Eastern PA Regional Bowling Championships

The Eastern PA Championships are an interscholastic invitational tournament being conducted by high school officials affiliated with the Berks County Interscholastic Bowling League, the Lancaster-Lebanon Bowling League, Heartland Conference and the Suburban One Bowling League. Any PIAA-approved high school bowling program from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 12 is eligible to be invited to these championships.

Although not affiliated with the PIAA, this tournament is run in accordance with their by-laws; the intent of these championships is to determine regional qualifiers for the Pennsylvania State High School Championships. Furthermore, while USBC playing rules are enforced, this tournament is no longer USBC sanctioned.

Although the Eastern PA Championships are an "invitational" tournament, invitations will be based on specific qualifying criteria that are spelled out in the rules section. The championships will recognize both a boys and girls team champion as well as a boys and girls individual champion. All bowling results will be based on scratch pinfall. **For this year, singles will consist of a max 144 boys and 112 girls, while the team division will consist of 36 boys teams and 20 girls teams.**

RULES for the Eastern PA Interscholastic Bowling Championships:

1. Qualifying will be based on two-step form. Each league will be given a set number of automatic qualifying spots. The remaining spots will be given as "at-large" invites based on a compiled list of singles and team averages of those that did not earn league automatic spots. As a result, the following leagues will be allowed to qualify the following number of teams and singles:

- Berks County..... 1 boys teams, 1 girls teams, 16 boys singles, 16 girls singles
- Lancaster-Lebanon..... 1 boys teams, 0 girls teams, 24 boys singles, 20 girls singles
- Suburban One..... 1 boys teams, 1 girls teams, 18 boys singles, 16 girls singles
- Heartland Conference..... 1 boys teams, 1 girls teams, 12 boys singles, 12 girls singles
- Phila. Catholic League ..... 1 boys teams, 1 girls teams, 10 boys singles, 7 girls singles
- Harrisburg Interscholastic .. 1 boys teams, 0 girls teams, 10 boys singles, 5 girls singles
- York/Adams League ..... 1 boys teams, 0 girls teams, 8 boys singles, 4 girls singles
- Bicentennial League..... 1 boys teams, 1 girls teams, 5 boys singles, 3 girls singles
- Philadelphia Public** ..... 0 boys teams, 0 girls teams, 3 boys singles, 2 girls singles#
- Independent League. ..... 1 boys teams, 1 girls teams, 12 boys singles, 10 girls singles#
- Wildcard Singles Qualifying Tournament ..... no teams, 5 boys singles, 4 girls singles#

***# numbers subject to change depending on number of participants*

Each league's criteria for determining how teams and singles qualify must be approved by the tournament committee.

2. Each league coordinator is responsible for sending a complete list of teams and individuals that have automatically qualified by **11am Sunday, February 8th, 2026**, including team and singles averages for those that are eligible for the at-large sort.

3. **All entry forms must either be faxed or emailed by 12:00 PM Noon Thurs. Feb 19th, 2026 and checking the box notifying the tournament committee of their desire to hand-deliver their entry fee on the day of the tournament.** As the entry forms are received, we will be updating our website. You can verify that we have received your entry form by visiting our website at http://www.berksbowling.com

4. **Only those bowlers that have bowled at least half of their team's varsity games are eligible to automatically qualify for the singles portion of the tournament (unless otherwise agreed upon by the league such as the SOL, Berks Co, York/Adams). Automatic qualifiers must be based on varsity averages only (no JV averages, except for girls in a COED league). In addition, if a league uses an end-of-season singles tournament to determine regional qualifiers, no more than 20% of its automatic spots can be given out through such an event**

(league can set a different minimum game requirement for this event). Each league (and/or league coordinator) is responsible for posting on the internet a seasonal updated team standings with individual averages – for the purpose of verification by the tournament committee.

5. Any bowler that is a member of a team that qualifies is eligible to bowl for that team in team event as long as they are on their school's PIAA eligibility sheet. However, only SEVEN (7) bowlers total will be able to compete in the team event. That final roster must be finalized at check-in.

6. Team starting lineups will consist of five (5) bowlers.

7. All teams must consist of bowlers of the same sex, except for teams whose league rules allow for mixed teams. In that event, any mixed team will bowl in the boys division.

8. This tournament is no longer USBC sanctioned. However, USBC playing rules are still followed.

9. Singles event will consist of 5 games of qualifying bowled in one qualifying session. All 5 games of qualifying will occur on Friday with the boys at Leisure Lanes and the girls at Clearview Lanes. The top 12 boys and top 12 girls will return Friday afternoon at Clearview Lanes for a modified bracket-style final.

10. Ties for singles seed (but not a bye) will be broken by higher last game of the 5-game qualifying. Ties for a bye (2nd and 3rd for example) will be broken by a 9th/10th frame rolloff. (Tie for 12th will be broken by a one-game rollof.) {*NOTE: These 12 boys and 12 girls also advance to the PA State High School Championships.}

11. Team event will consist of 3 standard games followed by 6 baker games. All games of qualifying will occur on Saturday with the boys at Leisure Lanes and the girls at Clearview Lanes. The top 6 boys and top 6 girls teams will return Saturday afternoon at Leisure Lanes for a bracket-style final.

