



Bowling
Sport Manual
2026-27 Edition

4.3 Bowling

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4.3.1 Regular Season Procedures

4.3.1.1 Rules of Competition

4.3.1.1.1 Competition Rules. USBC High School General Playing Rules, as modified by the FHSAA, are the official rules for all regular season competition involving teams participating in the Florida High School State Championship Series as well as FHSAA State Bowling Series tournaments. These general playing rules are available online without charge at “bowl.com”. Schools may use traditional tenpin or Baker formats or combinations of both during regular season competitions. The following exceptions to those rules have been adopted by the FHSAA.

- Rule 3, Article 8, Bowling Ball – Altering Surface: The provisions of Policy 30 are in effect.
- Rule 5, Article 3, Appeals: No protests will be allowed.

4.3.1.1.2 Dress Code.

- (a) **Competitors.** All bowlers must wear a matching collared shirt with khakis, dress pants, skirts or skorts. All team members must be similarly dressed. A commercially lettered school name and/or logo is acceptable on team apparel. No denim of any color will be allowed. The khakis or dress pants must be worn up around the bowler’s waist and this applies to both boys and girls. Individual names may appear on either the front or back of the shirt. No hats, caps, visors, headbands, etc., shall be worn.

Bowlers may NOT wear tank tops, spaghetti straps, halter tops, bare midriffs, shorts, leggings (as the uniform bottom), culottes, capris, baggy jeans, pajama pants, yoga pants, sweatpants, any pants with holes in them or anything that may be considered offensive. All skirts or skorts must be no shorter than one-half the distance from the inseam to the top of the knee in length and/or no shorter than the fingertips when the arms are at their sides while standing. All bowlers MUST be in their bowling attire before check-in. If the bowler is not dressed appropriately, he/she will not be allowed to check-in or bowl.

During Baker Games, the bowler order identifier must be worn on the back of the shirt in a location visible to the opposing team.

- (b) **Coaches.** Coaches shall be attired in slacks of school colors or khaki, white, black, or gray. A coaching shirt with a collar may be worn in lieu of the bowling team shirt.

4.3.1.1.2.1 Penalties.

- First Offense - 50-pin deduction every game bowler is entered in American tenpin. For Baker games, 10-pin deduction per game;
- Second Offense - Financial penalty to school;
- Third Offense - Removal from competition.

All violations must be addressed before the following round to avoid subsequent penalties.

4.3.1.1.2.2 Minimum Point Requirement. Seven (7) points worth of competitions are required during the regular season in order to be eligible for State Series competition.

4.3.1.1.3 Season Limitations. 18 points using the following criteria:

- Dual-Match - 1 point
- Tri-Match - 1 point
- Any competition with four (4) or more schools - 2 points

4.3.2 Florida High School State Championship Series Procedures

4.3.2.1 District Meeting.

4.3.2.1.1 Meeting Agenda. In addition to section 3.4.2, the following items of business must be addressed at the district meeting:

- Select coaches in addition to the tournament manager and proprietor of the host bowling center who will comprise the tournament committee.

4.3.2.2 Tournament Structure and Time Schedules

4.3.2.2.1 District Tournaments.

- (a) **Site.** Each district will determine a site (bowling center) for its tournament at the district meeting. The date and site of each district tournament will be posted on FHSAA.com. The FHSAA representative of the host school and the proprietor of the host bowling center will be co-tournament managers.



- (b) **Format.** District tournaments shall consist of two rounds of competition bowled in a single day. Round one shall include three games of American tenpin scoring. The teams with the four (4) highest total pin counts shall advance to the second round. Round two shall consist of a four-line double elimination bracket with each team bowling a best 3 of 5 Baker series.
- Match No. 1 shall be comprised of the team with the highest score from round one vs. the team with the fourth highest score from round one.
 - Match No. 2 shall be comprised of the team with the second highest score vs. the team with the third highest score from round one.
- (Match No. 1 and Match No. 2 shall be bowled simultaneously)
- Match No. 3 shall be comprised of the losers from Match No. 1 and Match No. 2. (Loser eliminated)
 - Match No. 4 shall be comprised of the winners from Match No. 1 and Match No. 2.
- (Match No. 3 and Match No. 4 shall be bowled simultaneously)
- Match No. 5 shall be comprised of the winner from Match No. 3 and the loser from Match No. 4. (Loser eliminated)
 - Match No. 6 shall be comprised of the winner from Match No. 5 and the winner from Match No. 4. (NOTE: Both teams advance to the FHSAA Bowling Finals)
 - Match No. 7 (necessary only if the winner from Match No. 5 defeated the winner from Match No. 4) shall be comprised of the same two teams from Match No. 6.

