

ONTARIO SENIOR CITIZENS (SENIOR AND JUNIOR-SENIOR DIVISIONS) SINGLES AND DOUBLES 5 PIN CHAMPIONSHIPS

FORMAT

The Ontario Senior Citizens (Senior and Junior-Senior Divisions) Singles and Doubles 5 Pin Championships consist of two (2) steps:

- **ZONE/DC FINALS**
- **PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

GENERAL RULES

1. Open to all bowlers **50 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. Bowlers 50 to 64 years of age will bowl in the Junior-Senior Division. Bowlers 65 years of age and over will bowl in the Senior Division.
2. Entry fee is \$125.00 per Zone/DC Association, League or Bowling Centre and per Division (**Junior-Senior and/or Senior**).
3. Entry deadline is **FEBRUARY 15, 2026**.
4. Format in all rounds to be based on pins-over-average (**No Handicap**).
5. Canadian 5 Pin Bowlers' Association rules shall apply in all rounds of competition except in the House Round, where house rules shall apply.
6. If a qualifier is unable to compete in the next round, the position shall be filled by the next eligible bowler from the previous round, provided the substitution is made prior to seven (7) days of the event.
7. In the event of a tie or ties in total pins over or under their average, the bowler beating their average by the most pins over or the least pins under, if all bowlers are below their average, in the last game, shall receive the higher placing. If a tie still exists, using the same rule, the scores from the preceding game will be used to break the tie.
8. Personal bowling balls may be used if facilities permit. House balls must be used if the bowler's personal bowling balls have not 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, 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.

9. 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.

10. 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							

ZONE/DC FINALS

1. The Zone/DC finals shall consist of three (3) games.
2. Two (2) bowlers shall advance to the Provincial Championships in each division and can be any combination of the following:
 - a) One (1) man and one (1) lady
 - b) Two (2) men
 - c) Two (2) ladies

3. The Zone/DC finals must be completed by **MARCH 15, 2026**, and may be bowled during regular league play. If the Zone/DC finals are not being conducted during regular league play, please contact your Zone/Decentralized Association for the date and time of the roll-off.
4. 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.

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 **FEBRUARY 8, 2026** (highest average if a bowler bowls in two (2) or more leagues), with a minimum of twelve (12) games having been bowled.

5. Bowlers qualifying for the Provincial Championships must have bowled a minimum of twenty-one (21) games from the beginning of the 2025-2026 bowling season up to and including **APRIL 5, 2026**, in order to compete in the Provincial Championships.
6. Men and Ladies shall bowl in separate divisions.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. The Provincial Championships shall be bowled on **MAY 13, 2026** 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 2025-2026 bowling season up to and including **APRIL 5, 2026** and must use the following criteria for determining averages:

AVERAGE BOOK: New for the 2025-26 season is a Provincial Tournament Average. The Provincial tournament average will be calculated as each tournament's pinfall (Zone/DC and Provincials) is submitted for the current season, before the start of the Provincial tournament. **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, plus the current season, 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 **APRIL 5, 2026** (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 **APRIL 5, 2026**, and the average based on the twenty-one (21) games (seven weeks) leading up to **APRIL 5, 2026**.

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 2025-2026 bowling season with a minimum of twenty-one (21) games bowled up to and including **APRIL 5, 2026**.

3. Only bowlers declared as Zone Champions shall be eligible to compete in the Provincial Championships.
4. The Provincial Championships shall consist of three (3) games, and will be based on a pins-over-average format. Winners will be declared in Men's and Ladies' Singles for each age Division.
5. The scores of the two (2) bowlers from each Zone/DC and in each division shall be combined in order to determine the Doubles Champions.
6. In the event of a tie for first (1st) place overall, and for the purpose of declaring a Provincial Champion, a one (1) game roll-off shall be required to determine the winners.
7. In the event of a tie for any other positions, the bowler 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.
8. Any late bowler shall start to bowl and count only from the time of arrival, regardless of the reason.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.**
12. There shall be a fifteen (15) minute warm-up prior to the start of the event.
13. The lane draw is pre-drawn under the auspices of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association Tournament Committee.

14. All bowlers must initial their lane sheet 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.
15. All Canadian 5 Pin Bowlers' Association rules are in effect.
16. 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".
17. For interpretation of any rules or controversy of any kind, call the Judge of Play immediately.
18. 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.
19. 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.
20. No food or beverage of any kind shall be permitted in the bowlers' enclosure. As a courtesy to the host bowling centre(s), we encourage that no outside food or beverages be brought in.
21. 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.

22. **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.

23. **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.