

Michiana Bowlers Association

2010 - 2011 Season

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Officers:

President: Ted Zimmerman
Vice President: TJ Yoder
Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Robben
Tournament Manager: Greg Spinner

Directors:

Todd Brown
James Mason, Jr.
Scott McIntyre
Judith Washington
Landon Wiegand

I. Michiana Bowlers Association By-Laws

1. Membership fee shall be \$35 per year for new members (Memberships paid in April may be rolled over into the following year). Previous members shall pay a \$25 renewal fee. All membership fees must be paid prior to the member's first tournament.
2. All membership fees are nonrefundable. Refunds may only be made under extreme circumstances and must be approved by the board of directors.
3. Certified league averages submitted with membership application must be verified by your local association secretary unless it appears in your association handbook (a copy of page with average should accompany the application).
4. New members will stay in his/her class based on the composite of their certified averages submitted with their application for their first tournament. All members will be re-evaluated at the discretion of the board of directors after the end of the current season either upward, downward, or remaining the same. All appeals must be made in writing to the board of directors before their first tournament.
5. New members will be subject to upwards reclassification after their first tournament. Existing members will be subject to upwards reclassification after their first two tournaments. **After meeting the preceding requirement, any member whose season adjusted average (true bowling average plus 1 pin for each \$300 won (money pins)) equals or exceeds the midpoint of the next higher class will be rerated to that higher class. If their season adjusted average exceeds the midpoint of the next two (2) higher classes, they may be re-rated 2 classes, subject to a meeting by the board of directors. Class midpoints are defined as follows: A-222, B-215, C-208, D-199, E-191, F-181, G-171**
 - a. The above ruling on re-rating does not apply if you have not qualified for the semifinals or **cached in the semi-finals** in any tournament, **since your last re-rate** during the current season.
 - b. If you have bowled three (3) tournaments, **since your last re-rate during the current season**, have not qualified for the semi-finals, and your **season** adjusted average is **below the midpoint of the next lower class**, you **will be re-rated down one class**. (Exception: if your only cash is in the Doubles tournament you may still be re-rated down.)
6. The secretary and/or president will review all membership applications. If time permits, the secretary/treasurer will inform the applicant in which class they have been placed or if they have been denied.
7. The board of directors will consist of President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Tournament Manager, and a minimum of four (4) directors.
8. The officers shall consist of President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer and Tournament Manager and shall be elected by the board of directors.
9. There will be eleven (11) tournaments each season. The first tournament will be held in September, 2010, with the championship tournament held in May, 2011. Qualifying rounds of each tournament shall be 4 games. The championship tournament will be a 2-day, 8 game format with two separate four (4) game blocks with each squad alternating (if multiple shifts). The doubles tournament, which will be held in November, 2010, will have its own format, rules, and regulations. The Masters tournament, which will be held in January, 2011, will have its own format, rules, and regulations.
10. To be eligible for the championship tournament at the end of the season, a member must pay for 4 tournaments and bowl in at least 2. For example if a bowler has bowled in 3 tournaments they may pay an additional \$65 for total of \$130 to enter the Championship. If a bowler has bowled in every event, including doubles, they will receive a \$20 discount on their entry to the Championship Tournament.
11. All tournaments will be certified by the USBC.
12. All members must be a member of the USBC in good standing and must show proof of membership upon request.

13. The tournament entry fees will be \$65. The entry fee allocation is as follows (Based on 100 entries):

Lane Fees (approximate)	\$14.00
Bowler of the Year Prize *	\$1.75
Escrow Fund **	\$1.00
Tournament Expenses	\$6.00
Prize Fund	\$42.25
Total Entry	\$65.00

* - See Bowler of the Year VII.1

Bowlers may only enter once.

14. All money in **Escrow Fund will be added to the prize fund for the Championship Tournament held in May.

15. The prize fund will be distributed to the top 33% of each class. If a class has less than five (5) members entered in total, then those members will compete with the next higher class but will use the zero point of their own class.

Classes will be combined immediately above or below (Class A only) to make a minimum of 2 cuts as deemed necessary by the Board.

