

2025 HEARTLAND DOUBLES TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The entry fee is \$250 per team with \$215 going into the prize fund and the other \$35 subtracted for lineage and tournament expenses. The prize fund will be returned 100%. All teams that advance to match play will cash. Based on 56 teams, first place will pay \$2,500 and 1-4 teams will cash. With a full field of 68 teams, first place will pay \$3,500. An optional \$20 "best 4 games out of 5" singles event, \$5 singles brackets, \$10 doubles brackets and pot games will also be available.
2. All reservations (\$125 minimum) are due by Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025. Verbal reservations will be held until that date, but only paid entries will be guaranteed spots. Entries close Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025 at 9:00am.
3. There is a \$35 service fee for any check written with insufficient funds. No checks will be accepted after Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025. Only cash will be accepted on the day of the tournament.
4. **QUALIFICATIONS:** The tournament is open to all USBC certified members. Not more than one PBA/PWBA Tour member is allowed per team, but two PBA50/60 players may bowl together. The tournament is USBC certified.
5. Check-in time at The Lanes on 20 is 8:00am to 9:00am. Captains must check in to confirm their reservation, pay any balance of fees and receive their starting lane assignment. You must declare your lead-off and anchor bowlers during check in and keep that order throughout the tournament.
6. Bowlers will receive four practice shots on each of their starting lanes starting at 9:15am. Any bowler not ready to bowl at the 9:30am start time will take a zero for each frame missed.
7. All teams will bowl 5 games of qualifying across the house. Teams will skip two pair of active lanes after each game of qualifying. Even numbered teams will move right, odd numbered teams will move left.
8. After 5 games, the top 12 or 16 teams, depending upon the number of entries, will be seeded in four-team divisions for round robin match play with 20 bonus pins awarded for wins and 10 bonus pins for ties. There will be no pin carryover into match play. The division leaders after match play, plus necessary highest non-leaders, will be seeded in a five team stepladder finals with no pin carryover.
9. **TIE BREAKERS:** If two teams tie for the last match play spot after qualifying, or after match play for their division lead, for the number one stepladder seed or the number 5 stepladder seed, they will bowl a full game roll-off to determine final position. Teams tying for any other match play or stepladder position will bowl a 9th and 10th frame roll-off to establish seeding.
10. **STEPLADDER FINALS:** The final five teams will be seeded in single game, total pinfall, stepladder elimination roll-offs to determine the champions. Each game will be bowled on a different pair of lanes and each bowler will receive two practice shots on each lane. The higher seeded team will choose its starting lane each match. In the event of a tie, there will be a 9th and 10th frame roll-off to determine the winner.
11. Only full teams will be allowed to advance. A full team will consist of two bowlers. No substitutes will be allowed once qualifying has begun. Any team unable to advance will be replaced by the team with the highest non qualifying score.
12. The decision of the tournament director(s) shall be final unless an appeal is made in accordance with USBC Rule 329. The tournament director has the right to refuse entries.