

**Indiana Middle School Bowling**  
**GUIDELINES & RULES FOR GRADES 5, 6, 7 & 8 – IMSB 2020**  
**(www.indianagobowl.com)**

1. The purpose of the Indiana Middle School Bowling Program will be to provide all school students, grades 5, 6, 7 & 8, the opportunity to experience the spirit of school competition and community pride. The program, available to both boys and girls, will provide opportunity to compete with other grade 5-8 bowlers from across the state. The program can also prepare the athletes for the local high school team. Students may compete individually and there is no limit on the number of participants from their school. Home school students may participate, but cannot field a tournament team.
2. We are going to provide a program with basic guidelines for centers (schools) to use and implement a feeder program for the IHSB program. We will spell out basics, but allow each center to determine particulars as to how it will best work for them at the local level. The local competition may be singles or teams (any number) and they may bowl any number of games. It is suggested to not allow pre or post bowling. All bowling should be done in competition. Competition may be scratch or handicap. Local competition may take place from **February 17 – April 24, 2020**. We will spell out the rules for the 3-week (Saturday) tournament series. The tournament will run **the three weeks** prior to the Memorial Day weekend (**May 2, 9 & 16, 2020**).
3. Center information forms are due **February 10, 2020**. There is no charge for Indiana Bowling Center Association (IBCA) members to participate. Non-members need to pay a \$100 deposit to participate in the program. Participating centers may request as many IMSB posters as they need. 'How To' manuals are available upon request. The local center will set a player's fee (\$100? – only suggested) that may provide the following: Bowling Lineage (Practices & Meets), Coaching, Banners, Awards and Secretarial Services for the 11-week program (**February 17 – April 24, 2020**). The center will forward **\$50 per student** to the IBCA (THIS IS THE EARLY BIRD PRICE IF PAID BY **MARCH 9, 2020**). This will cover the cost of an official IMSB Shirt, participation ribbon and singles entry into a regional tournament. **Coaches' shirts are \$20**. The shirts will be provided by Classic Products and will sport our official Middle School Logo. This year **EVERYONE** will get the same 'Dri-Fit' Shirt. Shirts will be ordered and sent to centers as soon as monies and numbers are received. **There will be a late after March 9 of \$25 per center. Additional shirts after the original order will be \$60 for students and \$30 for coaches**. Bowlers may be added, but THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONS AFTER **APRIL 3**. Local fundraisers may supplement program needs.
4. Centers may schedule no more than 1 school practice per week. Centers may schedule up to 10 meets (May have more than 1 per week to accommodate spring break, etc.). Competition will typically be scheduled after school. Some weekend competition might be necessary, based on

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lane availability and weather conditions (Competition will be allowed on Sunday after 1pm.). We will allow centers to determine practice time and meet schedule within the allotted calendar time. (One option would be to schedule the practice prior to the meet so transportation is needed just once per week.) Competition may start **February 17, 2020**.

5. To be eligible to compete, students must meet the following requirements:
  - A. They must be in grades 5, 6, 7 or 8.
  - B. They must be a certified USBC Youth. The program will abide by USBC rules as well as those set forth here. Bowlers must have a \$4 Youth membership.
  - C. They must meet the minimum academic guidelines to participate in athletic activities for their particular school.
  - D. They must sign & follow the IMSB “Rules of Conduct & Uniform”, and “Transportation Waiver of Liability”,
6. Each participant and coach must arrange for his/her own transportation to and from practices, matches and tournaments. In some cases, school policy may dictate the transportation policy. In which case, the head coach would have the responsibility to conform to the school policy. **A ‘Transportation Waiver’ MUST be on file before the student may participate (this includes practice).**
7. IMSB events are Smoke-Free events. There will be no smoking allowed in the area designated for competition. Participants are subject to their school’s policy on tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Anyone caught with any of the substances will be immediately suspended from the day’s activities and become subject to school discipline.
8. Coaches must also sign and follow the IMSB “Coaches’ Responsibilities” form. They are not permitted to use tobacco or alcohol in the competition area. All coaches are required to enroll in the USBC RVP and wear their lanyards and badges at all competitions and practices. They must wear slacks (No cargo pants, blue jeans, shorts or Capri’s) and the IMSB T-shirt to be in bowling area.
9. Un-sportsmanlike conduct, including but not restricted to deliberate foot fouls, vulgar language, or abuse of equipment or facilities, is not permitted.
10. Bowlers should wear the official ‘IMSB T Shirt’ and slacks (No cargo pants, blue jeans, shorts or Capri’s) to participate in local competition. Center official has final say on any inappropriate dress or jewelry. The dress code will be strictly enforced at all tournament sites (Regionals and Finals).
11. CONTINGENCIES: IHSB Rules Committee will rule on any situation arising, which is not covered specifically by the IMSB Guidelines or the USBC Rule Book. This program is organized and operated by the Indiana Bowling Centers Association.

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