

# 2016-17 LEAGUE LEVEL RULES

(ATHLETES MUST SEE THESE RULES  
AND CHOOSE THEIR OWN DIVISION)



1. The Pepsi Youth Championships is certified by the United States Bowling Congress and governed by USBC rules.
2. Competition is open to all 2016-17 USBC Youth members. To compete, a bowler must be a regular member of a certified USBC league and not be under suspension at the time of qualifying. League substitutes are allowed to participate if it is their only USBC Youth league. USBC Collegiate members are eligible if they are 2016-17 USBC Youth members, bowl in a USBC Youth league and have not violated USBC Rule 400.
3. All USBC Youth members in good standing are eligible for the league level competition. There is no entry fee at the league level. Bowling centers having 2016-17 USBC certified leagues are automatic league level qualifying sites.
4. **Participants must be aware of each competition level in the state/zone and all associated rules, fees and deadlines. These items are contained in the specific state/zone rules from the State/Zone Pepsi tournament director. (State director information can be found on BOWL.com.)**
5. Competition will be conducted in 10 divisions based on the participant's date of birth as listed below. Participation in the wrong age division will lead to automatic disqualification. Bowlers must stay in the given division in that particular league throughout the entire window.

⇒U8 Boys	Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2008 or later	⇒U8 Girls
⇒U10 Boys	Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2006 thru 7/31/08	⇒U10 Girls
⇒U12 Boys	Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2004 thru 7/31/06	⇒U12 Girls
⇒U15 Boys	Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2001 thru 7/31/04	⇒U15 Girls
⇒U20 Boys	Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/1996 thru 7/31/01	⇒U20 Girls

\*One way to think about this is....If a bowler turns 9, 11, 13, or 16 during the bowling season he/she would be in the next highest age division.

**\*There is no requirement of Junior Gold membership to enter U12, U15 & U20 Division!**

6. The qualifying window average will be the current league average as of the first date of competition (no minimum number of games). Participants must remain in that division for the duration of that window. Bowlers are eligible to compete in a different division in a different league during the league level of competition.
7. USBC earned awards are based on the member's league average as of that day.
8. League level qualifying will be conducted in certified leagues during the qualifying window(s) between Oct. 1, 2016 and Feb. 28, 2017. Each state/zone Pepsi tournament committee decides the qualifying window dates. Consult state/zone rules for the specific dates. **If needed, the state/zone Pepsi tournament director can grant changes in the qualifying dates to individual bowling centers.**
9. Qualifying scores must be bowled during regularly scheduled league play. **Pre-bowled or post-bowled scores may not be used as scores for advancement purposes.** Advancement to the next competition level will be from the league level.
10. Participants can attempt to qualify in any state/zone where they hold a 2016-17 USBC Youth membership card. However, the bowler can only advance once using the following criteria:
  - A. In the event a bowler qualifies in more than one league in the same division, the bowler must advance from the league in which the highest series was bowled. For identical qualifying scores, the member will advance from the league where the first score was bowled.
  - B. If a bowler qualifies in different leagues from multiple divisions, the bowler must select one division they will

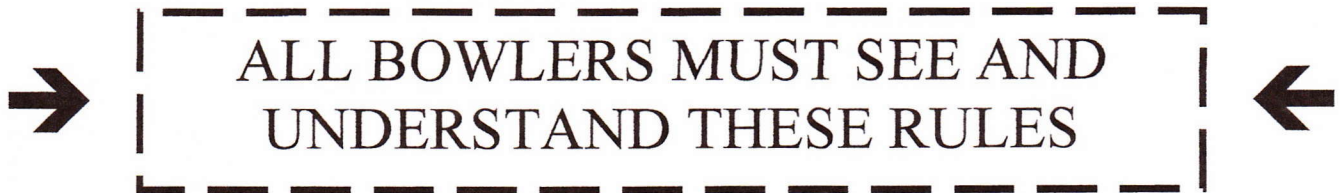
compete in before subsequent competition.

- C. If the bowler advances out of league level in more than one state/zone, the bowler **must** declare one state/zone to continue competing in before the next competition level.
- D. Participation in any level of competition past the league level in more than one state/zone and/or more than one division will result in automatic disqualification.

*Note: Advancers remain in the division they qualified in during the league level in all subsequent competition. If there is a tie for the last-place qualifier in a division, both will advance to the next level of competition.*

#### STATE/ZONE LEVEL

- 11. The top one (1) bowler in the U12, U15 and U20 divisions for boys and girls at the state/zone competition with the highest scratch score (plus applicable bonus pins) will earn a berth to the Junior Gold Championships to be held July 15 - 22, 2017 in Cleveland, OH. Bowlers are not required to have a minimum average or be a Junior Gold Program member to enter the U12, U15 or U20 Divisions at the local level of qualifying for the Pepsi USBC Youth Championships. However, to receive the berth, the bowler must be a USBC Youth Standard member and USBC Junior Gold program member no later than June 8, 2017. **If the winner is not eligible for the championships, he/she will still retain all awards from the state/zone, but the next eligible bowler will receive the berth to the Junior Gold Championships.**
- 12. Advancers to the Junior Gold Championships must agree to bowl in the Junior Gold Championships or, failing to do so, agree to waive all rights. Replacements will be selected based on the order of finish in their division at the state/zone level.
- 13. **If a bowler has already earned a berth into the Junior Gold Championships and wins either the U12, U15 or U20 division in Pepsi they would receive any scholarship or stipend assigned to their finishing position. The spot into the Junior Gold Championships would go to the next eligible athlete in line by order of finishing position.**
- 14. Failure to abide by any rules and regulations will lead to disqualification from this event. The Pepsi USBC Youth Championships National Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any participant.
- 15. The Pepsi USBC Youth Championships National Tournament Committee will decide all matters not covered by these rules and regulations, or USBC rules and regulations. All decisions are final.

**ALL BOWLERS MUST SEE AND  
UNDERSTAND THESE RULES**