



The **BOWL CANADA CUP** is an exciting event brought to you by Bowl Canada. The following is the general information on the format of the event. Bowlers should check with their bowling centre's Management for exact details on the event in your centre.

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## TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

NOTE: FOR ALL OPTIONS LISTED, CHECK WITH YOUR BOWLING CENTRE'S MANAGEMENT TO SEE THE OPTIONS SELECTED FOR YOUR CENTRE'S QUALIFYING PROCESS.

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### DATES

January 1 - February 28, 2017	League Qualifying Rounds
March 1, 2017	Entry Deadline
February 15 - 28, 2017	House Cup period
March 15 - 31, 2017	Regional Finals (if required)
April 15 - May 15, 2017	Provincial Finals
July 8 & 9, 2017	National Finals - Winnipeg, MB

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### ELIGIBILITY of BOWLER & CENTRE

The BOWL CANADA CUP is open to ALL fivepin and tenpin league bowlers bowling in a participating Bowl Canada member centre in a participating province affiliated with Bowl Canada. Eligible provinces at this time are British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northern Ontario, Southern Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick (tenpin) and Newfoundland & Labrador.

Bowlers must be nineteen (19) years of age or over at April 1st, 2017. Members of Youth Bowl Canada are eligible to participate if they meet all eligibility requirements.

Entrants must be domiciled in Canada.

Bowlers must enter at a Bowl Canada member centre where they bowl in a league with a minimum of 21 games having been bowled in the league at time of entry (fivepin league for fivepin entrants and tenpin league for tenpin entrants).

Travelling leagues are ineligible for entry and averages established in these leagues are excluded.

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## BOWLER AVERAGES

LEAGUE QUALIFYING: Bowlers shall enter the event using their league average at time of entry (21-game minimum) from the league in which they are qualifying. Bowlers who do not yet have a 21 game average may only enter the Bowl Canada Cup once the minimum 21 games have been bowled.

HOUSE CUP: At the House Cup round, bowlers must compete using their highest average at the date of the House Cup round from ALL LEAGUES in the centre.

REGIONAL FINAL (IF REQUIRED): Bowlers competing in a Regional Final shall use their highest league average in **ALL** bowling centres at **MARCH 1st**.

PROVINCIAL & NATIONAL FINALS: Bowlers competing in the Provincial or National Finals shall use their highest league average in **ALL** bowling centres at **APRIL 1st**.

Example; In determining which average to use at the Regional Finals, John Doe bowls in three leagues this season at three different bowling centres. John Doe's averages in these leagues (at March 1st) are as follows: Mixed League at Centre #1 (181 avg), Men's League at Centre #2 (183), Majors League at Centre #3 (192). When competing in the Regional Finals, John Doe must enter the Bowl Canada Cup using the 192 average. League secretaries should check with House Cup Champions to ascertain whether qualifiers bowled in any other leagues in other bowling centres to ensure bowlers are using correct averages and House Teams will not be subject to disqualification.

Averages established in travelling leagues are excluded.

### Summary of Averages for use throughout the event:

League Qualifying	League Average at time of entry
House Cup	Highest League Avg in centre at date of House Cup
Regional Final (if Required)	Highest League Avg in ALL centres at March 1st
Provincial & National Final	Highest League Avg in ALL centres at April 1st

## TEAM REGISTRATION & COMPOSITION

The Bowl Canada Cup has been designed to have bowlers competing with the team they like most... their own. Every team bowling in your league is automatically entered into the event for FREE! Your customers get to compete with their own team, in a Pins Over Average format.

The Fivepin event is based on 5-player teams. The Tenpin event is based on 4-player teams. If your league teams do not match up with the team composition, consider trying one of the following suggestions;

- If your league teams have one too many players to comply with the team composition, consider making the qualifying round also an elimination round. The team bowler with the lowest score at the end of the league qualifying round would be eliminated from the team, and the remaining players, if qualified, advance to the House Cup. Of course, there's always a possibility that one of the team members is quite happy to sit out of the event, so no elimination may be required.
- If your leagues have fewer than the number of players needed to comply with the team composition, promote the option that your league teams can add a player from other teams or even other leagues. You will need to track these teams carefully to ensure proper advancement in the event.
- While not necessarily recommended, you can always qualify bowlers as singles through your League Qualifying Round, and then form teams based on singles results. While this goes against the philosophy of having bowlers competing with their team of choice, it may resolve an issue for you and make the event work in your centre.

