

**TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS 5 PIN CHAMPIONSHIPS****FORMAT**

The Tournament of Champions 5 Pin Championships consists of three (3) steps:

- **LEAGUE ROUND (League or Playoff Champions)**
- **ZONE/DC FINALS**
- **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**GENERAL RULES**

1. Open to all bowlers **18 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER** as of **DECEMBER 31, 2008**, and who are members of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association.
2. Entry deadline shall be **JUNE 7, 2009**.
3. Each Zone and Decentralized Association will determine the entry fee up to a maximum of \$20.00 per entry.
4. All members of the League Championship teams from the previous seasons' end (2009) shall qualify and advance to the Zone/DC Finals. This rule applies to all leagues using 3, 4, 5 and 6 player teams.
5. The Zone/DC Finals will be based on both Scratch and Pins over Average. One (1) scratch bowler and Four (4) Pins over Average bowlers will advance to the Provincial Championships.
6. Canadian 5 Pin Bowlers' Association rules shall apply in all rounds of competition except in the League Round, where league rules shall apply.
7. **QUALIFYING ROUND POLICY:**
  - a) Bowlers who are members in two (2) or more leagues may compete in each League Round. Bowlers, who qualify to advance from more than one (1) league, may bowl on more than once at the Zone/DC Finals, only if scheduling permits.
  - b) The phrase "if scheduling permits", grants permission for a bowler to compete in more than one Zone/DC Final so long as each of those rounds is a separate and distinct competition, occurring on different days, or at substantially different times.
  - c) Bowlers who qualify to bowl more than once at the Zone/DC Finals, but scheduling does not permit them to bowl, must bowl from the league in which their average is highest as recorded in the Zone Average Book.
8. Any bowler who, for any reason, vacates their position on a team for the next level of competition forfeits the right to return to competition in this event on that team or any other team. Such withdrawal may result in suspension of tournament/membership privileges of that individual.

9. If a FINAL copy of the Zone's Average Book (***both an electronic and a hard copy***) has not been received in the Provincial Office by **OCTOBER 6, 2008, no bowlers from that Zone or Decentralized Association will be permitted to compete in this event.**
10. Scores and averages of winners in all rounds will be authenticated and checked thoroughly. Any falsification or misrepresentation of scores or averages, knowingly or unknowingly, shall result in automatic disqualification.
11. Personal bowling balls may be used if facilities permit. House balls must be used if the bowler's personal bowling balls have not been returned (no delay of game). Personal bowling balls may be randomly inspected at any time during the tournament or on completion of the tournament. The use of personal bowling balls is at the bowler's own risk. The proprietor shall not be liable for any damages to personal bowling balls. Personal bowling balls shall be 4 3/4" to 5" in diameter, and 3 lbs. 4 ozs. to 3 lbs. 10 ozs. in weight, and must be engraved with the bowler's identifying initials or symbols. Should a question arise regarding the legality of a ball, the Tournament Director has the final say. Appeals/complaints regarding personal bowling balls may be made to the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.
12. In the case of any dispute, or interpretation of any rule, the decision of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee shall be final.

<b>ZONE/DC FINALS</b>
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1. The Zone/DC Finals shall consist of three (3) games.
2. The Zone/DC Finals must be completed on or before **OCTOBER 4, 2009**. Time and date to be set by the local Zone/DC Associations.
3. All bowlers competing in the Zone/DC Finals must use their highest league average in that Zone/DC as recorded in the Zone Average Book.
4. All bowlers competing in the Zone/DC Finals will bowl as singles. Based on the results, one (1) highest scratch bowler and four (4) pins-over-average bowlers will form a team which will advance to the Provincial Championships.
5. All designated bowlers must be members of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association and **18 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER** as of **DECEMBER 31, 2008** with an established average in the year-end Average Book.
6. In the event of a tie or ties for the last qualifying position, a one (1) game Roll-off shall be required to determine the bowler that advances.