16. Duties of the President:

- a. Shall countersign all checks drawn by the Secretary/Treasurer.
- b. Shall make a monthly examination of statements from banking institutions where the association has its funds, and to verify the correctness of deposits, charges, and fund balances.
- c. Shall appoint all committees.
- d. Shall acquire all tournament sites.
- e. Shall notify all officers and directors of meeting to be held.
- f. Shall have the power to fine members for conduct derogatory to the best interest of the MBA.
- g. Shall have one (1) vote to be used in the case of a tie.
- h. Shall be responsible for securing or coordinating with the tournament sponsor all trophies and awards to be presented to the champion and runner-up at each tournament.
- i. Shall be responsible for the preparation of all materials necessary to conduct each tournament and shall be authorized to purchase any supplies or items as required for tournament purposes.
- j. Shall have charge of drafting and preparing the schedule for each tournament.
- k. Shall arrange and be responsible for all personnel necessary to conduct each tournament.
- l. Shall be responsible for auditing score sheets and compiling true records of position standings.
- m. Shall be responsible for the creation of the tournament sponsor's sign.
- n. Shall be responsible for securing all prizes to be raffled at each tournament.
- o. Shall receive as compensation in full for service to the association, fully paid membership fees, tournament entry fees, plus expenses for traveling as may be deemed necessary on official association business.

17. Duties of the Vice President:

- a. Shall fill vacancy of the President or Secretary/Treasurer in their absence.
- b. Shall perform all duties as assigned by the President.
- c. Shall assist with the operation of the tournament.
- d. Shall countersign all checks drawn by the Secretary/Treasurer.
- e. Shall coordinate all newspaper and press media correspondence for each tournament.
- f. Shall have the power to fine members for conduct derogatory to the best interest of the MBA
- g. Shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- h. Shall receive as compensation in full for service to the association, fully paid membership fees, tournament entry fees, plus expenses for traveling as may be deemed necessary on official association business.

18. Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer:

- a. Shall keep a true record of all scores bowled in all tournaments held by the association for a minimum of two (2) years
- b. Shall have charge of and conduct all correspondence of the association.

- c. Shall acknowledge and file bona fide entries to each tournament in the order of their receipt with the Tournament Manager.
- d. Shall receive, collect, bank, and be responsible for all membership fees and tournament entry fees.
- e. Shall file for certification of all tournaments with the USBC mixed tournament division prior to the first tournament.
- f. Shall file a copy of the prize list and financial statement of each tournament with the USBC.
- g. Shall post a prize list and certification at the beginning of each tournament.
- h. Shall receive and pay all bills on behalf of the association and shall forward a monthly report of all bills paid and pending to the President.
- i. Shall provide by the end of January following the end of the calendar year, a 1099-MISC tax form to all members who have won more than \$600 during the previous calendar year.
- j. Shall prepare, publish, and provide to all members of the MBA a yearly financial statement.
- k. Shall have the power to fine members for conduct derogatory to the best interest of the MBA.
- l. Shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- m. Shall receive as compensation in full for services to the association fully paid membership fees, tournament entry fees, and expenses for traveling as may be deemed necessary on official tournament business. In addition, the secretary shall receive a salary of \$6.00 per member, not to exceed \$800.00.

19. Duties of the Tournament Manager

- a. Shall acknowledge and file bona fide entries to each tournament in the order of their receipt.
- b. Shall determine starting lane assignments for each bowler
- c. Shall have a recap sheet for each bowler with their lane assignment ready when check-in begins.
- d. Shall have wall sheets showing each entered bowler with their starting lane assignment and class posted when check-in begins.
- e. Shall assign starting lanes to any walk-in entrants.
- f. Shall change starting lane assignments in the event of cancellations in order to keep each pair of lanes with a similar number of entries.
- g. Shall verify funds received/deposits/transfers for the tournament with the secretary/treasurer.
- h. Shall have the power to fine members for conduct derogatory to the best interest of the MBA
- i. Shall receive as compensation in full for service to the association, fully paid membership fees, tournament entry fees, plus expenses for traveling as may be deemed necessary on official association business.
- j. Shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

20. Duties of MBA Directors:

- a. Shall carry out the purposes and objectives of the association by transacting business and enforcing the rules and regulations of the association.
- b. Shall meet at the call of the President.
- c. Shall render final decisions in all protest and disputes arising in the jurisdiction of the association.
- d. Shall have the power to re-rate any member of the association when there is evidence that their certified average submitted or tournament average does not represent the true ability of the bowler.
- e. Shall receive and collect tournament entries paid by check or money order and notify Secretary/Treasurer of such entries for scheduling purposes.
- f. Shall have the power to improve, add, or revise any tournament rule or regulation.
- g. Shall have the power to fine members for conduct derogatory to the best interest of the MBA.
- h. Shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- i. Shall receive as compensation in full for their service to the association, fully-paid membership fees and a \$20 credit toward tournament entry fees for each tournament entered.
- j. Directors shall assist the officers in the smooth running of each tournament. They must be present 2 hours prior to the start of competition for a 1-shift event. They must be present 90 minutes in advance for a 2-shift event. They must remain on site until the completion of competition. During this time, they will be responsible for the following:
 - Display pennants of past champions before the start of competition.
 - Display of the tournament sponsor's sign and the MBA logo sign at each tournament.
 - Selling raffle tickets.
 - Assisting with tournament tear-down upon completion of the tournament.
 - Assisting officers in any other duties required for the smooth operation of each tournament.

