

## HIGH-LOW DOUBLES 5 PIN CHAMPIONSHIPS/ INTER-PROVINCIAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### F O R M A T

The High-Low Doubles 5 Pin Championships consists of four (4) steps:

- LEAGUE ROUND
- ZONE/DC FINALS
- PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
- INTER-PROVINCIAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

### GENERAL RULES

1. Open to all bowlers **19 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER** as of **DECEMBER 31ST OF THE CURRENT BOWLING SEASON**, and must be a member in good standing of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association.
2. Entry fee is \$11.00 per bowler.
3. Entry deadline is **OCTOBER 20, 2024**.
4. Each league, by using bowlers' averages, will select their doubles teams as follows:
  - a) Highest average bowler in the league paired with the lowest average bowler.
  - b) Second highest average bowler in the league paired with the second lowest average bowler, and so on until all of the bowlers have been paired.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

#### **37 BOWLERS IN A LEAGUE**

Number bowlers from 1st to 37th according to their averages with the highest bowler being 1st.

The 1st bowler (highest average) is paired with the 37th bowler (lowest average).

The 2nd bowler is paired with the 36th bowler, and so on, which will leave the 19th bowler without a partner. This bowler will be paired with the 18th bowler thus giving bowler 18 two (2) partners.

5. **QUALIFYING ROUND POLICY:**
  - a) Bowlers who are members in two (2) or more leagues may enter and compete in each League Round. Bowlers who qualify to advance from more than one (1) league may bowl on more than one (1) doubles team at the Zone/DC finals, only if scheduling permits.

- b) The phrase "if scheduling permits" grants permission for a bowler to compete in more than one Zone/DC final, so long as each of those finals is a separate and distinct competition, occurring on different days, or at substantially different times.
  - c) Bowlers who qualify to bowl on more than one (1) team at the Zone/DC finals, but scheduling does not permit them to bowl on both teams, must bowl on the team from the league that placed higher in the league qualifying round. If a tie exists, the bowler must bowl on the team from the league in which their average is highest as of the specified average date.
  - d) No bowler will be permitted to compete on more than one (1) team at the Provincial Championships. Bowlers qualifying on more than one (1) team for the Provincial Championships must bowl on the team from the league that placed higher in the Zone/DC qualifying round. If a tie exists, the bowler must bowl on the team from the league in which their average is highest as of the specified average date.
6. This event is a doubles pins-over-average (**No Handicap**) tournament.
  7. A league must have a minimum of five (5) paid entries in order to participate. Leagues may submit an extra entry fee to cover additional entries, in order to advance additional teams to the Zone/DC Finals.
  8. Replacements shall be allowed in all rounds except the League Round.
  9. Any bowler who, for any reason, vacates their position on a team for any level of competition forfeits the right to return to competition in this event on that team or any other team. Such withdrawal may result in suspension of tournament/membership privileges of that individual.
  10. A replacement **TEAM** must be the next eligible team in order of finish from the preceding round.
  11.
    - a) A replacement **BOWLER** must be the next eligible bowler in order of finish from the preceding round, provided that the replacement bowler is from the same league and also of equal average rating as the bowler being replaced.
    - b) Equal average rating means the high average bowler on the team may only be replaced by the high average bowler from another team. This rule also applies to the low average bowler.
    - c) If the next eligible bowler from the preceding round is not from the same league as the bowler being replaced, then revert back to each preceding round until the criteria is met.
  12. If a bowler misses a game or games they shall be allowed 95% of their average for any games missed for all rounds except the Provincial Championships.
  13. Scores and averages of winners in all rounds will be authenticated and checked thoroughly. Any falsification or misrepresentation of scores or averages, knowingly or unknowingly, shall result in an automatic disqualification.
  14. Personal bowling balls may be used if facilities permit. House balls must be used if the bowler's personal bowling balls have not been returned (no delay of game).

**Two (2) personal bowling balls per competitor will be allowed on the rack at a time.**

Personal bowling balls may be randomly inspected at any time during the tournament or on completion of the tournament. The use of personal bowling balls is at the bowler's own risk. The proprietor shall not be liable for any damage to personal bowling balls. Personal bowling balls shall be 4 3/4" to 5" in diameter, and 3 lbs. 4 ozs. to 3 lbs. 12 ozs. in weight, and must be engraved with the bowler's identifying initials or symbols. Should a question arise regarding the legality of a ball, the Tournament Director has the final say. Appeals/complaints regarding personal bowling balls may be made to the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.