- Or, you can create your own hybrid solution.... for example; If you are a fivepin centre (which requires advancing a 5-player team) but have 6 player teams in your leagues, perhaps you may choose to use the elimination philosophy as above, removing the bowler with the lowest qualifying round score from the league team, BUT, you can take all the eliminated bowlers from all your league teams and form them into teams as well, based on their scores. This may be a way to keep participation at a maximum. Use your creativity to make your unique situation work!

Even if your league teams have the right number of players for the event, you can provide an option whereby bowlers can compete on more than one team. This truly gives them the flexibility to bowl with their friends, or even family!

Teams may be comprised of all men, or all women, or any combination of genders. Because the event is Pins Over Average (POA), all's fair regardless of team composition.

All teams should be registered with the bowling centre by no later than DECEMBER 15th.

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### **LEAGUE QUALIFYING ROUND - January 1 to February 28**

There is NO ENTRY FEE in the League qualifying stage, and ALL your league bowlers should be entered at least once into the event. Remember, the goal is to advance 1/2 of your league bowler base to your House Cup. Beginning in January, your League Qualifying Round may be conducted in one of the two following formats;

Format Option 1;

The first 3 weeks of league scores bowled by the teams (or whichever 3 weeks of league bowling you decide upon) shall count towards qualifying, and based on these scores (POA), **HALF OF THE TEAMS COMPETING WILL ADVANCE TO YOUR HOUSE CUP FINAL.**

Format Option 2;

Select 3 weeks in January to conduct your League Qualifying round. In the first week, each league has 1/6 of the league qualify. The next week, another 1/6 of the league qualifies for the House Cup. In the final week, another 1/6 of the teams in the league has qualified. After three weeks, you have 3/6, or **HALF**, of your league heading to your House Cup Final. Do this for all your leagues and you are set.

Regardless of format, bowlers will compete using averages as defined above (see **BOWLER AVERAGES**).

Bowlers who are absent during any one of the weeks during your League Qualifying Round may use your league's absence rule, and if no rule exists Bowl Canada recommends using a **Doe Score of 95%** of the bowler's average for games missed. League rules may also decide whether or not absent bowlers will be allowed to bowl ahead towards qualifying.

A bowler may enter the tournament on more than one team, and may therefore qualify for your House Cup more than once. If you choose to allow this, be sure to schedule the House Cup shifts in such a way that bowlers on 2 teams can compete with both teams, OR allow them to bowl on one team and count their House Cup games for both teams on the scoreboard.

**NOTE: FOR ALL OPTIONS LISTED, CHECK WITH YOUR BOWLING CENTRE'S MANAGEMENT TO SEE THE OPTIONS SELECTED FOR YOUR CENTRE'S QUALIFYING PROCESS.**

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### **HOUSE CUP - February 1 - 28**

Up until this point, the championship has been completely inclusive of your league customer base, and free for all to enjoy. This is where it gets a little more serious (yet still fun!).

Well in advance of the House Cup Final, participating bowling centres must decide the following;

- Date and Time of the event (to be promoted to leagues early on in the League Qualifying Round)
- Number of games to be bowled at your House Cup

- Lineage to be charged
- Registration Fee for the team (Bowl Canada recommends a minimum \$25 per team registration fee)

Once your League Qualifying Round has concluded, determine your advancing teams and ensure they have been notified of the details (as above). Based on POA Scores scores bowled at your House Cup (using averages as defined above under "BOWLER AVERAGES"), winning team(s) will advance to the next level in the competition; either the Provincial Cup or a Regional Final if required in your province.

In the event a bowler qualifies for the Regional or Provincial Finals for more than one centre, the bowler must declare, immediately upon qualifying a second time, which team/bowling centre he/she will continue in the competition with.

As in the League Qualifying Round, centres may use their own league rules to deal with absent bowlers and bowling ahead. If no Doe Score rule is at hand Bowl Canada suggests using **95%** of the bowler's average.

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### **REGIONAL FINALS (If Required) - MARCH 15 - 31**

In provinces that deem it required, House Cup champions will compete in the Regional Finals. Your Provincial Association will advise you if a Regional Final is required, as well as the date and time of the event, and proprietors, in turn, are responsible for notifying their bowlers.