II. Michiana Bowlers Association Rules & Regulations

1. The following methods of entry available are as follows:
 - Mailing entry to MBA, PO Box 284, Granger, IN 46530
 - Via the internet: mba300.com or e-mail (Entries may be paid via PayPal, with a service charge of \$2.25 per entry)
 - You may also give your check or money order to an officer or director. Officers consist of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. **CASH may only be given to officers!**
 - On-site entries will be subject to a \$10 late entry fee. Late fees along with entry fee must be paid before bowling or entrant may be disqualified.
2. New members are not allowed to bowl in a tournament until their entering certified averages have been verified by the local association secretary or appears in the new member's association yearbook and has been approved by the secretary and/or president. **The membership application should be received at least 7 days prior to the applicant's first tournament.** Any falsification of application will result in disqualification, suspension, and forfeiture of all prize moneys and membership fees. Members must be minimum of 18 years of age, their class must have graduated from high school and they must be a member of a USBC adult member.
3. Each tournament will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Entries are not considered valid unless one of the above methods are used. **E-Mailed or VERBAL ENTRIES that result in a "no-show" will result in a \$20 fine and suspension from bowling until the fine is paid. Only prepaid entries will be accepted for the remainder of the season.** If you have an emergency and are not able to participate, please call the center (phone numbers are listed on schedule) so that your spot can be filled by another member. Habitual cancellation of verbal entries may result in requirement of a \$20 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT.
4. **Any checks returned by the bank, for any other reason other than a bank error, will be subject to a \$25.00 charge.** All checks returned will be immediately redeposited. If they are returned a second time, an additional \$25 charge will be assessed, and suspension proceedings will be initiated with the USBC if the returned item is not immediately paid. Any member whose check is returned twice will only be able to pay for tournament entries via certified check, money order or cash. If the check is returned after the tournament, then the item must be paid prior to the next tournament.
5. Any check written to the MBA must include the entry fee and may not exceed the entry fee(s) (and membership fee(s) if applicable) by more than \$50.
6. All members must be neat, appropriate and clean in appearance. A shirt with a butterfly collar or a mock turtleneck must be worn during competition. Mock turtlenecks must have a "sport" logo and must be tucked in. **Members may not wear jeans (denim) of any type, cargo pants, stretch pants, athletic apparel, shorts, or head wear.** Only dress, sports slacks, skirts or skorts (shorts with a skirt front) are permitted. **Shorts will not be permitted under any circumstances.** Failure to comply will result in fine up to \$25 (an additional \$5 fine for **each** successive offense) and/or **not being allowed to bowl**. New members may be given a "grace" for their first tournament only.
7. Withdrawals from a tournament must be made to an officer no later than the start of the first qualifying round without penalty. Withdrawn entry fees will be rolled to the next tournament. Any unused entries will be refunded at the end of the season. Withdrawals received after the start of the first qualifying round will forfeit entry fees. This includes verbal and e-mailed entries.
8. Withdrawals during the tournament will not be permitted unless an extreme emergency should occur. The tournament manager must be notified immediately. Failure to notify the tournament manager or failure to report for all scheduled games will result in a fine and/or suspension to be determined by the board of directors.
9. Each member must check-in **at least forty-five (45) minutes** prior to the start of each shift if paying the day of the tournament. Members that have prepaid their entry may still check-in 30 minutes prior to the start of their shift. First offense will receive a warning, 2nd offense will receive a \$10 fine, and each successive offense will increase by an additional \$5. Entries and tournament check-in close 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the tournament (unless contact has been made by the entrant a tournament official).