15. Canadian 5 Pin Bowlers' Association rules shall apply in all rounds of competition except in the League Round, where league rules shall apply.
16. In the case of any dispute, or interpretation of any rule, the decision of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee shall be final. If a Tournament Director encounters a dispute or needs an interpretation of a rule in any event, they can contact the Provincial Office at (416) 426-7167 any time during the event and you will be connected to a Provincial Tournament Committee member. Phones are monitored on Sundays. In the event that a Local Tournament Director is unable to reach the Provincial Office immediately, the benefit of the doubt must be given to the bowler. The bowler must be permitted to compete and the subsequent results are to be held "unofficial" until the problem or question has been referred to the Provincial Office.
17. No mechanical noisemakers of any kind will be allowed in any round of the event.
18. The following rule will apply to any bowler who is injured during competition:

When a player is unable to complete a game because of injury, the team of which the bowler is a member shall count his/her actual score for the frames completed in the game total, plus one tenth of his/her absentee score (95% of average) for each of the remaining frames.

**EXAMPLE:**

Bowler CS is a member of a team. He has an average of 169.

Frame 1 – CS rolls a strike

Frame 2 – CS rolls a strike

Frame 3 – CS rolls a strike

Frame 4 – On the first ball, CS slams the ball onto his toe and the ball hits the right corner pin. On the second and third balls, CS misses. CS informs the Tournament Director that he is unable to continue.

For the first four frames, CS has scored 96. The format for missing bowler (absentee score) is 95% of average = 161. Therefore, CS score is:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 96 \\
 + 161/10 \times 6 = \underline{96} \\
 \text{Equals} \quad 192
 \end{array}$$

Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
CS	x   15   15	x   15   2	x   2   -	2   -   -							
	45	77	94	96							

<b>LEAGUE ROUND</b>
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1. Doubles teams shall bowl the number of games normally bowled by that league for four (4) consecutive weeks during regular league play between **OCTOBER 21, 2024** and **DECEMBER 1, 2024**.
2. Leagues will advance one (1) team of two (2) bowlers each to the Zone/DC finals according to the following formula:

**EXAMPLE:**

5 to 8 Entries .....	1 Team Advances
9 to 12 Entries .....	2 Teams Advance
13 to 16 Entries .....	3 Teams Advance
17 to 20 Entries .....	4 Teams Advance
21 to 24 Entries .....	5 Teams Advance
25 to 28 Entries .....	6 Teams Advance
29 to 32 Entries .....	7 Teams Advance
33 to 36 Entries .....	8 Teams Advance
37 to 40 Entries .....	9 Teams Advance
41 to 44 Entries .....	10 Teams Advance and so on

3. All bowlers, who compete in the League Round, must use the following criteria for determining averages:

**AVERAGE BOOK:** Bowlers must use their rolling average as recorded in the Zone Average Book or on the O5PBA website at [www.o5pba.ca](http://www.o5pba.ca).

**NON-AVERAGE BOOK:** Bowlers with no rolling average recorded in the Zone Average Book or on the O5PBA website, must use their average from the league in which they are competing up to and including **OCTOBER 20, 2024**, with a minimum of twelve (12) games having been bowled.

4. Bowlers qualifying for the Provincial Championships must have bowled a minimum of twenty-one (21) games from the beginning of the 2024-2025 bowling season up to and including **JANUARY 12, 2025** in order to compete in the Provincial Championships.
5. Spare bowlers are ineligible unless they can compete for the four (4) week League Round and are members in good standing of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association.
6. The League Round is a four (4) week total pins-over-average event. The doubles team beating their average by the most pins over or the least pins under, if all doubles teams are below their average after four (4) weeks, shall be declared the League Champions. All other qualifying positions will be decided by pins-over-average for the four (4) week period.
7. In the event of a tie (two (2) or more teams are the same number of pins over or under their average) after the final 4<sup>th</sup> week, the team(s) beating their average by the most pins the final 4<sup>th</sup> week shall receive the higher placing. If a tie still exists, the team(s) beating their average by the most pins the preceding 3<sup>rd</sup> week shall receive the higher placing.
8. The team that finishes first (1<sup>st</sup>) in the league round will receive Champion Lapel Pins.

