

Rules & Regulations

1. ORGANISATION & SANCTION

1.1 This International Bowling Championship is organized by the Singapore Bowling Federation and sanctioned by ABF and IBF. World Bowling Playing Rules as of September 2019 shall apply on matters not covered herein.

1.2 This tournament will be held from 30 May – 13 June 2025 at SingaporeBowling@ Rifle Range.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 All current members of SBF Member Clubs of good standing and foreign bowlers accredited by their respective Congress/Federation/Association are eligible to participate in this tournament. Bowlers will be classified based on their country of citizenship.

2.2 (a) The SBF official average as at 31 December 2024 for local bowlers shall be used for purposes of classification, subject to the bowlers having completed a minimum of 18 games. Bowlers without the minimum requirement of 18 games must submit certified confirmation showing the scores of ALL GAMES bowled in SBF sanctioned leagues and tournaments.

(b) Overseas bowlers must submit a certification or proof of their averages as attested to by the officials of their respective Congress/Federation/ Association.

2.3 Irrespective of average, a bowler who has won in a Graded 'B' or 'A' Masters in an SBF or ABF/IBF sanctioned tournament in year 2023, 2024 and 2025 is not allowed to participate in a similar and/or lower graded division of this tournament but can participate in a higher grade.

It is the responsibility of the bowler to ascertain whether he/she is qualified to bowl in the graded divisions under this rule.

3. CLASSIFICATION / FORMAT OF PLAY

Bowlers must meet the requirement of the below classifications for the respective divisions. A lower grade bowler playing in a higher grade will have his/her score classified according to the grade entered for.

3.1 GENDER SPECIFIC DIVISIONS

OPEN: All male and female bowlers, regardless of average, are eligible to participate in this division. Open division will be classic format.

MEN'S GRADED 'A': All male bowlers (who were not on the Singapore National Programme from 2022 onwards), AND WITH AN AVERAGE OF 200 AND BELOW.

MEN'S GRADED 'B': All male bowlers with AN AVERAGE OF 180 AND BELOW are eligible to participate in this division.

WOMEN'S GRADED: All female bowlers with AN AVERAGE OF 190 AND BELOW are eligible to participate in this division.

YOUTH: All boys and girls who are born in year 2004 and after.

UNDER 18: All boys and girls who are born in year 2007 and after.

UNDER 16: All boys and girls who are born in year 2009 and after.

UNDER 12: All boys and girls who are born in year 2013 and after.

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3.2 MIXED SENIORS DIVISION

All Male & female bowlers born in 1975 and before.

Handicap: One (1) pin handicap will be given to bowlers born in year 1969 and before and thereafter, one (1) pin for 1-year age ascending. Female bowlers will receive additional fifteen (15) pins per game throughout the whole tournament. *Please refer to the handicap chart.

3.3 LANE MOVEMENT FOR QUALIFYING MQ BLOCKS

All MQ games will be played on cross lanes, with no lane change and up to maximum of 4 bowlers/pair of lanes. There will be a 5 minutes practice throw at the start of each MQ block. Lane assignment for MQ blocks will be at random regardless of division/gender.

4. ENTRY FEES

4.1 The Registration Fee is chargeable based on the division that the bowler wishes to participate in. Should the bowler wish to participate in a higher division, the bowler will pay to top up the difference (Only applicable for divisions that are MQ format).

Example 1: Registrant takes part in Under 16 Girls, and has just decided to also participate in the Women's Graded Division, she will have to pay the difference of \$20 and she can play Women's Graded. She will then purchase Women's Graded MQ to play.

If a bowler is participating in other division and has decided to also play in the Open division, he/she has to pay the full fee of the Open category.

Example 2: Registrant takes part in Youth Boys, and has just decided to also participate in the Men's Open category. He will have to pay the full fee of \$900.

