

Bowling - Frequently asked Questions

Here is a list of questions asked by the following headings, but please read over all as some may pertain to multiple groups.

By school administrators:

How many kids to we need to form a team and play?

You need a minimum of 6 to complete in a match, but may have as many as 12 at a match to be used as players and substitutes.

In the post season you will to narrow down to a 15 player roster from which to select your 12 for a given match.

We suggest you have some type of sign up or informational meeting to see if you have enough interest in your school.

What is the competition season?

Bowling is a winter season individual sport. It will run much like basketball in terms of dates. Your first practice date will be October 15. Your first date of competition will be November 28. The state championship will be the end of March.

Where can we bowl?

You will need to contact you local bowling centers. There are making schedules for the winter now and are more then willing to help you. You are not restricted where you compete.

Who makes the schedule?

Many bowling centers are used to making master schedules for the groups as that is how the program operated in the past. You will be using their facilities, so it may be easiest to contact them and let them know that you will have a team.

The centers will help coordinate the matches dates, times, etc for the schools in your area and minimize conflicts with their other existing leagues.

You may also schedule matches yourself with teams.

How many matches can we play?

You are allowed 22 days of competition. This does not mean that you have to use them all and we suspect that many schools will not. Unlike some other sports, you can bowl a number of matches in one day and it only count as one against your limit of days. This may be necessary in areas where teams will need to bowl all of their matches on Saturdays, for example, due to travel and lane availability concerns. Teams could meet on a given day and bowl multiple matches and opponents on that day.

How much does it cost per team?

This something that you will need to work closely with the bowling center on. Schools will need to contact the bowling center in their area and negotiate lane usage and prices. This fee could practice lanes, shoes, and lane fees for matches. Each center is different however, but the proprietors are very interested in the program succeeding and have shown a willingness to work with our schools.

Will there be a KHSAA state championship?

Yes. The State Championship will be hosted at Executive Bowl in Louisville on March 23-24, 2012. There will be a team championship as well as an individual championship.

Is there a uniform for bowlers?

Yes, there is a uniform shirt and they wear long pants to bowl. In the past some bowling centers were able to include the uniform shirt into their cost package for a team, but schools may want to order their own.

Can grade school kids play up on the high school team?

Yes, if they are in your direct feeder pattern as defined by Bylaw 4, and not below the 4th grade.

By Bowling Centers:

How do we know who to contact?

You will need to start by talking to the Athletic Director at each school. Please be patient with them as the school year is just beginning. The schools have many fall sports going on right now and they will not have tryouts for bowling until October, so the Athletic Directors may be prioritizing other sports. At this time, they can probably tell you if they hope to have a team or not, but many will not be sure for another month when they can accurately gauge student interest.

Coaches are asking us questions about certifications, etc. What do we tell them?

There is a list of certification requirements on the coaches question page as all coaches in all sports must comply with Bylaw 27. What we suggest you tell them is to speak with the athletic director at the school in which they have coached or are interested in coaching. The Athletic Directors are able to guide them on the coaches requirements path.

We need to schedule for winter soon. What should we expect for our bowling centers as far as need by the high schools?

We suggest that you contact each school in your area and ask if they plan to have a team, or use the survey on the bowling page of the KHSAA website to see the schools in your area that answered yes. This will give you an idea of how many schools you will potentially have in the league at your center and tell you how much practice and league time to hold on your schedule.

Can high school coaches coach my youth leagues as well as coach the high school team?

Yes, the only restriction we will have in the summer dead period which is June 25 through July 9 each year.

Can high school bowlers bowl in my adult leagues?

No, according to the USBC interpretation high school students may only compete in singles competitions. Any awards given in the singles competition are limited by KHSAA Bylaw 12.

Will I be eligible to host regional tournaments?

Yes, we hope that we will have enough teams to form 8 regions. Therefore we are planning on there being 8 regional tournaments. They KHSAA will be choosing those sites with the input from the schools and the bowling centers.

Can I host tournaments throughout the season?

Yes, we ask you to work with schools to host tournaments throughout the year. Ticket sales from the tournament must be returned to the schools participating or the host school, but other proceeds may be divided up per an agreement with schools.

By Coaches:

When will the competition rules be posted?

We will be using the USBC rules for high schools with our own format much like the club teams have used over the past years. They will be posted in plenty of time for the season.

When will we know what region we are in?

Regions will be drawn once the KHSAA knows which schools are actually participating.

What will the post season format will be?

Each region will send the top two girls teams and top two boys teams from each region to the state tournament. There will also be a qualifier for the state tournament for individuals at the region and each region will bring four boys and four girls to the state tournament.

How do I become or remain that coach at my school?

Coaches need to contact the Athletic Director and/or Principal at the school to inquire about the coaching position for bowling. Each school is responsible for hiring their coaches.

What are the requirements for being a high school coach?

All coaches must comply with Bylaw 27 and its education and training requires. All coaches must be must be 21 years of age, have a Criminal Background check preformed and be approved by the school initially.

Coaches fall into three categories. Level 1 coaches are faculty members. Level 2 coaches are either 1) non-faculty members who have 64 college hours, or 2) non-faculty members who have less than 64 hours college by meet a special exemption as an approved coach (commonly called a HB327 waiver). Persons with less than 64 college hours who are applying for the exemption must have that exemption approved by the KHSAA through the school Athletic Director. The waiver form that shows these courses and the website information can be found that this link - www.khsaa.org/forms/ge40.pdf. These individuals looking for a waiver must complete the NFHS coaching education course prior to coaching the team for the first time, and would be required to take additional courses online at www.nfhsllearn.com. The requirements are spelled out on the form.

Once hired, all coaches are required to take the online sports safety course before the first day of practice (this course is free and online at www.khsaa.org) and those who didn't take the NFHS coaching education course already, must take the coaches education course within one year of their hire date. All coaches shall be current in CPR (including AED training), and beginning in 2012-13, must attend a rules clinic (online delivery) to be updated on KHSAA rules and the bowling program.

Can a coach charge for a 1 on 1 lesson?

Yes with the approval of the principal at your school, but such cannot be required of the students.

Can I coach my team or any of my kids outside the high school season?

Yes, except during the dead period (June 25 to July 9). Please check with your AD about the additional rules regarding outside of season play (as far as school name and mascot may not be used, etc)

Can I coach a summer youth league during the dead period?

Yes, as long as no member of the the youth team has been a member of your high school team and provided your team members are not competing at the same time.

Who can volunteer to help with my team?

That will be the decision of the principal at you school. If they are a coach then they must meet all coaching requirements, even if they are not being paid. These requirements are the same for all coaches, head and assistant; varsity, junior varsity or freshman; paid or unpaid.

Will teams receive scholarships for winning regional or state tournaments?

No, not at this time. The KHSAA will continue to work for sponsorship of scholarship money, but the basis for the scholarship will not be connected to the outcome of the tournament. The criteria for scholarship awards given through the KHSAA program will be based on academics, leadership, participation, and community service.

Will teams collect points throughout the season or will they win, lose, or tie?

They will win, lose or tie.

Will the team members have to purchase a USBC membership?

No, this is not a requirement.

Can we sell signage or sponsorships to advertise on our uniforms to local businesses?

Yes. However, the sponsorship on the uniform shall not include alcohol or tobacco products or business that sell those products exclusively, and alcohol shall not be sold in the competition area during high school matches.

Will there be a way to communicate with coaches throughout the state to share questions, advice, tournament information?

Yes, the KHSAA will be starting a listserve that will be a communication tool used to share information. We will post the information on how to join on our website once it is created.