



2023-24 NJSIAA BOYS & GIRLS BOWLING TOURNAMENT

NJSIAA reserves the right to adjust, change or cancel dates, times, and locations for all NJSIAA State tournaments. Member schools will not be eligible to participate in any NJSIAA Tournaments if it has violated the NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Policies, or Procedures. Any student-athlete who transfers after the competition start date will not be eligible for this tournament (Bylaws, Article V, Section 4.K. 5).

Schools entering the tournament will not be granted a change of date/time due to any conflicts with school trips, proms, banquets, SATs, unless agreed upon by both schools. The NJSIAA will make every effort to accommodate schools that have a conflict with their graduation.

Schools that are disqualified from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded but prior to the bracket being final, then the bracket will be reseeded and the next ranked school who entered the tournament will be included. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition after the tournament has been seeded and after the bracket is final, then the bracket will not be reseeded, and no additional school will be included. If a school is disqualified from state tournament competition during the state tournament, then the school will be removed from the tournament immediately and their last opponent will advance in their place.

Schools participating in any NJSIAA tournament are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their spectators. Schools are required to provide adequate staff security to ensure there is proper oversight of their spectators. In addition, schools are financially responsible for any damages to the property or premises caused by their student-athletes, staff, or spectators (spectators include, but are not limited to, cheerleaders, marching band participants, students, and other fans).

NJSIAA requires Certified Athletic Trainers at all its tournament events. The ATC must document all injuries on an injury report form. This form must be available to the NJSIAA upon request.

Member schools not willing or able to comply with these tournament regulations and any relevant procedures found in the Operating Procedures Handbook should not enter the tournament. Member schools are encouraged to review these tournament regulations with the school administration. Coaches must have a copy of these regulations as well as a copy of the Rule Modifications (if any) for this tournament available at all contests. Copies of these documents are available on the NJSIAA website.

NJSIAA Director of Bowling

Derryk Sellers
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Tournament Directors

(See p. 7)

NJSIAA Rules Interpreter

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New for This Year's State Tournament

Please review this entire document carefully as there have been numerous changes throughout.

Bowling Important Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
First Practice:	November 20, 2023	
Opening Day:	November 27, 2023	
Entry Forms Open:	January 1, 2024	
Team Entries Close:	February 1, 2024	
Cutoff:	February 6, 2024	
Seeding	February 8, 2024	
Individual Entries Close:	February 18, 2024	
Regular Season Competition Ends:	March 6, 2024	
Post-Season Meeting:	March 27, 2024	
<u>State Team Tournament</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
Team Tournament Start:	February 10, 2024	
Round 1 By:	February 14, 2024	Higher Seed
Round 2 By:	February 20, 2024	Higher Seed
Round 3 By:	February 23, 2024	Higher Seed
<u>Sectional Championships</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>
North I	February 24, 2024	Bowler City (Hackensack)
North II	February 24, 2024	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
Central	February 24, 2024	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
South	February 24, 2024	Laurel Lanes (Maple Shade)
<u>Team Championships</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Semifinals & State Finals	February 27, 2024	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
<u>Individual Championships</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
State Championships	February 29, 2024	Bowlero (North Brunswick)
<u>Unified Team Tournament</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Preliminary Rounds	TBD	TBD
State Championships	February 27, 2024	Bowlero (North Brunswick)

String Bowling

USBC has done extensive research regarding string bowling, but more needs to be done. Based on the current data completed up to this point, the USBC lab data indicates strike percentage on string pinsetters will be 7.1% less than in free fall. This could result in average differences as large as 10 or more pins.

Based on this data, the NJSIAA feels that there is no advantage to bowling on string pinsetter lanes, in fact it will affect negatively on bowler averages. Therefore the NJSIAA has made the decision to permit string bowling averages during the regular season to count towards NJSIAA tournament qualification. The NJSIAA will continue to monitor the data from the USBC as this modification continues.

Once the tournament starts, string bowling lanes will not be permitted for tournament play. If you are a school that bowls at centers with string bowling, you will have to find a new center if you host any matches during rounds 1, 2, and 3.