10. If a member is late (walk-ins included), he/she will start in the frame his/her squad is in, provided a spot is available, with all previous frames being zero.
11. Any member who uses a bowling ball which does not meet USBC requirements and specifications shall automatically be disqualified from the tournament and forfeit all prize money. The member will be subject to suspension from the MBA, and possibly the USBC. The board of directors has the discretion to check any equipment at any time it is deemed necessary; entrants may be required to have weight, balance, or surface hardness checked prior to bowling.
12. The tournament manager may authorize the completion of games on another pair of certified lanes when equipment failure would delay the normal progress of the tournament. An interrupted game which cannot be completed on the same date must be resumed from the point of interruption.
13. Prize ratio is one (1) out of three (3) entrants. All prize fees collected are returned 100%.
14. No one will be permitted on the bowlers benches (except bowlers competing at the time and officials).
15. Another **bowler** on your pair of lanes must record your scores and affix their initials to each game on your recap sheet. **Each bowler must add their total pins and calculate plus/minus score immediately after each game. SPECTATORS are NOT permitted to enter or add scores! Each member must verify the accuracy of their own sheet before it is returned to the tournament office.** Each member will be responsible for their own score addition including the plus/minus and signing of their own sheet. Scores and score sheets are considered FINAL when the sheet is turned in to the tournament office. After the score sheet has been turned into the office, bowlers may NOT make any changes to their sheets. Any recap sheet that is turned in to the tournament office incomplete will receive zero pins for each missing game. Failure to sign your recap sheet once it has been turned in to the tournament office will result in the member being fined \$5.
16. All recap sheets will be audited for accuracy at the end of each qualifying block. **Any errors that are score related will result in the member being fined \$5.**
17. All scoring corrections on automatic scorers must be made by another member or tournament official. If no one is available to do a score correction, please contact the counter personnel for assistance.
18. In the event of tie scores for the final qualifying spot during the preliminary competition or after the semi-final round, a one game roll-off will be held. The roll-off winner will be the bowler who is higher above their class zero point.
19. The Secretary-Treasurer or Tournament Manager has the right to revise the prize list.
20. Be ready to bowl when it is your turn to avoid unnecessary delays. During qualifying one lane courtesy will be used, two lane courtesy will be used during the semi-finals and match play finals.
21. **No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed during the time you are bowling. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification from the tournament and forfeiture of entry fee.**
22. No food, drinks, or smoking are permitted in the area of the scorer's table. No cigarettes, cigars, pipes may be smoked by the bowler while they are on the approach. **The use of smokeless tobacco will not be permitted by the bowler during competition.**
23. Any protest affecting eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to the board of directors before the tournament prize payments are made. Members have the right to appeal any decision to the USBC in accordance to their rule #329.
24. Complaints, at any time, may **NOT** be made by a member to the bowling proprietor or their employees. Complaints must be made in letter form to the board of directors. Violation of this rule is subject to a \$5 fine.
25. The tournament Manager and vice president have the right to suspend a member on the spot for any infraction of the rules and regulations of the tournament. The length of time for suspension and/or fine will be determined by the board of directors.
26. USBC playing rules and regulations will apply regarding pin fall and fouls to all games bowled and will be enforced.

27. All members have the right to appeal any decision made by any officer of the association, provided it is in writing to the board of directors within one (1) week after the decision has been made. This applies to internal affairs within our association and not to actual tournament operations.
28. Individual certified averages for the current season (2011-2011) and previous 2 seasons must be based on a minimum of twenty-one (21) games from an USBC certified league. Summer League and Sport League averages will be accepted per USBC rules. Sport league averages must be noted on the application. Any member who does not have a twenty-one (21) game average shall be placed in a class no lower than E.
29. Any unsportsmanlike conduct, i.e., abuse of fixtures, obscene gestures or excessive language will **not** be tolerated. Any continued abuse should be brought to the attention of a board member for further action.
30. Any conduct which may be deemed detrimental to the image of the Michiana Bowlers Association **will NOT be tolerated** while the tournament is in operation. Violation of this rule is subject to a fine and/or suspension of the member pending the decision of the Board.
31. Finalists who do not stay for the check presentation will be subject to a \$25 fine.
32. USBC Rule 319d does not apply.
33. USBC Rule 319e is waived.

Regarding the reporting of incorrect averages USBC Rule 319a-3 states "Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own average, whether submitted by the bowler, team captain or others. If the submitted average is lower than required and results in a lower classification or more handicap, the bowler's score is disqualified. If the submitted average is higher than required, prize winnings will be based on the submitted average."

