



RULES EXTRA – September 2019

Rule 18 Explained

Last month, we discussed league start up and minors bowling with adults, and sent a special edition of the Rules Extra explaining SafeSport Training requirements. If you did not receive a copy of these Rules Extras, please contact Rules@bowl.com.

This month, we cover the change in Rule 18, prize lists, and absentee and vacancy scores. Please share Rules Extra with your fellow officers and league members.

In the News

Rule 18 Changes

A significant change in Rule 18 became effective Aug. 1, 2019. While bowling in USBC competitions, bowlers no longer can use liquids or add anything, including but not limited to rosin or powder, to the surface of the bowling ball. To explain how the rule change affects you and your bowling ball(s) during USBC league and tournament play, click [here](#).

Absentee Score or Vacancy Score

The Rules Team receives many calls about what score to use if a rostered bowler is absent the first week of the schedule. Many believe

you cannot use the absentee scores of a bowler until the bowler has bowled in the league. However, that is contrary to [USBC Rule 105](#). The absentee score of a rostered player is used, unless the league rules require the vacancy score be used. [See more about absentee and vacancy scores.](#)

Don't forget... prize lists must be presented for adoption by the fifth week of bowling. See [How to adopt a prize list](#) for assistance.

Do your bowlers know... who to contact if they need a postponement or to pre-bowl? Please make sure the bowlers have the contact information for whomever grants requests for pre-bowls and postponements.

Mythbusters

Busted, Plausible, or Confirmed:

Myth #10: I can use a Scotch-Brite pad to clean my ball during league play.

Myth #14: I can clean my ball with nail polish remover.

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

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



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