

Tournament Format

We will use the same format all the way through our tournament: Sectional, Regional, Semi-State and State Finals. The boys and girls will have separate events. The team event will be separate from the singles event. Boys and coed teams will bowl in the boys' team division. Singles will bowl in their gender division. Participants must have a coach present at every level. The commissioner will consider and deal with reported violations on an individual basis.

Each conference will hold their own sectional. The conference may schedule sectional events as necessary.

At the tournament sites for Regional, Semi-State and State Finals: The singles competition will be in the morning and team in the afternoon. There will be an hour scheduled between events.

The commissioner will seek tournament help from the participating conferences. Each conference should send at least one volunteer to help run the regional event. The host conference should provide at least 3 helpers.

We will work with an outside source (H2M or Kegel) to help set up the 'controlled shot' for regional, semi-state and finals. We will make an effort to keep all sites similar but more competitive than normal house shots. The specific shot won't be announced until the day of the event. The lane/oil chart will be available that day. The intent is to offer a fair condition for all participants. Conferences are encouraged to use a controlled shot for their sectionals and conference play, but it is not required.

Any and every center can set up a 'controlled shot' for bowlers to practice. If the host center provides locations, dates and times; we'll post the info on our website (www.indianagobowl.com).

We will continue our site selection process as we have the last few years. We want to try to keep the finals in the center (or easily accessible location) of the state. The other events will be scheduled as close to the participating schools as possible to reduce travel. Bid forms for tournament sites will be issued. The IHSB Rules Committee will make site selections. The committee may seek additional sites if there are no suitable bids from an area. It is recommended that centers host a regional prior to being awarded a semi-state or finals.

The boys' and girls' singles stepladder matches will bowl immediately after qualifications. They will bowl at the same time. The team stepladder matches will bowl immediately following qualifications.

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TOURNAMENT RULES:

Coaches it's your job to make sure your bowlers are USBC certified and are eligible academically. If a bowler is found to be ineligible by non-certification or grades, he/she will be disqualified from the competition. In the team event, that bowler would receive a zero score. There will be no time limit to find and address disqualification issues. If/When a team (or individual) was ineligible while competing and is disqualified, the next team (or individual) in line will advance without further bowling. If a bowler was eligible while competing and then disqualified for a rules violation, additional teams or individuals will not be advanced.

The coaches need to step up and police bad behavior in their bowling area. They need to police their team and their opponents. Taunting, yelling and/or unsportsmanlike actions will not be tolerated. Suspected issues need to be reported to the tournament director. The tournament director will issue a verbal warning for a first offense. If problems continue, he may disqualify the individual or team. Excessive noise, as determined by the tournament director, will be addressed.

All tournament bowlers must be USBC certified, have bowled at least one varsity game during conference play and be on the tournament roster. Each team is allowed just 10 active players on the tournament roster. All 10 will be eligible for singles, but only 7 per team event (5 regulars and 2 subs). No one can be added once the tournament starts. A coed team may bowl just 10 in singles, regardless of gender.

All conference conduct and uniform/jewelry rules apply in ALL tournament play. Inspections will be run prior to tournament play. Bowlers not conforming to uniform/jewelry rules, will need to correct the problem or they will not be allowed to participate. Any violation found after during or after competition, **will be given a written warning and will need to be corrected prior to the next competition**; no further penalty will be enforced. **The written warning will be forwarded to the commissioner. Mechanical or artificial noisemakers are not allowed.**

Coaches must sign the team recap and each bowler must sign their singles recap before they are turned in. All obvious errors will still be corrected. When there is a question, the score on the host center computer will be final.

The boys' and girls' events will be held on separate blocks of lanes in the center. They will bowl the entire tournament in their block. (Sectional events may vary slightly.)

Lanes will be oiled fresh for each event. (If possible there will be fresh lanes for the finals. This will depend on center size, etc.)

The Tournament Director may make any call necessary pertaining to the running of the tournament. We will give the Tournament Director more authority in enforcing rules, written and unwritten. We will support his/her decisions. All issues must be addressed before the coach leaves the center. The Tournament Director has final say on any issue and his/her decisions are final.

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We cannot control the Indiana weather in February and we may have some bad weather. It will ultimately be the center/school/coach/parent/bowler decision to bowl or not. Bowlers who advance need to check the weather forecast in and to the area they are traveling to and plan accordingly. We will hold our tournament event (regional, semi-state and finals) at the scheduled time, unless the tournament committee/staff determine the conditions warrant a postponement. The committee will work with the host city or county to determine conditions. If the host city or county is under the level 3 'state of emergency warning' (This is the level that says no one is to be on the roads.), the event may be postponed. If this level of warning is issued, IHSB will work with area authorities to make some common-sense decisions. If the meet is delayed, postponed or cancelled, the host bowling center will have the most accurate information. We will try to contact the coaches. The Commissioner will work with the center to reschedule a cancelled event. He also has the authority to move the location to get necessary lanes. Although we would want everyone to compete, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to reschedule to accommodate everyone. If additional events are required, the advancement ratio will be used at each event, not actual posted numbers.

SINGLES:

Each team can put 10 players into the sectional tournament. Coed teams can only enter 10 players regardless of gender. Bowlers will bowl with their gender.

Bowlers must be checked in 15 minutes prior to start time. There will be no alternates. Late bowlers may start in the frame where they arrive; no practice, make-up or pins will be given. The singles will get 10 minutes of practice prior to the start of competition on their starting set.

