

SOCAL MASTERS TOURNAMENT RULES

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** This tournament is open to all current USBC members in good standing. Bowlers without an established average must enter the Scratch division. Cards can be sold on-site.
2. **TOURNAMENT DATE:** Sunday, September 29, 2024. **Entries close:** September 29, 2024 at 7:30am.
3. The tournament will be held at **FOREST LANES**, 22771 Centre Dr, Lake Forest, CA 92630, (949) 770-0055
4. ****THREE DIVISIONS:** Scratch, Senior Scratch (aged 50+) and Handicap (204 average or lower). ***Divisions may be consolidated depending on the number of entries per division. Any division changes will be made prior to the start of competition. If a division receives 15 or less entries, the division will be cancelled. Those entrants may either move to an alternate eligible division or receive a full refund.*
5. **HANDICAP:** 90% of 205; Max handicap: 50
6. **TOURNAMENT FORMAT:**

QUALIFYING: Five games, moving pairs each game. Skipping procedure will be determined by the Tournament Director.

FINALS BRACKET: The top eight bowlers in each division will advance to the single game bracket. Bowlers will be seeded according to their overall total pin standings. Any ties for seeded positions will use the highest final game of qualifying to determine the higher seeded position. If a tie still exists, the higher previous game will determine the higher seed. If a tie occurs during the finals bracket, an additional 9th and 10th frame will be bowled until the tie is broken. Champions will be crowned in each division.

OVERALL FINALS: The three champions will bowl a one game match to determine the overall champion of the tournament. Handicap will apply for the Handicap champion.
7. **The entering average for the HANDICAP DIVISION shall be determined from the HIGHEST of established USBC leagues:**
 - A. Highest **2022-23 and 2023-24 USBC certified book average** (min. 21 games and including composite); If none,
 - B. Highest **CURRENT league average** (min. 21 games; sheet must be provided); If none;
 - C. Highest **2021-22 USBC certified book average** (min. 21 games); If none;
 - D. Enter **SCRATCH**

AVERAGE VERIFICATION PRINT-OUTS FROM BOWL.COM ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL HANDICAP ENTRIES.

The minimum average to enter is 150. Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own averages. Any falsification of the highest known average will result in immediate and final disqualification. If a "sport" league average is the bowler's only verifiable average, it should be marked with an "SP" in the average box and will be adjusted per the USBC Sport Chart to determine the correct entering average. Rules 319a2 and 319d will be waived. Bowlers on the USBC re-rate list must report the re-adjusted average or be subject to disqualification. **Recommended minimum average of 150.**
8. Bowlers must check in 45 minutes prior to scheduled squad time with **VALID IDENTIFICATION** and proof of USBC membership (current USBC membership card or BOWL.com profile).
9. **ENTRY FEE: \$85 per person** (lineage \$36 + prize fund \$45 + expenses \$4). **\$100 per person** (lineage \$36 + prize fund \$55 + expenses \$9) for entries received after 9/15/24. Check or money orders will be accepted made payable to **GLAC USBC**. Write "SoCal Masters" in memo. Any returned checks must be paid in cash or money order on-site plus a \$35 penalty fee prior to competition. **DO NOT MAIL ENTRIES AFTER SEPTEMBER 24.**
10. All prize/scholarship money will be returned 100%. Prize Money/Scholarships awarded to the final top eight bowlers in each division**. A ratio of at least 1:8 may pay other places in each division. **YOUTH AGED 13+ MUST SUBMIT A SIGNED USBC SCHOLARSHIP WAIVER PRIOR TO THE START OF COMPETITION.** Scholarships will be held with USBC SMART under account #11334, (800) 514-2695 x3343.
11. Bowlers arriving late shall begin play with the frame then being bowled. Frames may not be made-up. Bowlers not present to bowl when it's their turn will be credited with a zero for that frame.
12. In the event a bowler cannot finish their series, zero points will be scored the remaining frames.
13. **ONLY A DRY TOWEL MAY BE USED DURING COMPETITION. ELIMINATION OF BALANCE HOLES:** Bowlers may have up to five holes for gripping purposes and all holes must be used on every delivery. If only fingers are used, the thumb hole must be plugged and an "X" marked for the palm position. Any bowling ball that does not meet USBC specifications will subject the bowler to disqualification of all tournament scores. We reserve the option to do random spot checks and we may be reported to check equipment by another bowler. **Visit BOWL.com to download the Non-conforming Bowling Ball List.**
14. **All bowlers must wear suitable attire. Non-denim pants and collared shirts are preferred. Skirts, shorts and skorts should extend past fingertips. All shirts must have sleeves.**
15. This tournament is certified by USBC. The Tournament Director shall be the authority to interpret USBC and tournament rules, policies and procedures in deciding disputes.
16. Any violation of tournament rules is cause for disqualification, loss of entry fee, forfeit of all prize monies and possible suspension from USBC membership.