

MBA of A Standing Rules and Policies

June 2020

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1. Membership

- 1.1. The Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta and its members shall support the aims of the Alberta 5 Pin Bowlers' Association, the Bowling Proprietors Association of Alberta, and any other local, provincial or national association that acts in the best interest of 5 Pin bowling in Canada.
- 1.2. Master Bowlers Association of Alberta members must be at least 19 years of age by December 31 of the current bowling season.
- 1.3. New members must successfully complete the Community Sport Initiation Clinic for 5 pin bowling.
- 1.4. All members must be recommended/sponsored by a: proprietor/bowling center manager, a MBA of A Learning Facilitator, or a current member of the MBA of A Board of Directors each bowling season.
- 1.5. Members may be involved with the administration of the current Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta or Alberta 5 Pin Bowlers' Association in the areas of tournaments, score keeping etc.
- 1.6. Each member in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote at the Annual General Meeting of the Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta. Members must be in attendance to vote.

2. Dress Code

- 2.1. The Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta (MBA of A) official **“Ceremonial”** uniform is the **“Traditional”** Masters blue shirt, worn with

solid black coloured bottoms including: slacks, skorts, shorts, capris, yoga pants or skirts. The following clothing items are **not acceptable**: Denims, pinstripes, rugby pants, corduroys, sweat pants, stirrup pants, leggings, cargo pants, cargo shorts or culottes.

- 2.2. T-shirts may be worn under the “Traditional” Masters shirt. The T-shirt should be solid black, white or navy in colour. If you are wearing a t-shirt under your “Traditional” Master’s shirt or the Master’s golf shirt, the t-shirt sleeves cannot extend below your elbow and the bottom of the t-shirt must be tucked in or not hanging out below the “Traditional” shirt or golf shirt.
- 2.3. The “Traditional” shirt has shoulder epaulets. Masters who are current members of the Tournament Division must display black epaulets or black slip-ons on their epaulets. Masters who are current members of the Teaching Division must display blue epaulets or blue slip-ons on their epaulets. Masters who are current members of the Senior Division must display gold epaulets or gold slip-ons on their epaulets.
- 2.4. **The “Ceremonial” uniform must be worn at the MBA of Canada nationals’ opening and closing ceremonies** and any other tournament decided upon by the MBA of A Board. The “Ceremonial” uniform may be required at events when MBA of A members are engaged with YBC members.
- 2.5. The MBA of A official “Casual” uniform is an authorized golf or selected authorized shirt worn with solid black coloured bottoms including: slacks, skorts, shorts, capris, yoga pants or skirts. The following clothing items are **not acceptable**: Denims, pinstripes, rugby pants, corduroys, sweat pants, stirrup pants, leggings, cargo pants, cargo shorts or culottes.
- 2.6. MBA of A members may purchase an authorized golf shirt as designed and approved by the Master Bowlers’ Association of Alberta. The MBA of A has a generic MBA of A golf shirt and issues a Nationals shirt to members representing Alberta at the MBA of Canada national championship each year.
- 2.7. At the MBA of A qualifying tournaments members must wear either the “Ceremonial” or “Casual” uniform. Members not in a regulation uniform may be disqualified from the tournament. New members will be given a grace period for qualifying tournaments until their uniform arrives. An acceptable uniform for new members will be a dark coloured, sleeved, collared, golf shirt with solid black coloured bottoms including: slacks, skorts, shorts, capris, yoga pants or skirts. The following clothing items are **not acceptable**: Denims, pinstripes, rugby pants, corduroys, sweat pants, stirrup pants, leggings, cargo pants, cargo shorts or culottes.

- 2.8. The only pins allowed to be attached to either official Masters Uniform shirt are Alberta Masters pins.
- 2.9. Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta uniforms must be clean and in acceptable condition at all times. Bowling shoes are considered part of the uniform and must be clean.

3. Conduct

- 3.1. Members shall observe all rules and regulations of the Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta in all Alberta 5 Pin Bowlers Association sanctioned tournaments.
- 3.2. The use of alcoholic beverages or drugs during an event is prohibited. Failure to comply shall result in immediate disqualification from the current tournament by the Tournament Director(s).
 - 3.2.1. **1st offence** – minimum suspension of two tournaments. This shall include the tournament in which the act was committed. Maximum suspension not to exceed one year from the date of the infraction.
 - 3.2.2. **2nd offence** – the Board of directors to rule on.
- 3.3. Conduct unbecoming a Master Bowler (**all divisions**) during an event (i.e.: swearing, kicking ball racks, hitting walls, giving the finger to the pins, lofting the ball down the lanes intentionally, etc.) will be handled in the following manner. One (1) warning will be given for the first offence. If a second offence occurs the bowler will be ejected from the event. Warnings and ejections may be issued by a Judge of Play, Zone Director, Tournament Director or a Proprietor.