To qualify for the Team tournament

1. Teams must be competing on a varsity interscholastic basis and sixty percent (60%) of the games played on or before the cutoff date must be against New Jersey schools.
2. The top 12 teams from each section and group will qualify for the tournament based on NJSIAA PowerPoint system.
3. Matches completed after the cutoff date will not count toward the PowerPoint calculation even if they were started before the cutoff date.
4. A team's PowerPoints are defined as the average of every team PP-Game during the regular season. A PP-Game is based on the 4 best individual scores in each game. All PP-Games will be averaged (rounding to two (2) decimal places) to determine the overall PowerPoints for that team.
 - a. Example – ONE PP-Game: Where the top 4 individual scores are 180, 190, 210 and 220 – PP-Game = 800.
 - b. Example – SEASON PowerPoints: Where six games are played across two matches, with PP-Games of 800, 810, 820, 830, 840 and 850, Total pins=4950 / 6 games = 825 PowerPoints
5. Qualification will be based on all games played from opening day to the cutoff date, with a minimum of 21 games.
6. Teams may still qualify if they've bowled fewer than 21 games, however their PowerPoint value will be based on dividing the sum of all PP-Games by 21, regardless of how many games bowled.
7. Any player with two (2) or more disqualifications in the current season and before the start of the tournament, will be unable to compete in the state tournament.
8. Any varsity team accumulating three (3) or more player or coach disqualifications before the start of the tournament will not be permitted to participate in the state tournament. Seeded teams will forfeit their right to compete if a disqualification limit is reached before the start of the tournament for the team.

To qualify for the Individual tournament

1. The top 100 regular season averages between opening day and the cutoff date will qualify for the individual tournament regardless of their group and section.
2. Independent Bowlers (players at member schools that don't have a bowling team) are eligible to qualify for the tournament (rules below).
3. Qualification will be based on a bowler's regular season average, with a minimum of 21 games on or before the cutoff date.
4. Individuals that bowl fewer than 21 games will still be eligible to qualify, but their average will be based on dividing total pins by 21.
5. Individual averages will be rounded to two (2) decimal places. If there's a tie for the final spot, all tied bowlers qualify.
6. Any player with two (2) or more disqualifications in the current season and before the start of the tournament, will be unable to compete in the state tournament.

Independent Bowlers

1. Schools may not enter more than three (3) independent bowlers in the state tournament.
2. An independent bowler's average will be based on a single private league – for all games played in that league, from the start of the NJSIAA season (opening day) until the cutoff date.
3. In order for a private league average to be considered, the league must be sanctioned by and following USBC rules.
4. All games must be documented by the league secretary and forwarded with the entry form.
5. Independent bowlers must have bowled a minimum of 21 games on or before the cutoff date to be eligible.
6. Independent bowlers that compete in multiple leagues shall select the league they hold the highest average in for qualification purposes. Using tallied scores from multiple leagues is not permitted.

Entry Procedure

1. All varsity schedules & rosters must be entered in njschoolsports.com by the start of the season. Rosters must be checked and updated throughout the season. We cannot guarantee any roster changes made after the start of the tournament will make it into the tournament program.
2. All regular season varsity scores must be reported to www.njschoolsports.com as soon as possible after each contest, no later than the following morning. If you encounter problems, please contact hssupport@njadvancemedia.com.
3. Either team from a game can report data into www.njschoolsports.com for their team and/or their opponent, HOWEVER, each school is responsible for confirming their team's data is correctly entered.
4. **Player Substitutions:** The bowler that **starts** the game gets credit for the individual score for any in-game substitutions.
5. **Postponed Game Dates:** Matches must be entered using the date a match was completed – not when it started.
6. **Duplicate Players:** If one of your players appears twice (or more) on your roster, please contact hssupport@njadvancemedia.com and request a player merge – otherwise, player averages could be incorrect.
7. All eligible teams, individuals, and independent entries must complete an entry form by the due dates listed.

Entry Fee

- \$120 per team, payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Bowling Tournament).
- \$20 for each individual & independent bowler, payable to the NJSIAA (Please note Bowling Tournament).
- Forward all entry fees to the NJSIAA, 1161 Route 130 North, Robbinsville, NJ 08691

Tournament Seeding

1. The 12 qualifying schools in each group and each section will be seeded using the NJSIAA power point system.
2. If there is a tie in PowerPoints for seeding, ties will be broken using these parameters, in order, until the tie is broken:
 - a. Head-to-head match wins (only if one team won all matches, any splits will be discarded)
 - b. PowerPoint games played (a tied average with more games-played has more value)
 - c. If games played are equal – then Total Pins
 - d. Highest team series (sum of 3 PP-Games in a single match)
 - e. Highest PP-Game
 - f. Coin-flip
3. The media may post brackets following the completion of the seeding meeting, however, seedings and brackets do not become official until 12:00pm on the day after seeding.

