

Chantilly Scratch Challenge

League Rules, Summer 2012

1. Certification, Management

The Chantilly Scratch Challenge League shall be designated as a managed league under the provisions of USBC Rule 100j. USBC Rules 103b(1) and 117a, which by default do not apply to managed leagues, will apply to this league. Additionally, the following league rules may be amended at the organizational meeting: Rule 3 (Schedule), second paragraph; Rules 17-24 (Team Rosters, Substitutes, Legal Lineup, Forfeitures, Vacancy Score, Absentee Scores, Postponements, Tardy Players); Rule 27 (Playoffs).

All members shall be sanctioned with the United States Bowling Congress through its local association. All bowlers, including floating substitutes, must submit a USBC registration card and roster information sheet to the league secretary prior to his/her first night in the league.

The Management of this league shall be vested in the Board of Directors, which shall consist of the officers and team captains. A league officer may not be a team captain. A majority of Board members shall constitute a quorum. Those members present at the summer organizational meeting shall adopt league rules and the membership shall elect officers. Responsibilities are detailed as follows: USBC Rule 102 (league officers); USBC Rule 103 (Board of Directors); and USBC Rule 104a (team captain). It is highly recommended that team captains have a valid electronic mail address.

2. League Integrity and Misconduct

This is a very special league and will be treated as such by the league officers and bowling center. Each and every bowler will conduct him/herself with a high level of professionalism so that this high caliber league can flourish for years to come.

There are very few, if any, full house (40 team) summer leagues with a playing strength of four or greater. This league is designed for solid competition, plenty of opportunities to win money, and a unique format; all of which are the main draw.

Any actions that can be deemed detrimental to the league's integrity will be addressed immediately by the league officers, for the benefit of the entire league. The integrity of the league has the highest priority and no one team or bowler is above that.

3. Schedule

The league shall consist of 40 teams with a playing strength of four bowlers. The league will bowl on Tuesday nights for 15 weeks. All scheduled matches will start promptly at 19:00 (7:00pm). There will be 10 minutes of practice prior to the start of the first game.

The league will be split into two divisions and bowl the following schedule: normal (software assigned) matchups within the division every third week starting with Week 1; cross-divisional position round (1st vs. 1st. 2nd vs. 2nd, etc.) every third week starting with Week 2; position round within the division every third week starting with Week 3.

The league will commence on 8 May 2012 and finish its schedule on 14 August 2012.

4. Entering Average Cap

Teams entering the league shall not exceed a cap of 860 based on the sum of entering averages as defined by "Entering Averages."

5. Entering Averages

Entering Averages shall be defined in the following manner for all bowlers:

1. Last year's average in this league, 21 game minimum, using the higher average of: after the 12th week or at the end of the season. If none then,
2. last year's highest average as published in the 2010-2011 local association average book. If none then,
3. last year's highest average as published in the 2009-2010 local association average book. If none then,
4. 210 will be the assigned entering average for that bowler.

Averages will be verified by the league secretary and any errors in the yearbook must be brought to the attention of the secretary. Failure to do so will result in the application of USBC Rule 114a, which is immediate expulsion from the league and USBC, as well as forfeiture of all games won and forfeiture of all monies paid and owed to the league, if exceeds cap.

6. Team Registration Fee

Registration will be done in the form of a team reservation (franchise) fee. This fee is the responsibility of the team captain as authority of the franchise/team. The fee is \$60.00 which is to be paid prior to the start of the season. Teams who were in the league the previous season have until 1 March 2012 to pay their franchise fee and reserve their spot in the league. Once the deadline has passed, those new teams on the waiting list will be awarded teams on a first come, first served basis. The franchise fee will go directly into the league (season) prize fund.

7. League Fees and USBC Registration

The amount to be paid by each bowler each night shall be \$25.00 which breaks down as follows: \$12.45 for lineage; \$0.75 for secretary-treasurer salary; \$1.00 for the "Clean Sweep" jackpot; \$1.00 for the "Roger's Rabbit" jackpot; \$0.50 for the team survivor jackpot; and the balance of \$9.30 for the season prize fund.

Each team captain shall be responsible for the team's bowling fees of \$100.00 each night, regardless of whether the team has a full roster unless the bowling center is not charging the league for vacant positions. Only cash and checks will be accepted for league fees; no credit card transactions will be permitted. Each team captain shall be responsible for ensuring that a new bowler on his/her team submits the required paperwork to the secretary. **Failure to submit fees and USBC registration cards in a timely manner may result in forfeiture of games.** The bowling fees for the last two weeks shall be paid by each team before completion of the third week of the schedule.

