



Bowling



SOMI-Specific Information

Sport season:

Year-round

Culminating State Events:

State Summer Games

State Unified Bowling

Events Offered:

1. Doubles and Team Bowling: All Male, All Female
 - I. Doubles - 2-person team
 - II. Team - 4-person team
2. Unified Doubles and Unified Team Bowling
3. Ramp Bowling
4. Ramp Doubles and Ramp team competition

National Governing Body:

Federation Internationale Des Quilleurs (FIQ) &
World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA) Rules

Uniform Guidelines

1. All bowling team members should wear shirts and shorts/pants that are identical in color and style.
2. Denim is not allowed to be worn during bowling competitions.
3. Shoes: Bowling shoes **must** be worn by all competitors and in most cases are available at the event venue.

Equipment

1. Bowling ball: A properly fitting ball is essential. Finding the proper finger fitting and proper weight are the most important factors.
2. Optional Bowling Equipment Includes:
 - I. Bowling Bag: For storage of own ball.
 - II. Rosin Bag: Used to provide athlete with dry hands.
 - III. Bowling Towel: Used to wipe dirt, oil off ball to keep it clean.

General Rules

1. Lane assignment will be done by heat (division) NOT by area, please plan accordingly for chaperone coverage at events.
2. Each area may enter no more than 25% of their delegation in bowling events. An area is given two bowling teams for every 100 athletes registered in their delegation.
3. Bowlers may enter 1 or 2 events offered; one must be singles. Athletes will bowl two games in each event.
4. Bowlers are placed into heats based upon the average score submitted by the coach. A handicap will be used. If a score is not submitted the athlete will receive a zero for their handicap.
5. In doubles bowling, a team should consist of bowlers with similar ages and genders. If an area must submit a coed team in doubles bowling, the following guidelines apply:
 - I. The team will bowl in the oldest member's age group regardless of gender.
 - II. The team will bowl in the male division if any member of the team is male.
 - III. Doubles Bowlers, if one member is a ramp bowler both athletes need to register in the ramp event.
6. Areas may have a pool (group) of alternates that may be interchangeable in their own area for more than one team.

Doubles and Team Bowling

1. Competition will be offered for all male and female doubles and teams. Male and female competition will be separate. All events will consist of two (2) games if time allows.
2. Doubles bowling involves a two-member team. Team bowling involves a four-member team.
3. The participation of a male athlete in either doubles or team bowling places the team in the male division. (Example: If one male athlete/one female athlete comprises a doubles team, the team must bowl in the male division).
4. The doubles handicap is based on 80% of the difference in the team average and 400 scratch. The team handicap is based on 80% of the difference in the team average and 800 scratch. (Example: John and Jim are a doubles team. John has an average of 83 and Jim has an average of 101 that makes their team average 184. The difference between 400 and 184 is 216. 80% of 216 is 173 (rounding up 172.8). This means John and Jim's handicap is 173.)
5. Final doubles and team series scores will be determined by adding the actual pin fall and the doubles and team handicap.
6. All potential bowlers must be registered in pool of alternates. If an alternate bowler is utilized, the team will bowl during the originally scheduled bowling time no matter what the age and gender of the new bowler. Combining ages and/or genders should not be a problem since handicaps are utilized.
7. In doubles and team bowling, a bowling team should be made up of similar age and gender. If an area must submit a coed team, that team will bowl in the male division. If an area must submit doubles or a team made of two age groups, the doubles or team will bowl together in the older bowler's age group and time frame. (Example: A 32-year-old female and a 27-year-old male comprises a doubles team. The team will bowl in the 30–99-year-old male division). If an alternate is utilized, the team remains in the same time slot and division.
8. Five age groups will be utilized 8-11, 12-15, 16- 21, 22-29 and 30+ (age groups may be combined based on registration numbers)
9. Conflicts must be avoided between the singles, doubles and team times when entering your athletes.
10. Bowlers may enter two of the three bowling events offered at the State Summer Games, although one of the two events must be singles.
11. For State Events the average of 10 games is required at registration.

Ramp Bowling

1. All bowlers who utilize a ramp for bowling competition must register using appropriate ramp codes (BORAMP/BORMDB) or if there is a ramp bowling team (4 athletes = BOTEAM).
2. With ramp doubles or team competition, both the partners need to be registered for ramp bowling. All team members are not required to use the ramp.
3. The ramp bowling doubles teams will be placed in the age category of the oldest bowler. If one team member is male, the team bowls in the male category. (Example: If one male athlete/one female athlete comprises a doubles team, the team must bowl in the male division).
4. Ramps are a two-piece metal unit, one stand and one sloped piece. The stand is a minimum height of 24 inches and maximum height of 28 inches. The stand width is 24 to 25 inches across. Sloped piece: from connecting point to stand to first bend is 16 inches and from first bend to bottom of sloped piece is 54 inches.
5. Lane volunteers may assist with setting the ramps during competition if needed.