

CT Duckpins Tournament Series Rules for the 2026-2027 Season

Section I: Membership

- A. Bowlers must be current members of the National Duckpin Bowling Congress and provide proof of average if required.

Section II: Average

- A. Composite average listed in the current (2025-2026) CT Duckpins average book will be used for all CT Duckpins events. The composite average listed must be for a minimum of 40 games.
- B. If a bowler does not satisfy the above requirement, the average listed on the 2026-2027 “CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List” maintained by the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Committee will be used.
- C. If a bowler does not satisfy the above requirements, an average will be computed as follows: All sanctioned pinfall in the current (2025-2026) CT Duckpins and RIDBA average books divided by all sanctioned games in current CT Duckpins and RIDBA average books. The average computed must be for a minimum of 40 games and will be added to the 2026-2027 “CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List.”
- D. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, the composite average listed in the 2024-2025 CT Duckpins average book will be used for all CT Duckpins events. The composite average listed must be for a minimum of 40 games and will be added to the 2026-2027 “CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List.”
- E. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, an average will be computed as follows: All sanctioned pinfall in the 2024-2025 CT Duckpins and RIDBA average books divided by all sanctioned games in 2024-2025 CT Duckpins and RIDBA average books. The average computed must be for a minimum of 40 games and will be added to the 2026-2027 “CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List.”
- F. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, the composite average listed in the 2023-2024 CT Duckpins average book will be used for all CT Duckpins events. The composite average listed must be for a minimum of 40 games and will be added to the 2026-2027 “CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List.”
- G. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, an average will be computed as follows: All sanctioned pinfall in the 2023-2024 CT Duckpins and RIDBA average books divided by all sanctioned games in 2023-2024 CT Duckpins and RIDBA average books. The average computed must be for a minimum of 40 games and will be added to the 2026-2027 “CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List.”
- H. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, a composite average listed in another association’s average book may be used in conjunction with CT Duckpins and

RIDBA averages, beginning with the current average books, and going back as far as 2022-2023, if needed. The average computed must be for a minimum of 40 games and will be added to the 2026-2027 "CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List."

- I. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements but has rolled a minimum of 20 games in any sanctioned leagues and tournaments during the current season (this includes summer leagues which finish after June 15, 2026, any tournaments completed after June 15, 2026, and winter leagues), the bowler's current composite average will be used. It is the bowler's responsibility to provide proof of average. Once a bowler has accumulated 60 sanctioned games, the bowler will be issued a permanent average which will be added to the 2026-2027 "CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List."
- J. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, he or she may apply to the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Committee for an average. The bowler must provide documentation of average in all leagues and tournaments participated in during the previous year. At the discretion of the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Committee, the bowler may be granted an entrance average for the event. At the discretion of the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Committee, the entrance average granted may be added to the 2026-2027 "CT Duckpins Tournament Series Average List." Application must be approved before the bowler participates in an event.
- K. If a bowler does not satisfy any of the above requirements, he or she will use an average of 150.

Section III: Fees & Prizes

- A. Bowlers must pay the entry fee in advance of beginning any competition.
- B. No more discount for early bird registration
- C. As there are ten (10) Series Stops a bowler must bowl in at least **FIVE (5)** Tournaments Series events in order to retain their spot in the Finals. If a bowler fails to satisfy these requirements, then that bowler will lose his or her spot in the Finals.
- D. If a bowler wins a series stop, they will earn a spot in the Finals as long as they meet the above requirement of bowling in **FIVE (5)** events.
- E. When bowlers register during the regular registration window, the entry fee for "Singles" on tournament flyers and publications) will be \$45 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
 - a. \$17.00 for the tournament prize list
 - b. \$20.00 for lineage (5 games)
 - c. \$3.00 for the director
 - d. \$4.00 for the tournament series finals fund
 - e. \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)

