



MIDDLE SCHOOL BOWLING CLUB

Policies and Procedures

Revised October 2018

1. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Competition in bowling will be held for all participating middle schools.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY FEES

Where applicable, the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club shall abide by United State Bowling Congress USBC Playing Rules. The Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club district coordinators shall receive, before the first conference meet, the names of all individuals of each club team. The Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club strongly recommends that all bowlers be USBC members. Student participation and scholarship tournaments fees will be determined by each district. These fees will be paid in accordance with district policy.

To bowl on a middle school team, all students must be in the 6th, seventh or 8th grade. Students are eligible for three years of middle school bowling. Middle school bowlers are eligible to participate in the singles event at state as long as they meet all eligibility requirements.

A. Home Schooled

1. A home school student is eligible for a middle school team by filling out the home school application with proof of the middle school for which the student would attend based on residency requirements for that middle school. The new form is on the bowlwi.com website.
2. Student must fill out home school residency form and must be sent to BCAW office, 2 weeks prior to start of district competition. Send to: Yvonne Bennett, BCAW, 21140 W. Capitol Dr., Suite 5, Pewaukee, WI 53072 or fax 262-783-4590 or email yvonne.bennett@bowlwi.com. Call 262-783-4292 with any questions.

3. DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Each District will appoint a District Coordinator.

B. Teams will remain in the same/host center and conference each year unless the BCAW Middle School Bowling Club Committee approves a move. If the school has reason to move centers, its representative must first petition the host center with the request to move along with the reasons. If that center agrees, that proprietor and the new proprietor simply sign a transfer form. If the host proprietor does not consent, the District Coordinator must arrange a meeting within two weeks. He will attend with an additional rules committee member, the conference coordinator, the host proprietor and the school representative to hear the reasons for the move and make a decision.

C. The BCAW Middle School Committee reserves the right to dictate realignment of conferences. The Executive Director of the BCAW will work with district coordinators in areas seeking realignment.

D. Matches, district coordinators shall do their best to schedule all matches in centers that have a team that practices out of that center.

E. District Coordinator (DC) may allow exceptions due to religious beliefs. (If the DC approves an exception to a uniform rule, he must put it in writing and forward to all the coaches). The same procedures would apply if a bowler has a health issue where the DC approves an exception to the uniform rule.

F. All Team Rosters must be on the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club website. If the team rosters are not on the website the team and individuals will be ineligible to compete at the state tournament.

G. As established by the BCAW Board of Directors all middle school teams will pay a registration fee of \$50 per team for teams that bowl at a BCAW member center. Middle school teams bowling at a non BCAW member center will pay a registration fee of \$75 per team. District coordinators are to send in a list of all teams competing in their district and the bowling center each team bowls at with a check made payable to the BCAW for each registered team. Payment is due after the first week of competition.

4. COACHES SECTION

A. Depending upon the status, the host bowling center and/or middle school must approve coaches before they are eligible.

B. All head coaches must have attained the age of 21.

C. Anyone currently suspended by the USBC is not eligible to coach a middle school bowling team.

D. Any coach caught falsifying scores may lead to an indefinite suspension from participating in the WI Middle School Bowling Club and the WI High School Bowling Club.

- E. All coaches MUST participate in the USBC Registered Volunteer Program and wear their ID lanyards at all practices, matches and the State Tournament. Or wear a School ID, where a background check has been performed. Anyone discovered not wearing their "ID" will not be allowed to be in the bowlers' area.
- F. Coaches and other persons officially connected with the team may not consume alcohol immediately prior to or during competition. Smoking, or use of other tobacco products, is limited to outside before or after, but not during competition. Coaches convicted of any felony charges will not be allowed to coach.
- G. It is the responsibility of the school's head coach to ensure all bowlers meet their school's eligibility requirements for athletic competition and that they attend the school they are representing.
- H. It shall be the head coach's responsibility to verify their bowlers continued academic eligibility at the end of each grading period.
- I. Schools that bowl ineligible bowlers shall forfeit all matches in which the ineligible student competed from the date it is documented that the bowler was determined ineligible.
- J. It shall be the responsibility of the coaches to collect the signed Conduct/Waiver & Travel Authorization Form and submit it to the conference coordinator prior to the established deadline(s). THESE FORMS SHOULD BE COLLECTED PRIOR TO ALLOWING BOWLERS TO PRACTICE.

