

SSJBA Tour - TOURNAMENT RULES 2020-2021

1. USBC Rules in effect as of the date of competition will govern any tournaments which **SSJBA Tour** conducts this season. Dress code of slacks/skirts/skort/shorts (subject to USBC length guidelines) and a collared shirt will be observed (temporary waivers at first event may be allowed by Tournament Director). No denim, regardless of color. Rule 17d Youth Conduct will be observed. Infractions of rules may disqualify the entrant from continuing in competition. (see more detail in rule 11 below)
2. USBC Rule 400 (Youth Membership Eligibility Rule) will be observed. You must not have attained your 18th birthday at August 1, 2020 to participate. You must apply any more restrictive eligibility requirements if you participate in activity recognized by your State High School Athletic Association. You must not participate in any activity awarding cash or bonds, unless bowler has accepted awards as scholarship or properly executed the USBC Singles Competition Prize Waiver. The buying or selling of any earned awards is prohibited. Bowlers not otherwise disqualified by rule 400 and possess a current Special Olympics card, may participate in SSJBA under an age waiver as permitted by USBC rules.
3. Participants must be current USBC Standard Youth members (includes appropriate High School certifications). Bowlers must join SSJBA (the Association) and will be required to pay a \$20.00 annual membership fee prior to participation in any **SSJBA Tour** event. Dues paid during the previous season's last 2 stops will count towards the following season as well. SSJBA may provide personal achievement awards within the restrictions of the appropriate State High School Associations regulations and USBC Rule 400.
4. Tournaments are scratch with three divisions. Masters division is open to all qualified bowlers. Classic division is open to bowlers with SSJBA tournament averages less than 175**. Minors division is open to bowlers with SSJBA tournament averages less than 155**. Past members will be classified prior to any **2020-2021** season competitions. Past SSJBA average, verified USBC youth average or High School competition average (each of 12+ games) will suffice for entering average. Bowlers may not move to lower division than they previously competed in. Bowlers without an eligible SSJBA average may classify using their highest **2019-2020 certified league average** of 12 or more games, unless their initial competition entry date is preceded by a current season average based on 12+ games. The appropriate average will determine initial division placement. Anyone using their current season average with at least 12 games bowled prior to entry into competition (by closing date of entry) must **VERIFY AVERAGE (standing sheet, appropriate official, or online)**. Anyone without an appropriate, verifiable average will be placed in Masters division for competition. Classic division bowlers will advance to the Masters division, if they have met the following requirements: **SSJBA Tour** average of 175 and a Championship, including a Super Bowl Championship OR an average of 175 maintained for three competitions in which bowler participated. Minors division bowlers will advance to the Classic division, if they have met the following requirements: **SSJBA Tour** average of 155 and a Championship, including a Super Bowl Championship OR an **SSJBA Tour** average of 155 maintained for three competitions in which bowler participated. Voluntary division moves are encouraged to demonstrate a desire to push themselves to the next level of competition.

Tenth Tournament Rule: In any **SSJBA Tour** season, following completion of competition in tenth tournament, any bowler who has competed in at least six tournaments in that season and meets current requirement for advancement to next higher division may exercise option set by this rule. The bowler may elect to remain in division they are currently competing in until end of the season but they will not be permitted to compete in any subsequent season at average level lower than they have attained at the time they meet the advancement requirement.

5. **Formats:** There are 2 tournament formats. A one-day format consisting of 5 games qualifying followed by a 2-game, total pin, single-elimination bracket. A two-day format consisting of 8 games qualifying on day one with day two consisting of a round-robin match play and a stepladder playoff.
6. **QUALIFYING ROUND: (One-day)** All bowlers will bowl one 5 game block for qualifying and Jr Gold competition, the start of competition is also the closing point for entries. Each division will advance the top 8 bowlers to a 2-game, single-elimination bracket. **(Two-day)** All bowlers will bowl one 8 game block on Saturday, the start of competition is also the closing point for entries. Semi-finals will include the top bowlers of each division, with..... 8 or less advancing 4; 9 to 12 advancing 6; 13 to 16 advancing 8; and 17 to 20 advancing 10. If a division has more than 20 entries, at the end of 8 game qualifying round, the top 6 will qualify and the next 8 will bowl additional 4 game block to determine other four competitors who will advance to Sunday match play.
7. **Jr Gold Qualifying.** We will offer the option of Jr Gold qualifying at every tournament. We require a minimum of 5 participants and we will advance at a 5:1 ratio with the major fraction thereof rule in place. Fees are \$20. Boys and girls' divisions will be available in U18, U15, and U12 divisions. Dependent on participation, divisions may be merged to meet a minimum of 4 bowlers, based on division, age, then sex priorities. The participants' standings will be posted separately from the SSJBA tournament standings, since we do not utilize the same division practices as Jr Gold. Jr Gold competition concludes after the 5 (one-day) or 8 (two-day) games of SSJBA qualifying depending on format.