If warnings must be issued to an individual at more than one (1) tournament, the Board at that time could issue a suspension from the remaining tournaments. As in all situations with suspensions, the bowler would have the right to an appeal.
- 3.4. Failure to complete a frame, a game, or the tournament, except in the case of injury, illness, or extenuating circumstances (approved by the Tournament Director) without permission received from the Tournament Director(s), shall result in the Masters Bowler being suspended from that tournament and the next tournament. Discipline as per item 3.2.1
- 3.5. Any disputes between a Master Bowler and the Bowling Proprietors Association of Alberta or the Masters Association shall be settled by the right of appeal in writing to the Master Bowlers Association of Alberta by any parties.

- 3.6. Suspension or fining of a Master Bowler for conduct detrimental to the Master Bowlers Association of Alberta or the sport of 5 pin bowling can only result from a complaint in writing, and following a hearing conducted by the Master Bowlers Association of Alberta Board of Directors. All parties involved with the hearing shall be invited to the next meeting of the Board of Directors and any subsequent meetings, to discuss the case.
- 3.7. Any member suspended during a season shall be liable for any and all financial obligations as determined by the Tournament Director(s) of the tournament in which the suspension occurred. Failure to fulfill these obligations shall eliminate any possibility of re-instatement in the Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta.

4. Tournaments

- 4.1. MBA of A members competing in qualifying tournaments must be a member in good standing with the Alberta 5-Pin Bowlers' Association and the Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta.
- 4.2. To be eligible to compete at the MBAC Nationals, MBA of A members competing in qualifying tournaments must be a member in good standing with the Alberta 5-Pin Bowlers' Association and the Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta for the current bowling season and have completed a Community Sport Initiation clinic for 5 pin Bowling prior to Teaching or Senior Division provincials or Tournament Division tournament 3 of the current bowling season.
- 4.3. MBA of A members competing in tournaments must choose the division they are competing in for the season (and meet its eligibility requirements) before their first tournament of the season. The member will not be allowed to change divisions until the following season.
- 4.4. A Master bowler may be allowed to change Zones mid-way through the season because of relocation. All other reasons/requests for changing Zones mid-way through the season must meet Board approval.
- 4.5. To be eligible to be a National Coach, you must be a certified Level II coach with Competition Coach Upgrade or be a certified Introduction to Competition Coach; by the start of the 5th Tournament Division tournament or by the time the Teaching and Senior Division Provincial Tournament begins, whichever comes first.
- 4.6. All other rules are covered by the Canadian 5 pin Bowlers' Association's rule book.

- 4.7. All tournaments should be held in certified houses unless certified lanes are not available.
- 4.8. Master Bowlers who qualify for Provincial teams through the tournament structure are obligated to bowl for their provincial teams unless consent has been awarded by the MBA of A board of Directors. Failure to do so, without just cause, shall be dealt with by the Board of Directors.
- 4.9. During MBA of A tournament play, other than medically prescribed devices such as hearing aids, no electronic head sets of any kind are to be worn once the bowler is on the approach.

5. Competing in the Tournament Division

- 5.1. Members must have a season ending league, or season ending MBA of A tournament average of 215 for ladies and 230 for men or higher.
- 5.2. There shall be a one season “period of grace” for those members of the Tournament Division who no longer meet the minimum average requirements. If after the “period of grace” they do not have an acceptable average, they cannot be accepted into the Tournament Division, but can join the Teaching Division, Senior Division (min 50 years of age), or maintain their basic membership in the Master Bowlers’ Association of Alberta.
- 5.3. The tournament Division shall bowl on a total pinfall and points basis. The singles position is based on total points. The team positions are based on pinfall.

The maximum points allowed would be 125 for the men and 75 for the ladies. These total points are comprised from the best 4/6 tournament points plus the best 4/6 total pinfall.

For the men’s division, 25 points are given to the person with the highest pinfall in each tournament for a possible total of 100 after 4 tournaments. The person with the highest total pinfall from their best 4 tournaments will also be awarded 25 points. In the event of a tie in points, the bowler with the highest pinfall from their best 4 tournaments will be the single.

For the ladies’ division, 15 points are given to the person with the highest pinfall in each tournament for a possible total of 60 after 4 tournaments. The person with the highest total pinfall from their best 4 tournaments will also

be awarded 15 points. In the event of a tie in points, the bowler with the highest pinfall from their best 4 tournaments will be the single.

The singles representative will be the male and female bowler with highest total points. The team representatives will be comprised of the next 5 bowlers in the men's' and ladies' divisions with the best pinfall from their best 4 of 6 tournaments.