The winner of Match No. 6 (or Match No. 7 if bowled) shall be the district team champion. The individual bowler with the highest total pin count in round one shall be the individual champion.

- (c) **Time Schedule.** Each district will determine the time schedule for its tournament at the district meeting. The following time schedule is recommended:
- 8:00 a.m. – Pass gate opens.
 - 8:20 a.m. – Coaches meeting to draw lane assignments; Doors open to general public.
 - 8:45 a.m. – First-round warm-up begins.
 - 9:00 a.m. – First-round competition begins (block of 3 games American tenpin scoring).
 - Approx. noon – Lunch.
 - 12:45 p.m. – Second coaches meeting (top four teams) to review Baker format rules/ procedures, etc. A total of 3 games will be used to seed a 4-line bracket. (Note: top two individual scorers advance to state tournament if their teams do not qualify later in afternoon.)
 - 1:10 p.m. – Afternoon warm-up period begins.
 - 1:30 p.m. – First round of championship bracket begins (see FHSAA.com); best 3-of-5 Baker games for the remainder of the team tournament.
 - 2:20 p.m. – Second round of championship bracket and first round of consolation bracket begin (2 teams eliminated).
 - 3:10 p.m. – Consolation bracket finals begin.
 - 4:00 p.m. – Consolation bracket winner vs. championship bracket winner competition begins (NOTE: Both teams advance to the FHSAA Bowling Finals).
 - Immediately following—IF NECESSARY game (if consolation bracket winner defeats championship bracket winner).
 - Awards presentation follows last team match.

4.3.2.2.2 Florida High School State Championship Finals.

- (a) **Format.** The FHSAA Bowling Finals shall consist of three rounds of competition held over a two-day period. Round one shall include four games of American tenpin scoring. The teams with the sixteen (16) highest total pin counts shall advance to the second round. The individual bowlers (including individual district tournament qualifiers, members of teams that have been eliminated and members of teams that have advanced to round two) with the 16 highest total pin counts shall advance to the third round. Round two shall consist of a sixteen-line double elimination bracket with each team bowling a best 3 of 5 Baker series. Teams will be seeded in the order of finish in round one. The Nos. 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 seeds shall be placed in the upper half of the bracket and the Nos. 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 seeds shall be placed in the lower half of the bracket. Round three shall consist of a 16-line double elimination bracket for the individual qualifiers. Each individual bowler shall compete in a best 2 of 3 American tenpin games versus an individual opponent. Individuals will be seeded in the order of finish in round one. The Nos. 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 seeds shall be placed in the upper half of the bracket and the Nos. 2, 3, 6, 7, 10,



11, 14 and 15 seeds shall be placed in the lower half of the bracket. Rounds two and three shall be bowled according to the time schedule.

- (b) **Time Schedule.** The Florida High School State Championship Series time schedule is available on the FHSA Website:
- (c) **Coaches Meeting.** A pre-tournament coaches meeting will be held prior to the beginning of the tournament. The head coach of each school entering a team or individual in the Florida High School State Championship Series must attend the meeting. A school whose coach fails to attend the meeting shall be assessed a monetary penalty.