Co-ed Clarification

1. Co-ed teams may only bowl against other coed teams or boys only teams. Co-ed teams are not permitted to bowl girls only teams.
2. All Co-ed teams must enter their results as Boys Matches into www.njschoolsports.com
3. If there are separate boys and girls teams, girls must play on the girls team. This includes the state tournament.
4. All co-ed teams must enter the team tournament as a boys team.
5. Girls on co-ed teams may only compete in the girls individual championships if they qualify.

Tournament Rules

1. This is a "scratch" tournament (no handicaps).
2. No school may have more than 6 bowlers and 2 coaches in the settee area at any time during competition.
3. Schools may practice up to 6 bowlers before the start of the competition during the designated practice time.
4. Girls bowling on a co-ed bowling team will be eligible to compete at the girl's individual championship if they qualify. An entry form must be submitted.
5. Girls may not compete in the boy's individual championships since we offer a girl's individual championship.
6. All scores are final once submitted and signed by the coach. However, the tournament director has the authority to certify the official score.
7. Blind scores are not permitted. If a team supplies a pacer(s) on the day of the tournament, it is understood that the pacer(s) is not eligible to compete in that tournament.
8. All lanes will be assigned for the state tournament.
9. The NJSIAA will pay all bowling fees for all tournaments.
10. All teams must produce a line-up sheet, listing their team roster. Only bowlers listed on this lineup form may bowl. The lineup sheet must be signed by the athletic director and the coach and handed to the opponents coach of each round. It also must be given to the sectional and championship directors at those matches.
11. Any lineup changes from round to round must be noted and a reason must be included. If there are changes a new form must be produced and signed off by the athletic director and coach. If there are no changes then the original sheet can be used for all matches.
12. Each team or Independent must have a coach or certified faculty member present. Failure to comply will result in the contestant or team not being permitted to bowl. Parents are not permitted to check-in players.
13. Proper attire must be worn by all bowlers, i.e., a school-issued shirt. No hats. Players will be disqualified if not dressed in a school-issued shirt. Coaches will be responsible for informing their bowlers of this regulation and for following the dress attire rules.
14. The NJSIAA and bowling establishment will not be responsible for lost or stolen articles.
15. In case of inclement weather or any other reason that causes the tournament to be postponed, the tournament director will inform the management of the lanes of the postponement. Coaches are urged to call the bowling alley for information relative to the postponement and the site, time, and date of the rescheduled event.
16. The tournament director and/or sectional directors will rule on any disputes.
17. Schools are asked to refrain from bringing into the bowling alley any outside food or beverage products, other than homemade items.
18. No electronic devices are allowed down on the lanes or in the settee area until the completion of the tournament.
19. Protests based upon a tournament director's judgment or misinterpretation, or misapplication of the playing rules will not be honored as per NJSIAA Bylaws, Article VII, Sec. 1.
20. All tournament directors have the authority to disqualify a coach or a player for conduct unbecoming a student-athlete/coach, but not limited to, the use of profanity, disorderly conduct, and/or flagrant physical or verbal misconduct. The disqualified player will not be replaced during that game. The normal NJSIAA rules will apply to the disqualification. Schools are responsible for the conduct of their student-athletes and their spectators. Schools are subject to disqualification by the tournament directors and/or NJSIAA officials in attendance for displays of unsportsmanlike conduct.

