

Friday Nite *Odd Couples*

A USBC Sanctioned Mixed Handicap Bowling League
George Pappas' Victory Lanes • Mooresville, North Carolina

2017-2018 League Rules

These league rules are prepared and distributed to each league bowler/couple at the beginning of the season, or when they join the league. It is the responsibility of each bowler to review and be familiar with these rules. The rules are reviewed and approved/changed by majority vote of ALL league members at the league formation meeting at the beginning of each season. After the league season begins, it requires unanimous written consent from each Team Captain, or designated representative, to change or add any rules. Keep your copy of the league rules for future reference. League Rules that changed from the 2016-2017 Season are indicated by a revision bar in the left column.

- Board of Directors:** The management of this league is under the direction of the Board of Directors, which shall consist of the Officers and Team Captains. The Officers, as elected by the general membership prior to the close of the last league season, shall stand as follows: President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer (combined). Each team is required to elect a Team Captain on the first night of bowling. The Team Captain, or a designated representative, will represent the team at all league meetings during the season. League rules are adopted by the general league membership at the organizational meeting prior to the beginning of the new season. (See USBC Rule 103)
- Teams/Games:** The Friday Nite *Odd Couples* Bowling League is a mixed handicap league. The team playing strength is four, with at least one of each gender represented. The team roster can have up to six bowlers. The two additional team members on the roster can be of any gender. The league bowls a three game series.
- Schedule:** The league will bowl on Friday nights for 32 weeks beginning on 09/08/17. Practice bowling begins at 6:50 p.m. League bowling begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. The League will observe one bowling holiday this season, on 11/24/17, the Friday after Thanksgiving. Victory Lanes is requiring us to take off 12/01/2017 to accommodate a company party. The regular season will end on 04/27/18 (Week #32). The League Champion Playoff will be held one week after the last week of bowling, 05/04/18. The League Awards Night will be held the following week, on 05/11/18, or an alternate date decided by majority vote of the League Board of Directors. All dates are dependent on not missing any days due to bad weather, etc.
- Sanction Fees:** The league and its bowlers will be sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) through the Rowan-Mooresville USBC Association (RMUSBC). Bowlers who are sanctioned through this league are required to pay their sanction fee the first night of bowling. The sanction fee is **\$20.00** per bowler (USBC \$13.00, Association \$6.00, State \$1.00). Men's and women's sanction fees are the same. Bowlers that are sanctioned through another league in the same Association are not required to pay any fees through this league. Bowlers that are sanctioned through another league in a different Association are required to pay the local Association fee, and state fee if the Association is not in North Carolina. ALL bowlers and subs must fill out a sanction card for this league on their first night of bowling. (See USBC Rule 101)
- League Fees:** The league fee to be paid by each bowler is \$18.00 per week. This weekly league fee is broken down as follows; bowling lineage (House) \$12.95, prize fund \$2.85, Secretary/Treasurer \$1.00, and the last two weeks \$1.20. The last two weeks of bowling are NOT required to be paid in advance on this league. Instead, a component of the weekly bowling fee pays for your last two weeks by the end of the season. If a season-end awards banquet is decided, the banquet fee IS NOT included in the league fee.
- League Fee Arrearages:** Bowlers are required to keep all league fee payments current. A bowler will not be allowed to be behind more than two weeks in league fees. The league may declare a team's games forfeited if a bowler is more than two weeks behind. (See USBC Rule 110a)
- League Bank Account:** All league funds are deposited into a checking account in the name of the league at Aquesta Bank. The account is designated as a non-profit organization under the IRS tax ID 90-1016100. All checks and withdrawals on the account can only be made by dual signature from any two of the following; Secretary/Treasurer, President, or Vice-President.