4.3.2.2.3 Advancement of Teams and Individuals.

- (a) **District Tournament to Florida High School State Championship Series.** The top two (2) placing teams and the top two (2) placing individuals who are not members of those two teams in each district tournament shall advance to the Florida High School State Championship Series.
- (b) **Florida High School State Championship Series.**
 - (1) **Team.** The top 16 boys teams and top 16 girls teams shall advance to a 16-line double-elimination bracket. Competition shall be best 3-of-5 Baker format.
 - (2) **Individual.** The top 16 boys and 16 girls shall advance to a 16-line double elimination bracket. Competition shall be head-to-head in a best 2-of-3 game block.
- (c) **Tiebreaker.** In the event of a tie for the final individual qualifying spot from a district tournament to the Florida High School State Championship Series, or from the first round to the second round of the Florida High School State Championship Series: A two frame roll-off will take place beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame. The best score shall advance. If the score remains tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker using the same format will be conducted. Teams and individuals will bowl their two frame roll-off on a pair of lanes not used in that round. Teams or individuals will be allowed one practice ball per lane with no re-racks in the first tiebreaker only. The open substitution rule shall apply to all tiebreakers. Roll offs for any ties will commence immediately upon completion of the first round.

4.3.2.3 Tournament Regulations

4.3.2.3.1 Teams. A team shall consist of five (5) bowlers. A school may have up to eight (8) eligible student-athletes on its roster. This provides for five (5) starting bowlers and up to three (3) substitutes. The head coach shall designate his/her starting bowlers at the tournament site not later than 15 minutes prior to the start of the first-round competition. If a school enters fewer than five bowlers, the school shall not be eligible for team honors. All bowlers, however, shall be eligible for individual honors. Pacers or pacer teams shall not be allowed.

4.3.2.3.2 Substitutions. Substitutions may be made at any time during American Tenpin and Baker Games. Substitutions must be communicated to the opposing team's head coach or team scorekeeper before the resumption of competition. The substitute bowler shall assume the score of the bowler replaced. In the event a bowler is replaced during a game, he/she shall not be eligible to return to competition until the start of the next game. In the event of a mid-game substitution, neither bowler shall be eligible to qualify for individual competition.

4.3.2.3.3 Participant Passes. A maximum of eight (8) passes will be allotted to each team listed on the district tournament results report for competitors in the Florida High School State Championship Series. One (1) additional pass will be issued to the coach of a qualifying team. Each team's coach should be listed on the district tournament results report. One pass per individual qualifier will be issued. In addition, one coach's pass will be provided to schools with an individual qualifier(s). Packets containing competitor and coach passes will be distributed at the pre-tournament coaches meeting.

4.3.2.3.4 Scoring. The game of American tenpins shall be used in district tournaments and the Florida High School State Championship Series. Each game shall consist of 10 frames. The total pin count of five bowlers in a game shall be used to determine a team's score for that game. Similarly, the pin count of an individual bowler in a game shall be the individual bowler's score for that game. Pin counts for both teams and individual bowlers shall be cumulative from one game to the next. Coaches shall sign the score sheet game by game to accept the score of teams and individuals as official. The head coach is responsible for the accuracy of the score recorded for each bowler for each game. If the head coach returns a score for any game higher than actually rolled, the individual bowler shall be disqualified. If the head coach returns a score for any game lower than actually rolled, the returned score shall stand. Mathematical errors may be corrected without penalty.

4.3.2.3.5 Bowling Balls. All bowling balls used in the Florida High School State Championship Series must adhere to USBC rules for weight and hardness and be in compliance with these terms and conditions. Balls must



be certified for Florida High School State Championship Series prior to the first round of competition. Coaches shall submit the completed “FHSAA Bowling Finals Ball Certification Form” to the Florida High School State Championship Series director prior to the start of competition. Additional balls may be added to the certification list during the Florida High School State Championship Series provided they go through the certification process. Bowling balls once checked in for competition shall be impounded and must not be removed from the host bowling center between sessions on any day of competition. Bowling balls with visible profanity will not be allowed.

4.3.2.3.6 Practice at Tournament Site. Practice at the district and Florida High School State Championship Series tournament site shall be permitted prior to the first day of competition at the school’s or individual bowler’s expense for lane fees and shoe rentals. Practice at the Florida High School State Championship Series site shall not be permitted after 5 p.m., the day before competition begins. On the days of competition, however, practice shall be limited to the 15-minute warm-up period prior to selected rounds of competition. The penalty for violating this provision is disqualification of the offending team or individual bowler from the tournament.

