

Wendell White's Mile Hi Tour

Junior Bowlers Tour

2025 – 2026

GENERAL RULES & FORMATS

Tour Directors:

Antonio Garcia and Sandy DeBates

Tournament Directors

Mike Lujan

Cecelia DeBates

DIVISIONS & ELIGIBILITY:

Open to all youth and young adults USBC certified bowlers who have not reached their 22nd birthday as of August 1st, 2025.

We have three divisions:

HANDICAP DIVISION

Open to all bowlers with a suggested average under 150.

Handicap will be 90% of 175

CLASSIFIED DIVISION - SCRATCH

Open to all bowlers with average cap of 174; suggested minimum average of 150

OPEN DIVISION – SCRATCH

Open to all bowlers (with any average).

Required division for bowler with an average of 175 or above; suggested minimum average of 170

ENTERING AVERAGES:

Entering average will be:

1. 2024-2025 Mile Hi Tour average of at least 3 stops
2. 2024-2025 USBC Book average of at least 9 games (highest)
3. Current league average of at least 9 games
4. Highest summer 2025 average of 9 games or more.

Averages based on regular league competition will be adjusted appropriately to a sport average using the USBC rulebook.

If none of the above exists, bowlers must bowl in one of the scratch divisions at director's discretion OR also at director's discretion, bowler may be allowed to bowl in Handicap Division and receive NO handicap.

All bowlers will establish tournament average after first stop bowled and will then use that average for future tournament competition during current season.

Once a bowler begins a tournament with a right or left-handed delivery, they must finish that tournament with that same delivery or forfeit.

If a bowler, due to injury or a medical issue, must begin a tournament with a different hand than usually bowled with, they will be treated as brand new bowler and must follow the rules above for a bowler with no average. They will be considered a brand-new bowler as well for the determination of averages, divisions and points.

CHANGING DIVISION:

Bowlers may transfer to a higher division at their own discretion or at the direction of the Tour Directors. However, once a bowler has moved to a higher division, they may not return to a lower division during the same season without prior approval from the Tour Directors.

The only exception to the above division placement is for bowlers who did not participate in at least 3 stops the previous year. In their case, when they bowl their second stop of the current year they may be allowed to move based on their average from the first week of tour bowling.

Any other moves to different divisions due to extenuating circumstances are subject to a vote by the board.

After stop 11, FOR BOWLERS WITH MORE THAN 5 STOPS, DIVISIONS ARE SET AND NO MOVES WILL BE ALLOWED. Therefore, for those bowlers, as of stop 12, they must compete in the same division they bowled in the last time they bowled the tour during the current season.

POINT LEADER SYSTEM:

Bowlers will earn points based on where/how they finish qualifying and where/how they finish in post-qualifying, based on gender. Bowlers will earn one point for participating in the tournament and one additional point for each bowler of their own gender they outscore or tie in pre-qualifying. Then similarly in post-qualifying, bowlers will earn an additional point for making the cut and one additional point for each bowler of their own gender they outscore or tie.

For example, if there are 10 boys bowling, the first-place boy receives 10 points. The second-place boy would receive 9 points, etc... until the last place boy receives 1 point.

Bowlers will receive a proportionate number of points in the divisions they did not compete in so that they are not overly punished when changing divisions.

After the last regular stop, leaders will be awarded additional scholarship.

LANE USAGE:

Beginning lane assignments will be made at time of check in. During qualifying competition, bowlers will move one lane pair to the right after each game. During qualifying competition, the scratch divisions will be interspersed on a set of lanes, and handicap division will be isolated onto a separate set of lanes. Post-qualifying competition will be conducted with each division isolated on their own set of lanes.

Bowlers wishing to bowl with specific individuals on the same pair are encouraged to wait to check-in with those individuals.

DRESS CODE:

Appropriate clothing must be worn. Bowlers may wear slacks, dress capris, skirts, skirts, skorts, or jeans with a bowling jersey or collared shirt. Mock neck collar style jerseys and USBC logo shirts may also be worn.

Jeans, pants, and slacks will be in good condition with no holes, tattered or sagging. For skirts and skorts, the length will be no shorter than bottom of the fingertips when standing with arms down.

