

R.I.O.T. 2026 Tournament Rules

HOST LANES ARE NOW A STRING PIN HOUSE

Sanctioning

1. The R.I.O.T. 2026 Tournament is a **USBC** sanctioned event. The tournament is a mixed handicap competition open to men and women by invitation only.
2. All participants must be a member of **USBC** and be able to provide proof of membership (current sanction card or signed statement from league secretary verifying membership). If the participant is not a member of the USBC, he or she must pay the current **USBC** sanction fees (currently \$25.00) and become concurrently subject to the USBC rules and jurisdiction for the tournament.

Event Participation

3. Bowler is not required to be an **IGBO** member to bowl in this tournament.
4. The tournament events shall be handicap event, and are as follows: **Singles, Doubles, Team** and **All Events Handicap**. *Optional Scratch, Senior Handicap (50 & up) and Best of 3 of 6* will also be offered.
5. Each participant shall bowl three (3) games per event (**Singles, Doubles** and **Team**) and must enter all three events. Teams will consist of four (4) members comprising any combination of men and women. Men and Women will compete on an equal basis. Doubles partners must come from the same team.
6. PBA members are permitted to enter R.I.O.T. Only one (1) PBA member per team is allowed.

Entering Averages

7. Entering averages to be determined in the order as follows:

- 1) **Whichever is higher:**

- a) **Highest verifiable 2025/2026 BOWL.com average of 21 games or more. Not including Summer 2026.**
- b) IGBO tournament average of at least 18 games (09/1/25 – 09/01/2026)

If none from #1 then:

- 2) Highest current winter league average of at least 21 games or more. (*)

If none from #1 or #2 then:

- 3) **Highest summer league average for 2025 or 2026 of at least 21 games or more. (*)**

If none from #1, #2, or #3 then:

- 4) If no verifiable average, bowler enters the tournament with a 225 average or highest entering average over 225.

(*) It is the bowler's responsibility to provide a copy or link to the most recent league standing sheet containing their average and number of games.

8. Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own average, whether submitted by themselves, the team captain, or any other person.
9. Averages will be verified by use of USBC yearbooks, BOWL.com, LEAGUESECRETARY.com, IGBO website or copies of league standing sheets. Sport shot league/tournament averages will be considered, using the USBC Sport Conversion Chart to convert to standard average, (on file with R.I.O.T. 2026).
10. Five pin, candlestick, duck pin, or composite averages will not be used or considered.
11. Bowlers participating in a USBC or IGBO 2026/2027 season league with 21 or more games must report their current average if it is **10 or more pins higher** than their tournament entering average. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

12. Handicap for the tournament shall be based on 90% of the difference between the bowler's entering average and a scratch score of 225 (or the highest entering tournament average). Negative handicap will NOT apply.
13. As of the beginning of date of R.I.O.T. 2026 tournament, any bowler who has won \$600 or more in any single tournament during the period of 10/01/25 – 10/01/2026 must report this information to the tournament director(s) by the time of check-in for POSSIBLE re-rating. Failure to report this information will result in disqualification.
14. Re-rating must be done before the bowler participates in their first event of the tournament, (in compliance with USBC rules).
15. Failure to use or correct the proper average prior to the start of the 1st event of this tournament will result in disqualification.
16. No refunds will be issued for disqualified bowlers.

Optional Scratch Division

17. Each participant may bowl only once in each event. Entry fee is **\$30** in each division.
18. To participate in Optional Scratch, you must register and pay for the event no later than the time of tournament registration at the host hotel.
19. Optional Scratch Divisions will be offered to all participants using five (5) divisions as determined by entering average (see Rule 7).
20. The Optional Scratch Divisions shall be as follows:

Division A: Averages of 149 or Lower

Division B: Averages of 150 – 169

Division C: Averages of 170 – 189

Division D: Averages of 190 – 209

Division E: Averages of 210 & over

21. Scores used for the Optional Scratch Divisions shall be those Scratch games (without handicap) as bowled in the Handicap Events of the tournament (Singles, Doubles and Team).
22. One Hundred percent (100%) of the Optional Scratch Prize fund from each division shall be returned to that division.
23. The award ratio for the Optional Scratch shall be at a minimum of 1:10 per division.

