

BOWLING TOURNAMENT RULES

I. DIVISIONS

League – levels A, B, C, D, and E

Social

League division is open to bowlers with **two years of verified averages** established via play in a regular league or tournament at **31/10/2023**, with a minimum of 21 games per year. Such leagues or tournaments shall not necessarily be sanctioned but shall have kept verifiable records of all bowlers participating therein, their scores and number of games played (see § TOURNAMENT ENTERING AVERAGES).

Your division (A, B, C, D or E) will be determined from your average:

AVERAGE DIVISION S	Singles (men)	Singles (women)	Doubles (men)	Doubles (women)	Teams (4 persons) (mixed)	Teams (4 persons) (women)
A	200+	180+	400+	360+	800+	720+
B	180-199	160-179	360-399	330-359	720-799	660-719
C	160-179	140-159	320-359	300-329	630-719	600-659
D	140-159	120-139	280-319	270-299	540-629	540-599
E	0-139	0-119	0-279	0-269	0-539	0-539

WARNING: For **Women Team competition**, if there is not **at least 10 registered teams in an average division or in Social division, and as a consequence at least 5 teams in Final**, In that division, the team competition will be played in the mixed format (Women, Men, Mixed men and women) and the teams of Women that registered will be integrated to the Mixed competition.

Social Division:

Players without an average do not qualify for the League Division. These players participate in the **Social Division, in the same format: Singles (men and women), Doubles (Men and Women), 4 persons teams (Women, Mixed men and women).** (see **WARNING** above)

II. TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

Doubles events consist of two men or two-women teams.

A Mixed Doubles event consisting of one man and one woman is not offered.

Team events consist of four-persons women teams or four persons mixed teams (see **WARNING** above).

Participants registered for the Social Division may not enter the League Division in any Bowling event and vice-versa. **Bowlers may only register and participate in**

one Division.

The Gay Games XI Guadalajara 2023 bowling tournament management has the authority to adjust the entering average of any bowler.

Average adjustments will be applied as set forth under World Bowling rules.

An average adjustment will be communicated to each affected bowler and completed prior to the start of each event.

A bowler unwilling to accept an average adjustment will be disqualified from the tournament.

Each BOWLER has the responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her entering average, whether submitted by the bowler, the team captain, or other.

Failure to use proper average shall disqualify scores if the submitted average is lower than the actual average, thereby resulting in a lower classification.

III. TOURNAMENT RULES

The Bowling tournament shall be governed and conducted under the rules of the World Bowling. The bowling tournament will be supported by the Bowling State Association, and the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO).

The federal referees following the event have full authority to preserve fairness and integrity of sport: This includes but is not limited to:

- deny access to the lanes to every bowler who appears to be under influence of alcohol or narcotic(s);
- a coach whose actions could disturb games.
- Only one (1) coach per double or team of 4 will be allowed in the game area; none for singles.
- Other disruptive behavior.

Bowling events are a standard ten-pin format only.

For each event, a concurrent ten (10) minute per lane 'warm-up' period will apply. This includes Preliminary, Semi and Finals events.

Changes in any rules will be posted to this website within one (1) month before the scheduled competition.

For the Singles, Doubles and Team events, there are three rounds of competition:

- o **Preliminary rounds: November 6 to 8**
- o **Semi-Final rounds: November 9 to 10**
- o **Final Medal rounds: November 9 to 10**

The tournament will be played in a **dual lane style** (see art 2.2.1 World Bowling rules)

The scores will be scratch (no Handicap).

For all ranking during the competition, equality for qualification will be separate with the best last game, then second to last if equality remain, etc.

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS AND SEMI FINALS:

Preliminary rounds and Semi-Final rounds of competition for the Singles and Doubles all have consist of three (3) games per round.

Preliminary rounds and semi-final rounds for the **Team** competition have three (3) games per round

Lane dressing will be change every 3 rounds for singles and doubles, every 2 rounds for 4 bowlers' team and at least every 24 games played by lane

The Top 50% scores of the preliminary rounds in each of the Divisions in the Singles, Doubles and Team events will advance to the Semi-Final rounds.

FINAL ROUNDS per Division (A, B, C, D, E, Social) :

Qualification scores will be kept: Ranking will consist of 6 games for singles and doubles, and 6 games for 4 persons teams

The Top 6 scores of the Semi-Final rounds in each of the Divisions in the *Singles* events will advance to the Final Medal round. The Final Medal round will consist of three (3) games, per Bowler. Medals (Gold, Silver & Bronze) will be awarded to the highest three composite Singles scores. A 'composite' score is the total score of the 3 games bowled for each bowler.