4.3.2.3.7 Warm-ups. A 15-minute warm-up period will be allowed for practice balls prior to selected rounds of team competition – 7 1/2 minutes on one lane and 7 1/2 minutes on the other lane beginning with the non-starting lane. All team members are eligible to participate in warm-ups. Individual Round Matches will have 5 minutes of practice. The penalty for violating this provision is disqualification of the offending bowler from the tournament.

4.3.2.3.8 Conduct, Settee Area and Approach. The team captain and the coach shall be the official representatives of their team in all communications with the scorers and tournament officials. One coach and the eight team members or individual(s) bowling in a round are the only persons authorized to be in the settee area. One pit pass will be issued to each school that has a team or individual bowler(s) competing for use by the coach. Coaches shall remain in or behind the settee area during the competition. No person except the bowlers who are bowling shall be permitted on the approach. Penalties for violations of this rule are cumulative and are as follows:

- First offense – 10-pin deduction;
- Second offense – 50-pin deduction;
- Third offense – 100-pin deduction; and
- Fourth offense – disqualification.

Policy 30, “Sportsmanship and Unsporting Conduct,” shall apply to all acts of unsporting conduct.

Members of participating teams and individual participants must be in the settee area at all times during warm-up periods and rounds of competition. Participants shall be mindful of spectators trying to view the competition. Depending on conditions, it may be necessary to require all participants except the current bowler and the on deck bowler to remain seated. Participants shall not use cell phones, walkie-talkies, etc., while in the settee area.

4.3.2.3.9 Technology. The use of tablets is allowed for a coach or scorekeeper to track statistics only.

4.3.2.3.10 Courtesy and Pace of Play. To maintain the pace of bowling it is proper etiquette to observe one-lane courtesy and deliver the bowling ball within a reasonable amount of time. Additional courtesy or delivery time is inappropriate, delays the pace and hinders the completion of competition in a reasonable time. If a bowler/team does not adhere to this rule, that bowler will receive a warning. There will be a maximum of three warnings given. Thereafter, that bowler/team will receive zero for that frame and any additional frames that a bowler violates this rule.

4.3.2.3.11 Lane Assignments. Each team shall be assigned to lanes for each round of competition as follows:

(a) District Tournament.

(1) First-Round Lane Assignments. First Round lane assignments may be scheduled by regular season record or bye draw. This will be determined at the August coach’s district meeting. Teams must change lanes each game. Competition lanes for the day of the district tournament will be determined by the host center based on availability.

(b) Florida High School State Championship Series.

(1) First-Round Lane Assignments. First-round lane assignments for qualifying teams and individuals shall be conducted by the FHSAA Office and provided to coaches of participating teams and individuals at the pre-tournament coaches meeting. Each team will be assigned to and share with one other team a pair of lanes.

4.3.2.3.12 Lane Fees. Schools participating in district tournaments will be responsible to pay any lane fees or fees for rental of shoes that might be assessed by the host bowling center. These fees must be paid on the day of the tournament unless other arrangements with the host center have been made. Schools participating in the Florida



High School State Championship Series will not be responsible for lane fees, but will be responsible for any fees for rental of shoes. Lane fees and/or shoe rental for practice on Monday will be the responsibility of the participating school.

4.3.2.3.13 Cameras and Video Equipment. No cameras with flashes can be used during competition in a district tournament or the Florida High School State Championship Series. Only hand-held video cameras with their own power source will be permitted.

4.3.2.4 Officials

4.3.2.4.1 Official Scorekeeper. Each participating school team, as well as each school entering an individual bowler(s), shall furnish its own scorekeeper at the district tournament if the host bowling center does not have automatic scoring. The official scorekeeper must be the head coach, an assistant coach, a bowling team member or a designated faculty representative.

