

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** All current season Ohio State USBC certified members (female) who have averaged 170 (Standard) or higher for 21 games or more in an Ohio State USBC certified league in any one of the past three seasons, or who have a current season Ohio State USBC certified average at the time of entry closing of at least 170 with a minimum of 12 games are eligible to participate in this tournament. Adjusted Sport or Challenge averages may be used to determine a 170 (Standard) average or higher. Youth eligibility — See USBC Rule 400.
2. **ENTRY FEE:** Guaranteed advance entry fee - \$120.00. Walk-in entries accepted no later than 1 hour prior to squad time based on lane availability - \$145.00 – NO CHECKS, cash and credit card only. A portion of the walk-in fee will be added to the prize fund.
3. **WAITING LIST:** In the event the tournament field is filled prior to the entry closing date, the entrant will be placed on a waiting list based on the date the entry is received. If cancellations are received by the tournament manager prior to Thursday midnight the week of the tournament, these positions will be offered to the person(s) on the waiting list.
4. **CHECK IN & SUBSTITUTES:** All participants must check in at the tournament office one hour prior to their scheduled bowling time. If an entrant has not checked in at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the competition, her position will be offered to any available, eligible bowler. Should an entrant be unable to participate, she may send a substitute, providing the replacement meets the entering requirement. Substitutes for the Qualifying round must check in an hour and a half prior to the squad time the original entrant was scheduled. The substitute bowler will pay the entry fee (cash only) and the original entrant's fee will be refunded. If there are more eligible bowlers than positions available, first come, first served will determine who receives the position(s).
5. **SQUAD TIMES:** **SATURDAY**, January 25th – 11:00 am. **QUALIFYING** for all bowlers. **SATURDAY** – 3:00 pm. **SEMI-FINALS** for the top half of the qualifying match. The top seeded bowlers from the Semi-Finals will advance to a double elimination format. **SUNDAY**, January 26th – Double elimination match play begins at 9:00 am., subsequent matches – 10:00 am., 11:00 am., 12:00 noon, 1:00 pm., & 2:00 pm. Stepladder finals – **SUNDAY** – 3:00 pm.
6. **TOURNAMENT FORMAT:** This is an individual match game tournament conducted on a scratch basis.  
**QUALIFYING AND SEMI-FINALS** – All bowlers in the 11:00 am. squad will bowl six (6) games across 12 lanes. Each succeeding game shall be started, alternating between odd and even lanes. The top scoring half of the entrants from qualifying squad will advance to the semifinal round. All semifinalists in the 3:00 pm. squad will roll six (6) games across 12 lanes. (all total pins will be carried over to the semifinals from the qualifying round) There will be NO RE-OIL between qualifying and semi-qualifying rounds. The top 16 bowlers shall advance from the Semi-Finals to double elimination match play. (all total pins from the semi-final round will be dropped prior to double elimination match play) For all TIES, see Rule #7.  
**STEPLADDER FINALS** – After the 2:00 p.m. round, there will be five (5) bowlers remaining. The winner of the winner's bracket shall be seeded in the first position. The last person eliminated from the winner's bracket will be the 2nd seed. The position of the three (3) bowlers in the contender's bracket shall be determined on their previous two (2) games bowled, the highest total score being seeded third and so on. The bowler in the 4th position shall bowl the bowler seeded 5th, with the winner of the match to bowl the 3rd seed, etc. These shall be one game matches. Should the winner of the winner's bracket (number one seed) lose her match, another complete game will be rolled as she will have only lost one match. For all TIES, see Rule #7.
7. **TIES: QUALIFYING** – One half of the scheduled entrants from each qualifying round, including any fractional part and all last place ties in each qualifying round, will advance to the semifinal round. **SEMIFINALS** – In the case of a tie for last place, there shall be an immediate 9th & 10th frame roll off. Should a tie still exist, 9th & 10th frame roll offs will continue until tie is broken. **SUNDAY MATCH PLAY AND STEPLADDER FINALS** – A complete 9th and 10th frame shall be rolled on one pair of lanes. Should there be a tie for positions three (3) through five (5) in the stepladder finals, there shall be an immediate 9th & 10th frame roll off.
8. **TOURNAMENT CONDITION:** A tournament “**CHALLENGE PATTERN**” (as defined by USBC) will be used for tournament competition. Contestants may not practice in the tournament house on tournament days except during stepladder finals.
