World Bowling

Statutes and Playing Rules

Effective as of January 2018

World Bowling Statues and Playing Rules Content

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Introduction

Background

The Fédération Internationale des Quilleurs (FIQ) was founded in Hamburg, Germany on 27 January 1952 to foster worldwide interest in amateur tenpin and ninepin bowling and international friendship through the world and zone tournaments and bowling competitions between bowlers of different countries. FIQ maintained two separate membership disciplines known as the World Tenpin Bowling Association (WTBA) and the World Ninepin Bowling Association (WNBA).

The World Tenpin Bowling Association of the Fédération Internationale des Quilleurs was created to serve the amateur sport of tenpin bowling throughout the world. Its mandate, therefore, was to augment the promotional and sportsmanship principles of FIQ and further serve the sport by adopting uniform playing rules and equipment specifications for its tournaments, or any others to which it grants approval, thereby providing an example of uniformity for the game.

Any reference in this text to national membership or representative of a country technically refers to the federation with membership for a country.

At 2015 FIQ and WTBA Congresses the two organisations FIQ and WTBA was merged into one organisation World Bowling, which from January 1, 2016 is the governing world organisation for tenpin bowling.

Championships and tournaments

Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 of these rules shall prevail for championships conducted by World Bowling.

For Zone Championships Chapters 2, 9, 10 and 11 shall prevail. Each Zone shall have its own set of rules for its championships in which variations are permitted from Chapters 4, 5 and 6.

For World Bowling approved international tournaments Chapters 2, 3, 9, 10 and 11 shall apply.

For World Games, Regional Games and Other Global Games Chapters 2, 8, 9, 10 and 11 shall apply.

Equipment

All tenpin tournaments approved by World Bowling shall be conducted with equipment and products, which have been certified, by an official World Bowling test facility, to comply with all World Bowling Specifications. Such approval is subject to and contingent upon laboratory examination, testing procedures and fees established by the World Bowling Executive Board.

Presently, the USBC facility at Arlington, USA is the only official World Bowling test facility. Other facilities may apply for and receive such official status by submitting detailed information satisfactory to the World Bowling Executive Board that its testing procedures comply with World Bowling requirements.

Note
In the World Bowling Statutes and Playing Rules, the masculine gender used in relation to any physical person shall, unless there is a specific provision to the contrary, be understood as including the feminine gender.

1. World Bowling Statutes

1.1 Name and office

a) This organization shall be known as World Bowling.
World Bowling was founded in Hamburg, Germany, on January 27, 1952.
b) World Bowling is an international non-governmental not-for-profit organization of unlimited duration, in the form of an association of national member federations with the status of a legal person.
c) World Bowling is an International Federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
d) The object of World Bowling is to fulfill the mission, role and responsibilities as assigned to it by the Congress and as specified in the Statutes.
e) The decisions of the Congress are final. Any dispute relating to their application or interpretation may be resolved by the Executive Board and, in certain cases, by arbitration before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).
f) The location of the principal offices shall be as determined by the Executive Board from time to time.

1.2 Purposes

1.2.1 To conduct for its member federations
a) A World Bowling Championships for Men every fourth year
b) A World Bowling Championships for Women every fourth year
c) A World Bowling Championship for Men and Women every fourth year
d) A World Bowling Single Championship for Men and Women every fourth year
e) A World Bowling Championships for Youth every second year
f) A World Bowling Championships for Senior every second year
g) A World Bowling Championships for Junior every second year
h) Tournaments/Events/Championships as otherwise decided by the World Bowling Congress

1.2.2 To require its Zones to conduct at least one championship every fourth year for its members in the respective Zone.

1.2.3 To grant approval to tenpin bowling tournaments, especially those international events anticipating entries from different Zones, which comply with World Bowling Rules and tournament principles.

1.2.4 To recognize the authority of the Olympic movement and to support and adhere to the fundamental principles, rules, by-laws and the Code of Ethics of the International Olympic Committee.

1.3 Official language

1.3.1 The official language for meetings - Congresses, Executive Boards and Committees- shall be English and translations shall be made to Spanish, where practicable. The English language shall apply where there are varying interpretations.

1.3.2 Statutes and Rules shall be published in English.

1.3.3 Each Zone may determine what language shall prevail in the interpretation of its statutes.

1.4 Membership

1.4.1 World Bowling's membership shall include all national federations which have been admitted by World Bowling as members. They can be provisional or ordinary members. Only one organization from a country may be admitted to membership, except that additional national organizations may be admitted as members

a) where the Congress determines that it is in the best interests of the sport, and
b) World Bowling receives separate applications from traditionally distinct and separate sporting territories within a country, and
c) provided that other international sports federations consider them as separate organizations, and
d) provided also that for the Olympics and for the Games under its auspices (e.g., the Asian, European and Pan American Games) they shall cease to be separate and shall come under the jurisdiction of the National Olympic Committee of the said country, and
e) provided also that the original World Bowling member federation has no objection to such application for the separate membership.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, commencing January 1, 2018, no new member shall be admitted to World Bowling membership unless it has a separate National Olympic Committee that is recognized by the International Olympic Committee. Any World Bowling members that were members in good standing as of December 31, 2017 are exempt from this provision.

1.4.2 Supporting documentation. A national organization can qualify for membership only if it submits:

a) A written application with a copy of its own minutes showing that authorization for the application was approved by an appropriate body of the organization and acknowledging acceptance of World Bowling's Articles of Incorporation, Statutes and other organizational documents;
b) A copy of its own constitution, statutes, rules and other organizational documents;
c) Evidence that the organization is an established national federation, which is recognized by its National Olympic Committee, and that the majority of its members hold either citizenship of that country or permanent domicile status; and
d) A list of officers and information as to the number of male, female and/or junior members of different systems of bowling and bowling facilities in the country;

1.4.3 Action on membership. Action on each application for membership shall be taken by the Congress following recommendation by the Executive Board. The Congress shall make the decision regarding acceptance in simple majority. A provisional membership can be given when the members of the Executive Board have approved it.

1.4.4 Alternative approval process. Notwithstanding the requirements above, the Congress may accept new member federations in special and exceptional circumstances provided there is at least a three-quarter (3/4) majority of votes given.

1.4.5 Rights of the ordinary members

a) To take part in the Congress in accordance with the stipulations, propose a motion and make election proposals. Each member federation has one vote at the Congress. The vote may be transferred by proxy to another member federation, but only one proxy vote may be assigned to a member organization.
b) To participate in all World Bowling activities .
c) To allow individual bowlers to have membership in more than one national federation which is a member of World Bowling.
d) To appeal to the Executive Board in cases of controversies.
e) To appeal a decision of the Executive Board or the Congress to the Court of Arbitration of

Sport (CAS); any such appeal must be filed within 30 days of the World Bowling decision.

e) To receive current information about important proceedings within World Bowling.
f) To display the membership insignia of World Bowling in rules and correspondence.

1.4.6 Provisional members shall have the rights of the ordinary members, except that they shall not have the right to vote at the Congress or at a Zone Congress.

1.4.7 Suspended member federations shall have the rights of the ordinary member federations except that they shall not have the right to vote at the Congress or at a Zone Congress, nor to participate in any World Bowling or Zone activities.

1.4.8 Termination of Membership

a) Voluntary-A member federation may voluntarily surrender its membership by notifying the President, in writing, of its desire to do so at least one month before the end of the year.
b) Involuntary – Permissible - The Executive Board, acting on behalf of the Congress, may terminate a member federation's membership for the following causes:
   i. Failure to pay any annual membership and/or other dues to World Bowling or any zone(s) of World Bowling for at least a year;
   ii. Continued violations of these Statutes or actions that the Executive Board deems to bring discredit to World Bowling; or
   iii. Failure to satisfy the membership admission criteria on an ongoing basis.

c) Involuntary – Procedures - The Executive Board shall notify a member federation that its suspension or termination is under consideration and accord the member federation an opportunity to address the issues for which its membership may be suspended or terminated. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board will be necessary for any suspension or expulsion. A suspended member also may appeal any such decision by the Executive Board to the Congress. The Congress may overrule a suspension or expulsion decision of the Executive Board where such action is approved by at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all registered for the Congress, including proxies. World Bowling may decide on procedures for suspension of a member federation, which has failed to pay the stipulated membership and/or other dues within due time. Such suspension shall be revoked immediately when all arrears including eventual fines have been paid. If payment has not been made within one year, it shall be reported to the Executive Board for decision about eventual termination of the federation's membership.

1.4.9 Obligations of the member federations:

a) To adhere to the World Bowling Statutes and Playing Rules and to decisions taken by the Congress and the Executive Board.
b) To formulate their own statutes in such a way that they are not in contradiction with World Bowling Statutes and Playing Rules.
c) To adhere to the principles of good sportsmanship at international events.
d) To submit immediately the fees, which have been stipulated by World Bowling and its Zones.
e) Membership fees must be paid to World Bowling and its zones as well as other financial obligations owed to World Bowling in order to be eligible for vote or voice at the Congress or participate in championships and/or tournaments conducted by World Bowling.
f) To report immediately to World Bowling and the Zones suspension of any individual

member.

A suspended individual member shall be deprived of all his/her privileges. Such a suspended individual member shall not have the right to vote at the Congress or Executive Board or at the Zone Congress or Executive Board, nor to participate in any World Bowling or Zone committees and/or activities.

Such suspended individual member will be relieved of any title or position in World Bowling or the Zone. An individual suspension can be at most for 2 years. After that period the individual may be member of any federation.

In the event of loss of title or position in World Bowling, the suspended individual shall have the right to appeal the suspension of World Bowling title or position to the Executive Board, which may uphold or reverse only that portion of the suspension.

g) To supply immediately such information as may be required by World Bowling.
h) To inform World Bowling Secretary General immediately of all changes of address and officers.
i) To encourage friendly relationships between the members of World Bowling.
j) To adopt a regulation which subjects each of their individual members to the jurisdiction of World Bowling.
k) To avoid any sports contact, official or otherwise, with sports federations or athletes of a country, which follows the principles of apartheid.
l) A member federation which does not fulfill its financial obligations to World Bowling after given a deadline of 30 days will not be allowed to take part in official World Bowling championships as well as no right to vote in World Bowling Congress until such obligation is fulfilled.

1.4.10 Upon recommendation of the Executive Board, the Congress shall from time to time prescribe the amount of fees to be paid by its member federations.

1.4.11 The Executive Board may review all matters related to the continued recognition of any member and may take such action as it deems appropriate, including placing conditions upon continued recognition of any member. In the event the Executive Board recommends membership termination, the matter shall be referred to the Congress for a final decision.

1.4.12 Dispute resolutions for championships/tournaments (excluding eligibility)
a) For championships/tournaments conducted by World Bowling or Zones disputes are to be resolved as described in Chapter 4, with the jury of appeal making all final decisions.
b) For tournaments approved by World Bowling or Zones disputes are to be resolved as described in Chapter 3, with the Executive Board making all final decisions.

1.4.13 Eligibility questions and other disputes not arising from tournament decisions
a) All such disputes are to be resolved by submitting a written appeal to the President.
b) If a further appeal is desired, it must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board within 30 days after the receipt of the President's decision.
c) There shall be no further appeal from the final decision making body described above nor shall there be any right to commence private litigation thereafter.

1.5 Organisational structure

1.5.1 World Bowling is divided into five geographical Zones; The American Zone, The Asian Zone, the European Zone, the African Zone and the Oceania Zone.

1.5.2 The American Zone membership shall include all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling from the Americas and adjacent waters otherwise known as the Western Hemisphere.

1.5.3 The Asian Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling bounded in the North by the Arctic, in the South by Indonesia, in the East by Japan in the North West by the Continent of Europe and in the South West by the East Coast of the Continent of Africa and Madagascar.

1.5.4 The European Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling on the Continent of Europe, British Isles, Israel, and the islands of the North Atlantic.

1.5.5 The African Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling on the Continent of Africa, and bordering islands to the East bordered by Mauritius and to the West by Cape Verde.

1.5.6 The Oceania Zone shall embrace all member federations sponsoring tenpin bowling in an area in the Pacific Ocean between the West Coast of the American Continent, the East Coast of the Asian Zone, the Southern tips of Russia and Alaska, and Antarctica, with the exception of Hawaii.

1.5.7 Any deviation from Rule 1.5.1- 1.5.6 shall be resolved by World Bowling in consultation with the Zones involved and the decision shall be recorded in this Rule.

1.5.8 The objectives of the Zones:

a) Support the efforts of World Bowling.
b) To foster international goodwill through their Zone tournaments/activities.
c) Otherwise stimulate interest in and development of tenpin bowling.

1.5.9 The rights of the Zones:

a) To prescribe fees to help finance their activities as authorized by their Congress.
b) To suspend member federations, which have failed to pay any prescribed fee in due time. Such suspension shall be immediately revoked when the arrears have been fully paid including eventual fines.
c) To recommend to World Bowling the termination of membership of a member federation, which has failed to settle all arrears within one year.
d) Establish special rules for their activities provided they are not contrary to World Bowling regulations.
e) To establish such Zone Championships as it deems appropriate for the exclusive benefit of its members; however, member federations of the African Zone and Oceania Zone may continue to participate in Zone Championships they have historically been included in prior to January 1, 2016 upon payment of a fee agreed upon between the federation and that Zone, provided it cannot exceed normal Zone dues. Commencing January 1, 2023 all Zone members may only participate in their own Zone Championship events; provided, however, that two Zones with common boundaries may jointly agree on combined Zone Championships beyond January 1, 2023.

1.5.10 Ninepin bowling shall fall under the auspices of World Bowling as an Associate Member Discipline. Ninepin bowling shall be governed by a permanent Standing management committee.
The Ninepin Committee shall determine and shall be responsible for enforcing separate rules and regulations for Ninepin bowling.
The Committee may determine any manner of financial arrangements within its Associate Discipline, including the funding of its Committee governance.
Neither World Bowling nor Ninepin bowling shall have any financial obligation to the other except that annual dues in the amount of $100.00 USD shall be payable from the Committee to World Bowling.
Ninepin bowling shall have none of the membership rights and duties as are set forth under Article 1.4.5 (a), (d) and (e) and 1.4.9.(a), (b), (e) and (f). except that Ninepin Bowling shall adhere to the World Bowling Anti-Doping Rules and WADA Code.
A maximum of three (3) Ninepin bowling representatives may attend the Congress meetings without vote.
Member federations of World Bowling that include both Ninepin and Tenpin membership may continue to remain together, with only the Tenpin portion having voting rights at the Congress.

1.6 Congress

1.6.1 The Congress is the governing body and shall be composed of delegates (representatives) from each of the member federations.

1.6.2 The Congress decisions shall be binding on all Zones and member federations and can be altered only by the Congress.

1.6.3 The authority of the Congress (and thus that of World Bowling) does not extend to the internal affairs of any member federation.

1.6.4 A member federation may be represented at a World Bowling Congress by a maximum of four delegates, only one of whom shall have voting rights. The names of the delegates must be submitted in writing to the World Bowling Secretary General stating the name of the member federation they represent and signed by an authorized officer of the member federation. The voting delegate shall retain his voting status until the next Congress, or until a successor is duly appointed by his respective federation.

1.6.5 A member federation which cannot be represented at the Congress may give its proxy to another federation. Each federation shall be eligible to vote only one proxy. In all cases, the written proxy authority must be submitted on federation letterhead; signed by the President, Secretary General or CEO of the federation: and be sent to World Bowling President or Secretary General in the presence of the Congress for validation before the proxy can be exercised. Such proxy must be submitted in writing to World Bowling President or Secretary General, no less than eight (8) days before start of the Congress, stating the name of the country to which the vote is to be transferred and signed by an authorized officer of the federation.

1.6.6 A member of the Executive Board may vote only if he represents a federation.

1.6.7 A quorum shall be one-third (1/3) of member federations including proxy votes.

1.6.8 Voting at each Congress shall be on the basis of one vote per federation by showing a Delegate card or using an electronic voting system. In the event that a Delegate voting card is being used a majority of the delegates can always request a secret ballot. Where a tie exists the President or Chairman shall call for a second vote. If a tie still exists the motion shall be rejected.

1.6.9 A majority shall determine decisions of the Congress except as stated in Rule 1.17 and 1.19. Majority means a number of votes, which is above the total number of all other votes cast.

1.6.10 Guests may participate in the proceedings only at the invitation of the President or upon the majority approval by the Congress.

1.6.11 The Congress shall be held every two years at a time to coincide with the World Bowling Championships, or

a) When called for by the Congress.
b) When called for by the President with the approval of the Executive Board.
c) When called for by the Executive Board.
d) When called for by the President on receipt of a written request from at least one-third (1/3) of all World Bowling member federations.