5. DISTRICT COMPETITION STRUCTURE

- A. Each individual school shall field as many boys or girls teams as desired
- B. District competition will follow the dates of November 1, 2018 - April 22, 2019. With the state tournament held on May 4, 2019 at Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley in Green Bay.
- C. Practice may begin on October 1, 2018.

6. DISTRICT COMPETITION RULES

- A. Team Structure
 - 1. A legal team consists of five (5) to ten (10) bowlers from one school or an approved co-op. Up to ten (10) players maybe on each roster and allowed in bowling area.
 - 2. A legal lineup consists of three (3) bowlers.
 - 3. Girls will be allowed to bowl on the boys' team only if their school does not have a girls' team. If a school has six girls trying out for a team, you must form a girls' team.
 - 4. If a student or team is ineligible to bowl on middle school team, said team or student cannot compete at the district or state competition.
 - 5. If a school has a girls' team, that school cannot have girls on their boys' team.
 - 6. Team name shall be the name of the Middle School or Schools in the case of a co-op or the name of the city or cities if not recognized by the Middle School.
 - 7. Schools may have multiple boys or girls teams.
 - 8. If a team has a sub from another school, the team forfeits the team and baker points but the individuals' scores count toward averages.
- B. Playing Format
 - 1. A team is expected to present a legal lineup on the lanes at the scheduled time.
 - 2. Bowlers will receive ten (10) minutes practice on their scheduled lanes before competition.
 - 3. Teams will bowl in open play format alternating lanes every other game. Teams will bowl five (5) to nine (9) baker games.
 - 4. Absentee: If less than a full lineup and no subs are available, that team shall select the line up order where they will receive a zero (0) for their score during baker competition.
 - 5. Forfeits: A team which forfeits will lose all points for that game. When a game is declared forfeited, the team that is present must bowl as if the game was actually contested, and all scores will count toward individual averages and team points
 - 6. Ties: Teams that tie for a game or series each team wins $\frac{1}{2}$ (one-half) of points earned averages.
 - 7. Strike and fill percentages will be established the first session that a bowler participates. The 10th frame only counts frame ten (10) for fill percentage; (11 & 12 frames do not count).
 - 8. Substitutes: A legal lineup consists of five (5) bowlers with unlimited alternates within the roster of ten (10). A coach may remove a bowler during a game and put in an alternate. Once that bowler has been substituted for they may not be re-entered during that game. However, they may be re-entered during the next team game/baker game.
 - a. Substitute in mid frame: First bowlers get credit for the open or fill of frame.
 - b. Substitute in individual game: Bowler who starts the game will get credit for the game

- c. Substitutions – You must notify the coach of the opposing lane or pair when substituting mid-frame or game. If notification is not made, a zero will be entered for that frame. The original bowler will go back in for the 2nd frame of that game for that position if the substitution was not properly done.
- 9. Conduct of Coaches and Players (Players must abide by his/her School District Athletic code)
 - a. No coach, player or other person officially connected with the team shall be permitted to use any tobacco products on the bench or in the playing area. Bowling area consists of settee, concourse.
 - b. No consumption of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products by anyone in the settee or concourse area during practice or match play. Note – In a large center a 4 lane buffer area on each side will be appropriate.
 - c. All bowlers will remain in the immediate bowling area while competition is in progress unless excused by coach.
 - d. Bowlers will be expected to follow the previous bowler promptly and will be required to bowl as soon as the lane to their right is clear.
 - e. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including deliberate fouling, unusually loud or vulgar language or abuse of equipment and facilities is prohibited. Coaches or center officials will have the authority to remove anyone from competition for any of the above reasons from their teams.
 - f. Conduct Enforcement Policy: Coaches of all participating schools are responsible for the enforcement of the following penalties. The district coordinator or assigned district official at the match shall have final say on enforcement, when the two coaches cannot agree on the penalty that should be handed down.
 - Violation 1: Will result in a verbal warning.
 - Violation 2: Will be removal or said bowler from all competition. Coaches may substitute a roster bowler for any player removed for conduct violations.
 - g. The coach(s), league officials and the bowlers bowling in a match are the only persons authorized to be in the bowlers' area during the match. Substitutes or any other interested parties must remain behind the area defined as the bowlers' area. A maximum of seven people will be allowed in the settee area plus the coach, during the match.
- 10. Food and Beverage: All food or beverage must be purchased from the bowling establishment. No carry-ins of food or beverage will be permitted.
- 11. Scorekeeping: Scorekeeping will be performed by the players or coach if not automatic. It will be the responsibility of each team captain to verify that scores are complete and accurate. It also will be the team captain's responsibility to make sure his/her team contributions are fair share of time to the score keeping function.

