

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, 2025- March 28, 2026 (USBC season). If you bowl in multiple leagues, G.I.F.T. will use your composite average (the sum of the total pins of all leagues regardless of the number of games played in each league divided by the total number of games played) in sanctioned and/or non-sanctioned leagues. Even though most leagues will be ending during the month of April, we are asking you to submit your composite average as of March 28, 2026. There are a number of different options for providing proof of average. You can provide us a copy of your league standing sheets from the week of March 22- March 28, 2026, direct us to the bowling establishment or league identification number(s) in League Secretary or bowl.com 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 3/28/26. 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 composite average as of March 28, 2026 (sum of total pins in all leagues regardless of number of games played divided by the total number of games bowled) to the registration director when they officially register. **The 25-26 composite average of all leagues will be used.** If you only bowled in one league during the 25-26 season, then submit that average provided you had bowled 21 games.
 - b. If the bowler does not have a qualifying average as of March 28 of the 25-26 season, then the bowler must submit their composite league average from the 24-25 season or your average from the one league you bowled in during the 2024-2025 season provided you bowled a minimum of 21 games. This will be verifiable on bowl.com.
 - c. If the bowler does not have a qualifying average as of March 28 of the 25-26 or the 2024-25 season, then the bowler must submit their league average from the 2023-24 season (if you only bowled in one league) or your composite average from all leagues bowled in the 2023-2024 season. This will be verifiable on bowl.com.
 - d. If the bowler does not have any of the above criteria (1a, 1b or 1c), then a summer league average from the 2024-2025 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, 2025 - March 29, 2026) 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 GIFT 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.