Provincial Associations shall determine how many games will be bowled (**minimum 3, maximum 5**) as well as how many teams shall advance from each Regional Final, keeping in mind that both Regional and Provincial Finals should be well-attended and thriving events to create a buzz about the Bowl Canada Cup for future years. Winning teams, based on Pins Over Average using UPDATED AVERAGES (Highest from ALL bowling centres) at **MARCH 1st** will be declared Regional Champions and shall advance to the Provincial Cup Finals.

Lineage to be paid by the bowlers.

See "General Rules" for information on Substitutions, Doe Scores and Disqualifications at the Regional Finals.

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### **PROVINCIAL FINALS - APRIL 15 - MAY 15**

Participating centres will receive notification of the time, date and location of the Provincial Finals as selected by the Provincial Association. The Proprietor/Manager is in turn responsible for notifying his/her bowlers.

**Five (5) Games will be played** at the Provincial Finals. The winning team, based on POA Scores using the bowlers' UPDATED AVERAGES (Highest from ALL bowling centres) at **APRIL 1st** shall be declared Provincial Champions and earn the right to represent their province at the National Finals.

Lineage to be paid by the bowlers. Provincial association may instead charge participating centres a set fee to cover costs for lineage at the provincial finals.

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### **BOWL CANADA CUP - NATIONAL FINALS**

Provincial Champion teams, one from each participating province in each of the fivepin and tenpin events, will receive an expense paid trip (travel, accommodation and some meals) to Winnipeg, MB, where they will compete for National Team Titles on July 8th & 9th, 2017 (travel days will be July 7th and 10th).

The National Finals will be a POA event using the bowlers' UPDATED AVERAGES (Highest from ALL bowling centres) at **APRIL 1st**. The national championship is expected to be a round robin, match play format. Exact details, however, are yet to be finalized.

The winning teams (one fivepin team and one tenpin team) based on the finalized format will be declared Bowl Canada Cup National Champions!

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## GENERAL RULES

1. The general playing rules and conduct rules of the Canadian Tenpin Federation (Tenpin) and the Canadian 5-Pin Bowlers Association (Fivepin) will be in effect where Bowl Canada rules are not specified.
2. In case of any dispute, the decision of the Bowl Canada Tournament Director will be final.
3. In the event of a tie in the League, House, Regional or Provincial Finals, a one game roll off must be held to determine the bowler(s) or team(s) who shall advance. In the event of a tie for 1st, 2nd or 3rd place at the National Finals, a one game roll off between the teams shall determine the top three positions.
4. All bowlers who compete in the Bowl Canada Cup must abide by ALL rules of the event. Failure to comply with these rules will result in automatic disqualification.
5. Bowl Canada reserves the right to authenticate the scores and averages of all participants in the Bowl Canada Cup. Any falsification or misrepresentation of scores or averages, knowingly or unknowingly, will result in automatic disqualification.

Bowl Canada reserves the right to disqualify or disallow any entry in the event where it can be reasonably proven that the bowler's average is inconsistent with the bowlers ability or past performance.

6. Final results will be officially checked and audited. There shall be no cash substitution for awards or expenses.
7. The competitors' dress code for all phases of the tournament up to and including the Provincial Finals will be decided by each Provincial Association. For the National Finals the dress code will be decided by the national tournament committee.
8. **Absent bowler / Substitution / Disqualification:**

For rules regarding the League Qualifying and House Cup stages, please refer to those sections in this format summary.

In the event one of the bowlers on a House Cup Championship Team is unable to compete in the Regional, Provincial or National Finals, the bowling centre involved may, at their discretion, send a Substitute bowler to fill the team. Substitutes must have competed in the House Cup at the centre involved. If substitution cannot be made, only the scores of the bowlers present at the Regional, Provincial or National Finals will be counted.

Once a Regional, Provincial or National Final begins, no substitutions can be allowed and only the scores of the bowler present, competing against their full team average, may be used.

Should a bowler be disqualified at any stage of the championship, only the scores of the remaining bowlers on the team shall be counted (team continues to compete against its full roster average).

Should an entire team be disqualified at the National Championships, the disqualified team's tournament average (taken from complete games bowled at the nationals) will be used as a substitute score for the remainder of the tournament. Future opponents must beat the disqualified team's substitute score to receive a point. The disqualified team cannot receive points for games not bowled. Wins and losses earned prior to the disqualification will stand.