4.3.2.4.2 Tournament Committee. A tournament committee shall be appointed for each district tournament and may be appointed for the Florida High School State Championship Series to hear appeals and address matters not covered in these terms and conditions. The tournament committee for each district tournament shall be comprised of seven individuals – five coaches from participating schools selected by the representatives present at the district planning meeting, the district tournament manager and the proprietor of the host bowling center or his/her designee. The tournament committee for the Florida High School State Championship Series when utilized shall be comprised of seven individuals – four coaches from participating schools, the Florida High School State Championship Series director (FHSAA administrator for bowling), the Florida High School State Championship Series manager, and the proprietor of the host bowling center or his/her designee. The decisions of the tournament committee shall be final. The tournament committee cannot set aside any rule.

4.3.3 Baker Rules. ABC Secretary Emeritus Frank Baker developed the Baker Format. In this format the lead-off bowler rolls the first and sixth frames, the second player rolls the second and seventh frames, the third player rolls the third and eighth frames, the fourth player rolls the fourth and ninth frames, and the fifth player rolls the fifth and tenth frames including any extra deliveries in the tenth frame.

4.3.3.1 FHSAA District Team Championships.

- (a) To be eligible to participate in the FHSAA Team Championship, teams must have a five-player roster with an optional sixth through eighth players for substitution.
- (b) Each team will begin competition bowling one block of three games American tenpin scoring. The total pin fall will determine the 1 – 4 seeds going into the double elimination competition.
Ties: If there is a tie for any seeds 1 through 3, the team captains will be summoned for a coin flip. If there is a tie for 4th seed, then the tied teams will bowl a two frame roll-off, beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame.
The best score shall advance. If the score remains tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker using the same format will be conducted. Teams will bowl their two-frame roll-off on a pair of lanes not used in that round. Teams will be allowed one practice ball per lane in the first tiebreaker only with no re-racks. The substitution rule shall apply to all team tiebreakers.
All 4 teams in each division (boys, girls) will participate in the true double elimination competition. Competition shall consist of a best three out of five Baker system match. There will be no byes. Qualifying scores from round one will determine bracket assignments. No. 1 will bowl No. 4 and No. 2 will bowl No. 3 in the opening round of match play. From the second round on, the winning teams of each match will remain in the winner bracket and the losing teams will move into the consolation bracket. In order for a team in the consolation bracket to advance in the tournament, they must keep winning. Once a team in the consolation bracket incurs a second loss, that team is eliminated from the tournament.
- (c) There will be a 15-minute practice session prior to the beginning of the first round of Baker competition. Bowlers not present for any scheduled practice forfeit their time. Substitutes will receive no additional practice throws before entering competition. Violators will be disqualified from tournament play.
- (d) Lane assignments will be determined in advance by the Tournament Manager.
- (e) Teams must submit a team lineup in order to the opposing coach prior to each Baker game. The team on the top line of the bracket will bowl on the odd numbered lane for Game 1 and the team on the bottom line of the bracket will bowl on the even numbered lane for game 1. The teams will then switch lanes for each game in the match. If a fifth game is necessary, then the higher seeded team will have its choice of lanes



for game No. 5. There shall be 45 seconds between games. The lower seeded team will submit the team line-up in order to the scorekeeper/monitor first.

In the event of a tie during the double-elimination match play at the completion of regulation, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will determine the winner with each team bowling on the same lane as they used during the match. The players who roll the 9th and 10th frames may be selected from the entire team. If a tie still exists, the same players will continue rolling 9th and 10th frames alternating lanes until the tie is resolved.

