

Metro-East Youth Scholarship Tour Tournament Rules

Mission: to prepare youth bowlers for elite levels of competition

1) Tournament Entry Fees: \$45 Pre-Registered. \$50 Walk-in entries. Breakdown: \$22 Lineage, Awards & Expenses; \$20 Scholarship Prize Fund; \$3 Year End Prize Fund. **Please make checks payable to MYST**

2) MYST Membership Fee: The MYST membership fee will be \$35. Membership includes the members' entry for Junior Gold qualification for the season (see rule #5 for additional Jr. Gold fees) and allows members to sign up for tournaments via social media. [NOTE: If a tournament reaches capacity, entries will be accepted in the following order: pre-paid, non-member pre-paid, member phone-in/media entry, member walk-in, non-member walk-in.] Bowlers may choose to participate as non-members but will pay a \$5 non-member fee per event. A bowler can only bowl two events without becoming a member; at the third event the membership fee would be due.

3) Format:

3a) Divisions: There will be three separate divisions, male scratch, female scratch and handicap. Males with a 180 average or above and females with a 170 average or above must bowl in the scratch division. See rule 12 to determine entering average. Any bowler, regardless of average, is allowed to bowl in the scratch division, however, once a bowler has bowled in the scratch division, they are no longer permitted to bowl in the handicap division for the remainder of the season.

3b) Qualifying: Bowl 5 games across 10 lanes. Bowlers will advance to match play based upon the number of entries to a maximum of 8 bowlers. Depending upon the number of entries and the number of bowlers who advance, bowlers advancing may bowl an additional 7 games.

Entries per division	Bowlers that advance	Bowlers that cash
12 or less	4	2
13 to 20	4	4
21 to 30	8	6
31 or more	8	8

3c) Match Play: Match play will consist of a Bracket format.

Bracket Play: Bracket seeding will be based on the 5 game qualifier. Each bracket match will consist of 2 games, total pinfall to determine winner. The highest seed will have choice of starting lane.

4) Scholarships/Awards: All scholarship money awarded will be deposited into bowlers' SMART accounts. Tournament champions will receive a champion's shirt. Bowler of the year will be presented to the bowler who accumulates the most points throughout the season in each division.

5) Junior Gold: Each tournament is also a qualifier for the Junior Gold Championships. **Highest qualifier per division** after the first 5 games will earn a Junior Gold entry with the board of directors having the option to make an on-site decision to advance an additional player(s) based on the following ratios:

U12 division – may advance 1 in 4.

U15 division – may advance 1 in 10.

U20G division – may advance 1 in 8.

U20B division – may advance 1 in

10.

At least 6 MYST Member bowlers need to be entered per division before a Junior Gold spot will be available. If there are fewer than 6 bowlers in a division, divisions may be combined. Bowlers will be notified if divisions are combined. A non-member may not win a Junior Gold entry. If a bowler has previously earned a Junior Gold entry, the award will be issued to the bowler with the next highest qualifying score. Bowlers who wish to participate in the Junior Gold qualifier must either be a current member of USBC Junior Gold or pay the

membership fee during check-in. Bowlers in the Junior Gold qualifier will need to show their membership card during check-in. Junior Gold age division are as follows:

U12 Date of birth 8-1-05 or later

U15 Date of birth between 8-1-02 to 7-31-05

U20 Date of birth between 8-1-97 to 7-31-02

6) Preregistered entries will close the Saturday (at Noon) before each event. Preregister by contacting any board member in person, via phone, e-mail, text, or social media. Any entries received after that time will be subject to the \$5 walk-in fee.

7) Returned checks: Returned checks are subject to a \$25 processing fee. A second returned check may cause a player to be suspended from MYST events until restitution is complete.

8) Attire:

8a) Permissible Attire: Collared shirts or bowling related jerseys are required. All players will be required to wear dress pants/slacks/skorts. Hats, jeans, shorts, tank tops, or clothing deemed offensive by the tournament director(s) are NOT allowed. Attire or equipment promoting alcohol or tobacco products will not be allowed.

8b) Consequences: Bowlers not conforming to dress code will not be allowed to bowl beyond the round in which the violation is discovered. Thus, a bowler not in dress code during practice may not bowl in qualifying. If discovered during qualifying bowler may not bowl the match play until the problem is resolved. Egregious violations of dress code will prevent a bowler from competing at all, subject to directors' discretion. Bowlers who are out of dress code, whom directors accidentally overlook, will be given sufficient time after being noticed to resolve the issue. Time allotted is subject to tournament directors' discretion. Future violations may be cause to assess an End of Year point deduction.

9) Electronic Devices: Bowlers will NOT be allowed to use electronic devices on the approaches at any time. Cell phones and other communication devices are NOT to be used in the bowlers' area (settee & approaches) unless keeping scores on a bowling app. Penalty for violation: First offense- Warning and request athlete to store device, Second offense- Confiscate device until end of tournament and five point deduction, Third offense- disqualification from tournament.