The Top 5 scores of the Semi-Final rounds in each of the Divisions in the *Doubles* event will advance to the Final Medal rounds: The Final Medal for Doubles round will consist of three (3) games, per Bowler. Medals (Gold, Silver & Bronze) will be awarded to the highest three composite Doubles pair scores. A 'composite' score is the total score for each member of the Doubles pair. (Bowler 1's 3 game total plus bowler 2's 3 game total).

The Top 5 scores of the Semi-Final rounds in each of the Divisions in the *Teams* event will advance to the Final Medal rounds. The Final Medal for Teams round will consist of three (3) games, per Bowler. Medals (Gold, Silver & Bronze) will be awarded to the highest three composite Team scores. A 'composite' Team score is the total score for each member (over 3 games) of the Team added together.

Each player in the top three of each Division - in the Singles, Doubles and Teams events will receive a medal.

Ties in scores decisive for either position 1 to 3 will be broken by allowing each player involved in the tie to play a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

The team with the highest **composite** score will be the winner of the tie.

The line-up of both **Doubles and Teams** must be **identical** to the line-ups in the **Preliminary and Semi- Final** rounds of the event. Bowler substitution is not permitted.

A warm-up or practice time shall be provided for each event. The warm up time shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Director **but will be no more than ten (10) minutes per lane.**

IV. TOURNAMENT ENTERING AVERAGES

Any bowler entering the Gay Games XI Guadalajara 2023 Bowling Tournament must establish a ten-pin average acceptable to The Federation of Gay Games and the Gay Games XI Guadalajara 2023 Committee.

The following rules shall be used to determine the entering average for the "**League**

Division": A League is defined as a formal body where:

- ☐ **the League schedules a season of multiple competitive bowling meetings**
- ☐ **verifiable averages for each participant are independently retained by League**

officials ie: Secretary or President

- ☐ the League may or may not be sanctioned
- ☐ the League may or may not be affiliated with their national Bowling entity

Each League bowler must supply two (2) consecutive year averages.

The earlier average (ie: 2016) is an historic average which will be used for comparative purposes only.

The latter (ie: 2017) declared average is the 'entering' average. The declared or entering average is determined based on 1,2,3 or 4 (below).

a) The bowler is required to submit the **highest** average of:

1. A current League average which is sanctioned by the World Bowling or by one of its affiliated, national, full-member bodies (ie: **USBC, CBC, TBAL etc**), based on a minimum of 21 games over one full year as of:
 - 31 May 2023 close of year (for bowlers in North and Central America where a League bowls over a 'split' full year) **OR**
 - 1st December 2022 close of year (for bowlers outside of North and Central America where a League bowls over a 'calendar' full year),

or

2. A current Tournament average based on a minimum of 18 games as of **31 May 2023** where a league bowler has competed in organized external tournaments (such as an IGBO tournament, a State or National sponsored tournament or bowling center-organized sanctioned tournament),

or

3. A Composite average of all leagues, including leagues with less than 21 games bowled,

or

4. If none of 1,2,3 is available, a league average (minimum 21 games) as of 31 May 2017 will be accepted.

b) When the previous season's average is used, and at the time of bowling an entrant has a current average for 21 or more games that is 1 pin or more higher than the prior season's average, the current average must be used.

c) If none of the above is available, then the bowler must enter the "Social Division".

A 'Social Division' bowler is defined as a person who meets any of the following criteria:

- ✓ is not a member of a formal League
- ✓ is unable to satisfy the League average requirements - see c) above
- ✓ a retired League bowler who has not bowled in a League for two (2) prior years or more
- ✓ is a bowler who bowls occasionally or infrequently for fun
- ✓ a non-League, friend or partner of a League bowler
- ✓ a person with no / limited previous bowling experience who wishes to compete.

d) The above averages **MUST** be verified by the use of:

1. League standing sheet detailing the individual's name and average, signed and dated by League Officer, or
2. Letter from League President or Secretary, or
3. Photocopy of book average (with year noted), signed and dated by League Officer.
4. Verification of 2017-2018 book averages from a World Bowling's affiliated, national, full-member bodies.

e) Averages from “Sports Condition” leagues are not acceptable at any time.

V. AVERAGE ADJUSTMENT

If a bowler has a minimum 18 tournament game average that is one or more pins higher than their entering average for this tournament, they must use the higher tournament average.

The Gay Games XI Guadalajara 2023 Bowling Committee reserves the right to verify Tournament averages through such tools as the IGBO TAD (Tournament Average Database), [BOWL.COM](#) or other similar Tournament average facilities.