9. If the league rules permit bowl-offs for league play, they are permissible for this round only of the tournament.

<b>ZONE/DC FINALS</b>
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1. All League Round qualifiers (doubles teams) in a Zone/DC Final shall bowl three (3) games on or before **JANUARY 12, 2025** in centres designated by the Local Association.
2. All bowlers who compete in the Zone/DC Finals must use the following criteria for determining averages:

**AVERAGE BOOK:** Bowlers must use their rolling average as recorded in the Zone Average Book or on the O5PBA website at [www.o5pba.ca](http://www.o5pba.ca).

**NON-AVERAGE BOOK:** Bowlers with no rolling average recorded in the Zone Average Book or on the O5PBA website, must use their highest league average in that Zone or Decentralized Association up to and including **DECEMBER 15, 2024** (highest average if a bowler bowls in two (2) or more leagues) with a minimum of twelve (12) games having been bowled.

3. The team beating their total team average by the most pins shall be declared the Zone/DC Champions and shall advance to the Provincial Championships. Zone/DC Associations have the option of advancing additional teams to the Provincial Championships (based on the advancement chart) at a cost to be determined by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association.
4. In the event of a tie for first (1<sup>st</sup>) place or the final advancing position, the Zone/DC will decide the tie breaking method from one of the following:
  - a) Team with the most pins-over-average in the last game
  - b) Retrogression method (reverting back to game 2, then game 1)
  - c) A one (1) game roll-off

**Note: The tie breaking method must be announced before the tournament starts**

5. In the event of a tie for any other positions, the team with the most pins over or the least pins under, if all teams are below their team average in the last game, shall receive the higher placing. If a tie still exists, using the same rule, the scores of the preceding game shall be used to break the tie.
6. If a bowler misses a game or games they shall be allowed 95% of their average. (See General Rule 12)
7. The order of bowling may be changed for each game.

<b>PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>
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1. The Provincial Championships shall be bowled on **FEBRUARY 23, 2025** in a centre designated by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association.
2. All bowlers competing in the Provincial Championships must have bowled a minimum of twenty-one (21) games during the 2024-2025 bowling season up to and including **JANUARY 12, 2025** and must use the following criteria for determining averages:

**AVERAGE BOOK:** Bowlers must use their rolling average as recorded in the Average Book or on the O5PBA website at [www.o5pba.ca](http://www.o5pba.ca), and as established in **all sanctioned or non-sanctioned leagues** in Ontario. **The tournament committee reserves the right to adjust a bowler's average at a Provincial Championship, based on all leagues and sanctioned tournaments that they bowled in during the past three (3) seasons to ensure that their average reflects the bowler's true ability.**

**NON-AVERAGE BOOK:** Bowlers with no rolling average recorded in the Average Book or on the O5PBA website, must use **the highest of the following as determined by the Provincial Office:**

Use their highest league average up to and including **JANUARY 12, 2025** (highest average if a bowler bowls in two (2) or more leagues), and as established in any league in Ontario.

**- OR -**

Use their average based on the median between their highest league average up to and including **JANUARY 12, 2025**, and the average based on the twenty-one (21) games (seven weeks) leading up to **JANUARY 12, 2025**.

All bowlers not in the Average Book must provide the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association with an original or a photocopy of their Individual Average Sheet. The average sheet must be obtained from all leagues they bowl in, and must show scores bowled in all games from the opening of the 2024-2025 bowling season with a minimum of twenty-one (21) games bowled up to and including **JANUARY 12, 2025**.

3. All teams competing at the Provincial Championships shall be comprised of all advancing teams from the Zone/DC Finals.
4. All teams competing in the Provincial Championships shall compete against all other teams.
5. No substitutions are allowed within seven (7) days of the event except in extreme circumstances, such as a deceased bowler, a death in the immediate family, or a disabling injury. Please contact the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association for any further rulings.
6. The Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee reserves the right to complete the field if partners are absent from the Provincial Championships, and all decisions by the Committee shall be final. The team member present will be paired with a bowler of equal average rating. "Equal average rating" means the high average bowler on the team may only be replaced by the high average bowler from another team. This rule also applies to the low average bowler.
7. The Provincial Championships shall consist of four (4) games. The team that finishes in first (1<sup>st</sup>) place based on a total team pins-over-average basis will be declared our Provincial Champions.
8. In the event of a tie for first (1<sup>st</sup>) place overall, and for the purpose of declaring a Provincial Champion, a one (1) game roll-off shall be required to determine the winners.
9. In the event of a tie for second (2<sup>nd</sup>), third (3<sup>rd</sup>) or fourth (4<sup>th</sup>), a one-game roll-off (if required) shall be held to determine the final placing.

