of bowling
- Multiple bowlers bowl one game, alternating frames

Three Player/Trio Baker Game Format

- Order: The bowling order (bowler 1, bowler 2, bowler 3) for Baker is set each game (1 game = 10 frames). Coaches may change their order from one game to another. However, the athlete must always be bowler 1 and bowl four frames in each game (frames 1, 4, 7, 10).

Substitutions:

- A coach may substitute players at any time (frame) during the game. Once a player has been substituted for, he/she may not re-enter the current game. Substitutions must keep the original team composition in place (Athlete/Athlete, Partner/Partner).

Games/Winner:

- Each Trio team will bowl 6 Baker games within each meet. The winner of the meet will be decided by total pinfall. This means that the total score from all 6 games for each team is added together and the team with the most pins wins the event.

Lanes:

- All team members bowl on the same lane, bumpers are NOT used. After three games, teams shall switch lanes with one another for equal competition. In an effort to stay on the same schedule, teams shall not start a new game until their opponent has finished their current game.
Score Sheets/Information:
  • Coaches/Administration shall pre-communicate their team information including:
    o Team Composition and Substitutions
    o Bowling Order
    o Shoe Orders

All scoring discrepancies should be reported to the score monitor or the event administrator.

Official:
  • The administrator in charge during regular season events and district competition will serve as the head official regarding any disputes. During state competition, the NJSIAA will have personnel in place.

Ramps:
  • At this time, the NJSIAA will not accommodate bowlers who need the use of a ramp.

Coaching:
  • All coaches should remain outside of the lane area unless assistance with accommodations is needed. There are not restrictions on when a coach may communicate and coach participants.

Playing Rules:
  • All contests shall be conducted under the official bowling rules of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) in conjunction with the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules for Bowling. In such case, the Official Special Olympics Sports Rules for Bowling shall apply or those approved by that organization with modifications approved by the NJSIAA.

Tie-Breaking Procedure:
  • Sudden victory. In a bracket setting, the higher seed gets the choice of lane and whether to bowl first or second. In other meet formats, a coin flip will determine who decides on lane and order.
  • Each team gets one delivery. Higher pinfall wins the tie-breaker. The bowler and order is determined by the last game, including substitutions. The same rotation must be used during a tie breaker. For example, the athlete from the final game will bowl the first tie breaker delivery, followed by the first partner (2nd tie breaker delivery, if needed), then the second partner (3rd tie breaker deliver, if needed). The pins are cleared and re-set following each tie-breaker delivery.
Dress Code:
- It is recommended that players wear school uniforms during play. The following shall apply during tournament play:
  - All bowlers must wear similar shirts of the same color. Bowlers should also wear full length slacks. These slacks may be of any color as long as they are similar to that of the rest of the team and do not have any tears or holes in them. Bowlers may NOT wear shorts, skirts, jeans or hats. Bowlers out of uniform will not be allowed to bowl until they are able to comply with the rules. Proper shoes are required.
  - Participants must keep their uniforms on while in the competition area. Coaches should wear either a team uniform or appropriate coaching apparel in school colors or the colors of black, white, gray or khaki.

Registration & Season Dates:
- Schools wishing to participate in interscholastic Unified bowling MUST register with the NJSIAA in order to be eligible to compete in the NJSIAA sectional and state competitions.
  - Email Al Stumpf at astumpf@njsiaa.org
  - “Opt-in” registration deadline: January 12, 2018
- Opening date: December 1st
- Sectional Dates: February 1st – 10th
- Finals *dates: TBD
- Teams should bowl in at least one interscholastic competition to be eligible to compete in a sectional tournament.

*A state final competition will only be held if there are 9 or more Unified bowling teams competing throughout the state. If there are 8 or fewer teams, the highest level of competition will be sectionals.

UNIFIED CUP (formerly Shriver Cup):
- Unified Champion schools are eligible to send one Unified bowling team to the Unified Cup tournament on Sunday, March 18, 2018.
- Unified Cup teams must be made up of different members than the NJSIAA Unified teams.
- Unified Cup tournament will allow for assisted and unassisted ramp bowlers to participate.
- Teams of 4: 2 athletes and 2 Unified partners.
- Traditional bowling tournament style (each team member bowls 3 full games).
CONTACT INFORMATION:

- NJSIAA Unified Bowling Competitions
  - Al Stumpf
    - astumpf@njsiaa.org
    - 609-259-2776

- Unified Cup Competition & General Unified Sports questions.
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