Revised 9/26/26

Constitution of The South Dakota High School Bowling Association

PREAMBLE

The purpose of the South Dakota High School Bowling Association (SDHSBA) will be to provide high school students with the opportunity to experience the spirit of team competition and community pride while participating in a sport they can enjoy for the rest of their lives.

A team bowling program, available to both boys and girls, will bridge the barriers of size, age, strength, sex, race, and handicap, providing opportunities for young people who may lack the interest, or may not be able to compete, in other sports. Bowling is a unique sport, providing its participants with unique challenges and test of skill-both physical and mental.

ARTICLE I: NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

The name of the organization shall be the South Dakota High School Bowling Association.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

The Association shall consist of the high schools included on the attached list.

ARTICLE III: ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Advisory Committee shall be composed of Head Coaches, Proprietors, and League Officers of the SDHSBA. Their responsibilities include but are not limited to coordination of personnel, management, policies and procedures, maintenance of the program, and assistance in settlement of problems and disputes that may arise. He/she also will be responsible for the coordination and communication with the School Boards and Associations that will be involved in SDHSBA activities.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

The President, Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected annually by the members of the Head Coaches of SDHSBA participating school.

ARTICLE V: FINANCES

The bowling establishments and participants will incur all financial obligations in the operation of this program while it is limited to a club sport. Costs and expenses may include but are not limited to:

1.) **Salaries for the coaches**
2.) **Team Uniforms**
3.) **Bowling fees and sanction fees**
4.) **Transportation to meets and tournaments**
5.) **Insurance**
6.) **Banners, jackets, trophies, and awards**
7.) **Secretarial and record-keeping costs**
8.) **Scholarship awards**

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

An amendment must be brought before the SDHSBA Advisory Committee at its regularly scheduled meeting. Any amendment, if passed, will take effect at a time designated by the Committee. An amendment must receive a two-thirds majority affirmative vote from all members of the Advisory Committee to be passed.

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL BOWLING ASSOCIATION
POLICIES AND PROCEEDURES

1. **SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION**

   Competition in bowling will be held for all participating high schools in a single class.

2. **ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY FEES**

   The SDHSBA shall abide by South Dakota High School Athletic Association (SDHSAA), specific school district and USBC Youth eligibility rules. The SDHSBA shall be certified with the USBC High School Division each year to ensure competition is conducted within the rules of the game as set forth by the sport's national governing body. The SDHSBA secretary shall receive, before the first match, the names of all individuals of each club. Individuals may be certified through the SDHSBA Child/Adult League or through a league certified by the USBC Youth division and must be able to show proof of certification to compete. Bowlers must be enrolled in their school or abide by their school's eligibility policy. **Students' participation fee will be $160.00 per student. If bowler is 18 years old as of August 1st of the current season they will need to pay an additional $15 to cover their adult sanction card. Fees and sanction cards are due before the first match of the season. Students who have not paid or submitted their sanction card are not eligible to bowl.**

3. **LEAGUE STRUCTURE**

   The goal of each individual school shall be to field one boy's and one girl's junior varsity team and one boy's and one girls' varsity team (a total of four teams per school). The league season will coincide with the timeframe of other winter sports as set by the South Dakota High School Athletic Association (SDHSAA), generally November 1 through the end of February. Each school will compete in at least one match per week during the season (less holiday weeks) plus up to three tournaments including the season ending state championship tournament.

4. **LEAGUE PLAYING RULES**

   a. **Team Structure**

      1. Each team will consist of a Varsity and Junior Varsity team. Six bowlers will be selected to bowl each game in matches of 3-on-3. Additional bowlers are allowed to practice with the team at the discretion of the coaches and bowling centers.
      2. A legal lineup will consist of a minimum of one bowler from each team in each match. Vacancy scores must be used for absent bowlers (see vacancy score section).

   b. **Scoring**

      All league matches will be bowled on a scratch basis. Each position will bowl three games against a matched competitor.

c. Point System for League Matches and Format

A 25-point scoring system shall be used. Each team will bowl 6 bowlers in the matches of 3 against 3. Each of 6 bowlers is awarded one (1) point for winning their game against the same bowler in the lineup on the other team. One (1) point is awarded to each bowler with the higher series. Three (3) points are awarded the team with the highest total game. Four (4) points are awarded the team with the higher team series. The points from the two matches are added together to determine the winning team. Total points between the two teams in each match must add up to 50. During matches the varsity teams must be filled before placing bowlers on JV teams.

d. Ties During Season Match Play

Should there be a tie of 25 to 25 at the conclusion of a match.