10. In addition, two (2) teams will be paired together to form a team that will represent Ontario at the Inter-Provincial National Championships.
11. In the event of a tie for any other positions, the team beating their average by the most pins in the last game bowled shall receive the higher placing. If a tie still exists, using the same rule, the scores of the preceding game shall be used to break the tie.
12. At the completion of each game, teams shall remain at their respective lanes. When instructed to do so, they shall move to their next lanes as per the lane draw. The lead-off bowler shall await the starting signal.
13. Any late bowler shall start to bowl and count only from the time of arrival, regardless of the reason.
14. Participants may have an unlimited amount and unlimited sizing of sponsorship logos and/or identification anywhere on their team's shirts while maintaining a clear view of participants association and name. Sponsors may vary between individuals. Sponsors may not be in conflict with sponsors of the O5PBA or C5PBA.
15. All participants must wear shirts with collars in their registered Zone Association colours with a logo identifying the Association they represent. Participants will present themselves in a neat and clean appearance. No cut-offs, jeans or denim. All clothing must cover the "bottoms area". **Individuals on a team may wear a different length style bottom.** Teams should wear a consistent colour or pattern. Hats, caps or headgear of any kind are prohibited unless worn for medical or religious reasons. Any participant not conforming to the dress code may not be permitted to compete in the event as determined by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee. **A fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) will be levied against each PARTICIPANT not conforming to the dress code.**

**Note: As approved at the 2024 AGM "Middlesex Elgin will have a two (2) year grace period to get shirts for those who advance to the Provincials from the old Western Ontario Association, but teams must be dressed uniformly (all one colour or the other)"**
16. All bowlers must initial their lanesheet before it leaves the scorestand after each game. This acknowledges that their score is correct. No changes can be made to the score after it has been initialled and leaves the scorestand.
17. All Canadian 5 Pin Bowlers' Association rules are in effect.
18. There shall be a fifteen (15) minute warm-up prior to the start of the event.
19. All games shall start when the Judge of Play gives the starting signal.
20. The order of bowling may be changed for each game.
21. Any bowler who throws a ball prior to the starting signal may be assessed a fifteen (15) pin penalty. Any ball or balls delivered shall be declared a "dead ball".
22. Flagrant violation of any rules may result in penalties being assessed by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.
23. The lane draw is pre-drawn under the auspices of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.

24. For interpretation of any rules or controversy of any kind, call the Judge of Play immediately.
25. The Judge of Play shall make all rulings and all decisions may be subject to appeal to the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.
26. There shall be no use of alcohol, non-prescribed drugs or vapour cigarettes. Any bowler found to be intoxicated, consuming alcoholic beverages or using non-prescribed drugs, stimulants or vapour cigarettes shall be removed from the tournament.
27. **IRRETRIEVABLY LOST SCORES**

- a) A Tournament game(s) or frame(s) within a game, which is irretrievably lost in the scoring process, is null and void. The game(s) or frame(s) must be re-bowled unless one of the following conditions is met:
  - i) Scores of any players that have been lost can be documented.
  - ii) The team captains/coaches can completely agree on one or more scores lost.
  - iii) The Tournament Committee rules that the game(s) or frame(s) are not to be re-bowled.

If scores on a pair of lanes can be documented or agreed upon, the game shall be continued from the point of agreement. If some but not all of the scores can be documented or agreed upon, the bowlers whose scores cannot be substantiated, shall re-bowl the game to the point of agreement/interruption, at which time the game shall be continued in regular order.

28. **INTERRUPTED GAME OR SERIES**

- a) The Tournament Officials may authorize the completion of a game and series on another pair of certified lanes when equipment failure on the starting lanes would delay the normal progress of the game or series.
- b) An interrupted game and series, which cannot be completed on the same lane, must be resumed from the point of interruption.