- F. When bowlers register during the regular registration window, the entry fee for “Doubles” on tournament flyers and publications) will be \$30 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
- \$13.00 for the tournament prize list
 - \$12.00 for lineage (3 games)
 - \$2.00 for the director
 - \$2.00 for the tournament series finals fund
 - \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)
- G. When bowlers register during the regular registration window, the entry fee for “9 No-Tap Singles” on tournament flyers and publications) will be \$55 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
- \$26.00 for the tournament prize list
 - \$20.00 for lineage (5 games)
 - \$3.00 for the director
 - \$5.00 for the tournament series finals fund
 - \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)
- H. When bowlers register during the regular registration window, the entry fee for events classified as “A/B Singles” on tournament flyers and publications will be \$70 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
- \$40.50 for the tournament prize list and final round lineage
 - \$20.00 for preliminary round lineage (5 games)
 - \$3.50 for the director
 - \$5.00 for the tournament series finals fund
 - \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)
- I. When bowlers register during the regular registration window, the entry fee for “Triples” on tournament flyers and publications) will be \$30 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
- \$13.00 for the tournament prize list
 - \$12.00 for lineage (3 games)
 - \$2.00 for the director
 - \$2.00 for the tournament series finals fund
 - \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)
- J. The re-entry fee for “Singles” on tournament flyers and publications will be \$40 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
- \$17.00 for the tournament prize list
 - \$20.00 for lineage (5 games)

- c. \$3.00 for the director
- K. The re-entry fee for “9 No-Tap Singles” on tournament flyers and publications will be \$50 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
 - a. \$26.00 for the tournament prize list
 - b. \$20.00 for lineage (5 games)
 - c. \$3.00 for the director
 - d. \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)
- L. The re-entry fee for events classified as “A/B Singles” on tournament flyers and publications will be \$65 per bowler and will be broken down as follows:
 - a. \$40.50 for the tournament prize list and final round lineage
 - b. \$20.00 for preliminary round lineage (5 games)
 - c. \$3.50 for the director
 - d. \$1.00 for the NDBC tournament sanction fee (remaining money will go into series finals fund)
- M. Bowlers/teams may re-enter an event with one round of competition an unlimited number of times (unless re-entry is clearly prohibited by tournament rules) but can only cash once in the top three.
 - a. For example, if a bowler or team enters an event with one round twice and finishes first and second, the bowler or team will receive the prizes for first and fourth place.
 - b. For example, if Bowler A pairs with Bowler B and finishes first and also pairs with Bowler C and finishes second, Bowler A is eligible for both the first and second place prizes.
- N. Bowlers may re-enter an event with multiple rounds of competition an unlimited number of times (unless re-entry is clearly prohibited by tournament rules) but can only advance beyond the first round once and can only cash in the prize list for final round qualifiers once. For example, if a bowler enters an event with two rounds twice and qualifies for the second round with both entries, the bowler will advance with only the best ranked entry (any scratch qualifying position is considered better than any handicap qualifying position). The bowler’s second entry is eligible for a prize for non-qualifiers if such a prize is available.
- O. Any bowler who does not attend a shift that he or she has registered will be given a warning for the 1st offense. If this happens again, the bowlers must pay a \$10 fee. If the bowler is not able to bowl the shift they signed up for, please notify the director or a BAC board person prior to that shift. If you are stuck in traffic or some other issue, please contact the director or lanes. This fee must be paid before entry in any other CT Duckpins event is allowed.
- P. Bowlers **must** check in with the director at least 30 minutes prior to the shift start time. If a shift is scheduled to start at a specific time and the director has not heard from the

absent bowler(s), the director shall start the event at the advertised shift time and that bowler will have to get on another shift. If the director has been contacted by a bowler that is running a few minutes late, the director can use their discretion and hold the shift up no more than 10 minutes until the bowler can arrive. If more than 10 minutes after start time, the shift will start.

- Q. If sponsor money is added to any event, it should be on the flyer and on the website so the participants will know how that money will be distributed.
- R. If a bowling establishment would like to have the BAC acknowledge a tournament they wish to run, The BAC Tournament committee **must** be notified 60 days before the event date and it must **not** conflict with a current series stop. If approved by the Tournament committee, the BAC will acknowledge the event and help to promote it.
- S. Re-entry in the CT Duckpins Series Finals is never allowed.
- T. If we have shifts that are full and we have a waiting list for those shifts, if a bowler and/or team withdraws in advance from that shift, the next person/team on the waiting list will replace them. This means if you are bowling in a team event and one of the members of a team that was signed up and needs to be replaced and that shift is full, the whole team will be replaced by the next team on the waiting list. That team can sign back up with a new team and they would be on said waiting list.

