



SOUTH CAROLINA RULES & FORMAT

1. This tournament is certified by the United States Bowling Congress (#05019) and shall be governed by USBC rules.
2. Dates of league level qualifying are November 4-17, 2024 and January 6-19, 2025. Advancement from league is a one-time entry. If an individual who qualified cannot participate in the state competition, his/her replacement will be eligible based on order of finish in the previous level of competition.
3. Advancement ratio from league competition to the state competition is at least **1:3** entries per division, or any fraction thereof, including last-place ties. The base number for each division is the number of individuals that were present at least one week to participate in that division. In all cases at least one person per division shall advance. The advancement ratio shall be applied uniformly to all eligible divisions.
4. **Advancers out of the league level must remain in the division they qualified in during all subsequent levels. If a bowler advances out of league level in more than one state, the bowler must declare one state to continue competing in before the next competition level. Participation in any level of competition past the league level in more than one state will result in automatic disqualification.**
5. Competition will take place at Royal Z, 8512 Two Notch Rd, Columbia, SC 29223. (phone #803-788-9208) for U8, U10, U12, U15, U18 divisions at 8:00AM, Noon, and 4:00PM on Saturday March 8, 2025 and Sunday, March 9, 2025. Overall winners in the U8 & U10 divisions are determined by total pin fall. Participants will select squad times where applicable. The overall top 15% in the U12, U15, U18 divisions will bowl an additional 6 games to determine the top 5 for singles elimination matches on Saturday, March 15, 2025 at Royal Z, 8512 Two Notch Rd, Columbia, SC 29223. (phone #803-788-9208) at 10:00 AM. Singles elimination, head-to-head stepladder finals will be bowled on the assigned pair of lanes on Saturday, March 15, 2025 immediately following the 10:00 AM squad and a short break.
6. Entry closing date is **February 7, 2025**. Tournament entry forms containing qualifiers' name, address, telephone number and USBC Membership (including league level worksheets) & fees for all entrants must be submitted to the tournament director by this date.
7. Divisions are based on the participant's age. **Athletes must compete in their proper age division in all levels of competition. Athletes must be Junior Gold Members or be eligible and buy membership prior to advancement to the Junior Gold Championships.** Competition shall be conducted in the following divisions: Boys U8, U10, U12, U15, & U18 and Girls U8, U10, U12, U15, & U18.

Qualifying competition is held in divisions based on the bowler's date of birth as of the dates below:

- U8 Boys/Girls Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2016 or later.
- U10 Boys/Girls Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2014 thru 7/31/16.
- U12 Boys/Girls Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2012 thru 7/31/14.
- U15 Boys/Girls Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2009 thru 7/31/12.
- U18 Boys/Girls Bowlers whose birthdate is 8/1/2006 thru 7/31/09.

8. The tournament format shall be: U8 & U10 divisions will bowl a three game series. The total score will determine overall winners in the U8 & U10 divisions. U12, U15, & U18 divisions will bowl six games (on the same pair of lanes) then the top 15% overall per division will bowl an additional six games. The top 5 will be determined by the highest score of the six games (qualifying first six game totals will be dropped). Top 5 in each division will bowl singles elimination matches on the same pair of lanes to determine the winner.

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9. Entry fee is:	<u>U8 & U10 Divisions</u>	<u>U12, U15, U17 & U20 Divisions</u>
Lineage	\$10.00	\$20.00
Expense	5.00	10.00
Awards	1.00	1.00
T-shirt	7.00	7.00
Scholarships	<u>12.00</u>	<u>12.00</u>
Total	\$35.00	\$50.00

Awards and scholarship fees shall be returned 100% to the bowlers. Two new scholarships have been added this year. The Bailey Family Scholarship and The Bowers Family Scholarship. Scholarships will be administered and deposited in to the SMART program (SMART account number Z

8545) (USBC Rules 301d and 309 states that all scholarships awarded during a USBC certified event must be deposited in the SMART Program) at USBC headquarters (1-800-514-2695 ext. 8968) 621 Six Flags Dr., Arlington, TX 76011.

