
Bridgetown Invitational Tournament Rules – 2024

Tournament Rules & Eligibility:

1. The Bridgetown Invitational Tournament (BIT) is a mixed, adult-only (18+) competition bowling tournament open by invitation only. It is required that all entrants hold current season adult USBC membership cards or purchase adult standard membership prior to participation. **An individual may apply for adult standard membership by paying the USBC membership fee of \$30.** If an individual does not want to pay full \$30 yearly membership fee, BIT maintains a Moral Support Tournament Certification for non-members of USBC (See Rule 301a). Non-USBC members may qualify for entry by payment of a \$5.00 one-time tournament participation fee (USBC Rule #300c) prior to participation. Payment of the fee prior to participation entitles the entrant to participate subject to the USBC rules and jurisdiction. Participants who pay this one-time Moral Support tournament participation fee are not eligible for USBC awards (USBC Rule #300c).
 - 1A. In addition, as an IGBO-affiliated member tournament, BIT now requires individual entrant participants of the tournament to either have current annual membership with an IGBO-member league or the participant will need to apply for an IGBO associate membership by paying the \$25 annual IGBO associate membership fee, paid during registration. This requirement is in addition to USBC membership. Additionally, IGBO associate membership qualifies the individual to be eligible for IGBO-specific performance awards at this tournament and other IGBO member tournaments throughout the year, as well as eligibility for the IGBO Annual tournament in Reno, May 16-20, 2024.
 - 1B. Only one (1) professional bowler per team will be allowed. A professional bowler is defined as any person who has been a “card-carrying” member of a professional bowling organization within the past 24 months preceding the 2024 Bridgetown Invitational. “Card carrying” is defined as anyone who has participated in a PBA / PWBA tournament (regionally, nationally, or internationally) in the 24 months preceding the 2024 tournament.
2. BIT is a USBC certified, and IGBO affiliated tournament and the following shall apply concerning averages verified on www.Bowl.com, LeagueSecretary.com and IGBO-TAD (Tournament Average Database), average verification will be done Feb 14, 2024:
 - 2A. The bowler shall use their highest 2022/2023 league average (includes Summer 2023) that consists of a minimum of 21 games.
 - 2B. If 2A does not exist, the bowler shall use their highest 2021/2022 league average that consists of a minimum of 21 games.
 - 2C. If a bowler’s IGBO-TAD tournament average (minimum 21 games within past 12 months as of Feb 14, 2024) is 1 pin or more higher than their highest average listed in 2A or 2B, then the IGBO tournament average must be used.
 - 2D. All others will enter at an average determined by the tournament director per USBC Rule 319b.
 - 2E. Team Average Cap – The Bridgetown Invitational Tournament will observe a maximum team average cap of 880. Teams may not be accepted if the total team average exceeds this cap.

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- 2F. Handicap for the tournament will be based on 100% of difference between highest bowler verified average.
3. It is the bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, his/her team captain, or others. Failure to use the correct average, if the submitted average is lower than the correct average, will result in disqualification unless corrected before the completion of the first game of the first event bowled. Prize winnings will be based on the submitted average if it is higher than the correct average. Please refer to USBC Rule 319a-3 & 4. Registration questions should be directed to registrar@bitbowl.org and bittournamentdirector@gmail.com.
 4. A bowler who has qualified for: a prize of \$500 or more in any event; total combined prize winnings of \$750 or more in any one tournament or total combined prize winnings of \$1,250 or more in all tournaments within the previous 12-month period must report the amount of the prize; the actual score bowled to qualify for the prize and the prize position for possible re-rating. Such re-rating must be done before the entrant bowls. USBC Rule 319d will be enforced and will apply to all entrants.
 5. The average of any bowler may be adjusted by the Tournament Director(s) upon recommendation of the Greater Portland USBC Association of the bowler in question or at the Tournament Director's discretion. Any adjustment must be made before the entrant bowls.
 6. There will be **NO REFUNDS** after an entry has been accepted by the BIT Tournament Committee.
 7. Entries must be accompanied by the full amount of fees in the form of internet payment (PayPal via registration website), or contact treasurer@bitbowl.org for alternative payment methods (CashApp or Venmo). Bridgetown Invitational Tournament 2024 registration will only be available online. The BIT entry deadline is 12midnight Pacific time Friday March 10, 2024. All teams must be paid in full by that date. Also, all entries must include each entering bowler's physical address, phone number, email address (same email used at other IGBO tournaments), USBC#, leagues bowls/secretary contact information, and payment in full for the tournament fees, optional events and other amounts due in order for the registration to be complete for that team.
 8. Bowlers may bowl only once. The event consists of nine games across 3 events: 3 games team, 3 games singles, 3 games doubles, on a modified house oil pattern (league shot). Optional scratch masters event is a separate tournament with separate tournament fee, rules, and oil pattern.
 9. Score corrections must be made by a member of the tournament committee or bowling house staff.
 10. All claims of error must be submitted, in writing, to the Tournament Director(s) within one (1) hour after the bowler or team has bowled. In matters of dispute, the Tournament Director(s) decision will be final, unless an appeal is made in accordance with USBC Rule 329.
 11. Substitutes will be allowed for emergencies only and at the BIT Tournament Directors discretion.
 12. No pacers shall be allowed.