1.6.12 An application to host a Congress shall at a minimum include a guarantee to underwrite the following expenses:

a) Meeting rooms for the Congress, Executive Board and committee meetings.
b) Technicians and the necessary equipment to record the proceedings and provide audio/visual service for the Executive Board and the Congress.
c) Luncheons for Executive Board members (two days).
d) Luncheons for the Congress.
e) Morning and/or afternoon refreshment breaks for Executive Board meetings and the Congress.

1.6.13 The President shall require the Secretary General to give at least three months' notice for a special meeting and four months' notice for regular meetings.

1.6.14 Only member federations, the Executive Board/Presidium of World Bowling geographic zones specified in 1.5.1 and the World Bowling Executive Board may submit proposals to be acted upon by the Congress. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted to the Secretary General at least three months prior to a regular Congress.

1.6.15 The Secretary General shall submit the agenda for the meeting to the member federations at least two months before the Congress takes place. Together with the agenda the following documents shall be sent:

a) President's report
b) Secretary General's report
c) Other Officers' reports
d) Financial report
e) Proposals of the Executive Board
f) Proposals of the member federations

1.6.16 Only proposals submitted in due time shall be considered unless the Congress decides by a two-third (2/3) majority that others warrant consideration for emergency reasons.

1.6.17 The agenda for a biennial Congress shall include the following:

a) Open the meeting
b) Appointment of Chairman and Secretary of the meeting
c) Roll call, validation of proxies and determination of voting rights. Validation of proxy will be by the scrutineers
d) Adoption of minutes of the previous Congress
e) Report of President and Secretary General
f) Committee reports
g) Reports of Presidents of the Zones
h) Unfinished business
i) Presentation of Financial report and Auditors' report
j) Approval of Balance Sheet, Profit& Loss Account and Auditors report
k) Release of Executive Board
l) Legislative Session
m) New business
n) Projection of budget and establishment of dues
o) Elections (where applicable)
   - President
   - First Vice President
   - Second Vice President
p) Close the meeting

1.6.18 Summary minutes of each World Bowling Congress shall be prepared by the Secretary General for review and approval by the President and/or Chairman of the day within two months after which they are to be distributed to the member federations and members of the World Bowling Executive Board. The same shall apply for Zone Congresses.

1.6.19 All amendments adopted and new rules shall become effective at the beginning of next business year unless otherwise specified.

1.7 Executive Board

1.7.1 The Executive Board shall be the executive and management body of World Bowling. It shall consist of 10 persons as follows:

a) The President
b) The First Vice President,
c) The Second Vice President
d) The President from each of the three Zones. Each Zone shall designate an alternate to serve if it's President cannot attend
e) One Delegate from each of the three Zones. Each Zone shall designate an alternate to serve if it's Delegate cannot attend
f) One representative for the athletes, elected in conjunction with World Championships for men and women. The election procedure shall be as follows:

(i) Every federation participating at the WC will have one vote each, each gender being entitled to a vote. The vote will be cast by the captain or another nominated player from that federation.
ii) Other federations not participating in the WC are also entitled to have one vote each, each gender, however the nominated athletes have to be present at the athletes meeting to be held during the WC to be able to vote. There are no proxies. Federations

who intend to send athletes to the athletes meeting must submit the names of the athletes, by email, to the Chairman of the Athletes committee 30 days prior to the start of the World Championships. The date, time and location of the athletes meeting will be provided to all federations at least 30 days prior to the start of the Championships.
iii) Voting will take place once every 4 years (to coincide with the Combined World Championships), commencing in 2013. The vote will occur at the athletes meeting to be held during the World Championships.
iv) A majority vote will secure the selection of the athlete Delegate to the World Bowling Executive Board, who will have such Delegate privileges for a period of 4 years.
v) If the Delegate is unable to attend any Executive Board functions, or otherwise perform his/her duties, the athlete with the 2nd highest vote total from World Championships will be called to replace the position, or act as alternate delegate, until the next election.
vi) To nominate a candidate for athlete Delegate, a submission from the candidate's federation must be made at least 30 days prior to the start of the World Championships and sent by email to the Chairman of the Athletes Committee. It is highly recommended that a resume, maximum 2 pages, be submitted as well. Any federation can submit a candidate whether or not that federation is competing at the World Championships.

1.7.2 A vacancy in the office of the First Vice President shall be filled by the Second Vice President. A vacancy in the office of the Second Vice President shall be filled by election at the next Congress. In the interim the position shall remain unfilled.

1.7.3 The World Bowling Secretary General shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Board with voice only.

1.7.4 Decisions of the Executive Board shall be by simple majority. If a tie exists the motion shall be rejected.

1.7.5 A quorum consists of four members of the Executive Board, who must represent at least two Zones.

1.7.6 Members of the World Bowling Executive Board shall not in any official capacity nor personally in any way become financially involved as an owner in a firm producing or selling bowling equipment. Persons employed by or working as honorary officials of a member organization shall be exempt, providing their duties are only for or on behalf of their member organization and not of a commercial nature. The Zone organizations shall also have similar requirements for their Executive Board/Presidium members.

1.8 Executive Board meetings

1.8.1 The Executive Board should meet at least every year and more frequently when deemed necessary by the President or by at least four members of the Executive Board. A teleconference vote, e-mail ballot or postal ballot also may be taken at the discretion of the President or at the discretion of the Members of the Executive Board calling for the meeting.

1.8.2 The President shall require the Secretary General to give at least three months' notice for a meeting of the Executive Board to all members of the Executive Board. Such notice shall specify the date, time, and place of the proposed Executive Board meeting and in addition it

shall invite committee members and member federations to submit proposals which they wish to be considered by the Executive Board.

1.8.3 Upon receipt of the notice of meeting all members of the Executive Board shall within two months' notify the Secretary General of their intention to attend.

1.8.4 The details of any proposals, whether they arise from Executive Board members or member federations shall be forwarded to the Secretary General at least one month prior to the proposed date of the Executive Board meeting.

1.8.5 The Secretary General shall prepare the agenda for distribution to Executive Board members. It shall be forwarded to them at least two weeks prior to the proposed date of the Executive Board meeting.

1.8.6 Any proposals, which are tabled at the Executive Board meeting and for which due notice has not been given, shall be dealt with only after a simple majority decision to discuss the issue has been taken.

1.8.7 The agenda or regular order of business of Executive Board meetings shall be as follows:

a) Opening
b) Agenda adoption
c) Minutes of previous meeting
d) Reports
e) Unfinished business
f) New business
g) Financial matters
h) Next meeting
i) Closing

1.8.8 The World Bowling Honorary President(s) may attend the meeting on their own expenses and shall be entitled to voice but no vote and shall not be counted as a quorum and their attendance shall not be deemed as ex-officio capacity.

1.8.9 World Bowling committee members may be invited by the World Bowling President to attend the meeting or any portion thereof and shall be entitled to voice but no vote.

1.8.10 Guests may participate in the meeting only at the invitation by the World Bowling President and upon majority approval by the Executive Board.

1.8.11 The Executive Board may recess any meeting to meet in executive session to consider matters of a sensitive nature including those involving other than Executive Board members. A motion and majority vote is required to go into executive session. Only voting members may participate, however, the Secretary General and required translators may be present. Minutes of an executive session shall only be distributed to the Executive Board members and shall only be read and acted upon in executive session.

1.9 Officers

1.9.1 The term of Office of the President, First Vice President and Second Vice President shall commence immediately after their election at World Bowling Congress and shall continue until after the 2nd biennial Congress following their election (a term of about four years). All officers can be re-elected after that period.

1.9.2 The term of office for the Secretary General shall commence immediately after the confirmation of the Executive Board and shall continue until after the 2nd biennial Congress following his appointment.

1.9.3 The term of office for Committee Chairmen, Committee Members and other appointees shall commence at the time specified at the appointment and shall continue until otherwise directed by the President and approved by majority vote by the Executive Board.

1.9.4 Duties of the President

a) The President shall be the chief executive officer and treasurer. He shall preside at all meetings of the World Bowling Congress and Executive Board unless he appoints a Chairman of the day to preside for any part of such meetings.
b) The President shall appoint the Secretary General subject to confirmation by the Executive Board.
c) The President shall appoint the committees and/or any other appointees he deems necessary upon approval by majority vote of the Executive Board. In the event that any committee is not approved by the Board, then the Board members may propose additions and/or deletions to that committee, which as revised must receive majority vote of the board to be approved.
d) The President also shall normally represent World Bowling in all legal matters, but should he be unable to do so a Vice President may represent him.

1.9.5 The First Vice President shall be the President of World Bowling in case of absence, death, disabilities, resignation, incapacity or for any other reason, which would prevent the President permanently from lawfully discharging his duties under the Statutes.

1.9.6 The Secretary General shall be the chief administrative officer. He shall handle the membership correspondence and other administrative matters in co-operation with the President.

1.9.7 The President and the Secretary General shall be ex-officio members of all committees with voice but no vote and eligible to attend all meetings of the Zones in their ex-officio capacity.

1.9.8 Elections

a) The elections of officers shall always be conducted by secret ballot unless there is only one candidate for the position. All elections will be by majority vote, which means a number of votes which is above the total number of all other votes cast. This term is sometimes referred to as absolute majority.
b) The Executive Board shall be authorized to make recommendations and to provide reasons therefore.
c) In the event more than two individuals are nominated for the same office, the voting shall proceed as follows:
   - If, after the first ballot, one of the candidates has not received the majority of the votes cast, there shall be successive ballots until one candidate receives the majority of the votes cast
   - If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast on any ballot, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped from the ballot

1.9.9 Nominations

a) All incumbent officers who intend to run for re-election shall so advise the Secretary General of his interest at least five months before an elective Congress.
b) This information will be reported to the member federations at least four months before the Congress.

c) All other nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary General at least three months before the Congress.
d) All incumbent and other nominations will then be reported to the member federations at least two months before the Congress.
e) If nominations are received pursuant to the above process, no additional nominations from the floor will be accepted at the Congress.
f) If no nominations are received pursuant to the above process, then nominations from the floor will be accepted.
g) All candidates must be members of and authorized by their respective federation to be eligible for election.

1.9.10 An officer elected by the Congress of the World Bowling may be removed from office for nonfeasance or other just cause by the Congress, upon due process being provided (notice about the pending action and given an opportunity to be heard).

1.10 Business year

1.10.1 The business year shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December.

1.11 Financial procedures

1.11.1 The Congress will be empowered to determine the fees to be paid by the member federations. Each federation shall be required to pay the World Bowling and Zone fee as specified in the annual invoice sent out by their respective zone. Newly admitted federations are not obliged to pay membership fee in the calendar year they are admitted.

1.11.2 The Zone, to which the member federation belongs, has the right to decide about such suspension. In order for such a suspension to be revoked and for restoring the membership rights, there will be annually a 20% fine on payments in arrears. On receipt of all arrears, the respective Zone will revoke the suspension. If after one year the arrears have not been fully paid, this shall be recommended to the World Bowling Executive Board that will decide on termination of the member federation's membership.

1.11.3 The Executive Board is responsible for an audit to be performed before a Congress and that an Auditor's report is presented. All fiscal transactions shall be audited by a certified auditor. Their expenses when on duty for the audit will be paid by World Bowling.

1.11.4 The President shall submit an annual budget for the approval of the Executive Board.

1.11.5 The travel and accommodation expenses of the President or his designated representative, when necessary for him/her to carry out his duties, shall be paid by the World Bowling.

1.11.6 The remuneration of the Secretary General and the expenses necessary for him to carry out his duties shall be paid by the World Bowling.

1.11.7 All other elected and appointed officials' expenses when on duty are to be paid by the World Bowling.

1.12 World Championships

1.12.1 The World Bowling Championships are the exclusive property of the World Bowling.

1.12.2 Any and all rights and properties of whatever nature or description in, and/or arising from, and/or in connection with, any of the World Bowling Championships (including any and all goodwill associated therewith) shall be solely and exclusively owned and/or controlled by World Bowling, including all advertising, sponsorships (including broadcast sponsorship), merchandising, internet and licensing. The host shall be encouraged to recoup expenses that are incurred by hosting a World Bowling Championship event through sponsorship and marketing, media opportunities and spectators at the World Bowling Championships.

1.12.3 The World Bowling Executive Board shall determine the conditions of access to and the conditions of any use of data relating to the World Bowling Championships and to the competitions of the championships.

1.12.4 World Bowling shall manage and conduct the World Bowling championships as specified in the relevant chapters of the World Bowling Rules.

1.12.5 Following the selection of the host, the World Bowling President or his designee shall:

a) Ensure that a written agreement with the host is prepared and executed.
b) Maintain periodic contact with the host to ensure that all of the host's obligations can be achieved.
c) Report the status of the pending Championships to the World Bowling member Federations at least annually.
d) Report the status of the pending Championships at all Executive Board meetings.
e) Maintain periodic contact with the Federation whose jurisdiction includes the host, to ensure appropriate involvement of the Federation.

1.13 Zone championships

1.13.1 The format of the Zone championships is to be decided by each zone.

1.13.2 Details to be decided by member federations at the Zone Congress.

1.14 International tournaments

1.14.1 International tournaments which are organized and conducted by member federations and in which members of two or more World Bowling zones are invited, shall be approved by the World Bowling.
The fees required for approving such tournaments shall be decided by the Executive Board.

1.15 Rules for championships and tournaments

1.15.1 Rules and equipment specifications for the World and Zone Championships and for approved international tournaments shall be defined in the World Bowling Statutes and Playing Rules.

1.16 Rules against doping and betting

1.16.1 The World Bowling Anti-Doping Rules are approved by the World Bowling Executive Board and apply to all tenpin bowling championships/tournaments approved by World Bowling, World Bowling Zones or World Bowling member federations. The World Bowling Anti-Doping Rules also apply for all licensed bowlers for tests in or out of competition.

1.16.2 A bowler or member of the team, such as coach or team manager, must not himself/herself nor through a representative, bet on a World Championships and/or World Bowling approved tournaments where he/she participates. The sanction for violence against this rule may be up to two years suspension.

1.17 Amendments

1.17.1 The World Bowling Statutes and Playing Rules may be altered at any Congress as follows

a) Upon written proposals submitted to the Secretary General at least three months in advance to the Congress where it is to be considered.
b) Notice of such proposal is distributed to all member federations at least two months prior to the meeting.
c) A proposal to change the World Bowling Statues (*Chapter 1*) is adopted by two-third (2/3) majority vote at the Congress.
d) A proposal to change the World Bowling Playing Rules (*Chapter 2 and the following chapters*) is adopted by simple majority vote at the Congress.
e) When a written notice of proposals is not given, it may be considered provided the Congress agrees by a two-third (2/3) majority vote to do so.

If issues are not covered by World Bowling Statues and Playing rules Roberts Rules of Order will be effective.

1.18 By-laws (operation procedures)

1.18.1 The World Bowling Executive Board may adopt and enforce by a majority vote by-laws, which are not inconsistent with the World Bowling Statutes and Playing Rules. The By-Laws may become effective immediately and are subject to ratification by the World Bowling Congress at its next meeting.

1.18.2 To ensure the orderly operation of the organization, the World Bowling Executive Board may modify existing World Bowling Statutes and Playing rules by three-fourth (3/4) affirmative vote. Such changes may become effective immediately and are subject to ratification by the World Bowling Congress at its next meeting.

1.19 Dissolution

1.19.1 World Bowling shall not be dissolved except at a special meeting of the Congress convened upon three months' notice for the purpose and by a resolution adopted by a four-fifth (4/5) majority vote of the votes cast.

1.19.2 In the event of such dissolution and after payment of its financial obligations, any remaining assets are to be divided among the member federations in relation to the last year's membership fee.

1.20 Revisions

1.20.1 These Statutes were adopted by the WTBA/World Bowling Congress in 1979 and amended in 1983, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017.

2. Universal playing rules

2.1 Game definitions

2.1.1 A game of tenpins consists of ten frames. A player delivers two balls in each of the first nine frames unless a strike is scored. In the tenth frame, a player delivers three balls if a strike or spare is scored. Every frame must be completed by each player bowling in regular order.