- (f) Each team may be granted not more than two time outs during a match to permit the coach or assistant coach to confer with a player or players in the **settee area**.
Time outs may be called at any time until a bowler is on the approach with their bowling ball and may be used consecutively. Time outs shall be timed by the opposing coach and shall be limited to 45 seconds each. If a team exceeds 45 seconds, a warning shall be issued. If the team is not ready to bowl within 15 seconds after the warning, that team will receive zero for the next frame. The number of time outs is not cumulative.
- (g) When a substitution is made during a game, that substitute must complete the remainder of the game. A maximum of three substitutions are permitted in each Baker game. Any player once removed cannot return to bowl for the remainder of that game.
- (h) Each team is allowed a total of one re-rack per Baker game. Violations will result in a forfeit of all pin fall for that frame. The Tournament Manager may grant additional re-racks.
- (i) Coaches are responsible for verification of their team's score. Any scoring corrections must be made prior to signing the recap forms.
- (j) Any player arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. A bowler who misses one frame or more by not being present and ready to bowl when it is his/her turn shall be credited with a zero for all frame(s) missed.
- (k) All equipment must meet USBC specifications. Student-athletes are limited to use of a maximum of six (6) bowling balls, including practice and competition.
- (l) The District Tournament Committee shall determine all matters not covered by these rules and regulations.
- (m) To maintain the pace of bowling it is proper etiquette in this event to observe one-lane courtesy and deliver the bowling ball within a reasonable amount of time. Additional courtesy or delivery time is inappropriate, delays the pace and hinders the completion of competition on time. If a bowler/team does not adhere to the rule, that bowler will receive a warning. There will be a maximum of three warnings given. After the third warning, that bowler/team will receive zero for that frame and any additional frames that a bowler violates this rule.

4.3.3.2 FHSAA Bowling Finals Team Championship.

- (a) To be eligible to participate in the FHSAA Team Championship, teams must have a five-player roster with an optional sixth through eighth players for substitution.
- (b) Each team will begin competition bowling one block of four games American tenpin scoring. The total pin fall will determine the 1 – 16 seeds going into the double elimination competition.
Ties: If there is a tie for any seeds 1 through 15, the team captains will be summoned for a coin flip. If there is a tie for 16th seed, then the tied teams will bowl a two-frame roll-off, beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame. The best score shall advance. If the score remains tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker using the same format will be conducted. Teams will bowl their two-frame roll-off on a pair of lanes not used in that round. Teams will be allowed one practice ball per lane in the first tiebreaker only with no re-racks.
The substitution rule shall apply to all team tiebreakers.
All 16 teams in each division (boys, girls) will participate in the true double elimination competition. Competition shall consist of a best three out of five Baker system match. There will be no byes. Qualifying scores from round one will determine bracket assignments. No. 1 will bowl No. 16, No. 2 will bowl No. 15, No. 3 will bowl No. 14, No. 4 will bowl No. 13, No. 5 will bowl No. 12, No. 6 will bowl No. 11, No. 7 will bowl No. 10 and No. 8 will bowl No. 9 in the opening round of match play. From the second round on, the winning teams of each match will remain in the winner bracket and the losing teams will move into the consolation bracket. In order for a team in the consolation bracket to advance in the tournament, they must keep winning. Once a team in the consolation bracket incurs a second loss, that team is eliminated from the tournament.
- (c) There will be a 15-minute practice session prior to certain rounds of competition. Bowlers not present for any scheduled practice forfeit their time. Substitutes will receive no additional practice throws before



entering competition. Tournament participants are not permitted to practice at the state tournament site after 5 p.m. on Tuesday of Week 19, except during designated practice sessions. Violators will be disqualified from tournament play.

- (d) Lane assignments will be determined in advance by the FHSA.
- (e) Teams must submit a team lineup in order to the opposing coach prior to each Baker game. The team on the top line of the bracket will bowl on the odd numbered lane for Game 1 and the team on the bottom line of the bracket will bowl on the even numbered lane for game 1. The teams will then switch lanes for each game in the match. If a fifth game is necessary, then the higher seeded team will have its choice of lanes for game No. 5. There shall be 45 seconds between games. The lower seeded team will submit the team line-up in order to the scorekeeper/monitor first.

In the event of a tie during the double-elimination match play at the completion of regulation, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will determine the winner. The higher seeded team will have its choice of lanes from the pair being used for the first tie-breaker. The players who roll the 9th and 10th frames may be selected from the entire team. If a tie still exists, the head coach will again select two players to bowl the 9th and 10th frames, with the teams alternating choice of lanes until the tie is resolved.

- (f) Each team may be granted not more than two time outs during a match to permit the coach or assistant coach to confer with a player or players in the settee area.

