

FUN HANDICAP LEAGUE WINTER 2022-2023

The Fun Handicap League is sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) through the Citrus Belt USBC Association as an invitational mixed league. The Fun Handicap League is also a member of the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO). The Palm Springs Desert Invitational Classic Tournament (PSDIC), in exchange for fundraising privileges throughout the league bowling season, will pay the league's fees for membership into IGBO.

The entire league membership met on September 12, 2022, at 5:30 PM to elect officers and to adopt the rules for the upcoming season. Approval of the elections and rules was by most of the members present. The league officers elected:

President:	Chris Javier	951-906-5285	Chris.javier77@gmail.com
Vice President:	Bruce Troupe	562-714-6635	pistachioicecream56@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer:	Curt Schuller	760-333-1705	cschuller@mac.com
Sergeant at Arms:			

League Schedule

The Fun Handicap league is an invitational league comprised of up to 26 teams with 4 bowlers per team. A 5th member is allowed. The league will bowl on Monday night for 35 weeks beginning on September 12, 2022, ending on May 22, 2023. There will be 2 bye weeks. December 26, 2022 and January 2, 2023.

All league matches will start promptly at 6:30 pm. If the league decides to bowl less than the stated number of weeks, the house has the option to increase the lineage as deemed necessary. Palm Springs Lanes reserves the right to suspend or postpone any night of the schedule with ample notice to the league due to any unforeseen change in lane availability.

Rule 1 – Management

The Fun Handicap League is managed by the Board of Directors, which is comprised of elected officers and team captains. The elected officers of the Fun Handicap league must be USBC members and shall include the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms. A unanimous vote of the Directors is required to adopt any league rule change during the bowling season after the first ball is thrown on September 12, 2022. Any issue with equipment at Palm Springs Lanes should be brought to the attention of one of the league officers and they will address it with the lanes. We do not want multiple bowlers going up to the desk and complaining. **BOWLERS INVOLVED IN THE PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, USE OF CONTINUED PROFANITY, PHYSICAL AND/OR VERBAL ABUSE DIRECTED TOWARD ANY PALM SPRINGS LANE STAFF MEMBER, AND DAMAGE TO ANY BOWLING CENTER EQUIPMENT, OR KICKING THE BALL RETURN, IS SUBJECT TO THE EXCLUSION FROM THE CENTER AND THE LEAGUE. PALM SPRINGS LANES WILL NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY DISPUTE THAT SHOULD ARISE IN THE LEAGUE. DISPUTES WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE GOVERNING BODY. USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS ON PREMISES IS ALSO FORBIDDEN. PROFANITY, PHYSICAL AND/OR VERBAL ABUSE TOWARD ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE FUN HANDICAP BOWLING LEAGUE IS ALSO PROHIBITED. THERE IS ZERO TOLERANCE ON THESE ISSUES.**

Rule 2 – Secretary & Treasurer Salary and Finance Reporting

The Secretary and Treasurer’s salary shall be \$1.00 each per bowler per night from the weekly bowler fees and will be paid at the completion of the league schedule unless otherwise authorized by the league officers. Final payment is not authorized until the Secretary has submitted the final individual averages to the local Citrus Belt USBC Bowling Association of the United States Bowling Congress. The Treasurer shall present to all team captains an estimated financial statement by the 5th week of bowling and a final accounting of league finances on the final night of bowling.

Rule 3 – Franchise

The team captain will hold the franchise/team spot as long as he/she is acceptable to a ³/₄ majority of the Board of Directors. A franchise cannot be recalled during the season without sufficient cause. The team captain must notify the league Secretary of the team’s intent to retain the franchise/team for next winter season by the end of the current winter season. Failure to do so will result in the franchise returning to the control of the league’s Board of Directors. If a team captain resigns from the league during the season or between seasons, his/her team members have the first right to retain the team franchise. The league Secretary will maintain waiting lists of replacement teams and bowlers when the league cannot accommodate all interested teams and bowlers.

Rule 4 – USBC Membership Dues

USBC and Citrus Belt annual dues must be paid before any member is allowed to bowl in this league. The standard membership fee is \$30 per year, which includes USBC National Dues of \$15, State Dues of \$2, and Citrus Belt Dues of \$13. Bowlers with current-year membership cards in another state or outside the Citrus Belt USBC Bowling Association will be required to pay the State and/or The Citrus Belt dues. Any bowler under the age of 18 must have parental consent to bowl in a sanctioned league where cash/merchandise prizes are awarded. Consent forms may be obtained from the Secretary.