10) Field Size Restrictions: Events are limited to the number of entries that the center can accommodate, in both space and allotted time. In the event a tournament sells out, additional time or lanes will be requested. In some centers, the size of the qualifying field must be limited due to space and time restrictions. Such limitations will be imposed on an equal ratio on each division, or at the discretion of the director, and announced before the event begins.

11) Behavior: ANY DISPLAY OF FOUL LANGUAGE OR ABUSING EQUIPMENT will result in 1) warning, 2) forfeiture of pinfall, 3) disqualification, subject to the sole discretion of the tournament directors. Please behave as the young professionals we would like you to be seen as. You CANNOT, for example: curse at any volume, throw pencils, throw cups, slam balls onto ball returns when moving to a new pair, abuse personal equipment, drop personal equipment, abuse center equipment in any way, fold or tear scorecards, berate other bowlers, or impede the concentration of another bowler, physically or vocally. Moreover, if a Pro cannot do it in their event, you cannot do it in ours. Another person's bad behavior does not excuse yours.

12) Averages: Returning bowlers of 10+ games in MYST competition from prior year will use their finishing MYST average at their first event. No youth bowler shall bowl any type of ADULT league (substitute/permanent) or tournament. The USBC Youth/Adult waiver form is not recognized and voids the membership of the youth bowler to bowl in the MYST.

12a) Handicap Division: Handicap is 90% of the difference of the entering average from 200. Bowlers are to submit the highest average of: 1) his/her highest current average in any form of competition, of 12 games or more. If none, 2) his/her highest previous season league average of 12 games or more, AND highest previous

summer league average of 12 games or more, if any. If a summer league average is higher than submitted season league average, then USBC average (composite) rule will apply. Bowlers will use their MYST average

after they have 10 games of MYST competition. Bowlers with none of the above must use **168** as an average. **IF THIS IS YOUR 1st MYST EVENT PLEASE BRING AVERAGE VERIFICATION WITH YOU!!** Any average discovered to be falsified or incorrect will result in that bowler's forfeiture of all awards, MYST points and scholarship monies earned in that tournament and/or others affected by the discrepancy and suspension from future MYST events, subject to the tournament director's discretion. Re-rating is at the discretion of the tournament director.

12b) Sport averages: In all of the above cases, the bowler MUST declare if a stated average is from a 'sport', 'PBA experience', or any other league which advertises using non-house patterns. These averages are re-rated using the standard USBC sport re-rate chart. If a bowler has a house average and a 'sport' average, the sport-re-rate applies, and the bowler must enter with the higher average AFTER the re-rate. Bowlers who have a sport average only, or use the sport average in their first MYST event, may NOT have the sport re-rate applied to their average, subject to tournament director's discretion. In short-- bring all your possible averages with you, and be honest. Averages may be further adjusted at the director's discretion.

13) Fouls: Foul lights are requested to be turned on at the start of all MYST events. Foul lights found to be malfunctioning may be turned off. In either case, it is up to the bowlers on the pair to dispute a foul where the light does not go off, or a non-foul where the light does. Procedures are as follows: A) the scoreboard is the default. If a bowler fouls, and decides to dispute it, it will remain a foul unless either 1) ALL bowlers on the pair who say they witnessed the shot agree that the bowler did NOT foul, or 2) the foul light is determined to be malfunctioning by the discretion of the tournament director through 'card tests' and 'step tests', in which case the original pinfall is restored. B) If a player is accused of fouling by another bowler on the pair (nobody else can accuse that bowler) but the foul lights have not gone off, it will remain a non-foul if the foul lights are determined to be working properly through card and step tests. If the foul lights were determined to be malfunctioning, and the player denies that he fouled, it will be ruled a non-foul, and a tournament assistant or parent who is not a parent of any bowler on that pair will be assigned to be a foul judge for that pair for the remainder of the game. Note that in either case, it is the bowlers' responsibility, not the parents' to be aware of a fouling situation. In either case, arguments over a foul are VOID if play has continued beyond the frame in question. Be alert!

14) Re-spots: If a machine malfunctions and pins need to be reset, it is the bowlers' responsibility to know which pins need to be reset. If a bowler does not know which pins need to be reset, and it cannot be determined by all the bowlers of the pair which pins need to be reset, a tournament director will settle the dispute and may deem the spare attempt to be forfeited. Any disputes about pinfall are VOID if play has continued beyond the frame in question. Be alert!

