

2026 PBA JUNIOR WORLD SERIES OF BOWLING TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The PBA Jr. World Series of Bowling (WSOB) is open to all male and female youth bowlers who have not yet reached the age of 18 as of December 31, 2025. All participants must be USBC Youth Members. If a youth bowler is not currently a USBC Youth member, they should contact USBC at 817-385-8426 prior to the start of competition to purchase a membership.
2. The PBA Jr. WSOB is certified by the USBC.
3. All scores in this tournament are SCRATCH, no handicap. SMART Scholarships will be awarded (SMART account #10917) on a point basis. See SMART Policy Manual for point conversion.
4. Entry fees shall be as follows:
 - a. **PBA JR. CLUB MEMBERS:** \$299 per bowler
 - b. **NON-MEMBERS:** \$349 per bowler
5. **DIVISIONS:** This tournament will have 4 divisions: U18 Boys, U18 Girls, U15 Boys and U15 Girls.
 - a. The division will be determined by the age of the junior bowler as of December 31, 2025.
 - i. U18 bowlers must be age 17 or younger on December 31, 2025
 - ii. U15 bowlers must be age 14 or younger on December 31, 2025
 - I. Juniors who are age eligible to compete in the U15 division may choose to move up to the U18 division if they desire. IMPORTANT: U15 bowlers will "declare" their division choice for all of the 2026 calendar year based on the first Regional Qualifier in which they participate in the 2026 calendar year. For example, If a U15 age eligible bowler chooses to compete in a U18 division in their first event, they will only be allowed to compete in that same U18 division the entire year. If a U15 age eligible bowler competes in the U15 division in their first event, they may only compete in the U15 division the entire year.
6. **FORMAT:** The PBA Jr. WSOB will consist of four (4) PBA Jr. titled events: the three (3) individual "Pattern Championships" (O'Neill, McEwan, Tackett) and the PBA Jr. World Championship.
 - a. The Champion from each event in the PBA Jr. WSOB will earn a PBA Jr. title and also be eligible to participate in the PBA Jr. National Tournament of Champions to be held in early 2027.
7. **PBA JR. JIM WELCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP POINTS:** PBA Jr. Members who participate in the PBA Jr. WSOB will earn Tier 1 points based for the PBA Jr. Jim Welch Memorial Scholarship on their final standings position in each event.
8. **PBA JR. PATTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS:**
 - a. Each PBA Jr. Pattern Championship will be contested on a different PBA Jr. oil pattern (PBA Jr. O'Neill – 36 feet; PBA Jr. McEwan – 41 feet; PBA Jr. Tackett – 44 feet).
 - b. All bowlers in each Pattern Championship will bowl a total of six (6) games in one Qualifying Round.
 - c. At the conclusion of the Qualifying Round the field will be cut to the top eight (8) bowlers in each division. These bowlers will then bowl in a two-game Elimination Bracket Match Play Round. In the event of a tie(s) for the final position for the cut to the Elimination Bracket, a one-game roll-off will take place immediately to break the tie.
 - i. The Elimination Bracket Round will consist of two-game matches against each bowler's opponent.
 - ii. Bowlers will be seeded into the Elimination Bracket based on total pinfall of the eight (6) games bowled in the Qualifying Round.
 - iii. The bowler with the highest pinfall for two games will be declared the winner and will advance to the next match until only one bowler remains who will be declared the Champion.

- d. In the event of a tie in any match, a ninth and tenth frame roll-off will be held immediately to determine the winner. The highest seeded competitor shall determine starting lane and order for the roll-off.
 - i. If a tie still exists after the ninth and tenth frame roll-off, bowlers will compete in a one (1) ball sudden death roll-off. The highest seeded competitor shall determine starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors will alternate lanes in the same bowling order until the tie is broken.

