



## 2024-25 NJSIAA BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING TOURNAMENT

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for all NJSIAA State tournaments. Schools entering the tournament will not be granted a change of date/time due to any conflicts with school trips, proms, banquets, SATs, unless agreed upon by both schools. During the spring tournament season, we will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Member schools will not be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Tournaments if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, or Procedures. Any student-athlete who transfers after the competition start date will not be eligible for this tournament (Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.K. 5).

Schools are to be reminded of the 3-team DQ rule for state tournament eligibility, which states “Any varsity team accumulating three or more player or coach disqualifications prior to the team’s participation in the state tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament.”

The NJSIAA will follow the procedure below for schools that are disqualified from state tournament competition:

1. If a school is disqualified, either for the use of an ineligible player or violating the 3-team DQ rule, from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded but prior to the bracket being final, then the bracket will be reseeded and the next ranked school who entered the tournament will be included.
2. If a school is disqualified, either for the use of an ineligible player or violating the 3-team DQ rule, from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded and after the bracket is final, then the bracket will not be reseeded, and no additional school will be included.
3. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition due to the use of an ineligible player during the state tournament, then the school will be removed from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place.

Schools participating in any NJSIAA tournament are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their spectators. Schools are required to provide adequate staff security to ensure there is proper oversight of their spectators. In addition, schools are financially responsible for any damages to the property or premises caused by their student-athletes, staff, or spectators (spectators include, but are not limited to, cheerleaders, marching band participants, students, and other fans).

NJSIAA requires Certified Athletic Trainers at all its tournament events. The ATC must document all injuries on an injury report form. This form must be available to the NJSIAA upon request.

Member schools not willing or able to comply with these tournament regulations and any relevant procedures found in the Operating Procedures Handbook should not enter the tournament. Member schools are encouraged to review these tournament regulations with the school administration. Coaches must have a copy of these regulations as well as a copy of the Rule Modifications (if any) for this tournament available at all contests. Copies of these documents are available on the NJSIAA website.

### **New for This Year’s State Tournament**

- The girls teams will be condensed into two sections (North & South) with four groups in each section.
- The boys will stay the same with four sections and four groups in each section.

## Bowling Tournament Staff

### Director of Bowling

Derryk Sellers

(609) 259-2776

[dsellers@njsiaa.org](mailto:dsellers@njsiaa.org)

### Tournament Directors

(See p. 9)

### Rules Interpreter

Anthony Bilello

(848) 448-2375

[abilello@obps.org](mailto:abilello@obps.org)

## Bowling Important Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
First Practice:	November 25, 2024	
Competition Start:	November 25, 2024	
Entry Form Opens (Team):	January 6, 2025	
Entry Form Closes (Team):	January 26, 2025	
Cutoff (Team):	February 1, 2025	
<b>PowerPoints Close Team):</b>	February 2, 2025	
Seeding	February 5, 2025	
Cutoff (Individuals & Independents):	February 16, 2025	
Entries Due (Individuals & Independents):	February 20, 2025	
Regular Season Competition Ends:	March 9, 2025	
<u>State Team Tournament</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
Round 1:	February 11, 2025	Higher Seed
Round 2:	February 13, 2025	Higher Seed
Round 3:	February 19, 2025	Higher Seed
<u>Boys Sectional Championships</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
North I	February 22, 2025	Bowler City (Hackensack)
North II	February 22, 2025	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
Central	February 22, 2025	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
South	February 22, 2025	30 Strikes (Stratford)
<u>Team Championships</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Boys Semifinals & Girls Sectionals (AM)	February 25, 2025	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
Boys & Girls State Finals (PM)		
<u>Individual Championships</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Championships	February 27, 2025	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
<u>Unified Team Tournament</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Preliminary Rounds	TBD	TBD
State Championships	February 27, 2025	Bowlero (North Brunswick)

All tournament rounds are **PLAY ON** dates. Schools can mutually agree to move tournament dates except for the sectional finals, semifinals, and state finals. If schools do not agree, then it must be played on the date listed. If any date is moved by mutual agreement, the potential next round opponents must be notified ASAP.

