

MASTER BOWLERS ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Approved March 12, 2024

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RULES

1. The Executive Committee consists of ten (10) elected members and the Past President, which forms the Board of Directors for the Master Bowlers Association of British Columbia.
2. Five (5) members are elected for a two (2) year term each year.
3. The Executive Committee is responsible for determining the Rules, Forms, Programs and Finances of the Association within their jurisdiction.
4. Table Officers consisting of: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, **Technical Director**, and Secretary will be elected by the Board of Directors on a yearly basis at the first meeting of the season.
5. It is required that the Table Officers have previous experience on the Board of Directors.
6. The Board of Directors for the Association may appoint a member to fill any vacancies on the board at their discretion.
7. The Board of Directors has the authority to rule on situations and events that may not be covered by the Rules and Regulations of the Master Bowlers Association of British Columbia.
8. The Board of Directors will hold regular meetings as directed and an Annual General meeting once a year. Meetings can be held in person, online or a combination of both if a situation, travel restrictions or health restrictions dictate.
9. A Quorum will be one half of the board plus one, to legally start the meetings. Invited guests, Past President, Past Board members if in attendance are not to be included to make a Quorum.
10. Proxy voting is allowed if a member in good standing cannot appear in person to vote. Strict requirements and guidelines must be followed as described below.
 - 10.1 Eligible person must be considered a Master Bowler Association of B.C. member in good standing.
 - 10.2 A member may vote by Proxy when a vote is required either in an emergency or when notified 30 days prior that a motion will be tabled.
 - 10.3 A member voting by Proxy must advise the President and Membership Director in advance that they intend to vote by Proxy.
 - 10.4 Proxy votes may be submitted to a designated Proxy holder with a signed handwritten statement detailing motion or via email if it is clearly identified that the email originated from the member's email address. The statement or email must include the member's phone number.
 - 10.5 For AGM purposes members cannot vote by Proxy if the member is participating in the Provincial Championships.

- 10.6 Members participating in AGM online are eligible to vote under the guidelines of the facilitator of the online meeting.
- 10.7 Members will be eligible to vote via email or in an online meeting if an emergency arises or Provincial health guidelines dictate.
- 10.8 If a motion is amended to make the motion clearer and more concise the same proxy vote can be used. If the intent of the motion has changed the Proxy voter will be contacted by phone to ensure the member's vote is still valid
- 10.9 Proxy votes are to be included for quorum purposes.

RESIDENCY RULE

If there is no Proprietor Association member centre in the area in which a bowler lives they may bowl in the centre available to them and will purchase the Canadian 5 Pin Association card through the Master Bowlers Association of B.C. To join Master Bowlers Association of B.C. the individual must be a resident of British Columbia.

CONDUCT ALL DIVISIONS

The following Rules of Conduct must be adhered to by all Master Bowlers Association of B.C. members:

1. I will always conduct myself in a manner befitting a Master Bowler and I will actively support the Master Bowlers Association of British Columbia (MBABC) Rules and Regulations, Rules of Conduct and Ethics Code.
2. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated during any tournament or event that an individual is wearing a Masters bowling shirt and will be addressed by the Judge of Play or Tournament Director.
3. The use of obscene language, body gestures, verbal abuse, or misuse of personal or proprietor's bowling equipment will not be tolerated and will be addressed by the Judge of Play.
4. The consumption of alcohol or the use of non-medical drugs during a tournament will not be tolerated and will be addressed by the Judge of Play.
5. Bowlers must wear their uniforms for all Tournament play.
6. Members will adhere to all smoking regulations of the host bowling centre.
7. The breaking of any of the above rules could result in ejection from any tournament, suspension, or further discipline.
8. Any valid suspension of a member by any Bowling Organization of misconduct, upon receipt of written documentation, will be considered by the Master Bowlers Association of B.C.
9. Members have the right to appear before the Board of Directors and/or appeal (in writing) their suspension, ejection, or disciplinary action. All appeals must be presented to the board in writing. The individual may appear before the board in person if the board has been advised prior and had the necessary time to review.

