

SSJBA Tour - TOURNAMENT RULES 2019-2020

1. USBC Rules in effect as of the date of competition will govern any tournaments which **SSJBA Tour** conducts this season. Dress code of slacks/skirts/skort/shorts (subject to USBC length guidelines) and a collared shirt will be observed (temporary waivers at first event may be allowed by Tournament Director). No denim, regardless of color. Rule 17d Youth Conduct will be observed. Infractions of rules may disqualify the entrant from continuing in competition. (see more detail in rule 11 below)
2. USBC Rule 400 (Youth Membership Eligibility Rule) will be observed. You must not have attained your 20th birthday at August 1, 2019 to participate. You must apply any more restrictive eligibility requirements if you participate in activity recognized by your State High School Athletic Association. You must not participate in any activity awarding cash or bonds, unless bowler has accepted awards as Scholarship OR properly executed the USBC Singles Competition Prize Waiver. The buying or selling of any earned awards is prohibited. Bowlers not otherwise disqualified by rule 400 and possess a current Special Olympics card, may participate in SSJBA under an age waiver as permitted by USBC rules.
3. Participants must be current USBC Standard Youth members (includes appropriate High School certifications). Bowlers must join SSJBA (the Association) and will be required to pay a \$20.00 annual membership fee prior to participation in any **SSJBA Tour** event. Dues paid during the previous season's last 2 stops will count towards the following season as well. SSJBA may provide personal achievement awards within the restrictions of the appropriate State High School Associations regulations and USBC Rule 400.
4. Tournaments are scratch with three divisions. Masters division is open to all qualified bowlers. Classic division is open to bowlers with SSJBA tournament averages less than 175**. Minors division is open to bowlers with SSJBA tournament averages less than 155**. Past members will be classified prior to any **2019-2020** season competitions. Past SSJBA average, verified USBC Youth average or High School competition average (each of 12+ games) will suffice for entering average. Bowlers may not move to lower division than they previously competed in. Bowlers without an eligible SSJBA average may classify using their highest **2018-2019 certified league average** of 12 or more games, unless their initial competition entry date is preceded by a current season average based on 12+ games. The appropriate average will determine initial division placement. Anyone using their current season average with at least 12 games bowled prior to entry into competition (by closing date of entry) must **VERIFY AVERAGE (standing sheet or appropriate official)**. Anyone without an appropriate, verifiable average will be placed in Masters division for competition. Classic division bowlers will advance to the Masters division, if they have met the following requirements: **SSJBA Tour** average of 175 and a Championship, including a Super Bowl Championship OR an average of 175 maintained for three competitions in which bowler participated. Minors division bowlers will advance to the Classic division, if they have met the following requirements: **SSJBA Tour** average of 155 and a Championship, including a Super Bowl Championship OR an **SSJBA Tour** average of 155 maintained for three competitions in which bowler participated. Voluntary division moves are encouraged to demonstrate a desire to push themselves to the next level of competition.
5. **Tenth Tournament Rule:** In any **SSJBA Tour** season, following completion of competition in tenth tournament, any bowler who has competed in at least six tournaments in that season and meets current requirement for advancement to next higher division may exercise option set by this rule. The bowler may elect to remain in division they are currently competing in until end of the season but they will not be permitted to compete in any subsequent season at average level lower than they have attained at the time they meet the advancement requirement.
6. **Formats:** There are 2 tournament formats. A one-day format consisting of 5 games qualifying followed by a 2-game, total pin, single-elimination bracket. A two-day format consisting of 8 games qualifying on day one with day two consisting of a round-robin match play and a stepladder playoff (the traditional SSJBA format).
7. **Qualifying One-Day Format:** All bowlers will bowl one 5 game block for qualifying and Jr Gold competition, the start of competition is also the closing point for entries. Each division will advance up to the top 8 bowlers to a 2-game, single-elimination bracket. The bracket will be seeded by the final qualifying standings.
8. **Qualifying Two-Day Format:** All bowlers will bowl one 8 game block on Saturday, the start of competition is also the closing point for entries. Semi-finals will include the top bowlers of each division, with..... 8 or less advancing 4; 9 to 12 advancing 6; 13 to 16 advancing 8; 17 to 20 advancing 10; 21 and more advancing 12. If a division has more than 31 entries, at the end of 8 game qualifying round, the top 8 will qualify and the next 8 will bowl additional 4 game block to determine other four competitors who will advance to Sunday match play.
9. **Jr Gold Qualifying.** We will offer the option of Jr Gold qualifying at every tournament. We require a minimum of 5 participants and we will advance at a 5:1 ratio with the major fraction thereof rule in place. Fees are based on the qualifying division(s) which is not necessarily the same at the entrant's division. U20-\$40, U15-\$30, and U12-\$20. At a minimum, U20 advancement will be conducted. Other divisions will be utilized dependent on participants. The participants' standings will be posted separately from the SSJBA tournament standings, since we do not utilize the same division practices as Jr Gold. Jr Gold competition concludes after the 5 or 8 games of SSJBA **qualifying** depending on one-day or two-day format.