Division	Registration Fee	MQ Fee	Masters Final Fee
Men's Open	\$900.00	N.A.	All-inclusive with registration fee
Women's Open	\$860.00	N.A.	All-inclusive with registration fee
Men's Graded 'A'	\$90.00	\$65.00	\$160.00
Men's Graded 'B'	\$90.00	\$65.00	\$120.00
Women's Graded	\$90.00	\$55.00	\$120.00
Mixed Seniors	\$90.00	\$55.00	\$140.00
Youth Boys / Girls	\$90.00	\$45.00	\$120.00
Under 18 Boys / Girls	\$90.00	\$30.00	\$80.00
Under 16 Boys / Girls	\$70.00	\$30.00	\$60.00
Under 12 Boys / Girls	\$70.00	\$30.00	\$60.00
Top up to a higher division *only applicable to U12/U16 who wants to play in other divisions (except Open)	\$20.00	-	-
Desperado Squad (Men's/ Women's Open & Men's Graded 'A' / 'B' & Mixed Seniors)	-	\$120.00	-

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4.2 No refund shall be made after an entry has been registered and accepted.

4.3 A participant who fails to show up or is late for the scheduled squad shall be disqualified from participation in that squad and the entry fee forfeited.

5. REGISTRATION & SQUAD BOOKINGS

5.1 Registration of entries and squad bookings can only be made physically in person at Singapore Bowling Federation. No calls/messages will be entertained.

The following will apply for local participants:

- All Registration & MQ chits must be duly paid and filled up correctly. Unpaid and/or incomplete chits will be voided.
- No refunds once the MQ chits are sold and paid, including No-shows (applicable to ALL participants).
- No reservations of squads will be entertained without a paid chit submission.
- Changes to squad schedules will be permitted provided lanes have not been drawn for the squad requested and if there are vacancies for the preferred squad (applicable to ALL participants).

5.2 SQUAD BOOKING PRACTICE

- Once your squad booking is confirmed during the advance booking period, no changes will be entertained. Any request for changes can only be made onsite during the tournament period, subject to availability.
- Transferring of squad booking is not allowed if the squad is full. Once a booking is withdrawn, the slot shall go to the next bowler on the waiting list.
- Withdrawal of chits from a booked MQ squad will not be allowed within 30 mins prior to the start of the MQ squad.
- All booking/change requests must be made in person or with proof for proxy.

6. SQUAD SCHEDULES

6.1 The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject an entry, postpone, add/cancel any squad time. The tournament director reserves the right to reallocate squad times.

6.2 If the preferred squad times indicated on the entry forms are not available, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to reallocate squad times at their discretion.

6.3 All 2300hrs squads from 30 May 2025 – 6 June 2025 will require a minimum of 20 confirmed entries (with MQ Chits submitted) in order to proceed.

6.4 Desperado Squad (Men's / Women Open Division / Men's Graded A / B & Mixed Seniors Division only)

The Desperado squad will consist of 1 game. For the Men's / Women's Open Division, only bowlers who completed all 3 blocks, are eligible to compete in the Desperado Squad. For other Divisions, bowlers who have a minimum of 4 MQ ATTEMPTS in their respective registered categories are eligible to compete in the Desperado Squad.

The Top 3 Male and the Top 2 Female Qualifiers from the Open Division and the Top 4 Male Qualifiers from the Men's Graded A / B & Mixed Seniors Division shall qualify for the Masters Final. (There must be a Minimum of 6 registered entries in each category in order to proceed with the Desperado Squad).

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7. MASTER EVENT QUALIFIERS

7.1 The qualifying scores will be based on the best 2 MQ attempts (total of 6 games) from the Masters Qualifying (3 games per qualifying attempt) in the respective divisions.

7.2 All the top qualifiers based on the Masters Qualifying score, will be listed on the Tournament Projector Screen and on our Telegram Channel (SBF Updates) from the start of the qualifying rounds till the end of the last squad.

7.3 It is the responsibility of the qualifiers to confirm their fixtures and/or to check for any changes in the schedule, before their Masters Finals roll-off.

7.4 The tournament director reserves the right to increase the number of Masters Event Qualifiers in the event of overwhelming response in the division. Should this happen, it will be reflected on the affected division's scoresheet and announced on the Tournament Notice Board.

7.5 See Point 9 for the number of qualifiers and Masters Event format.

8. TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE

8.1 When a tie is registered in the Masters Qualifying Events, the player with the highest game (with handicap, if applicable) in the qualifying series, shall advance. If this still ends in a tie, the next high game will be counted, and / or repeated until the tie is broken.

8.2 When a tie is registered in the Masters Event, the player with the least difference between the highest and lowest game (with handicap, if applicable) in the Masters Event series, shall advance. If this still ends in a tie, the player with the highest game (with handicap, if applicable), shall advance.