The individuals competing in the singles event will draw for (or be assigned) lane assignments. They will bowl 3 games and move to a different set each game. After the 3 games, the top individuals will be seeded and will compete in a stepladder competition to determine the champion. *(The stepladder will consist of 4 or fewer individuals. If your event advances less than 4, the stepladder competition will consist of only those advancing. If only one advances, there is no stepladder.)*

These stepladder matches will be 1 game. The first 2 bowlers will get 4 practice balls per lane. The higher seed will get the choice of lanes. The bowler who is on the left lane will start the match and bowl one frame. The other bowler will start on the right lane and now they will bowl 2 frames at a time till the 10th frame when the starting bowler will also finish last.

For the remaining games, the incoming bowler will get 2 practice balls per lane. The winner will either sit and wait or roll on the practice set. There will be a practice set for the incoming bowlers. Practice may start when the stepladder match starts.

The advancing individuals from each competition will advance to the next designated location. *(Number of individuals advancing from each level will be determined prior to*

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*tournament competition. Singles will advance from the sectional based on the number of bowlers on the tournament rosters. **The same ratio will be used to advance boys and girls.***) Check advancement numbers for your tournament site as the Indiana High School Bowling Rules Committee posts them.

Each bowler is allowed 1 coach in the bowlers' area (2 for stepladder finals). Any violation of this rule needs to be reported to the Tournament Director and he/she will issue a verbal warning to the offending coaches. All future violations will result in 10 pin penalties.

If there is a tie during any event of the tournament play that affects advancing, it will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame roll off on lanes not used by either bowler. The bowlers will get 4 practice balls per lane.

TEAM EVENT:

Teams must be checked in 30 minutes prior to the start of competition. Coaches will draw for lane assignments.

The teams will get 10 minutes of practice (5 minutes on their starting lane and then 5 minutes on the other lane of the set) prior to the start of competition. All teams will bowl 12 Baker games. The first game will be on the drawn lanes. Teams will move after each game. Moves will be determined by the size of center and field before the event.

Only 7 players can participate in each event. Only 5 bowlers and 2 coaches, per team, are allowed in the immediate bowlers' area (except for substitutions). Any violation of this rule needs to be reported to the Tournament Director and he/she will issue a verbal warning to the offending coaches. All future violations will result in 10 pin penalties.

There will be practice lanes for subs.

Coaches may substitute during the regular team games. Lineups may be changed at the start of any new game. A bowler may be used just once during any game.

If there is a tie during any event of the tournament play that affects advancing, it will be broken by 1 Baker Game on lanes not used by either team. The teams will get 5 minutes practice.

After the Baker games, the top teams will be seeded and will compete in a stepladder competition to determine the champion. *(The stepladder will consist of 4 or fewer teams. If your event advances less than 4, the stepladder competition will consist of only those advancing. If only one advances, there is no stepladder.)* These matches will be 2 Baker games with total pins determining the winner. (An example of a stepladder is when the 4th seeded team plays the 3rd seeded team. The winner from that match plays the 2nd seeded team and that winner will play the 1st seeded team for the championship.)

The advancing teams from each competition will advance to the next designated location. *(Teams will advance from the sectional based on the number of teams in their conference.)*

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*Number of teams advancing from each level will be determined prior to tournament competition. **The same ratio will be used to advance boys and girls.***) Check advancement numbers for your tournament site as the Indiana High School Bowling Rules Committee posts them.

We will have an even number of teams at the regional, semi-state and state finals. If the advancing ratio is an odd number of teams, the team closest to advancing will advance. If there's a tie, the season record will break it: 1) Standing - % of wins, 2) Average points and 3) Average pins.)

For the stepladder match play, the first 2 teams will get 5 minutes practice on each lane. The higher seeded team will get their choice of lanes.

For the remaining games, the incoming team will get 5 minutes practice on the finals set. The winning team will either sit and wait or roll on the practice set.

There will be a practice set for the incoming team. Practice may start when the stepladder match starts.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Sectional –Each conference will hold their sectional. [**Finished by January 14, 2018**]

Regional– There will be at least 6 Regional sites. [**January 20, 2018**]

The Bowling Center, Bluffton; Plaza Lanes II, Crawfordsville; Signature Lanes, Elkhart; Franklin Lanes, Evansville; Strike Force Lanes, Greenfield; Heritage Lanes, Kokomo.

Semi-State – There will be 2 Semi-State sites. [**January 27, 2018**]

Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl, Lafayette; Richmond 40 Bowl, Richmond.

State Finals – There will be 1 State Finals site. [**February 3, 2018**]

Championship Lanes, Anderson.

Each tournament site/event will charge the fee set by the IBCA Board.

2018 Tournament Admission Fees:

Sectional – Under 6 free; Students \$5; Adults \$7

Regional – Under 6 free; Students \$6; Adults \$8

Semi-State – Under 6 free; Students \$8; Adults \$10

Finals - Under 6 free; Students \$10; Adults \$12

All funds collected need to be sent to the IBCA office within 14 days. Any 50/50, silent auction, or money fundraised during the sectional event will remain within the conference. The conference will pay for any sectional lineage. The IBCA will provide awards.

Regional, Semi State and State door monies and all 50/50 and/or money fundraised during the event are to be forwarded to the IBCA office within 14 days. The IBCA will pay for lineage and will provide awards.