Rule 5 – League Fees

5A: Weekly Fees

Each bowler will pay a weekly fee of \$25 per night of bowling to be allocated as follows:

\$ 14.50 Lineage *
\$1.00 Secretary Salary
\$1.00 Treasurer Salary
\$.75 Awards Fund
\$.75 Sweepstakes Fund
<u>\$7.00 Prize Fund</u>

\$25.00 Total per bowler per night. Team members are responsible for the weekly fees whether they are present or absent.

*Palm Springs Lanes has agreed to reduce the lineage for Sweepstake’s night, May 23, 2023, to \$7.50 per bowler. The difference of \$7.00 will be added to the sweepstake fund, except optional events.

5B: Substitute Fee

Teams may use a substitute bowler if a regular bowler is absent. The fee is \$10 per substitute per night of bowling. All substitute fees collected during the season will be added to the league's prize fund.

5C: Collection of Fees

The Treasurer collects all fees owed the league. Each team captain (or designated alternate if the team captain is absent) is responsible for collecting all fees from team members and delivering them in the team's pay envelope to the Treasurer by the end of the first game each week.

On the first night of bowling, each member will pay the first night's fees, plus the USBC membership fees specified above. Members holding a current 2022/2023 Citrus Belt USBC membership card are required to pay only the first week's bowling fees on the first night of bowling.

On each subsequent night of bowling, each member will pay the weekly fee for that night of bowling, unless absent. Absent bowlers must pay up to date the first night they return. A bowler giving proper notice of an absence longer than the two weeks may remain on the team roster as long as the weekly fees are paid during their absence. It is the team captain's responsibility to declare a bowler vacancy or pay the weekly fees. See Rule 10A for fees due for vacancies,

A member will be allowed bowl if he/she is one (1) week in arrears. If a bowler, who is more than one week in arrears, is allowed by the team captain to bowl, all games will be forfeited by his/her team that night.

By November 7th, the ninth night of bowling, each member will pay for the last two weeks of the season (the final position round and sweepstakes).

Any member that bowls less than 6 weeks, and/or quits before/after that time without any notice, will automatically forfeit any point money.

5D: Arrearages

If any team is not fully paid at the end of the season, the arrearages (and NSF checks and bank fees) will be deducted from the leagues prize fund before distribution and all team members with arrearages will be reported to the USBC and Citrus Belt Bowling Association for nonpayment of funds in accordance with USBC Rule 115b (Dismissal – Nonpayment of Fees and/or Improper Withdrawal, usually resulting in ineligibility for USBC and Citrus Belt membership until such funds are paid to the league to which the funds are owed.

5E: Returned Checks

If any team member writes a NSF check, the Treasurer will notify the team captain and bowler within one day after notification is received from the bank. The NSF check must be redeemed by the next scheduled night of bowling after notification by the Treasurer. Failure to redeem the NSF check on that night will be considered non-payment/arrearages of funds and forfeiture of any points won will begin from the night the check was given for payment of league fees. Any member who writes the Fun Handicap League a NSF check will be placed on a cash only basis for the remainder of the season. In order to prepare for league prize fund payouts, no personal checks will be accepted the last two (2) weeks of the published league schedule.

5F: Bank Account

An account will be set up at a local recognized banking institution in the name of Fun Handicap League with the signatures of at least two officers required for all withdrawals. The league will carry a reserve of no more than \$100.00 into the next season.

Rule 6 – League Fundraisers

The league may conduct the following fundraising activities to augment the prize fund, which is paid out to the bowlers at the end of the season.

Strike Fund: A strike fund will consist of \$1.00 paid by each bowler (**including substitutes**) who fails to throw a strike in the first frame of the second game, with proceeds being deposited in the general prize fund. The Vice-President oversees collecting the strike fund before the end of the 2nd game.

Strike Ball Drawing-50/50 Drawing. Two of the fundraisers that may be conducted by the PSDIC committee, or the League is a voluntary Strike Ball Drawing, or a 50/50 Drawing on a regular basis. (PSDIC choice).