34. All side pots including brackets must be approved by the board of directors.

III. Michiana Bowlers Association Tournament Format

1. The Michiana Bowlers Association will be divided into seven (7) classes:
 - A Class - 219 averages and above (200 Zero Point)
 - B Class - 213 - 218 averages (195 Zero Point)
 - C Class - 204 - 212 averages (190 Zero Point)
 - D Class - 195 - 203 averages (185 Zero Point)
 - E Class - 186 - 194 averages (175 Zero Point)
 - F Class - 176 - 185 averages (170 Zero Point)
 - G Class - 175 and lower averages (165 Zero Point)
2. A plus/minus scoring system will be used to determine a bowler's position.
3. With the exception of the championship tournament, bowlers will qualify with one 4-game block. (The qualifying round of the championship tournament will consist of two 4-game blocks.) If less **than 5 bowlers** are entered in their division, they will compete with the bowlers in the next higher division, while still using their own class for zero point. (Reference Rule #15 in Association By-Laws.)
4. At the completion of the qualifying rounds, the top **one third** of each class (rounded) will qualify for the semi-finals. In case of a tie for the bottom spot in any division, a 1 game roll-off will be held to break the tie. In the Championship tournament ties must be broken the day of qualifying. Class zero point will be used to determine the winner.
5. In the semi-finals, all bowlers will bowl one 4-game block (6 games in the championship) and begin from scratch. Bowlers competing in the semi-finals are now competing against the entire field. Again, the plus-minus scoring system is used. A break will be taken after the third (and fifth games in the championship) to announce position standings. At the completion of the semi-finals, the final scores will be computed and the top 12 (see III.7 below) bowlers will advance to the finals.
6. In case of ties for the finals where a tie breaker has an effect on a bowler making the finals or the number of games he must bowl, a 1 game roll-off must be bowled prior to the finals to determine qualifying positions. The class zero point will be used for scoring in all roll-off games. Should any ties still exist after the roll-off, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off (without handicap) will be used to determine the winner.

For ties that do not affect the number of games bowled the following system will be used to break the tie: the bowler with the higher plus/minus after the 2nd to last semi final game will get the higher seeded position. If there is still a tie then the plus/minus after the 3rd to last game will be used, and so on.

If the bowlers were tied for every semi-final plus/minus score, then bowler with the higher qualifying plus/minus will be given the higher seed.

Any remaining ties will be settled via a coin flip.

7. In the finals, bowlers will bowl in a modified seeded bracket. All finalists' average will be determined by the 8 or 14 game average bowled in that tournament. Bowlers with the lower average will receive a handicap of 70% of the average difference in that match. In case of tie a 9th and 10th frame roll-off will be used to determine the winner. No handicap will be used in case of an average tie.
 - Opening Round: Qualifiers 5-12 will participate. Qualifiers 1-4 will get a bye. Matches will be assigned as follows: 5-12, 6-11, 7-10, 8-9. Winners move on to the Round of 6.
If there were 23 or fewer cuts, only 8 bowlers will make the finals and the "Opening Round" will be removed.
 - Round of 6 Matches:
 - Match 1: #3 Seed vs winner of 8-9 match
 - Match 2: winner of 5-12 vs winner of 6-11
 - Match 3: #4 Seed vs winner of 7-10 matchWinners move on to the Quarterfinals

OR

Qualifier 1 & 2 will get a bye
Match 1: #4 Seed vs #7 Seed
Match 2: #5 Seed vs #6 Seed
Match 3: #3 Seed vs #8 Seed

- Quarterfinal Matches:
Match 4: Winner of Match 1 vs Winner of Match 3
Match 5: Winner of Match 2 vs #2 Seed
- Semi-final Match:
Match 6: Winner of Match 4 vs Winner of Match 5
- Final Match:
Match 6 winner vs #1 Seed

Once bowlers are seeded into the bracket no re-seeding will be done. "Upsets" will advance as in a standard bracket.

- Opening round matches will use lanes 1-2, 7-8, 15-16, 21-22
- Round of 6 Matches will use lanes 3-4, 9-10, 17-18
- Quarterfinal Matches will use lanes 5-6 and 19-20
- Semi-final matches will use lanes 11-12
- Final match will use 13-14
- These lane assignments may be adjusted by adding the same offset to each lane assignment or if the center requires an alteration
- No pair will be used for more than one match, unless the center requires us to use fewer than 11 pair. Higher seeded bowler gets choice of starting lane. All bowlers will get 2 practice balls before each match.

8. New members' averages from the current season (within 2 weeks of the date the application is submitted) and last two seasons must be submitted to the board of directors to determine which class the applicant will be placed. All applicants must have their certified league averages verified by their local association secretary unless it appears in the association yearbook (a copy of page showing the average must accompany the application) or is available on bowl.com. All applications must be received at least seven days before the tournament date. Applications may be mailed to:

Michiana Bowlers Association
PO Box 284
Granger, IN 46530

or given to an officer or board member

Any existing member who did not bowl at least three tournaments the preceding season must resubmit their certified league averages. **All new members** must pay the **\$35** membership fee with their application. Any bowler who was once a member will only be subject to the **renewal** fee of **\$25**. Existing members who refer a **new member, and who are listed as the referring member on the bowlers application**, will receive a \$10 credit toward their next entry.