All checks are to be payable to the league and no checks will be accepted during the last four weeks of the schedule. Any bowler whose check is returned to the league will be responsible for a fee of \$30 in addition to service charges incurred, if any. **Privileges for paying weekly fees by check will be revoked after a member's second occurrence.**

8. Arrearages

Fees will be paid in full on the night that the games are bowled. Team members who bowl that fail to pay the full weekly fees may have their team games subject to forfeiture. Arrearages of one week may be allowed and the bowler must be current in league fees upon his/her return.

Any team with a member more than one week in arrears **or who owes services fees for returned checks** must use an absent score for that member. If a team uses any bowler (rostered team member or floating substitute) for any member more than one week in arrears, their games will be forfeited.

Any league member who is more than three weeks in arrears will be sent a certified letter, in accordance with USBC Rule 115b, to appear before the Board of Directors to answer charges of non-payment of league fees.

Arrearages incurred by any team member will be taken out of that team's standings and prize money, and any individual award prize money for which that member may be eligible, in order to balance the league treasury.

9. Salaries

The salary to be paid to the secretary, or any other officer, shall be established by the Board of Directors and shall be paid at the completion of the league schedule, unless otherwise specified. Full payment shall not be authorized until the secretary has submitted final averages to the manager of the local association. The salary for the combined secretary-treasurer position shall be \$0.75 per bowler per night.

10. Franchise

The franchise shall be held by the team captain as long as the captain is acceptable to the majority of the Board of Directors, except that a franchise cannot be recalled during the season without sufficient cause. Disputes pertaining to the captaincy or sponsorship must be decided by the Board of Directors.

11. League Funds

The league account will be maintained at Northwest Federal Credit Union in which funds will be deposited weekly. Withdrawals from the account shall be made only with the joint signatures of at least two authorized officers of the league. Refer to USBC Rule 102 for verification requirements and procedures.

The president shall appoint an audit committee to ensure that the league accounts are accurate. The duties of the Audit Committee include, but are not limited to, the verification of amounts and dates of deposits made to the league and reviewing any supporting documents to ensure that any and all league expenditures are proper.

12. Prize Committee

Prior to the start of the schedule, the President shall appoint a committee to put forth a slate of prize lists. Any league member may submit a prize fund to the committee for consideration. The committee is responsible for presenting at least three prize lists for consideration.

The prize list will be adopted on the first night of the schedule and by a majority of those present at the time of voting. **Proxy and absentee voting is not permitted, nor are floating substitutes permitted to vote.** Should no prize list receive a majority, all prize lists except the two receiving the most votes, including ties, will be dropped and another vote will be taken.

13. Season Prizes and Awards

To qualify for all individual awards, a bowler must have bowled in two-thirds of the regularly schedule games as a regular member. A bowler or team can qualify for only one special award for a high series or game, with the exception of high average and individual match points. When a team or individual qualifies for an award in each category, and the prizes are of equal value, the series prize will be awarded. In all other cases, the prizes of highest value will be awarded. Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the approved recommendations of the league membership.

In the event of a tie for high game, a one game roll-off will be held at the same time as the roll-off of the division winners. The result of the roll-off will determine the distribution of the individual award monies. If a member is also involved in a team roll-off, that member's first game of the team roll-off will be used for the individual award roll-off.

In order to be eligible to receive an award, a bowler must be actively paying into the league prize fund.

14. Clean Sweep Jackpot

A team who wins the maximum points possible will win the amount currently available in the jackpot through that week. Monies remaining in this jackpot at the end of the season will be awarded to the team that wins the most points, provided they win a minimum of 25, on the final night. If no team wins a minimum of 25 points, the monies will be evenly distributed amongst the teams. A team can be swept only once for their opponents to win the jackpot.

15. "Roger's Rabbit" Jackpot

Each game, a "rabbit" will be drawn and bowlers must tie or beat the score bowled by the "rabbit" to stay alive for the jackpot. The "rabbit" in any game must score higher than the lowest score in order to stay alive in the jackpot.

The jackpot through the current week will be awarded to the last bowler who remains alive in the current jackpot, at which point a new jackpot will begin with the next game. If this occurs in the middle of the series, the current week's jackpot will be divided and allocated accordingly with the balance to be placed in the new jackpot.

If a week begins with more than one person alive but only one person is in a league session with no blind scores to bowl against or no survivors are at the start of a league session, the jackpot through the previous week will be held until those members return the following week and a new jackpot will begin.

If a league member still alive in the jackpot is absent during a weekly session, that member's blind score can be used for a maximum of three weeks during the season. After that, the member is eliminated from the jackpot when absent from a league session.

An active jackpot on the final game of the final week will be awarded to the bowler with the highest game score.