When the PSDIC committee or league sells Strike Ball tickets for \$1 each or 6 for \$5, 10% of the gross proceeds are donated to the league prize fund and 10% retained by PSDIC. The remaining 80% goes to the winners of the drawing. The ball must be thrown by the person who bought the winning ticket or by his/her teammate. The holder of the first ticket drawn each week wins the entire pot if he/she throws a strike or \$1 for each pin knocked down on the first ball if he/she does not throw a strike. If the first winner does not throw a strike, a second ticket is drawn, and the holder wins half of the remaining pot if he/she throws a strike or \$1 per pin knocked down on the first ball. Any money remaining in the pot is carried over to the next week. Additional tickets are drawn until a strike is thrown whenever the pot reaches \$800 and on the last night of the season, regardless of the amount in the pot.

When the PSDIC committee or the league sells 50/50 tickets for a \$1 each or 6 for \$5, 50% of the amount collected will be awarded to the person/persons holding the winning raffle ticket. The remaining 50% will be split with 50% going to the league prize fund, and the remaining 50% going to the PSDIC committee or if it is the league, then to the prize fund.

PSDIC committee at their discretion may have other fundraising events such as Random Frame game, 9 pin No-tap, or sell raffle tickets for a bowling ball or such items as provided by PSDIC. All proceeds of those optional games will go to PSDIC.

Rule 7 – Point System

This league will use a 4-point system, with 1 point for each game and 1 for total points. In case of a tie, one-half point will be awarded to each team.

Rule 8 – Vacancy Scoring

When a team has a vacant spot on their team, use a score of 150 and a handicap of 72 for each game.

Rule 9 – Uneven Number of Teams

If the league starts the season with an uneven number of teams or a team is dismissed or withdraws and is not replaced, the team scheduled against the nonexistent team cannot be credited with the points by forfeit. To earn the points, they must bowl their average less ten pins per player per game (the team must bowl within 40 pins of the team average or better). Unearned points will be recorded as losses on the league standings sheet.

Rule 10 – Withdrawals/Resignations (USBC Rule 121a)

Members of the Fun Handicap League may withdraw from the league during a season. If a team or individual member must withdraw, the following procedure is to be followed:

The departing bowler must give two (2) weeks advance notice along with sufficient cause for resigning.

The bowler resigning from a team shall give written notice to the team captain and the Secretary.

The team captain shall also give notice to the Secretary.

The resigning team member must pay any arrearages plus league fees for the two week notice period unless the bowler is replaced within that period. Pre-payment of the last two weeks of bowling may be used to pay league fees during the notice period.

If a bowler is absent a third consecutive week without proper notice and sufficient cause is not given, all franchise, prize and any other money for which the individual may have been eligible will be forfeited. In addition, the member may be subject to suspension of USBC membership.

A bowler who has resigned may bowl in the same league later that season provided:

Proper notice and sufficient cause was given, and the individual bowls on the same team from which the bowler resigned. No vote of the Board of Directors is required; or

Proper notice and sufficient cause was given, and the individual bowls on a different team from which the bowler resigned. No vote of the Board of Directors is required as long as the transfer is approved by both team captains; or

Approval by 2/3rd vote of the Board of Directors is obtained when the bowler did not give proper notice and enough

cause or wants to bowl on a team other than the one from which the bowler resigned, and both team captains do not agree to the transfer.

The average of any bowler permitted to return to the league shall be continued.

10A: Vacancies – Payment of Fees

A team may carry a vacancy until a replacement bowler is found.

HOWEVER, it is strongly suggested that the team finds or accepts a replacement ASAP. It is not fair to the other league members to cover those vacant fees. If the secretary finds a replacement for the team and they do not accept that person, then THAT team becomes responsible for paying that vacant spot going forward.

Rule 11 – Handicap

The handicap allowance is on an individual basis and is figured by subtracting the average from 230 and multiplying the result by .90 (90%) with no negative handicaps for averages over 230. Team handicap for each scheduled match is the total of the individual handicaps for the players in the lineup.

Rule 12 – Entering Averages

Entering average will be your average for 21/22 on bowl.com or in another league if you have one. Minimum 21 games. Please provide proof from that league secretary. That average will be used for 9 games, before resetting. If someone does not have an average, then they will be establishing an average after bowling 3 games.

Rule 13 – League Ending Ties and Roll-Offs

All ties will be decided by total pins, except for first place and league awards. If two or more teams have the same number of points after the first half or second half position round (tied for first place), or if the two teams bowling for the league championship both win two points during the playoff on the final night of bowling, the winner will be decided by a one (1) game roll-off (or more if required). This roll-off, if necessary, will take place immediately following the 3rd game of regular bowling. Roll-off games will not count towards individual averages or special league prizes. Roll-offs will not be bowled on the same pair of lanes used by either team during league play that night unless the team captains involved in the roll-off agree to bowl on the same lanes. League awards other than first place will be split evenly when more than one team or individual bowler ties for the award.