8. **Distribution of League Money:** The league is a money league, meaning that league awards distributed at the end of the season are in the form of prize money. Prize fees are retained in the league account until the end of the season when they are withdrawn and divided up for team and individual awards based on the approved prize pay-off list. It is the responsibility of the Secretary/Treasurer to divide up prize money on an individual bowler basis and distribute by cash or check. The Secretary/Treasurer fees are retained in the league account until requested by the Secretary/Treasurer to the League President or Vice President.
9. **Quitting the League:** Bowlers are required to give a two week notice directly to the Secretary, or their Team Captain, (not Victory Lanes) prior to quitting the league. The bowler is responsible for paying league fees during the two week notice unless an immediate replacement is made. (See USBC Rule 114a)
10. **New Teams:** New teams will be allowed to join the league up to the 2nd week of bowling. Teams starting on the 2nd week of bowling will be required to make up the games missed prior to the 3rd week of bowling, unless a postponement is granted. New teams will be accepted after the 2nd week only by majority approval of the league Board of Directors.
11. **Average/Handicap:** The individual method of handicapping will be used. The handicap allowance will be 90% of the difference between the individual's average and the scratch figure of 220 (90% of 220). Men's and women's handicaps are figured the same. There are no average/handicap limits. The team handicap will be the total of the individual handicaps in the line-up. Individual entering averages will be used for the first 9 games. The entering average will be determined as follows (minimum 21 games); 1) Average from this league last season, if none then 2) highest USBC sanctioned league average from last season, if none then 3) establish average on the first night of bowling. A right-handed bowler must always bowl right-handed. Similarly, a left-handed bowler must always bowl left-handed. No combination of scores bowled both right- and left-handed can be used to compute an average. The penalty is forfeiture of the game. If the delivery hand is changed during the season, for medical or any reason, the bowler must establish a new average. (See USBC Rule 118)
12. **Tardy Bowlers:** Tardy bowlers must be in by the end of the team's third frame of any game to be able to make up frames missed in that game. If not, the bowler **MUST** wait until the next game to start. Partial games do not count toward averages or any awards. (See USBC Rule 109c)
13. **Legal Line-Up:** A legal line-up consists of two or more regular team members. Substitutes are not considered eligible bowlers in a legal line-up. Teams have until the end of their third frame to field a legal line-up. (See USBC Rule 109a)
14. **Absentee/Vacancy Scores:** An absentee score (blind score) is the absent bowlers average minus 10 pins, with handicap added. A vacancy score is to be used when a team has an incomplete roster, or before a roster bowler bowls their first game on the league. The vacancy score is 120 with 90 pins handicap. If a team has a full roster (4 bowlers), they are not allowed to use a vacancy score during a Position Round. Absentee and vacancy scores may be used only when a legal line-up is present. When there are additional bowlers on the roster, the absentee score of the bowler with the most games is used. (See USBC Rule 105)
15. **Substitutes:** Roving substitutes will be allowed. A sub can be of any gender, as long as the requirement is met that the team playing strength has at least one of either gender. Same average/handicap rules apply to subs. Bowlers are responsible for getting their own substitutes. The regular bowler is also responsible for the weekly bowling fees when they are absent, not the substitute. Substitutes must be sanctioned through this league. If they have already paid sanction fees through another league, they still must fill out a sanction card for this league prior to bowling. A list of substitutes names and phone numbers will be available. No substitute bowlers are allowed during the Position Rounds (last week of bowling in each quarter), or during Roll-off or Playoff games. (See USBC Rule 107c)
16. **Team Points:** The league will use the Team Match Point System to determine wins/losses for team scores. Team points are based on team handicap scores. Two points will be awarded for each team game won (6 points) and two points for team total pins won. A total of 8 possible points per team series.

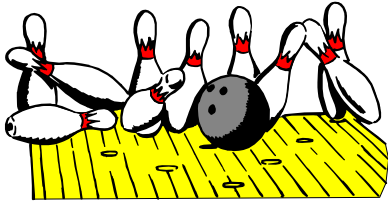
17. **Pre/Post Bowl Games:** Individuals ARE allowed to PRE bowl games separate from their team. Individuals ARE NOT allowed to POST bowl games separate from their team. ALL POST bowls must be teams ONLY. Teams are allowed to PRE or POST bowl ONLY when a legal line-up (any 2 bowlers on the roster) for the team cannot be present for the regularly scheduled games. Individual pre bowls DO count towards the legal line-up requirement. When a team pre/post bowls, they must have at least 2 regular bowlers for a legal line-up, plus any subs, absentees or vacancies. A request by an individual or a team to pre/post bowl must be made to the league Secretary (not to Victory Lanes) prior to the next scheduled bowling match, unless an emergency arises. The league is required to reserve lanes with the VL Front Desk for all pre/post-bowl games. Games pre/post bowled without advance permission will be forfeited. The league Board of Directors will make all final decisions for disputes in allowing a team to pre/post bowl games. (See USBC Rule 111)

