

Irish Tenpin Bowling Association

59th National Scratch Championships

2025 RULES



Participation:

Entry is open to all current ITBA general members, over the age of 16 years, on submission of a completed Entry Form.

Entry Form:

All entrants must complete an Entry Form. All requested information must be given.

- The closing date for entries is Wednesday, 23rd April 2025.
- The Tournament Committee reserves the right to reschedule, to ensure the smooth running of the Championships.
- It is your responsibility to check your squad and registration times.
- Late entries will be wait-listed; bowlers will be allocated places in squads as they become available, if (i) required to lead to even numbers for a squad (ii) lane availability permits or (iii) in the event of cancellation.
- The Tournament Committee takes no responsibility for forming teams or in finding members to fill teams.
- To play, including Mixed Doubles, each entrant must wear a polo or dye sublimated bowling shirt affiliated with the Tenpin Bowling Industry. No longer a requirement to have first name and surname on the back.
- It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure the information on the Entry Form and the Ball Registration form is correct. Where incorrect information is submitted, the individual and, where applicable, the team concerned, will be liable to disqualification from any event affected.
- Individuals who find that they cannot play at their scheduled time are expected to notify the Tournament Committee to avoid the potential of disciplinary action.

Registration Form - Bowling Balls, maximum of 10 balls: All entrants must complete, sign and return this form when registering in their first event. All Bowling Balls listed must conform to the latest specifications for weight, balance and hardness for "USBC Approved Bowling Ball List". Spot checks will take place and illegal bowling balls will result in disqualification of the bowler.

Squad Assignments:

An open lane draw will be held on Friday 25th April 2025 with lane assignments to be published on ITBA website on Saturday, 26th April 2025. No alterations will be allowed without prior consultation with the Tournament Committee and only in extreme circumstances will exceptions be made.

Registration:

It is your responsibility to register on time. Registration for each squad will commence 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time and will close 10 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. Bowlers will not be permitted to register or play after the closing time.

Prizes:

Gold, Silver, and Bronze, medals will be awarded for the Singles, Doubles, Trios, Team Events and Mixed Doubles. The winner of the All Events will hold the Jack Murphy Trophy (Men) for one year and the ITBA Perpetual Trophy (Ladies) for one year. The All Events winners (2) will represent Ireland in the European Champion of Champions in **Vienna, Austria, 20 – 26th Oct 2025**, each receiving **€1,100** towards entry fees and costs, should they take-up the invitation to represent Ireland at this tournament.

Ranking Points:

Ranking points are awarded based on the finishing position as documented in the Team Ireland Eligibility and Selection Criteria 2025 document on the ITBA Website:
<http://www.tenpinbowling.ie/teamireland.html>

National Champions - All Events Playoff – Sunday 4th May 2025

- Individuals who have entered Singles, Doubles, Trios, and Team event, will automatically have their totals computed to establish their standing in the All Events. Pinfall will be carried forward.
- The top 6 men will bowl a further nine games, moving lanes after 3 games. The bowler with the highest total pinfall will be declared the winner.
- The top 4 ladies will bowl a further nine games, moving lanes after 3 games. The bowler with the highest total pinfall will be declared the winner.

Rules:

The General Playing Rules of the ITBA will apply, in addition to the following rules:

- Tied positions - will be decided by the highest last game.
- To comply with IBF/ EBF / Sport Ireland Anti-doping rules, competitors will not be permitted to smoke or consume alcohol during competition. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disqualification.
- Protests must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Committee within 30 minutes after the completion of the game in which the infraction occurred. The Tournament Committee's decisions on all matters will be final.
- Bowlers must comply with the Team Ireland dress code. Competitors can find this dress code on ITBA website – Selection Criteria 2024/2025. The wearing of jeans is not permitted.
- The Tournament Committee will permit no unreasonable delay in the progress of any game. Should a competitor refuse to proceed with a shot/game after being directed to do so, that game will be forfeited.
- Bowlers must comply with instructions issued by Lane Marshalls. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- All bowlers/Captain must sign the official score sheets on completion of each squad; unsigned score sheets may result in the loss of these scores.
- It is the bowlers' responsibility to ensure that their bowling balls conform to the latest 'United States Bowling Congress Approved Bowling Ball List' specifications for weight, balance, and hardness.
- It is prohibited to use chemicals, solvents, or other methods to change the hardness of the ball surface after it is manufactured.
- The use of abrasive materials (including sandpaper and scuff pads) or other substances to alter the surface of the ball, is allowed up until the end of practice.
- The use of talcum powder, open rosin bags/grips sacs, or similar substances, presents a serious hazard and will not be permitted in the bowling area, on approaches / shoes.
- Any individual whose conduct is derogatory or not to be in the best interest of the sport, on or off the lanes, during the entire period of the Championships may be disqualified from the tournament and will be reported to the National Governing Body.
- The consumption of food or drink will not be permitted in the bowlers' area.
- Mobile phones must be turned OFF during squads and coaching is not permitted during Championship play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- Decisions made by the Joint Tournament Managers during the Championships will be binding on all parties.