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13. Late bowlers shall start bowling in the frame in which they are prepared to bowl; prior frames will be scored zero. The score for an absent bowler will be zero (0). The Tournament Director may authorize, together with the BIT Tournament Committee's input, a different schedule of events in case of emergency.
14. Cash Prizes: We are paying singles, doubles, and team events.
15. Optional, paid events prizes:
 - "Marquam Bridge Mystery Doubles": \$5/entry, multiple entries can be purchased; pre-purchase entries during on-line registration or at Friday registration table before team event. Separate pot with 80% payout and expected cash ratio (based on 20 entries) is 1:4; all of your scores and random partner scores with your handicaps combined. Only the person with paid entry gets the payout, the mystery double person does not win anything but admiration from their mystery doubles partner.
 - "The Bridge is still standing" skill shot drawing: \$1/ticket, multiple tickets can be purchased; pre-purchase online, at registration table and can purchase day of each event, 50/50 payout). If your ticket is drawn, you will draw a card between 3-8 and in order to win you must LEAVE standing the number of pins on your card. If the person misses, the pot rolls over to the next event. Additional tickets can be purchased before the next drawing at the next event. If it rolls over to the end of the last event, then we will draw until someone wins.
 - Optional all events scratch: \$10 per entry per person; pre-purchase entries during on-line registration or at Friday registration table before team event. A separate pot with 80% payout, expected cash ratio (based on 20 entries) is 1:4; all scratch scores without handicap.
 - Optional all events handicap: \$10 per entry per person; pre-purchase entries during on-line registration or at Friday registration table before team event. A separate pot with 80% payout, expected cash ratio (based on 20 entries) is 1:4; all scores with handicap.
 - Brackets: \$5 per entry, multiples can be purchased, cash only, day of event and cannot be pre-purchased, brackets are intended to be paid the day of the event.
 - BIT Scratch Masters will be run as a separate tournament with its own cash prize fund by division. See BIT Scratch Masters Tournament Rules for more details. Pre-purchase entries during on-line registration or at Friday registration table.
16. Optional raffles for cash prizes/awards:
 - Rainbow pack raffle tickets: 50 tickets for \$30 if pre-purchased during on-line registration, otherwise 25 tickets for \$20 at registration table on Friday at registration table before team event. Cash prizes and sponsor prizes for tickets drawn.
 - Ball Raffle tickets: 10 tickets for \$20, can be purchased during on-line registration or at Friday registration table. Limit win 1 ball per person; if same person gets drawn a second time for ball raffle they will win a different surprise.
 - 50/50 mega raffle: \$10 per ticket, \$500 awarded if all 100 tickets sold. Can be pre-purchased during on-line registration, Friday registration table, and/or during Team, Singles, Doubles events until all 100 tickets are sold. Need not be present to win.
17. All bowling events will be held at SuperPlay Bowling Center in Beaverton, Oregon from Friday March 15 thru Sunday March 17th, 2024. Bowlers will be allowed a 10 minute practice session. Bowlers are not permitted to practice on their assigned lanes on their scheduled day of bowling other than the practice session prior to the start of each shift.

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18. All bowlers must initial their scores on the recap sheet after each event. All scores will be verified against bowling center computers.
19. There are a maximum of 24 teams allowed for this tournament.
20. Payouts: Payouts for the tournament will be paid in accordance with USBC Rules. Payouts will be made by check within 30 days following the close of the tournament. (Thus the importance of accurate and complete mailing addresses and phone numbers during registration for every entering bowler!)
21. Tournament entry fee breakdown: \$125
Linage \$40.50
Prize Fund \$62.50
IGBO \$2.00
Other Expenses \$20.00
(Free entries won as prizes at other IGBO events are not eligible for raffles that may be included as part of the tournament entry fee.)
22. The financial statement for the tournament will be provided to all bowlers upon request within 30 days following the close of the tournament.
23. Dress Attire: Bowling attire appreciated but not required; common sense shall rule.

BIT Code of Conduct for all participating bowlers, partners, volunteers and supporters:

- Be respectful and courteous to all persons
- Display good sportsmanship at all times
- Do not engage in any behavior which is threatening to others; verbal abuse, physical abuse, threats, anger, or inappropriate language. Anyone displaying this behavior will be disqualified from participation in the tournament and escorted from the premises.

COVID-safe

We know that the world has changed and there is always going to be uncertainty around events in the age of a pandemic, so here is our approach to making this work: SHOULD IT PROVE NECESSARY!

- The event will be fully COVID-safe and compliant above and beyond any basic government health requirements to do what we reasonably can to protect your health and safety and that of all attendees. That will include appropriate social distancing and other measures. We rely upon the state of Oregon and Washington County and will set parameters around masks, etc. based on their recommendations at the time of the event.
- COVID cancellation: if the event is cancelled or must be rescheduled due to COVID issues, we will offer you a full refund.
- It's in everyone's interest to ensure anyone who feels unwell stays away from events, so if you are showing any COVID-like symptoms please let us know and we will find a substitute to bowl in your place.