Conduct Committee Master Bowlers Association of B.C. Conduct Log

1. A log will be kept of all conduct offences and will be carried forward from tournament to tournament.
2. Penalties will be assessed as follows:
 - a. First Offence – a verbal warning from the Judge of Play or the Tournament Director. If consider more serious in nature a first warning may be more severe than a verbal warning.
 - b. Additional Offences – any additional offences after the first offence will be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors of the Master Bowlers Association of B.C. and may result in suspension.
3. Any member who is penalized has the right to appeal in writing to the Board of Directors or may appear before the Board in person.

DRESS CODE ALL DIVISIONS

A full Masters uniform MUST be worn for all Masters tournaments. It must follow the standard dress code below or one of the variations allowed for qualifying, Provincial or National tournaments. Each dress code infraction will be dealt with separately by the Masters Board of Directors, providing no prior permission has been granted by the Tournament Director.

STANDARD DRESS CODE – ALL DIVISIONS

1. The Masters uniform is comprised of a green or black approved Masters shirt which includes cresting and tournament stars (optional) and is to be worn only with black bottoms. Participating bowlers can wear an approved Masters shirt with any of the following black bottoms for qualifying tournaments and Provincials:
Dress pants, skirts/kilts, skorts, dress shorts or capris shall be black with a straight hemmed bottom (no fluorescent colours, no denim of any colour, stirrups, see-through or sheer leggings, harem, cargo, ruggers, or sweatpants of any kind. No draw strings or no elastic at the hem of any kind). The dress pants, skirts, skorts, capris or dress shorts shall not be faded, torn, ripped, contain studs, buttons, or pockets on the legs. The skirts, skorts/kilts or dress shorts may not be shorter than just below the fingertips when placing your arms at your side.
2. A short sleeved black garment is allowed under the Masters shirt. The sleeve length must not exceed the length of the sleeve length of the Masters bowling shirt. Compression sleeves are also allowed if they are black in color.
3. The only crests permitted on the Masters shirts are the MBA of BC crest, MBA Instructors Crest, MBA Coaching Crest or Sponsor Crests(s) that have been approved by the MBA of BC Board of Directors.
4. The only lapel pins that may be attached to your Masters shirt are:
 - a. Membership Pin – left side
 - b. Provincial Participation Pin – right side
 - c. Other Pins – National Participation and Year bars – front
5. All other Provincial and National pins may be worn on you MBA jacket.
6. The MBA of BC has approved one golf shirt for qualifying tournaments, Provincial finals, and National competition. These shirts must be ordered through the uniform coordinator.

DRESS CODE – National Championships

1. The approved Masters shirts must be worn at the opening and closing ceremonies of the MBA of Canada National Championships.
2. For championship play only, each team player and coach must compete in the following uniform each day:
 - a. Each team member must be dressed uniformly in an approved Masters shirt with black bottoms. Individuals on a team must wear bottoms in the same colour but each may wear a different length/style bottom dress pants, skirts, skorts/kilts, dress shorts or capris shall be of the same colour with a straight hemmed bottom (no fluorescent colours, no denim of any colour, stirrups, see-through or sheer leggings, harem, cargo, ruggers, or sweatpants of any kind. No draw strings or no elastic at the hem of any kind). The dress pants, skirts, skorts, capris or dress shorts shall not be faded, torn, ripped, contain studs, buttons, or pockets on the legs. The skirts, skorts or dress shorts may not be shorter than just below the fingertips when placing your arms at your side. Other variations of clothing may be worn with prior approval of MBA of BC and MBA of Canada.
 - b. All socks worn must be of uniform style and be either black, white or similar in color. E.g. the team must all wear the same color.