8.3 When a tie is registered in the Step Ladder Event, a 9th and 10th frame roll-off shall be used, and/or repeated until the tie is broken.

9. MASTERS EVENT FORMAT

9.1 MEN'S OPEN

Round 1 – (1) Defending Champion + (10) 5th to 14th Local Qualifiers + (10) 5th to 14th Overseas Qualifiers + (12) Top 12 Qualifiers from Mixed Pool (Local/Overseas) + (3) Top 3 Qualifiers from Desperado Squad. Total 36 Finalists will bowl 8 games scratch. The total 8 games combined pinfalls will determine the Top 16 Bowlers who will advance to Round 2.

Round 2 – (16) Top 16 Bowlers from Round 1 + (4) 1st to 4th Local Qualifiers + (4) 1st to 4th Overseas Qualifiers. Total 24 Finalists will bowl 8 games. Top 4 bowlers from Round 2 will advance to the Step Ladder Event.

9.2 WOMEN'S OPEN

Round 1 – (1) Defending Champion + (7) 4th to 10th Local Qualifiers + (7) 4th to 10th Overseas Qualifiers + (11) Top 11 Qualifiers from Mixed Pool (Local/Overseas) + (2) Top 2 Qualifiers from Desperado Squad. Total 28 Finalists will bowl 8 games scratch. The total 8 games combined pinfalls will determine the Top 12 Bowlers who will advance to Round 2.

Round 2 – (12) Top 12 Bowlers from Round 1 + (3) 1st to 3rd Local Qualifiers + (3) 1st to 3rd Overseas Qualifiers. Total 18 Finalists will bowl 8 games. Top 4 bowlers from Round 2 will advance to the Step Ladder Event.

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9.3 ALL OTHER RESPECTIVE DIVISIONS

Division	Male	Female	Total
Men's Graded 'A'	Top 26 finalists + Top 4 from Desperado Squad	-	30
Men's Graded 'B'^	Top 20 finalists + Top 4 from Desperado Squad	-	24
Women's Graded^	-	Top 16	16
Mixed Seniors (Handicap Applicable)	Top 6	Top 6	30
	Top 14 from Mixed Gender Pool + Top 4 from Desperado Squad		
Youth^	Top 24	Top 24	48
Under 18^	Top 24	Top 24	48
Under 16^	Top 24	Top 24	48
Under 12^	Top 24	Top 24	48

In the respective Division's Masters Event, the finalists will play 8 games scratch (unless otherwise specified). The total 8 games combined pinfalls will determine the final positions for 5th placing onwards, and the Top 4 bowlers will then proceed to the Step Ladder Event.

9.4 MASTERS EVENT FORMAT OF PLAY & LANE CHANGE

The Masters Event will be played on cross lanes, with **lane change after every 2 games**. Bowlers on the odd numbered lanes will move 2 pairs of lanes to the left, and bowlers on the even numbered lanes will move 2 pairs of lanes to the right. A lane draw for the starting lane will be administered upon Masters Check-in.

10. DEFENDING CHAMPIONS (OPEN DIVISION ONLY)

The Defending Champions (DC) for the Open divisions shall have a guaranteed spot in Round 1 for their respective Masters event even if they don't play in the qualifying event(s). Should the Defending Champion's spot in Round 1 be vacant, it shall be filled by the bowler from the mixed pool reserve list. In the event that the number of prioritized local/overseas qualifiers is not met, the DC's vacancy shall then be filled by the respective reserve list.

11. CHECK-IN PROCEDURE – MASTERS EVENTS

All Masters finalists are to check-in personally at the tournament desk at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time for the Masters Event, failing which he/she will be disqualified and the respective reserve(s) will be called. Calls will be made onsite, at 3 minutes, 2 minutes and 1 minute prior to check-in time. The clock in the bowling centre will be the official timepiece.

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11.1 In the event that a Masters Qualifier from a prioritized group being absent, the vacancy will be filled from the same prioritized list, i.e:

- Masters Qualifier from the Open Division Local Pool being absent, the vacancy will be filled from the Local Pool Reserve List.
- Masters Qualifier from Open Division Overseas Pool being absent, the vacancy will be filled from the Overseas Pool Reserve List.
- Masters Qualifier from the Open Division Mixed Pool (Local/Overseas) being absent, the vacancy will be filled from the Mixed Pool (Local/Overseas) Reserve List.
- Masters Qualifier from the Desperado Squad being absent, the vacancy will be filled from the Desperado Squad, next bowler on the list (i.e 5th position in the Men's Graded 'A' Division, 4th Position in the Men's Open Division, 3rd Position in the Women's Open Division).

