

BOND AND BOTES SCRATCH CLASSIC SUMMER 2026 RULES

President:	Chuck Maher	527-6941
Vice President:	Keith Bowman	337-9164
Secretary / Treasurer:	Melanie Keener	979-4420 melanie@vestaviabowl.com
Secretary / Treasurer:	Angela Nance	979-4420 angela@vestaviabowl.com
Sergeant at Arms:	Kurt Dinga	

This league shall be comprised of 26 teams with 3 bowlers on each team. The league will begin on May 14, 2026 with practice beginning at 6:30pm. The league will bowl for 12 weeks with a position round on July 30, 2025. The play-off will be held the following (13th) week on August 6, 2026.

This league will be sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC). All USBC rules will prevail along with the following adopted rules:

Board of Directors: All team captains and league officers shall make up the Board of Directors.

Team Captain Responsibilities: Each team captain will be responsible for collecting the bowling fees from each member of their team each week. **The envelopes will be picked up by the secretary/treasurer at the end of the 1st game.**

Bowling Fees: Bowling fees shall be \$25.00 per bowler per week. The breakdown of fees is as follows:

Lineage:	\$13.50
Prize Fund:	\$11.00
<u>Sec/Treas Fee</u>	<u>\$.50</u>
Total	\$25.00

All bowlers must pay the last 2 weeks of bowling fees by the 4th week of bowling (June 4, 2026).

No individual may be more than \$50.00 in arrears at any time. If a bowler that is currently in arrears bowls and league dues are not paid to make that bowler current, a score of "0" will be used for all games for that bowler. A sub may bowl for an absent bowler that is in arrears, but the absent bowler MUST pay enough dues to be no more than \$50.00 in arrears when he/she returns; this includes the last 2 weeks, if already due. If not paid, the sub will receive a score of "0" for any games bowled for that bowler while they were in arrears. The bowler on the opposing team that is matched up against the bowler in arrears must bowl within 10 of their current average to win the match point.

All returned checks will incur a \$15.00 service charge. Should a league member have a returned check, they will not be able to write checks to the league and shall pay cash for the balance of the season. Payment by credit/debit card can be made at the front desk.

Please make all checks payable to: Vestavia Bowl.

League Sponsor:

Bond & Botes has graciously offered to donate \$1,500.00 to the Prize Fund for this league. **Thanks Brad!!**

Team Formation:

This league will follow the draft method for team member selection. The minimum entering average will be 175. All new bowlers MUST have averages approved by the average committee.

Team Captains for the season will be determined using the following rotation: High Averages, Low Averages, Middle Averages. This season we will use the Middle Averages.

Point System:

This league will use the 21 point system. Each individual will be awarded 1 point per game for bowling a higher scratch game than their opposing bowler and 1 point for bowling a higher individual scratch series than their opposing bowler. Teams will be awarded 2 points for each game won and 3 points for total pins.

Rosters:

Team rosters will be limited to 3 members.

Averages:

All bowlers will bowl scratch and use their entering average for the first 9 games.

Entering Averages:

Entering averages will be determined according to the following criteria.

1. Final Average from the 2025 Bond & Botes Scratch Classic or Highest Vestavia Bowl average as of 4/17/26 for the 2025-2026 season (54+ games), whichever is highest.

**If a bowler averages 10 or more pins higher, in another center (54+ games), than the average used above, a composite of the two averages will be used to determine Entering Average.

2. Highest GBUSBC average as of 4/17/26 for the 2025-2026 season (54+ games).

3. No Average – one will be determined for you.

4. All bowlers are subject to re-rating by the average committee for league draft & substitution purposes.

A committee of 3 bowlers, appointed by the president, will set averages for bowlers who do not have a current Vestavia Bowl average. The committee will also establish entering averages for all bowlers not on the initial player roster and will resolve any disputes regarding averages. Resolution requires concurrence by at least 2 members of the committee.

Average Committee:

The Average Committee will consist of the following members:

Chairman: Mike Reeves

Members: Lauren Douglas, Rich Mayer

Floating Max:

The Floating Max for this league will be the highest total team average for each week. Any team using a sub, besides following the sub rule, must not exceed that week's floating max.

Substitutes: All subs must meet with the average committee PRIOR to bowling their first time bowling for average verification.