10. **Post Qualifying Brackets (One-day)** The top 8(max) bowlers from qualifying will advance to the bracket. The match winner will be the highest 2-game total pin count. Ties will be determined by a 9th and 10th frame roll-off.
11. **Matchplay (Two-day)** Semi-finalists will bowl Sunday (check-in 8:30am, practice 8:55am) alternates are entered no later than 8:55 and match play begins at 9:00 am. Semi-finalists will compete once against each other semi-finalist and a position round. Qualifying pin count **will** carry over from Saturday. Thirty bonus points will be awarded for each match win with fifteen points awarded for a tie. The number of match games bowled will equal the number of semi-finalists in each division. The field will then be cut for the stepladder finals with, 2 of 4, 3 of 6, 4 of 8, & 5 of 10 or 12 advancing.
12. **Finals (Two-day):** The final competition will be a step ladder type roll off (5v4, 4v3, 3v2, 2v1) to determine tournament champion and other final positions, in each division. Championship matches will be on fresh oil when possible.
13. **ENTRY FEES:** Entry fees are \$60.00 for each tournament. Fee breakdown is: \$23.00 (one-day), \$28.00 (two-day) lineage, \$23.00 event scholarship, \$10.00 Super Bowl funds and \$4.00 (one-day) \$0 (two-day) expenses. Primary expenses will be plaques, trophies, and additional scholarships. SCHOLARSHIP FEES RETURNED 100%.
14. **Scholarships:** See prize fund payout sheet for estimate.
15. **TIES:** In case of a tie, for any position which determines if a bowler continues in competition, a ninth and tenth frame roll-off will be used to break the tie. For one-day format, the higher losing score will determine final place standing.
16. **PROPER ATTIRE will be required:** NO head gear not specifically permitted by SSJBA youth dress code is allowed. For ALL competitions, code of slacks/skirts/skorts/shorts and a shirt with collar will be required. An exception may be granted if a mock collar shirt with name affixed on back is substituted for a collared shirt. Bowlers not complying with this rule may be required to change their attire or they may not be permitted to bowl. On Saturday, **if bowler has not bowled in SSJBA Tour competition before**, they may be granted an exception. ALL Bowler Dress must comply for Sunday competition, and any bowler not in compliance on Sunday may be replaced with an alternate. Director may allow USBC jerseys and other Bowling related jerseys in Saturday competitions. The Director has final say on appropriateness of the bowlers' attire.
17. Only entrants or tournament officials are permitted in the bowling area once competition begins. Coaching is allowed outside of the bowling area only.
18. The tournament directors will decide any and all disputes, complaints or protests and will enforce the rules and spirit of SSJBA youth division standards. Director's decision shall be final.
19. The Competitions held on the **SSJBA Tour** may be conducted by use of drafts. The competitor's division shall not determine the draft which one competes in but instead will be determined at each and every competition by composition of entire field. Field shall be sorted by the averages of the competitors present and entered into competition. The first draft shall consist of approximately the top 40% of the field by averages. The second draft shall consist of approximately the next 40% of the field and the third draft shall consist of approximately the final 20% of the field. Drafts may be utilized anytime there are less than 6 competitors for any of the three divisions. Drafts may be utilized anytime there are more than 50% of all competitors in a single division. In the event of a very unbalanced field, an alternate draft field may be used.
20. Super Bowl field shall be no more than 60 competitors (24 in Top draft, 20 in Second draft and 16 in Third draft) selected in proportion to the level of participation in each division. The ratio of competitors to participation levels will approximate a 6:100 minimum (i.e. 600 entries will support a field of at least 36).
21. SSJBA expects a certain level of sportsmanship and courtesy from its bowlers and parents. Do not abuse equipment. Bringing in outside food or drink is never permitted by any establishment. Doing so, presents a negative appreciation towards the bowling centers that have agreed to make concessions for our special demands and at a less than advertised rate. Please be considerate.
22. All bowling balls are subject to inspection before, during, and post competition. Any offense will be addressed immediately and actions will be determined in the spirit of fair competition up to disqualifications, scholarship surrender, and participation bans. Modifications of ball surfaces may be made up to the first ball delivered in competition and between qualifying and the next stage. **Ball cleaning with anything but a dry towel MUST be first approved by a tournament Director.**

**** SSJBA is 100% Sport Shot events so averages are specified as sport adjusted averages. The Standard average refers to "entering" average only.**