C. Point System – District can determine point system.

We recommend two options:

- 1. Match point – one (1) point each baker game.
- 2. Total games – best of total games. Example: five (5) baker games – 1st team to win 3 games wins match point

7. BOWLING PRACTICE

- A. At a Meet or Tournament Host Center: None of the bowling lanes within the bowling establishment may be used for practice by any team member or substitute on the day of any match or tournament except for sanctioned USBC YOUTH scheduled matches. A bowler that violates this provision will not be eligible to compete in the given event that day.
- B. Prior to Start of Match and Tournament: Ten (10) minutes of practice is allowed on each lane. (Exception: When a team is late for the match.) Tournament practice will be defined for each individual tournament.
- C. Required Practice Sessions: It is the responsibility of each head coach to conduct at least one (1) formal practice session each week during the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club season. These sessions will be at no cost to the school or student and must be pre-arranged with the participating bowling center to insure lanes are reserved and available.

8. UNIFORMS

Team competitors and coaches shall appear in uniforms approved by the district coordinator for all matches and State Tournament. No blue jeans, shorts, caps or cutoffs, capris and spandex pants or similar material will be allowed. Black, tan or other colored jeans or causal slacks are allowed. The entire team must wear the same color uniform (pants and shirts). First offense in violation of uniform requirements is a verbal warning and the 2nd offense the bowler would be unable to bowl. Coaches in violation will not be allowed in the settee area.

Teams must the same color and style shirts and same color and style pants (t-shirts allowed); sponsor logos on left sleeve ONLY. No Bars, but can have bowling centers, restaurants OK, as long as it doesn't say Joe's Bar & Grill, tavern, anything with implications to bars, taverns, smoking, etc. On left sleeve, approx. 3 ½ inch in diameter, keep printing tactful & small. Allow advertising to be on shirts not to include any alcohol or tobacco on left sleeve. State logo not be required on shirt, city or school name can be on shirt on back or front. Sponsors must exclude bar, tavern, al house, tobacco products, cocktails, etc. Shirts can be numbered but start with 11, bowlers name optional.

9. TRANSPORTATION

It will be the responsibility of each participant in the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club to arrange for his/her own transportation to and from practices, matches and tournaments. It will be required that all participants sign waivers of liability, stating that they are assuming full responsibility for their transportation and will hold the school districts, coaches and bowling centers harmless for any actions arising as a result of travel in connection with Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club activities. This policy will not supercede any school district travel policy. Transportation will be provided in accordance with the school district's policy.

10. POLICY AND PROCEDURE RULE CHANGES

All policy and procedure changes brought before the BCAW Middle School Bowling Club Committee prior to June 1st will be reviewed and all final decisions will be effective on June 15th of the calendar year. Policy and Procedure changes submitted after June 1st will be considered for the future season.

- A. **The BCAW Middle School Bowling Club Committee** is a three person committee: two proprietors, and the BCAW Executive Director or their designee. In cases where a member of the BCAW Middle School Bowling Club's district is involved the member abstains from voting on the issue. The current members are: Diane Mallow, Dick Zierke, and Yvonne Bennett.

11. TEAM & INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE TOURNAMENT

- A. To be eligible for individual awards and All-Conference selection, bowlers must bowl in at least 50% of the games bowled by his or her team.
- B. Teams will bowl a minimum of six (6) matches within their conference.
- C. District competition will follow the dates of November 1, 2018 - April 22, 2019. Practice and organizational meetings can begin October 1st, and continue right up to day of the State Tournament.
- D. To qualify a team for the state tournament in 2019 a team must have no more than one school represented on said team. The only exception would require a petition to the BCAW Middle School Bowling Club Committee. All applications for cooperative middle school 2018/19 bowling teams must be sent to the BCAW Office, **two weeks prior to the start of the first district competition.** Send to: Yvonne Bennett, BCAW, 21140 W. Capitol Dr., Suite 5, Pewaukee, WI 53072 or fax 262-783-4590 or email yvonne.bennett@bowlwi.com.
- E. Exceptions will also be made for home school children. Coaches please fill out the Home School form found on the bowlwi.com website and submit it to BCAW for approval two weeks prior to the start of your district competition.

