



RULES EXTRA – June 2019

TITLE: Eight average questions

Last month, we discussed recent rules changes and average submission. If you did not receive a copy of the last month's Rules Extra, please contact Rules@bowl.com.

This month, we take a look at averages. Please share Rules Extra with your fellow officers and league members.

What is considered an official USBC average?

Any USBC adult league average of 21 or more games and any USBC youth average of 12 or more games is an official USBC average.

What is a composite average?

A composite average is the average of a bowler who bowls in two or more USBC leagues in one season. Total pins from all USBC leagues is divided by total games bowled in all leagues to get a composite average.

What is a final average?

A final average includes all games bowled in one USBC league. Games bowled in roll-offs (tie breakers), playoffs (competition to determine the league champion) and even fun night or sweeper games (provided the American games of tenpins is bowled) are included in a final average.

When are final average due?

Currently, final averages are due within the time the local association requests, which cannot be before the end of the league. As of Aug. 1, 2019, final averages will be required within 15 days of the completion of the league.

What is an entering average?

An entering average is the previous season or assigned average of a bowler as stated in the league rules. The purpose of an entering average is to provide an average for handicapping while the bowler is establishing a current average as stated in the league rules, or to meet the average cap to enter the league. A league must adopt a rule to have entering averages in effect. [Learn more about entering averages.](#)

What is a league average cap?

A league average cap limits entry into a league based on an entering average. A league can adopt a rule to cap individual entering averages or total team entering averages. Application of a cap rule includes any combination of players' entering averages, including substitutes and replacements. Many leagues grandfather teams with the same players into the league should the team go over the cap, so teams do not have to break up to meet the average cap.

Do averages with less than 21 games have to be reported on the final average sheet?

In a word, yes. The number of games bowled and total actual (scratch) pinfall must be reported, whether a bowler bowls one game or 101 games in any USBC league.

Are summer league averages considered official averages?

Yes, summer league averages are official USBC averages if 21 or more games are bowled. All averages, no matter how many games bowled, in a summer league must be submitted to the local association. Local associations are required to upload summer averages to BOWL.com.

Mythbusters

Busted, plausible, or confirmed:

Myth #9: If my summer average is higher than my winter average, I must report it for tournaments.

Myth #45: A bowler must bowl before their absentee score can be used.

[Get the answers to these and other bowling myths.](#)

Want to be part of Mythbusters? Send your bowling myth to Rules@bowl.com.

Tenpin Puzzler

This month's Puzzler comes from Jaycob in Illinois, who is curious about the rules for buffer lanes.

To find out the answer, either [view the Tenpin Puzzler video](#) or [read the Tenpin Puzzler article](#).

If you have a question for PB, email him at PBAtkinson@bowl.com. If PB uses your question, we will send you an autographed copy of the 2018-2019 USBC Playing Rules.



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