### **To qualify for the Team tournament**

1. Teams must be competing on a varsity interscholastic basis and sixty percent (60%) of the games played on or before the cutoff date must be against New Jersey schools.
2. The top 12 Boys teams from each section and group will qualify for the tournament based on NJSIAA PowerPoint system.
3. The top 16 Girls teams from each section and group will qualify for the tournament based on NJSIAA PowerPoint system.
4. Matches completed after the cutoff date will not count toward the PowerPoint calculation even if they were started before the cutoff date.
5. A team's PowerPoints are defined as the average of every team PP-Game during the regular season. A PP-Game is based on the 4 best individual scores in each game. All PP-Games will be averaged (rounding to two (2) decimal places) to determine the overall PowerPoints for that team.
  - a. Example – ONE PP-Game: Where the top 4 individual scores are 180, 190, 210 and 220 – PP-Game = 800.
  - b. Example – SEASON PowerPoints: Where six games are played across two matches, with PP-Games of 800, 810, 820, 830, 840 and 850, Total pins=4950 / 6 games = 825 PowerPoints
6. Qualification will be based on all games played from opening day to the cutoff date, with a minimum of 21 games.
7. Teams may still qualify if they've bowled fewer than 21 games, however their PowerPoint value will be based on dividing the sum of all PP-Games by 21, regardless of how many games bowled.
8. Any player with two (2) or more disqualifications in the current season and before the start of the tournament, will be unable to compete in the state tournament.
9. Any varsity team accumulating three (3) or more player or coach disqualifications before the start of the tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament. Seeded teams will forfeit their right to compete if a disqualification limit is reached before the start of the tournament for the team.

### **To qualify for the Individual tournament**

1. The top 100 regular season averages between opening day and the cutoff date will qualify for the individual tournament regardless of their group and section.
2. The qualification for individual bowlers from school that have a team will be based on a bowler's regular season dual meet average, with a minimum of 21 games on or before the cutoff date.
3. Independent Bowlers (players at member schools that don't have a bowling team) are eligible to qualify for the tournament (see rules below).
4. Independent bowlers average must be equal to or greater than the 100<sup>th</sup> bowlers average. Independent bowlers cannot bump out the top 100 bowlers, we will just add them to the 100.
5. Individuals that bowl fewer than 21 games will still be eligible to qualify, but their average will be based on dividing total pins by 21.
6. All averages will be rounded to two (2) decimal places. If there's a tie for the final spot, all tied bowlers qualify.
7. Girls bowling on a co-ed bowling team will be eligible to compete at the girl's individual championship if they qualify. An entry form must be submitted.
8. Girls may not compete in the boy's individual championships since we offer a girl's individual championship.

### **Independent Athletes**

An Independent athlete is a student enrolled in a NJSIAA member school that does not sponsor a particular sports program and would like to enter a state individual tournament. Independent athletes are permitted, provided the school follows all independent entry requirements listed in the tournament regulations for their sport. In addition to the sports-specific tournament entry regulations, the following general procedures for all sports must be followed.

### **Independent Athlete Procedures**

1. All independent athletes must be accompanied by a certified faculty member (chaperone), or a coach approved by the schools administration.

2. The independent athlete will be disqualified if they are not accompanied by a certified faculty member (chaperone), or a coach approved by the school's administration.
3. The chaperone must have with them written authority from the school's administration and remain with the athlete throughout all contests.
4. Independent athletes will not be able to check-in to the event with a parent, a coach/chaperone must be present at the time of check-in.
5. Any properly appointed "coach" will be subject to all out-of-season practice rules.
6. The school district must be able to certify the independent athlete has met the required six (6) practices.
7. The school district must be able to certify the independent athlete has a completed physical on file.
8. The penalty for failure to comply will be the disqualification of the athlete.
9. If you compete on a co-ed team, you cannot be an independent athlete. You will have to follow the tournament regulations on how to qualify as an individual.

### **Independent Bowlers**

1. Member schools with independent bowlers may enter only bowlers that have qualified. There is no limit.
2. An independent bowler's average will be based on a single private league – for all games played in that league, from the start of the NJSIAA season (opening day) until the cutoff date.
3. In order for a private league average to be considered, the league must be sanctioned by and following USBC rules.
4. All games must be documented by the league secretary and forwarded with the online entry form.
5. Independent bowlers must have bowled a minimum of 21 games on or before the cutoff date to be eligible.
6. Independent bowlers that compete in multiple leagues shall select the league they hold the highest average in for qualification purposes. Using tallied scores from multiple leagues is not permitted.