If a team pre/post bowl match is granted, the Secretary will notify their scheduled opposing team's Team Captain as soon as possible. The two teams can arrange to pre/post bowl the games together, however that is not a requirement. The match must be bowled prior to the next scheduled bowling match, unless another postponement is granted. A league Officer is not required to be present during pre/post bowl games. Pre/post bowl games will be verified by the House electronic score-keeping system. If a pre/post bowl match is not granted, and a team fails to show up for a scheduled match, the opposing team must bowl the match and the other team forfeits all games.

18. **Unopposed Bowling:** Individuals and teams are allowed to bowl unopposed when granted a pre/post bowl date for their games, or if the league has an uneven number of teams. There are no restrictions on the opposing team seeing the individual/team pre bowl scores. Unopposed pre/post bowled scores, bowled on a night other than the regularly scheduled league match, are NOT eligible for USBC High Score Awards. High Score Awards are 300, 800 Series, 900 Series, Merit Awards, National Team High Game/Series and National Individual High Series. These games are eligible for all other USBC, State, Assoc. and League awards. (See USBC Rule 111)
19. **Team Forfeit/Uneven Number of Teams:** When a team forfeit is declared, the team forfeiting receives no points. The opposing team must bowl the scheduled match at or above a minimum team game score to receive team points. The minimum team game score is calculated by adding the averages of each bowler or absentee and subtracting 40 pins (10 pins per bowler). Individual bowlers present on a forfeiting team may bowl to have their scores counted toward averages and to qualify for awards, but the scores shall not be included in the team's total pins. This same rule applies if the league has an uneven number of teams, or a bye team. (See USBC Rule 110c)
20. **Position Rounds:** The league will bowl a split season divided into 4 quarters (8 weeks/qtr.). The last week of each quarter will be a Position Round. Position Rounds are part of the regular league schedule. Bowlers on the team's roster must have the following minimum number of games in order to be eligible to bowl in a Position Round or Roll-Off (tie breaker): 1st & 2nd Quarter – 6 games, 3rd & 4th Quarter – 12 games. If a team has a roster less than the playing strength of four bowlers, then they must be allowed to add a new bowler, and that bowler is eligible to bowl in a Position Round or Roll-Off, even if they have less than the minimum number of games. Teams will be paired according to their position standings and games bowled count as won and lost. First place team bowls the second place team, third bowls fourth, etc. Ties for determining the line-up for the Position Round will be broken by handicap total pins for the quarter. Total match point wins for the quarter will be used to determine the position standings at the end of the Position Round for that quarter. The top two teams from each quarter will qualify for the League Champion Playoff at the end of the season. A team may qualify only one time for the Playoff. If a team wins more than one quarter, the next team in the position standings that has not won a quarter will qualify for the Playoff. The team wins/losses will start over for each quarter, but the averages of all bowlers will be continued. Each quarter will end and the Positions Rounds held as follows: 1st Qtr, Wk #8 (10/27/17); 2nd Qtr, Wk #16 (01/05/18); 3rd Qtr, Wk #24 (03/02/18); 4th Qtr, Wk #32 (04/27/18).