12. In the event of a tie for team seeding, 6-game baker total will be used to break the tie. In the event of a tie for 6th place, a 2-baker-game total pinfall will break the tie. {*NOTE: These 6 boys teams and 6 girls teams also advance to the PA State High School Championships.}

13. **Teams and singles' bowlers must be checked-in a half-hour (8:30 am) before the beginning of their qualifying session.** Check-in will start approximately at 7:45 am.

14. Once singles qualifying has begun, there will be no substitutions.

15. In the team event during the standard portion, bowlers can be substituted once a game has begun. However, once a bowler is removed from a game, he/she may not return until the beginning of the next game. The game will be credited to the bowler who started the game. Also, no lineup order changes can be made, only substitutions. During the baker game portion, substitutions can be made at any time, including the middle of a frame. Once a bowler is removed, he or she may not return until the beginning of the next game; coaches may change their lineup at the beginning of each game.

16. In the event of an absent or vacant bowler, a ZERO plug score will be applied. Late arrivals will receive 0 pins per frame.

17. In the singles event finals, the #1 and #2 seeds will receive byes into the semifinals. The #3 and #4 seeds will receive byes into the quarterfinals. The #5 thru #12 seeds will rolloff in the opening round. For each match, the higher seed will have choice lane choice. In case of a tie during the singles finals, a 9th and 10th frame rolloff will occur; if still tied, sudden ball.

18. In the team event finals, first and second places after qualifying receive byes into the semifinals. The format for the finals will be best 2-out-of-3 baker games and the bracket is as follows:
QUARTERFINALS: #3 vs. #6 and #4 vs. #5
SEMIFINALS: The #1 seed will face the #4-#5 winner. The #2 seed will face the #3-#6 winner.
FINALS: Winners from the semifinals compete.
Note: For the team rolloffs, TV-style baker format will be used.
In case of a tie in team event finals, a modified baker game will break the tie (consisting of just frames 6-10); if still tied, sudden ball.

19. **In accordance with PIAA guidelines, only credentialed coaches will be allowed down in the bowling area. (for team event: maximum two per team; for singles event: 1 coach only, unless team has 3 or more bowlers, then max 2 allowed in the bowling area.)**
20. Bowling shoes will be provided free of charge.
21. NO use of cellular phones, or any electronic listening devices by any bowler during tournament play. **In addition, smartwatches and Fitbits are also prohibited.**
22. No altering of the bowling ball surface once bowling has begun (scuff pads or liquid abrasives). Any bowler caught doing so will be disqualified. Bowlers may clean their ball with USBC approved cleaners during tournament play (qualifying and rolloffs are defined as different sessions).
23. No bowler may use or apply any foreign substance to the bowling approach or to their bowling shoes that may hinder other bowlers. However, bowlers may use rosin and easy-slide on their hands.
24. **DRESS CODE (for both coaches and bowlers): No denim of any kind (jeans-style pockets will be checked to verify not denim). No cargo side pockets. The following are also prohibited: hats, t-shirts, sweat pants, sport pants, drawstring pants, Capri pants, shorts, or yoga pants/leggings* (any pant that form fits below the knee is considered a yoga pant or legging). No hanging jewelry, smart watches and Fitbits. Unless medically required, skirts and skorts are also prohibited. Unless school issued, shirts must either be standard polo, classic retro, or mock-collar; only school logos and or school names on the back (no large sponsor logos). This dress code will be strictly enforced. No large personal identification on the back of shirts, unless school issued; small names are acceptable. For the 2028-2029 season, large personal identification (PBA style) will be prohibited on the back of the shirts (*pending PIAA approval).**
25. **A Player/Coach Code of Conduct Policy will be enforced.** Lewd or abusive language or behavior will not be tolerated, especially boisterous cheering or demonstrative "showboating" while on the approach. Any bowler caught doing so will be warned; a second warning could result in a zero for that frame and/or immediate disqualification.
26. The tournament director (under advisement from tournament monitors) may enforce consequences for abusive spectator behavior. Those spectators may be asked to leave if the behavior persists. A third warning to a coach may result in bowling score consequences such as a "zero frame" (applies both to singles and team event).

AWARDS to be presented during the Eastern PA Championships:

- 1st through 6th place team event (both boys and girls division)
  {All bowlers will receive medals; first place team will receive a bowling ball trophy.}
  {All other teams will receive a team plaque.}
- 1st through 12th place singles event (both boys and girls division)
  {1st place will receive a pin trophy and medal; all other bowlers will receive medals and plaques}
- 1st and 2nd High Game (both boys and girls division for both singles and team event qualifying)
- Eastern PA All-Star Teams (top 5 boys and top 5 girls from the 3-game team event portion of qualifying)
  {Girls competing on a mixed team in the boys division will still be considered for the girls all-star team.}

***NOTE: Bowlers may win an award in more than one category.*

Dana W. Brown

Governor Mifflin School District
10 South Waverly St.
Shillington, PA 19607-2525

Phone: ..... **(610)-775-5089 ext. 1110**
Cell: ..... **(610)-823-0842**
Email: ..... **dana.brown@gmsd.org**