9. **PRACTICE TIME:** Contestants will receive 8 minutes of practice balls on their starting lanes prior to the start of Qualifying, and Semifinals and Double Elimination. Contestants will receive 2 practice balls on each lane before all subsequent Double Elimination matches. Contestants will receive 4 practice balls on each lane prior to the start of the Stepladder Finals. While waiting to bowl in the Stepladder Finals, the contestants will be afforded a pair of lanes for 8 minutes per contestant before their turn to bowl. If there is a lane equipment malfunction during tournament competition which requires the bowlers to be moved to another pair of working lanes – the bowlers will start their tournament competition from the point of interruption with NO practice/shadow balls on the new pair of lanes.
10. **EQUIPMENT MODIFICATION:** Altering the surface of a bowling ball as defined by the modified USBC rule for the 2020-2021 season (USBC Rule 18) while bowling in USBC certified competition will be strictly enforced. One verbal warning will be given, and the altered equipment will be removed from the competition. A second infraction during the tournament will result in immediate disqualification. Equipment modifications/resurfacing is only permitted before the official start of qualifying rounds, semi-final rounds and matches for match play competition. Equipment modifications/resurfacing is not permitted between games at any time during official competition. All balls used in qualifying rounds, semi-final rounds, and matches must be physically in the building by the end of practice for that event. After obtaining permission from a Tournament Official, cleaning a ball with a USBC approved cleaner is allowed. **EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATION CHANGE:** Effective August 1, 2020, balance holes are not permitted in USBC competition. All affected equipment must be removed from play at discovery.
11. **ALTERING THE APPROACH:** (USBC Rule 12) Use of foreign substances which come in contact with the approaches or lanes is prohibited.
12. **DRESS CODE:** All players are requested to wear suitable attire for a **STATE QUEEN'S TOURNAMENT**. **SKIRTS** (fingertip length), or **SLACKS** are preferred. **JEANS, COLORED JEANS, SHORT SHORTS, LOW RIDING BOTTOMS, SWEAT PANTS OR LEGGINGS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. ALL SLEEVELESS TOPS MUST HAVE COLLARS.** Bowlers will be required to change if attired is deemed inappropriate by tournament management. **NON-MEDICAL HEADGEAR AND/OR NECKWEAR** (iPods, earphones, hats, cell phone accessories, etc.) **WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.** No obscene printing on anything. One verbal warning will be given. Second infraction will result in immediate disqualification. Tournament management's decisions regarding appropriate dress will be final.
13. **PRIZE PAYOUT RATIO:** All prize fees will be returned to participants based on at least one prize for every six entries.
14. **PAID ENTRY:** The winner of this year's tournament shall receive an award and a paid entry into the following years Ohio State USBC Queen's Tournament.
15. **ETIQUETTE:** An entrant, while participating in a scheduled event, may be disqualified for any of the following reasons: (a) An infraction of the rules. (b) Conduct derogatory to the best interests of the tournament. All players are requested to turn off their cell phone ringers during competition. We ask that you minimize your cell phone usage during tournament competition.
16. **PUBLICITY:** All participants agree to allow the Ohio State USBC to use their photograph for publicity purposes. In the event the Ohio State USBC arranges for telecasts or broadcasts of the tournament, it would be without cost to participants and participants would not share any revenue derived therefrom.
17. **DISPUTES:** The Tournament Official shall have the power to hear and act on disputes, complaints or protests relating to the tournament. The decision of the official are final except when an appeal is made to the Ohio State USBC or USBC National Headquarters.
18. **USBC Rules** will govern all bowling during the tournament. The bowler, by voluntary participation in the tournament, agrees to comply with the final decision of the Tournament Manager and the Tournament Official.

THE ENTRANT WHOSE NAME APPEARS HEREON OR HER REPLACEMENT HEREBY AGREE THAT THE OHIO STATE USBC, ITS OFFICERS AND AGENTS SHALL BE LIABLE ONLY TO THE EXTENT OF RETURNING ENTRY FEES IF AND WHEN THE ENTRANT SHALL BE PREVENTED FROM BOWLING IN THE TOURNAMENT THROUGH PREMATURE TERMINATION OF THE TOURNAMENT, WHICH MAY BE BROUGHT ABOUT BY WAR, NATIONAL EMERGENCY, ACTS OF TERRORISM OR EMERGENCIES OR CAUSES RELATING THERETO OR RESULTING THEREFROM FIRES, STRIKES, LOCKOUTS, LABOR DIFFICULTIES OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE OHIO STATE USBC.