

**FIRST COAST USBC YOUTH DIVISION CITY CHAMPIONSHIP
2024-2025 TOURNAMENT RULES**

1. This tournament is being conducted by the First Coast USBC under the authority of and certified by the USBC.
2. Eligibility is limited to USBC youth members under the age of 18 (as of 8/1/2024) of the First Coast USBC in good standing. **Entrants cannot have participated in an Adult prize-fund league within the past 12 months or lost youth member eligibility (excluding certified Adult/Youth Leagues).** Entries will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to squad availability. Youth Special Olympics members are also eligible to compete regardless of age.
3. This is a handicap tournament conducted on an average basis, regardless of age. There will be three (3) divisions in each of the following events: Team, Doubles, Singles-Boys, Singles-Girls, All Events-Boys, and All Events-Girls. Bowlers may qualify for USBC awards in their own average division. Individual coaches will be responsible for applying for these awards. All divisions will be handicapped using 100% of 230. All bowlers will be entered into both All Events Handicap and All Events Scratch, but no individual bowler can win more than one (1) All Events Award; Handicap will take precedence over Scratch. **All average divisions are as noted on the entry form.**
4. Center Entry must be submitted through a center, and consists of four (4) bowlers who actively participate in a youth league at that center (excluding substitutes).
5. Association Entry consists of four (4) bowlers who are members of the FCUSBC Association and want to form a team without a center director's verification. Membership and averages will be verified by the association secretary and are therefore an "Association Team." This team must meet all other requirements and rules for the tournament.
6. Participation: Events will be Team (4 members), Doubles, Singles, All Events Handicap, and All Events Scratch. Team and Doubles can be any combination of boys and/or girls. Singles and All Events will have a boys and a girls division. A bowler entering Singles must bowl Doubles. Bowlers entering Doubles must bowl Singles. Doubles event will be bowled first. All participants will bowl nine (9) games --- three (3) in the Team Event, three (3) in the Doubles Event, and three (3) in the Singles Event.
7. If a bowler enters the Team Event more than once, the first team appearance shall count for All Events Handicap and All Events Scratch.
8. Teams and Doubles will bowl in the order listed on the Entry Form. Substitutes may be used and will bowl in the same Line-up position. Substitutes' averages must be verified by Coach and Local Association Manager and sent to the Tournament Director no later than seven (7) days after the completion of the tournament. Otherwise SCRATCH scores will apply. Team members will bowl Singles/Doubles with same team members. Substitutes in Singles/Doubles being the only exception.
9. Each entrant will use his or her highest current league average, 9-game minimum, as of **January 1, 2025**. If no current average, a summer average will be used. If neither of those applies then a yearbook average will be used. Anyone that cannot meet one (1) of these three (3) requirements by the deadline must bowl scratch. Sport bowling averages will be adjusted per USBC rules. League Official is responsible for verification of USBC membership and averages.
10. All entries must be postmarked or received no later than **January 18, 2025**. No entry will be accepted incomplete and without proper fees for the entire entry.
11. No refund of entry fees will be made after entry has been received and squad times assigned.
12. Falsification of average will result in the disqualification of the bowler and/or team.
13. An appeal or protest regarding scores or eligibility must be made in writing to the Tournament Director within seventy-two (72) hours after the error or infraction occurred.
14. All Entrants must report at least twenty (20) minutes before squad time. If any substitutions are to be made, Director/Coach must report to Tournament Director at least forty-five (45) minutes before squad time.

15. **Etiquette:** Participants who conduct themselves in a manner deemed not within the standards expected of youth bowlers before, during and after the tournament competition shall be disqualified from further participation in the tournament and reported to USBC for formal suspension from membership. Spectators are held to the same standard and may be removed from the premises for unruly, abusive, or unsportsmanlike behavior.
16. **AWARDS:** Award fees will be returned 100%. Awards will be given on the ratio of at least one (1) for each eight (8) entries or major fraction thereof in each division of Team, Singles, Doubles, All Events Handicap, and All Events Scratch. In case of a tie, duplicate awards will be given for any award placement. Overall scratch composite scores for male and female bowlers will win the annual James Burroughs Award; overall scratch composite scores for female bowlers will win the annual Kathy Kuchler Petersen Award.
17. **JUNIOR GOLD EVENT:** Only certified Junior Gold members may enter. There is no additional entry fee for certified Gold Members. We will award two (2) spots, one (1) female and one (1) male. The Junior Gold qualifier uses a bowler's 9-game total (scratch only) from the Team, Doubles, and Singles events. A minimum of four (4) female and four (4) male bowlers is required to run separate gender qualifiers. If the minimum is not met then we will combine the two (2) divisions and award two (2) spots to the top two (2) bowlers using the ratio of at least one (1) for each four (4) entries or major fraction thereof. The two (2) top spots will be awarded at the end of the tournament. **Any ties for a Junior Gold spot must be broken by a 9th/10th frame roll-off.**
18. In accordance with rule 17D, proper attire is required. No short shorts, halters, tank-tops or head apparel will be allowed. The tournament officials will determine proper attire. The Tournament Director will have the right to ask any bowler to change their clothing. If the bowler refuses, he or she will not be allowed to bowl and the entry fee will not be refunded.
19. The tournament director will change any team name deemed unsuitable with USBC standards.
20. No unnecessary delay will be allowed. Bowlers absent for an entire game will receive a score equal to their average less 10 pins; bowlers unable to complete a game in progress due to injury will receive a score equal to 1/10 of their average per frame missed. Any bowler not present and ready to bowl in turn without permission of a tournament official will be given a zero (0) for the frames missed.
21. Any discrepancies must be brought immediately to the attention of the Tournament Director (or tournament committee member). The decision of the Tournament Director shall be final unless an appeal is made in accordance with rule 329.
22. Spectators are not allowed within the bowling circle, unless the Tournament Director has granted written permission. At the Team House (Batt Family Fun Center), the bowling circle includes the tables closest to the lanes, providing all 8 bowlers per pair of lanes a reserved seat; At the Doubles/Singles House (Bowlero Mandarin), the lower level is considered the bowling circle. RVP Coaches may provide guidance from the concourse / spectator area, but the bowler must be ready to bowl when it is their turn.
23. Only a Tournament Official, RVP Coach, or Bowling Center Staff Member may administer score corrections.
24. This is a "dry towel" tournament; a ball surface may not be altered or cleaned after the practice session for each squad, the Tournament Director may authorize removal of substances caused by lanes, ball return belts, etc. on a case-by-case basis. While bowling in USBC competitions, bowlers cannot apply liquids, abrasives, or powders to any bowling ball surface, bottom of shoes, or the approach.
25. Ear buds and headphones are allowed, provided the bowler can hear safety announcements and instructions from tournament officials AND the participant is ready to bowl when it is their turn. All other electronic devices (phones & tablets) are not to be actively used unless recording scores on a bowling app. This is for player safety.
26. The **2024-2025** USBC rulebook will govern any ungoverned situation not covered here.