



2024 ARMED FORCES MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

1. COMPETITION RULES: Current United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Rules for Men and Women as amended by the Armed Forces Sports Council (AFSC), if applicable.

2. TOURNAMENT FORMAT AND COMPETITIONS

a. Four (4) sessions of bowling, 3 of which will have standard 10-frame games and one (Team Challenge) would consist of Baker matches. The following sessions (challenges) are:

1) Singles Challenge (1st Session 6 games), bowling will be on two different pairs of lanes for men and two different pairs of lanes for women.

2) Doubles Challenge (2nd Session) 6 games, each branch of the service designates two men's teams and two women's teams (teams must be declared by conclusion of Tournament Organization Meeting).

3) Mixed Doubles Challenge (3rd Session) 6 games, each branch of the service designates four mixed doubles teams (teams must be declared by conclusion of Tournament Organization Meeting).

4) Team Challenge (4th Session) consisting of 12 Baker Format matches of 2 games per match. The Baker Format will consist of four-person teams bowling to one score. Bowler 1 will bowl frames 1, 5 and 9; Bowler 2 will bowl frames 2, 6 and 10; Bowler 3 will bowl frames 3 and 7; and bowler 4 will bowl frames 4 and 8. The team captain or coach may change the lineup for each Baker game. Matches will consist of 2 games, bonus pins will be awarded as follows, 10 pins for each game won and 10 pins for the 2 game total for a total of 30 pins per match available. The total pins plus bonus pins will determine the team champion and these pins including bonus pins will be added to the team all events total. This event will not count towards individual All-Events.

3. SCORING AND FINAL TEAM STANDINGS:

a. Service Team Champion determined by the total pin fall from all team bowlers and their eighteen (18) games from the doubles, mixed doubles, and singles sessions, plus the final Team Challenge Score. The Team Challenge Score includes the total pin fall from the team score of the Baker matches plus bonus pins.

b. Individual Armed Forces Champion (All Events) shall be determined by the total pin fall from individual performance in the Doubles, Mixed Doubles and Singles Challenge. (Total 18 games).

c. Singles, doubles, mixed doubles, and team challenge are conducted as a part of the overall Armed Forces Championship. Tie-breaking lines (games) are used only to break ties. Tie-breaking scores will not replace nor add to scoring in regulation tournament or in any of the championship events. A tie in the Team Challenge or overall team All-Events will be broken by a team Baker Match.

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4. TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE:

a. Singles Competition: Participants involved in a tie for first, second, or third place will bowl complete lines (games) until the tie is broken.

b. Doubles Competition: Teams involved in a tie for first, second or third place will bowl complete lines (games) until the tie is broken.

c. Mixed Doubles: Teams involved in a tie for first, second or third place will bowl complete lines (games) until the tie is broken.

d. Team Challenge: For teams involved in a tie for first or second place at the completion of the Baker's Format, teams will continue to bowl in the Baker's Format in complete lines (games) until the tie is broken.

e. All Events: Individuals tied for champion or runner-up after eighteen (18) games will bowl complete lines (games) until the tie is broken. A team tie will be broken by an individual baker match of 2 games with total pins for the 2 games determining the winner. Bonus pins will not be used in a tie breaker match.

5. PLAYER INFORMATION: Starting times are provided to team captains and service representatives in the pre-tournament meeting and are posted in the bowling center. Bowlers must be ready to bowl at the stipulated starting time for each session or forfeit their participation in that day's scheduled games. Bowlers are assigned lanes based on a draw. The draw takes place at the pre-tournament meeting. Rotation is after each two games to a different pair of lanes. Shadow bowling is allowed for five minutes prior to beginning bowling, and one ball on each lane when rotating at the third and fifth games.

6. FACILITY, EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL:

a. Pin specifications are outlined in the current USBC Rules (Chapter 7: Equipment Specification and Certifications).

b. Participant's bowling balls must be weighed and marked prior to the start of competition IAW USBC Rules (Chapter 7: Equipment Specification and Certifications).

c. Oil patterns to be used from the following events of the previous year (as confirmed by AFSCS): U.S. Open (Singles); Women's U.S. Open (Team Challenge); USBC National Team Event (Doubles); and Women's USBC National Team Event (Mixed Doubles).

7. DRESS CODE: Dress code must meet Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) and Ladies Professional Bowlers Association (LPBA) dress standards: Absolutely no cut-offs, denim, spandex, or warm-ups allowed. Penalty: Persons not properly attired will not be permitted to bowl until the discrepancy is corrected and will receive (0) for all frames missed.

a. Sponsorship logos on Service team uniforms are authorized (IAW PBA/LPBA Rules). All team uniforms must be consistent. Individual sponsorship logos are not authorized.

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8. PROTESTS: Protests on rules or eligibility are handled by the Tournament Committee (TC). The TC will be made up of on-site Service Representatives and the Tournament Director. Their ruling on all matters is made at the time of the protest and will be final.

9. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: The Host installation will determine times for session and other activities. Established times must be consistent each day, and must be set to draw maximum fan participation. Services may conduct their respective qualifying rounds for final Service team selections. Those Service members not making their respective Service team will return to duty station:

- a. Day One: Team Arrivals
Lanes available in the evening for a 3 hour Open practice session
- b. Day Two: 15 Minutes of Practice prior to each round

Round One US Open Pattern – Service Qualifying 6 Games
Round Two USBC Team Pattern – Service Qualifying 6 games
- c. Day Three: 15 Minutes of Practice prior to each round

Round Three WOMENS US Open Pattern – Service Qualifying 6 Games
Round four WOMENS USBC Team Pattern – Service Qualifying 6 games
(Final Service teams selected)
- d. Day Four: Bowlers Departure (Those not making Service Teams)
Lanes available in the morning for a 2 hour Open practice session
- e. Day Five: Team Photos (Final Service Teams Only)
Organizational Meeting

Opening Ceremony (Optional) - However, the National Anthem must be played prior to the opening game. All six Service flags must be displayed if Service flags are posted. If all Service flags are not available, then the American flag and host Service flag shall be displayed.

15 Minutes of Practice prior to round

Singles Competition (1st Session – 6 games)

Informal Ice-Breaker
- f. Day Six: 15 Minutes of Practice prior to each round

Doubles Competition (2nd Session – 6 games)
Mixed Doubles (3rd Session – 6 games)
- g. Day Seven 15 Minutes of Practice prior to each round

Team Challenge Competition (4th Session – 12 Baker matches):

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Awards Ceremony - (Immediately following the final game) Service teams are required to wear Service warm-ups or competitive uniforms at the awards ceremony. Individual athletes who do not comply will not receive awards. If the Awards ceremony is conducted as a separate function in conjunction with the Ice- Breaker Social, then all Service Members must comply with Ice-Breaker Dress Policy.

h. Day Eight Team Departures

10. AWARDS:

a. Host Installation Awards. The host installation will be responsible for purchasing awards for the following competitions:

1) Singles Competition: Awards are given to the first, second and third place singles competitors in the men's and women's categories.

2) Doubles Competition: Awards are given to the first, second and third place doubles teams in the men's and women's categories.

3) Mixed Doubles Competition: Awards are given to the first, second and third place teams.

4) Team Challenge: Individuals awards are given to each member of the first and second place men's teams and to each member of the first and second place women's teams (to include the OIC and Coach).

b. AFSCS will provide the overall Team and Individual Awards based on total pin fall for all 18 games for individual and 18 games plus 12 baker matches and bonus pins for team.

1) Team Awards: Gold and Silver (each gender to include the OIC and Coach)

2) Individual Awards: Gold, Silver, and Bronze

11. TEAM COMPOSITION:

Roster not to exceed 11 individuals:

4 Males

4 Females

1 Coach

1 Ad Libitum

1 OIC

11 Total

Note: Rosters must be submitted immediately upon completion of the qualifying sessions. If Service does not participate in the qualifying sessions, then they must submit the rosters NLT four days prior to arrival. Only the above personnel are authorized in the designated Service competition areas.

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12. FORMS AND ROSTERS:

a. All final rosters and code of conduct forms are due by the end of the organization meeting and shall be submitted electronically. Teams are not authorized to compete at the Armed Forces Championship until the final roster is submitted. Once finalized, the Service team is required to send the electronic roster to the Armed Forces Sports representative prior to the start of competition.

b. All athletes, coaches and staff from each Service must sign the Armed Forces Sports Participant Code of Conduct (appendix D) in order to participate at the Armed Forces Championship, higher level competition, and CISM competition. The Code of Conduct shall be submitted at the Organizational Meeting. Failure to do so shall disqualify athletes from competing at the Armed Forces Championship and advancing to higher level competition.

13. ALCOHOL POLICY: There will be no alcohol consumption at the sports venue by personnel involved in the Armed Forces Sports competition and higher-level competitions, including sports staff, until all competition for the day has been completed to include the award ceremony on the final day if the awards banquet immediately follows the event. The venue is defined as the playing area, venue parking lot, and the assigned eating/spectator area. This policy will not apply if the awards banquet or ceremony is conducted as a separate event. However, more restrictive installation policies regarding alcohol will take precedence. Violation of this policy shall result in immediate suspension from the remaining championship/event, disqualification from higher-level competition and selection to the All-Tournament Team and shall be subject to further administrative actions by the AFSWG.

14. TOBACCO POLICY: All competitors and staff shall refrain from the use of tobacco related products, to include cigarettes, vaping, chewing tobacco, and other smokeless forms at the competition site. Use of these products shall comply with local installation policies and shall only occur in designated areas.

15. ICE-BREAKER SOCIAL.

a. Ice-breaker social shall be conducted at all Armed Forces Championships. Food/beverages are optional depending on the availability of funding/authorizations. If the event is conducted outside of a military installation, then the ice-breaker social shall be optional.

b. Authorized team members must attend the event in their Service polo or logo shirt, coordinated slacks, and appropriate footwear (exceptions may be made dependent on host site letter of instruction). Guests may attend with pre-coordination with the host site and Service representative. Final decision will be based on availability. Guests will assume costs associated with attending the ice breaker.

c. The Ice-Breaker Social is an official function and shall be conducted in accordance with local installation policies and all participants are expected to conduct themselves in the highest professional manner. Informal activities such as skits, hazing and other activities that include offensive language/behavior are not authorized.

16. HANDLING OF RULE VIOLATIONS: If there is a violation of the SOP or specific sport rule, the AFS Representative or in their absence, the project officer, will address the respective Service Representative to resolve the issue. Service Representative will resolve the violation

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before the Service competes in the next game. All code of conduct violations shall be handled according to the Armed Forces SOP (Paragraph 8.b.(4)(e)).

17. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS: All Armed Forces Sports shall comply with the safety procedures prescribed by USA Bowling.