

Entering Averages

1. Any bowler entering G.I.F.T. should have an established ten-pin average based on 21 or more games of league bowling during the period from August 1, 2023- April 1, 2024 (USBC season). If you bowl in multiple leagues, G.I.F.T. will use your highest league average in a sanctioned or non-sanctioned league, rather than a composite average from multiple leagues. Even though most leagues will be ending during the month of April, we are asking you to submit your highest average as of April 1, 2024. There are number of different options for providing proof of average. You can provide us a copy of your league standing sheet from the week of March 24-March 30, 2024, direct us to the bowling establishment or league identification number in League Secretary where we can find your standing sheet online, or give us the name, email address or phone number of your league secretary who can verify your average as of 4/1/24. DO NOT rely on the bowl.com website to help us verify averages. Those averages are often reported long after the conclusion of your season.

The following rules will apply to entering averages:

- a. Bowlers must submit verification of their average as of April 1, 2024 (minimum 21 games) to the registration director when they officially register. **The highest average of all leagues will be used.**
 - b. If the bowler does not have a qualifying average as of April 1 of the current year, then the bowler must submit their league average from last year (if you only bowled in one league) or your composite average from all leagues bowled in the 2022-2023 season. This will be verifiable on bowl.com.
 - c. If the bowler does not have a qualifying average as of April 1 of the current year or the 2022-23 season, then the bowler must submit their league average from the 2021-22 season (if you only bowled in one league) or your composite average from all leagues bowled in the 2021-2022 season. This will be verifiable on bowl.com
 - d. If the bowler does not have either of the above criteria (1a, 1b or 1c), then a summer league average from the 2023 season can be used (minimum of 21 games).
 - e. If an entrant does not have a verified average in accordance with Rules 1a-1d, then the bowler will enter the tournament with a 230 average. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.
 - f. The G.I.F.T. tournament will NOT accept Sports bowling league averages or make average adjustments for Sport bowling league averages (USBC rules 200-207 will not apply).
2. If a bowler's accumulated 12 month (April 1, 2023 - April 1, 2024) IGBO tournament sanctioned average (minimum of 21 games) is higher than the entering average established under rules 1a-1d, re-rating will occur and bowler's IGBO sanctioned tournament average will be used for the tournament average. Cleveland G.I.F.T. will verify IGBO tournament averages through the IGBO TAD tournament average database. All bowlers can access TAD on the IGBO site. USBC Rule 319e (as modified by this paragraph) will apply.
3. A bowler is not required to report any previous tournament prize winnings as a condition of entry (USBC rule 319d does not apply).
4. The average of a bowler may be adjusted upward at the discretion of the tournament directors before the entrant bowls. A bowler unwilling to accept an average adjustment is entitled to a full refund of the entry fee.
5. Handicap for the tournament shall be based on 90% of the difference between the bowler's entering average and 230. Negative handicaps shall not apply.
6. **It is each bowler's responsibility to ensure that proper average verification is on file with Cleveland G.I.F.T. and to verify the accuracy of his/her average, whether originally submitted by the bowler, his/her team captain, the league secretary, or others.** Failure to use the proper average or make correction before an entrant bowls shall disqualify the bowler if the submitted average is lower than the actual average.