9. New members from the junior bowling programs must submit previous season certified league averages for rating. New members with averages that cannot be verified in the USBC must begin not lower than the 180 class for their first tournament and are subject to re-rating after their first tournament by the board of directors. When previous years averages are used, and at the time of entry, the entrant must submit the current season certified league averages of 21 or more games. If the current season average is 10 or more pins above the previous years averages the entrant will be rated accordingly.

IV. Michiana Bowlers Association Blind Draw Doubles Rules and Regulations

1. All regular by-laws of the Michiana Bowlers Association will be in effect for this tournament
2. This tournament is open only to bowlers that bowled at least three (3) tournaments during the 2007 - 2010 season OR bowlers that have bowled at least one (1) tournament during the 2010 – 2011 season. No new bowlers that have not bowled their first tournament or a previous member that has to re-submit their averages will be allowed to bowl in this tournament. Tournament sponsors may be given an exemption to this rule.
3. Entry fee for this tournament will be \$65 per bowler. Entries can be mailed to **Michiana Bowlers Association, PO Box 284, Granger, IN 46530**, verbally to any board member, or by e-mailing to Bowl@mba300.com (directly or through the website). Prepayment of entry fee will reserve a spot, but will not guarantee the spot until the bowler checks in prior to the start of the qualifying squad. Walk-ins will be allowed should there be openings for that squad.
4. Blind draw will begin 30 minutes prior to the start of the shift. Bowlers will guarantee their spot by checking in prior to their scheduled draw time. Bowlers will draw for partners in the same order that they check in with all prepaid entries drawing before walk-ins. At draw time, should there be an odd number of bowlers on the first squad, the last bowler to check in will be given the opportunity to bowl on the second squad. Should there be an odd number of bowlers on the second squad, an officer will withdraw from the tournament making an even number.
5. Should a prepaid entrant arrive after the draw has begun or has been completed, they will be given the opportunity to bowl if the next squad is available. If there is no availability on the next squad, their entry fee will be refunded. Should the prepaid entrant be a no-show, their entry fee will be forfeited.
6. Bowlers will draw for partners in the order that they check in. All prepaid entrants will draw first (in the order they check in), with the walk-ins drawing last (in the order that they walk in). All bowlers agree that they will bowl with the partner that they draw. Should a bowler not want to bowl with the partner they have drawn, their entry fee will be forfeited, and will be given to their partner. The other bowler will have the opportunity to bowl on the next squad if they desire, or have their entry fee refunded.
7. Each team's zero-point will be the sum of their average classes. For example: A 200 -class and a 180 -class bowler will have a zero point of 380 each game. Each team will bowl a four game qualifying round. All class combinations will compete with each other (as in the masters), rather than with their own class. The top one third of all teams will advance to the semi-finals.
8. The semi-finals will be another four game block. All teams will start from scratch. There will be a short pause after the third game to announce the top scores. The top three teams will advance to the finals.
9. The step ladder finals will be conducted in the same manner as in the regular tournament. The qualifying teams will use the eight game average that they have established in the qualifying and semi-final rounds of competition. Handicap will be 70% of the difference of the averages.
10. The champion team only will qualify for the Masters Tournament if they have not previously done so.
11. This tournament will count towards the championship tournament.
12. Any other rule not outlined above or is not covered in the MBA by-laws will be up to the discretion of the board of directors.

V. Michiana Bowlers Association Masters Invitational Tournament Rules and Regulations

1. Tournament entry fee is \$70. Members may enter by any of the methods listed in the general rules.

Lane Fees (approximate)	\$14.00
Tournament Expenses	\$6.00
Prize Fund	\$50.00
Total Entry	\$70.00