12. STEP LADDER EVENT FORMAT

- **Quarter Final** – Seed #4 vs Seed #3. Bowlers will bowl one game each. The bowler with the higher score will advance to the Semi Final, and the Non-winner's position will be finalized at 4th.
- **Semi Final** – Winner of the Quarter Final vs Seed #2. Bowlers will bowl one game each. The bowler with the higher score will advance to the Grand Final, and the Non-winner's position will be finalized at 3rd.
- **Grand Final** – Winner of Semi Final vs Seed #1. Bowlers will bowl one game each. In the event the Seed #1 bowler wins the 1st game, he/she will be declared the champion. Should the Seed #1 bowler lose the 1st game, there shall be a one game roll off from scratch to decide the Champion.

Respective Handicap for bowlers in the Mixed Seniors division will still be applicable for the Step Ladder Event.

13. BOWLERS' ATTIRE

Bowlers are required to be properly and appropriately dressed for bowling. If, in the opinion of the Tournament Director a bowler is not appropriately dressed, he/she may not be permitted to bowl. Male bowlers must wear pants or slacks and are not allowed to wear sleeveless shirts and/or shorts, Bermuda shorts; female bowlers may wear skirts, shorts, pants, slacks or dress shorts. **MALE AND FEMALE BOWLERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO WEAR JEANS.**

In the event of TV coverage, it is the prerogative of the Tournament Manager to stipulate the attire to be worn.

14. BOWLING BALLS

14.1 It is the bowler's responsibility to ensure that all bowling balls used during the tournament are verified for correctness of weight and other specifications conforming to International Bowling Federation Rules and Regulations. The Tournament/Technical Committee reserves the right to examine the balls used by the participants. Use of an illegal ball is grounds for disqualification and forfeiture of all games, prizes and standings aside from any other penalties that may be imposed.

14.2 Altering the bowling ball's surface is only allowed in the designated area during official practice. Altering the surface of the bowling ball is not allowed during or in between games. If the surface is adjusted during a game, the penalty is zero pinfalls in that game. The resurfaced bowling ball will also not be allowed to be used throughout the remainder of the block.

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14.3 The specification eliminating the use of balance holes will be in effect for this tournament.

15. SLOW BOWLING

Slow bowling is strictly not allowed and bowlers must bowl when it is their turn to do so. Players preparing to step on the approach and deliver a ball shall have the following rights and obligations:

15.1 They may claim right of way only over a player moving to the approach on preparing to bowl on the lane immediately to their left.

15.2 They shall yield to a player moving to the approach or preparing to bowl on the lane immediately on their right.

15.3 They shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery if the lanes immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left are clear.

15.4 A player is given 30 seconds from the moment the previous bowler steps down from the approach to the time the ball leaves the hand of the bowler. Officials will be using stopwatches to randomly check the timing of the bowlers in their delivery.

15.5 If a player does not observe the procedures outlined in Clause 15, it may be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows:

- A white card for the first offence (no penalty)
- A yellow card for the second offence (no penalty)
- Red card for the third and succeeding offence in any block of games, penalty shall be zero pinfalls for the frame.

16. PRIZES/AWARDS/TROPHIES

16.1 Prizes in the form of Cash Vouchers/ Products and trophies/medals will be awarded to the winners of the various divisions/gender from the Masters Event and/or Step Ladder Event, and cannot be exchanged. Bowling Centre House Awards DO NOT APPLY.

16.2 Perfect Game Award of S\$5,000.00 CASH will be shared equally amongst bowlers who attain perfect games during the qualifying rounds (Daily Designated MQ). The Daily Designated MQ will be drawn before the 1st qualifying MQ of each day.

16.3 For Open Division, Perfect Game Award of S\$5,000.00 CASH will be shared equally amongst bowlers who attain perfect games during their qualifying blocks.

Foreign bowlers are liable for withholding tax on all prize monies received.

