

Bowling Procedure 2025-26

To All bowling schools and coaches:

After a full review of the multiple point systems currently used in high school bowling in the state, the NJSIAA has made the following decision:

Starting this school year, we will not mandate a single scoring system statewide.

Because our state tournament selection process does not take team records into account, there is no need to standardize scoring across all schools.

However, the following stipulations must be met:

1. Match Format: Each match must consist of 5 bowlers, and all 5 scores must be counted.
2. Number of Games: No match may exceed 3 games, regardless of the scoring system being used.
3. State Tournament Matches:
 - The NJSIAA will use the three-point scoring system.
 - The first team to win two games will be declared the winner.
 - If a team wins the first two games, the third game may still be bowled if both schools agree.
4. Score Reporting: All scores must be recorded on NJ.com immediately following the match.
5. Blind Scores: The use of blind scores is not permitted in any high school bowling matches.
6. String Bowling: All facilities using string bowling are approved for both regular season and tournament play. If a facility has both string and traditional pinsetters, teams and genders must compete using the same pinsetter type.
7. Ball Specifications: The USBC rule book (p.84-85) states that bowlers who knowingly use an illegal ball should have their scores voided. Therefore All holes drilled must be used for gripping purposes on every delivery. Any bowler who delivers a shot without using all finger holes shall have that score voided since it is an illegal delivery.