### **Co-ed Teams**

1. All schools must declare their intention to bowl as a co-ed team by the competition begin date.
2. A Co-ed team is considered a boys team for all intents and purposes.
3. All Co-ed teams must enter their results as boys matches into [www.njschoolsports.com](http://www.njschoolsports.com)
4. Co-ed teams may not separate for any contest once they have declared that they are co-ed.
5. Co-ed teams may only bowl against other co-ed teams or boys only teams. Co-ed teams may not bowl against a girls only team.
6. Girls performances during a co-ed meet will count for qualifications for the Individual championships.
7. Co-ed teams will only be eligible to compete as a boys team in the state tournament.
8. Co-ed teams cannot enter both the boys and girls team tournaments.
9. Separate boys and girls teams cannot combine into one team for the state tournament.
10. If there are separate boys and girls teams, girls must compete on the girls team.
11. Girls on co-ed teams may only compete in the girls individual championships if they qualify.
12. All co-ed teams must enter the team tournament as a boys team.

### **Entry Procedure**

1. All varsity schedules & rosters must be entered in [njschoolsports.com](http://njschoolsports.com) by the start of the season. Rosters must be checked and updated throughout the season. We cannot guarantee any roster changes made after the start of the tournament will make it into the tournament program.
2. All regular season varsity scores must be reported to [www.njschoolsports.com](http://www.njschoolsports.com) as soon as possible after each contest, no later than the following morning. If you encounter problems, please contact [hssupport@njadvancemedia.com](mailto:hssupport@njadvancemedia.com).
3. Either team from a game can report data into [www.njschoolsports.com](http://www.njschoolsports.com) for their team and/or their opponent, HOWEVER, each school is responsible for confirming their team's data is correctly entered.
4. **Player Substitutions:** The bowler that **starts** the game gets credit for the individual score for any in-game substitutions.
5. **Postponed Game Dates:** Matches must be entered using the date a match was completed – not when it started.
6. **Duplicate Players:** If one of your players appears twice (or more) on your roster, please contact [hssupport@njadvancemedia.com](mailto:hssupport@njadvancemedia.com) and request a player merge – otherwise, player averages could be incorrect.

7. All teams interested in entering the NJSIAA team tournament must complete the online entry form by the due dates listed. Please note, entering your team for the tournament does not guarantee that you are in the tournament.
8. There is no entry form for individual bowlers. The names and averages will be captured from the dual meet results that are submitted to NJ.com by each school.
9. Independent bowlers (bowlers that are from a member school, but their school does not have a bowling team) must complete the online entry form by the due dates listed. Please note, entering your independent bowler for the tournament does not guarantee that you are in the tournament.

### **Entry Fee**

- \$120 per team, payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Bowling Tournament).
- \$20 for each individual & independent bowler, payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Bowling Tournament).
- Forward all entry fees to the NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

### **Tournament Seeding**

1. The 12 qualifying boys schools and the 16 qualifying girls schools in each group and each section will be seeded using the NJSIAA power point system.
2. If there is a tie in PowerPoints for seeding, ties will be broken using these parameters, in order, until the tie is broken:
  - a. Head-to-head match wins (only if one team won all matches, any splits will be discarded)
  - b. PowerPoint games played (a tied average with more games-played has more value)
  - c. If games played are equal – then Total Pins
  - d. Highest team series (sum of 3 PP-Games in a single match)
  - e. Highest PP-Game
  - f. Coin-flip
3. The media may post brackets following the completion of the seeding meeting, however, seedings and brackets do not become official until 12:00pm on the day after seeding.

### **Tournament Rules**

1. This is a "scratch" tournament (no handicaps).
2. No school may have more than 6 bowlers and 2 coaches in the settee area at any time during competition.
3. Schools may practice up to 6 bowlers before the start of the competition during the designated practice time.
4. All scores are final once submitted and signed by the coach. However, the tournament director has the authority to certify the official score.
5. Blind scores are not permitted. If a team supplies a pacer(s) on the day of the tournament, it is understood that the pacer(s) is not eligible to compete in that tournament.
6. All lanes will be assigned for the state tournament.
7. The NJSIAA will pay all bowling fees starting with the sectional finals. The host school will pay all lane fees for the first 3 rounds.
8. Any lineup changes from round to round must be noted and a reason must be included. If there are changes a new form must be produced and signed off by the athletic director and coach. If there are no changes then the original sheet can be used for all matches.
9. All teams, individual bowlers and independent bowlers, must have a coach or certified faculty member present. Failure to comply will result in the contestant or team not being permitted to bowl. Parents are not permitted to check-in players.
10. Proper attire must be worn by all bowlers, i.e., a school-issued shirt. No hats. Players will be disqualified if not dressed in a school-issued shirt. Coaches will be responsible for informing their bowlers of this regulation and for following the dress attire rules.
11. The NJSIAA and bowling establishment will not be responsible for lost or stolen articles.
12. In case of inclement weather or any other reason that causes the tournament to be postponed, the tournament director will inform the management of the lanes of the postponement. Coaches are urged to call the bowling alley for information relative to the postponement and the site, time, and date of the rescheduled event.
13. The tournament director and/or sectional directors will rule on any disputes.