5.4. In the event of a tie when using pinfall to determine the 5th spot of the team, the winner will be declared by the using the point system. The bowler with the highest point earned in any one of their best four tournaments will be the winner. If there is still a tie, then the bowler with the highest point earned in the 5th and 6th tournaments will determine the winner.

6. Competing in the Teaching Division

6.1. The Teaching Division shall bowl on a pins over average basis in their tournaments. The average to be used shall be a rolling last 5 MBA of A tournaments' average. If the Master Bowler does not have 5 tournaments in Master's tournament play recorded, a composite of their highest league average combined with any MBA tournament play average will be used. If they have not competed in any MBA of A tournaments yet, they will use their highest league average in their first tournament. The rolling last 5 tournament average or composite average shall be used in National team qualifying Masters tournaments including Provincials. For the sake of calculating the rolling last 5 tournament average, MBA of A Provincials will be considered as 2 individual tournaments. (one on Saturday and one on Sunday)

6.2. Tournament averages for any bowlers who have been out of the Masters for 3 or more years shall start with a new composite average using their current league averages.

6.3. In the event of a disability, the Master bowler may appeal to the Board for a re-evaluation of their tournament average.

6.4. The Teaching Division shall consist of eight (8) Zones – the North shall consist of zones 1-4; the South shall consist of zones 5-8. Competitors shall bowl up to four (4) tournaments of eight (8) games each. The best three (3) out of four (4) tournaments will be used to determine which members have attained a plus (+) score thereby qualifying them to advance to the Provincial round. The provincial round shall consist of sixteen (16) games bowled in two (2) days. The top five (5) ladies and top five (5) men pins

over average shall make up the ladies' and men's teams to represent Alberta at the National Championships.

- 6.5. If because of injury or disability, a bowler finds it necessary to change his/her delivery to the opposite hand from their normal delivery, they shall be permitted to do so for the given tournament, however, they must use an average established for the hand with which they are bowling. For purposes of determining their average, rule 6.1 must be followed with respect to use of 5 tournaments in Masters tournaments or a composite average if 5 tournaments have not been played in Masters tournaments with the given hand. If the player does not have an established league average (minimum 12 games) for the given hand, they will not be eligible to bowl with that hand in the tournament. For purposes of qualifying for advancement to the Provincial round, the player must have a plus for their best 3 tournaments regardless of which hand was used in the qualifying tournaments. At the Provincial round, the player must bowl with their normal hand unless the injury or disability remains in effect. Regardless of which hand is used, the player must bowl with the same hand throughout the Provincial round and they must use their established composite average for the hand that they are using.
- 6.6. For Provincials, tournament averages only shall be used. Bowlers who do not have a tournament average shall use a composite average (including highest league average).
- 6.7. If a bowler misses a game during a tournament, they will receive a score of zero for each game missed. If a bowler receives a score of zero for a game the game is considered to have been played. However; the bowler's rolling last 5 MBA of A tournament average will only be changed by the games actually bowled. Partially bowled games do not count towards the bowler's five tournament rolling average. Games missed will count as a games score of "0" and partial games will as scored and will count towards the bowler's 8 game tournament total.
- 6.8. In the event of a tie in the teaching division provincial final positions, a one game roll-off will take place. The winner will be determined by the bowler who bowls the highest pins over average.

7. Competing in the Senior Division

- 7.1. Members must be 50 years of age, on or before September 1st of the current bowling season.
- 7.2. In the Senior Division, a Master must choose to bowl either scratch or pins over average. The average to be used in the POA side shall be a rolling last

5 MBA of A tournaments' average. If the Master Bowler does not have 5 tournaments in Master's tournament play recorded, a composite of their highest league average combined with any MBA tournament play average will be used. If they have not competed in any MBA of A tournaments yet, they will use their highest league average in their first tournament. The rolling last 5 tournament average or composite average shall be used in National team qualifying Masters tournaments including Provincials. For the sake of calculating the rolling last 5 tournament average, MBA of A Provincials will be considered as 2 individual tournaments. (one on Saturday and one on Sunday)