If a tie exists for a qualifying position at the end of a Position Round for the quarter, then a Roll-off will be necessary to determine the winner. Total pins cannot be used to break a tie after a Position Round. The teams will bowl a complete 9th & 10th frame. They will receive 1/10th of their team handicap for each frame. The combined handicap total pins for the two frames will determine the qualifying winner. Roll-off frames do not count toward individual averages or team total pins. (See USBC Rule 113)

21. **League Champion Playoff:** At the end of each Quarter, after the Position Round, the top two teams qualify for the League Champion Playoff. If a team has already qualified, the next ranked team that has not qualified will be selected for the Playoff from that Quarter. At the end of the season, the eight qualifying teams from each of the four quarters will bowl in the League Champion Playoff. The Playoff will consist of three rounds, one game each round, with handicap total pins determining the winners of each round. In the first round, teams will be ranked 1st through 8th according to their total wins for the season; 1st bowls 8th, 2nd bowls 7th, etc. The four winning teams from the first round advance to the second round. In the second round, teams will again be ranked according to their total wins for the season; 1st bowls 4th, and 2nd bowls 3rd. The two winning teams advance to the third and final round. In the final round, the two teams will again bowl one game, handicap total pins determining the League Champion. Playoff games do count toward individual averages, USBC & Association awards, but not for league awards, or team total pins. Bowlers on the team's roster must have at least 18 games in order to be eligible to bowl in the League Champion Playoff. If a team has a roster less than the playing strength of four bowlers, then they must be allowed to add a new bowler, and that bowler is eligible to bowl in the Playoff, even if they have less than the minimum number of games.
22. **League Awards Qualification:** All league bowlers and subs are eligible for USBC, State and Local Association awards and recognition. League bowlers must bowl 2/3 of all games during the season (64 games) to qualify for individual league awards. Bowlers that have left the league in good standing (not owing money) are entitled to a percentage of their team's prize pay-off at the end of the year. (See USBC Rule 117b)
23. **Individual League Awards:** Individual league awards will be given to men and women for 1st and 2nd Place in the following categories; High Scratch Series, High Scratch Game, High Handicap Series, and High Handicap Game. A bowler may qualify for only one award across these four categories. They are listed in order of priority, from highest to lowest. If a bowler qualifies for more than one award, they will be awarded the one with the highest priority. Other awards will go to the next highest score. Individual awards will also be given for High Average and Most Improved Average. A bowler may qualify for either/both of these awards in addition to awards in the four high categories. In the case of a tie for any individual awards, duplicate awards will be given. Tie awards will not be split.
24. **Prize List:** Under the direction of the Awards Committee, a league prize money pay-off list will be developed and brought before the Board of Directors for approval. This pay-off list will determine the prize money allocated for the League Champion Roll-Off, team awards and for individual league awards. This should be done by the 5th week of bowling (10/06/17). If the league has a sponsor, sponsor money will be added to the league prize fund and distributed in the league prize money pay-off list. (See USBC Rule 117a)
25. **Bad Weather:** In case of bad weather, the league President and Secretary will consult with Victory Lanes and decide on the cancellation of league bowling. Victory Lanes will be notified of the decision to cancel by 5:00 p.m. It is the responsibility of each individual bowler to contact Victory Lanes at 704-664-BOWL (2695) to determine if league bowling has been canceled due to bad weather. A decision on making up canceled nights, or extending the league schedule, will be made by the Board of Directors.
26. **Committees:** The league President shall establish an Awards Committee at the beginning of the season. The President will serve as the Audit Committee. The Secretary will serve as the Postponement Committee. (See USBC Rule 102c)
27. **USBC & House Rules:** Bowlers are required to follow all House Rules. All bowlers should be on deck and ready to bowl whenever their turn comes. Bowling etiquette guidelines should be followed. League members must follow all rules set by this league. Any rules not covered herein are covered by the USBC league rules. The Board of Directors (League Officers and Team Captains) will make all final decisions on any rules, questions, disputes, or other problems of the league. An appeal may be made to the local Association and to USBC for further consideration. (See USBC Rule 103b & 119)
28. **Bowler's Settee Area:** Non-league bowlers, adults & children, are allowed in the bowler's settee area as long as they are not disrupting league bowlers. If a league bowler complains to the Secretary about non-league members, those individuals or their parents, will be asked to stay out, or keep children out, of the settee area.



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Bowler's Etiquette Guidelines

Many bowlers are new to league bowling, or are not familiar with “bowling etiquette.” Here are a few simple guidelines to help make your bowling experience more pleasurable. These guidelines are provided by USBC.