2. If more than one squad, Indicate squad preference when your entry is submitted. Squads will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Verbal entries will be accepted, subject to all rules in the By-Laws.
3. **Any checks returned by the bank, for any other reason other than a bank error, will be subject to a \$25.00 charge.** All checks returned will be immediately redeposited. If they are returned a second time, an additional \$25 charge will be assessed, and suspension proceedings will be initiated with the USBC if the returned item is not immediately paid. Any member whose check is returned twice will only be able to pay for tournament entries via certified check, money order or cash.
4. All members must be neat, appropriate and clean in appearance. A shirt with a butterfly collar or a mock turtleneck must be worn during competition. Mock turtlenecks must have a "sport" logo and must be tucked in. **Members may not wear jeans (denim) of any type, cargo pants, stretch pants, athletic apparel, shorts, or head wear.** Only dress, sports slacks, skirts or skorts (shorts with a skirt front) are permitted. Failure to comply will result in \$5 fine (an additional \$5 fine for **each** successive offense) and/or **not being allowed to bowl.**
5. Withdrawals from a tournament must be made prior to the start of bowling on Sunday. Notification thereafter, or failure to report the withdrawal, will result in the forfeiture of the entry fee.
6. Withdrawal during the tournament will not be permitted unless an **extreme** emergency should occur. The tournament manager or secretary/treasurer must be notified immediately. Failure to do so will result in a fine and/or suspension to be determined by the board of directors.
7. Each member must be present for roll-call prior to the scheduled start time. Failure to answer at roll call will result in a \$5 fine.
8. If a member is late, he/she will start in the frame his/her squad is in, provided a spot is available, with all previous frames being zero. It is the tournament manager's decision if the tardy member should be placed on the next squad or be disqualified from the tournament.
9. Any member who uses a bowling ball which does not meet USBC requirements and specifications shall automatically be disqualified from the tournament and forfeit all prize money. The member will be subject to suspension from the MBA, and possibly the USBC. The board of directors has the discretion to check any equipment at any time it is deemed necessary; entrants may be required to have weight, balance, or surface hardness checked prior to bowling.
10. The tournament manager may authorize the completion of games on another pair of certified lanes when equipment failure would delay the normal progress of the tournament. An interrupted game which cannot be completed on the same date must be resumed from the point of interruption.
11. No one will be permitted on the bowlers benches (except bowlers competing at the time and tournament officials).
12. Another bowler on your pair of lanes must record your scores and affix their initials to each game on your recap sheet. **Each member must verify the accuracy of their own sheet before it is returned to the tournament office. Each member will be responsible for their own score addition including the plus/minus and signing of their own sheet.** Scores and score sheets are considered FINAL when the sheet is turned in to the tournament office. After the score sheet has been turned into the office, bowlers may NOT make any changes to their sheets. Any recap sheet that is turned in to the tournament office incomplete will receive zero pins for each missing game. Failure to sign your recap sheet once it has been turned in to the tournament office will result in the member being fined \$5.

13. All recap sheets will be audited for accuracy at the end of each qualifying block. Any errors that are score related will result in the member being fined \$5.
14. All scoring corrections on automatic scorers must be made by another member or tournament official. If no one is available to do a score correction, please contact the counter personnel for assistance.
15. In the event of tie scores for the final qualifying spot during the preliminary competition or after the semi-final round, a one game roll-off will be held. The roll-off winner will be the bowler who is higher above their class zero point. All other ties will be decided per Rule III.6.
16. The Secretary-Treasurer or Tournament Manager has the right to revise the prize list.
17. Be ready to bowl when it is your turn to avoid unnecessary delays. Honor only one lane on your left and right.
18. No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed during the time you are bowling. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification from the tournament and forfeiture of entry fee.
19. No food, drinks, or smoking are permitted in the area of the scorer's table. No cigarettes, cigars, pipes may be smoked by the bowler while they are on the approach. The use of smokeless tobacco will not be permitted by the bowler during competition.
20. Any protest affecting eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to the board of directors before the tournament prize payments are made. Members have the right to appeal any decision to the USBC in accordance to their rule #329.
21. Complaints, at any time, may NOT be made by a member to the bowling proprietor or their employees. Complaints must be made in letter form to the board of directors. Violation is subject to a \$5 fine.
22. The tournament manager and president have the right to suspend a member on the spot for any infraction of the rules and regulations of the tournament. The length of time for suspension and/or fine will be determined by the board of directors.
23. This tournament will be certified by the USBC mixed tournament division. USBC playing rules and regulations will apply to all games bowled.
24. All members have the right to appeal any decision made by any officer of the Association, provided it is in writing to the board of directors within 1 week after the decision has been made. This applies to internal affairs within our Association and not to actual tournament operations.
25. The secretary/treasurer will determine the prize list and post on tournament site. All prize fees collected will be returned 100% to the members into the prize list. All MBA officers and directors performing their regular duties will receive the same monetary compensation as was received during regular tournaments.
26. Eligible bowlers that are not active members may participate in the Masters by submitting certified league averages for the past 2 (two) seasons and current season certified league averages based on 21+ games to the Board. If they have participated in the Master's in the previous 2 (two) years, the Master's average will also be used for classification purposes. Bowlers will be placed according to the higher class.

