

**Important Information for All Tournament Entrants**

# ***RULES and REGULATIONS***

## ***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 the First Catholic Slovak Union 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 the First Catholic Slovak Union wish to extend a cordial invitation to all members and their guests.

3. **ELIGIBILITY:** This Tournament is open to all First Catholic Slovak Union 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.

4. a. The total cost per **FCSU MEMBER** for each event shall be:

Prize Fee. ....	\$10.00
Bowling Fee. ....	\$13.00
Hospitality Fee. ....	\$ 2.00
<b>TOTAL COST (per event) . . . . .</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
Saturday Dinner . . . . .	No Cost
*All Events Fee . . . . .	\$ 5.00 (Optional)

*\*Only bowlers paying the \$5.00 All-Events fee are eligible for the cash awards.*

4.. b. The total cost per **NON-MEMBER** for each event shall be:

Prize Fee. ....	\$15.00
Bowling Fee. ....	\$13.00
Hospitality Fee. ....	\$ 2.00
<b>TOTAL COST (per event) . . . . .</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
Saturday Dinner . . . . .	\$35.00 (Optional)
*All Events Fee . . . . .	\$ 5.00 (Optional)

*\*Only bowlers paying the \$5.00 All-Events fee will be eligible for the cash awards.*

*The Prize Fees will be awarded 100% in each specific event. At least 1 in 10 participants in each event will win prizes.*

*Note:* Contestant 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 Contestants who roll the highest scratch and handicap scores in each event.

5. **SUBSTITUTES.** Bowlers may compete only once in each event. However, the Tournament Director may allow a bowler who has previously bowled to substitute on a four bowler team when one of its original entrants is absent. The score of such bowler in the team event rolled with his entering team must count for all events. 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, 2024, 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 - Men's Division** Handicap will be calculated at 90% of the difference between 240 and their last season's 2022-2023 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, 2024.

Male bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as having a **175** average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in the Joint Fraternal Bowling Tournament, the average of most recent 2 year history from Tournaments will be used.

Male bowlers with an average over 240 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch throughout the tournament.

8. **HANDICAP: Women's Division** handicap will be calculated at 90% of the difference between 200 and last season's 2022-2023 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, 2024.

Female bowlers who have no established average for this year or last year will be listed as having a **150** average and will be handicapped accordingly. If the bowler does not have a sanctioned average over the last two years, but has competed in

the Joint Fraternal Bowling Tournament, the most recent 2 year history from the Joint Fraternal Tournaments will be used. Female bowlers with an average over 200 will receive no handicap and will bowl scratch in the tournament.

*Under no circumstances will handicaps be increased after participant has bowled.*

9 **FALSIFYING AVERAGES - PENALTY** - The team captain is responsible for reporting all averages of the individual team members, and they are responsible to him. 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.

10. **RE-RATING OF BOWLERS** - According to USBC Rule No. 319 A-E, bowlers maybe re-rated by the Tournament Committee.

11. **All entry applications and bowling fees are to be mailed to: Joanne Fibbi, Fraternal Activities Director, 1741 Hempstead Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15241; and must be received before March 28, 2024. Rule 310-A2 is in effect.**

12. Bowlers who participate in tournament games must be dressed in a presentable manner to appear before public and when possible to use an emblem attached to shirt or dress so that participant can be identified.

13. Both USBC and eligible non-USBC members may participate in moral support tournaments with high score protection automatically extended to USBC members. Eligible non-USBC members can qualify for high score protection at their option by paying a \$21.00 fee for which the Congress will issue an unattached membership card.

14. **FEE WILL NOT BE REFUNDED.** All prize fees will be paid in prizes.

15. Bowlers may choose to bowl in their respective gender team and doubles event or on a mixed team or mixed doubles team, but cannot participate in both divisions. Singles and All Events are gender specific. Mixed team and mixed doubles scores will be used to calculate All Events specific to the gender of the bowler. Must have 6 teams and 10 doubles teams to hold the mixed events.

16. 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.

17. **LANE ASSIGNMENTS** - The Tournament Committee will assign lanes. For all events. Bowlers in the Doubles and Singles Events must report 30 minutes prior to the time they are scheduled to bowl. Captains of teams must report their line-up at least 30 minutes before scheduled start time.

18. In the Doubles & Singles Events bowling entrants will bowl all six of their games on the same pair of lanes. Bowlers entered in only the Singles Event will be assigned to alleys by the Committee.

19. A team may use a name other than its league name for tournament entry without the payment of additional membership dues as formerly required.

20 Contestants in this tournament are not required to report any tournament prize winnings for the previous 12-month period.

21. 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.

22. **DISPUTES:** Any dispute is to be brought promptly to the attention of the Tournament Committee, with final determination made by the Tournament Director.

23. **GUESTS: We welcome guest bowlers. Each FCSU member in good standing, may register one non-member bowler.**