1. Each team will bowl on the same lane that they bowled on during competition.
2. The visiting team will bowl first with player number 1, followed by the home team player number 1, then the visiting team player number 2, etc.
3. Each player throws one ball for a maximum score of 10. Total pins for the 6 shots wins the match.
4. If the teams remain tied this process will continue until a winner is found.
5. No warmup shots will be thrown.
6. Should two teams bowl at different times or dates and a roll-off is not possible, the tie breaker would be based on total team series pins.

<u>Playing Format</u>

1. A team is expected to present a legal lineup on the lanes at the scheduled starting time for the match. The **bowlers should be present 20-30 minutes before their match begins.** It is highly recommended to play the National Anthem before the beginning of practice.
2. **Practice:** Ten minutes of practice is allowed (5 minutes on each lane). Bowlers are not allowed to bowl on the same day prior to a competition in the bowling center where the competition is to be bowled.
3. **Lineups:** Coaches shall exchange lineups at least 20-30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time to allow the establishment time to enter the lineups into the system. The home team is to put their lineup down first.
4. **Eligibility:** It is the responsibility of the schools' coach to ensure all bowlers meet academic eligibility. If ineligible bowlers are allowed to bowl the consequence would be forfeiting that match with 0 points. **Eligible bowlers include only 7th-12th graders.**
5. **Substitutes:** Substitutes are not allowed in the middle of a game. A substitute bowler may be used for second and/ or third game during the match. There will be no substitutions directly between the two varsity teams. Substitution in case of an injury will follow USBC rules. Free substitutions are allowed from the junior varsity and practice lanes. Once a bowler has been removed from a varsity match, they may not reenter the match until the next game.
6. **Vacancy Scores**: A full competitive team in SDHSBA should be comprised of 6 bowlers. If a bowler is absent from a match a vacancy score will be used for that bowler. The vacancy score will be as follows: Varsity Boys 150, JV Boys 100, Varsity Girls 120, and JV Girls 90.

7. **Forfeits**: A team which forfeits will forfeit all points for the game in situation A and B. The scores of all eligible players shall be included in the league records and will qualify for all league and USBC youth individual awards. When a match is declared forfeited, the team that is present shall bowl as if the match were contested.
   - **A.** A team game will be declared forfeited if one team fails to appear by the time the opposing team has completed its third frame of bowling, providing the opposing team started bowling at the scheduled starting time of the match.
   - **B.** The match will be declared forfeited if one team fails to appear within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time for the match. Refer to item C below if an emergency arises.
   - **C.** A match may be rescheduled or the starting time delayed due to travel difficulties providing the opposing team's coach are notified within a reasonable time.
   - **D.** A game or a match with less than a full team will play with vacancy scores to decide the team points for the match. In this case team points will be decided based on scores against the vacancy score.
   - **E.** When one team has zero players the opposing team will win all 50 points.
8. **Postponements:** Postponed matches due to inclement weather should be made up prior to the next match when possible. The coaches of the teams affected must work out a time to hold the match at the scheduled house.
9. **Junior Varsity and State Championship Tournament Format**
   - A. Any participating school in the SDHSBA may enter the two Tournaments (if offered) during the year. The tournaments may be open to both Varsity and Junior Varsity divisions. Both levels if offered with use the Varsity format.
     Varsity and Junior Varsity Format: Each participating school in the SDHSBA may enter one Varsity girls' team (5 girls plus 3 girl subs) and one Varsity boys' team (5 boys plus 3 boy subs) to State. Players are only allowed to participate in one tournament per year.
   - B. The Varsity tournament shall consist of two rounds of competition. Prior to the tournament a list of tournament procedures will be provided to the coaches with a complete list of the format rules for the upcoming event.
     1. **See addendum for tournament format and rules.**
   - **C. Conduct of Coaches and Players**
     1. All coaches must be registered with the USBC Registered Volunteer Program and **complete Safe Sport training and yearly refresher course**. The association will reimburse each coach for the fees incurred to register for the program. **Coaches are also required to complete any training required by their school districts. All training needs to be completed by the given deadlines**.
     2. **If students turn 18 before August 1 they need to sanction as an adult and complete Safe Sport Training. If the student turns 18 after August 1, they need to complete Safe Sport Training before they are allowed to bowl. They can complete this training up to one week before their 18th birthday. Bowlers can do this by going on USBC Bowl.com and using their sanction number to take the training (see Safe Sport Training Instructions Sheet).**

