



Updates for 2024-2025

Why now?

- To address the feedback from the Open Participant surveys over the past few years.
- To align with the restructuring to 12 Provincial Zones.

When and where were these decisions made?

- At the O5PBA Annual General Meeting (AGM), in June 2024
 - Several Open-related motions and recommendations from Zones and the O5 Board were brought forward for discussion. (The integration of Zone A - Western Ontario into Zone B - Middlesex-Elgin was an additional factor).

Who was involved in the decision making?

- The voting delegation of members across the O5
 - Based on membership numbers, each Zone and DC Association is assigned a voting delegate(s) who discuss the current state of O5 items (e.g., budget, publicity, membership, tournaments, etc.) and vote on any motions brought to the floor. A motion is carried when votes in favour are 50% plus one.
- For the Open and Senior Open, an Ad-Hoc Committee of past and present tournament participants discussed, at-length, the format of the tournaments and were tasked with presenting proposals for the voting delegation.
 - Considerations discussed by the group included, but were not limited to, tournament format (including number of games to be played), costs, travel, timing (including work-related considerations for those required to take time off to participate), experience as tournament participants, and survey feedback from across the O5.
 - The Ad-Doc Committee was comprised of Sarah G, Meghan B, Kevin S, Ron R, Brenda H, Nancy F, Shirlee K, Steph F, Sarah D, Paul B, Christina C, Bob B, Natalie L, Maria I, Melissa L, Andrea P, Sarah C, Lori B. This group has from three to over 35 years of Open / Senior Open experience, and in total, the group has over 240 years of combined participation experience.



Ontario Open - Changes for 2024-2025

<p>Tournament format to be a double round robin with each Zone having a 'Home' and 'Away' game against each competitor.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly responds to Open survey feedback, with most participants noting a preference for more games in the qualifying round. • Qualifying Round to be 22 games for each division, Men, Ladies, Mixed.
<p>Teams Stepladder Finals - the top 3 teams advance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A longer qualifying round will ensure an accurate outcome of the top teams. • Saves on lineage cost to accommodate more games in the Teams Divisions.
<p>Singles qualifying to be eight games, with no option to withdraw once the first ball is rolled at Provincials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligns with many other current tournament qualifying formats (e.g. Club Tour, Masters, etc.). • Saves on some lineage cost and time, to be able to accommodate more games in the Teams Divisions.
<p>Increase the Open Assessment fee from \$30 to \$50.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment fee offsets the cost of lineage at the Open. • Zones set their own qualifying fees based on the O5 Assessment (determined by previous year participant numbers), Lineage, and Zone fee(s).
<p>Parade of Champions (Opening Ceremonies) to occur at the conclusion of the singles qualifying round before the teams qualifying round. Scheduling at the discretion of the Tournament Committee*.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accommodate an earlier start to the singles qualifying round (which allows for the teams qualifying round to begin on the first scheduled day of the tournament.)
<p>Provincial Champions (the National Open Contingent) to pay a \$200 National Open assessment fee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helps offset the cost of Nationals participation, consistent with the current practice in other provinces and bowling associations. • Aligns with survey feedback in which participants were asked how much they would be willing to contribute when qualifying for a national event.

**Tournament scheduling to be completed by the O5 Tournament Committee. Locations may be changes or rotated (e.g., if using multiple centres, the Men, Ladies and Mixed teams may be scheduled to rotate, so teams play at all available centres).*