- Be ready to bowl when the pins are set, but wait until the pinsetter has completed its cycle and the sweep bar is raised to make your delivery. Throwing a ball before the machine is ready may damage the ball or equipment.
- Observe one lane courtesy. The bowler on the right should bowl if both reach the approach at the same time. Stay off the approach while you wait.
- Taking too long to aim or get set up when you are on the approach delays the game.
- Try to remain in your approach area while delivering the ball.
- Step off the approach once you have delivered the ball.
- Good bowling requires concentration. Have fun, but keep in mind excessive movement or noise could be distracting when others are up to bowl.
- Excessive “lofting” hurts your game and damages the lane.
- Get permission to use another player's ball.
- Refrain from using abusive language or obscene gestures.
- Play the game to win, but be a gracious loser. Good sportsmanship is always the key to a successful game.
- Wet shoes are a safety hazard, watch where you are walking.
- **Limit the number of bowling balls on the ball return to one per bowler. Keep spare and back-up balls on the lower ball rack.**



Handicap Chart

Handicap: 90% of Scratch Average: 220

Series	Avg.	Hdcp.	Series	Avg.	Hdcp.	Series	Avg.	Hdcp.	Series	Avg.	Hdcp.
660	220	0	513	171	44	366	122	88	219	73	132
657	219	0	510	170	45	363	121	89	216	72	133
654	218	1	507	169	45	360	120	90	213	71	134
651	217	2	504	168	46	357	119	90	210	70	135
648	216	3	501	167	47	354	118	91	207	69	135
645	215	4	498	166	48	351	117	92	204	68	136
642	214	5	495	165	49	348	116	93	201	67	137
639	213	6	492	164	50	345	115	94	198	66	138
636	212	7	489	163	51	342	114	95	195	65	139
633	211	8	486	162	52	339	113	96	192	64	140
630	210	9	483	161	53	336	112	97	189	63	141
627	209	9	480	160	54	333	111	98	186	62	142
624	208	10	477	159	54	330	110	99	183	61	143
621	207	11	474	158	55	327	109	99	180	60	144
618	206	12	471	157	56	324	108	100	177	59	144
615	205	13	468	156	57	321	107	101	174	58	145
612	204	14	465	155	58	318	106	102	171	57	146
609	203	15	462	154	59	315	105	103	168	56	147
606	202	16	459	153	60	312	104	104	165	55	148
603	201	17	456	152	61	309	103	105	162	54	149
600	200	18	453	151	62	306	102	106	159	53	150
597	199	18	450	150	63	303	101	107	156	52	151
594	198	19	447	149	63	300	100	108	153	51	152
591	197	20	444	148	64	297	99	108	150	50	153
588	196	21	441	147	65	294	98	109	147	49	153
585	195	22	438	146	66	291	97	110	144	48	154
582	194	23	435	145	67	288	96	111	141	47	155
579	193	24	432	144	68	285	95	112	138	46	156
576	192	25	429	143	69	282	94	113	135	45	157
573	191	26	426	142	70	279	93	114	132	44	158
570	190	27	423	141	71	276	92	115	129	43	159
567	189	27	420	140	72	273	91	116	126	42	160
564	188	28	417	139	72	270	90	117	123	41	161
561	187	29	414	138	73	267	89	117	120	40	162
558	186	30	411	137	74	264	88	118	117	39	162
555	185	31	408	136	75	261	87	119	114	38	163
552	184	32	405	135	76	258	86	120	111	37	164
549	183	33	402	134	77	255	85	121	108	36	165
546	182	34	399	133	78	252	84	122	105	35	166
543	181	35	396	132	79	249	83	123	102	34	167
540	180	36	393	131	80	246	82	124	99	33	168
537	179	36	390	130	81	243	81	125	96	32	169
534	178	37	387	129	81	240	80	126	93	31	170
531	177	38	384	128	82	237	79	126	90	30	171
528	176	39	381	127	83	234	78	127	87	29	171
525	175	40	378	126	84	231	77	128			
522	174	41	375	125	85	228	76	129			
519	173	42	372	124	86	225	75	130			
516	172	43	369	123	87	222	74	131			

Created by:
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*NOTE: If series is between two listed sets, use the next lowest series.