16. Team Survivor Jackpot

Each week, two or more teams that bowl the lowest series will be eliminated. Refer to Appendix 1 for the team survivor cut schedule. Teams that are eliminated can buy themselves back in as long as they do it the following week; if a team does not buy in the week following being eliminated, they are out for good.

The cost for a team to buy back in to the team survivor jackpot will be \$60 (\$15/person). After the 10th week of the schedule, there are no more buy-ins. All buy-in monies will go to the jackpot.

The jackpot will be awarded to the two teams who remain alive on the final week. The team with the higher series score on the final night will be awarded approximately 75 percent of the jackpot while the opposing team will be awarded the balance (approximately 25 percent).

17. Team Rosters

Captains will turn in rosters of team members to the secretary prior to the start of the schedule. Rosters will be limited to five players. Any roster changes must be reported to the league secretary at least three days prior to the time the new team member is scheduled to bowl. New players cannot be added to a team's roster in the final four weeks of the schedule without approval of the Board of Directors.

18. Substitutes

Substitutes will be governed by the same rules as regular league members. Any team using a substitute shall not exceed the average cap as defined by "Entering Average Cap", using entering averages only. Substitutes will be allowed on position rounds and men may sub for women and women may sub for men.

Substitutes will not be required to pay the full weekly league fee, nor be eligible for league awards.

19. Legal Lineup

A minimum legal lineup must be present by the end of the third frame by both teams. (See USBC Rule 105a for a minimum legal lineup provision). A minimum legal lineup must include at least two members from a team's current roster. A mandatory forfeit must be declared when a team fails to present a legal lineup regardless of the circumstances. A game that is forfeited due to lack of legal lineup must be declared prior to the completion of the fourth frame.

20. Forfeitures

When a game is declared forfeited, the team present shall bowl as though the game was actually contested. When a team fails to have a minimum legal lineup, the opposing team must bowl no less than 40 pins of their current team average, no less than 20 pins of their doubles average, and no less than 10 pins of their individual average (for singles) in order to win points by forfeiture. Points not won for failing to bowl the prescribed score will not be credited to either team. Teams and individuals who equal (tie) the score stated will be credited with one-half the points, as governed in head to head competition.

21. Vacancy Score

A vacancy score shall be allowed when a team does not have enough players to fill a roster or if a bowler drops from the league for any reason and a replacement is not found by the next scheduled match. The vacancy score shall be the lesser of either the difference from the entering average cap, using entering averages, and the other rostered players' averages, or a score of 175.

22. Absentee Scores

A blind score will be used for an absent member. The score will be the missing members entering average minus 10 pins for the first nine games (three weeks). The missing member must bowl at least three consecutive games in one night in order for the above to apply. After the member has more than nine games bowled in the league the blind score then becomes the bowler's current average minus 10 pins. Barring special circumstances, an absentee score may only be used for two consecutive nights. Thereafter, either a substitute or a vacancy score must be used. If each team has a missing member, blind scores may or may not be against each other at the discretion of the team lower in the standings when establishing their lineup.

23. Postponements, Bowling Unopposed

Postponed matches must be authorized by the league secretary in conjunction with the two teams involved with at least one week's notice of their request for the postponement. If one of the teams is the secretary's, then the highest ranking league officer whose team is not involved will rule on the postponement.

Those teams bowling an unopposed pre or post bowl must declare their lineup in advance; otherwise, their lineup as listed on the standings sheet will be used. All postponed matches must be made up within two weeks. No scores will be given for teams pre or post bowling unopposed.

All pre and post bowled matches must be scheduled in advance with the bowling center. Failure to do so may result in the team(s) being denied the opportunity to pre or post bowl.

24. Tardy Players

Tardy bowlers may enter the current game provided the first ball of the fourth frame has not been rolled by either team.

25. Position Standings

The league shall use the SDT Scoring system for awarding points won. This system has a maximum of 30 points won per night. The 30 points are awarded as follows:

1. two points for each singles game match won in the first game of the night; a maximum of eight points awarded to the team.
2. four points for each doubles match won in the second game of the night; a maximum of eight points awarded to the team. The doubles pairings will a team's first and second bowlers, and a team's third and fourth bowlers.
3. eight points for the team match in the third game of the night, the maximum that can be awarded to the team.
4. one points for each individual series won; a maximum of four points awarded to the team
5. two points for each team series won, the maximum that can be awarded to the team.

When bowling against a blind score, teams and individuals must beat the score stated in order to get credit for points won. Teams and individuals who equal (tie) the score stated will be credited with one-half the points, as governed in head-to-head competition.