3. No coach, player or other person officially connected with the team shall be permitted to use tobacco products, vaping products or alcoholic beverages during a match or practice. Students will abide by their school's drug and alcohol policies.
4. In the center, spectators and general publics' use of tobacco products, vaping products or alcoholic beverages must be in a designated area away from the high school practice and match areas.
5. All bowlers will remain in the immediate bowling area while competition is in progress.
6. Bowlers will be expected to follow the previous bowler promptly and as soon as the adjacent lane is clear.
7. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not restricted to deliberate foot fouls, vulgar language, obscene gestures, abuse of equipment or excessive distracting showboating is not permitted.
8. Conduct Enforcement Policy: Coaches of all participating schools are responsible for the enforcement of the following penalties. The SDHSBA officers shall have final say on enforcement when the two coaches cannot agree on the penalty that should be handed down.
    - 1st incident- Zero for the frame that was just bowled and zero for the next frame. (Zeroes can be carried over to the next game or match.)
    - 2nd incident- All of 1st incident penalties plus the bowler will be taken out of the match. The coach may bring in a sub for that bowler. If bowler is in the third game when a violation occurs, the bowler will be prevented from bowling in the next match also. Depending on the severity of the conduct violation, the bowler may be subject to the 2nd level of punishment immediately.
9. The coach(es), league officials and the bowlers bowling in a match are the only persons authorized to be in the bowler's area during a match. Lane monitors will be allowed in the area during tournaments.
10. Coaches and athletes will strive to abide by the SDHSAA Sportsmanship and Ethical Guidelines and/or their school specific rules. In addition, coaches will follow the guidelines governed by USBC RVP Code of Conduct and SafeSport Coaches expectations.
11. Coaches Conduct Enforcement Policy: Coaches are required to abide by the SDHSBA Constitution. Should a coaching infraction in violation of the constitution arise the SDHSBA officers shall have final say on enforcement of appropriate consequences. Consequences may include but are not limited to verbal or written warnings, temporary or permanent suspension of coaching duties.

5.) BOWLING PRACTICE

a. In meet or tournament host center:

Any team member or substitute may not use any of the bowling lanes within the bowling establishment on the day of any match or tournament. A bowler that violates this provision will not be allowed to compete in the given event.

b. Prior to the start of match & tournaments:

Five minutes of practice is allowed on each lane. (Exception: When a team is late for the match.) Tournament practice will be defined for each individual tournament.

c. Required practice sessions:
It is the responsibility of each head coach to conduct at least one (1) formal practice session each week during the high school bowling season. These sessions will be at no cost to the schools. Students will be required to pay their center's payment per practice session and must be arranged with the participating bowling center(s) to ensure lanes are reserved and available.
d. Individual practice will be encouraged, and the bowling centers will offer practice games at $3.00 per game. Practice cards will be provided by the SDHSBA to the students.

6) UNIFORMS
Team competitors shall appear in uniforms approved by the SDHSBA for all matches and tournaments. **No blue jeans allowed, and only approved shirts will be allowed. Black, tan, or other colored jeans or team slacks are allowed. The entire team must wear the same color uniform (pants & shirts/ skorts for girls are allowed). Absolutely no hats, stocking caps, shorts or leggings will be allowed** during match play.