Section IV: Handicap

- A. When handicap is utilized in any event, handicap will be 80% based on a 160 average limit; there is no maximum handicap.
- B. A points system will be utilized for adjustments to bowler handicaps. A bowler will receive the following based on the prize he or she earns in each tournament series event:
 - a. 10 points for first prize
 - b. 5 points for second prize
 - c. 3 points for third prize, including ties for third prize.
- C. Upon accumulation of 15 points in a tournament type (handicap doubles, handicap singles, or A/B singles), a bowler's handicap will be cut by 33% of his or her original handicap in all future tournaments of the same type.
- D. Upon accumulation of 25 points in a tournament type (handicap doubles, handicap singles, or A/B singles), a bowler's handicap will be cut by 50% of his or her original handicap in all future tournaments of the same type.
- E. Regardless of accumulated points, all bowlers will receive full handicap in the Tournament Series Finals.
- F. It is up to the BAC Tournament committee to make sure that when a bowler's handicap is cut, the bowler is notified. All tournament directors are also notified as well as posted on the website.

Section V: Tournament Series Finals Eligibility

- A. A points system will be used to determine the qualifiers for the 2026-2027 CT Duckpins Tournament Series Finals.
- B. Points will be awarded in each CT Duckpins tournament series event. Bowlers will be awarded points based on their performance in each event.
- C. Participation points will be distributed to each bowler as follows: 10 points for the first entry in each event and no points for re-entry in each event.
- D. Performance points will be distributed to each bowler as follows: The bowler with the highest first round pin fall plus handicap earns 125 points; 2nd highest first round pin fall plus handicap earns 124 points, and so on until there are no more bowlers. If there is over 125 entries, the bowlers finishing 126th and lower will earn 0 point. The amount of points you earn is determined where you finished in the event. In a case where a bowler enters the tournament multiple times, they would be awarded the highest point value achieved. Example, if you came in 8th and 15th, only points for the 8th place would be given. In the event of a tie in the bowler's total scores, the most pins over the entrance average for the 5 game scratch set will determine standing. This point distribution applies to all tournament series events that are based on individual scoring.
- E. In the event that there is a doubles event or a triples event, each bowler on that specific team will earn 125 points for the highest team pinfall plus handicap. For example, if there are 33 teams, the 1st place team members will all each receive 125 points towards the finals each, 2nd 124 points each, etc.
- F. The top bowlers based on tournament series points qualify for the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Finals (see requirements Section 3 rule C).
 - a. If the tournament series finals fund accumulates between \$1 and \$1,999 (including any sponsorships or donations), 24 bowlers will qualify for the Series Finals.
 - b. If the tournament series finals fund accumulates between \$2,000 and \$2,499 (including any sponsorships or donations), 30 bowlers will qualify for the Series Finals.
 - c. If the tournament series finals fund accumulates \$2,500 or more (including any sponsorships or donations), 36 bowlers will qualify for the Series Finals.
- G. Ties for any CT Duckpins Tournament Series Finals position (including alternates) will be broken based on the following continuum:
 - a. Highest number of 2026-2027 CT Duckpins Tournament Series Events entered (not including re-entries)
 - b. Highest number of points earned in a single 2026-2027 CT Duckpins Tournament Series event (continuing to next highest until the tie is broken)
 - c. Highest 5-game pinfall plus handicap in a single 2026-2027 CT Duckpins Tournament Series event (continuing to next highest until the tie is broken)
 - d. Coin flip

