

## ***2024 San Diego Invitational Tournament Rules***

The 2024 San Diego Invitational Tournament shall be held from Saturday, August 3 through Sunday, August 4, 2023 at Parkway Bowl in El Cajon, CA

### **A. Sanctioning**

1. The 2024 San Diego invitational Tournament (SDIT) is a USBC certified tournament. Certification Number 04084.
  - a. All participants must be members of USBC.
2. SDIT is a member of the International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO).
  - a. All participants must be league associates (bowl as a regularly-rostered member of an IGBO-member league – note that bowling as a substitute on an IGBO-member league does not satisfy this requirement), lifetime associates (having been awarded this status by IGBO), or direct associates (having paid the \$25.00 direct associate fee within 12 months immediately preceding this tournament – payment at SDIT 2023 will expire the day prior to SDIT 2024 and must be renewed at the tournament) of IGBO.
  - b. Those who do not meet the requirements above will be required to pay a \$25.00 IGBO direct associate fee. This fee entitles the bowler to participate in any IGBO-affiliated tournament for a 12-month period.
3. SDIT is sponsored and hosted by the San Diego LGBTQ Bowling Association.
  - a. All participants must be members of the Association. Your membership fee is detailed in the entry fee breakdown specified in rule #40 and allows you to attend the post-bowling banquet. Membership in the Association is open to anyone interested in promoting the sport of bowling to members and supporters of the LGBTQ+ community of San Diego and surrounding areas. Those who do not bowl in SDIT may pay the \$25.00 membership fee and, as members, will be entitled to attend the post-bowling banquet and participate fully in the Association.

### **B. Taxes**

4. Any bowler who wins \$600 or more in any event or combination of events (including all mandatory and optional events combined) will be required to provide the tournament organizers with a W9 form and an IRS Form 1099-MISC will be issued to the bowler for prize winnings. By registering for the tournament, all bowlers acknowledge this policy and further acknowledge that failure to provide the required W9 form within 30 days of the date of request will cause you to forego **ALL** prize winnings in excess of \$599.99.

### **C. Event Participation**

5. SDIT is a mixed handicap competition.
6. The tournament is by invitation only. Entries **can** be denied.
7. The tournament shall consist of handicap events as follows:  
Singles, Doubles, and Team.
8. Each participant shall bowl three (3) games per event and must enter all three (3) events.
9. Teams will consist of four (4) members comprising any combination of genders and gender identities.
10. All participants will compete on an equal basis without regard to gender or gender identity.
11. Doubles partners must come from the same team.
12. Each participant may only bowl once in each event.
13. Professional bowlers may bowl in the SDIT. However, only one (1) professional bowler per team will be allowed.
  - a. A professional bowler is defined as any person who has been a “card-carrying” member of a professional bowling organization within the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the SDIT.
  - b. Professional bowlers must identify themselves as such at the time of registration.
  - c. Failure to properly identify as a professional bowler prior to the start of the tournament shall be cause for disqualification and forfeiture of all entry fees and prize winnings.

### **D. Awards and Prizes**

14. All cash awards shall be based on the total pins plus assigned handicap for each event except for optional events as defined below.
15. Awards will be given for the highest Singles, Doubles, and Team scores. The awards ratio for each event shall be at least 1:10.
16. A tie in any position will result in the sum of the prizes being aggregated for the tied positions and divided equally by the number of ties for that placement.
17. Prizes will be distributed via check or electronic payment payable in US currency within thirty (30) days of the completion of the tournament, barring any protests and subject to rule B4 above.

### **E. Entering Averages**

18. Any bowler entering SDIT must have an established ten-pin average acceptable to USBC. The following rules shall be used to determine the entering average:

- a. The bowler's highest 2023-2024 fall/winter single league average of 21 games or more shall be used unless;
- b. The bowler's IGBO TAD of at least 18 games over the one-year period before the tournament is one (1) or more pins higher than (a), in which case IGBO TAD shall be used.
- c. If none of the above is available, the bowler's 2022-2023 USBC highest book average (including winter and summer leagues) with a minimum of 21 games.
- d. 2024 Summer league averages shall not be used unless none of the above are available. If none of the above are available, the highest July 24, 2023 average with a minimum of 21 games will be used.
- e. If none of the above averages are available and the bowler believes that the average specified in E19h below is inappropriate, the bowler may make an appeal in writing to the Tournament Director for consideration of alternate averages. All decisions on such appeals shall be at the tournament director's sole discretion.
- f. SDIT has opted out of USBC Rule 319(a)(2).
- g. Averages resulting from sport bowling leagues will be accepted using the USBC sport bowling average conversion chart to determine entering average.
- h. If none of the above are available, an entering average of 225 will be used.

