

Freedom League Winter 2026

President:	Ricky Rogers 205-492-6301
Vice President:	Margie Terryberry 205-675-6410
Treasurer:	Royce Tyree 508-330-1395
Secretary:	Tracey Terryberry 205-675-7656

Freedom League teams shall consist of either 3 Bowlers with a vacant or 4 bowlers per team. Practice starts at 12:20 pm and League bowling begins at 12:30 pm.

The first day of league bowling will be JANUARY 4, 2026 and will run for 12 continuous weeks with the last day being MAY 15, 2026. The ROLL OFF will be held on MAY 22, 2026 and 9-PIN NO TAP and Pay Out will be held on MAY 29, 2026 at 12:30 pm

The management of this league shall be vested in the board of Directors, which shall consist of the league officers and team captains. The team captains shall elect the officers and the Board of Directors shall adopt the rules. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

League Fees:	\$13.50 Lineage
	\$8.50 Prize Fund and Admin cost
	\$1.00 Officer Salaries
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	\$23.00 Per Week Per Bowler (\$276 Total)

Additional fees:

\$29 USBC Sanction Fee (One Time fee for New Bowlers or Renewed in Fall Season). SANCTION FEE MUST BE PAID FIRST NIGHT OF LEAGUE BOWLING.

- Admin cost: Includes Printing materials, Trophies and Miscellaneous expenses
- Secretary and Treasurer salaries are \$.50 per bowler per week.

This is a Sanctioned League and fees must be paid whether present or Not. It is the Team Captain's Responsibility to see that each member of their team has paid and turned the proper fees and forms to the league's Secretary by the end of the 1st game.

All bowlers must pay the Last 2 weeks of league fees by the 4th week on JANUARY 25,2026

If a bowler falls behind in payments (with no more than \$69 owed) a score of 0 will be issued for all games for that bowler. In case of absence the absent party is responsible for paying for the missed payment this includes that last 2 weeks.

If a bowler is paying by Check: Make Payable to Vestavia Bowl

- All returned checks will incur an extra fee of \$15. Any bowler with a returned check will be required to pay all remaining fees by cash only.

League Rules and Guidelines

League Membership

- 1.1. Freedom League is sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and all bowlers (Team members & Substitutes) MUST be sanctioned by USBC on the first night of bowling.
- 1.2. The USBC rulebook shall apply to all rules not covered under the Freedom League Bylaws.
- 1.3. Membership is open to anyone 18 years of age or older.

League Management

- 2.1. League officers shall consist of 4 elected officials who are USBC sanctioned. These positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- 2.2. Each Team will have a Team Captain. The Team Captains represent their team every night and at board meetings.
- 2.3. Officers do not have to be bowlers but must be in "Good- Standing" and be Sanctioned with USBC.
- 2.4. Two members of the same household, family or couple may not hold office of the President and Treasurer at the same time or co-sign for withdrawals from the league's account.
- 2.5. One officer must be present at least 15 minutes prior to the start of each night of league bowling.
- 2.6. Elected officers have the right to interpret rules based on established Freedom League rules and USBC rules.

Officer Elections

- 3.1. Nominations, acceptance of nominations and voting for officers must be held during regular bowling and before the final night of the season.
- 3.2. Any member of "Good-Standing" is allowed to nominate and vote in elections.

Roster and Legal Line Up

- 4.1. Captains will turn in the roster of team members to the secretary prior to the first game of bowling of the first week of bowling.
- 4.2. Rosters are Limited to 4 players per team.
- 4.3. Any changes will be reported to the Secretary or league officers prior to league bowling. (Any bowler may be added at any time BEFORE THE LAST 5 WEEKS of league.) Only bowlers on the roster are allowed to bowl the night of the position round.

Scoring System

- 5.1. The league will be scored on a 9 point system:
 - 2 points per game and 3 points for total pins
 - In case of a tie: points will be split (1 point for tied game, 1.5 points for tied total pins).

Entering Averages

- 6.1. A bowlers average will be determined by:
 - Yearbook average from the immediate prior Freedom League season final.
 - A new bowler to Freedom who has an established average in prior USBC 2024-2025 season.

- A new bowler who hasn't established an average will bowl for average the first night of league by bowling 3 consecutive games

6.2. All averages not from Freedom League are subject to a re-rate.

Handicap Scores

7.1. An individual's Handicap is based on 90% of 190. Team Handicap will be Total of all individual players handicaps.

7.2. If an individual has a negative handicap a score of 0 will be assigned to their handicap.

Vacancy Scores

8.1. When a team doesn't have 4 bowlers a Vacant will be assigned with a score of 120 and handicap of 63.

8.2. Composition of vacant handicap: $190 - 120 = 70 \times .9 = 63$

Absent Scores

9.1. Absent scores will be allowed when a team has a legal line-up (at least 2 bowlers), The absentee's Score will be their current average minus 10 pins.

BYE Teams

10.1. If at any point the league consists of an odd number of teams a BYE will be added.

10.2. The team bowling the BYE will bowl against the scores of the team to their immediate **LEFT**. If the BYE is on **lanes 7-8 will bowl against the scores of the team on LANE 9**.

10.3. If the team bowling the BYE loses, the points won will be considered unassigned points and will not count towards the overall standings.

Forfeit

11.1. See USBC Rule 119 for general rules

11.2. If a team is scheduled to bowl another team (BYE included), but does not show up to bowl, the team automatically forfeits.

Tardy Bowlers

12.1. If for any reason a team member is going to be late, it is their responsibility to reach out to their team captain to inform them of the tardiness.