2.1.2 Except when a strike is scored, the number of pins knocked down by the player's first delivery is to be marked in the small square in the upper left-hand corner of that frame, and the number of pins knocked down by the player's second delivery is to be marked in the upper right-hand corner. If none of the standing pins are knocked down by the second delivery in the frame, the score sheet shall be marked with a (-). The count for the two deliveries in the frame shall be recorded immediately.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
X	X	X	7 2	(8) /	F 9	X	7 /	9 -	X X 8
30	57	76	85	95	104	124	143	152	180

2.1.3 A strike is made when a full setup of pins is knocked down with the first delivery in a frame. It is marked by an (X) in the small square in the upper left-hand corner of the frame where it was made. The count for one strike is 10 plus the number of pins knocked down on the player's next two deliveries.

2.1.4 Two consecutive strikes is a double. The count for the first strike is 20 plus the number of pins knocked down with the first delivery following the second strike.

2.1.5 Three successive strikes is a triple. The count for the first strike is 30. To bowl the maximum score of 300, the player must bowl 12 strikes in succession.

2.1.6 A spare is scored when pins left standing after the first delivery are knocked down with the second delivery in that frame. It is marked by a (/) in the small square in the upper right-hand corner of the frame. The count for a spare is 10 plus the number of pins knocked down by the player's next delivery.

2.1.7 When a player fails to bowl down all ten pins after two deliveries in a frame, unless the pins left standing after the first delivery constitute a split, it is called an open frame.

2.1.8 A split (normally marked with an O around the number of pins) is a setup of pins left, standing after the first delivery, provided the head pin is down and:
a) At least one pin is down between two or more standing pins; i.e. 7-9 or 3-10
b) At least one pin is down immediately ahead of two or more standing pins; 5-6

2.2 Style of play

2.2.1 Dual lane style
a) A game shall be played on two lanes (a pair) immediately adjoining each other.
b) Members of competing teams, trios, doubles and individual entrants shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane, and for the next frame alternate and use the

other lane until five frames are bowled on each lane of the pair.

2.2.2 Single lane style
a) A game shall be played on one lane.
b) Members of competing teams, trios, doubles and individual entrants shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane until 10 frames are bowled on the lane.

2.2.3 The rules for each specific tournament shall specify which style of play that applies.

2.3 Legal pin fall

2.3.1 A legal delivery is made when the ball leaves the player's possession and crossed the foul line into playing territory.

2.3.2 Every delivery counts unless a dead ball is declared.

2.3.3 A delivery must be made entirely by manual means.

2.3.4 No device may be incorporated in or affixed to the ball that detaches on delivery or is a moving part during delivery.

2.3.5 A player may use special equipment to aid in grasping and delivering the ball if it is in place of a hand or major portion thereof lost by amputation or otherwise.

2.3.6 Pins following a legal delivery - to be credited to a player, to be termed dead wood and to be removed before the next delivery - shall include:
a) Pins knocked down or off the pin deck by the ball or another pin
b) Pins knocked down or off the pin deck by a pin rebounding from a side partition or rear cushion
c) Pins knocked down or off the pin deck by a pin rebounding from the sweep bar when it is at rest on the pin deck before sweeping dead wood from the pin deck
d) Pins that lean and touch the kickback or side partition

2.4 Illegal pin fall

2.4.1 When any of the following occur the delivery counts but the resulting pin fall does not:
a) A ball leaves the lane before reaching the pins
b) A ball rebounds from the rear cushion
c) A pin rebounds after coming in contact with the body, arms or legs of a human pinsetter
d) A pin is touched by mechanical pin setting equipment
e) Any pin knocked down when dead wood is being removed
f) Any pin knocked down by a human pinsetter
g) The player commits a foul
h) A delivery is made with dead wood on the lane or in the gutter and the ball contacts such dead wood before leaving the lane surface

2.4.2 If illegal pin fall occurs and the player is entitled to additional deliveries in the frame, the pin or pins illegally knocked down must be re-spotted where they originally stood.

2.5 Other pin actions

2.5.1 When bowling at a full setup or to make a spare, if it is discovered immediately after the delivery that one or more pins are set improperly, but not missing, the delivery and resulting pin fall counts. It is each player's responsibility to determine if a setup is correct. The player shall insist that any pin or pins incorrectly set be re-spotted before delivering the ball, otherwise the setup is deemed to be acceptable.

2.5.2 No change can be made in the position of any pins left standing after a delivery. That is, pins that are moved or misplaced by a mechanical pinsetter shall remain in the moved or misplaced position and shall not be corrected manually.

2.5.3 Pins that rebound and stand on the lane must be counted as standing pins.

2.5.4 No pins may be conceded and only those actually knocked down or moved entirely off the playing surface of the lane as a result of a legal delivery may be counted.

2.5.5 Should a pin be broken or otherwise badly damaged during the game, it shall be replaced at once by another as nearly uniform in weight and condition with the set in use. The tournament officials shall determine whether pins shall be replaced.

2.6 Dead ball

2.6.1 A ball shall be declared dead if any of the following occur:

a) After a delivery (and before the next delivery on the same lane), attention is immediately called to the fact that one or more pins were missing from the setup.
b) A human pinsetter interferes with any standing pin before the ball reaches the pins.
c) A human pinsetter removes or interferes with any downed pin before it stops rolling.
d) A player bowls on the wrong lane or out of turn. Or one player from each team on the pair of lanes bowls on the wrong lane.
e) A player is physically interfered with by another player, spectator or moving object or by the pinsetter as the ball is being delivered and before delivery is completed. In such case, the player has the option to accept the resulting pin fall or have a dead ball declared. Any pin is moved or knocked down as a player delivers the ball but before the ball reaches the pins.
f) A delivered ball comes in contact with a foreign obstacle.

2.6.2 When a dead ball is called, the delivery does not count. The pins standing when the dead ball occurred must be re-spotted and the player allowed re-bowling the delivery.

2.7 Bowling on wrong lane

2.7.1 A ball shall be declared dead and the player or players required re-bowling on the correct lane if no more than a total of 4 individual frames have been bowled on a pair of lanes by the players for Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team.

2.7.2 If more than four individual frames have been bowled on the wrong lane, that game will be completed without adjustment. Any succeeding game must be started on the correctly scheduled lane.

2.8 Foul definitions

2.8.1 A foul occurs when a part of the player's person encroaches on or goes beyond the foul line and touches any part of the lane, equipment or building during or after a delivery.

2.8.2 A ball is in play after a delivery until the same or another player is on the approach in position to make a succeeding delivery.

2.8.3 When a player deliberately fouls to benefit by the calling of a foul, the player shall be credited with zero pin fall for that delivery and not allowed further deliveries in that frame.

2.8.4 When a foul recorded the delivery counts but the player is not credited with any pins knocked down by that delivery. Pins knocked down by the ball when the foul occurred must be respotted if the player who fouled is entitled to additional deliveries in the frame.

2.8.5 A foul shall be declared and recorded if the automatic foul detecting device or foul judge fails to call a foul that is apparent to
a) Both team captains or one or more of the opposing players
b) The official score keepers
c) A tournament official

2.8.6 No appeal shall be allowed when a foul is called unless
a) It is proved that the automatic device is not operating properly
b) There is preponderance of evidence the player did not foul

2.9 Provisional ball

2.9.1 A provisional ball or frame shall be bowled by a player when a protest involving a foul, legal pin fall or a dead ball is made and cannot be resolved by the tournament officials.

2.9.2 When a dispute occurs on a player's first delivery in any frame, or on the second delivery in the tenth frame after a strike on the first delivery
a) If the dispute is over whether the player fouled, the player shall complete the frame and then bowl one provisional ball at a full setup of pins.
b) If the dispute involves alleged illegal pin fall, the player shall complete the frame and then bowl one provisional ball at the setup that would have remained standing had the disputed pin(s) not fallen.
c) If the dispute is over whether a dead ball should have been declared, the player shall complete the frame and then bowl a complete provisional frame.

2.9.3 When a dispute occurs on a spare attempt, or on the third delivery in the tenth frame, no provisional ball is necessary unless the dispute is over whether a dead ball should have been declared. In that case a provisional ball shall be bowled at the same setup, which was standing when the disputed ball was bowled.

2.10 Bowling ball, altering surface

2.10.1 Any use of chemicals must be on the 'Acceptable list" as listed on World Bowling website; www.worldbowling.org. A full, up to date list of these products is available at World Bowling website includes anything listed in the "Acceptable during certified competition" sections. It is not allowed to use anything listed in the "Products Containing Solids or Abrasives" section nor

anything listed in the "Not acceptable at any time" sections. The ball must be wiped clean after any cleaning.

2.11 Approaches must not be defaced

2.11.1 The application of any foreign substance on any part of the approach that detracts from the possibility of other players having normal conditions is prohibited.

2.11.2 This includes, but is not limited to, such substances as talcum powder, pumice and resin on shoes; also soft rubber soles or heels that rub off on the approach are prohibited.

2.12 Errors in scoring

2.12.1 Errors in scoring or errors in calculation must be corrected by a responsible tournament official immediately upon discovery of such error. Questionable errors shall be decided upon by the designated official.

2.12.2 The time limit for filing protests on scoring errors shall be one hour from the end of the event or block of games for each day of tournament, but must be before the prize presentation or the commencement of the next round (in an elimination event), whichever is the sooner.

2.12.3 Each protest under this rule must be specific in itself and this rule shall not be construed to cover a previous or similar violation.

2.13 Additional tournament information

2.13.1 A tournament may have a rule limiting the number of re-racks a player may have in a game and/or block or series.

2.13.2 A tournament may have a rule to cover tardy players.

2.13.3 A tournament may have a rule addressing unfair tactics by a player.

2.13.4 The tournament management should make provision for enforcement and penalty, if any, for violations.

3. World Bowling approved international tournaments

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This chapter includes requirements and procedures that shall apply to tournaments approved or recognized by World Bowling.

3.1.2 World Bowling approval of a tournament means that it is open for participation by players who are individual members of World Bowling member federations.

3.1.3 Approval shall not be granted to any tournament, which implies by its title that the winners shall be designated as World Champions, World Tenpin Champions or World Bowling Champions. A member federation shall not permit its members to participate in tournaments using such titles.

3.1.4 Rules 3.3 - 3.10 apply only to World Bowling Approved Tournaments.

3.2 Definition of tournaments

3.2.1 World Bowling Approved Tournaments

a) A World Bowling Approved Tournament is open for players from federations from two or more Zones.
b) A Tournament cannot be open for players from more than the Zone, where the tournament takes place, unless World Bowling approval is given.
c) To achieve World Bowling approval the tournament needs to be approved in advance by both the national federation where the tournament takes place and the Zone of the national federation.

3.2.2 World Bowling Recognized Tournaments

a) In addition to World Bowling approval of tournaments, the World Bowling Executive Board can recognize other tournaments with participation of players, who are members of World Bowling member federations, such as multi-sport games and tournaments organized for a certain group of players.
b) In order for a tournament to be World Bowling recognized all rules specified in Chapter 2, 10, 11 and 12 must be met.

3.2.3 Affinity Tournaments

a) There are also other tournaments organized for specific groups of people, such as events for persons belonging to a trade union, an organization for disabled persons, etc.
b) If such tournaments have not been approved or recognized by World Bowling, it is the responsibility of the national federation to decide whether their members are allowed to participate. In that case World Bowling has no responsibility to protect the rights of players participating or to accept any appeals related to such tournaments.

3.3 Eligibility

3.3.1 Players participating in sanctioned tournaments must be certified by their respective national federation. The federation must not be under suspension by World Bowling.

3.3.2 A player must not be under suspension by any World Bowling member federation.

3.3.3 Players from countries, whose federation is not a member of World Bowling, may participate not more than twice within 24 months following the first entry in a World Bowling or a Zone Approved Tournament.

3.4 Approval fee

3.4.1 The fee for receiving World Bowling approval is USD 100 in addition to fees for receiving approvals at the national and the Zone level.

3.4.2 The fee will be collected by the Zone of the organizer together with the fee of the Zone approval and send to World Bowling in the first week of each quarter.

3.4.3 Once a tournament is approved by World Bowling there will be no refund in case the tournament is cancelled.

3.5 Approval requirements

3.5.1 Playing Rules

a) The Universal Playing Rules specified in Chapter 2 shall apply.
b) The tournament rules shall include a paragraph that covers tie-breaking procedures.
c) The tournament rules should include a rule covering the rights and obligations of the players when they step on the approach to deliver a ball. It should also include a penalty statement in case the rule is not observed.
d) The tournament rules should include a rule, which gives the tournament management the right to authorize the completion of a game on another pair of lanes when equipment failure would cause serious delay of the schedule.
e) It is recommended that the tournament rules include a dress code. In principle most international tournaments are individual tournaments and the player has the right to wear his shirt but he can also accept an offer from the host to use a sponsor shirt or badge(s) from the host sponsor.

3.5.2 Score keeping

a) All games bowled in the tournament shall be recorded, either manually or by means of an approved automatic scoring device.
b) The score sheets shall indicate the pin fall on each ball so that if necessary a frame-by-frame audit can be made.
c) A tournament game, or frame(s) within a game, that is irretrievably lost in the scoring system may be re-bowled with the approval of the tournament management.

3.5.3 Smoking and drinking

a) The players must not use tobacco products.
b) The players must not consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol.

For a) and b) i.e. during the entire period of a block of games.

3.5.4 Tournament management

a) A World Bowling approved tournament must have a qualified tournament management, which has sufficient knowledge of the applicable rules and has sufficient resources to be able to organize the tournament.
b) Acceptable tournament organizers are:
   - A Zone.
   - A national federation.

- Any sub-organization, which according to national rules belongs to a national federation.
- An individual person, who is a member of a national federation.
- An external organizer, who is accepted by the national federation, in this case the national federation must take the full responsibility that all rules and obligations will be met.

3.5.5 Certification and equipment specifications

a) The lanes shall have been inspected and certified by the national federation in reasonable time before the start of the tournament.
b) The lanes on which the competition is to be held must meet the specifications stated in Chapter 10.
c) The bowling pins used during competition shall meet the specifications stated in Chapter 11.
d) The tournament management may adopt and use any automatic foul detecting device approved by World Bowling. When none is available, a foul judge must be stationed in a position to have an unobstructed view of the foul line. Should a foul detecting device become temporarily inoperative, the tournament officials shall assign a foul judge or authorize the official score keepers to call fouls.

3.6 Procedure for World Bowling approval of tournaments

3.6.1 The tournament organizer shall in the form in use to apply for Zone approval (a Tournament Application) indicate that the organizer in addition to Zone approval wants World Bowling approval. The organizer shall send the Tournament Application and the tournament rules by e-mail to the national federation.

3.6.2 The national federation shall review the application and the tournament rules to make sure that all requirements are met. After approval, the application shall be sent by email to the Zone of the national federation.

3.6.3 The Zone shall review the application and the tournament rules to make sure that all requirements are met. After approval, the application shall be sent by e-mail to the World Bowling Secretary General. At the same time a letter of Zone approval will be sent to the national federation and to the tournament organizer. Furthermore the tournament calendar on the Zone website will be updated with the tournament information indicating the Zone approved status and the pending World Bowling status.

3.6.4 The World Bowling Secretary General shall review the application. If all requirements are met, a letter of World Bowling approval will be sent to the national federation, the Zone of the federation and to the tournament organizer.

3.6.5 On Zone receipt of the World Bowling approval letter the status of the tournament will be changed from Zone approved to World Bowling approved in the tournament calendar at the Zone website.

3.6.6 The Zone will invoice the World Bowling approval fee to the national federation.

3.7 Obligations and liabilities

3.7.1 It is the responsibility of the players to
- a) Make sure that the tournament has been duly approved before entering.
- b) Be aware of the penalties, which apply when entering in an unapproved tournament.
- c) Be able to show identity evidence, either in the form of a valid license card or a certification letter issued by the national federation.

3.7.2 It is the responsibility of the tournament organizer to
- a) Fill in and submit the relevant Zone Tournament Application.
- b) Guarantee that all requirements specified in 3.5 will be met.
- c) As a minimum publish the following information in the invitation/announcement of the tournament.
- d) Make provisions for the availability on call of proper medical care and first aid treatment.
- e) Check the identity of all players entering the tournament.
- f) Make sure that the eligibility requirements are met.
- g) Make sure that the playing rules are followed.
- h) Latest one week after the conclusion of the tournament publish a complete results list of the tournament.

3.7.3 It is the responsibility of the national federation to
- a) Process the Zone Tournament Application and make sure that all requirements will be met.
- b) Make sure that the Tournament Management has sufficient knowledge about the rules and obligations.
- c) Submit a written report to the Zone and World Bowling explaining the problem and actions taken in case of problems related to the tournament.