14. Schools are asked to refrain from bringing into the bowling alley any outside food or beverage products, other than homemade items.
15. No electronic devices are allowed down on the lanes or in the settee area until the completion of the tournament.
16. Protests based upon a tournament director's judgment or misinterpretation, or misapplication of the playing rules will not be honored as per NJSIAA Bylaws, Article VII, Sec. 1.
17. All tournament directors have the authority to disqualify a coach or a player for conduct unbecoming a student-athlete/coach, but not limited to, the use of profanity, disorderly conduct, and/or flagrant physical or verbal misconduct. The disqualified player will not be replaced during that game. The normal NJSIAA rules will apply to the disqualification. Schools are responsible for the conduct of their student-athletes and their spectators. Schools are subject to disqualification by the tournament directors and/or NJSIAA officials in attendance for displays of unsportsmanlike conduct.

### **Team Championship Format**

1. All teams that qualify for the tournament will compete in head-to-head matches where the first team to win 2 points advances.
2. The top twelve (12) boys teams and the top 16 girls teams in each Section & Group will be seeded and participate in a twelve (12) or sixteen (16) team bracketed tournament.
3. Matches in Rounds 1, 2, and 3 will take place at the home lanes of the higher seed.
4. All state matches are scored using 5 bowlers and all 5 scores will count.
  - a. For rounds 1, 2, 3, the host school will decide if the match will be competed on two (2) lanes or four (4).
  - b. Starting with the sectional finals, all matches will be competed on two (2) lanes. All 5 bowlers from one team will bowl on the same lane and all 5 from the other team will bowl on the same lane. Teams will stay on the same lane until the match is complete. NO ROTATION.
5. Matches will be scored where each game equals one (1) point. Tied games count as half a point (.5) for both teams.
  - a. The first team with 2 points wins the match – if a team wins the first two games, the match is over.
  - b. Final scores shall be reported as: 2-0, 2-1, 2-0.5, 2.5-0.5 – and a match tied after 3 games will score as: 2-1.5
  - c. If a match is tied at 1.5-1.5 after three games, teams will bowl full baker games until the tie is broken.
  - d. The winner of the baker game earns 0.5 points – and the final score shall be entered as 2-1.5.
  - e. If a team shows up with only 4 bowlers, the teams will still compete, but the 5<sup>th</sup> score will be recorded as a 0 for the team with only 4 bowlers. It is not an automatic win for the team with 5 bowlers.
6. Substitution of players may occur at any time, however once a player is removed from a game, the player cannot return until the next game.
7. The sectional championships will take place at four neutral sites assigned by NJSIAA.
8. The sectional champions from each group and section will compete at the State Team semifinals and finals at Bowlero in North Brunswick. The teams will be seeded based on their original PowerPoint number at the cutoff date. Seed 1 vs 4 and seed 2 vs 3.
9. The winners of the semifinal round will play each other for the state championship on a different pair of lanes.

### **Individual Championship Format**

#### **Round 1**

1. All bowlers who qualify for the Individual state championships will bowl 3 games.
2. All bowlers will move to the next assigned pair after each game in this round.
3. At the conclusion of the third game, the top 18 bowlers will advance to round 2.
4. Ties for the 18th position will be broken by a two-frame roll-off (9th and 10th frame). If a tie still exists after the two-frame roll-off, a one-ball roll-off will be conducted until the tie is broken.

## **Round 2**

1. The 18 bowlers who advanced to round 2 will bowl 3 games.
2. All bowlers will move to the next assigned pair after each game in this round.
3. At the conclusion of the third game, the top 5 bowlers will advance to round 3 (Stepladder Round) based on the six-game total from rounds 1 and 2.
5. Ties for any of the top 5 seeds will be broken by a two-frame roll-off (9th and 10th frame). If a tie still exists after the two-frame roll-off, a one-ball roll-off will be conducted until the tie is broken.
4. Ties for the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> seeds shall instead be broken using the 3-game total from round one (1), If a tie still exists, a coin flip will break the tie.

## **Round 3 (Stepladder Round)**

1. The top 5 bowlers from round 2 will compete in the stepladder round for the Individual state championship.
2. Ties will be broken by a two-frame roll-off (9th and 10th frame). If a tie still exists after the two-frame roll-off, a one-ball roll-off will be conducted until the tie is broken.