- H. Qualifiers must RSVP via the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Committee prescribed method at least one week before the date of the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Finals event. Any qualifier who fails to respond by this deadline forfeits his or her place in the event.
- I. An alternate will replace any qualifier who forfeits or declines his or her place in the event. Alternates have 24 hours from the time of notification to RSVP to the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Committee. Any alternate who fails to respond by this deadline forfeits his or her place in the event.
- J. Any bowler who confirms entry in the CT Duckpins Tournament Series finals but is not present on the day of the event and is not replaced is responsible for paying the event entry fee.
- K. Bowlers who withdraw from a tournament immediately after one frame will be credited with a tournament bowled.
- L. The entry fee for the series finals will be \$20.
- M. All bowlers **must** check in with the director at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the CT Duckpins Tournament Series Finals event. If a shift is scheduled to start at a specific time and the director has not heard from the absent bowler(s), the director shall start the event at the advertised shift time and the bowler will forfeit his/her qualifying place to the next available alternate. If the director has been contacted by a bowler that is running a few minutes late, the director can use their discretion and hold the shift up no more than 10 minutes until the bowler can arrive. If more than 10 minutes after start time, the shift will start. If no alternate is available, that spot shall become a bye or forfeit.

Section VI: A/B Singles Events

- A. The rules in this section apply only to events classified as “A/B Singles” on tournament flyers and publications.
- B. These events will consist of two rounds.
- C. The first round will consist of five games (or more if stated on the tournament flyer) and shall be known as the preliminary round.
- D. After all bowlers have completed the preliminary round, they will be ranked as follows to determine qualification to the final round.
 - a. The number of scratch qualifiers will be stated clearly on the tournament flyer. The scratch qualifiers shall be determined first.
 - b. The number of handicap qualifiers will be stated clearly on the tournament flyer. The handicap qualifiers shall be determined only after the scratch qualifiers have been confirmed.
- E. Ties for qualification seeding will be broken with the following continuum:

- a. Scratch Total
 - b. High Scratch Game
 - c. Second Highest Scratch Game (and so on to the lowest scratch game)
 - d. Coin flip
- F. The final round will consist of a “modified ladder” format and will be based on the number of qualifiers. All possible final round formats will be published on the CT Duckpins website prior to the tournament start date.
- G. All final round matches shall consist of one game.
- H. In cases when two matches are played on one pair of lanes, bowlers competing against one another will both complete a frame on the same lane before switching sides. Accordingly, in each match the bowler who rolls first will roll first each frame.
- I. In cases when one match is played on one pair of lanes, bowler A will bowl his or her first frame on the right lane. Bowler B will then bowl two frames, starting on the left lane. Accordingly, Bowler B will finish his or her game first and Bowler A will finish with one frame on the left lane.
- J. Scratch qualifiers and handicap qualifiers will be kept separate until the championship match.
 - a. Matches between scratch qualifiers shall be played with no handicap.
 - b. Matches between handicap qualifiers shall be played with handicap calculated as previously stated in tournament rules.
- K. Should a tie occur in a final round match, a two frame roll-off shall be held to break the tie.
 - a. Two frame roll-offs between scratch qualifiers shall be played with no handicap.
 - b. Two frame roll-offs between handicap qualifiers shall be played with 1/5 handicap calculated as previously stated in tournament rules.
- L. The final match in the final round shall be played with handicap equal to 80% of the difference between the two bowlers’ averages (round fraction up if higher than .5).
- M. Final round finishing position shall determine prize eligibility for all bowlers who qualified for the final round.
- N. Any additional prizes listed on the prize list will go to entries that did not qualify for the final round. These prizes will go to the bowlers with the best 5-game preliminary round score with handicap.
- O. Should a bowler who has qualified for the final round be unable to compete in or become unable to compete during the final round, they will be replaced by an alternate. The alternate will be selected using Section VI rule ”D”. (It could be possible a bowler might move from the handicap group to scratch group depending on the absent bowler.) The bowler unable to compete shall be credited with points from the 1st spot out of the bracket and shall receive a prize based on the 1st spot out of the bracket. If there is no prize money for that spot (we only pay people in the bracket, no money left for other spots), his or her entry fee would/will be donated by the hosting center for that bowler.

- P. The tournament director may modify the final round schedule and/or lane assignments as needed due to lane breakdowns, television requirements, or any other reason. However, he or she may not alter format or matchups.