ABSOLUTELY NO T-SHIRTS, SWEATS, WARMUP GEAR, LEGGINGS, YOGA PANTS, SHORTS OR PAJAMAS. NO HEADGEAR ALLOWED! Dress code will be strictly enforced. Non-compliance will result in not being allowed to bowl. First time bowlers not adhering to this dress code may be warned and allowed to bowl at their first stop but must adhere to dress code for future stops. Please remember that this dress code makes our tour look very professional to proprietors and spectators. Exceptions may be made at the directors' discretion in cases of health and safety.

FEES & AWARD DISTRIBUTION:

Each contestant will pay the following entry fees at each stop in which they compete. **BRING YOUR FRIENDS – TURN THEM ON TO THE TOUR!! If a brand-new bowler indicates who brought**

them in on their information form, we will give an additional \$10.00 bonus scholarship at the end of the year to the bowler indicated (one bowler per form).

Entry fees are as follows:

	<u>All Stops</u>
Handicap Division	\$45.00
Classified Division	\$50.00
Open Division	\$50.00

Distribution of fees for each stop are as follows: After lineage is paid to the bowling centers, we will distribute at least 50% (rounded up) in scholarships. The remaining fees collected will be used for expenses and supplies, bonus scholarships, and for the championship tournament. Distribution of scholarships will be based on a ratio of at least 1 in 4 bowlers for all divisions.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

Supplemental scholarships may come in various forms, either through sponsorships or through SMART's Available Unassigned Funds.

Sponsorships specific to a tournament (as requested by sponsor) will be added in a prorated percentage or as directed by the sponsor to the prize funds for that tournament. Otherwise, those sponsorships will be added to increase our tournament championship scholarships.

Sponsorship related to Brunswick ball raffles will be collected for the purpose of increasing our tournament championship scholarships.

Supplemental Scholarships through returned and unassigned SMART funds will be made available on an appropriate basis and be prorated across divisions based on participation.

ATTENDANCE BONUS:

Additional scholarships will be paid out to those bowlers who have competed in 11 or more regular tour stops. The bonus amount will be determined on a year-to-year basis.

BONUS SCHOLARSHIPS:

Bonus scholarships may be paid at the directors' discretion. An example of a bonus scholarships would be a bonus paid to the male and female bowler with that week's qualifying high games of \$25.00 each.

TREVOR KLING SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:

In conjunction with our sponsors and friends at Brunswick, we will be offering an award named for Trevor Kling. Trevor Kling was a young a man of courage and distinction. An example to all of us on how to live our lives with dignity and grace. Thank you so much to Trevor, his father David Kling and the entire Kling family for being a part of our lives! This scholarship will be \$300.00.

BRACKETS:

If there is enough interest, brackets will be offered for all divisions. **(Brackets will be offered in two sets: for games 1-3, and games 4-6 of the 3-game qualifying blocks for all Scratch divisions. Handicap will be offered for games 2-4 only)** Brackets will be purchased at time of entry and handled from our tour office, by tour Directors only! Brackets will be returned 100% and results/statistics tracked throughout the year on standing sheets.

JUNIOR GOLD QUALIFIER:

The cost to enter the qualifier:

1. U12 will be \$35
2. U14 will be \$45
3. U16 and U18 will be \$50

Prior to entering the qualifier, the bowler must be registered with USBC with a Junior Gold membership.

The qualifier is based on total pin count for 4 games. This is a scratch qualifier.

A minimum of 4 entries will be required to run the qualifier. Ratio is 1:4 to award a Jr. Gold position. If there are five entries, the second-place finisher will have the opportunity to buy in to an additional spot. The next in line finisher will be listed as an alternate. In the event that the qualifier cannot attend Jr. Gold, the alternate will be offered that spot.

If there are not enough bowlers for a specific division, the bowlers may be combined to run a single qualifier regardless of age. This will be communicated to the entrants prior to final determination.

In the event of a tie for the qualifying position, the next bowled game will be used to break the tie. For example, if qualifying games are 2, 3, 4, and 5. In the event of a tie, game 6 will be used.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Each Mile Hi Tour tournament is considered its own competition, from beginning to end. Therefore, as per U.S.B.C Rule 18 we will not allow the surface of any ball to be altered during competition.

No smoking, vaping or consumption of alcoholic beverages will be allowed in bowling or spectator areas of any bowling center while Mile Hi Tour is being conducted.