3.7.4 It is the responsibility of the Zone to
- a) Process any Zone Tournament Application within two weeks after it has been received from the national federation.
- b) Update the Tournament Calendar at the Zone website within two weeks after the Zone approval of a tournament.
- c) Keep the Tournament Calendar at the Zone website up to date when corrections of tournament information are received from national federations and/or World Bowling.
- d) Advice the national federations to inform their players not to take part in tournaments where it is known that the organiser fails to follow the requirements for an approved tournament.
- e) The Zone has the right to refuse approval of a tournament if the organizer has previously failed to meet the requirements.

3.7.5 It is the responsibility of World Bowling to
- a) Process any Tournament Application within two weeks after it has been received from the Zone.
- b) Inform the Zone, the national federation and the organizer when a tournament is approved by World Bowling.
- c) Advice the national federations to inform their players not to take part in tournaments where it is known that the organiser fails to follow the requirements for an approved tournament.
- d) World Bowling has the right to refuse approval of a tournament if the organizer has previously failed to meet the requirements.
- e) The World Bowling approval of a tournament does not mean that World Bowling can be made liable for any financial disputes or claims, which may occur.

3.8 Penalties

3.8.1 A player failing to observe the rules shall be warned by an authorized tournament official with a yellow card for first offence (no penalty).

3.8.2 For a second offence in the same tournament, the player shall be disqualified from the tournament, and will not be allowed to participate in World Bowling or Zone tournaments/ championships for 90 days.

3.8.3 All offences shall immediately be reported by the tournament management to the World Bowling Secretary General for further action.

3.8.4 Players participating in unapproved tournaments, which require approval, as described herein, may be subject to penalty (for instance denial to participate in tournaments for a stated period) given by World Bowling and/or the national federation of the player.

3.9 Protests

3.9.1 Protests involving eligibility or universal playing rules must be confirmed in writing to a responsible tournament official not later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred or before prize presentation, whichever is the sooner.

3.9.2 When a protest involving a foul or the legality of pin fall is entered, an official representative of the parties involved may be present when evidence is taken relative to the protest.

3.10 Appeal procedures

3.10.1 Any appeal from the decision of tournament management shall, within one week, be directed to the national federation within whose jurisdiction the tournament was conducted.

3.10.2 The national federation shall, within two weeks, review the appeal and make its decision. Copies of the decision shall be sent to the appellant, the Zone of the federation and to World Bowling.

3.10.3 An appeal of that decision may be directed to the World Bowling Executive Board within two weeks, and its decision shall be final. The appellant, the national federation and the Zone of the federation will be notified by World Bowling of the decision within 30 days.

4. World championships, principle rules

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The following principal rules apply to the World Bowling Championships; however, similar procedures shall be followed by the Zones for the conduct of Zone Championships.

4.1.2 Chapter 5-8 covers the rules, which in addition to these principal rules are specific for each championship.

4.1.3 World Bowling shall operate the World Bowling Championships in accordance with the published rules and regulations.

4.2 World Bowling official competitions

4.2.1 The following are the official names of the World Bowling Championships
a) World Bowling Championships for Men
b) World Bowling Championships for Women
c) World Bowling Championships for Men and Women
d) World Bowling Single Championships for Men and Women
e) World Bowling Championships for Youth
f) World Bowling Championships for Senior
g) World Bowling Championships for Junior
h) American Zone Bowling Championships
i) Asian Zone Bowling Championships
j) European Zone Bowling Championships

4.2.2 The official names shall be used for all descriptions of these events, though the following abbreviated names may be used for marketing purposes
a) World Women Championships (WWC)
b) World Men Championships (WMC)
c) World Championships (WC) *(Comment: Men and Women together)*
d) World Single Championships (WSC*)*
e) World Youth Championships (WYC)
f) World Senior Championships (WSrC)
g) World Junior Championships (WJC)
and corresponding for Zone Championships

4.3 Application to host championships

4.3.1 Selection of the host of the World Bowling championships shall be made by the Executive Board.

4.3.2 In selection of a host, the Executive Board shall consider the best interests of the World Bowling and its member Federations, including, but not limited to, the following:
a) Location.
b) Dates, being mindful that the adult World Bowling Championships are recommended for the last half of August/first part of September.

c) Availability of one Bowling Center sufficient to hold the World Bowling Championships, including number and type of lanes; exclusivity during competition; and assurance of compliance with all World Bowling specifications.
d) Availability of hotels, including price, meeting room space and travel time to the bowling center. It is the host's obligation to offer enough space in official hotels at acceptable prices.
e) Host's ability to cultivate local support and communication programs including outside media, spectator and sponsorship interest.
f) Host's guarantees, including financial guarantees, and the source(s) of such guarantees.
g) The expertise of the federation whose jurisdiction includes the host to assist in the coordination and management of the championships

4.3.3 In selecting a host for the World Bowling Championships World Bowling shall insure:
a) Transportation for the official delegation members, including airport, hotel and bowling center needs.
b) Determining the size of the delegation, at a minimum being:
1) Six male and/or six female players (for World Youth and World Senior Championships four of each gender and World Single and World Junior Championships two of each gender).
2) One coach for male players and one coach for female players.
3) One administrator for a male team and one administrator for a female team.
4) Elected and accredited delegates to World Bowling meetings held in conjunction with the championships.
c) Adequate drug testing facilities.
d) Certified medical personnel on call.
e) Badges of accreditation for members of official delegation and media.
f) Media facilities with appropriate telephone, email, facsimile, high speed internet and other communication services.

4.3.4 Financial considerations
World Bowling shall be permitted to collect:
a) A registration fee from each member of an official delegation.
b) A congress fee for delegates with vote and for additional congress delegates to cover congress expenses. The amount of the Congress fees to be decided by World Bowling Executive Board.

World Bowling may present special awards in one or more events.

4.3.5 All hosts bidding for championships must do their utmost to ensure that all member federations can participate.

4.4 Equipment

4.4.1 All equipment, which is to be used for the championships, shall meet the requirements specified in Chapter 9, 10 and 11.

4.4.2 If the lanes are constructed of wood, they must have been sanded and resurfaced within the immediate six months prior to the competition. This requirement may be waived by the World

Bowling President for World Championships and by the Zone President for the Zone Championships if deemed necessary.

4.4.3 New pins or pins of not more than 300 games shall be used. Two sets of pins shall be used in each automatic pin setting machine.

4.5 Inspection certification

4.5.1 Approximately six months before the start of the championships (as soon as possible following the required resurfacing of wood lanes), the World Bowling Technical Delegate shall inspect and certify the lanes.

4.5.2 A detailed report of the inspection shall be submitted to the bowling centre management, the World Bowling President and the host federation.

4.5.3 An agreement shall be signed by the bowling centre management to correct eventual discrepancies by a date prior to the start of the championships as determined by World Bowling.

4.6 Lane dressing procedures

4.6.1 The general goal for all competition shall be to achieve a fair and equitable scoring condition, which places a premium on bowler accuracy and consistency.

4.6.2 In conjunction with the inspection of the lanes the World Bowling Technical Delegate shall take into account lane wear and topography while testing, selecting and adjusting the lane dressing pattern to be used during the championships.

a) In WWC, WMC. WC, WSrC, WSC, WYC and WJC one (1) lane condition shall be selected from one of the two oiling pattern categories. A bank of patterns shall be available to the Technical Delegate by the Technical Committee Chairperson. The bank shall consist of multiple patterns in each of 2 oiling pattern categories – Bank 30 (33'-39') and Bank 40 (40'-47').
The category selected shall be announced at least 120 days in advance of the tournament. The final selected oil-pattern will be published at the Team Managers meeting.
Any adjustments shall be made to ensure the original integrity of the pattern is upheld. These adjustments will be approved by the Technical Delegate in association with the Lane Maintenance Provider and may include mic-stream adjustment, buff speed adjustment and/or pattern length adjustment of +/- 1'.

4.6.3 The World Bowling Technical Delegate shall liaise with the bowling centre staff and instruct them in regard to the lane dressing procedures to be followed.

4.6.4 The lane pattern to be used during the championships shall be circulated to all member federations at the Team Managers meeting.The pattern used for unofficial practice shall not be the official tournament pattern.

4.6.5 All of the patterns in the 2 oiling pattern categories will be available to every member federation. They will be reviewed and posted annually by the World Bowling Technical Committee. Any changes or additions will be included into the appropriate category and posted by January 15th of each year and be made available to all member federations.

4.6.6 The Tournament Technical Committee shall follow the lane dressing procedures established by the World Bowling Technical Delegate and shall verify that the same procedures are followed on a daily basis during the competition.

4.6.7 Whenever it is available and after agreement with the proprietor a LaneMap Guide will be published on championship website.

4.6.8 The Zones will decide on the implementation date for the Zone Championships.

4.7 Information and entry procedures

4.7.1 World Bowling, or a host appointed by World Bowling, will by email circulate a sufficient championship information package (a Bulletin) in due time before the championships.

4.7.2 The content of the Bulletin will, together with all later information updates, be published at the championship website.

4.7.3 If deemed necessary, more Bulletins can be circulated by email closer to the beginning of the championships.

4.7.4 The first bulletin will include an entry form, in which an entry deadline is indicated.

4.7.5 By submitting the entry form, the federation is accepting to enter the championships with the number of players stipulated in the form. When the entry deadline is passed, the entry is binding for the federation and penalty fees may be invoiced by the host in case of any later changes (see 4.8).

4.8 Late changes and withdrawals

4.8.1 Already paid entry fees will not be refunded after the entry deadline is passed.

4.8.2 The host may accept that a federation, which has entered before deadline, can add more players.

4.8.3 A federation will not be allowed to participate in future world championships, until they have paid the original entry fees, invoiced by the host.

4.9 Eligibility

4.9.1 To be eligible to enter players in World Bowling championships, federations must be current with their World Bowling and Zone membership fees.

4.9.2 Any player in the World Bowling championships must be a national of the country of t

4.9.3 All disputes relating to the determination of the country which a player may represent in the World Bowling championships shall be resolved by the World Bowling Executive Board.

4.9.4 Exceptions

a) A player who is a national of two or more countries at the same time may represent either one of them, as he may elect. However, after having represented one country in the Olympic Games, in world, continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognized by the World Bowling, he may not represent another country unless he meets the conditions set forth below that apply to persons who have changed their nationality or acquired a new nationality.

b) A player who has represented one country in the Olympic Games, in world, continental or regional games or in world or regional championships recognized by the World Bowling, and who has changed his nationality or acquired a new nationality, may participate in the World Bowling Championships to represent his new country provided that at least three years have passed since the player last represented his former country. This period may be reduced or even cancelled by the World Bowling Executive Board, with the agreement of the player's National Olympic Committee and national bowling federation, which takes into account the circumstances of each case.

c) If an associated state, province or overseas department, a country or colony acquires independence, if a country becomes incorporated within another country by reason of a change of border, if a country merges with another country or if a new member federation is recognized by the World Bowling, a player may continue to represent the country to which he belongs or belonged. However, he may, if he prefers, choose to represent his country or be entered in the World Bowling Championships by his new World Bowling member federation if one exists. This particular exception may be made only once.

d) Furthermore, in all cases in which a competitor would be eligible to participate in World Championships, either by representing another country than his or by having the choice as to the country which such competitor intends to represent, the World Bowling Executive Board may take all decisions of a general or individual nature with regard to issues resulting from nationality, citizenship, domicile or residence of any competitor, including the duration of any waiting period.

4.9.5 Age Eligibility for World Championships

a) For WYC and WJC the player must have reached the age of 13 years on 1 January in the year of the championship.

b) For WWC, WMC, WC and WSC the player must have reached the age of 15 years on 1 January in the year of the championship.

c) For WSrC the players must be 50 years of age or above in the year of the championship.

4.10 Bowling ball, altering surface

4.10.1 Bowling ball surface adjustments by hand are acceptable between games provided they are done in the designated area and that the adjustment procedure does not delay the bowler's next turn. Use of chemicals see 2.10.1.

4.10.2 Altering the surface of the bowling ball, besides what is mentioned in 4.10.1, is allowed in a designated area only during the official practice session, during the practice session immediately preceding a competition round, and between competition rounds.

Altering the surface of the bowling ball during a game is not allowed.
If the surface is adjusted during a game the penalty is zero pinfall in that game.

4.11 Bowling ball procedure

4.11.1 Only bowling balls manufactured on or after January 1, 1991 that are on the USBC approved ball list latest the day the tournament starts are allowed for use in sanctioned World Bowling competition.
The online list may be found at World Bowling website www.worldbowling.org and will be available during all world events.
Acceptance of manufactured balls prior to the inception of the USBC ball list for use in competition shall not be allowed.

4.11.2 Altering the surface of the bowling ball is allowed per rule 4.10.1.
During a stepladder final format, each match is considered a competition round.

4.11.3 Registration bowling balls

a) Each player will be permitted to register a maximum of 6 bowling balls during the tournament. Prior to the start of the Official Practice the bowling balls to be used during competition shall be inspected and registered. The inspection shall include but not be limited to:
   i. Eligibility of the ball as specified in the list of approved bowling balls published latest the day the tournament starts
   ii. Serial number
   iii. Visual inspection with regard to material, surface, plugs, etc.

b) Immediately following the official practice (latest one hour after the last practice session) registration shall be made of the bowling balls to be used during the championship events.
c) Additions of maximum two bowling balls to the players' bowling ball list shall be allowed (up to the maximum of 6) throughout the tournament provided they pass rule 4.11.1 above.
d) In addition to the foregoing, a maximum of one ball previously registered may be removed from play during the Championships, and replaced by another ball not previously registered, upon notice to the Technical Delegate. Once this exchange process occurs the ball removed may not be returned to play.
e) Additions to a player's bowling ball list shall be made no later than 1 hour prior to the start of the event where the additional bowling ball(s) will be used.
f) No modifications of a bowling ball shall be permitted apart from the altering of the surface as described above.
g) In very special circumstances the Tournament Technical Committee may allow a replacement of a registered bowling ball.

4.11.4 Each day during the events random inspection of the bowling balls may be performed. The Tournament Technical Committee shall decide on the number of balls and the players, which shall be randomly selected. The inspection shall be limited to a visual inspection of the serial number of the balls and the size and number of the balance holes (refer rule 11.14.3).

4.11.5 The penalties for violation of the rule above are for a serial number and/or a number of balance holes violation

a) Daily random inspection, zero score for the event in which the failed inspection was performed…
b) Medalists, zero score for the event.
c) Masters Finals, disqualification and all scores null and void.

If a ball is in violation regarding the size of the balance hole, the ball shall be removed from play and cannot be used again until the balance hole complies. No additional balls may be added to the bowling ball list

4.11.6 A maximum of five gripping holes are allowed in a bowling ball. The player must be able to reach each set of finger holes (not all four simultaneously) while using the thumb hole. Any hole, which cannot be reached, is considered a balance hole. The ball must be balanced twice when one set of finger holes are for fingertip and the other set for conventional grip.

4.11.7 When delivering the ball the player must have his/her thumb in or over the thumb hole. It may not be 180 degrees away from the thumb hole.

4.11.8 It is not permissible to use resin/powder products anywhere outside of designated area in any World Bowling event. The tournament manager shall/will designate such an area.

4.12 Tournament management

4.12.1 The host shall select a manager (coordinator) for the tournament. He and his designated representatives shall supervise and direct the tournament. This shall include responsibility to the Tournament Technical Committee, Referees, compliance with the World Bowling Rules and otherwise with the codes of conduct of the World Bowling.

4.12.2 The Tournament Technical Committee for World Championships shall consist of
a) The World Bowling Tournament Director
b) The World Bowling Technical Delegate
c) The Host Tournament Coordinator

4.12.3 The World Bowling Tournament Director is the chairman of the committee and is especially responsible for matters related to the World Bowling Rules. He is appointed by the World Bowling President and can be from the same Zone but must come from another federation than the host's federation.

4.12.4 The World Bowling Technical Delegate is responsible for all matters related to the lanes, machines, scoring systems etc., and is solely responsible for deciding the lane dressing procedures. He is appointed by the World Bowling President and must come from another federation than the host's federation.

4.12.5 For Zone Championships, the members of the Tournament Technical Committee shall each be from a different country. The Zone President shall appoint the Zone Tournament Director and the Zone Technical Delegate.

4.12.6 The Tournament Technical Committee shall act as advisory body to the World Bowling with regard to the operation of the competition.

4.12.7 The Tournament Technical Committee is responsible for handling appeals against decisions taken by the Referees.

4.12.8 The Referees are appointed by the tournament manager and are responsible for enforcing all the provisions of the World Bowling Rules and those provisions of Chapter 5-8 that apply to the actual World Bowling championships. In this capacity, the Referees shall circulate behind the bowlers' seating area and observe the World Bowling championships for conformance with the rules.