On the first night of bowling, the team on the left lane will set their lineup first. Afterwards, the team higher in the standings will set their lineup first for divisional matches. For cross-division position rounds, the team with the most points will set their lineup first; if both teams have the same number of points, then the team with more total pins will set first. The opposing team has the option to modify their lineup accordingly. Lineups need to be set before the first ball is thrown for score; afterwards, no lineup changes are permitted for the entire night.

NOTE: For position rounds, should two or more teams be tied for a certain position, the ranking shall be determined by total pinfall (as listed on the weekly standings sheets). If all teams have not bowled the same number of games, the standings shall be determined on the percentage of games won, as governed by USBC.

26. Individual Match Points

The league will maintain individual match points won, independent of the SDT Scoring format. Individual match points will not be included in a team's win-loss standings totals. Individual match points are awarded as follows: two points for each game, and one point for series; a total of seven individual match points may won per night. Prizes for individual match points will be determined by the approved prize fund.

27. Playoffs

The division winners will compete in a one-game playoff immediately after the final night of competition with those scores applied to all three games of the SDT scoring format. An extra complete tenth frame using team score shall be bowled in the event of a tie.

If the event of a tie for a division, a complete tenth frame using team score shall be bowled to determine the division winner. When more than two teams are tied, three or more adjoining lanes shall be used.

Should other positions within a division end in a tie, prize money for the positions affected shall be divided equally among those tied.

Scores bowled in such playoffs shall not count toward individual or team averages or special prize award offered by the league.

28. Final Week Lockout

On the final night of competition, if the first place team in each division is far enough ahead of second place that they can not be caught, the first place team will compete against the last place team. The starting lanes for the final position round will match up the second versus third place teams; the next pair will match the fourth versus fifth place teams, etc.

29. Withdrawals

When a team or individual withdraws from a league without a satisfactory reason or is expelled for sufficient cause, they forfeit their prize and any other moneys for which they may have been eligible. The team or individual is also subject to suspension from membership through the local association. Bowlers must give two weeks written notice to both the President and Secretary and pay for those two weeks.

30. New Teams

A team which enters competition after the season is in progress shall assume the position standings for the team it replaces. The team shall qualify for all money if it wins, with the exception of any positional prize money required to balance the league treasury as a result of the lost team.

If the league schedule begins with a vacant team (an odd number of teams), the team that assumes the vacant franchise may be allowed to make up missed games up to the second week of the schedule. After that time, the team assumes the position standings as of the time they join the league.

31. Approaches Must Not Be Defaced (USBC Rule 12)

The use of a foreign substance that comes in contact with the approach that detracts other bowlers from having normal conditions is prohibited. Silicone spray may not be used under any circumstances.

All bowlers must wear bowling shoes approved for USBC certified competition. Street shoes will not be permitted under any circumstance.

32. Equipment Abuse and Bowler Misconduct

Abuse of bowling center equipment and excessive unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Equipment abuse includes, but is not limited to: the ball return, foul light mechanisms, computer consoles, settee area chairs and concourse furniture. Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to: profanity, physical gestures, **excessive delays in the progress of a match**, and unruly behavior by members and spectators that might be deemed offensive or inappropriate to other league members.

There will be no tolerance of equipment abuse. Any member who abuses equipment is subject to immediate expulsion from the league. Each member shall receive only one warning by the league officers for unsportsmanlike conduct. A second instance of unsportsmanlike conduct will result in the immediate expulsion from the league.

A member who is dismissed from the league for equipment abuse or unsportsmanlike conduct will forfeit any prize winnings for which he/she may have qualified. If the expulsion occurs in the middle of a game, a score of zero will be credited for each of the remaining frames, in accordance with USBC Rule 108b.

33. Unexplained Rules

Any rule not covered in these bylaws will be governed by the USBC Rule Book for the current season.

34. League Officers, League Data Online

The league officers for the 2012 season are:

President:	Roger Rowley	roger@rowriteinc.com	703-304-5502 (m)
Vice President:	Sam Crusan	bookidd266@aol.com	703-898-3997 (m)
Secretary-Treasurer (Manager):	Bob Ashley	scr-challenge@house-bowlrz.org	703-216-2507 (m)
Sergeant-at-Arms:			

Standings will be uploaded to bowl.com (league ID 13352) and leaguesecretary.com (league ID 57586). Additional league data will be available at the following web site:

http://www.house-bowlrz.org/Scratch_Challenge

Appendix 1: Team Survivor Cut Schedule

Week #	Cut to Number of Teams	Buy-In Allowed?
1	37	Yes
2	34	Yes
3	31	Yes
4	28	Yes
5	25	Yes
6	22	Yes
7	19	Yes
8	16	Yes
9	13	Yes
10	10	Yes
11	8	No
12	6	No
13	4	No
14	2	No
15	Pay 75% of jackpot to winner, 25% to runner-up.	