15) Late entrants: A bowler arriving late, defined as the end of the opening announcements, will receive zero for each unbowled frame. A bowler may not be placed on a lane that causes undue delay to that pair or the tournament, at the tournament director's discretion, and thus a pair may or may not be available for late arriving bowlers. (i.e. all pairs have six bowlers and adding a bowler creates a seventh bowler that in the director's opinion will slow down the tournament.) Call the center if you'll be later than start time so we can do our best to have a spot for you. In most cases, events cannot be delayed due to time and lane restrictions of the host centers- we know that unexpected travel delays happen, but the directors will not hold up an event for late arriving bowlers.

16) Distractions/Interference: Requests for a re-shot due to interference will be granted on a case by case basis, subject to the sole discretion of the tournament director. Interference from another bowler will rarely be given - be aware of your surroundings! Interference from flash bulbs will rarely be granted - be aware of your surroundings! In general, only extreme circumstances will receive a re-shot.

17) Lane Breakdowns: Tournament management reserves the right to take whatever steps necessary to have all bowlers complete their games as quickly as possible. In some instances, this may mean that bowlers will roll games on a pair of lanes they bowled on earlier, but never the same pair twice in a row. In some instances, a pair will be 'dissolved', with bowlers moving to different pairs, if this is the quickest method of play, especially if only one pair is a game or more behind the rest of the field. In delays of 15 minutes or more, bowlers may be granted warm-up balls subject to the tournament director's discretion.

18) Ties: Qualifying and Match play ties will be broken by a 9th and 10th frame roll-off. Handicap division

will receive 1/10th of their handicap per frame, scratch division roll-offs will be scratch.

19) Bowlers' Responsibility: Entry into any MYST event constitutes acceptance of and adherence to all MYST rules. Each tournament or league can and does have its own rules - it is the bowlers' responsibility to be aware of all rules and regulations. Each bowler is responsible for the accuracy of his/her scorecard. Incorrect and/or unsigned scorecards are subject to disqualification on a case by case basis.

20) Scorecard last call / signature: At the end of qualifying, an announcement will specifically be made stating "All Scorecards must be in at this time." 2 minutes after announcement, any scorecard not returned to the MYST office will be considered abandoned. This is so we do not announce a bowler for the finals, only to find a better scorecard turned in later, and to remove the ambiguity from that situation. Similarly, all scorecards must be signed by both the bowler and another bowler. Any errors against the bowler discovered after qualifying or finals scores are announced will not result in that bowler replacing an already announced bowler - this is the point of signing the cards.

21) Legal delivery: ALL bowlers must declare their dominant hand before starting an individual event. Bowlers may NOT switch hands during a tournament, even in the scratch division. In previous years, scratch bowlers WERE allowed to switch hands in a good-faith effort to score (i.e., a righty shooting a 2-8-10 lefty). A bowler who violates this rule will receive a zero for the shot attempted and a warning. Further violations result in a) zero for the frame, and/or b) disqualification. Handicap division bowlers also must declare a 'dominant hand' before bowling (dominant hand is defined as the hand in which a- the fingers of which are in the ball, and/or b) the shoulder by which the delivery passes by). Bowlers who are able to bowl with either hand must notify tournament officials of which dominant hand is being used, so that separate averages can be kept for either hand. "Two-handed" bowling, which is perfectly legal, must adhere to the same 'dominant hand' rules. Young bowlers doing literal 'two hand' bowling' (i.e. no fingers at all in the ball) may be required to establish a new average when graduating to a fingers-in release.

22) Point System: The point system will determine bowler of the year awards/scholarship money that will be handed out at the Year End event. Points will be awarded at every MYST event, excluding the Youth/Adult and the Invitational tournaments.

Finish	Points
1 st	60
2 nd	50
3 rd	40
4 th	35
5 th	30
6 th	25
7 th	20
8 th	15
All Qualifier s	5

Existing MYST members whom bring/refer a new member will each receive 5 points.

High qualifier will earn an additional 10 points.

High games for male and female not receiving scholarship, will receive 5 additional points.

Wearing name shirts will receive 5 additional points.

Honor scores of 298, 299 or 300 will earn 25 bonus

points. Points are not awarded at the Invitational

Tournament.

23) Event change / cancellation: In extremely rare occasions, an event may need to be cancelled, or the date or time changed. Notice of any changes to published schedules will be published online and sent to email list subscribers as soon as any changes are finalized. Although events may be changed at any time, it is the policy of the MYST to avoid schedule changes whenever possible. **WEATHER:** MYST events will attempt to hold events in any type of bad weather, provided 1) the center is open or will open for us, and 2) the director can communicate with the center.

24) Other rules: All rules not specifically covered will follow the USBC rulebook. The tournament directors have final decision making rights. Management begs participants to come to us with problems DURING the event, WHEN they happen, so an agreeable solution can be reached immediately, instead of having bowlers leave unsatisfied.

MYST Board of Directors

Henry Voegtle
Dan Tomaszewski
Trayc Foutz