4.12.9 The President of World Bowling shall appoint a three-member Jury of Appeal for the World Championships and each of the three Zones shall be represented on this body.

4.12.10 The President of the Zone shall appoint the Jury of Appeal for the Zone Championships and three different federations must be represented on this body.

4.13 Pre-tournament meeting

4.13.1 Prior to the start of the official practice, a meeting shall be held to provide all necessary information about the competition and related activities, and to answer questions.

4.13.2 The World Bowling President or designee shall chair the meeting.

4.13.3 The World Bowling Technical Delegate and the Host Tournament Manager shall attend the meeting.

4.13.4 Participating federations may attend the meeting.

4.13.5 For Zone Championships the Zone President or designee shall chair the meeting.

4.14 Ceremonies

4.14.1 Opening Ceremony

a) The Opening Ceremony shall, at a minimum, include a bowler parade with flag display and appropriate remarks as designated by the World Bowling President.

4.14.2 Award Ceremony

1. Medals shall be of consistent design and quality and shall have prior approval of the World Bowling President.
2. The award ceremonies should be conducted after each event and preferably before the commencement of the next event.
3. National anthems shall be played for the winners.
4. Medal presentations shall follow a plan established the World Bowling President.
5. The plan shall designate the dignitaries who will be accorded the honour of participating in the presentations.

4.14.3 Closing Ceremony

a. There shall be a Closing Ceremony that shall, at a minimum, include appropriate remarks by the World Bowling President.

4.15 Anti-doping rules

4.15.1 Anti-doping regulations as appearing in the World Bowling Anti-Doping Rules will be applicable for the World Bowling Championships.

4.15.2 Anti-doping regulations might appear in other championships as decided by the Executive Board from time to time.

4.16 Drinking alcohol

4.16.1 Players must not consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a block of games. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be expulsion from the tournament.

4.16.2 Players, coaches or administrators may not consume alcohol while wearing the standard uniform of their national federation in the bowling centre during the period commencing with the start of official practice through the completion of the Masters competition. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be:
- a warning for the first violation;
- 100 USD for a second violation (paid by the federation before the next event) and
- for any subsequent violation, suspension for the duration of the Championships.

4.17 Smoking and using tobacco products

4.17.1 During championships smoking is not permitted in the bowling centre. However, it may be allowed in a closed area, provided it does not affect the environment in the player's and spectator's areas.

4.17.2 Players and their coach/es must not smoke, use tobacco products or use any kind of synthetic cigarettes or e-cigarettes while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a block of games.

4.17.3 The player penalty for smoking during a game will be zero pinfall for the game currently being played. The penalty for smoking in between games will be zero pinfall for the succeeding game. The penalty for the second offence by the same player shall be exclusion from the rest of the championship by the Tournament Technical Committee.

4.17.4 The coach penalty for smoking during a game shall be suspension from the block of games in which he violated the rule. The penalty for a second violation is suspension from the rest of the Championship.

4.17.5 Players, coaches or administrators may not smoke, use tobacco products or any kind of synthetic or e-cigarettes while wearing the standard uniform of their national federation during the period commencing with the start of official practice through the completion of the Masters competition. The penalty for violation of this rule shall be:
- a warning for the first violation;
- 100 USD for a second violation (paid by the federation before the next event) and
- for any subsequent violation, suspension for the duration of the Championships.

4.18 Playing uniform, advertising

4.18.1 Players shall wear a standard uniform approved by their national federation. In a team event (Doubles, Trios and Team) players of the same Doubles, Trios or Team must wear uniforms of the same colour and type.

4.18.2 The name of the country must appear on the back of the uniform. The name of the country may be printed
- In English or in the country's language.
- As abbreviation recognized by IOC or ISO 2000 if no IOC abbreviation (abbreviations published on website).

4.18.3 The following may appear on the uniform
- a) Name of player.
- b) Logo of the country or member federation, which the player represents.
- c) Advertisement:. The number of advertisements is decided by each federation.
- d) A place on all federations uniforms, situated on the left side of the breast, is reserved for a World Bowling sponsor. No later than six months before the start of the championship World Bowling has to inform all member federations if this right will be used by World Bowling and provide all federations with an original design for printing.

4.18.4 IOC rules should apply for tournaments conducted under the auspices of IOC.

4.18.5 Coaches and officials in the player's area should be in the uniform specified by the national federation.

4.19 Style of play

4.19.1 Match play style
- a) In the match play style each player bowls two frames at a time.
- b) However, the player starting on the left (odd numbered) lane bowls one frame only.
- c) Thereafter both players bowl first on the right lane, then immediately bowl another frame on the left lane.
- d) The player who bowled first will finish his game by bowling the tenth frame on the right lane.
- e) When match play consists of more than one game, in succeeding games players alternate in starting on the left lane.

4.19.2 Baker format
- a) In the Baker format, members of competing teams, trios and doubles successively and in regular order bowl complete and consecutive frames within the same game.
- b) They shall alternate lanes within the pair after ten frames.

4.19.3 Round Robin format
- a) In the round robin the qualifying format of the event determines the number of players who will advance to round robin competition
- b) Each player bowls one match against every other player
- c) Matches may consist of one or more games
- d) A final position round match may be added. In a position round pairings are determined by the position in which a player finished the initial matches
- e) In case of a tie before the position round between places 2-3, 4-5, 6-7 and so on, the player with the higher position is the one who in the round robin has
  - The higher total scratch pin fall
  - Won their match
  - Won more matches
  - The least difference between the highest and the lowest game
  - The higher game

4.19.4 Order of bowling
- a) One or more players may be scheduled on a pair of lanes.
- b) After a block of games has started, no changes shall be made in the line-up in that block except that substitutions may be made in accordance with the rules for each specific championship

4.20 Official scorekeeping

4.20.1 The tournament is required to have official score keepers to record all games bowled in the competition.

4.20.2 An automatic scoring device, which has been approved by the World Bowling, may be used. This device shall provide a printed record of the score which can be audited frame by frame and otherwise comply with the scoring and playing rules of the tournament.

4.20.3 Written (printed) score sheets shall be maintained indicating the pin fall on each ball so a frame-by-frame audit may be made. Each individual player, coach or team manager shall receive a copy of the scores bowled and will be required to sign the official copy immediately after bowling to acknowledge the score.

4.20.4 After a score has been recorded, it cannot be changed unless there is an obvious error in scoring or calculation. Obvious errors must be corrected by a tournament official immediately upon discovery. Questionable errors shall be decided by the Referees.

4.20.5 A tournament game, or frame(s) within a game, that is irretrievably lost in the scoring process may be re-bowled with approval of Tournament Management.

4.21 Foul detection

4.21.1 The tournament management may adopt and use any automatic foul detecting device approved by World Bowling.

4.21.2 When none is available, a foul judge must be stationed in a position to have an unobstructed view of the foul line.

4.21.3 Should a foul detecting device become temporarily inoperative, the tournament officials shall assign a foul judge or authorize the official score keepers to call fouls.

4.22 Interrupted game

4.22.1 The tournament officials may authorize the completion of a game and block of games on another pair of lanes when equipment failure on the starting lanes would delay the normal progress of the block.

4.23 Slow bowling / Lane courtesy

4.23.1 Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery when the pairs immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left are clear (one (1) pair lane courtesy).

4.23.2 Competitors must observe one (1) pair lane courtesy at all times. Competitors on the same pair may not bowl consecutive deliveries without allowing one (1) competitor from the pair to the right and one (1) competitor from the pair to the left have made a delivery, unless those competitors are not ready to bowl or they give way.

4.23.3 If a player does not observe the procedures outlined in paragraphs 4.23.1 and 4.23.2, it shall be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows:
a) A white card for the first offence (no penalty);
b) A yellow card for the second offence (no penalty);
c) A red card for the third and each succeeding offence in any block of games (six games for singles and doubles, three games for trios or five-person team and all games of match play in a day). the penalty shall be a zero pin fall for the frame.

4.23.4 For interpretation of the enforcement of this rule, the Referees shall specifically monitor any player or team that gets more than four frames behind the leader in a singles, doubles or master event; or more than two frames behind in trios or team, not counting the end pairs of lanes. In Baker format competition the same rule applies as for the singles event.

4.23.5 Whenever there is any question concerning the enforcement of this rule, or lack thereof, in the Masters Grand Finals, the World Bowling President or his designee, notwithstanding the reference to the Referees, shall make the final decision.

4.24 Bowling on wrong lane

4.24.1 In singles match play competition, where a player bowls two frames each time it is the player's turn to bowl, and the other player bowls on the wrong lanes, a dead ball shall be called and the player required re-bowling on the correct lanes, providing the error was discovered before the opposing player has made a delivery.

4.24.2 Otherwise, the score stands as bowled, with all subsequent frames in the game bowled on the correct lanes.

4.25 Tardy players

4.25.1 Any player or team arriving late shall begin play with the score count beginning with the frame then being bowled on the lane or lanes to which they are assigned.

4.25.2 If they are scheduled alone, they will start in the earliest frame then being bowled on the squad.

4.26 Penalties for rule violations

4.26.1 When not specified in any rule, the penalties for rule violations are governed as stated below.

4.26.2 A player/team failing to observe a rule(s) shall be warned by an authorized tournament official with a yellow card for first offence (no penalty).

4.26.3 For a second offence in the same tournament, the player/team will be disqualified from the tournament, and will not be allowed to participate in World Bowling /Zone approved tournaments and conducted championships for 90 days.

4.26.4 All offences shall immediately be reported by the Tournament Manager to the World Bowling Secretary General, who will report to all member federations.

4.27 Protests

4.27.1 Protests involving eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to a responsible tournament official not later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred or before prize presentation, whichever is the sooner.

4.27.2 When a protest involving a foul or the legality of pin fall is entered, an official representative of the federations involved may be present when evidence is taken relative to the protest.

4.27.3 If no written protest is entered prior to the expiration period as stated, the game or games shall stand as bowled.

4.27.4 Each rule under this rule shall not be construed to cover a similar or previous violation.

4.28 Appeal procedure

4.28.1 All matters, which cannot be settled by the Referees, shall be heard and reviewed by the Tournament Technical Committee. The decision of the Tournament Technical Committee is final unless there is an appeal to the Jury of Appeal within 24 hours after the decision is announced, or before prize presentation, whichever is the sooner.

4.28.2 Protests on eligibility arising after the conclusion of the championships shall be filed directly with the Jury of Appeal within 30 days.

4.28.3 All appeals from the Tournament Technical Committee's decisions must be filed in writing with the Referees or with a member of the Jury of Appeal, or with the Secretary General of World Bowling or the Zone. Each appeal must be specific and include a fee of USD 100. If the Jury of Appeal does not uphold the appeal, the fee will be forfeited to the World Bowling. The foregoing also applies to protests filed directly with the Jury of Appeal.

4.28.4 The Jury of Appeal shall be empowered to cite before it all papers and persons involved in the appeal at a regularly scheduled meeting or if deemed appropriate, the Jury of Appeal may decide an issue by a mail vote after all material involved in the matter has been studied by each of its members.

5. World Bowling Championships

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The rules specified in this chapter apply to the World Bowling Championships (for women and/or men) in addition to the rules specified in Chapter 2, 4, 9, 10 and 11.

5.1.2 Each federation shall be limited to a team of not more than six players in WWC, WMC and six players of each gender in WC.

5.1.3 Each federation shall be limited to a team of not more than two players of each gender in WSC.

5.2 Eligibility/Qualification

5.2.1 In WWC, WMC and WSC all federations meeting the conditions in 4.9 are eligible to participate.

5.2.2 In WC (for men and women) 36 men's team and 36 women's team will qualify to participate

a) The host federation is qualified with one men's and one women's team.
b) The remaining 35 teams will be distributed among the zones and the number of teams from each zone will be decided by how many member federations there are in each zone relative to the total number of member federations in good standing on 1st of January two years ahead of the year of the championship.
c) Each Zone decides the qualification process in its zone.
d) Two deadlines will be defined by World Bowling.
    i) for each Zone to present to World Bowling the standing of zone qualification of teams/federations
    ii) a final date for invitation of teams/federations
e) World Bowling invites the federations according to the qualification rules above following the standing in each zone qualification. If there are any vacant spots the World Bowling may fill these vacancies for one zone by team(s) from any zone.
f) The minimum number of players from each participating team must be five (5) players.
g) No wild card system will be used.

5.3 Lane Assignments and Registration

5.3.1 In due time before the start of the championships, the Tournament Director will decide the number of squads for each event and the number of lanes in use for each squad.

5.3.2 Lane assignments shall be determined by lot for Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team, and subject to special pre-arranged schedule requirements for Masters round robin and the position round.

5.3.3 For Singles and Doubles, once competition is under way, the number of players scheduled on a pair of lanes must be consistent throughout the tournament.

5.3.4 An impartial lane assignment should be performed in due time prior to the Pre-Tournament meeting in order for it to be announced at the meeting.

5.3.5 Verification of the number of players from each participating federation and spellings of their names must be done latest in conjunction with the Pre-Tournament meeting. No changes will be permitted thereafter.

5.4 Practice

5.4.1 The players of each federation shall be nominated prior to the start of the official practice.

5.4.2 Minimum one day of official practice must be provided immediately prior to the start of the championship. One hour practice is required for each federation. However, if the competition lanes are not available for unofficial practice immediately prior to the official practice, two days of official practice will be required with two hours for each federation the first day and one hour for each federation the second day.

5.4.3 Each federation will have one session of official practise

5.4.4 After the lanes have been prepared and the official practice concluded, no play whatsoever by the participants of the championships shall be allowed on the competition lanes during the entire duration, except the championships proper. This will not preclude efforts (e.g. exhibition) to promote bowling before, after or in between events. However, this does not allow any play by participants on the competition lanes after the last event of the day when the bowling centre is available to the public for open bowling. Violators are subject to disqualification.

5.4.5 Practice for events in each block
a) Singles, 10 minutes practice time
b) Doubles, 10 minutes practice time
c) Trios, 10 minutes practice time
d) Team, 15 minutes practice time
e) Masters, 10 minutes practice time

5.5 Player's area

5.5.1 The Tournament Manager, using methods of identification, which are obvious to spectators, shall define the players' area.

5.5.2 Only one coach or official from any federation will be permitted in the players' area in the immediate vicinity of each pair of lanes on which their players are competing.

5.5.3 It is not permissible to bring in or consume food in the players' area. This does not include candy bars or fruit.

5.6 Events

5.6.1 For the WWC, WMC and WC the 6 championship events are the same as follows:
a) Singles, 6 games

b) Doubles, 6 games
c) Trios, 6 games
d) Team (of five players), 6 games
e) All Events, a total of the foregoing 24 games
f) Masters, in 4 steps described in 5.13

5.6.2 In Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team, players assigned to commence bowling on odd numbered lanes will move left and players assigned to commence bowling on even numbered lanes will move right for each successive game. The Tournament Manager will determine the number of lanes to be moved each game during the event.

5.6.3 One game semi finals and finals in all events except in the Team Event, All Events and Masters (1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3 in each event standing to be matched for the semi finals) In the Team events, the semi-finals and finals will be played in Baker's format, best of three (3) games. The two losers in the semi finals will get bronze medals.

5.6.4 For WSC there is only a single event

5.7 Singles in WWC, WMC and WC

5.7.1 Maximum six players per federation.

5.7.2 Six games in one block across 12 lanes.

5.7.3 Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes.

5.7.4 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two one game semi-finals, where the singles positioned 1 meets the singles positioned 4 and the singles positioned 2 meets the singles positioned 3.

5.7.5 The winners of the two semi-finals will play a one game final.

5.7.6 The two losers in the semi-finals will both get bronze medals.

5.8 Doubles

5.8.1 Maximum three Doubles per federation.

5.8.2 Six games in one block across 12 lanes.

5.8.3 Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes.

5.8.4 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two one game semi-finals, where the doubles positioned 1 meets the doubles positioned 4 and the doubles positioned 2 meets the doubles positioned 3.

5.8.5 The winners of the two semi-finals are playing a one game final.

5.8.6 Line-up changes are permitted only between the qualification and the semi-finals and between the semi-finals and the final.

5.8.7 Change of players is not permitted at any moment during the Doubles event

5.9 Trios

5.9.1 Maximum two Trios per federation.

5.9.2 Six games in two three-game blocks across 12 lanes.

5.9.3 Trios from the same federation shall be scheduled on different squads, in case more than one squad is necessary in the first block.

