



**BASIC LEAGUE RULES**  
**2017-2018**

1. **BOWLERS WILL BE READY TO START AT 6:00 PM.**
2. **PRACTICE:** A 10-minute practice period (starting at 5:50 PM) will be held prior to the official start time of 6:00 PM.
3. **LATE ARRIVALS:** If a bowler is tardy, she will have until the end of the third frame of the first game to catch up. If a team does not have a legal lineup by the end of the third frame of any game, the game will be forfeited. If she appears later in the first game, an absentee score (average minus ten) will be used, but she may bowl the second and third games. If a team does not have a legal lineup by the end of the third frame of any game, the game will be forfeited.
4. **LEGAL LINEUP:** The legal lineup for league play must consist of at least one (1) regular member bowler present and at least one regular member's prebowed scores or a substitute present.
5. **PREBOWLING: Prebowling must be approved by a league officer.** No league member may prebowl more than 2 times in a row and/or more than 6 times in a season. Prebowed games must be done before 6:00 PM of the night you are not bowling. It is asked that you make an appointment with the Union Rack and Roll for prebowling. No prebowed games will be eligible for perfect attendance, high game, or high series awards.
6. **ONLY BOWLERS are allowed on alleys:** Only team bowlers are allowed in the bowling area. Visitors (children and other guests) MUST sit behind the railing.
7. **SUBSTITUTES/ABSENCES:** Bowlers will notify their team captains (and/or league secretary) when they are unable to bowl and the BOWLER will be responsible for securing a substitute.
8. **ABSENTEE SCORE:** In the case of an absence by a team member and no substitute is found, an absentee score of the member's established average minus ten (10) pins will be used. For calculating the handicap, the member's average should be used.
9. **VACANCY SCORE:** The vacancy score of 120 will also be used in the event that a bowler who has not established her average for the current season is absent.
10. **CANCELLATIONS:** The league officers will decide if a night is to be canceled and they will notify the team captains. The captains should then notify their team members. It will be up to the league members to decide if it is to be made up. Starting with the 2014-2015 season, one makeup day will be added to the end of the season if needed.
11. **FORFEITURES:** Failure of a team to bowl when scheduled will be considered a default unless the failure to bowl was due to what is considered by the executive board of the league as sufficient cause. **In this case, the team failing to bowl has the option of defaulting or making up the games before the next scheduled bowling date (7 days).**
12. **EQUIPMENT FAILURE:** In the event of equipment failure, the league officers can authorize the game and series to be completed on another pair of lanes. An interrupted game and series will be resumed from the point of interruption. Upon agreement between the teams involved, the interrupted game/series can be continued when another set of lanes opens, OR the teams agree to

reschedule to another night (can either bowl together or separately) (must be completed before the next scheduled bowling night).

13. **CLEAN GAMES/SERIES:** The Lafayette USBC presents awards for clean games and clean series. (A clean game/series is one with no open frames - all strikes and/or spares.) Please notify the league secretary/treasurer if you have a clean game or series. **The bowler is responsible for providing the league secretary/treasurer with a printout of the game(s) (available from the bowling center staff) on the evening this occurs.**

## **BOWLING ETIQUETTE**

A code of etiquette has been established and accepted by bowlers everywhere. Few of its rules are official, but bowlers should be courteous and give consideration at all times to the rights of other participants, including avoiding delaying the game by taking unnecessary time.

1. **Be on time for league play. We start at 6:00 PM** (practice starts at 5:50).
2. Prepare to take your turn promptly on the lane. Be ready to bowl when the pins are set.
3. Don't take too long to aim or get set up when you are on the approach.
4. Stay on your own approach at all times. Step back off the approach after making each delivery.
5. The bowler on the right should bowl if both reach the approach at the same time. Step back off the approach while you wait and indicate to the adjacent bowler that you are going to bowl after she does.
6. Do not use another player's ball, towel, etc., without her permission.
7. The approaches may not be exactly to your liking, but you cannot use talcum powder, etc.
8. Good bowling requires concentration. Bowlers should always keep in mind that when others are preparing to bowl, excessive noise could be distracting to them.
9. Respect the equipment. Lofting the ball damages the lanes. Kicking the ball rack doesn't help anyone.
10. Be a gracious loser if you are on the short end of the count when the game is over.
11. Do not carry refreshments onto the approach. Spilled liquid can create problems for all the bowlers.
12. **If you are prebowling, first get approval from a league officer, then make an appointment at the Union Rack and Roll to bowl, and please be sure your teammates know that you are doing so.**
13. You are responsible for getting your own substitute.
14. If you have an unscheduled absence or know you will be late, please notify your team captain and/or Barb Gotham before 6:00 PM that evening.

<http://yeomanclan.net/barb/bowling.html>