

# RULES and REGULATIONS for the 2026 FCSU International Bowling Tournament

1. The Tournament shall be conducted in compliance with the rules and regulations of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).
2. This event is being sponsored by FCSU Financial® for the exclusive enjoyment of its members and their guests. The goal of the tournament is to promote fraternalism and good sportsmanship and generate interest in our Slovak fraternal organization. The National Officers of FCSU wish to extend a cordial invitation to all members and their guests.
3. **ELIGIBILITY:** This Tournament is open to all FCSU Members (age 18+) in good standing at the time of entry. Those with lapsed memberships/policies may not participate in the tournament or its related social functions.
  - 4a. The total cost per **FCSU MEMBER** per event:

Teams Event .....	\$30.00
Doubles Event .....	\$30.00
Singles Event.....	\$30.00
*All Events .....	\$5.00
  - 4b. The total cost per **NON-MEMBER** per event:

Teams Event .....	\$35.00
Doubles Event .....	\$35.00
Singles Event.....	\$35.00
*All Events .....	\$5.00

*\*Only bowlers paying the \$5.00 All-Events fee are eligible for the cash awards.*
  - 4c. **Prizes will be awarded to at least one in ten participants in each specific event.**

NOTE: Bowler may win only one cash prize per event (scratch or handicap), whichever cash prize is higher, excluding special prizes. Awards will be presented to the Bowlers who roll the highest scratch and handicap scores in each event.
5. **SUBSTITUTES:** Bowlers may compete only once in each event. No one may bowl in this tournament except those originally entered before the tournament opens or such substitutes who may be authorized by the captain of a team or his appointee, provided the individual whose name appears on the entry blank is unable for sufficient reason to attend the tournament at the time scheduled. The Tournament Director shall have power to approve the substitutes that are offered by the captain or his legalized representative, and if accepted, each substitute must bowl each event under his full name and only at scheduled time in each event. The substitute's score and handicap from the said event will be used.
6. As of March 15, 2026, if any contestant's current average, of *at least 21 games*, is ten pins or more above their highest average from the previous season, they must use their current average.
7. **HANDICAP: All bowlers handicaps** will be calculated at 90% of the difference between 210 and their last season's 2024-2025 highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games. Bowlers who have no established average will use their highest sanctioned league average of at least 21 games as of March 15, 2026. Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as having a **160 average** and will be handicapped accordingly. Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as having a **130 average** and will be handicapped accordingly. Bowlers who participated in the FCSU 2024 and/or 2025 bowling tournaments will be handicapped based on those scores.
8. **FALSIFYING AVERAGES - PENALTY:** The team captain is responsible for reporting all averages of the individual team members. Should the Tournament Committee find at any time that the averages have been falsified, the team shall forfeit all claims for prize money as well as their entry fee and will be subject to disqualification and suspension from organized bowling. All prize winners are subject upon request to submit an affidavit of correct league averages.
9. **RE-RATING OF BOWLERS:** According to USBC Rule No. 319 A-F, bowlers may be re-rated by the Tournament Committee.
10. **All entry applications and bowling fees are to be mailed to: FCSU, 6611 Rockside Rd., Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131; and must be received before March 23, 2026. Rule 310-A2 is in effect.**
11. Bowlers who participate in tournament games must be dressed in a presentable manner to appear before the public and when possible, to use an emblem attached to shirt or dress so that participant can be identified.
12. **FEE WILL NOT BE REFUNDED.** All prize fees will be paid in prizes.
13. In the Doubles Event, the names of both bowlers must be listed on the entry. Incomplete forms will be returned for information. If both entrants in the Doubles event appear when scheduled, it is understood that they must bowl as entered and no change in position will be allowed at any time after entry has been filed.
14. **LANE ASSIGNMENTS:** The Tournament Committee will assign lanes.
15. Bowlers in this tournament are not required to report any tournament prize winnings for the previous 12-month period.
16. Failure to use the correct average shall disqualify score, if the submitted average results in a lower classification or greater handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average. However, corrections in averages may be permitted up to the completion of the first game of a series.
17. **DISPUTES:** Any dispute is to be brought promptly to the attention of the Tournament Committee, with final determination made by the Tournament Director.
18. **GUESTS:** We welcome guest bowlers. Each FCSU member in good standing, may register one first time non-member bowler.