The use of **electronic devices** during tour play in bowler area will be monitored by tournament officials. This consists of, but not limited to: mobile phone, PDA, computer, personal music player, and/or gaming devices. If we feel the use of such devices is negatively affecting the experience of bowling in the Mile Hi Tour for competitors, we will ask the bowler to desist the use of those devices.

All divisions will be available for check-in between 8:00-8:55 AM, with bowling to begin at 9:00 AM. At the time of check-in, you will be required to present entry fees and any brackets you wish to enter.

No person will be allowed to check in until entry fees have been paid; however, you are permitted to sign up others that you wish to bowl with, provided that entry fees are collected for each person you check in by the tournament directors at time of check-in.

As per USBC rules, no weight holes in bowling balls will be allowed.

Balls without a thumbhole must have a scribed or engraved cross-hair lines (“+”) near the center of the palm to indicate the grip orientation. The ball must be delivered in the marked orientation (i.e. palm must cover the “+”).

Bowlers may be required to show their USBC membership card for the current season.

Any situation not covered in these rules or the USBC rulebook will be handled at the discretion of the Tournament Directors, on a case-by-case basis. The decisions of the Tour Directors are final.

FORMATS:

Handicap Qualifying: For all formats, bowlers will bowl 4 games of qualifying, moving one pair to the right after each game.

Scratch Qualifying: For all formats, bowlers will bowl 6 games of qualifying, moving one pair to the right after each game.

For all post-qualifying decisions where one bowler gets to decide who will go first and on what lane to use, the decision is made by the higher placed bowler as of the qualifying round. The decision is to who starts on the left lane.

STEPLADDER:

After qualifying, field will be cut to top half, rounded up. If there are more than 20 bowlers the cut will be set at 12 bowlers. Minimum cut is 5 bowlers. Then there will be an additional 3-game semi-final round for all divisions. Semi-final scores will be added to the scores bowled during qualifying (accumulated). The field will then be cut to top 5 bowlers for step-ladder finals.

The 5th place bowler bowls the 4th place bowler. The winner moves to bowl the 3rd place bowler, etc... Incoming bowler, immediately before their match should be afforded a place to warm up. The higher placed bowler gets to come in and throw 2 practice balls on each lane. Immediately following those practice shots, the incoming bowler gets to decide who goes first and on what lane.

Ties at the first cut of qualifying will advance to the next level (semi-final) of competition. Ties to determine placing (seeding) will be based on high game, continuing until tie is broken. Ties during the post-qualifying matches will require a 9th/10th frame roll-off.

ELIMINATOR:

After qualifying, cut to top 16 if there are 20 or more entries and top 8 if there are less than 20 entries. Further rounds will consist of the bowlers bowling 1 game and reducing the field by half, the lower scorers being eliminated, until a single bowler remains. Qualifying pinfall does not carry over. Therefore, the final round will consist of a single game match. In this format, in the case of a tie to determine who moves on (including qualifying), we will have a **9th/10th frame roll-off.**

SURVIVOR:

After qualifying cut to top 8 bowlers. Then additional games are bowled, one at a time. Qualifying pinfall does not carry over. Each game will eliminate the lowest score until one bowler remains. **If there is a tie for the lowest score, a 9th/10th frame roll-off will occur to determine who survives. Ties in the qualifying round to determine who moves on will require a 9th/10th frame roll-off.**

CONDUCT:

Unsportsmanlike or impolite behavior by tour bowlers and spectators will not be tolerated! If such behavior is witnessed by any tour Director, the bowler or spectator may be warned or asked to leave the tournament immediately and will forfeit any fees paid for that tournament stop. If bad behavior persists, tour Directors have the right to suspend bowlers from future tour stops or forbid a spectator from attending future tour stops. Spectators who witness such behavior are welcome to report such behavior to tournament staff.

Only bowlers, Tour Officials, qualified volunteers, and bowling center personnel are permitted in the settee areas during any part of competition – NO EXCEPTIONS!

Coaching or any conversation with spectators by bowlers must not alter, interfere with or slow down tournament play. No coaching allowed in the settee area by spectators – NO EXCEPTIONS!

FINAL STOP:

There are two ways to qualify for the “Championship Stop”.

1. Bowlers who have competed in at least 8 stops.
2. Bowlers who have won a regular tournament stop.

If a bowler started bowling a stop and dropped out due to illness or injury they will be considered as having bowled that stop.

Any exceptions to these rules are at the discretion of Mile Hi Tour Management.