Time outs may be called at any time until a bowler is on the approach with their bowling ball and may be used consecutively. Time outs shall be timed by the opposing coach and shall be limited to 45 seconds each. If a team exceeds 45 seconds, a warning shall be issued. If the team is not ready to bowl within 15 seconds after the warning, that team will receive zero for the next frame. The number of time outs is not cumulative.

- (g) When a substitution is made during a game or tie-breaker, that substitute must complete the remainder of the game. A maximum of three substitutions are permitted in each Baker game. Any player once removed cannot return to bowl for the remainder of that game.
- (h) Each team is allowed a total of one re-rack per Baker game. Violations will result in a forfeit of all pin fall for that frame. The Tournament Manager may grant additional re-racks.
- (i) Coaches are responsible for verification of their team's score. Any scoring corrections must be made prior to signing the recap forms.
- (j) Any player arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. A bowler who misses one frame or more by not being present and ready to bowl when it is his/her turn shall be credited with a zero for all frame(s) missed.
- (k) All equipment must meet USBC specifications. Student-athletes are limited to use of a maximum of six (6) bowling balls, including practice and competition. All teams participating in the FHSA Bowling Finals must submit a ball registration form prior to the start of competition.

Penalty for first offense: Individual and team are warned and the ball is removed from the competition. The game(s) in which the violation occurred are forfeited and the bowler will receive a score of zero. Penalty for second offense: Bowler is disqualified from the event and all game(s) in which the violation occurred are forfeited and the bowler will receive a score of zero. Each bowling ball to be used must be registered with the event. All bowling balls must be listed on the player's ball registration form and are subject to spot checks.

In the event a ball is found in violation of specifications, it must be modified to meet USBC specifications prior to being used in competition. Each bowling ball registered must contain official manufacturer identifying mark, logo, trademark or product name imprinted over the heaviest portion of the ball prior to being drilled.

If the equipment does not have any of these identifying markings, the bowling ball's official paperwork must accompany the ball. The paperwork must say the manufacturer, name of bowling ball, verification that it meets USBC specifications and signed by the manufacturer with their title and telephone number. If the bowling ball does not meet these requirements, it cannot be used in the tournament. An undrilled bowling ball cannot be registered with the tournament.

Once the equipment registration is completed, no additional equipment can be added and no alterations can occur to any bowling ball without permission from the Tournament Manager. After the approved alteration has occurred, the bowling ball must be re-checked to meet USBC specifications before it is used in competition.



A bowling ball may only be replaced if the Tournament Manager declares that the bowling ball is damaged beyond repair. A replacement bowling ball can be submitted to the Tournament Manager who will have that ball checked, approved and listed on the Equipment Registration form before it is used in competition.

- (l) The FHSAA Tournament Committee when utilized shall determine all matters not covered by these rules and regulations.
- (m) To maintain the pace of bowling it is proper etiquette in this event to observe one-lane courtesy and deliver the bowling ball within a reasonable amount of time. Additional courtesy or delivery time is inappropriate, delays the pace and hinders the completion of competition on time. If a bowler/team does not adhere to the rule, that bowler will receive a warning. There will be a maximum of three warnings given. After the third warning, that bowler/team will receive zero for that frame and any additional frames that a bowler violates this rule.