- Bailey family scholarship will go to the highest scratch series for girl in the U12 and up division during March 9 & 10
- Bowers family scholarship will go to the highest scratch series for boy in the U12 and up division during March 9 & 10

10. All bowlers must wear suitable attire at the discretion of the Tournament Director or the designated representative. Those violating this rule will be required to change to appropriate clothing or will not be allowed to bowl. Suitable attire is described as: clean clothes without holes, shorts and skirts must be longer than the bowler's fingertips when standing with arms hanging naturally at their sides, covered midriffs (while in the act of bowling) and pants must be worn at the natural waistline. Shirts with foul language, gestures, gambling, illegal substance, tobacco or alcohol products, head-coverings (except for medical reasons) crop tops and tank tops are not permitted. Athletes aren't allowed to smoke or use any tobacco products at the tournament site. Smoking for guests is allowed in designated smoking areas only. All electronic devices (including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, music players, etc.) should be turned off and stored during competition.

11. No replacements will be permitted **once athletes have started tournament play**; however, replacements may be used for bowlers not able to attend with 48-hour prior notification to squad time as stated in Rule 2. **Replacements must be based on the order of finish from prior level of competition (i.e., same window, same league and same center as to the "no-show" bowler if replacement is from the league level. They must follow the order of advancement within that window/league.)** No substitutes or replacements are allowed in the top 15% qualifying round. No refunds will be given to bowlers who do not show up without notifying the tournament Director.

12. Competitors will be allowed 10 minutes of practice time prior to bowling for score on their starting pair of lanes only.

13. If no replacement has been made, bowlers arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. Missed frames shall be credited with a zero. Frames may not be made-up. A bowler not present to bowl when it's their turn will be credited with a zero for that frame.

14. Only bowlers and tournament officials shall be permitted in the settee area.

15. Ties will be broken by a one game roll-off. Should a tie still exist, it will be broken by an additional ninth and 10th frame roll-off. (Refer to rule 326a).

16. Claims for errors in scoring or general playing rules, must be made to the tournament director no later than the start of the next block or 30 minutes after completion of the competition. Questionable errors shall be decided upon by the Tournament Director. All other protests must be confirmed in writing to the Tournament Director within 72 hours of the infraction. Under this rule, each protest must be specific in itself.

17. Symbolic awards will be given as follows: Medals and certificates awarded to the top 15% of all state advancers in all divisions.

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18. Scholarships will be awarded as follows: 1st place in all ten divisions to receive a \$250.00 scholarship. Additional scholarships may be awarded based on number of participants. The Bailey Family Scholarship and Bowers Family Scholarship are both \$100 scholarships.

19. **The first-place winners of the U12, U15, U18 Divisions for both Boys & Girls will advance to the 2025 Junior Gold Championships. They must be USBC Junior Gold members to advance to the Junior Gold Championships. Bowlers without a current Junior Gold membership must purchase a Junior Gold membership at the SC Pepsi Championships (if the bowler wins their division) in order to advance to the National Junior Gold. USBC will waive the \$200 (U18) \$150 (U15) and \$100 (U12) entry fee for these athletes. These athletes will compete for additional scholarships available to all athletes at the Junior Gold Championships, as well as other prizes and awards. South Carolina will provide a stipend for expenses. All U.S. citizens are vying for a spot on USBC Junior Team USA 2026 to represent the United States in national and international competition. If the U12, U15, & U18 Division Champion is unwilling or unable to become a Junior Gold member they will not advance to the Junior Gold Championships. However, the athlete will still retain the state scholarship, but the berth to the Junior Gold Championships will be awarded to the next eligible athlete. The scholarship, berth and stipend are separate awards.**

Eligible advancers 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 state level. In the event that a qualifier needs to be replaced and there is a tie to determine who will advance to the Junior Gold Championships, the high game from the qualifying scores will determine who will advance. If the high score for each is the same, the next subsequent high score will be used until the tie is broken. Replacements will incur all costs associated with changing the airline ticket, if applicable. If the eligible advancer decides not to attend the Junior Gold Championships, any stipends offered will be forfeited. However, any scholarships earned at the state level will be retained.

All matters not covered by these rules and regulations shall be determined by the South Carolina State Pepsi USBC Youth Championships Tournament Committee. The National Pepsi USBC Youth Championships Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any participant.

Tournament Director:

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