

**2024-2025**  
**Louisville Metro Men**  
**By-Laws**

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- 1) These are the by-laws for the Louisville Metro Men's League. These by-laws will be the governing word for the league. Any situations that arise in the league that are not covered in these by-laws, the league will refer to the USBC rulebook.
- 2) The league will bowl a 34 week season on Monday nights. The season will begin Aug 26<sup>th</sup> – and will end April 14<sup>th</sup>. There will be no scheduled weeks off. Practice will start at approx. 6:20 with the league starting at approx. 6:30. The league will bowl at Fern Bowl Lanes – 5518 Bardstown Rd. Louisville, Ky. 40291 (502)239-6170.
- 3) The league will be sanctioned by USBC and TNBA. All bowlers must be over 18 to bowl. Women will not be allowed to bowl in the league. All members and substitutes are required to have a current USBC sanction card. The cost of the USBC sanction cards is \$27.00. If a bowler does not have a card submitted and paid for by the third week, then his scores will be forfeited. The team will take the vacancy score for those games. The cost of T.N.B.A. cards are \$25.00 T.N.B.A is optional to all bowlers.
- 4) Teams will consist of four (4) bowlers. Two (2) regular members are required to make up a legal line-up. A team may have up to 2 bowlers extra on their roster to use in case of a bowler having to miss a scheduled week. If a bowler is on a team roster, he is not allowed to bowl with any other team for position rounds or roll-offs. He can bowl with another team if the team captain of the roster he is on gives his permission. Only bowlers on the team's roster will make up a legal line-up. Substitutes can bowl for any team at any time except for position and roll off nights. A bowler must have at least 9 games bowled to bowl in the roll-off. In case of an injury to a current bowler, bowler will be allowed to bowl opposite hand to establish an average, but must establish that average before the roll-off.
- 5) The fees for the league will be \$22.00 dollars per week, per bowler. \$13.00 – Linage fees and \$9.00 going to the prize fund. The league will bank with 5/3 Bank. A bowler can be no more than one (1) week behind in his league fees. He must pay or contact a league officer to make a payment arrangement. The team captain is responsible for his team, making sure that the fees for the team are recorded and paid to the desk each week. If a bowler falls behind more than one week in arrears, his games will be forfeited and zeros will be used for his scores. Late bowlers have until the end of the fifth (5) frame to catch up to bowl. Late bowlers must show up before the opposing team's last bowler starts his fifth frame.
- 6) The league will use a handicap base of 90% of 220 for each bowler. Averages will not change for the first three (3) weeks or nine (9) games of the league. Bowlers who have bowled or subbed for twenty-one (21) games in this league the previous year will use that average. Bowlers with a book average from the previous year will use that average. Bowlers, who do not have a book average from the previous year, will have to establish an average. If a bowler is absent and no sub is used the team will use the bowler's bozo, score minus 10 pins. If a team does not have a full roster, they will use a Vacancy score of 200 with no handicap pins.

- 7) The league will use a 24-point system with 6 points being awarded for each game and series. In case of ties, points will be split.
  - a. 1st third – Team format - 6 points will be awarded to each team game and 6 points for series making 24 points total.
  - b. 2nd third - Doubles format - First and second bowler and the third and fourth bowler will bowl against corresponding bowlers of the opposing team. Two (2) points will be awarded for the winning doubles game and series. Two (2) points will be awarded for the winning team game and series.
  - c. 3rd third – Singles format - Each bowler will bowl against the bowler on the opposing team in the same line-up position. One (1) point will be given for game win and series win. Two (2) points will be given to team win.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> third and 3<sup>rd</sup> third teams can change their line up for the week before the league starts with the team on the right having the last change of lineup
- 8) The league will bowl a split season format. The season will be divided into thirds with each third divided into 11-week segments, with the 11<sup>th</sup> week being a position night. The winner of each third will earn a spot in the roll-off. The team with the most total wins, but has not won a third, will be the fourth team in the roll-off as the Wildcard team. A team winning two thirds will receive a bye in the first round of the roll-off. If a team wins all three thirds, they will be the league champion outright. The roll-off format will be three (3) games. The first game the top seeded team, (team with most overall wins) will bowl the wildcard team, the second seeded team will bowl the third seeded team. The wildcard team will always be the fourth seeded team. The Championship will match the two winners of the first game, bowling for first and second place. The losers of game one will bowl for third and fourth place. In the case of a tie in the roll-off there will be a one game roll-off of the tying teams. The remainder of the league will bowl a team total pins tournament. This format may be changed if approved by a captain's vote before the final third of the season.
- 9) If a team does not show up for a scheduled week of bowling and has not informed a league officer, that team will take a forfeit and will receive no points. If a team is not able to make a scheduled week, the team captain should make arrangements with league officer to pre / post bowl. The team captain should try to arrange an alternate time to make up with that opposing team, to bowl together, if possible. If not, the opposing team will bowl a blind. Make ups and pre-bowls must be bowled as a team. A team who has notified a league officer that they are unable to bowl will have two (2) weeks to make up the games, with a legal line up.
- 10) If a bowler is not able to make a scheduled night of bowling, they will be allowed to make up their games individually. They will have to contact a league officer as soon as possible, before league, to let the officer know of their situation. The bowler will have one (1) week to make up missed games.
- 11) If a team is bowling unopposed or there are an uneven number of teams; the team bowling unopposed will have to bowl within 40 pins of their actual team average, 20 pins for doubles average and 10 pins of an individual average in order to win points.
- 12) The prize money will be figured and dispersed by the league secretary after being approved by the league President and Vice President. All league money will be due on or before the 33<sup>rd</sup> week of the season.
- 13) A franchise fee of \$80.00 per team will be paid to the league by October the 1st. If fee is not paid by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, \$80.00 will be deducted from the team prize money.
- 14) Emergency cases, the league will work to be considerate of bowlers and understand any situation that may arise.
  - a. If a bowler test positive for covid or any other contagious virus, the bowler is asked to contact league officers. League officers will notify the league of a positive test result. League bowlers can then take steps to assure that they are safe in anyway, they see fit.

- b. If a team is not able to bowl due to a medical emergency, the league will extend the period of post bowl as needed.
- c. If the league is not able to bowl due to situations beyond the league or bowling centers control, we will extend the league up to one month. Anything over that the league will vote on a solution.