



2020 EMPIRE BOWLING LEAGUE

December 11th 2019 thru March 11th 2020

LEAGUE RULES



Practice begins at 7:00pm and games will start promptly at 7:15pm.

Late arriving bowlers may join a game as long as all bowlers on both teams are still within their first three frames. After this point, they must take an absentee score and begin bowling once the next game begins.

All averages for new bowlers will be established after the first three games bowled.

Returning Bowlers: Averages from the final week of last season will be used as your "book average" for the first three weeks (9 games) after which point you will establish a new average. A drop rule will be in effect which means a returning bowlers average may never drop more than 10 pins below their book average.

The handicap is based on 90% of 220.

Teams will consist of 5 regular bowlers. If any team has only 4 regular bowlers they will have a vacancy score added in the 5th spot. A vacancy score of 140 (plus handicap) is used in the place of a 5th bowler for any team that only has 4 regular bowlers.

An absentee score is the bowlers average less ten pins.

Regular bowlers are responsible for the weekly fees whether or not they are present. The league fee is \$20/week (for a total responsibility of \$240 on Mondays or \$220 on Wednesdays) Bowlers that pay in full on or before the first night get a \$20 discount, which equates to one free week. Once a bowler participates the first night, they are responsible for the full season of league fees. Bowlers are permitted to be behind in payments up to one week. After falling two weeks behind the nightly fee becomes \$25 until the bowler is caught up. Bowlers must be paid in full to be allowed to participate in the last two weeks of the season.

Each team is allowed one substitute. Once a bowler comes down as a substitute, they are the only person allowed to be used as a substitute on that team for the entire season. Substitutes that are replacing a regular bowler do not have to pay. Substitutes that are replacing a vacancy are responsible to pay \$20 for the night.

An absentee score will be the bowler's average minus 10 points (plus handicap).

Week 11 (Wednesdays) and Week 12 (Mondays) will be the only position round. **All bowlers (including subs) must have played at least 3 weeks/9 games in order to participate in the position round.**

No bowling on Christmas Day or on New Years Day, January 1st (both Wednesdays)

Anyone caught bringing in outside alcohol will be ejected from the league.

Pre-Bowls are allowed (individual or entire team). You must call ahead to reserve the lanes for a pre-bowl. No pre-bowling is allowed between Friday at 5:00pm and Sunday at 6:00pm.

There is no post-bowling allowed for individuals or teams.

DO NOT pay the bowling alley directly when pre bowling.

Points Breakdown: (Teams will earn between 0-11 points per night)

3 points for the winning team for each game (with handicap).

1 point for the team with the highest handicap game, and 1 point for the team with the highest handicap series.

When bowling against a bye, the team must bowl within 50 points of their team average to win the points.

If there is a tie in the standings the team with the higher PINS + HDCP will win the tiebreaker.

League Prizes:

**** PRIZE PACKAGE ****

Winning Teams Play Free Softball in 2020!

1st Place: Each bowler on the winning team will receive a \$300 Empire Softball credit that can be used to cover their share of the cost of any 2020 Empire Softball League or Tournament team. Credit can be used throughout 2020 in increments as each winner sees fit or all at once. A \$1500 credit for the team!

2nd Place: Each bowler will receive a \$150 Empire Softball credit that can be used anytime in 2020 towards an Empire League or Tournament team. A \$750 credit for the team!

3rd Place: Free set of full-dye softball team jerseys courtesy of our friends at Orange Hammer Sports!
Prize awarded as a \$300 gift certificate to the team captain.

4th Place: Empire Softball Hoodies for all players!

*** Cash value of 1st and 2nd Place Awards is half of the credit. Example: A \$300 Empire Softball credit can be traded in for \$150 cash. There is no cash value attached to 3rd or 4th Place Awards. Any of the prizes awarded and all league credits will expire at the end of 2020.*

League Championship Tournament

Top 4 teams from each division based on the final standings (that are able to compete) will be eligible to participate in the tournament. Fee is \$20/player – with the winning team receiving \$500 cash.