

LEAGUE CERTIFICATIONS COMING IN

Has your league certified on time this year? Each year a number of leagues don't attend to this requirement and lose precious benefits as a result. This is the time of year that all leagues should be sure that your certification application, membership application cards and money has been turned in to the Metro Detroit USBC Association. One of the key points for leagues to be eligible for full bonding and award protection is to file your certification application within 30 days of the league start date. If you have a question about whether your league application has been filed please call the Association office at (248) 443-2695.

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

The call for league bowling is in the air.

If you are not signed up for a league as yet, why not call your local bowling center and inquire about openings. Every bowling center will help place you in a league, which matches your skill and interest level.

League bowling is the most reasonably priced recreational opportunity a person can have. For an average of \$14-\$20 each league session you can enjoy the physical exercise the sport provides, the camaraderie of being with others with like interests and the competition.

Speaking of the physical exercise the game provides, make sure to stretch those muscles before competition so you don't end up on the disabled list. Be sure to get to your league session a few minutes early and throw a few practice balls.

If you haven't bowled for a while, like since last spring, visit your local bowling center and work on your mechanics. By doing this you won't be surprised when that first league session comes.

If you are unsure about joining a league, encourage one of your friends to join with you. This can make the experience much more pleasant.

Bowling centers offer leagues at every level of competition. There are leagues for all women, all men, mixed and youth leagues at virtually all local centers.

For parents this is the chance to get your children involved in the game that you probably enjoyed in your youth. In addition to youth leagues there are also many family leagues, where youth bowl with adults. There is much flexibility built into these league structures to accommodate every family's needs.

Nearly all bowling centers offer a youth program. Even if your local center has not had one in the past, check with the center personnel about their current programs.

Local bowling centers have done a tremendous job of keeping up with the times. The summer time is when your local bowling center prepares for the busy fall winter season.

The United States Congress (USBC) offers certified organizational support for leagues. The annual cost is very nominal and only has to be paid in one league to be covered in your other local leagues.

Annual membership in the USBC through the Metro Detroit USBC is \$20.

The USBC through the MDUSBC offers league structure support, standardized rules, bonding; standardization of the equipment used and recognized league averages. The MDUSBC also offers our own brand of local awards program and other opportunities only available to our members.

Your best value in sports is still certification, as it has been for over 100 years.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR 2016 STATE TOURNAMENT

The Metro Detroit USBC will host the 2016 Michigan State USBC BA Open Championship at Waterford Lanes and Century Bowl in Waterford.

MDUSBC will be responsible for conducting the 50/50, brackets and jackpots for the 17-week run of the tournament. The tournament starts in January and ends in May.

MDUSBC is looking for volunteers to assist in these responsibilities.

If you are interested please contact the MDUSBC office at (248) 443-2695.

2015-16 MDUSBC AWARDS PROGRAM

The Metro Detroit USBC has expanded the new awards program for the 2014-15 season to include recognition for members of all averages. This will also include an optional premium honor score awards program with crystal awards.

The following accomplishments will be recognized with a pen:

- 150 Game for bowlers averaging 110 and under
- 175 Game for bowlers averaging 125 and under
- 200 Game for bowlers averaging 150 and under
- 400 Series for bowling averaging 120 and under
- 500 Series for bowlers averaging 135 and under
- 600 Series for bowlers averaging 165 and under
- 700 Series for bowlers averaging 200 and under

A deck of cards will be awarded for those bowlers bowling a game 75 pins over average, while those 100 pins over average in a game will receive a towel.

For those bowling a series 150 pins over average will get a keychain light and those 200 pins over average in a game will be awarded a watch.

Each of the following will be recognized with a lapel pin:

- Triplicate series
- Stepladder series
- Clean series
- Dutch 200 game
- All Spare game
- 7-10 split conversion
- 4-6-7-10 split conversion



MDUSBC members who purchase a Premium Award upgrade option for an additional \$15 are eligible to earn crystal awards for an 11-in-a-row, 300 game and 800 series (limited to one per season in each category). If a bowler doesn't purchase the upgrade, they can still get the crystal award for \$30 for each honor score achievement.