5.9.4 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two one game semi-finals, where the trios positioned 1 meets the trios positioned 4, the trios positioned 2 meets the trios positioned 3.

5.9.5 The winners of the two semi-finals are playing a one game final.

5.9.6 Line-up changes are permitted only between the blocks, between the qualification and the semi-finals and between the semi-finals and the final.

5.9.7 Change of players is not permitted at any moment during the Trios event.

5.10 Team

5.10.1 One Team per federation.

5.10.2 Six games in two three-game blocks

5.10.3 A team may change one player at the start of the second block.

5.10.4 In the second block teams shall be seeded, based on the results from the first block. The teams with the highest results shall be scheduled to the last squad.

5.10.5 Line-up changes are not permitted during a block.

5.10.6 All extra players shall be scheduled for make-up teams to bowl toward their All Events total. Players from different federations shall be combined for such teams.

5.10.7 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two semi-finals, where the team positioned 1 meets the team positioned 4 and the team positioned 2 meets the team positioned 3. The semi-finals will be played in Baker's format best of three (3) games.

5.10.8 The winners of the two semi-finals are playing a final. The Final will be played in Baker's format, best of three (3) games.

5.10.9 Line-up changes are permitted only between the blocks, between the qualification and the semi-finals and between the semi-finals and the final.

5.10.10 Change of players is permitted only between the blocks, between the qualification and the semi-finals and between the semi-finals and the final.

5.11 All Events

5.11.1 Maximum six players per federation.

5.11.2 Standing to be decided based on a total of the 24 played games in the foregoing 4 disciplines (Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team).

5.12 Masters in WWC, WMC and WC

5.12.1 The Masters includes five steps (1-5), all starting from scratch.

5.12.2 The Masters will be played on one lane condition.

5.12.3 The 24 highest positioned players in the final all event standing are qualified for the Masters event, seeded 1-24. The players will retain their seeding throughout the entire final.

5.12.4 In all steps there will be head to head matches, where the highest seeded players will be matched against the lowest seeded player, match play style (see 4.19.1).

5.12.5 Each match will played as best of 3 games. If the same player is the winner of the first two games, the 3rd game will not be played.

5.12.6 In each match the highest seeded player will choose whether he wants to begin the first game on the left or on the right lane. In the second game the starting lane of the players will be opposite to the first game and in a possible third game the starting lane of the players will be the same as in the first game.

5.12.7 In step 1, the 16 players seeded 9-24 will bowl 8 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 2.

5.12.8 In step 2, the 8 players seeded 1-8 and the 8 winners from step 1 will bowl 8 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 3.

5.12.9 In step 3, the 8 winners from step 2 will bowl 4 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 4.

5.12.10 In step 4, the 4 winners from step 3 will bowl 2 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 5.

5.12.11 In step 5, the 2 winners from step 4 will bowl 1 match with the winner of the match being declared the champion.

5.12.12 Lane Assignments in the Masters Event

a) The Tournament Director will perform an impartial draw for matches to be assigned to lanes in Step 1 and Step 2 of the Masters event.

b) Unless the same pair of lanes is in use for more than one match, there will be seven different pair of lanes in use for Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event..

5.13 WSC format

5.13.1 Step 1: All bowlers will bowl 12 games – in three blocks of 4 games each - to determine their seeding. In due time before the start of the championships, the Tournament Director will decide the number of squads and the number of lanes in use for each squad.

5.13.2 Step 2: The top 32 bowlers will advance and bowl according to the bracket below:

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13
17	18	19	20
24	23	22	21
25	26	27	28
32	31	30	29

5.13.3 If there is a tie for any of the positions 1-32 then a one ball roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

5.13.4 Each qualifying group shall bowl eight qualifying games over 4 adjacent pair of lanes, in one block.

5.13.5 Each player in the qualifying group shall bowl against every other player in the group every game. Points shall be awarded on the following basis:

5.13.6 The highest scoring player in each game shall be awarded 7 points, the second highest scoring shall be awarded 6 points, the third highest 5 points etc. down to the eighth highest, who will receive 0 points.

5.13.7 If there is a tie in a game the points will be awarded on the following basis:
The points available to the tied players shall be added together and then divided by the number of players that have tied.
(Example: If there is a tie between 3 players at positions 3, 4 and 5, the sum of points for the three players is 12 (5+4+3 points), which divided by 3 will give each player 4 points.)

5.13.8 Top 2 from the point standing of each group will advance to Step 3.
If there is a tie for position 2 in a group, a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

5.13.9 The 8 players in step 3 will play 8 games in one group with a system as specified in 5.13.4 – 5.13.7 above.

5.13.10 Top 4 players from the point standing of this group will advance to the Semi Finals, seeded 1-4. If there is a tie for position 4 in the group, a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.
If there is a tie for any other qualifying position, the highest qualified player is the player with the highest pin fall in Step 3, if there is still a tie, a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

5.13.11 The player seeded one from Step 3 shall play a one game match against the player seeded four, and the player seeded 2 shall play a one game match against the player seeded 3, with the higher ranked players having choice of starting lane. The losers of both matches will receive bronze medals.

5.13.12 The winners shall play a one game match for the Championships, with the higher ranked player having the choice of starting lane. The winner of this match will receive a gold medal, and the loser a silver medal.

5.13.13 In case of a tie in the semi-final or final, a one ball roll-off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

5.13.14 The players will be positioned on the lanes, where they ended the game. The highest seeded player will choose the order of play. For a second roll off delivery, the players will switch lanes and order of deliveries. A third roll off delivery will be played like the first roll off delivery etc.

5.14 Procedure for Semi-finals and Finals

5.14.1 In the Team event, all 6 players from the federation can participate in the first half of the practice session.

5.14.2 After half of the practice period, the highest seeded singles, doubles, trios or team will decide which lane to start.

5.14.3 After half of the practice period all doubles, trios or teams must decide their line-up for the match.

5.14.4 In case of withdrawals from any semi-final or final, the player, doubles, trios or team without opponent will be declared the winner of the match.

5.14.5 In the Team events, the semi-finals and finals will be played in Baker's format.

5.15 Substitution

5.15.1 A player who has already started in an event shall not be replaced.

5.15.2 In case of an injured player having to leave the game, the remaining players on the team shall continue their games for all event purposes

5.16 Tie breaking procedures

5.16.1 Ties for scores decisive for being qualified to the Masters, or ties in scores decisive for either position 1 or 4 before Semi Finals in Singles, Doubles, Trios, Teams or Masters, will be broken by allowing each player involved in the tie to play a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

The team with the highest accumulated score will be the winner of the tie.

The lineup of both teams must be similar to the lineups in the last game of the event.

A draw will decide on which lane in the pair the Roll Off will be played, and another draw will decide which team shall start. When the Roll Off includes more than one player, players of the competing teams shall alternate after each shot.

In case of a further tie, the procedure will be repeated on the second lane of the pair and the order of teams to start will be opposite to the first roll off. This procedure will be repeated until the tie is broken.

A warm up pair shall be provided for both teams involved. The warm up time shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Prior to the Roll Off, each player involved will be allowed one shot per lane on the lane pair in use.

5.16.2 Ties in Semi-finals or a Final will be broken by allowing each player involved in the tie to play a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

The team with the highest accumulated score will be the winner of the tie.

The lineup of both teams must be similar to the lineups in the game where the tie occurred.

The highest ranked player or team will decide on which of the lanes in the pair the roll off will be played and which of the teams will play the first shot. When the Roll Off includes more than one player, players from the competing teams shall alternate after each shot.

In case of a further tie, the procedure will be repeated on the second lane of the pair and the order of teams to start will be opposite to the first Roll Off. This procedure will be repeated until the tie is broken.

5.16.3 In case of tie for the medal positions in All Events there will be no tie-breaking for the medals. The players will be declared co-winners.

5.16.4 In case of a tie in Step 3 or Step 4 of the Masters in WC, WMC or WWC, a one ball roll-off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

The highest positioned player, by the conclusion of Step 2, will chose the order of play and the lane, where both players are delivering their shots. For a second roll off delivery, the players will switch lane and order of deliveries. A third roll off delivery will be played like the first roll off delivery etc.

5.16.5 In case of a tie in any game in the Masters of WSC, a one ball roll-off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.
The players will be positioned on the lanes, where they ended the game. The highest positioned player, by the conclusion of the qualification, will choose the order of play. For a

second roll off delivery, the players will switch lanes and order of deliveries. A third roll off delivery will be played like the first roll off delivery etc.

5.17 Awards

5.17.1 World Bowling medals of gold; silver and bronze shall be presented to each of the individuals winning those positions in the following events:

a) Singles
b) Doubles
c) Trios
d) Team
e) All Events
f) Masters

5.17.2 In addition to the medals for the individual players, a medal shall be given to the coach of the medallists and to the national federation the medallists represent.

5.17.3 Special awards – see 4.3.4

5.18 Record stipulations

5.18.1 High score records will be maintained for World Bowling Championships for women and men respectively.

5.18.2 The records are as follows:

a) One game in Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team
b) Three games (1-3 or 4-6) in Singles, Doubles, Trios and Teams
c) Six games in Singles, Doubles, Trios and Team
d) 24 games individual All Events

6. World Bowling Junior, Youth and Senior Championships

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The rules specified in this chapter apply to the World Bowling Junior Championships (WJC), World Bowling Youth Championships (WYC) and World Bowling Senior Championships (WSrC) in addition to the rules specified in Chapter 2, 4, 9, 10 and 11.

6.1.2 Each federation shall be limited to a team of not more than four male and four female players in WYC and WSrC, and not more than two male and two female players in WJC.

6.1.3 Age limits

a) The players in WJC must not have reached the age of 18 years on 1st January of the year of the championships. Also see 4.9.5 a
b) The players in WYC must not have reached the age of 21 years on 1st January of the year of the championships. Also see 4.9.5 a
c) The players in WSrC must be 50 years of age or above in the year of the championship. Also see 4.9.5 c

6.1.4 The official delegation shall include no more than four male and four female players for WYC and WSrC and two male and two female players for WJC, one coach for male players, one coach for female layers, one administrator for a male team and one administrator for a female team. The host federation may increase the size of the official delegation with the approval of the World Bowling President.

6.1.5 In order to determine the viability of an alternate scoring system for future limited purposes, such as competition in the Olympic Games Programme, the 2018 World Youth Championships shall be conducted under the alternate scoring system set forth herein. This statute shall expire at the conclusion of the 2018 World Youth Championships.

a) A game of tenpins consists of ten frames. A player delivers two balls in each frame unless a strike is scored. Every frame must be completed by each player bowling in regular order.
b) Except when a strike is scored, the number of pins knocked down by the player's first delivery is to be marked in the small square in the upper left-hand corner of that frame, and the number of pins knocked down by the player's second delivery is to be marked in the upper right-hand corner. If none of the standing pins are knocked down by the second delivery in the frame, the score sheet shall be marked with a (-). The count for the two deliveries in the frame shall be recorded immediately.
c) A strike is made when a full setup of pins is knocked down with the first delivery in a frame. It is marked by an (X) in the small square in the upper left-hand corner of the frame where it was made. The count for one strike is 30.
d) If a second consecutive strike occurs, the count for each succeeding strike is 30. If 10 consecutive strikes occur, the score is 300, the maximum available.
e) A spare is scored when pins left standing after the first delivery are knocked down with the second delivery in that frame. It is marked by a (/) in the small square in the upper right-hand corner of the frame. The count for a spare is 10 plus the number of pins knocked down by the player's first delivery in that frame.
f) When a player fails to bowl down all ten pins after two deliveries in a frame, the count for that frame shall be the total number of pins knocked down.

6.2 Lane Assignments and Registration

6.2.1 In due time before the start of the championships, the Tournament Director will decide the number of squads for each event and the number of lanes in use for each squad.

6.2.2 Lane assignments shall be determined by lot for Singles, Doubles and Team, and subject to special pre-arranged schedule requirements for Masters round robin and the position round.

6.2.3 For Singles and Doubles, once competition is under way, the number of players scheduled on a pair of lanes must be consistent throughout the tournament.

6.2.4 An impartial lane assignment should be performed in due time prior to the Pre-Tournament meeting in order for it to be announced at the meeting.

6.2.5 Verification of the number of players from each participating federation and spellings of their names must be done latest in conjunction with the Pre-Tournament meeting. No changes will be permitted thereafter.

6.3 Practice

6.3.1 The players of each federation shall be nominated prior to the start of the official practice.

6.3.2 Minimum one day of official practice must be provided immediately prior to the start of the Singles. One hour practice is required for each federation. However, if the competition lanes are not available for unofficial practice immediately prior to the official practice, two days of official practice will be required with two hours for each federation the first day and one hour for each federation the second day.

6.3.3 Each federation will have one session of official practice – each second pair of lanes dressed with short oil condition and the lanes between dressed with long oil condition.

6.3.4 After the lanes have been prepared and the official practice concluded, no play whatsoever by the participants of the championships shall be allowed on the competition lanes during the entire duration, except the championships proper. This will not preclude efforts (e.g. exhibition) to promote bowling before, after or in between events. However, this does not allow any play by participants on the competition lanes after the last event of the day when the bowling centre is available to the public for open bowling. Violators are subject to disqualification.

6.3.5 Practice for events in each block
- a) Singles, 10 minutes practice time
- b) Doubles, 10 minutes practice time
- c) Team, 15 minutes practice time
- d) Masters, 10 minutes practice time

6.4 Player's area

6.4.1 The Tournament Manager, using methods of identification, which are obvious to spectators, shall define the players' area.

6.4.2 Only one coach or official from any federation will be permitted in the players' area in the immediate vicinity of each pair of lanes on which their players are competing.

6.4.3 It is not permissible to bring in or consume food in the players' area. This does not include candy bars or fruit.

6.5 Events

6.5.1 For the WJC, WYC and WSrC the male and females shall compete in separate divisions but the scheduled events shall be the same for all as follows:

a) Singles, 6 games
b) Doubles, 6 games
c) Team (of four players), 6 games
d) All Events, a total of the foregoing 18 games
e) Masters, in 5 steps described in 6.10

6.5.2 In Singles, Doubles and Team, players assigned to commence bowling on odd numbered lanes will move left and players assigned to commence bowling on even numbered lanes will move right for each successive game. The Tournament Manager will determine the number of lanes to be moved each game during the event.

6.5.3 One game semi finals and finals in all events except in the Team event, All Events and Masters (1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3 in each event standing to be matched for the semi finals). In the Team events, the semi-finals and finals will be played in Baker's format, best of three (3) games.
The two losers in the semi finals will get bronze medals.

6.6 Singles

6.6.1 Maximum four players in each gender in WYC and WSrC and two players in each gender in WJC per federation.

6.6.2 Six games in one block across 12 lanes.

6.6.3 Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes.

6.6.4 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two one game semi-finals, where the singles positioned 1 meets the singles positioned 4 and the singles positioned 2 meets the singles positioned 3.

6.6.5 The winners of the two semi-finals will play a one game final.

6.6.6 The two losers in the semi-finals will both get bronze medals.

6.7 Doubles

6.7.1 Maximum two Doubles in WYC and WSrC and one Doubles in WJC per federation in each gender.

6.7.2 Six games in one block across 12 lanes.

6.7.3 Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes.

6.7.4 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two one game semi-finals, where the doubles positioned 1 meets the doubles positioned 4 and the doubles positioned 2 meets the doubles positioned 3.

6.7.5 The winners of the two semi-finals are playing a one game final.

6.7.6 Line-up changes are permitted only between the qualification and the semi-finals and between the semi-finals and the final.

6.7.7 Change of players is not permitted at any moment during the Doubles event.

6.8 Team

6.8.1 One Team per federation in each gender, and for WJC a mixed team of two male and two female players.

6.8.2 Six games in two three-game blocks.

6.8.3 In the second block team shall be seeded, based on the results from the first block. The teams with the highest results shall be scheduled to the last squad.

6.8.4 Line-up changes are not permitted during a block.

6.8.5 All extra players shall be scheduled for make-up teams to bowl toward their All Events total. Players from different federations shall be combined for such teams.

6.8.6 Top 4 in the final standing is qualified for two semi-finals, where the team positioned 1 meets the team positioned 4 and the team positioned 2 meets the team positioned 3. The semi-finals will be played in Baker's format best of three (3) games.

6.8.7 The winners of the two semi-finals are playing a final. The Final will be played in Baker's format, best of three (3) games.

6.8.8 Line-up changes are permitted only between the blocks, between the qualification and the semi-finals and between the semi-finals and the final.