TOURNAMENT RULES ALL DIVISIONS

1. All Canadian 5 Pin Bowling Association rules are in effect.
2. Any bowler joining Master Bowlers Association of B.C. from another province will not be considered a first-time member.
3. All entry fees cheques may be posted to the date of tournament. No refund of entry fees will be made except at the discretion of the Board of Directors for extenuating circumstances.
4. Entry fees do not include lineage costs or prize/side pot money.
5. It is the bowler's responsibility to contact the Tournament Director prior to the start of the Tournament if they are unable to attend or need to withdraw for medical or personal reasons. Acceptable means of advisement to the Tournament Director are direct verbal, phone notification, written email, or text message. Refunding of money paid prior will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director and the Board of Directors.
6. Bowlers are responsible for the accuracy of their own scores. No changes will be made after the score sheets have left the score tables, except for an obvious addition error. Score sheets must be signed by each bowler before leaving the score table, except for bowling centres which have automatic scoring and therefore signatures will not be required.
7. All tournaments will be a minimum of eight (8) games. If the 8 games cannot be completed due to an emergency or evacuation a decision on the completion of the tournament will be made by the Tournament Director after consultation with the Executive, bowlers and respective Proprietors.
8. If a Master qualifies for Provincials in two divisions, they must declare which division they will bowl in 30 days prior to Provincials.
9. Provincial averages are to be provided by the Tournament Director (s) to the webmaster seven (7) days prior to Provincials to be posted on the website. Calculation of same will be available upon request to the Tournament Director.
10. In the event of a tie in the standings at the Provincial Championships in the:
 - a. Tournament Division –
 - i. a one (1) game roll off will be held between the participants involved in the tie to determine first place overall or team final positions and alternates.
 - ii. If all team members have signed a no singles waiver a roll off must take place to determine first place overall.
 - iii. If bowlers have bowled all six (6) tournaments and there is tie. A one (1) game roll off is required to determine the ring winner.
 - b. Teaching/Pins Over Average -
 - i. If a tie occurs a formal tiebreak system involving W-L records amongst the persons involved in the tie will be used.
 - c. Seniors –
 - i. If a tie for Scratch and Pins Over Average occurs a formal tiebreak system involving W-L records amongst the persons involved in the tie will be used.
 - ii. A person of the opposite gender must qualify on the Seniors team and this individual will always come from the Pins Over Average Average standings.

11. It is mandatory that all participating members of Master Bowlers Association of B.C. are to sell their allotment of Provincial elimination draw tickets.
12. All National Team Coaches must be a fully qualified Competitive Coach and must be a member in good standing of the Master Bowlers Association of B.C.
13. National tournaments are governed by the Master Bowlers Association of Canada and may be ruled differently from #10 above.
14. The selection of coaches at the Provincial finals will be decided by a vote of team members. If a qualified coach wishes to let their name stand the tournament director must be notified prior to the last game on the final day of bowling. If team members wish to utilize the services of a coach not on the list provided, they may do so only after advising the tournament director and Board of Directors.

TOURNAMENT QUALIFIER STARS

1. Stars will be awarded in each of five (5) zone qualifier tournament wins in Seniors, Men and Women Teaching/Pins Over Average divisions and awarded in each of six (6) qualifying tournament wins for Men and Women Tournament division.
2. Stars will be awarded at the Provincial Championships in the Seniors division to the individual with the best match play pins over average (win/loss) record over sixteen (16) games.
3. Stars will be awarded at the Provincial Championships in the Teaching/Pins Over Average division who have the best match play (win/loss) record over sixteen (16) games.
4. Wearing of star awarded for winning a tournament is optional.
5. Once five (5) or ten (10) stars have been accumulated, they should be exchanged for stars that indicate a "5" or "10" on them, denoting the five or ten tournaments have been won. These stars should replace the single stars.
6. If a star falls from the uniform and crosses the foul line during any tournament, it shall not be considered a foul.

TOURNAMENT DIVISION RULES

1. Members of the Tournament Division should maintain a minimum current league average (minimum of 36 games) as follows: For Men - 230, and Ladies - 215.
2. Any bowler who has maintained the above qualifying averages in league or Master Bowlers Association of B.C. tournament play for five (5) consecutive years and has been a member in good standing of the MBA of BC, will be exempt from the qualifying averages. Any other exemptions will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
3. There will be six (6) qualifying tournaments, each consisting of eight (8) games. The best four (4) tournaments, based on total scratch pinfall, will determine the BC contingent for both men and ladies. The top qualifier for both men and ladies will represent BC as the singles representative and the next five (5) qualifiers will comprise the teams that will represent British Columbia at the National Championships. If a player chooses not to be eligible to bowl Singles a waiver must be signed prior to bowling their first tournament. The waiver will be part of the registration form all players must sign when joining MBABC Tournament division. If all team members have signed a no singles waiver and no bowler is willing to rescind the waiver the first-place qualifier will bowl singles.
4. The Award winner for both men and ladies will be determined by using total scratch pinfall for all six (6) Provincial tournaments.
5. In the event of a tie, all tied bowlers will compete in a one (1) game roll-off with the highest scratch pinfall determining final positions.
6. Any coach that is a fully qualified Competitive Coach may coach the Tournament Division teams going to the Nationals. The applicable coach must be registered and in good standing. Registered means payment of Canadian 5 Pin Card, the current registration and travel fees.