Rule 14 – Team Rosters/Personal Contact Information

14A: Team Rosters

Team captains must turn in rosters of team members to the Secretary the first night of bowling. Rosters are limited to a maximum of five (5) regular members, with four (4) members paying the bowling fees and bowling each week. After the start of the season, any permanent change in a team roster must be reported to the Secretary in writing before becoming effective. New bowlers cannot be added to a roster in the final five (5) weeks of the season without the approval of 2/3rds vote of the Board of Directors. Exception is granted to anyone that has a legitimate medical reason why they cannot bowl. Bowlers on a team roster are not allowed to substitute for another team.

14B: Personal Contact Information

The Secretary is responsible for maintaining and safeguarding the personal contact information, including address, telephone number, and email address, provided by the team bowlers and substitutes.

14C: Team Names

The use of profanity, abbreviated profanity or derogatory terms in team names is prohibited.

Rule 15 – Substitutes

The Secretary will maintain a list of roving substitutes. No substitute may bowl with more than one team for the regularly scheduled games each week, including pre-bowls and make-ups. Roving substitutes will not be eligible for prize money or league awards. Substitutes must have a minimum of 21 games bowled in this league to be eligible to bowl the last three (3) weeks prior to the final position round and Sweepstakes. No substitutes will be allowed to bowl during Position Rounds or Sweepstakes.

Rule 16 – Legal Lineup / Forfeits

Players from a team's roster of members will count towards a legal lineup. A legal lineup is at least two members from a team's roster. Substitutes and vacancies do not count to determine a legal lineup. Any team not having a legal lineup at the end of the third frame of a game by the opposing team will forfeit that game.

- ***(Forfeit – Procedure for Bowling) when a team is bowling in a known forfeit situation, the following procedures shall apply:***

The forfeiting team is not to receive any points and will receive one loss on the league standings sheet for each game and series forfeited.

The team present must bowl as though the game was contested.

To earn the point(s), teams must bowl at least the team average less 40 pins for the team per game (120 points per forfeited series). Games and series not won by the team for failing to bowl the prescribed score will be recorded as losses on the league standings sheet.

Players on the forfeiting team who are present may bowl, but the scores shall not be included in the team's total pins.

Scores bowled in accordance with this procedure shall be counted toward averages and qualify for league prizes. In addition, such scores shall qualify for USBC/Citrus Belt awards.

Rule 17 – Postponements and Pre-bowls

League games must be bowled as scheduled unless pre-bowled or postponed/made up. The league recognizes that teams cannot always bowl when scheduled and tries to accommodate all reasonable pre-bowl and postponement requests. The following procedures and rules, in conjunction with USBC Rule 111, shall be followed:

The league president/secretary will approve all requests to pre-bowl or postpone a scheduled match. The president/secretary may choose to request a vote by the Board of Directors (team captains and officers) to approve or deny a request.

The team captain must submit the request to pre-bowl or postpone the match to the league secretary at least 2 days (48 hours) before the scheduled time of the match except in situations

beyond the team's control. The request must include the reason and the proposed date and time of the pre-bowl or make-up session.

If any request is not received by the secretary by 6:15 PM on the date of the scheduled match, the games will be forfeited. Only exception is in case of emergency. Team captain must at least contact secretary with notice of intent to post bowl. The postponed match MUST be scheduled (doesn't have to be bowled, just scheduled) with the secretary within 24 hours. Text/or phone calls/emails. Absolutely no other means of social media.

All postponed matches must be completed by 5:00 PM on the date of the following scheduled session (normally the following Monday night).

The date and time of the pre-bowled or made up games are subject to lane availability. The lane conditions and bowler etiquette may not be the same as during regular league play.

Postponed games will be bowled under the same rules governing sanctioned league play. Scores qualify for league and Citrus Belt awards. Scores qualify for USBC High Score Awards only if both opposing teams bowl together on the same pair of lanes. ALL RECAPS WILL BE LEFT AT THE BOWLING CENTER WHEN BOWLING IS COMPLETE.