Awards and Prizes

24. All cash awards shall be based on the total pins PLUS assigned handicap for each event (except for Optional Scratch).
25. Awards will be given in the Handicap Division for the best Singles, Doubles, Team and Individual All Events (Individual All Events is defined as the nine-game total plus handicap of an individual bowler).
26. Awards in the Optional Scratch event shall be given for the best single game (from any of the primary handicap events), best three (3) game series (from any of the primary handicap events), and the best nine (9) game total (from all primary handicap events).
27. Prizes will be distributed via checks payable in US Currency within thirty (30) days of the completion of the tournament, barring any protest. Brackets will be paid in cash at the tournament.
28. A tie in any position will result in the sum of the prizes being aggregated for the tied positions affected and divided equally amongst all bowlers that share the tied position.
29. Prize fund will be based on 100% participation.

Attendance and Substitutes

30. It is solely and entirely the bowler's responsibility to be present at the assigned lanes at the time of bowling. Each bowler shall have the total responsibility to arrive in time to bowl. Mechanical failures, transportation irregularities, improper directions and related reasons DO NOT alter the application of **Rules 33 and 34** below (USBC rules will apply).

31. Complete Doubles and Team entrants must be present for bowling each event. If a team member is not present, the team may use an authorized substitute. If no substitute is available, a zero score will be used for the missing bowler.
32. Late bowlers will begin bowling in the frame in which they are ready, with prior frames being scored as zero. No practice balls will be allowed late bowlers.
33. Substitutes may bowl at the discretion of the tournament Director(s). Their entering averages must comply with the rules previously stated. Substitutes must complete a bowler substitution entry form.
34. Bowlers will be allowed 10 minutes of practice before the S/D Shift and 10 minutes before Teams.

Entry Requirements

35. Registration is not guaranteed until payment is received, payments may be made online using the associated links from our tournament website www.riotrivercity.com.
 - a. Online registration only, your payment must be made by Aug 15, 2026.
 - b. Optional events MUST be paid no later than the time of tournament registration at the host hotel.
36. **Entries shall be limited to a maximum of 384 bowlers.** Once this maximum has been reached, no more entries will be accepted. R.I.O.T. 2026 will sell out at 96 teams. Entries will be accepted on a first-come basis. If we reach the 96 teams, registrants that have paid will receive priority. Once an entry has been accepted, NO refunds will be issued.
37. Partial team entries will be accepted. The registration committee will make every effort to fill vacancies.
38. Entry fee for R.I.O.T. 2026 will be \$139 US. (\$55 Prize Fund, \$30 Lineage, \$48 Banquet, \$3 IGBO / Misc. Expenses, \$3 Trophies). Non-Bowler (Guest) Banquet fee will be \$50.
39. Any person attending the tournament requiring special accommodation must notify the tournament director(s) in writing within 1 week of submitting their entry application.
40. The team captain, by submitting their application, acknowledges he/she has read and understands these tournament rules.
41. Singles and Doubles Events will be held at Jax Lanes 8720 Beach Blvd, Jax, FL 32216
42. Teams Events will be held at Batt Family Fun Center 1838 Cassat Ave, Jax, FL 32210

Protests and Conduct

43. Any claims of errors or disputes must be submitted in writing to the tournament Director(s) or their appointed representative(s) the protesting bowler(s) or team within 24 hours of completion of the Team Event. The tournament Director(s) shall settle the dispute according to R.I.O.T. 2026¹ and USBC tournament rules. For more information concerning disputes, please refer to the IGBO policy and procedures section concerning the IGBO Rules Committee.
44. Unsportsmanlike conduct may result in immediate disqualification of a bowler, their removal from the bowling center and forfeiture of any winnings they may have earned. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as actions which others may find abusive, including language, hand gestures or damage to the bowling center's equipment (ball returns, computer consoles, displays, walls, floors etc.).