SENIOR DIVISION RULES

1. Members must be fifty (50) years of age by April 1 of the current bowling year.
2. Members competing in this division will play a minimum of three (3) of the five (5) scheduled tournaments in their Zone to qualify for the Provincial Championships. Seniors may bowl their qualifying tournaments with the Teaching Division or Tournament Division but at least three (3) of the five (5) tournaments must be bowled with the Senior division. If a Senior member is bowling in the Tournament Division as well as the Senior division, he/she must bowl the 3 Senior tournaments by December 31. These tournaments are pins over average. All scores must be counted in the order they are bowled, i.e. first tournament Senior Division, second and third tournaments Tournament Division, the latter two scores would then be used as the 2nd and 3rd Seniors Division tournament scores.
3. Members of the Senior Division may also bowl in the Teaching and/or Tournament Division tournaments providing all entry fees are paid and that they meet the requirements for each specific division.
4. To qualify for the Provincial Championships the best three (3) tournaments will be used. The top 50% provincially or anyone who is exactly zero or pins over average will advance. If the situation arises that no bowler achieves the zero or pins over status the Provincial Championships format will be decided by the Tournament Director and the Executive. A person of the opposite gender must be a member of the provincial team.
5. For the Zone Tournaments, the average used for determining pins over average will be the average of the previous forty (40) games bowled in tournament qualifying play. The 40 tournament qualifying games will include the 16 games bowled in the provincial tournament if applicable. If 40 games have not been bowled, the average of the games available for each participant will be used.

For any new bowler who has not played in the MBABC Seniors Division previously the average will be all leagues total pinfall divided by total number of games bowled. This average will be counted as representing 40 games. Once a Master plays in an MBABC tournament of eight (8) games the average will be calculated using the following formula. The pinfall of eight (8) games from tournament play plus 32 games at last season's average divided by 40. As the Master continues to bowl their average will be calculated by increasing tournament pinfall games and decreasing the previous season average games until 40 tournament games have been played.

A MBABC bowler that has previously bowled Tournament Division or Teaching Division and is changing divisions will use their previous 40 tournament games in establishing a Seniors average. Any bowler who does not have a league average within the last three years and who did not bowl in the Masters in the last three years MUST establish an average of twenty (20) or more games to bowl in the Seniors Division. The Seniors Division is a Pins Over Average division so each bowler must have an established average or spared a minimum of 20 games in one league to be eligible.

A bowler in the Senior Division must have 20 games in one league in the current bowling year before the cut-off date for Provincials to qualify to participate in the Provincials.

If a Senior member is rejoining the division after a lapse of more than three (3) years he/she will have to re-establish an average in the same manner as a new bowler.

AVERAGE CALCULATION FOR PROVINCIALS. All league pin fall including houses not sanctioned by Bowl BC will be included in average calculation and pin fall from sparing along with Masters top 3 qualifying tournaments pinfall (plus/minus) and your previous years Provincial pinfall will be added together. Total number of games bowled in league and sparing, the 24 games from the Masters top three tournaments and the 16 games from the previous year's Provincials will be added together. The total pinfall will then be divided by total number of games bowled to arrive at the tournament average. The 16 game Provincial pinfall will only be included if the bowler qualified for the previous year's Provincials.

Failure to provide the information for the above by the deadline date may result in you forfeiting your spot at the Provincial Championships.

6. The Provincial Championships will be held over two (2) days and will consist of sixteen (16) games of competition. The Championship uses a match play format with both scratch and pins over average scoring. Each game bowled will count for both a pins over average match and a scratch match. Points will be awarded as follows for each match: one (1) point for a win, half (1/2) a point for a tie and zero (0) for a loss. Match play standings will be maintained for both the scratch and match play competitions.