17. INTERRUPTED GAME(S)

17.1 The Tournament Director may authorize the completion of a game and series on another pair of lanes when equipment failure on the lanes would delay the normal progress of the series. An interrupted game and series that cannot be completed must resume from the point of interruption.

17.2 In the event if the score of any game is lost and/or erased and cannot be recalled and/or traced due to power or equipment failure, the bowler concerned will be required to re-bowl a new game when the power supply resumes or equipment is repaired. However, all scores of completed games that have been recorded in the official score sheet shall remain unchanged.

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18. LANE BREAKDOWN

18.1 If a pair of lanes becomes unusable or unplayable before or during the squad games as determined by the tournament director or its assigned official, any available pair of lanes provided by the bowling centre shall be assigned to affected participant(s) or shall wait for the next available squad. Any interrupted game(s) or series must resume from the point (frame) of interruption. Practice throws (if any) shall be given at the discretion of the Participating Centre Manager. In the event that a next available squad is offered in place, participants will be given the same amount of practice time as accorded to the rest of the squad.

18.2 In the event where the wait for rectification is more than 15 minutes on the same lanes, the affected bowler(s) will be entitled to 1 warm up shot on the lane(s) once the fault is resolved.

18.3 Should a change of lane be required, the affected bowler(s) will be entitled to 2 practice throws on the lane.

19. PROTESTS

19.1 Eligibility

Protests involving eligibility or general playing rules must be submitted in writing to the Technical Committee no later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred or before prize presentation, whichever is sooner. If no written protest is filed prior to the expiration period as stated above, the game or games shall stand as bowled. Each protest under this rule shall not be construed to cover a similar or previous violation. The use of any live stream videos for the purpose of a protest will not be entertained.

19.2 All Other Protests

Protests involving the Qualifying Event(s) must be lodged with the Tournament Committee in writing, no later than 2 hours after the completion of the squad in which the protest has arisen. When a protest involves the Masters Event, such a protest must be lodged with the Tournament Committee on the spot, in any case before the commencement of the Match Play Event. Protests involving the Match Play Event must be brought to the attention of the Tournament Committee on the spot.

No protests will be entertained after the presentation of prizes.

19.3 Withholding of Prizes

When a protest is lodged involving the final positions in any event and pending the decisions of appeals to either SBF or ABF/IBF, the Tournament Director reserves the right to withhold presentation of prizes for the event pending the outcome of the appeal.

19.4 Error in Scoring

The Tournament Officials, immediately upon discovery of such errors, will correct errors in scoring or calculation. Protests involving errors in scoring will only be entertained if such protests are brought to the attention of the Tournament Director or his appointed official on duty on the spot.

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19.5 Fouls

Protests involving fouls must be brought to the attention of the Lane Marshal before the delivery of the next ball. No protest will be entertained after the bowler has made his/her second delivery of the frame.

20. VERIFICATION OF SCORES

It is the bowler's responsibility to ensure that the correct score for each game bowled is recorded in the official score sheet by signing in the official score sheet, which will be used as the official score record. Once signed, the scores shall stand unless otherwise decided by the Tournament Committee. If the official score sheet is not signed for any reason, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse acceptance of the score sheet.

21. ERRORS

Errors in scoring or in calculation must be corrected by a responsible tournament official immediately, upon discovery. The tournament director shall decide questionable errors. The time limit for registering protests on scoring errors shall be one hour from the end of the squad for each day of the tournament. Each protest under this rule must be specific in it and shall not be construed to cover a previous or similar violation.

22. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The tournament director whose decision shall be governed by International Bowling Federation General Rules & Regulations, shall decide on any matter arising, which is not covered in these Rules & Regulations. Such a decision shall be final, subject only to an appeal to be made in writing to Singapore Bowling Federation General Council within 24 hours of the decision of the tournament director.

23. INTERPRETRATION CLAUSE

23.1 The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any entry as they deem fit.

23.2 Any matters arising that are not covered in these Tournament Rules and Regulations, will be decided upon by the Tournament Committee (through adoption of the IBF Playing Rules and Regulations). The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final subject only to appeal to SBF, which must be made in writing within one-week of the decision.

24. ABF ADJUDICATION

Notwithstanding Rule #23, an appeal may be submitted in writing to the Asian Bowling Federation through SBF within 30 days of SBF's decision for final adjudication.