

Friday Express Bowling League 2025-2026 Bylaws

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1. **LEAGUE DETAILS:** The name of the league shall be Friday Express Bowling League, referred to as the “league” elsewhere throughout these bylaws. This league is a senior league; all members must be 50 years of age or older at the beginning of the league. The league will bowl on Friday afternoons at Arapahoe Bowling Center (ABC) with practice beginning at 12:15pm and scored bowling to start at 12:30pm. Competition will consist of 3 games of bowling each day.
2. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** The league board of directors, consisting of officers and all team captains, will manage the league for the season. Open communication between league members is expected.
3. **TEAM STRENGTH /SCHEDULE:** The league will consist of 26 teams of 4 players and be a mixed league with any combination of men and women. The league will begin on September 5, 2025 and bowl for 30 weeks ending on April 17, 2026, with the fun day and payout on April 24, 2026. The league will not be bowling on October 31, 2025 (corporate party), November 28, 2025 (the day after Thanksgiving) and December 26, 2025 (the day after Christmas). In exchange for taking off October 31, 2025 to accommodate a corporate Halloween party that

will use the high end numbered lanes, the party host will donate 500.00 to our prize fund for the inconvenience.

4. **SANCTION:** The league will be sanctioned with the United States Bowling Congress (USBC). All bowlers, including substitutes, must be sanctioned with USBC before they can bowl in the league. The sanction for 2025-2026 season is \$30.00 and must be paid separately from league fees.
5. **FEES:** The weekly fee to be paid by each member is \$16.00 per bowler with \$12.00 for lineage to ABC. \$.75 for secretary/treasurer fee and \$3.25 for prize fund. The last 2 weeks of bowling shall be paid by the 6th week of the league (October 10, 2025). Bowlers may not be more than 2 weeks in arrears. A bowler must give 2 weeks' notice if they must quit the league. This is a guaranteed league which means that the regular bowler must pay full bowling fees even if absent.
6. **AVERAGES:** Averages will be established on the 1st day of bowling regardless of the number of games bowled.
7. **HANDICAPS:** Handicaps shall be 90% of the difference between the individual's average and 220. Handicap will be computed after the first day of bowling and applied to the games bowled that day.
8. **LEGAL LINE-UP:** Legal line up shall consist of 1 regular bowler and must be present before the end of the 3rd frame of any game. Late bowlers may enter the game provided 3 frames have not been completed.
9. **SUBSTITUTES:** Substitutes will be allowed; however, no substitutes are allowed on position rounds. Substitutes do not have to pay to bowl; however, the regular bowler must ensure league fees are paid. It is up to the team using the substitute to decide who will pay the lineage fee. In this league the substitute must replace the missing individual with the most games bowled. If there is a tie in the number of games bowled between 2 missing regular bowlers, the substitute must replace

the bowler with the highest average. Position rounds will be October 10, 2025, December 5, 2025, January 23, 2026, March 6, 2026, and April 17, 2026, with the fun day and payout on April 24, 2026.

- 10. ABSENT BOWLERS:** In the event a bowler is absent, and the team has a legal line-up, the absent score will be the bowler's average with full handicap. An absentee score can be used for 3 consecutive weeks. Beginning the 4th consecutive week, the absent score will be the bowler's average minus 10 pins unless a league exception is made. ABC recommends all leagues allow a league exception for lengthy absences. It is the team captain's responsibility to request an exception from the President, Vice President or the Secretary/Treasurer before the need arises; a form must be completed for ABC's processing and records.
- 11. VACANCY:** The vacancy score shall be 120 per game, with 90 pins handicap. A vacancy is used when a team does not have a full line-up of 4 bowlers.
- 12. FORFEIT:** In the event of a forfeit, the team present must bowl within 40 points of the team average (or more) to receive the win for that game. Points not won for failing to bowl the minimum score will not be credited for the team that forfeited.
- 13. STANDING POINTS:** A total of 4 points will be awarded each week, 1 point for each game and 1 point for series.
- 14. PRE/POST BOWLING:** Pre-bowling and post-bowling are permitted and must be scheduled in advance with ABC. All pre-bowls and make-ups must be bowled as a team and completed within 2 weeks of the regularly scheduled date or prior to the next position round, whichever time is shorter. Only pre-bowls are permitted on position rounds.

- 15. AWARDS:** The President will solicit at least 3 members of the league for a prize committee to present at least 3 prize lists for the league to consider. All members of the league will have a vote on the prize lists presented. The Vice-President of the league will work with the prize committee to present the prize lists by the 6th week of the league. Separate awards for team, men and women will be included in each prize list presented. Bowlers must bowl at least 2/3 of the league's scheduled games, 60 games, to be eligible for individual awards and only 1 award may be earned per individual except for high average and most improved. As this is a handicap league, handicap awards shall take precedent over scratch awards and series will take precedent over game. Handicap awards will be earned after 12 games have been bowled. Most improved bowlers will be computed after 12 games and compared to final average at the end of the league.
- 16. BYE TEAM:** When bowling against a bye team (if the league has an uneven number of teams), the bowlers must bowl within 40 pins (or more) of their combined averages to win the points. In case of a tie, the team bowling wins the points (points are not split).
- 17. Any rule not covered herein shall be covered by the USBC rule book for the current season.**
- 18. These league rules were adopted by the league membership on September 5, 2025 during the initial meeting prior to bowling.**