An even amount of players will qualify for the provincial championships. In the case that an uneven amount of players qualifying the highest qualifying person (male or female) with the least minus total will qualify for the provincials. There must be at least one opposite gender person in the Provincial Championship

7. In the event of a tie for the pins over average positions, all tied bowlers W-L record against each other during round robin play will be compared and the bowler with the best W-L record amongst the people involved in the tie will get the position.

If two bowlers are required the top two W-L records will gain the position. If players are still tied, they will compete in a one (1) game roll-off with the highest pins over average determining the final positions.

In the event of a tie for the scratch positions all tied bowlers scratch W-L record against each other during round robin play will be compared and the bowler with the best scratch W-L record amongst the people involved in the tie will get the position.

If two bowlers are required the top two W-L records will gain the position if the bowlers are still tied, they will compete in a one (1) game roll-off with the highest scratch pinfall determining the final positions.

If a bowler, to qualify for a position on the team, is in a tie position for both POA and Scratch the W-L records amongst the people involved in the tie will be compared and if an individual was beaten all others involved in the tie, they will be awarded the position.

8. If a bowler withdraws from the Provincial championships for medical or emergency reasons prior to the completion of his 16 games the total amount of wins, losses or ties remains with the bowler for all games completed. For the remainder of the games to be completed any opponents the player was scheduled to play would play against a no opponent bye system and organized by the tournament director
9. At the conclusion of the Provincial Championships the top three (3) individuals who have achieved the best match play (Win/Loss) record in the pins over average standings and the top two (2) individuals who have achieved the best match play (Win/Loss) record in the scratch standings will represent British Columbia at the National Championships. 1
10. If a person qualifies for both pins over average and scratch positions, they take the pins over average position first.
11. The rules at the National Championships require that a senior team consist of at least one bowler of each gender. Should the senior team as decided above not consist of at least one bowler of each gender the required bowler with the highest non qualifying pins over average record will assume the 3rd position. If the gender requirement has already been met after the initial 16 games and tie breakers this will not be required.
12. The Provincial Championship Award will be awarded to the individual who has the most total combined wins in both pins over average and scratch matches over sixteen (16) games and has competed in all five (5) qualifying Zone Tournaments during the current bowling year. In the event there is a tie for first (1st) place, there will be a one (1) game roll-off with the highest pins over average determining the winner of the ring.
13. The individual who has the best POA Match Play (Win/Loss) record over sixteen (16) games at the Provincial Championships will be the Single representative, as well as a member of the Senior Provincial team
14. Averages for the National Championships will be calculated in keeping consistent with other provinces
15. All league pinfall including pinfall from sparing along with all Masters qualifying tournaments pinfall (plus/minus) will be added together. Total number of games bowled in league and sparing along with the number of games from the Masters qualifying tournaments will be added together. The total pinfall will then be divided by total number of games bowled to arrive at the tournament average.
16. Failure to provide the information for the above by the deadline date may result in you forfeiting your spot at the National Championships.
17. Any coach that is a fully qualified Competitive Coach may coach the Senior Division teams going to the Nationals. The applicable coach must be registered and in good standing. Registered means payment of Canadian 5 Pin Card, the current registration and travel fees.

