

**37th INTERSTATE
BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026
PS Nathan Cup**

1) DATE AND VENUE:

DATE : 27 September – 30 September 2026

VENUE: Sunway Mega Lanes, Sunway Pyramid

2) RULES AND REGULATIONS

2.1 Eligibility:

All State Associations wishing to participate must have fulfilled MTBC and Sport Commissioner's regulations. All participants must be paid-up members of their respective State Associations affiliated to MTBC or Invited State Sports Council.

Participants in the **Youth division** must be born in the year **2005 or after**.

Participants in the **Senior division** must be born in the year **1976 or before**.

2.2 Composition of Team: Each State shall be represented by a team of four (4) Men, four (4) Women, four (4) Youth Boys, four (4) Youth Girls, two (2) Senior Men and two (2) Senior Women.

2.3 Style of Play: Each game shall be bowled on a pair of lanes. Teams and or individuals shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane, and for the next frame alternate and use the adjoining lane, so alternating each frame until five frames are bowled on each lane, completing the game. When any question arises as to whom of any two bowlers shall bowl first, it is incumbent upon the bowler on the left to do so.

2.4 Competition Event: The Men, Women, Youth Boys, Youth Girls, Senior Men and Senior Women shall compete in separate division but the schedule of events shall be the same except that Senior Division will bowl in Mixed Team of 4 for all as follows:

2.4.1 SINGLES - SIX (6) games

- 2.4.2 **DOUBLES** - SIX (6) games
- 2.4.3 **TEAM OF 4** - SIX (6) games in two blocks.
- 2.4.4 **MIXED TEAM OF 4** - SIX (6) games in two blocks.
- 2.4.5 **ALL-EVENTS** - Total score of Singles, Doubles & Teams.

2.5. **CONDUCT OF EVENT:**

- 2.5.1 **SINGLES**: Open to all members of each Squad. Six (6) games across twelve lanes in one block with two persons from the same State, when feasible, scheduled per lane. Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes.
- 2.5.2 **DOUBLES**: Six (6) games in one block across twelve (12) lanes, each game to be played on a different pair of lanes.
- 2.5.3 **TEAM of FOUR**: Six games in two blocks across twelve (12) lanes, each game to be played on a different pair of lanes.
- 2.5.4 **MIXED TEAM of FOUR**: Six games in two blocks across twelve (12) lanes, each game to be played on a different pair of lanes.

2.6 **REGISTRATION OF BOWLING BALLS, ILLEGALITY AND DISQUALIFICATION**

- 2.6.1 **No registration will be carried out during the Championship.**
All participants must ensure their bowling balls used have been checked as legal for weight and other specifications. The onus is on the bowler to ensure that all bowling balls he/she uses fall within specification as required by International Bowling Federation. The Tournament Director reserves the right to check at random, bowling balls used by any bowler in the Championships.

If at any time a bowler is found to have used an illegal ball, he/she shall be disqualified from the entire Tournament and stripped of all his/her medals or position standings.

2.7. **INTERRUPTED GAMES**

- 2.7.1 The Tournament Director may authorize the competition of a game and series on another pair of lanes when equipment failure on the starting lanes would delay the normal progress of the series. An interrupted game and series which cannot be completed on the same date must resume from the point of interruption.

2.8. **BOWLING ON WRONG LANE**

- 2.8.1 When only one (1) player on the lead-off men on both teams bowl on a wrong lane and the error is discovered before another player has bowled, a dead ball shall be declared and the player(s) required to re-bowl on the correct lane(s).
- 2.8.2 When more than one (1) player on the same team has bowled on the wrong lane, the game shall be completed without adjustment and the next game shall be started on a correctly scheduled lane.

2.9 **AWARDS**

Championship awards of Gold, Silver and Bronze shall be presented to first, second and third place at the following events: -

- * SINGLES
- * DOUBLES
- * TEAM OF FOUR
- * MIXED TEAM OF FOUR
- * ALL-EVENTS

The divisional champion state and the overall champion state shall be decided on gold medal count. In the event of a tie in the number of gold medals, silver medals will tie-break and so forth.

2.10 **TIE BREAKING PROCEDURES:**

The player or team with the highest score in the game shall be the winner.

- 2.10.1 When equal score ties are registered for any of the first three (3) positions in the Team of four, Doubles, Singles and All-Events, co-champions or co-winners shall be declared. There shall be no play-off in event of a tie. Teams or players with equal scores will get the same medals and the next position will get, in case of a tie for first position, bronze medal, and in case of a tie for the second or third position, no medals at all.
- 2.10.2 In the event that there is a tie for the All-Events top position for qualifying into the Masters of the National Championships. The highest Singles Event Series (6 Game Total) will decide the winner, followed by Doubles Series and Team Series. Further ties will use the last game of the Singles event and so forth to break the tie.

2.11 **SLOW BOWLING**

Bowlers who are in readiness to step on the approach or prepare to bowl on the lane immediately on their left,

2.11.1 They may claim right of way over anyone moving to the approach or preparing to bowl on the lane immediately on their left.

2.11.2 They may claim right of way over anyone moving to the approach or preparing to bowl on the lane immediately on their right.

2.11.3 Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn should not delay going on to the approach if a lane immediately adjacent to them on the left and right side is clear.