Team Championship Format

1. All teams that qualify for the tournament will compete in head-to-head matches where the first team to win 2 points advances.
2. The top twelve (12) teams in each Section & Group will be seeded and participate in a twelve (12) team bracketed tournament.
3. Matches in Rounds 1, 2, and 3 will take place at the home lanes of the higher seed.
4. All state matches are scored using 5 bowlers and all 5 scores will count.
5. Matches will be scored where each game equals one (1) point. Tied games count as half a point (.5) for both teams.
 - a. The first team with 2 points wins the match – if a team wins the first two games, the match is over.
 - b. Final scores shall be reported as: 2-0, 2-1, 2-0.5, 2.5-0.5 – and a match tied after 3 games will score as: 2-1.5
 - c. If a match is tied at 1.5-1.5 after three games, teams will bowl full baker games until the tie is broken.
 - d. The winner of the baker game earns 0.5 points – and the final score shall be entered as 2-1.5.
6. Substitution of players may occur at any time, however once a player is removed from a game, the player cannot return until the next game.
7. The sectional championships will take place at four neutral sites assigned by NJSIAA.
8. The sectional champions from each group and section will compete at the State Team semifinals and finals at Bowlero in North Brunswick. The teams will be seeded based on their original PowerPoint number at the cutoff date. Seed 1 vs 4 and seed 2 vs 3.
9. The winners of the semifinal round will play each other for the state championship on a different pair of lanes.

Individual Championship Format

Round 1

1. All bowlers who qualify for the Individual state championships will bowl 3 games.
2. All bowlers will move to the next assigned pair after each game in this round.
3. At the conclusion of the third game, the top 18 bowlers will advance to round 2.
4. Ties for the 18th position will be broken by a two-frame roll-off (9th and 10th frame). If a tie still exists after the two-frame roll-off, a one-ball roll-off will be conducted until the tie is broken.

Round 2

1. The 18 bowlers who advanced to round 2 will bowl 3 games.
2. All bowlers will move to the next assigned pair after each game in this round.
3. At the conclusion of the third game, the top 5 bowlers will advance to round 3 (Stepladder Round) based on the six-game total from rounds 1 and 2.
5. Ties for any of the top 5 seeds will be broken by a two-frame roll-off (9th and 10th frame). If a tie still exists after the two-frame roll-off, a one-ball roll-off will be conducted until the tie is broken.
4. Ties for the 4th & 5th seeds shall instead be broken using the 3-game total from round one (1), If a tie still exists, a coin flip will break the tie.

Round 3 (Stepladder Round)

1. The top 5 bowlers from round 2 will compete in the stepladder round for the Individual state championship.
2. Ties will be broken by a two-frame roll-off (9th and 10th frame). If a tie still exists after the two-frame roll-off, a one-ball roll-off will be conducted until the tie is broken.

Sectional tournament Directors

Boys Sectional Directors:	Girls Sectional Directors:
North I: Aaron Goldstein aarongoldstein@easternchristian.org Bowler City - (201) 343-3545 85 Midtown Bridge St., Hackensack, NJ 07601	North I: Nancy Wallace coachwallace88@gmail.com Bowler City - (201) 343-3545 85 Midtown Bridge St., Hackensack, NJ 07601
North II: Greg Hatzisavvas wpubowl@aol.com Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	North II: Greg Hatzisavvas wpubowl@aol.com Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Central: Anthony Bilello abilello@obps.org Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	Central: Mike Mitchell michael_mitchell@nbpsnj.net Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902
South: Bryan Vargas HawksBowling@gmail.com Laurel Lanes - (856) 778-7467 2825 Route 73 South, Maple Shade, NJ 08052	South: Mark Klimek mklimek@pennsauken.net Laurel Lanes - (856) 778-7467 2825 Route 73 South, Maple Shade, NJ 08052

Championship tournament Directors

Boys Team Championship Director	Girls Team Championship Director
Mike Mitchell - michael_mitchell@nbpsnj.net Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	Anthony Bilello – abilello@obps.org Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902
Boys Individual Championship Director	Girls Individual Championship Director
Tracie Smith Tracie.smith@edison.k12.nj.us Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902	John Canova John.canova@edison.k12.nj.us Bowlero (North Brunswick) - (732) 846-2424 1 Carolier Ln., North Brunswick, NJ 08902

State Championship Oil Patterns

Boys Team State Championships – USBC White # 2

Girls Team State Championships – USBC Red # 2

Boys & Girls Independent State Championships – USBC Blue # 2

Awards

Sectional Champions:

- Trophy and 15 certificates for the 1st place team in each group in each section.
- Trophy to the Individual with the highest 3-game series in each section only and medals to 2nd thru 6th place Individuals with highest 3-game series in each section only.

State Team Championships:

- Trophy and 15 certificates for the 1st place team in each group.

Individual Meet of Champions:

- Trophy to the state champion and medals to 2nd thru 8th place Individuals.