TEACHING DIVISION RULES

1. Members competing in this division will play a minimum of three (3) of the five (5) scheduled tournaments in their Zone to be eligible to qualify for the Provincial Championships. These Tournaments are a Pins Over Average format. The average used for qualifying for the Zone Tournaments (Pins Over Average) will be the average of the previous eighty (80) games bowled in MBA of BC singles tournament and Provincial play. For NEW Bowler who has not played in the MBA of BC Teaching Division previously. The average will be the total pinfall from all previous year leagues bowled divided by the total amount of frames bowled This average will be counted as representing 80 games. Once a master plays in an MBA of BC tournament of eight games the average will be calculated as follows. Pinfall of eight games plus 72 games at last season's average. As the master continues to bowl average will be calculated by increasing tournament pinfall games and decreasing previous season average games until 80 tournament games have been played. If a bowler is rejoining the division after a lapse of more than three (3) years he/she will have to re-establish an average in the same manner as a new bowler
 - 1.1. A Master Bowler Association of B.C. bowler that has previously bowled Tournament Division or Seniors Division and is changing divisions will use their previous 80 tournament games in establishing a Teaching average.
 - 1.2. Any new bowler who does not have a league average within the last three years (3) and who did not bowl in the masters in the last three (3) MUST establish an average of twenty (20) or more games in order to bowl in the teaching division. This is because you must have an established average to bowl in the Teaching division since it's a pins over average division
2. To qualify for the Provincial Championships the best three (3) tournaments will be used. The top 50% provincially or anyone who is exactly zero or pins over average will advance. If no bowler achieves the zero or pins over status the Provincial Championship format will be decided by the Tournament Director and the Board of Directors
3. To make the draw even in the Men's and Ladies side for the Provincial championships, the least "minus" will fill the last spot on the draw up to 30 days before the provincials. If the individual with the "least" minus is not able to attend the provincials the individual with the second "least" minus would be asked and so on.
5. All participants in the Provincial Championships in the Teaching Division/Pins Over Average must have completed the C.S.I. Course offered by British Columbia 5 Pin Bowling Association. Any new member in the Teaching/Pins Over Average Division has until the Provincials of the following year to complete the course.
6. AVERAGE CALCULATION FOR PROVINCIALS - All league pinfall including houses not sanctioned by Bowl BC will be included in addition to pinfall from sparing. Along with Masters top 3 qualifying tournaments pinfall (plus/minus). Total number of games bowled in league and sparing along with the 24 games from the Masters top three tournaments will be added together, then be divided by total number of games bowled to arrive at the tournament average.

7. The Provincial Championships are Match Play - Pins Over Average (Win/Loss record) tournament over two (2) days, consisting of sixteen (16) games of competition. In the event of an odd number of bowlers qualify for the Provincials please see Rule 3 above.

8. In the rare event a No-Bye System has is utilized, the bowler would bowl an opponent of the same gender closest to the players lane draw. The opponent gets no win points under this format.

9. At the conclusion of the Provincial Championships the top five (5) Men and top five (5) Ladies with the best Match Play (Win/Loss) record will comprise the teams that will represent British Columbia at the National Championships.

10. Top qualifying Man and Woman who has the best Match Play (Win/Loss) record over sixteen (16) games at the Provincial Championships will be the Single representative, as well as a member of their respective teams at the National Championships. In the event of a tie the W-L records amongst those involved in the tie will be used to award the position. If there continues to be a tie a one game tie breaker will be bowled with the bowler with the most POA awarded the position.

11. The Provincial Championship Award will be awarded to the individual who has the best Match Play (Win/Loss) record over sixteen (16) games at the Provincial Championships and has competed in all five (5) qualifying tournaments.

12. Averages for the National Championships will be calculated in keeping consistent with other provinces. All league pin fall including pinfall from sparing along with all Masters qualifying tournaments pinfall (plus/minus) will be added together. Total number of games bowled in league and sparing along with the number of games from the Masters qualifying tournaments will be added together. The total pinfall will then be divided by total number of games bowled to arrive at the tournament average. Failure to provide the information by the deadline date may result in forfeiting your spot at the National Championships

13. Individuals (Teaching/ POA Division Only) may not coach any Men's or Women's POA team at the Master National Championships for more than two (consecutive years. All National Coaches must be a fully qualified Competitive Coach

13.1 If a Master National Championship is cancelled it will not constitute a year off if a coach is required to sit out a year, as he/she has reached their maximum of two (2) consecutive years coaching.

13.2 If a qualified coach has coached two (2) consecutive years in the POA division they may coach in the Tournament or Senior division if asked and return to coaching in the fourth (4) year.

13.3 If all available qualified coaches are required to sit out the current season as they have reached their maximum of two consecutive years, or available coach is deemed unacceptable, then full approval by Board and POA members bowling in the Provincial Championship must be given. Approval must be granted prior to qualified coach being asked to coach.

13.4 If a qualified coach is required to coach POA under rule 13.3 then they will now be required to sit out coaching POA the following season.

14. Any coach that is a fully qualified Competitive Coach may coach Teaching /POA Division teams going to the Nationals. The applicable coach must be registered and in good standing. Registered means payment of Canadian 5 Pin Card, the current registration and travel fees.