12. CO-OPERATIVE TEAM RULES

- A. Teams from up to five different middle schools can apply for a co-op team. No team applying for a co-op can have students from their school on any other team or co-op, unless additional teams from the school are being formed. All students from the same school must bowl on the same co-op. Co-op students are eligible for state tournament team and singles events.
- B. All schools must be in the same district when applying for a co-op.
- C. To bowl on a middle school team and be eligible to qualify for the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club State Championships all students must be in 6th, 7th or 8th grade.
- D. Any school with five or more students from the same school must form a team of at least five students from the same school and no more than ten students from the same school may be on the team. If a school has more than five students the school may co-op with students from another school(s) to form an additional team(s). The top five bowlers from the same school may not be on a co-op team. Coaches to put averages on the co-op form. All teams would be eligible to compete in the state championships.
- E. No school can cut or deny any student(s) a roster spot.
- F. Teams from the same district may combine and apply for co-ops for the sole purpose to form a separate girls and boys team.
- G. All co-op applications MUST be in BCAW's office two weeks prior to the start of their district's competition.
- H. Approval for a co-op team is for one bowling season. No team will be grandfathered from year to year.
- I. Copies of team co-op applications must be sent to district coordinators for their review and input before BCAW approval.
- J. Co-op teams rules apply to all teams
- K. Co-op team names will include names of all schools/cities involved.

13. SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships will be awarded and issued in accordance with all NCAA, USBC and BCAW rules.

14. CONTINGENCIES

Any situation arising which is not covered by the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club Policies and Procedures, shall be governed by the BCAW Middle School Bowling Club Committee with advisory from USBC Rules, and/or WIAA Official Handbook.

15. DISTRICT AMENDMENTS

District Amendments must be sent to Bowling Centers Association of Wisconsin yearly. If a district wants to have a rule(s) different than the Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club Policies and Procedures for their district they must submit those rules four weeks prior to their 1st week of competition. BCAW will review the rule(s) and approve or deny them to be then put on file.

16. REGISTERED VOLUNTEER PROGRAM FOR COACHES

The BCAW Middle School Bowling Club Committee unanimously decided in 2013 that all coaches prior to conducting their first practice session for the middle school season must go through the Registered Volunteer Program (RVP) and be approved to be able to coach a middle school team. For more information go to www.bowl.com/rvp.

17. STATE TOURNAMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A. All girls are eligible whether bowling in the boys or girls division. To qualify for singles: girls averages from both boys and girls division will determine advancing players in the girls' singles.
- B. If a team is going to substitute a bowler mid game/frame a coach must tell designated tournament official before substitution is made. If an illegal substitution is made all balls thrown by illegal bowler will be considered "dead balls" and will follow USBC rule, (USBC Rule 8. Dead Ball or USBC Middle School Bowling Rules Art. 10 – Dead Ball), accordingly. A zero for the frame.
- C. Singles event has four average divisions for boys and three average divisions for girls, use current average:

	BOYS	GIRLS
A	175 & above	155 & above
B	161-174	136-154
C	146-160	135 & below
D	145 & below	

Eligibility Rules: To be eligible to compete at the 2018 State Tournament a team or bowler must:

1. Teams must have competed in at least six (6) BCAW organized bowling matches in their district. To be eligible for singles event, bowlers must bowl in at least 50% of the frames bowled by the team. Formula is matches bowled x number of games bowled x two frames. For example, a team bowls six matches x seven games x two frames = 84 frames. 50% of the frames = 42 frames, so a bowler would need to bowl 42 or more frames in this example to meet the eligibility requirement.
2. All State qualifiers must be in 6th, seventh or 8th grade.
3. All complete tournament entries and monies must be in the BCAW office by **April 25, 2019**. **If turned in after April 25th you will be ineligible for state competition.**
4. Each District will cover the costs of individual and team competition.
 - A. BCAW member center is \$100 per team / \$20 per individual
 - B. Non BCAW member center is \$250.00 per team / \$50.00 per individual
5. All teams from a Middle school are eligible to qualify to go to the state tournament.

