

2026-27 SENIORS SCRATCH BOWLING ASSOCIATION (SSBA) SINGLES TOURNAMENT RULES

OBJECTIVE: To promote and conduct a series of (one day) scratch bowling tournaments for senior (age 50 and older) USBC certified bowlers. Rules and regulations for the singles tournaments only will be provided here.

TOURNAMENT REGULAR SEASON SCHEDULE DEFINITION: The SSBA tournament schedule this season shall consist of six (6) scratch Singles Tournaments from 30 August 2026 thru 21 February 2027 plus the 111 scratch Doubles Tournament. In addition the SSBA and GIBA combined will host the 50/50 over/under Team Tournament on 05 December 2026 and the 50/50 over/under Doubles Tournament on 07 December 2026 at Cadillac XBC in Waterloo. The season ending (07 March 2027) singles tournament has significant added prize money (deposited in the SSBA bank account and has special eligibility requirements explained below.

TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY: Membership and tournament participation is open to all bowlers (age 50 and older as of the scheduled tournament date) in good standing with the USBC. Tournament participation by professional bowlers meeting all other eligibility requirements is allowed. Only one division will be conducted with men and women competing together. Eligible entrants without USBC membership cards must purchase associate membership. (Rule 300c, Item 2)

ELIGIBILITY FOR 07 March 2027 SINGLES TOURNAMENT: To be eligible for the 07 March 2027 tournament, you must have bowled at least three (3) of the seven (7) scheduled tournaments through the 21 February 2027 date. **Neither of the 50/50 weekend tournaments (05 & 06 December 2026 count toward the required three tournaments.** The 111 Doubles tournament does count toward the three tournament total. If you have only two tournaments, you may buy into the final tournament for \$30.00 increased entry fee.

ADDED PRIZE MONEY FOR THE 07 March 2027 REGULAR SEASON ENDING SINGLES TOURNAMENT: Six (6) dollars from each entry fee paid for the six singles tournaments and the 111 doubles tournament will be withheld and deposited in the SSBA bank account. All withheld money will be returned 100% in the season ending (07 March 2027) singles tournament prize money. Three of the \$6.00 will be added to the major prize list and the other \$3.00 will be paid out in a special prize list limited to bowlers who did not qualify for the stepladder finals in any of the regular season singles tournaments and the 111 doubles tournament.

USBC CERTIFICATION: All tournaments will be USBC certified.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Dues of \$10.00 will be collected as part of the entry fee for your first tournament bowled this season.

SINGLES TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE: \$80.00 per tournament.

Optional \$10.00 high game jackpots for qualifying games. **Payback ratio 1 to 10.** Optional \$30.00 Tier 2 singles side pot for all bowlers.

Payback ratio of 1 to 3. Optional \$20.00 Super Senior (over age 60) singles side pot. **Payback ratio of 1 to 3.**

Optional \$10.00 "Bet You Win" jackpot. **For all jackpots and side pots 100% of entry fees collected will be returned to winners.**

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE BREAKDOWN: Major Prize Fund = \$44.00 Bowling = \$24.00 Expense Fee = \$6.00

For 07 March 2027 tournament Major Prize Fund Added Money = \$3.00

For 07 March 2027 tournament Special Prize Fund for non-qualifying stepladder finalists in regular season tournaments = \$3.00.

TOURNAMENT PAY OUT RATIO: Major prize fund payout ratio of at least 1 to 3. All major prize fund fees collected will be returned 100% (Rule 308). All added prize money obtained from sponsorships, donations, or fund raising efforts for all tournaments will be returned 100% in the major prize fund and disbursed evenly throughout all places cashing in the major prize fund. High game jackpot payout ratio of 1 to 10. All jackpot and side pot fees collected will be returned 100%. Bet You Win Jackpot paid 100% to qualified tournament winner. If tournament winner is not entered, 75 % of the pot will carry over and be added to the Bet You Win Jackpot for the next tournament and 25% will be added to the major prize list for the 07 March 2027 season ending singles tournament. Super Senior and Tier 2 side pots payout ratio of 1 to 3. **For the 07 March 2027 tournament major prize fund payout ratio of at least 1 to 2.**

TOURNAMENT STARTING LANE ASSIGNMENT: Bowlers will draw for starting lane assignment but can be assigned a starting lane by tournament manager. Entries close at start time.

TOURNAMENT QUALIFYING FORMAT: All bowlers will bowl six (6) qualifying games, moving to a different pair of lanes after completion of each game. All bowlers will alternate between the even numbered and odd numbered lane as their starting lane for each successive qualifying game. Bowlers will be responsible for keeping their own scores (as required if automatic scorekeepers are not available), checking the accuracy of their scores, transferring their scores to the tournament recap sheet, and submitting the recap sheet to the tournament officials. The tournament recap sheets are the official score sheet and must be completed and submitted to the tournament officials. Each bowler is responsible for the accuracy of their own recap sheet.

TOURNAMENT FINALS FORMAT: Based on total pins scratch from the six (6) qualifying games, the top five (5) bowlers will advance to the stepladder format finals to determine the tournament champion. In case of any ties for the top four (4) qualifying spots, or for 5th and 6th high qualifying spots, there will be a 9th and 10th frame roll-off to determine the qualifying placement. If a tie still exists after the first roll-off there will be a one ball high count wins to be repeated until the tie is broken. In case of a tie for 4th and 5th place roll-off qualifying spots only, there will be a coin toss to determine qualifying placement.

SQUAD TIMES FOR QUALIFYING: Qualifying will begin at 10:30 AM and will be completed in one squad. Tournaments will be completed as a one day tournament.

TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT: All situations not covered under tournament rules will be decided by USBC rules. Tournament management has supervisory control of all technical parts of the tournament operations and authority to decide and settle any disputes or complaints (Rule 303). Tournament management has the right to refuse entry of any bowler.

SPECIAL FEATURES FOR 2026-27 SEASON:

1. Multiple brackets. Participation optional at bowler's discretion.
2. Bet you win jackpot. Participation optional at bowler's discretion.
3. Super Senior (over age 60) singles side pot. Participation optional at bowler's discretion.
4. Tier 2 singles side pot. Participation optional at bowler's discretion.
5. Second chance prize winner. A random drawing will be held to select two non-cashing places in the standings after completion of qualifying. These bowlers will bowl a one game head to head match. A winner must be determined in a contested one game match and will receive \$50.00 donated by Rich Eighme of Fran's Pro Shop located at Maple Lanes in Waterloo, IA
6. Highest qualifying scoring super senior (over age 60) not cashing in the major prize list will receive \$50.00.
Donated by Gary Brinker from tournament expenses.