

AWBA Members
September 1, 2022

Re: Clarification of AWBA Nationals Rules which includes international competitors.

AWBA Members and attendees to the AWBA Nationals/US Open,

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the process by which the nationals will be conducted. Some have questioned the format given that we have international bowlers attending.

Our international guests are only competing in the W1 division. NO W2/3 Bowlers are coming as of September 1, 2022. Thus, there is no separate W2/W3 division.

All international bowlers must bowl scratch. As we cannot verify their averages, and since they have never established an average through the USBC or AWBA, that is the AWBA rules. Moreover, whenever one travels to bowl internationally, all that compete bowl scratch. There is no handicapping.

All AWBA registered bowlers will compete in the division they sign up for. A and B will bowl as they always have and will compete for national accolades and the prize money associated with those two divisions. International bowlers will not have the opportunity to compete against A or B division bowler for those two divisions and are not eligible for A or B division national prize money.

In scratch division, all bowlers will compete against and with foreign competitors. Just like the US Open in Tennis all scratch registered bowlers will compete for the title and the prize money in Singles for the Scratch division.

Our women bowlers only will compete normally in their respective division. Their scratch scores will be kept for each game so as to allow them to simultaneously compete against the international female competitors that are bowling scratch. Should our women bowlers - singles "scratch scores" end up in the top 4 of that international women's bracket they will simultaneously qualify for the international medal round.

International Doubles and Team events.

Team Event

A Team consists of any mixed combination of 3 bowlers. You can sign up to bowl with any American group of three. Should you wish to bowl and be considered to bowl against international competition whilst simultaneously bowling for national recognition, you must notify the check in table when registering for Team and Doubles. **Note, your total score for the AWBA will be handicapped as always. For international competition the only score considered will be your scratch score and the scratch score of your team.** Once the event is completed, if your scratch is in the top 4 of scratch, you will enter the International roll-offs (the medals round). Your handicap will be tabulated as always for placement in the Nationals Team event.

Doubles

Doubles is the same format as team, with 2 bowlers instead of three. Your doubles team must qualify in the top four in scratch Doubles to qualify for the International doubles' medals round.

In Conclusion

We wish to welcome new bowlers and other countries to bowl with us and hope that in years to come we will receive reciprocal invitations to their competitions as well.

Should you have any further questions contact the Tournament Director, Curtis Wolff, or Mark Shepherd, AWBA Rules Chair for further clarification. All other AWBA/IBF/USBC tournament rules apply, including the tournament dress code.

A meeting prior to the start of competition for each event will be held to discuss any questions you may have. The Up/Down event will incorporate international bowlers if they register. Again, they must bowl scratch in this no-tap event.