

What are the Rule Changes?

1. Rule 102c - Requires bank statements to be sent to the League President. *Bank statements should be sent to the person verifying the account. Not only is this a good business practice, but it will be a good reminder to the league president that he/she has a duty to the league to verify the bank account in accordance with league financials and team envelopes each month.*
2. Rule 102f – Requires the League Treasurer to retain treasure records to one year versus the old 120 days. *League financial records are important for a league and should be kept longer than 120 days. When a league is over it could be months before the members get back together and find out the league was not properly paid out. In many cases, it is due to vacancies or members not paying, which can easily be determined by the treasurer if the records are retained.*
3. Rule 106a - Two lanes immediately adjoining each other shall be used in each game of league play. The first game of a series shall start on the lane where the team is scheduled with each succeeding game starting on the lane where the team finished its previous game. At the option of the league, each game or frame may be bowled on a different pair of lanes. *This change will allow a league the option to use multiple lanes as a new fun format, if they so choose. USBC would still provide awards when multiple lanes are used for different frames.*
4. Rule 111c - Games must be bowled as scheduled. A request must be made prior to the scheduled time, except for emergencies, and approval is granted. *Leagues and members are more aware today than ever before that individual/teams must request a prebowl or postponement prior to the scheduled night; however, removing the 48-hour time limit allows leagues more flexibility when granting a request at the last minute. As always, emergency postponements can be requested within the time frame of USBC Rule 119.*
5. Rule 111f - Prebowed/postponed games must be bowled as follows:
 1. Prior to the date of scheduled competition for final team standings for the season or each segment of a split season; or
 2. Within seven days when the postponement is granted for the last day of a segment (split season leagues); or
 2. Within seven days when the postponement is granted for the last day of the schedule.

The foregoing applies to teams bowling in direct opposition. A league may adopt different time frames for individual and/or team unopposed bowling, but must allow at least 15 days from the date of the originally scheduled or prior to the final date of the season or season segment, and within seven days when the postponement is for the last day of the season or season segment.

6. Rule 319a - Individual averages must be based on a minimum of 21 games in a USBC league. *With a trend of winter leagues bowling shorter seasons, summer leagues are just as relevant. It should not matter what time of the year a player bowls. As long as the bowler has 21 games bowled, a summer league average should be recognized as the equivalent of a winter league average.*
7. Rule 320a - Bowling shall begin in accordance with a previously arranged schedule. Two lanes immediately adjoining each other shall be used in each game of tournament play.

The first game of a series starts on the lane where the team or individual is scheduled. Succeeding games start on the lane on which the team or individual finished the preceding game, unless each complete game is bowled on a different pair of lanes.

A tournament may have a rule allowing game/frames to be bowled on different lanes. *This will allow a tournament the option to use multiple lanes within a game. USBC would still provide awards when multiple lanes are used for different frames.*

8. Rule 329 - A protest involving eligibility or playing rules must be filed with tournament management. 1. Adult tournaments: Within 72 hours of the infraction. Adult tournaments: Within 10 days of notification of tournament management.'s decision. *When an infraction occurs, a protest should be filed as soon as possible to allow tournament management the opportunity to handle the issue quickly. Appeals to tournament manager's decisions should be handled promptly instead of allowing weeks/months to file an appeal.*
9. Rule Books will be good for two years now – not just one.