VI. Masters Invitational Tournament Format

1. This tournament will be limited to a maximum field of 80 entries with only previous champions and runners-up eligible to enter. The 80 spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Any entries received after the tournament has been declared full will be refunded in full. Bowling will start at 9:00AM. Entries MAY be expanded based on lane availability.
2. All previous MBA champions and runners-up that are no longer active are still eligible, at no membership cost to bowl in the Masters by resubmitting their certified league averages for the previous 2 seasons along with their current certified league average of 21 games or more.
3. The plus/minus scoring system will be used to determine each bowler's position for the finals.
4. Bowlers will draw for lane assignments prior to qualifying round on Sunday at roll call.
5. All bowlers will bowl 8 games, with the top $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ (rounded off to the nearest whole number, based on their class plus/minus), of the total field cashing, the top 8 advance to single elimination, two game total pinfall matches using a modified bracket system (see below). In case of a tie for the last cash or for 7th and 8th spots, a one game roll-off will determine who cashes or makes match play respectively. The plus/minus system will be used in the roll-off. If a tie still exists, a ninth and tenth frame roll-off will be used to break that tie (no handicap). For all other ties within the top 8, seeds will be assigned using the same tie-breaking formula as regular MBA events, see rule III.6.
6. In the single elimination portion of the tournament, handicap will be given to the bowler with the lower 8 game qualifying average, computed at 70% of the difference between the two bowlers 8 game tournament average. In case of tie match, a ninth and tenth frame roll off will be used to break the tie. No handicap will be given during the tie breaker. The modified bracket format will be used as in regular MBA events, see rule III.7. The "23 cut" rule will not apply. The higher seeded bowler has choice of starting lane for EACH game of the 2 game match.

VII. Michiana Bowlers Association Award Qualifications

1. Bowler of the Year

- A. You will receive 5 points for each of the first five tournaments you bowl during the season, 10 points for each of the next 3 tournaments bowled and 20 points for the last two tournaments bowled, for a maximum total of 120 points. Points are not awarded for the Masters.
- B. Points for the finals and semifinals will be computed using the following formula:
 - 1st Place = (Number of cuts * 10)
 - 2nd Place = 1st Place Points * 0.9
 - 3rd Place = 2nd Place Points * 0.9
 - 4th Place = 3rd Place Points * 0.9
 - etc.

Semi-finalists tying for a given place or finalists who lose in the same round will have their points calculated based on the highest position that they tied for. For example bowlers tying for 19th and 20th places will each use place 19, bowlers losing in the opening round of the finals (place 9, 10, 11, 12) will use place 9. Bowlers losing in the round of 6 will get 6th place points and bowlers losing in the quarter-finals will get 4th place points.

No semi-finalist will receive fewer than 10 points.

Points awarded for the Championship Tournament will be worth 1.5 times the above calculation. Points are not awarded for the Masters.

- C. You will receive 1 point for every \$5 won (not including the Masters, side pots or brackets).
- D. You will receive 5 points for every pin your true bowling average is over your beginning of the year average class. (Class A: 216, Class B: 209, Class C: 203, Class D: 196, Class E: 186, Class F: 176, Class G: 165)
- E. You will receive 15 points for leading your class in the qualifying round of a tournament. In case of ties, the 15 points will be split. Points are not awarded for the Masters.
- F. To be eligible, a member must have bowled 5 tournaments, excluding the Masters.
- G. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 10% eligible bowlers or top 10 whichever is greater. 100% of escrowed Bowler of the Year fees will be returned.

2. Pete Rice Sportsmanship Award

- A. Will be voted on by the current MBA paid membership.
- B. All members who have bowled 4 tournaments by March will be on the preliminary ballot.
- C. Preliminary round ballots will be distributed at the April tournament. Members will vote for 2 members, first choice receiving 5 points, second receiving 3 points.
- D. Ballots will be totaled. The top 10 vote getters will advance to the final ballot. In case of a tie, both members will advance.
- E. Final round ballots will be distributed at the May tournament. Members will vote for 1 member on the final ballot.
- F. The member who received the most votes will be named Sportsmanship Winner.

3. Comeback Bowler of the Year

- A. Awarded to the bowler with the greatest improvement or accomplishment from the previous year.
- B. To be eligible, a member must have bowled at least 5 tournaments, excluding the Masters.