- 7.3. Tournament averages for any bowlers who have been out of the Masters for 3 or more years shall start with a new composite average using their current highest league average.
- 7.4. In the event of a disability, the Master bowler may appeal to the Board for a re-evaluation of their tournament average.
- 7.5. The Senior Division shall consist of eight (8) Zones. They shall bowl four (4) tournaments of eight (8) games each. The best three (3) out of four (4) tournaments shall be used to determine the Senior Division members advancing to the Provincial finals. Each zone will advance all pins over average Masters who are a plus. Scratch division is the top 50% only. Qualifying Masters from each zone shall advance to a provincial round. Seniors advancing to the Provincial shall bowl based on their qualifying format; either POA or scratch. The Provincial round shall consist of sixteen (16) games bowled over two (2) days. The National team shall be made up of combined pins over average and scratch Seniors. The ratio of Pins over Average to Scratch members will be based on total participants in each division. The ratios being 0-20% - one (1) position available, >20% but <50% - two (2) positions available. The Senior team advancing to Nationals must include one Participating Male bowler and one Participating Female Bowler. In the event that all qualifiers are of the same Participating gender, the next highest qualifier of the opposite Participating gender will take the final qualifying position. This final position will come from either the Scratch division or the POA division depending on which division has the most qualifying positions available on the team.
- 7.6. In the POA category if because of injury or disability, a bowler finds it necessary to change his/her delivery to the opposite hand from their normal delivery, they shall be permitted to do so for the given tournament, however, they must use an average established for the hand with which they are bowling. For purposes of determining their average, rule 7.2 must be followed with respect to use of 5 tournaments in Masters tournaments or a

composite average if 5 tournaments have not been played in Masters tournaments with the given hand. If the player does not have an established league average (minimum 12 games) for the given hand, they will not be eligible to bowl with that hand in the tournament. For purposes of qualifying for advancement to the Provincial round, the player must have a plus for their best 3 tournaments regardless of which hand was used in the qualifying tournaments. At the Provincial round, the player must bowl with their normal hand unless the injury or disability remains in effect.

Regardless of which hand is used, the player must bowl with the same hand throughout the Provincial round and they must use their established composite average for the hand that they are using

- 7.7. For Provincials, tournament averages only shall be used. Bowlers who do not have a tournament average shall use a composite average (including league average).
- 7.8. If a bowler misses a game during a tournament, they will receive a score of zero for each game missed. If a bowler receives a score of zero for a game the game is considered to have been played. However; the bowler's rolling last 5 MBA of A tournament average will only be changed by the games actually bowled. . Partially bowled games do not count towards the bowler's five tournament rolling average. Games missed will count as a games score of "0" and partial games will as scored and will count towards the bowler's 8 game tournament total.
- 7.9. In the event of a tie in the senior division provincial final positions, a one-game roll-off will take place. For the pins over average participants, the winner will be determined by the bowler who bowls the highest pins over average. For the scratch participants, the highest score will determine the winner.

8. General

- 8.1. Any issue not covered by these rules will be reviewed on a case by case basis By the MBA of A board
- 8.2. Board members may be an elected or appointed member of the current Master Bowlers' Association of Alberta or Alberta 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Board of Directors

Harassment Policy/Procedure – March 18, 2006

A board of director or office personnel, upon receiving a written complaint, shall forward the complaint to the MBA President for investigation. Confidentiality is to be kept at all times to protect all parties.

The President may seek legal advice if he/she deems necessary.

The President will then interview the accused and the complainant as soon as possible to determine if further investigation is required. The President may suspend the individual while he/she completes the investigation. This is appropriate when children/youth are involved. The President will then complete due diligence by interviewing all persons involved in the event.

Upon completing due diligence, the President may suspend the accused until the next Board of Directors Meeting. The suspension must be made verbally with a letter in writing to the individual. The President must also verbally inform the injured party of the action taken or not taken.

The President must then inform the board that all information heard must be kept in strict confidence to protect the individuals involved as well as the MBA of A.

The President will then present the facts, as he knows them, to the board of directors. A decision based on a majority vote will then decide if the accused is suspended and for how long. If youths are involved, a lifetime ban is appropriate.

The accused may appeal the decision as per the Conduct Section Item 5 of the Standing Rules and Policy.

The board's decision must then be communicated in written form by the President to the accused and verbally to the accuser. A copy of the letter(s) will be kept in the individual's file at the office of the MBA of A.

Effective the 2009-2010 season, the Master Bowlers' Association requires that Master Bowlers who are traveling with youth to our Master/YBC Tournaments or Master/Youth Tournaments have a police check done.

Youth is defined as aged 19 and under. A police check on file with the Alberta 5 Pin Bowlers' Association or Bowling Proprietor's Association of Alberta is sufficient.

The Bowling Proprietors of Alberta are responsible for ensuring the Master Bowlers who work with their youth bowlers in their centers have completed a screening process as determined by each proprietor.

Gender Identification Policy for Bowling, May 26, 2018

Athletes in developmental and recreational sport shall be able to participate in the gender category in which they identify, without any need for disclosure of information or other requirements. The same policy of inclusion would apply to high performance athletes up until the point where they must comply with international federation rules (which may state differently and will likely be along the lines of the new IOC consensus.) (Taken from Bowl Canada policy.)