Section VII: Code of Conduct

A. Threatening.

- a. If a bowler is deemed to be threatening a fellow competitor, tournament staff member, or bowling center staff verbally, they will be subject to a warning from the tournament director. Once you have been warned, the next occurrence at that event or additional events will cause a disqualification.
- b. If a bowler is deemed to be threatening a fellow competitor, tournament staff member, or bowling center staff physically, they will automatically be disqualified from the event.

- B. Lobbing. A ball traveling over half way down the lane shall be considered a violation and will be warned. Once you have been warned, the next occurrence at that event or additional events will cause a disqualification.

- C. Excessive profanity. If a bowler uses profanity in a way that disrupts other bowlers, that bowler will be warned. If said bowler continues to do this, he or she will be disqualified for the current event. Once you have been warned, the next occurrence at that event or additional events will cause a disqualification.

- D. Equipment of property damage. If a bowler has been reported to be damaging equipment or property, it shall be reviewed by the house owners, managers, staff, and or director. If it is determined that it was intentionally done, said bowler shall be disqualified and may be banned from that establishment and will have to pay restitution for the damages done. If it was deemed an accident, a warning may suffice.

- E. If said bowler becomes disqualified, they must submit a written request to the board to be reinstated. You can contact:

President: Paul Frosolone: froz65chevy@gmail.com or

Secretary: Gail Roux: gailroux74@gmail.com

Any bowler who is disqualified will forfeit all monies and points earned related to the shift after the disqualification. Example: If a bowler wins an optional high game pot and then gets disqualified in the next games, said bowler will keep that winnings but will forfeit all other monies including optional entry fee already paid.

- F. Any rules not stated in these rules, the **NDBC** rules apply.

2026-2027 CT Duckpins Tournament Series Finals Rules

1. The three bowlers entering the Series Finals with the greatest number of tournament series points will receive free entry into the Series Finals.
2. The prize list for Series Finals will be announced as we get closer to the event date and we should have an estimated amount of money that we will be able to distribute.
3. All qualifying bowlers will be placed into a group of six. Participants will bowl five games in the first round - one against each of the other bowlers in his or her group.
4. Bowlers will be seeded into groups based on total points for the current season total points. Group A will be composed of the bowlers with top 6 point getters Group B will be composed of the bowlers with the 7th through 12th point getters; and so on.
5. Tournament groupings will be published 24 to 48 hours before the event (provided the tournament field is confirmed).
6. In all matches, the bowler with the most tournament series points will have the option to choose the bowling order.
7. In cases when two or more matches are played on one pair of lanes, bowlers competing against one another will bowl side by side on adjacent lanes, 1 frame at a time. The next time the bowlers will switch lanes.
8. In cases when one match is played on one pair of lanes, bowler A will bowl his or her first frame on the right lane. Bowler B will then bowl two frames, starting on the left lane. Accordingly, Bowler B will finish his or her game first and Bowler A will finish with one frame on the left lane.
9. Should any bowler withdraw from the series finals after tournament groupings are published, the first alternate shall take his or her place; groups will not be reorganized.
10. All participants will receive handicap as outlined in the tournament series rules.
11. Bowlers will be ranked in their groups based on the following continuum:
 - a. Wins (1 point) & Ties (0.5 point)
 - b. Handicap Total
 - c. 2-frame roll-off between all tied bowlers with 1/5 of their single game handicaps applied
12. The top two bowlers from each group after five games will advance to a single elimination bracket.
13. In instances when bowlers are seeded into the bracket (rather than placed based on group and position) the following continuum will be used to assign seeds:
 - a. Division winners
 - b. Wins (1 point) & Ties (0.5 point)
 - c. Handicap Total
 - d. Scratch Total
 - e. High Scratch Game
 - f. Second Highest Scratch Game (and so on to the lowest scratch game)

- g. Coin flip
- 14. All bracket matches will consist of one game.
- 15. Any ties in the bracket round will be resolved with a two-frame roll-off with bowlers receiving 1/5 of their single game handicaps.
- 16. The tournament director may modify lane assignments as needed due to lane breakdowns, television requirements, or any other reason. However, he or she may not alter format or matchups.
- 17. Collared shirts are **REQUIRED** to be worn at the Series Finals.