2.11.4 The Championship will utilize the **“ONE-LANE COURTESY” RULE**

2.11.5 In addition to that a shot clock will be used in every game played. The shot clock will be strictly enforced during the tournament. The following rules apply and will be strictly enforced during the entire event.

- a) First shot in a frame. When your opponent leaves the approach and you have a full set of pins, you have 30 (thirty) seconds to complete your shot. The shot is deemed complete in shot clock terms when the ball is FULLY RELEASED and has passed the foul line.
- b) Second shot in a frame. After your first ball has returned to the ball return, you have 30 (thirty) seconds to complete your shot. The shot is deemed complete in shot clock terms when the ball is FULLY RELEASED and has passed the foul line.

2.11.6 First Offence: A warning for slow bowling is given to the player/team.

Second Offence: A warning for slow bowling is given to the player/team.

Third, and continued offence: The pin count of the whole frame where the offence occurred will be nulled. (counted as ZERO).

2.12 **PLAYING UNIFORM**

2.12.1 All participants in the games shall wear a standard uniform with the name of their respective States printed at the back of the shirt. Individual variations to that are not permitted and each member of a women's team must be uniformed in slacks or in skirts during an event, and not a combination of both. The skirts and/or pants worn by the individual State Bowlers must be of same color.

2.12.2 Bowlers are not permitted to wear the following:

- Men Bowlers: Shorts, Blue Denim Jeans, Singlet, Cap.
- Women Bowlers: Blue Denim Jeans & Singlet

2.13 **CODE NUMBERS AND LANE**

2.13.1 Code numbers shall be drawn according to States and shall follow a pre-drawn schedule for lane assignments.

2.14 **SUBMISSION OF LINE-UP**

2.14.1 All final line-ups must be submitted to the Tournament Director/s on the day before the event is held.

2.15 **PROHIBITION**

The players and coaches must not smoke, eat, consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition, i.e. during the entire period of his block of games. In those instances where it is established that a player is in breach of the rule, the Tournament Director may refer him to the Technical Committee for suspension from the tournament for the series of games then being played. Nonalcoholic beverages are allowed provided they are not consumed in the player's area.

2.16 **PROTEST - ELIGIBILITY**

Protests involving eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to the Tournament Director together with a protest fee of RM200, not later than 2 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred. If no written protest is entered prior to the expiration of the 2-hour period, the game shall stand as bowled. Each protest under this rule must be specific in itself and this rule shall not be construed to cover a similar or previous violation.

2.17 **PROTEST - ERROR**

Errors in scoring or errors in calculation in tournament play must be corrected by a responsible tournament official immediately upon the discovery of such error. Questionable errors shall be decided upon by the Tournament Committee. The time limit for filing protests on scoring errors shall be one (1) hour from the end of the event or block of games for each day in the tournament but must be before the prize presentation or the commencement of the next round (in an elimination event) whichever is sooner. Each protest under this rule must be specific in itself and this rule shall not be construed to cover a previous or similar violation.

2.18 **Registration of Bowling Balls Illegality and Disqualification:**

No registration will be carried out during the Championship. All participants must ensure their bowling balls used have been checked as legal for weight and other specifications. The onus is on the bowler to ensure that all bowling balls he/she uses fall within specification as required by International Bowling Federation. The Tournament Directors reserves the right to check at random, bowling balls used by any bowler in the Championships.

If at any time a bowler is found to have used an illegal ball, he/she shall be disqualified from the entire Tournament and stripped of all his/her medals or positions standing.

SLOW OIL-ABSORBING HIGH PERFORMANCE (URETHANE) BOWLING BALLS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE USED. Penalty will be **DISQUALIFICATION** from the tournament.

Click the link below for the list of disallowed bowling balls.

Please check on www.bowl.com

National Tournament Ineligible Ball List - No Slow Oil Allowed including

- **ALL urethane balls (including Japan and Korea OEM urethanes)**
- **ALL urethane mixed coverstocks, such as: MicroCell Polymers (MCP),**
- React-a-Thanes, PBS Urethane Mix, Pyramid GPS Navigational Urethanes**

All participants are advised to check their bowling balls used in the tournament are within the specifications for weight and other specifications before they compete in their events. The onus is on the bowler to ensure that all balls he/she uses are within the

specifications in accordance with International Bowling Federation Rules.

If at any time a bowler is found to have used an illegal ball even if previously certified legal by the Tournament Office, he/she shall be disqualified from the entire Tournament and stripped of all his/her winnings or positions standing and if the Tournament Committee is of the opinion that such usage was deliberate and was intended to cheat, he/she may be further reported to the MTBC Disciplinary Committee/ or ABF Executive Committee for additional penalization. He/she may also be asked to return immediately to one of the Tournament Directors any awards that may have already been given to him/her.

2.19 ALTERING OF BOWLING BALL SURFACE

Altering the surface of the bowling ball is allowed in a designated area during the practice session immediately preceding a competition round.

A player may not alter the surface of the bowling ball during the block. Once practice is over, and the first ball is thrown by the team, no more altering of the ball surface is allowed until the end of the block of games or round. This includes using any form of liquid or cleaner on the surface of the bowling ball.

2.20 MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR:

Any matters not provided for in these rules and regulations shall be governed by International Bowling Federation general playing rules and regulations.