Requests to pre-bowl or postpone games for a position round will be approved only if the team is unable to field a legal line-up of at least two (2) bowlers for the regularly scheduled match. Postponements will not be approved for the final position round since the results are needed to finalize the prize fund and league awards.

No pre-bowls or postponements will be approved for Sweepstakes night. Note that no team points are awarded for sweepstakes night, and sweepstakes winnings are distributed as soon as bowling is completed.

Scores for matches pre-bowled or made up without approval by the committee will not count.

Individual bowlers may not pre-bowl or make up games missed.

The opposing teams may bowl separately unless both team captains agree upon a date and time to bowl the match together.

Decisions made by the committee may be protested to the board of directors. See League Rule 23 and USBC Rule 119 for protest procedures.

Rule 18 – Absentee Scores

Absent bowler scores are allowed when a team has a legal lineup, but less than a full lineup at the start of any game in a series. The absent score is the average less 10 pins. Handicap is based on the average of the absent bowler. When a team has enough members on its roster for a legal lineup, but not enough for a full lineup, a vacancy score of 150 and handicap of 72 will be used.

When two team members are absent and one substitute is used, the team captain may choose which absent bowler the substitute will replace.

Rule 19 – League Sheets & Scoring Corrections

Palm Springs Lanes will accomplish the scoring under the direct supervision of the Fun Handicap league officers. Team Captains are responsible for turning in the recap sheets to the secretary or front desk if the secretary is not available. White copies are kept by Palm Springs Lanes and the

league Secretary will retain the yellow copy. The official league standing sheet will be prepared and maintained by the Secretary and will be made available for viewing online at funhandicap.org, leaguesecretary.com, and bowl.com.

Rule 20 – Committees

The Fun Handicap League President oversees all special elections and the appointment of all special committees or league representatives.

Rule 21 – Trophies/Awards

The league will provide monetary awards for individual and team achievements. The League President will appoint a committee to submit proposed league awards for consideration by the 5th week of bowling. Approval by majority vote of Board of Directors present will be needed to accept the league awards. Individuals can be awarded only one individual award per season (in addition to High Average and Most Improved Bowler) and must have bowled at least 2/3rd of the scheduled games as a regular member and remain a member until the end of the season to qualify. The order of individual and team monetary awards is handicap series, handicap game, scratch series, and scratch game. Season point money from the prize fund will be awarded on a points-won basis.

For Most Improved Bowler, each bowler's improvement will be calculated as follows:

For bowlers with entering averages, improvement is ending average minus entering average

For bowlers with no entering average, improvement is ending average minus average after the first 9 games bowled.

Rule 22 – Sweepstakes

Sweepstakes will be handicapped at 90% of 230. In order to qualify for Sweepstake's payouts each participating bowler must have completed at least 68 games (2/3rds) and be a regular team member at the start of Sweepstakes Week.

Singles and Team Competition: All eligible bowlers are automatically entered in the Singles and Team Sweepstakes. Payouts for the singles and team competition will be presented to the Board of Directors for approval by the 5th week of the season.

Doubles Competition: Doubles will be an optional event. The Secretary will collect the Doubles entry forms and entry fee, no later than May 15, 2023, the week before Sweepstakes. The entry fee for the optional Doubles event will be \$10.00 per bowler, and no refunds will be issued after May 15, 2023. The pairings for the Doubles event will be a "top/bottom" format, with the high average and low average bowlers paired together, the second highest and second lowest bowler paired together, etc.

Sweepstakes prizes will be paid out after the Sweepstakes bowling is completed on May 22, 2023. PLEASE BE SURE TO STAY AND SEE IF YOU WON. LEAGUE OFFICERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE TO HOLD ON TO OR TO TRACK YOU DOWN TO PAY YOU THE CASH.

Rule 23 – Protests

All protests must be filed in writing with a league officer and shall be filed within 15 days of occurrence. A protest resulting from competition in the final two weeks of each half of the league schedule shall be filed within 48 hours of the final date of that segment (position round). A protest

resulting from competition during Sweepstakes must be filed before Sweepstakes prizes are paid out immediately after bowling on Sweepstakes night.

Rule 24 – USBC Rulebook

The current USBC (United States Bowling Congress) rulebook governs all situations not addressed by these rules. The USBC Rulebook can be viewed or downloaded at bowl.com.

PROPOSED RULE CHANGES:

1. _____

Passed _____

2. _____

Passed _____

**** Majority was notified that the elected President and VP are dating. No objections were raised.**