4.3.3.3 FHSAA Bowling Finals Individual Championship.

- (a) Each individual bowler will begin competition bowling one block of four games American tenpin scoring. The total pin fall will determine the 1 – 16 seeds going into the single elimination competition.
Ties: If there is a tie for any seeds 1 through 15, the individual bowler will be summoned for a coin flip. If there is a tie for the 16th seed, then the tied individuals will bowl a two-frame roll-off, beginning with the 9th frame and concluding with the 10th frame. The best score shall advance. If the score remains tied after the first tiebreaker, a second tiebreaker using the same format will be conducted.
Bowlers will bowl their two-frame roll-off on a pair of lanes not used in that round.
Individuals will be allowed one practice ball per lane in the first tiebreaker only with no re-racks.
- (b) All 16 individual bowlers in each division (boys, girls) will participate in the double elimination competition. Competition shall consist of a best two out of three American tenpin games. There will be no byes. Qualifying scores from round one will determine bracket assignments. No. 1 will bowl No. 16, No. 2 will bowl No. 15, No. 3 will bowl No. 14, No. 4 will bowl No. 13, No. 5 will bowl No. 12, No. 6 will bowl No. 11, No. 7 will bowl No. 10 and No. 8 will bowl No. 9 in the opening round of match play. From the second round on, the winning bowler of each match will remain in the winner bracket and the losing bowler will move into the consolation bracket. In order for a bowler in the consolation bracket to advance in the tournament, they must keep winning. Once a bowler in the consolation bracket incurs a second loss, that bowler is eliminated from the tournament.
- (c) There will be a 5-minute practice session prior to certain rounds of competition. Bowlers not present for any scheduled practice forfeit their time. Tournament participants are not permitted to practice after 5 p.m. on Tuesday of the state tournament week, except during designated practice sessions. Violators will be disqualified from tournament play.
- (d) Lane assignments will be determined in advance by the FHSAA.
- (e) The individual bowler on the top line of the bracket will bowl on the odd numbered lane for Game 1 and the individual bowler on the bottom line of the bracket will bowl on the even numbered lane for game 1. The bowlers will then switch lanes for each game in the match. If a fifth game is necessary, then the higher seeded bowler will have his/her choice of lanes for game No. 5. There shall be two minutes between games. In the event of a tie during the single-elimination match play at the completion of regulation, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will determine the winner. The higher-seeded bowler will have his/her choice of lanes from the pair being used for the first tie-breaker. If a tie still exists, the bowlers will alternate choice of lanes until the tie is resolved, with the individual bowler continuing to roll the 9th and 10th frames.
- (f) Coaches are responsible for verification of their bowler's score. Any scoring corrections must be made prior to signing the recap forms.
- (g) Any player arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. A bowler who misses one frame or more by not being present and ready to bowl when it is his/her turn shall be credited with a zero for all frame(s) missed.
- (h) All equipment must meet USBC specifications. Student-athletes are limited to use of a maximum of six (6) bowling balls, including practice and competition. All teams participating in the FHSAA Bowling Finals must submit a ball registration form prior to the start of competition.
Penalty for first offense: Individual and team are warned and the ball is removed from the competition. The game(s) in which the violation occurred are forfeited and the bowler will receive a score of zero.
Penalty for second offense: Bowler is disqualified from the event and all game(s) in which the violation occurred are forfeited and the bowler will receive a score of zero.



Each bowling ball to be used must be registered with the event. All bowling balls must be listed on the player's ball registration form and are subject to spot checks.

In the event a ball is found in violation of specifications, it must be modified to meet USBC specifications prior to being used in competition. Each bowling ball registered must contain official manufacturer identifying mark, logo, trademark or product name imprinted over the heaviest portion of the ball prior to being drilled.

If the equipment does not have any of these identifying markings, the bowling ball's official paperwork must accompany the ball. The paperwork must say the manufacturer, name of bowling ball, verification that it meets USBC specifications and signed by the manufacturer with their title and telephone number. If the bowling ball does not meet these requirements, it cannot be used in the tournament.

An undrilled bowling ball cannot be registered with the tournament.

- (i) Once the equipment registration is completed, no additional equipment can be added and no alterations can occur to any bowling ball without permission from the Tournament Manager. After the approved alteration has occurred, the bowling ball must be re-checked to meet USBC specifications before it is used in competition.

A bowling ball may only be replaced if the Tournament Manager declares that the bowling ball is damaged beyond repair. A replacement bowling ball can be submitted to the Tournament Manager who will have that ball checked, approved and listed on the Equipment Registration form before it is used in competition.

- (j) The FHSAA Tournament Committee when utilized shall determine all matters not covered by these rules and regulations.
- (k) To maintain the pace of bowling it is proper etiquette in this event to observe one lane courtesy and deliver the bowling ball within a reasonable amount of time.

Additional courtesy or delivery time is inappropriate, delays the pace and hinders the completion of competition on time. If a bowler does not adhere to the rule, that bowler will receive a warning. There will be a maximum of three warnings given. After the third warning, that bowler will receive zero for that frame and any additional frames that a bowler violates this rule.

