



MSUSBC 2012 Open Rules



1) ELIGIBILITY: All entrants, in the Maine State USBC Open Tournament, must be members in good standing of their Local Maine USBC Association, Maine State USBC, and USBC.

Entrants must have either a valid average from a certified USBC league within the state of Maine from last year, or a current season average, based on a minimum of 21 games as of the closing date of the tournament.

Youth bowlers who meet the above criteria may enter the singles event only offering such prizes, provided that prior to bowling:

- The competition agrees to award the youth's prize in the form of a scholarship; or
- The youth signs a form waiving their rights to any prize in violation of this rule.

Any bowler under the age of 18 must furnish written authorization, signed by a parent or guardian, with their entry form.

Non-MSUSBC members may also qualify for entry and receive all USBC services by paying an associate membership fee of \$21 prior to closing date and they must bowl scratch unless they can provide a valid USBC average.

No one may bowl in this tournament except those originally entered or such replacements as may be authorized by the Tournament Manager.

2) EQUIPMENT: The Tournament Manager reserves the right to have bowlers' equipment inspected for compliance with USBC rules. If any bowling equipment is determined to be non-compliant, the bowler will be permitted to bring the equipment into compliance. Should a bowler refuse the equipment inspection, or fail to bring their equipment into compliance, they will automatically be disqualified and forfeit all entry and prize fees, as well as possible prizes won.

3) CHECK IN: One hour prior to squad time, all team captains must check in with their team members' USBC cards. Doubles and singles check in themselves.

4) DIVISIONS: The tournament will consist of scratch and handicap divisions, including All-Events, with equal prize distribution.

5) PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS: No exempt professional bowler may compete in the tournament.

6) HANDICAP: Will be 100% of 240 with no maximum and based upon a three-game series.

7) GAME PLAY: No more than four (4) bowlers will be scheduled on a lane for doubles and singles. All games of each event will be rolled on one pair of lanes.

8) PACERS: Are not allowed.

9) PARTICIPATION: Unlimited entry is allowed in team and doubles events subject to the following: (a) no more than three bowlers can compete on the same team more than once; and (b) doubles cannot be bowled more than once with the same partner. The first appearance, in any event, counts toward the bowler's All Events score. Team will consist of five bowlers. **There will be no re-entries.**

10) ENTRY FEES: Shall be paid by check or money order and made payable to: MSUSBC, postmarked no later than the first post office business day following the entry closing date. ***Total entry fee must accompany entry form. Cash will not be accepted.*** In the event of a returned check, all reasonable attempts will be made to notify the bowler by email or a phone call, prior to the start of the tournament. The bowler will not be scheduled to bowl, until a \$35.00 processing fee and the entry fee are paid with a money order or cashier's check. - - - Returned checks will not be redeposited.

Entry fees will **not** be refunded after entries have been received, except as noted in Rules 12 and 16.

11) PRIZES: All prize fees will be returned 100% in each event with 50% going to handicap and 50% to scratch. Prize ratio is at least 1:10 (or major portion thereof) for teams, doubles and singles; and 1:20 (or major portion thereof) for All Events.

When a Bowler Qualifies for Both Handicap and Scratch Awards – the bowler will be awarded the prize of greater value. If the prizes are of equal value, the bowler will be awarded the scratch prize. Prior to the issuance of any prize checks, all averages will be verified through the local association managers and USBC database.

State Champions in Handicap and Scratch – will be given USBC awards.

All Events Scratch Winner – will receive a bowling shirt, a paid entry into the next USBC Masters Tournament and \$100.00 toward expenses, with the provision that the bowler participates. The bowler who places first in All Events scratch is entitled to the award, excluding cash, whether or not the bowler paid the optional All Events fee. If the first place winner is unable to attend, the second place winner will be eligible to enter the Masters with the



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same entitled award. This award will be funded by the MSUSBC general fund.

12) AVERAGES: Entrants must use their highest MSUSBC average from the 2010-2011 season based on a minimum of 21 games, unless their current MSUSBC average as of January 1, 2012 (21-game minimum) is ten pins or more higher. USBC rule 319a applies.

Bowlers with no 2010 -11 average - will use their highest current MSUSBC season average of 21-games or more, as of January 1, 2012. Entrants who do not have a minimum 21 games must bowl scratch.

Bowlers without a current average or a 2011-12 average will enter at 240 scratch.

Bowler's Responsibility – It is the bowler's responsibility to verify their average, whether submitted by the bowler, team captain, or others. Failure to use the proper average or to correct the average prior to, or at the time of bowling, shall disqualify the scores only if the submitted average is lower than the actual MSUSBC average. Prize winnings will be based on the submitted average, if it is higher.

Reporting Prior Prize Winnings - All entrants who have qualified for a prize of \$600.00 or more in any event of any tournament within the previous 12-month period, must report their actual score, position, and amount won at the time of entry whether or not the prizes have been received; and they are subject to possible re-rating. USBC Rules 319c, 319d, 319e apply.

Corrections to Averages - May be made up to the completion of the first competition, or within 48 hours after completion of the first series if the Tournament Manager, prior to the completion of the first game of competition, has given the bowler written consent to correct their average.

Average Adjustment - The Tournament Manager reserves the right to adjust any bowler's average prior to bowling. If the bowler refuses the adjusted average, the entry fee will be refunded.

13) SCHEDULING: The bowlers traveling the greatest distance, State Board Members and Delegates to the Annual Meeting, who wish to bowl that weekend, will be given priority if entries are received by March 1, 2012. All other entries will be scheduled as received. Lane assignments will be sent to the Local Association Managers, the Bowling Centers and also posted on MSUSBC website: www.msusbc-maine.com.

14) DRESS CODE: Men and women participants must wear a shirt with a butterfly-type collar and casual slacks, trousers or jeans. (Women may wear Capri pants provided the length is below the knees). Mock collared or collarless dress shirts will be permitted provided they are worn with casual slacks or trousers. Bowlers may NOT wear jeans with either of these two shirt styles. Ordinary T-shirts will not be permitted. During participation in any event, bowlers are NOT permitted to wear: hats, sweats, shorts, skirts, skorts, culottes or zupas (pants with elastic cuffs).

All clothing must be neat, clean and in good condition. The dress code will be enforced by designated tournament staff members. They will make judgment calls relative to dress code questions or concerns, while any questionable items or special circumstances will be addressed by the Manager on Duty.

15) PERFUME, AFTERSHAVE AND SCENTED BODY CARE PRODUCTS: Please refrain from using these products. Due to the close confines when bowling, people with respiratory problems and allergies may be affected. Final determination will rest with Tournament Manager.

16) DISCLAIMER: The entrants whose names appear on the entry form, or their authorized replacements, hereby agree that the Maine State USBC Association, its' officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning entry fees if and when these entrants shall be prevented from bowling an event in the tournament through premature termination of the tournament or cancelation of squads, which may be brought about by weather conditions, war, national emergency or emergencies or causes relating thereto or resulting there from; fires, strikes, lockouts, labor difficulties or other causes beyond the control of the Maine State USBC Association.

17) RULES: This tournament shall be governed by the above rules and USBC Rules.

18) CLOSING DATE: Midnight - March 19, 2012

19) TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT:

Tournament Manager: (207) 232-8491

Mark Fortier mark@mpf65.com

Association Manager: (207) 942-5838

Joseph Mizda jcm_mstpba@msn.com