Substitutes will use their entering average and cannot average more than 10 pins higher than the entering average of the bowler they are subbing for.

In order to bowl in a position round and/or play-off, a sub must have a minimum of 9 games in the league.

Legal Line-Up & Forfeits: A team must have at least 1 team member present by the completion of the opposing teams 3rd frame to constitute a legal line-up. If not present, the team must forfeit the game. If a team forfeits, the opposing team must bowl within 30 pins of their team average to win the game and within 90 pins to win team series. Each bowler must also bowl within 10 pins of their average in order to win his/her individual point.

Team Line-Up: Bowler line-up each week will use the bowlers entering average, as well as the following to determine each bowler's position (this includes substitutes): Middle Average 1st, Low Average 2nd, High Average 3rd

Tardy Bowlers: Tardy bowlers may catch up provided they arrive by the end of the 5th frame. Both lanes must be used while a tardy bowler is catching up.

Absentee Score: A team with absent members will use the absentee score. The absentee score shall be the bowler's average less 10 pins.

Vacancy Score: When a team is not complete. (less than 3 regular members), a vacancy scores shall be used. The vacancy score shall be whatever score is necessary to bring the team within 15 pins of the opponent's team average. The vacancy score is calculated as follows:

Example:	Team #1	Team #2	Team #2 Subtotal	590
	185	185	Team #1 Subtotal	<u>-391</u>
	206	215		199
	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>190</u>		<u>-15</u>
	391	590	Vacant Score	184

The vacancy score for Team #1 shall be 184 and a team total of 575. This puts Team #1 within 15 pins of Team #2's average total of 590. Team members are still required to pay the Prize Fund and Secretary Fee should a bowler on their team become vacant.

The Vacancy score will also be used for any bowler that has not yet bowled in the league. (Example: If a bowler is absent on the 1st week of league, the vacancy score will be used unless a sub is used.

If there is a vacancy on each team, an absent score will be used for each bowler.

Bye System: If the league has an odd number of teams, the bye system will be used. The team bowling the Bye, will draw a team number and bowl against their scores.

- Postponements:** A match may be postponed if the team captain notifies the league secretary and/or president. Emergency situations will be noted. The emergency situation must be reported to the league secretary within 48 hours of the scheduled match.
- Lane courtesy is NOT guaranteed for Pre and Post-Bowls.
- Note: As a courtesy, the opposing team captain should be notified to give that team the option of bowling at the same time.
- Pre or Post Bowling:** Pre and Post bowling will be allowed. A printout of the 3 games team series must be obtained from the control desk. It is the team captain's responsibility to request this printout as well as provide a copy to the league secretary. All pre/post bowls must be set up at least 24 hours in advance. Vestavia Bowl has set days/times for league pre/post bowls. ALL POSTPONEMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO THE POSITION ROUND.
- Prize Committee:** The committee is to draw up at least 2 prize funds and present them to the team captain's by the 3rd week of bowling. The prize list with the highest approval vote shall be the prize list used for the season.
- Chairman: Angela Nance
Committee Member: Melanie Keener
- Prizes & Awards:** Individuals and teams cannot win more than one award (except High Average, Match Play Points, and Most Improved.) Individuals must bowl 2/3 of the scheduled games, 24 games, to be eligible for individual awards and prizes.
- Position Round:** This league shall have 1 position round which will take place on the 12th week to determine the 12 teams that will be in the play-off.
- Play-Off:** The top 12 teams will make the play-off. If a tie should occur for 12th place, a 1 game tiebreaker will be used to determine the team making the play-off.
- Play-Off Format:** The 12 teams in the play-off will have their lane assignments pre-determined by Vestavia Bowl (randomly assigned). The teams will bowl 4 games. After the completion of the 4 games, the teams will be ranked from highest to lowest, using total scratch pins, to determine the league champion.
- If a tie should occur, for 1st place only, the two teams will bowl a 1 game roll-off to determine a league champion.

**NON-LEAGUE BOWLERS AND CHILDREN ARE
NOT ALLOWED IN THE BOWLER'S AREA!!
CELL PHONES ARE PERMITTED IN THE BOWLERS AREA,
AS LONG AS THEY ARE NOT DISTURBING ANY OTHER BOWLERS.**