7) TRANSPORTATION
It will be the responsibility of each participant in the SDHSBA to arrange for their own transportation to and from practices, matches and tournaments. It will be required that all participants to sign waivers of liability, stating that they are assuming full responsibility for their transportation and will hold the school districts, coaches, and bowling centers harmless for any action arising because of travel in connection with SDHSBA activities. Coaches need to check with their district concerning parents carrying players to matches. Bowlers are not allowed to drive themselves to out-of-town matches and will be disqualified if found doing so.

8) COVID19 Guidelines
Teams are required to follow their school district specific rules regarding any Covid19 protocol and/ or local guidelines that may differ from state guidelines where games / matches are being held.

8) AWARDS
One conference plaque will be awarded to the schools that finish in first and second place in the Varsity and Junior Varsity divisions of competition at the conclusion of the regular league season. Individuals on each team will receive a medal. Conference Ties will be broken by 1) head-to-head competition during the season 2) 3-game roll off at a neutral location of all tied teams with high series score being the tie breaker.

Varsity Tournament will award an All-Conference Team with plaques for the top five players based on the regular season average. Bowlers must have bowled ¾ of the matches during the season and be eligible to bowl at the end of the season.

Senior Leadership Award: Each team will nominate 2 boys and 2 girls excluding their own team for the Senior Leadership Award. These names will be distributed, and each team will vote for 3 boys and 3 girls to be considered for the award. The 5 boys and 5 girls with the most votes will be awarded a certificate and the top of each gender will receive a plaque and a $300 Smart Scholarship. The other 8 individuals will receive $100 Smart Scholarships each. Bowlers must have bowled ¾ of the matches during the season and be eligible to bowl at the end of the season.

Team Sportsmanship Award – Each team will nominate one team, excluding their team, to receive the award. The team with the most nominations will be awarded the traveling trophy and place a placard with the year and team name.

Regular season awards for bowlers will be awarded within each division. Each division will award a first, second, and third place plaque for high series and high game based on scratch scores. Bowlers must have bowled ¾ of the matches during the season and be eligible to bowl at the end of the season.

To be eligible for awards, the bowler must compete in at least ¾ of all games bowled by his/her team. Scholastic letters will be awarded at the discretion of the individual coaches and schools.

9) OUTSIDE PARTICIPATION AND COMPETITIONS

During the High School bowling season, which generally runs from November 1st through February 28th members of a High School team must follow their school district specific rules concerning outside participation and team events.

10) CONTINGENCIES The SDHSAA official handbook, school specific guidelines, the USBC High School Division Rule Book, and / or the SDHSBA officers and coaches shall cover any situations that arise not specifically included in these SDHSBA guidelines.

SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL BOWLING ASSOCIATION
Officer/Advisory Committee Responsibilities

Advisory Committee:

- Coordination of personnel
- Management policies and procedures
- Maintenance of programs
- Settlement of problems and disputes
- Grantor of authority to Commissioner
- Communication and coordination with school districts and other associations
- Expansion of Association
- Publicity
- Coordination of SD High School Bowling with national efforts

President:

- Attend Advisory Committee meetings
- Set meeting dates and call Advisory Committee meetings
- Determine Advisory Committee meeting agendas
- Conduct Advisory Committee meetings
- Oversee and audit financial records of the Association

Vice President:

- Attend Advisory Committee meetings
- Takeover for President in his/her absence
- Takeover in the absence of a Secretary / Treasurer until a new Secretary / Treasurer is appointed or elected

Secretary / Treasurer:

- Attend Advisory Committee meetings
- Act as league/ association secretary
- Take minutes of Advisory Committee meetings and distribute
- Receive and record all scores for all matches
- Communication of results to media
- Receive and manage all Association funds
- Manage all bank accounts/records
- Pay bills

Proprietor Representatives:

- All proprietors are invited to attend Advisory Committee meetings
- Provide insight to program from proprietor perspective
- Assist to determine/ develop High School Bowling program that would be accepted by proprietors statewide.