6.9 All Events

6.9.1 Maximum four players per federation in WYC and WSrC and two players per federation in WJC, in each gender.

6.9.2 Standing to be decided based on a total of the 18 played games in the foregoing 3 disciplines (Singles, Doubles, and Team).

6.10 Masters in WJC, WYC and WSrC

6.10.1 The Masters includes five steps (1-5), all starting from scratch.

6.10.2 The Masters will be played on one lane condition,

6.10.3 The 24 highest positioned players in the final all event standing are qualified for the Masters event, seeded 1-24. The players will retain their seeding throughout the entire final.

6.10.4 In all steps there will be head to head matches, where the highest seeded players will be matched against the lowest seeded player, match play style (see 4.19.1).

6.10.5 Each match will played as best of 3 games. If the same player is the winner of the first two games, the 3rd game will not be played.

6.10.6 In each match the highest seeded player will choose whether he wants to begin the first game on the left or on the right lane. In the second game the starting lane of the players will be opposite to the first game and in a possible third game the starting lane of the players will be the same as in the first game.

6.10.7 In step 1, the 16 players seeded 9-24 will bowl 8 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 2.

6.10.8 In step 2, the 8 players seeded 1-8 and the 8 winners from step 1 will bowl 8 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 3.

6.10.9 In step 3, the 8 winners from step 2 will bowl 4 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 4.

6.10.10 In step 4, the 4 winners from step 3 will bowl 2 matches with the winners of the matches continuing to step 5.

6.10.11 In step 5, the 2 winners from step 4will bowl 1 match with the winner of the match being declared the champion.

6.10.12 Lane Assignments in the Masters Event

a) The Tournament Director will perform an impartial draw for matches to be assigned to lanes in Step 1 and Step 2 of the Masters event.
b) Unless the same pair of lanes is in use for more than one match, there will be seven different pair of lanes in use for Step 3, Step 4 and Step 5 of the Masters event.

6.11 Procedure for Semi-finals and Finals (except Masters)

6.11.1 After half of the practice period, the highest seeded singles, doubles or team will decide which lane to start. After half of the practice period all doubles or teams must decide their line-up for the match.

6.11.2 After half of the practice period all doubles or teams must decide their line-up for the match.

6.11.3 In case of withdrawals from any semi-final or final, the player, doubles or team without opponent will be declared the winner of the match.

6.11.4 In the Team event, the semi-finals and finals will be played in Baker's format.

6.12 Substitution

6.12.1 A player who has already started in an event shall not be replaced.

6.12.2 In case of an injured player having to leave the game, the remaining players on the team shall continue their games for all event purposes.

6.13 Tie breaking procedures

6.13.1 Ties for scores decisive for being qualified to the Masters, or ties in scores decisive for either position 1 or 4 before Semi-Finals in Singles, Doubles, Teams or Masters, will be broken by allowing each player involved in the tie to play a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

The team with the highest accumulated score will be the winner of the tie.

The lineup of both teams must be similar to the lineups in the last game of the event.

A draw will decide on which lane in the pair the Roll Off will be played, and another draw will decide which team shall start. When the Roll Off includes more than one player, players of the competing teams shall alternate after each shot.

In case of a further tie, the procedure will be repeated on the second lane of the pair and the order of teams to start will be opposite to the first Roll Off. This procedure will be repeated until the tie is broken.

A warm up pair shall be provided for both teams involved. The warm up time shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Director. Prior to the Roll Off, each player involved will be allowed one shot per lane on the lane pair in use.

6.13.2 Ties in Semi-finals or a Final will be broken by allowing each player involved in the tie to play a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

The team with the highest accumulated score will be the winner of the tie.

The lineup of both teams must be similar to the lineups in the game where the tie occurred.

The highest ranked player or team will decide on which of the lanes in the pair the roll off will be played and which of the teams will play the first shot. When the roll off includes more than one player, players from the competing teams shall alternate after each shot.

In case of a further tie, the procedure will be repeated on the second lane of the pair and the order of teams to start will be opposite to the first roll off. This procedure will be repeated until the tie is broken.

6.13.3 In case of tie for the medal positions in All Events there will be no tie-breaking for the medals. The players will be declared co-winners.

6.13.4 In case of a tie in Step 3 or Step 4 of the Masters in WYC or WSrC, a one ball roll-off will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

The highest positioned player, by the conclusion of Step 2, will chose the order of play and the lane, where both players are delivering their shots. For a second roll off delivery, the players will switch lane and order of deliveries. A third roll off delivery will be played like the first roll off delivery etc.

6.14 Awards

6.14.1 World Bowling medals of gold; silver and bronze shall be presented to each of the individuals winning those positions in the following events:

a) Singles
b) Doubles
c) Team
d) All Events
e) Masters

6.14.2 In addition to the medals for the individual players, a medal shall be given to the coach of the medallists and to the national federation the medallists represent.

6.14.3 Special awards – see 4.3.4

6.15 Record stipulations

6.15.1 High score records will be maintained for World Bowling Championships for female and male respectively.

6.15.2 The records are as follows:

a) One game in Singles, Doubles and Team
b) Three games (1-3 or 4-6) in Singles, Doubles and Teams
c) Six games in Singles, Doubles and Team
d) 18 games individual All Events

7. World Games

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The International World Games Association (IWGA) owns all rights of the World Games. The IWGA is an association of independent International Sports Federations (ISF), which administer sports or disciplines of sports that are not on the programme of the Olympic Games. FIQ is a member of the IWGA.

7.1.2 The rules specified in Chapter 2, 4, 9, 10 and 11 shall apply.

7.2 Date and venue

7.2.1 One of the major purposes of the IWGA is to provide, at regular four-year intervals, an international top class multi-sport event for sports or disciplines of sports of the IWGA Member Federations known as the World Games.

7.2.2 The IWGA Annual General Assembly makes the decision on the venue and the dates of a World Games event.

7.3 Eligibility

7.3.1 In the World Games 16 federations will qualify to participate.

a) The host federation is automatically qualified with two male and two female bowlers.
b) The remaining 15 federations will comprise 5 federations both male and female from each zone.
c) Each country will be required to send 2 male bowlers and/or 2 female bowlers.
d) Two deadlines will be defined by World Bowling;
   i) for each Zone to present to World Bowling the standing of zone qualification of teams/federations
   ii) a final date for invitation of teams/federations
e) World Bowling invites the federations according to the qualification rules above following the standing in each zone qualification. If there are any vacant spots the World Bowling may fill these vacancies for one zone by team(s) from any zone.

7.4 IF Passport

7.4.1 The IF-Passport is a document issued by the IWGA, in which are recorded the following elements relating to the participation of the ISF concerned:

a) Number of competitors
b) Number of officials (judges, referees, delegates, technicians, Technical Delegate)
c) Arrival and departure dates
d) Number of beds/nights
e) Allocated venue
f) Number of medals
g) Dates of competitions

7.4.2 The World Bowling President, World Bowling Secretary General, World Bowling Tournament Director and World Bowling Technical Delegate shall be included as officials in IF-Passport. All officials should be appointed by the World Bowling President.

7.5 Technical Liaison Delegate

7.5.1 It is a requirement of the IWGA that for each World Games event the participating ISF must appoint a Liaison Delegate who should, if possible, have his residence in the country where the event takes place.

7.5.2 During the Games the Liaison Delegate is the responsible person for the following activities

a) Forwarding all information to the participants of his ISF.
b) All announcements in the catering centers about meals.
c) The control of all accommodations in the housing area of the participants of his ISF.
d) The determination of responsibilities in case of breakages or damages.
e) The ISF shall be held responsible for such damages and breakages and it is advised that they request compensation from their national associations or from the participants of their sport.
f) Assisting with the accreditation procedure for all participants of his ISF.
g) Checking the technical installations of the training and competition venues for his sport Assisting his ISF in providing adequate technical officials for the control of the competitions.

7.6 Bowling centre certification

7.6.1 World Bowling shall pay the expenses of the appointed World Bowling Technical Delegate for the certification visit.

7.6.2 The expenses to be paid include cost of travel, board and lodging, and a daily per diem as specified by the World Bowling Executive Board.

7.7 Tournament management

7.7.1 The host federation shall pay the cost of travel and a daily per diem as specified by the World Bowling Executive Board for the World Bowling Tournament Director.

7.7.2 The host federation shall pay the cost of travel and a daily per diem as specified by the World Bowling Executive Board for the World Bowling Technical Delegate.

7.8 Tournament format

7.8.1 The following format should be used. However, the final decision will be made by the IWGA Executive Committee for each specific World Games event, and will be listed in the IF-Passport.

7.8.2 The World Games will be conducted in two separate divisions Men and Women.

7.8.3 The events will be men's and women's singles and men's and women's doubles. A total of four gold medals will be awarded.

7.8.4 Singles

a) Both male and female players will bowl one 6 game block.
b) The 16 highest positioned players (male and female) after the 6 games will qualify for the finals, seeded as 1-16 in all steps of the finals.
c) The finals will be single elimination format and will be played in accordance with a pre-determined 16 person single elimination schedule.
d) The single elimination finals will be the best of 3 games. Once a bowler loses a match they are eliminated.
e) In each match of the finals the highest seeded player will choose starting lane (i.e. left lane or right lane). In the second game the order of players will be opposite to the first game and in a possible third game the order of players will be the same as in the first game.
f) The losers of the semi-final match will proceed to the Bronze Medal match. The winner of this match will be awarded the bronze medal.
g) The winners of the semi-final match will proceed to the Gold Medal Match. The winner of this match will be awarded the gold medal and the loser will be awarded the silver medal.
h) If there is a tie for positions 1-16, a 9th and 10th frame roll of will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.
i) In case of a tie in a game in a match, a one ball roll off on a full set of pins will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

7.8.5 Doubles

a) Played in two stages with 16 federations represented in both male and female divisions.
b) Federations will be seeded according to the last World Championships results (top two players in All Events).
c) Ties in seedings will be broken by the federation which has the higher position of their third highest ranked player in the All Event standing.
d) The top 8 seeded Federations will be placed into pools based on the table below.
e) The remaining 8 Federations will be allocated to the various pools by a draw.

Pool 1.	**Pool 2.**	**Pool 3.**	**Pool 4.**
Seed 1.	Seed 3.	Seed 4.	Seed 2.
Seed 5.	Seed 7.	Seed 8.	Seed 6.
Draw 1.	Draw 2.	Draw 3.	Draw 4.
Draw 5.	Draw 6.	Draw 7.	Draw 8.

Stage 1. Elimination round.

f) 3 matches in each pool where each team will play each other once (two games total pinfall to count).
g) Points will be allocated on the following basis:
   2 points for a win
   1 point for a draw
   0 points for a loss
h) The top two point-scorers from each pool will continue to the Stage 2 finals.
i) If there is a tie for position 2 in any pool then a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played by both members of the team, repeated until the tie is broken.
j) An impartial lane draw will be conducted before the start of the matches. Each match shall be played on a different pair of lanes if possible under the physical conditions of the host bowling centre.

Stage 2. Finals.

k) The top 8 teams from the Stage 1 Elimination Round will contest the finals.

The finals will be played over 3 rounds using the following format, in which the matches are played over two games, total pinfalls to count

l) Round 1
Match 1 - Pool 1 winner v Pool 2 second place (winner to round 2 - loser out)
Match 2 - Pool 1 second place vs Pool 2 winner (winner to round 2 - loser out)
Match 3 - Pool 3 winner vs Pool 4 second place (winner to round 2 - loser out)
Match 4 - Pool 3 second place vs Pool 4 winner (winner to round 2 - loser out)

m) Round 2
Match 5 - Winner Match 1 vs Winner Match 3 (winner to Gold Medal Match - Loser to Bronze Medal Match)
Match 6 - Winner Match 2 vs Winner Match 4 (winner to Gold Medal Match - Loser to Bronze Medal Match)

n) Round 3
Bronze medal Match – Loser Match 5 vs Loser Match 6
Gold Medal Match - Winner Match 5 vs Winner Match 6

o) In each match of the finals a coin toss will be used with the winner to choose starting lane.
p) If there is a tie in any match then a 9th and 10th frame roll off will be played by both members of the team, repeated until the tie is broken.

7.9 Awards

7.9.1 IWGA medals of gold; silver and bronze will be presented to each of the individuals winning those positions in the Singles.

7.9.2 IWGA medals of gold; silver and bronze will be presented to each of the individuals winning those positions in the Doubles.

7.10 Additional rules

7.10.1 In addition to the above, the following rules shall apply

a) Rule 4.5: Inspection certification
b) Rule 4.10 Bowling ball, altering surface
c) Rule 4.11: Bowling ball procedure
d) Rule 4.12: Tournament management
e) Rule 4.13: Pre-tournament meeting
f) Rule 4.16: Drinking alcohol
g) Rule 4.17: Smoking and using tobacco products
h) Rule 4.18: Playing uniforms, advertising
i) Rule 4.19: Style of play
j) Rule 4.20: Official scorekeeping
k) Rule 4.21: Foul detection
l) Rule 4.22: Interrupted game
m) Rule 4.23: Slow bowling
n) Rule 4.24: Bowling on wrong lane
o) Rule 4.25: Tardy players
p) Rule 4.26: Penalties for rule violations
q) Rule 4.27: Protests
r) Rule 4.28: Appeal procedures
s) Rule 5.17: Tie breaking procedures

8. Regional Games and Other Global Games

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 The Games Organizing Committee shall organize and operate these events under the guidance and approval of the World Bowling.

8.1.2 The World Bowling Rules Chapter 2, 4, 9, 10 and 11 shall apply.

8.1.3 The respective Governing Bodies will determine the date and place of the Games.

8.1.4 The tournament format for the Regional Games shall be specified in the Playing Rules of the respective Zones.

8.2 Verification audit

8.2.1 At least 8 months prior to the tournament date, the Organizing Committee of the Games shall pay the expenses of the World Bowling President or his designated representative, to verify the adequacy of the preparations such as organization structure, accommodation, transportation and bowling center facilities.

8.2.2 If it is found that the preparations are inadequate, the World Bowling President or his designee shall determine the appropriate corrective action in cooperation with the Organizing Committee.

8.3 Bowling centre verification

8.3.1 The Organizing Committee shall pay the expenses of the appointed World Bowling Technical Delegate for the certification visit.

8.3.2 The expenses to be paid include cost of travel, board and lodging, and a daily per diem as specified by the World Bowling Executive Board.

8.4 Tournament management

8.4.1 The host federation shall pay the cost of travel, board and lodging and per diem as specified by the World Bowling Executive Board for the World Bowling Tournament Director.

8.4.2 The host federation shall pay the cost of travel, board and lodging and per diem as specified by the World Bowling Executive Board for the World Bowling Technical Delegate.

8.4.3 The host federation shall pay the accommodation for the World Bowling President and the Secretary General during the whole competition period.

8.5 Additional rules

8.5.1 In addition to the above, the following rules shall apply

a) Rule 4.5: Inspection certification
b) Rule 4.10 Bowling ball, altering surface
c) Rule 4.11: Bowling ball procedure
d) Rule 4.12: Tournament management
e) Rule 4.13: Pre-tournament meeting
f) Rule 4.16: Drinking alcohol
g) Rule 4.17: Smoking and using tobacco products
h) Rule 4.18: Playing uniforms, advertising
i) Rule 4.19: Style of play
j) Rule 4.20: Official scorekeeping
k) Rule 4.21: Foul detection
l) Rule 4.22: Interrupted game
m) Rule 4.23: Slow bowling
n) Rule 4.24: Bowling on wrong lane
o) Rule 4.25: Tardy players
p) Rule 4.26: Penalties for rule violations
q) Rule 4.27: Protests
r) Rule 4.28: Appeal procedures
s) Rule 5.17: Tie breaking procedures

9. Lane specifications

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 In this chapter only basic specifications are given. For detailed technical specifications and testing procedures reference is made to the USBC Equipment Specifications Manual.

9.1.2 The World Bowling Executive Board is authorized to take final action on all provisions contained in this chapter.

9.1.3 In the following specifications metric dimensions are stated within brackets for reference only. In case of a dispute the imperial dimensions prevail. The following conversion factors apply:
a) 1 inch = 25,4 mm
b) 1 foot = 12 inches = 304,8 mm
c) 1 pound = 0,453 kg
d) 1 ounce = 28,349 g

9.2 Construction

9.2.1 A regulation bowling lane, including flat gutters, kickbacks and approach, must be constructed of wood and/or synthetic materials.

9.2.2 The material must have been tested according to, established procedures for the specified time period and approved.

9.3 Approach

9.3.1 Extending from and exclusive of the foul line there shall be unobstructed level approach not less than 15 feet (4 572 mm) in length and free from depressions exceeding ¼ inch (6,4 mm).