## **State Championship Oil Patterns**

Boys Team State Championships – USBC White # 2

Girls Team State Championships – USBC Red # 2

Boys & Girls Individual State Championships – USBC Blue # 2

## **Blind Scores**

The use of blind scores is not permitted in any high school bowling matches.

## **String Bowling**

1. USBC has done extensive research regarding string bowling, but more needs to be done. Based on this data, the USBC feels that there is no significant advantage or disadvantage to bowling on string pinsetter lanes.
2. The NJSIAA will permit string bowling averages during the regular season to count towards NJSIAA tournament qualification. The NJSIAA will continue to monitor the data from the USBC as this modification continues.
3. Once the tournament starts, string bowling lanes will not be permitted for tournament play. If you are a school that bowls at centers with string bowling, you will have to find a new center if you host any matches during rounds 1, 2, and 3.

## **Ball Specifications**

The USBC rule book (p.84-85) states that bowlers who knowingly use an illegal ball should have their scores voided. Therefore any bowler who delivers a shot without using all finger holes shall have that score voided since it is an illegal delivery. All coaches should check with their bowlers to ensure that their equipment is legal and that they are using it correctly.

Before each state tournament match, all coaches must confirm that the visiting teams' balls are approved for play before the match starts. If there are any concerns, the following procedure must take place:

1. For rounds 1, 2, 3, please contact the rules interpreter first. If that is not successful, please contact the NJSIAA Director in charge of bowling.
2. For all rounds starting at the sectional finals, please contact the sectional director who will be on site. They will contact the rules interpreter and or the NJSIAA director if needed.
3. If there is a concern, please do not start the match until it is rectified.

## **Facility Needs**

### **Boys Sectional Championships (4 Sites – need 10 lanes at each site)**

- Boys North I: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)
- Boys North II: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)
- Boys Central: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)
- Boys South: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)

### **Girls Sectional Championships (20 lanes total)**

- Girls North: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)
- Girls South: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)

### **Boys State Semifinals (need 20 lanes Total)**

- Boys Semis #1: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)
- Boys Semis #2: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)

### **Boys & Girls State Finals (need 20 lanes Total)**

- Boys Finals: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)
- Girls Finals: 10 lanes (8 competition lanes & 2 warmup lanes)

### **State individual Finals (need 70 lanes – 3 on a lane)**

- Boys Finals: 35 lanes (for round 1)
- Girls Semis: 35 lanes (for round 1)

## **Awards**

### **Sectional Champions:**

- Trophy and 15 certificates for the 1<sup>st</sup> place team in each group in each section.
- Trophy to the Individual with the highest series in each section only and medals to the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> place Individuals with highest series in each section only. We will use the average of the first two games to determine the high series.

### **State Team Championships:**

- Trophy and 15 certificates for the 1<sup>st</sup> place team in each group.

### **Individual Meet of Champions:**

- Trophy to the state champion and medals to the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> place Individuals.



## **Sectional tournament Directors**

<b>Boys Sectional Site Directors:</b>	
<b>North I: Aaron Goldstein</b>	
<a href="mailto:aarongoldstein@easternchristian.org">aarongoldstein@easternchristian.org</a>	
Bowler City - (201) 343-3545	
85 Midtown Bridge St., Hackensack, NJ 07601	
<b>North II: Greg Hatzisavvas</b>	
<a href="mailto:wpubowl@aol.com">wpubowl@aol.com</a>	
Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424	
1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	
<b>Central: Anthony Bilello</b>	
<a href="mailto:abilello@obps.org">abilello@obps.org</a>	
Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424	
1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	
<b>South: Bryan Vargas</b>	
<a href="mailto:HawksBowling@gmail.com">HawksBowling@gmail.com</a>	
30 Strikes - (856) 783-0558	
501 S White Horse Pike, Stratford, NJ 08084	

## **Team Semifinals & Finals Site Directors**

<b>Boys Team Site Director</b>	<b>Girls Team Site Director</b>
Mike Mitchell - <a href="mailto:michael_mitchell@nbpsnj.net">michael_mitchell@nbpsnj.net</a>	Anthony Bilello – <a href="mailto:abilello@obps.org">abilello@obps.org</a>
Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424	Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424
1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902

## **Individual State Finals**

<b>Boys Individual Site Director</b>	<b>Girls Individual Site Director</b>
Tracie Smith	John Canova
<a href="mailto:Tracie.smith@edison.k12.nj.us">Tracie.smith@edison.k12.nj.us</a>	<a href="mailto:John.canova@edison.k12.nj.us">John.canova@edison.k12.nj.us</a>
Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424	Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424
1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902