



RULES AND SECRETARY INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Eligibility:** All adult league bowlers in participating establishments are eligible to enter during the week of December 4-10, 2016.

SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS: Leagues which bowl every other week and are not scheduled during the December 4-10, 2016 week, **MAY** enter with their league scores of the previous week, November 27-December 3. Bowlers in six man teams scheduled **NOT** to bowl the week of December 4-10 may enter with scores of the previous week. In case of an "Act of God" (inclement weather, etc.), leagues forced to be absent during Contest Week may enter with their scores of December 11-17, 2016.

Not eligible to win establishment plaques, or to advance to roll-offs: Proprietors and members of their families, any currently exempt PBA bowlers or PBA bowlers who have won a national title, or employees of Chicago Sun-Times and their families. Such persons, however, **ARE** eligible to compete for and win "I Beat the Champion" and league awards. *Any employee of any bowling establishment may participate if otherwise eligible.*

100% LEAGUE PARTICIPATION: Leagues with a minimum of 24 members that enter their entire league at 100% will automatically qualify their highest league bowler into the BTC Sectional Roll-offs. Mixed Leagues will advance the High Man and High Woman.

A league will be considered to have 100% participation when all eligible bowlers, less permanent vacancies and/or any ineligible bowlers are entered in the Contest. League must pay entry fee for all absent bowlers to be considered.

***GENDER RULING*:** To advance one male and one female representative from a 100% participation league to the sectional roll-offs, the total membership of the league must comprise a minimum of 20% of the lesser gender in order for the lesser gender to advance. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

All TIES for the final qualifying spot for advancement to the sectional roll-offs of a **100% league or establishment** will be settled by **using the bowler's 3-game scratch series in the next scheduled week of league play** in which the bowlers involved in the **tie** are scheduled to bowl, **plus handicap used in the contest's initial qualifying week.**

2. **ENTRY FEE is \$3.00.** A Bowler may enter as many times as he/she bowls in a league during the Contest Week, paying \$3.00 each time.
3. **Entry Cards** available from Proprietors (*or at control counter*). Bowler should fill in name, address, phone number, email, bowling establishment and LEAGUE NUMBER in spaces provided. (*Proprietor or counter can supply LEAGUE NUMBER*). **Please print clearly in ink.** Only scores on official cards accepted. Men cards white and women cards yellow.
4. **Handicaps:** Bowlers receive handicap of 90% of the difference between the league **average used that league session**, and the scratch figure of 210 per game. Average must be based on at least 9 games.

***OFFICIAL HANDICAP TABLE IS PROVIDED.
DO NOT USE YOUR LEAGUES HANDICAPS!***

5. SCORING: NO Individual or Team PREBOWL or POSTBOWL SCORES are accepted!

- a. Bowlers use regular 3-game league series actual score plus BTC handicap to determine contest score. Scores should be filled in on entry card in space provided. **BE SURE to ENTER the LEAGUE AVERAGE USED THAT NIGHT in DETERMINING HANDICAP.**
- b. **If you have TIES** for 1st Place in Leagues, or for qualifying to advance to sectional roll-offs, **settle ties by roll-off**, using the 3 game league series in the next scheduled week of league play in which the bowlers involved in the tie are scheduled to bowl, letting bowlers use same handicaps they used in the contest originally.

6. SECRETARY: Your Proprietor will provide you with a “**LEAGUE SUMMARY SHEET**”. Please fill out this sheet completely and carefully, printing names and addresses, using a pen. This is the form which will be used to put your bowlers’ names in the paper, and which will determine your award winners. (Also, please include your name, email and phone number on the sheet). After completing this form - **TURN INTO THE CENTER THE WHITE COPY OF THE SUMMARY SHEET, TOGETHER WITH ALL THE ENTRY CARDS FROM YOUR LEAGUE** in the envelope you will receive from your proprietor. **LEAVE THE YELLOW COPY OF THE SUMMARY SHEET WITH YOUR PROPRIETOR.** Again, make sure you turn in **EVERY** card.

7. IMPORTANT . . . YOU MUST TURN OVER ALL ENTRY FEES TO YOUR PROPRIETOR THE NIGHT YOU COLLECT THEM . . .

DO NOT MAIL YOUR ENTRIES OR FEES TO THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES!

YOUR PROPRIETOR WILL WRITE ONE CHECK ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE CENTER and SEND IT TO THE BPA.

8. PRIZES IN THE CONTEST WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

- a. Our “Champions” will bowl a special series in late December to establish the target scores.
- b. All men bowlers whose contest score betters that of the man champion will receive a special “I Beat the Champion” award. All women bowlers whose contest score betters that of the woman champion will receive a special “I Beat the Champion” award.
- c. High man and high woman in each participating center will receive a special “Establishment Winner” award.
- d. Each participating Establishment will qualify bowlers for sectional roll-offs as follows: **One man for each 300 contest entries in establishment, one woman for each 250 contest entries.** Each establishment shall qualify at least one man and one woman. Bowlers will be re-handicapped for roll-offs. **IMPORTANT: - All bowlers in the roll-offs will be re-handicapped on the basis of early February averages, (of at least 21 games), with no drop in average allowed from the entering average of December 4-10. No bowlers in the roll-offs will be permitted to use an average more than 5 (five) pins below his/her final 2015-16 average. Maximum handicap permitted in roll-offs will be based on a 120 average for women and a 140 average for men. All ties for awards, trophies and for last qualifying spot in establishment must be settled by roll-off. The bowler’s 3-game scratch series in the next scheduled week of league play in which the bowlers involved in the tie are scheduled to bowl, plus handicap used in the contest’s initial qualifying week.**

The contest committee reserves the right to assign a higher average for any individual for the sectional roll offs and/or finals. If not accepted, individual will be disqualified and replaced by the next eligible bowler from the same establishment.

NOTE: No bowler may participate more than once in sectional roll-offs. If individual bowler qualifies from more than one establishment, bowler must represent establishment where he/she had **higher contest score**. A total of 32 men and 32 women will qualify for the final roll-offs, with the places to be pro-rated among sections in proportion to their total entry count.

- e. **FINALS:** The Men’s and Women’s Champion in the Finals will each receive a Grand Prize of \$7,500. Merchandise prizes will be awarded to all other finalists.
- f. There will be no charge of any kind for bowler to pay in any roll-off.

NOTE: Make sure to look at our POPULAR LEAGUE INCENTIVE OFFER for 100% League Member sign-up for the 2016-17 BTC Contest.