9.3.2 The approach must not be less in width than the lane.

9.4 Foul line and detective device

9.4.1 The foul line shall not be less than 3/8 inch (9,5 mm) nor more than 1 inch (25,4 mm) in width and must be distinctly marked upon or embedded between the lane and the approach. It shall minimum be of the same width as the lane.

9.4.2 It may be required that the foul line be plainly marked on the walls, posts, division boards or any point on a line with the regular foul line.

9.4.3 Each certified bowling centre must have a foul detecting device in operation or a foul judge stand conveniently located directly on a line with or immediately beyond the foul line so that the foul judge may have an unobstructed view of all foul lines.

9.5 Length and width

9.5.1 The overall length of a regulation lane, including the pin deck has a reference dimension of 62 feet 10 3/16 inches (19 156 mm), measured from the lane side of the foul line to the rear end of the pin deck (not including the tail plank).

9.5.2 It must be 60 feet plus/minus ½ inch (18 288 +/-13 mm), from the lane side of the foul line to the center of the No.1 pin spot.

9.5.3 It must be 34 3/16 inches plus/minus 1/16 inch (868,5 +/-1.5 mm), from the center of the No.1 pin spot to the rear edge of the pin deck (not including the tail plank).

9.5.4 The lane shall be 41 ½ inches plus/minus ½ inch (1 054 +/- 12,7 mm) wide.

9.6 Surface

9.6.1 The surface must be free of all continuous grooves or ridges. There shall be no depressions or crown in excess of 0,040 inch (1 mm) on the surface of the lane over a 42 inch (1 067 mm) span. There shall be no crosswise tilt in excess of 0,040 inch (1 mm) over the width of the lane.

9.6.2 The same lane finishing coating shall be applied from edge board to edge board. The coefficient of friction of all lane surfaces shall not exceed .29 when measured with an approved device.

9.6.3 All bowling lane finish coatings as well as all synthetic lane surfaces must be submitted for laboratory testing of coefficient of friction before use in sanctioned competition.

9.7 Markings or design

9.7.1 Markings or designs on the lane and approaches shall be permitted in accordance with the specifications as specified in this chapter.

9.7.2 Measured from the foul line, a maximum of 7 guides may be embedded in or stamped on the approach at each of the following points: 2-6 inches (51-152 mm); 9-10 feet (2 743- 3 048 mm); 11-12 feet (3 353-3 658 mm); 14-15 feet (4 267-4 572 mm). Each series of guides shall be parallel to the foul line and each guide shall be uniform, circular in shape, and shall not exceed ¾ inch (19 mm) in diameter.

9.7.3 At a point 6-8 feet (1 828 – 2 438 mm) beyond the foul line and parallel thereto, there may be embedded in or stamped on the lane a maximum of 10 guides. Each guide shall be uniform, circular in shape and shall not exceed ¾ inch (19 mm) in diameter.

9.7.4 At a point 12-16 feet (3 658-4 877 mm) beyond the foul line, there may be embedded in or stamped on the lane a maximum of 7 targets. Each of the targets shall be uniform and may consist of one or more dowels, darts, diamonds, triangular or rectangular designs. The overall surface covered by each target shall not be more than 1¼ inches (31.8 mm) in width and 6 inches (152,4 mm) in length. Each target must be equidistant from one another and set in a uniform pattern.

9.7.5 At a point 33-44 feet beyond the foul line, there may be a maximum of four targets. Each target must be uniform in appearance and shall not be wider than a single board or longer than 36 inches.

9.7.6 Embedded markings or designs shall be of wood, fiber or plastic, and shall be flush and level with the surface of the lanes approaches. When the markings are stamped on, they shall be applied to the bare wood and then be covered with lacquer or similar transparent material generally used in resurfacing. All such installations in any one establishment shall be uniform as to design and measurement and at least on natural pairs of lanes.

9.7.7 For World Bowling Championships there shall be a reference marking placed on each side of the approach at distances of both 12 and 15 feet (3 658 and 4 572 mm) from the foul line respectively

9.8 Pit area

9.8.1 Detailed specifications related to the Pin Deck, Gutters, Kickbacks, Rear Cushion and Pit are found in the USBC Equipment Specifications Manual.

9.9 Pin setting device

9.9.1 All automatic pin setting devices must be tested and approved in accordance with established procedures.

9.9.2 They must be designed to operate under all situations normally arising in sanctioned competitions.

9.10 Lane conditioning requirements

9.10.1 The following lane conditioning requirements shall apply to all competition conducted or approved by the World Bowling.

9.10.2 The same type/brand of dressing shall be used across the entire width and length of the dressed portion of the lane, and the same product shall apply to all lanes used in competition. Following any application, in the dressed portion of the lane (including any buffed portion); there shall be dressing at all points on the lane surface. As guidelines the crosswise ratio of oil should be 2.5:1, and the lengthwise ratio should be tapered.

9.10.3 The minimum and maximum dressing distances, including the buffed portion, shall neither be less than 33 feet (10 058 mm) nor more than 47 feet (14 326 mm). This rule should not be interpreted to mean that 33 or 47 feet are recommended distances. Any distance between 33 feet and 47 feet may be used to dress the lanes. All championship tournaments shall use patterns and lane dressing procedures as noted in section 4.6.

10. Pin specifications

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 In this chapter only basic specifications are given. For detailed technical specifications and testing procedures reference is made to the USBC Equipment Specifications Manual.

10.1.2 The World Bowling Executive Board is authorized to take final action on all provisions contained in this chapter.

10.2 Material

10.2.1 Approved pins shall be made of new, sound, hard maple.

10.2.2 Each pin may be constructed of one, or laminated of two or more pieces, provided the pins meet with specifications herein.

10.2.3 Pins constructed of material other than hard maple may be used in World Bowling sanctioned competition provided they comply with the technical specifications and have been laboratory tested and approved.

10.3 Weight

10.3.1 Each standard wood pin and plastic coated pin must weigh neither less than 3 pounds 6 ounces (1531 grams) nor more than 3 pound 10 ounces (1645 grams).

10.3.2 Non wood (synthetic) pin will set its own weight limit at time of testing. The weight range may not exceed a total of 2 ounces from minimum to maximum and any pin out of its approved weight range is unacceptable for World Bowling sanctioned competition.

10.4 Finish

10.4.1 Single piece or laminated tenpins shall be finished with regularly accepted wood finishes and this coating shall be transparent (clear) and/or white pigmented with the exception of neck markings, identifying symbols or names. Regular wood finishes of four thousandths (0.004) inch film thickness are acceptable.

10.4.2 Pins used in World Bowling competition shall only bear the name and trademark of the original manufacturer or distributor and be marked “USBC Approved”.

10.4.3 Except for reasonable wear, neck markings and color, the pins in each set must be uniform in appearance including finish and labels.

10.4.4 In sanctioned tournaments it is permissible to use colored pins, provided they are uniform within the whole set.

10.5 Design and measurement

10.5.1 The height of each pin shall be 15 inches, plus /minus 1/32 inch (380 - 382 mm).

10.5.2 The biggest diameter is 4.755 - 4.797 inches (121 – 122 mm) at 4.5 inches (114 mm) above the base.

10.5.3 The top of the pin shall have a uniform arc with a radius of 1.273 inches, plus/minus 1/32 inch (31.5 – 33 mm).

10.5.4 Base attachments must be approved and manufactured in accordance with the specifications established in the USBC Equipment Specification Manual.

10.6 Maintenance of pins

10.6.1 The use of steel wool or sandpaper to remove dirt and surface splinters, the application of supplementary finish and/or the patching of plastic coated pins are permissible preservative measures providing these practices conform to the procedures outlined in the USBC Equipment Specification Manual.

10.6.2 At no time may a pin be painted or any supplemental finish be applied that has not been evaluated and approved.

11. Ball specifications

11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 In this chapter only basic specifications are given. For detailed technical specifications and testing procedures reference is made to the USBC Equipment Specifications Manual.

11.1.2 The World Bowling Executive Board is authorized to take final action on all provisions contained in this chapter.

11.2 Markings

11.2.1 Any bowling ball used in World Bowling sanctioned competition must have the product name as well as the manufacturers name and ball serial number clearly visible at all times for identification purposes.

11.3 Material

11.3.1 The ball shall be constructed of solid material (i.e. no liquids) without voids in its interior and be of a non-metallic composition except for minute reflective particles or flakes for decorative purposes, provided such particles or flakes are made a part of the ball at time of manufacture and are evenly distributed in a uniform pattern under a transparent shell of at least ¼ inch (6.4 mm) in thickness. This material shall be so distributed as not to have any effect on the balance of the ball and the total amount of such material shall not exceed ½ ounce (14 g) per ball.

11.3.2 The introduction of metal or any other substance, which is not comparable to the original material used in manufacturing a bowling ball, is prohibited. Likewise, altering a bowling ball in any way so as to increase its weight or cause it to be off balance outside the specifications is prohibited.

11.3.3 No foreign material may be placed on the outer surface of the ball.

11.4 Surface

11.4.1 The surface of the ball shall be free of all depressions or grooves of specific pattern, except for holes or indentations used for gripping the ball, identification lettering and numbers, and incidental chipping or marking caused by wear.

11.4.2 Engraved pictures are not considered grooves of specific pattern.

11.4.3 If the surface friction of the ball is altered by sanding or polishing, the entire surface of the ball must be sanded or polished.

11.5 Weight and size

11.5.1 The weight of the ball shall not exceed 16.00 pounds (7.25 kg). There is no minimum weight.

11.5.2 A bowling ball shall not have a circumference of more than 27.002 inches (685.8 mm) nor less than 26.704 inches (678.3 mm). The corresponding diameters are 8.595 inches (218.3 mm) and 8.500 inches (215.9 mm) respectively.

11.6 Hardness

11.6.1 The surface hardness of bowling balls shall not be less than 72 duro meter D at room temperature (20 - 25 degrees C).

11.6.2 The use of chemicals, solvents or other methods to change the hardness of the surface of the ball after it is manufactured is prohibited.

11.7 Cleaning

11.7.1 Cleaners may be used provided they do not affect the hardness of the ball, and that they are totally removed from the ball before delivery.

11.7.2 Any ball cleaner, which does not conform to any of these provisions, may not be used in World Bowling sanctioned competition.

11.8 Devices

11.8.1 Movable devices are not permitted in a ball except that a device for changing the finger span or the size of finger and thumb holes may be inserted, providing the device is locked in position during delivery and cannot be removed from the ball without destroying the device.

11.8.2 Removable devices shall be permitted, provided
a) Such devices are used for changing the span, pitch or size of the gripping holes.
b) Are constructed of a non- metallic material.
c) Are locked in position during delivery.
d) No device shall be employed for the purpose of adjusting the static balance of the ball.
e) No voids shall be permitted under the device.
f) Density not to exceed 1,5 grams per cubic centimeter.

11.9 Mechanical aids

11.9.1 A bowling ball must be delivered entirely by manual means and shall not incorporate any device either in the ball or affixed to it which is either detached at time of delivery or is a moving part in the ball during delivery, except that any person who's hand or major portion thereof has been amputated may use special equipment to aid in grasping and delivering the ball provided the special equipment is in lieu of the amputee's hand.

11.10 Plugs, designs and logos

11.10.1 Plugs may be inserted for the purpose of re-drilling the ball.

11.10.2 Designs may be imbedded in the ball for guides, observation, or identification purposes, provided such designs are flush with the outer surface of the ball.

11.10.3 In all cases there shall be no interior voids.

11.10.4 Plugs and designs must be made of material similar to, although not exactly the same as the original material of which the ball was made, and shall otherwise comply with all other specifications for a bowling ball. Density not to exceed 1.5 grams per cubic centimeter.

11.11 Manufacturing specifications

11.11.1 The manufacturing specifications such as size, roundness, hardness, radius of gyration, coefficient of restitution, coefficient of friction are stated in the USBC Equipment Specifications Manual.

11.12 Drilling specifications

11.12.1 The following limitations, as specified, shall govern the drilling of holes in the ball.

11.12.2 Holes or indentations for gripping purposes shall not exceed five and shall be limited to one for each finger and one for the thumb, all for the same hand. The player is not required to use all finger holes in any specific delivery, but they must be able to demonstrate, with the same hand, that each gripping hole can be simultaneously used for gripping purposes. Any thumb hole that is not used for gripping purposes during the delivery would be classified as a balance hole.

11.12.3 One hole for balance purposes not to exceed 1 ¼ inch (31.8 mm) diameter. (Including the surface opening).

11.12.4 No more than one vent hole to each finger and/or thumb hole not to exceed ¼ inch (6.4 mm) in diameter. (Including the surface opening).

11.12.5 One mill hole for inspection purposes not to exceed 5/8 inch (15.9 mm) in diameter and 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) in depth.

11.13 Balance

11.13.1 The following tolerances shall be permissible in the balance of a bowling ball used in sanctioned competition.

11.13.2 A. Weight more than 10 pounds (4.53 kg)

a) Not more than 3 ounces (85 grams) difference between the top half of the ball (gripping holes side) and the bottom half of the ball (side opposite the gripping holes).
b) Not more than 1 ounce (28 grams) difference between the half of the ball to the left and the half of the ball to the right of the center of grip (side weight).
c) Not more than 1 ounce (28 grams) difference between the half of the ball toward the thumb hole side of the center of grip and toward the finger holes side of the center of grip (thumb/ finger weight).

d) A ball used without any gripping holes or indentations may not have more than 1 ounce of difference between any two halves of the ball.

11.13.3 Weight 10 pounds to 8 pounds (4.53 - 3.62 kg)

a) Not more than two (2) ounces (57 g) difference between top half of the ball (finger hole side) and the bottom half (side opposite the finger holes).
b) Not more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between the sides to the right and left of the finger holes or between the sides in front and back of finger holes.
c) A ball drilled without a thumbhole may not have more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between any two halves of the ball.
d) A ball drilled without any finger holes or indentations, may not have more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between any two halves of the ball.
e) A ball used without any hole or indentations may not have more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between any two halves of the ball.

11.13.4 Weight less than 8 pounds (3.62 kg)

a) Not more than three quarters (3/4) ounces (21 g) difference between top half of the ball (finger hole side) and the bottom half (side opposite the finger holes).
b) Not more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between the sides to the right and left of the finger holes or between the sides in front and back of finger holes.
c) A ball drilled without a thumbhole may not have more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between any two halves of the ball.
d) A ball drilled without any finger holes or indentations may not have more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between any two halves of the ball.
e) A ball used without any hole or indentations may not have more than three quarters (3/4) ounce (21 g) difference between any two halves of the ball.

11.14 Specifications that may be measured at tournament sites

11.14.1 Gross weight. Shall not exceed 16 pounds (7.25 kg).

11.14.2 Holes or indentations for gripping purposes. Shall not exceed five.

11.14.3 One hole for balance purposes is allowed. Shall not exceed 1¼" in (31.8 mm) diameter.

11.14.4 Vent holes to the finger and/or thumb holes are allowed. Shall not exceed ¼" in (6.4 mm) diameter.

11.14.5 One mill hole for inspection purposes is allowed. Shall not exceed 5/8" in (15.9 mm) diameter and 1/8" in (3.2 mm) depth.

11.14.6 Static balance. Shall be within the tolerances as specified above.

11.14.7 Ball hardness as specified above.

Glossary

World Bowling / FIQ / WTBA
World Bowling is since 2015 Congress the organization recognized and accepted as the world body of bowling sports and for the purpose of this Statutes, tenpin bowling. Until 2015 Fédération Internationale des Quilleurs, was the name of the organization.

WTBA (World Tenpin Bowling Association) was until 2015 under FIQ the responsible body for tenpin bowling.

Federation
The national organization within a given country.

Zone
A geographical area, the boundaries of which are defined by the World Bowling.

Bowling
The participant sport known as tenpin bowling.

Bowler
Anyone who plays the game of tenpin bowling.

Member
A national association, congress or federation, which has been granted membership.

Congress
The body considering legislation, determining policies and providing guidelines for, its Zones, and its member federations, it consists of delegates from the member federations gathered at a duly convened meeting.

Delegate
A person authorized by member federation to be its representative at any Congress.

Executive Board
The board of management whose members are elected by the Congress or appointed in accordance with the terms of Rule 1.7.

Masculine and female gender
The masculine gender used in relation to any physical person (for example, name such as member, official, participant, competitor, athlete, player, bowler, referee, member of a jury, or pronouns such as he, they, them) shall, unless there is a specific provision to the contrary, be understood as including the feminine gender.