9. PBA JR. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS:

- a. Bowlers in the PBA Jr. Pattern Championships will have competed in a total of eighteen (18) games of Qualifying.
 - i. Based on cumulative total pins from the eighteen (18) games of Qualifying in the PBA Jr. Pattern Championships, the top 50% of the field in each division will advance to the Advancers Round for the PBA Jr. World Championship.
 - 1. If the top 50% of the field in any Division is less than 12 bowlers (which is required for the Match Play Round) then all bowlers in that Division will advance to the Advancers Round.
- b. The Advancers Round will consist of eight (8) games.
- c. At the conclusion of the Advancers Round, the top twelve (12) bowlers in each Division as determined by cumulative pinfall from the Qualifying Rounds of the three Pattern Championship tournaments and Advancers Round will advance to the PBA Jr. World championship Match Play rounds.
- d. The PBA Jr. World Championship Match Play will consist of twelve (12) games, bowled in three rounds of 4 games each.
- e. Bowlers will be seeded into Match Play based on the combined total pinfall of their twenty-six (26) games bowled in the Qualifying Rounds of all three PBA Jr. Pattern Championships and the Advancers Round of the PBA Jr. World Championships.
- f. Pinfall from the Qualifying Rounds and Advancers Round will carry over.
- g. During Match Play bowlers will receive 30 bonus pins for a win and 15 bonus pins for a tie.
- h. The 12th and final match of Match Play shall be a position round. At the completion of that game the top 5 bowlers will advance to Stepladder.
- i. The PBA Jr. Oil patterns to be used for the PBA Jr. World Championships will be announced at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the PBA Jr. World Series of Bowling.
- j. In the event of a tie in any match, a ninth and tenth frame roll-off will be held immediately to determine the winner. The highest seeded competitor shall determine starting lane and order for the roll-off.
 - i. If a tie still exists after the ninth and tenth frame roll-off, bowlers will compete in a one (1) ball sudden death roll-off. The highest seeded competitor shall determine starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors will alternate lanes in the same bowling order until the tie is broken.

10. DRESS & CONDUCT CODE (Applies to Official Practice Session and all Competition):

- a. All bowlers must wear shirts or jerseys with collars and sleeves and their names on the back. If wearing a dye-sublimated jersey, it must be from a PBA Product Registered Jersey Partner. No t-shirts are allowed.
- b. Boys must wear slacks (no shorts). Skirts/skorts may be worn in competition by female competitors. If a competitor's fingers are below the hemline (with arms hanging naturally), the skirt/skort is considered too short and not suitable. No jeans or shorts are allowed.
- c. Bowlers are not permitted to wear hats or other headgear, ripped or torn clothing, or basketball shorts. No clothing with offensive language or graphics, or any apparel which the tournament director feels is inappropriate.
- d. Smoking is not permitted by bowlers before, during or after the tournament.
- e. Proper behavior is expected at all times.

11. BOWLING BALLS:

- a. All bowling balls used during this tournament must be USBC approved and officially cleared by the PBA.
 - i. Bowling balls that have received PBA clearance will be listed on PBA.com.

- ii. If a bowling ball is not listed on PBA.com it may not be used in PBA Jr. competition.
- b. Bowlers may use an unlimited number of bowling balls during the tournament, but all balls used during the competition must be logged on their official scorecards.

12. PRACTICE:

- a. An Official Practice Session will be scheduled for the PBA Jr. World Series of Bowling. Bowlers are encouraged but not required to attend the Official Practice Session.
 - b. Bowlers will receive 10 minutes of practice on their starting pair of lanes prior to the start of competition during any Qualifying Round and the Advancers Round of the PBA Jr. World Series of Bowling.
 - c. Bowlers will receive 5 minutes of practice on the starting pair of lanes prior to the start of their first game in the Elimination Bracket round for each of the World Series of Bowling Pattern Championships. There will be no practice prior to the start of any remaining matches in the Elimination Bracket round.
 - d. Bowlers will receive 5 minutes of practice on the starting pair of lanes prior to the start of their first match in the Match Play Rounds for the PBA Jr. World Championship. No additional practice frames will be allowed prior to any other matches. There will be three (3) minutes of practice prior to the start of the position round of Match Play.
 - e. During the Stepladder matches at the PBA Jr. Finals bowlers will receive practice as follows:
 - i. All bowlers will have 8 minutes of warm-up on the Championship pair prior to the start of the first Stepladder match.
 - ii. For matches after the first match, the winner of the preceding match may practice on the alternate pair/lane only. The incoming finalist shall receive a maximum of six (6) shots on the Championship pair.
 - iii. For the final Championship Match, the number one seeded bowler shall receive eight (8) shots on the Championship pair.
13. Only tournament officials and bowlers who are engaged in competition will be permitted in the settee area. Parents and / or coaches must remain on the concourse area.
14. A completed entry submission must be paid for prior to the entry deadline for the PBA Jr. World Series of Bowling. Payment of entry fees confirms acceptance of the rules and format of the PBA Jr. World Series of Bowling.
15. All rules not covered will be governed by the PBA Jr. Tournament Committee using the PBA and USBC rule books as guidance. The PBA Jr. Tournament Committee reserves all rights regarding all rules and the operation of the tournament.