

October 2023

Last month, we discussed the following topics:

- Rules concerning absentee and vacancy scores
- How to adopt a prize list
- Tools available to assist in your league operations

If you missed last month's Rules Extra, please click [here](#).

This month, we will cover the following topics:

- Your role as a League President
- Adding and dropping teams
- Team and roster definitions

If you are no longer a league officer, please forward the Rules Extra to newly-elected officers if you have their email address so that they will be more knowledgeable in their new role.

Please forward the Rules Extra via email to your fellow officers and league members.



LEAGUE RESOURCES



Hey, League Presidents!!!!

It's hard to understate the importance of the role you, as league president, play in the operations of the league. You are the **CHIEF OFFICER** of the league. Now, before that statement goes to your head...let's talk about some areas where the actions, or inactions, of the league president can affect the league significantly.

Bonding

As one of the most visible benefits USBC provides to our leagues, the actions of the league president are so very important in protecting the league should there be a loss. Rule 104b requires you to verify the league deposits EACH MONTH. We provide a form that you can use to verify the accuracy and timeliness of the league deposits each month.

History shows that the most frequent contributing factor when a league incurs a loss of funds and files a claim under the bonding policy is the failure of the league president to perform this simple verification of the league account on a monthly basis. Even if the league is using in-center banking, the league president is still required to verify the amounts deposited by the league each month.

[Access Form Here](#)

Committees

The president is responsible to name, at a minimum, the following committees:

Prize Committee – This committee is charged with submitting multiple prize list options to the league for adoption by the fifth session of the season.

Audit Committee – Often the most overlooked of the required committees, the audit committee is required to perform at least one audit no earlier than one month prior to the distribution of the prize fund. We provide tools for the Audit Committee to use such as a [sample worksheet](#) and [audit process instructions](#).

Take the time to learn [your responsibilities](#) to help the league operate successfully.

About adding or losing teams

The Rules team receives multiple inquiries about teams, rosters, legal lineups and what to do when a league gains or loses a team. Do you know the difference between a team roster and playing strength? What about lineups, legal lineups, substitutes and additional players? The following links answer many of the questions we receive.

Teams and Rosters

Adding and Dropping Teams

USBC Memberships Purchased on BOWL.com

The demand for doing things online continues to increase and the number of USBC memberships purchased online continue to reflect this trend.

Through September, memberships purchased online are up over 45% versus last season. This efficiency is helpful to both bowlers and league officers, but we want to remind you that **ALL MEMBERS** of a certified league must be USBC members in order for your league to be certified.

Please verify that all bowlers participating in your leagues are current (2023-2024) USBC members.





DON'T FORGET!

Balance Hole Protests

Even though the new specification regarding balance holes is now in its fourth season, it seems many leagues are still dealing with enforcement issues when presented with a violation and are struggling with how to handle them. USBC offers the following guidance:

Leagues should take a proactive role in educating their league members that any hole drilled in a ball must be used on every delivery. This can be done through league board of directors' meetings, announcements or even handouts regarding the rule. Simply stated, if a hole is not used, it is defined as a balance hole, and balance holes are prohibited.

If an individual is accused of violating this rule, the game is subject to forfeiture. As part of the process to determine what penalty would apply (if any), it should be determined whether or not the bowler was informed of the rule previously. If it is determined they were unaware of the rule, the board could assess a warning instead of a forfeiture. If it is determined that the player was aware of the rule but still violated it, the declaration of a forfeiture would be in order.

Also, understand that the processing of these types of issues needs to be done in accordance with the deadlines in Rule 120.



DO YOUR BOWLERS KNOW?

Do your bowlers know...Rule 18 allows only the use of a dry towel to clean the outer surface of bowling balls once competition has begun. The USBC Board has rescinded the COVID-19 allowance that gave bowlers permission to use isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) to clean their bowling balls during competition.



ATHLETE SAFETY/RVP

Athlete Safety/RVP

The USBC Athlete Safety policy states that all adults (18 years of age and older) who participate with minors (17 years of age and under) must go through SafeSport training. Additionally, all officers must be registered volunteers with USBC (SafeSport training and a background screening through NCSI).

[**Athlete Safety/RVP Handbook**](#)

[**Become a Registered Volunteer**](#)



MYTHS MYTHBUSTERS

Mythbusters

Busted, plausible, or confirmed:

Myth #6: The league president must calculate weekly fees to verify the account.

Myth #7: The league bank statement is sent to the treasurer.

Myth #43: Extra bowlers on the roster are substitutes.

[**Bowling Myths Answered**](#)

Want to be part of Mythbusters? Send your bowling myth to Rules@bowl.com.



**USBC MEMBERS
GET MORE!**

**MORE STATISTICS.
MORE INSIGHTS.
GREAT FUN!**

Download the app for free

Lanetalk

The banner features a man with curly hair holding a smartphone. The phone screen displays a 'Compare arsenal' app interface with two bowling balls and a 'Throws' section showing '269' and '311'. The Lanetalk logo is a green globe with a bowling ball.



United States Bowling Congress, 621 Six Flags Dr, Arlington, Texas 76011

[Manage preferences](#)