<b>PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>
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1. The Provincial Championships shall be bowled on **NOVEMBER 7, 2009** in a centre designated by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association.
2. All bowlers competing in the Provincial Championships must use their highest league average as recorded in the Average Book, and as established in any league in Ontario.
3. If a bowler is unable to participate in the Provincial Championships, the team roster must be filled by the next eligible bowler from Zone/DC Finals.

4. No substitutions are allowed within seven (7) days of the event except in extreme circumstances, such as a deceased bowler, a death in the immediate family, or a disabling injury. Please contact the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association for any further rulings.
5. The Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee reserves the right to complete the field, and all decisions by the Committee shall be final.
6. The Provincial Championships shall consist of three (3) games, and the winning team(s) will be declared on a total team pins-over-average basis.
7. Any team that does not have a full complement of bowlers shall bowl only with the bowlers on hand. All bowlers shall be included in the line-up, however, any late bowlers shall start to bowl and count only from the time of arrival, regardless of the reason.
8. The five (5) bowlers will be declared our Provincial Champions and will each receive a one (1) week trip for two (2) to a Sun Destination. **Trips have no cash value and must be taken as awarded.**
9. In the event of a tie for first (1<sup>st</sup>) place, a one (1) game roll-off will be held between the tied teams to determine the winner.
10. In the event of a tie or ties for any other position, the team beating their team average by the most pins over or least pins under, if all teams are below their team average, in the last game, shall receive the higher placing. If a tie still exists, using the same rule, the scores from the preceding game shall be used to break the tie.
11. The order of bowling may be changed for each game in an unrestricted line-up.
12. At the completion of each game, teams shall remain at their respective lanes. When instructed to do so, they shall move to their next lanes as per the lane draw. The lead-off bowler shall await the starting signal.
13. Lead-off bowlers shall not start the next frame in any game until their anchor bowler has finished the prior frame.
14. Only bowlers competing in the event shall be permitted in the bowlers' enclosure. Any person violating this rule shall be removed from the bowlers' enclosure.
15. Only a bowler taking their regular turn in the line-up shall be allowed on the approach at any given time. All other bowlers must remain off the approach, to the side of or behind the scorestand, ensuring there is no interference with the scorekeeper's line of vision.
16. **The Team Captain is the only person allowed to discuss, dispute or protest any point pertaining to the Provincial Championships with the Judge of Play. Team Captain will be designated as the "Scratch" bowler on the team.**
17. All bowlers must wear shirts in their registered Zone Association colours with a logo identifying the Association they represent. Bowlers must wear straight hemmed bottom dress slacks. Cotton pants will be permitted provided they are not faded, have no rips, tears or studs on them and have no slits up the side of them. Jeans, harem, spandex, leggings, stirrups, shorts, sweatpants, cargo pants or warm-up pants of any kind are prohibited. No pants/slacks with external pockets on the sides will be accepted. Hats, caps or headgear of any kind are prohibited unless worn for medical or religious reasons. Any bowler not conforming to the dress code may not be permitted to compete in the event as determined by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.

**A fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) will be levied against each BOWLER not conforming to the dress code.**

18. The Team Captain must initial their lanesheet after each game before it leaves the scorestand. This acknowledges that all scores are correct. No changes can be made to the score after it has been initialled and leaves the scorestand.
19. There shall be a warm-up prior to the start of the event.
20. All games shall start when the Judge of Play gives the starting signal.
21. Any bowler who throws a ball prior to the starting signal may be assessed a fifteen (15) pin penalty. Any ball or balls delivered shall be declared a "dead ball".
22. Flagrant violation of any rules may result in penalties being assessed by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.
23. The lane draw is pre-drawn under the auspices of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.
24. Any article falling from a bowler's person on or over the foul line during the delivery of a ball is a foul. A penalty of fifteen (15) pins shall be deducted for such an infraction. Call the Judge of Play to retrieve any such articles.
25. For interpretation of any rules or controversy of any kind, call the Judge of Play immediately.
26. The Judge of Play shall make all rulings and all decisions may be subject to appeal to the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee. All Canadian 5 Pin Bowlers' Association rules are in effect.
27. There shall be no use of alcohol or illegal drugs. Any bowler found to be intoxicated or consuming alcoholic beverages shall be removed from the tournament.