Rules:

1. A team is expected to present a legal line-up on the lanes at the scheduled time. Up to ten (10) players on a roster. No more than ten (10) roster players and two (2) coaches in the bowlers' area. A team cannot have more than ten (10) players in the bowling area for qualifying and finals, plus two (2) coaches.
2. In the event a team qualifies for the State Tournament and cannot field a team of five (5) bowlers the coach may add one bowler from a second middle school team from the same middle school. If that option is unavailable; the coach may add a player from another team from their district that has not qualified to go to state. The coach will choose a player with a similar fill percentage as the player the coach is replacing.
3. Bowlers will receive ten (10) minutes of practice before the start of competition.
4. If less than a full team is present the team will receive zero (0) for the absent bowler(s).
5. Team event ties: In the event teams tie for first place where awards or medals are distributed; a 6th frame-10th frame baker game be bowled until the tie is broken. For all other position ties where awards or medals are distributed; the last qualifying game will break the tie. If tied again the next to last qualifying game bowled will break the tie and if tied again the next prior game bowled will be used to break the tie until the tie is broken.

Singles event ties: In the event bowlers tie for first place where awards or medals are distributed; a 9th and 10th game roll-off will be bowled to break the tie until the tie is broken. For all other position ties where awards or medals are distributed; the 3rd

game score will be break the tie. In the event the 3rd game tie breaker results in a tie, the tie will be broken by the bowler's second game score and if a tie again, the first game score will be the tie breaker. If the bowlers are still tied, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will be bowled.

6. Substitutes: A coach may remove a bowler during a game and use a roster bowler. Once a bowler has been substituted out that bowler may not re-enter that game, however the bowler may re-enter the next game. Substitutions can be made mid-frame. If an illegal substitution is made all balls thrown by illegal bowler will be considered "dead balls" and will follow USBC rule number 8, Dead Ball.
7. Conduct of Coaches and Players:
 - A. No coach or player may use alcoholic beverages or any tobacco products on the bench, playing area, concourse or paddock room and/or use any equipment with alcohol or tobacco logos or names on it.
 - B. All bowlers will remain in the bowler's area or paddock room at all times during the competition.
 - C. Bowlers will be expected to follow the previous bowler promptly and will be required to bowl as soon as the lane is clear. (One lane courtesy only).
 - D. Non sportsmanship like conduct, including deliberate foul, usually loud or vulgar language or abuse of center equipment is prohibited.
 1. Violation One: Will result in a verbal warning.
 2. Violation Two: Will be removal of said bowler from all competition. Coaches may substitute a roster bowler for any player removed for conduct violations.
8. All food and beverages must be purchased from the bowling center. No carry-ins are allowed. Food & drinks are not allowed in the bowlers' settee area.
9. All bowlers are allowed two (2) bowling balls in the bowler area. All extra equipment must remain outside the bowler's area.
10. All score corrections will be done by BCAW or center staff; all score sheets must be verified by a coach on an opposing pair & signed.
11. Team competitors and coaches shall appear in uniforms approved by the district coordinator for all matches and State Tournament. No blue jeans, shorts, caps or cutoffs, capris and spandex pants or similar material will be allowed. Black, tan or other colored jeans or casual slacks are allowed. ALL competition including singles event (no blue jeans will be allowed). All **coaches** must have a school colored shirt. **Coaches violating the dress code will not be allowed in the bowling settee area.** No hats or head wear are allowed. If you're in doubt get a ruling by a tournament director before competition starts. Violating dress code will result in a disqualification of that individual. Coaches co-ordinate their apparel with team colors.
12. No practice will be allowed in the host center on the day of competition.
13. Bowling equipment must meet USBC specifications, no abrasives are allowed during competition.
14. All other rules will be followed in accordance with USBC Youth rules.
15. The Tournament will not refund entry fees for missing teams or singles.
16. District's that are missing bowlers may substitute qualified bowlers from their district. If no qualified bowlers exist the spot will remain vacant. If a replacement bowler is chosen that selection is final after practice has started. Once a substitution is made by the missing player's coach or district coordinator, that decision is final. Schedule time is defined by the times printed in the program booklet and website.
17. No flash photos will be allowed during tournament competition.
18. Leave score sheets on scoring unit at all times unless directed otherwise by a tournament official.
19. The Wisconsin Middle School Bowling Club and the bowling center are not responsible for lost or stolen apparel or equipment.

CURRENT STATE TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

- Saturday – 12 baker games. Two divisions, coed and girls.