The above averages must be verified with one of the following documents:

Bowl.com average verification

League standing sheet provided by league secretary

Photocopy of book average

IGBO TAD

19. A bowler is required to adjust their entering average if, during the 12-month period immediately preceding SDIT, the cumulative average for all, but not less than, 21 tournament games in which the bowler has participated, exceeds the average used for entry by one (1) or more pins. **It is solely and entirely the bowler's responsibility to submit this adjustment, in writing, before the end of the first frame of tournament play. Failure to accurately report these scores shall be cause for disqualification and forfeiture of entry fees and prize winnings if discovered; regardless of whether the discovery is before, during or after tournament play.**
20. The handicap for the tournament shall be based on 90% of the difference between the bowler's entering average and a scratch score of 225. Negative handicap will not be used.

## F. Re-rate Policy

21. The Tournament Director has the authority to adjust the entering average of any bowler in accordance with USBC rule 319(e). A bowler unwilling to accept an average adjustment shall be entitled to a full refund for that event.
22. Average adjustments will be applied as set forth under USBC Tournament Rules. All average adjustments will be completed prior to any event.
23. It is the bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of their own entering average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, their team captain or others. If the submitted average is lower than required and results in a lower classification or more handicap, the bowler's score is disqualified in accordance with USBC Rule 319(a)(3).
24. SDIT has waived USBC Rule 319(d) and does not require bowlers to report winnings from prior tournaments.

## G. Attendance and Substitutes

25. It is solely and entirely the bowler's responsibility to be present at the assigned lanes at the time of bowling.
26. Complete Doubles and Team entrants must be present for bowling each event. If a team member or doubles partner is not present, an authorized substitute may be used. If no substitute is available, a zero score will be used for the missing bowler(s).
27. Late bowlers will begin bowling in the frame in which they are ready, with prior frames being scored as zero. No practice balls will be allowed for late bowlers.
28. Substitutes may bowl at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Their entering average must **be verifiable** and must comply with SDIT Rules.
29. In the event a bowler cannot participate in the tournament or complete any single event due to illness or injury, an authorized substitute may be used.
  - a. Substitutes may not begin bowling mid-game. The entry of a substitute must be at the beginning of a game.
30. There shall be ten (10) minutes of practice allowed before each event.

## H. Entry Requirements

31. The entry fee shall be \$125.00
  - a. Entries received after midnight on July 5, shall be assessed a \$25.00 late charge
32. Entry must be completed online. The entry fee must be paid online by PayPal.
33. Registration will close at midnight on July 19, 2024.
34. Entries shall be limited to a maximum of 128 bowlers. Once this maximum has been reached, no further entries shall be accepted.
  - a. Additional bowlers or squads may be added at the discretion of Tournament Management provided said capacity or squad(s) are added prior to the start of the first event.

- 35. Entries are not considered accepted without all required information and payment in full for the tournament entry, IGBO associate fees, San Diego LGBTQ Bowling Association membership fees, and, if applicable, late charge.**
36. Partial team entries will be accepted and tournament management will make every effort to fill vacancies.
- a. Tournament management bears no responsibility for failure of bowlers to show up or participate in the tournament.
37. Once an entry has been accepted, no refunds will be issued except as specified in rule 21.
38. Bowlers who have “free entry” certificates must indicate such on their online entry and present said certificate **prior to** completing online payment.
- a. “Free entry” certificates must be redeemed by July 5, 2024. Failure to register and redeem the certificate by this date renders the certificate void.
  - b. No refunds shall be issued for bowlers who have failed to present the “free entry” certificate prior to payment.

#### **I. Entry Fee and Prize Distribution**

39. Entry fee distribution shall be:

Lineage:	\$36.00	
Membership Fee:	\$25.00	Includes banquet attendance
Prize Fund:	\$54.00	
Expenses:	\$10.00	

40. Prize fund distribution shall be as follows:

- Team 50%
- Doubles 30%
- Singles 20%

#### **J. Protests**

41. Any claims of errors or disputes must be submitted to tournament management in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of the error/dispute. The protesting bowler(s) and the Tournament Director shall settle the dispute per SDIT and USBC Tournament Rules. The decision of the tournament management will be final unless a written appeal is filed with USBC Headquarters within the time limits in USBC Rule 329.

#### **K. General**

42. Any person attending SDIT that requires special assistance must notify the Tournament Director in writing prior to the tournament weekend.
43. All bowlers will adhere to a one lane courtesy.