12.2. The tardy frame will be the 5th frame. A tardy bowler may catch up, provided the opposing anchor bowler has not completed the 5th frame. In the case the opposing anchor has completed the 5th frame, an absent score will be assigned to the tardy bowler for that game.

12.3. A tardy bowler cannot miss game 1 and game 2 and then bowl game 3, if you miss game 1 and game 2, an absent score will be automatically assigned to game 3.

12.4. If members of a team are late, at least 1 one member of that team must be present before the 5th frame of the first game, or the team will forfeit game one.

12.5. If no one is present by the 5th frame of game two, all three games will be counted as forfeit and team scores will be considered absent scores.

Substitute Players

13.1. All substitute bowlers must be sanctioned with USBC in order to bowl.

13.2. Substitutions may be allowed, but may not be made in the middle of a game, except in the case of an injury to the original bowler.

13.3. The new bowler must take the replaced bowler's position in the line-up.

13.4. No more than 2 replacements per series, and once a bowler is out, they may not reenter.

13.5. NO PACERS allowed

13.6. Substitute bowlers are not required to pay lineage, but will owe \$10 which will go into the league prize fund. Payment of the weekly league fees is required of the bowler being replaced by the substitute.

13.7. A bowler who is currently in arrears more than \$69, they may not use a substitute to bowl in their place. Their score will count as an absent score in this case.

13.8. If by chance a substitute bowls in the place of a vacant member, the substitute must pay the full weekly fees required that week.

Breaks between Games

14.1. You are allowed a 5-minute break between games. This break can be used for anything.

14.2. Tardy rules will apply if you are later than 5 minutes.

Pre-bowl / Post bowl Rules

15.1. Pre-bowling is only allowed as a team due to restrictions within the house. NO individual pre or post bowl games allowed.

15.2. A match may be pre-bowled only when there is sufficient cause. A committee of 3 members (President, Secretary, and Opposing team captain) shall determine what is sufficient cause and a 2/3 vote will be required to grant a pre-bowl.

15.3. CALLING THE BOWLING CENTER DOES NOT CONSTITUTE OBTAINING A PRE-BOWL OR POST BOWL AGREEMENT

15.4. ALL post bowl games must be made up within 2 weeks of the missed league night and must be done as a team. ALL games must be caught up before position rounds. If not made up prior to position rounds, points will be forfeited and moved to unassigned points

15.5. Teams can only pre-bowl / post-bowl one week at a time with a maximum of 2 prebowl or post bowls being allowed. Anything outside of 2 will be considered absent and absent scores rules will apply. See Rule 9 for Absent scores.

15.6. IF a team cannot pre-bowl or post bowl – a substitute team/player may be allowed to bowl in their place (See Rule 13 for Substitute Rules)

15.7. All pre-bowl or post-bowl scores will be displayed on the score sheets in the beginning of league play.

15.8. Pre-bowling is not allowed the last two weeks of bowling (the week before position rounds and the week of position rounds).

- If you cannot bowl these weeks, you will be considered absent and absent scores will be assigned (See Rule 9)

League Standings

16.1. The final week teams will roll-off in position order (1st vs 2nd, 3rd vs 4th.. so on)

16.2. Total points earned for games won will determine team positions.

16.3. In case of a Tie a 1 game roll off will determine the winner.

New Teams

17.1. Teams may be added no later than the third week of each season. Teams which sign up late will not receive any wins for the missed weeks. New bowlers may fill a vacancy through week 4. Week 5 all vacant spots will remain vacant.

Prize fund Eligibility/Pay Out

18.1. In order for a bowler to be eligible for prize fund payout, the bowler must have bowled and paid for at least 5 of the 9 weeks of league play.

18.2. If a bowler is not eligible for prize fund payout, then the team captain will determine team prize fund payout based on eligible team players and must confirm this with the treasurer BEFORE prize fund calculations begin.

18.3. Prize Fund distribution will be distributed by week 5 and Team Captains will vote for the prize fund payout. Once voting is done, team captains will turn in the votes to the Treasurer who will then announce the prize fund pay out distribution to the league.

18.4. Prize funds will be distributed to the league the day of the 9-pin No Tap and not before. If you are absent the day of the 9-pin no tap game, it is your team captain's responsibility to work out a plan with the individual bowler on what will happen with the prize funds. The treasurer will not be responsible for holding on to the prize funds of individual players after the Prize Fund Pay out.

18.5. Prize Fund Committee will consist of the following:

- Chairman: Treasurer, Committee Members, Team Captains

18.6. Prize money will be distributed based on eligible positions. Teams with vacancies will not receive money for the vacant bowler positions.

18.7. Substitutes are not eligible for prize fund payouts.

League Funds

19.1. The secretary and treasurer will be paid upon completion of the league. Funds will be deposited on a weekly basis using the In-House Banking Account at Vestavia Bowl. The President will receive a monthly statement on the account balance.

Awards

20.1. Prior to the start of the schedule, the president will appoint a committee consisting of at least 3 league members to draw up a prize list. The prize list must be approved by the board of directors and posted within 5 weeks after the start of the schedule. The total of the Play-Off Money cannot exceed more than **20%** of the total prize fund.

20.2. To be eligible for Individual awards, a player must be in good standing with the league and have bowled and paid for the entire season.

**SPECTATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE
BOWLING FLOOR AT ANY TIME ALTHOUGH FOOD
AND DRINKS ARE ALLOWED – PLEASE BE
CAUTIOUS OF SPILLS AND IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY
TEAM CAPTAINS AND THE HOUSE OF ANY SPILLS**

Updated: January 11 2026