Section A: PARTICIPATION

A1) All current/active members of the Greater Cincinnati USBC (GCUSBC), Greater Hamilton USBC, and Miami Valley USBC associations, with a minimum of 3 games bowled in any of the three mentioned associations for the 25/26 or 26/27 season and/or can provide proof of residence within Greater Cincinnati USBC area are eligible to enter this tournament.

A1.1) Bowlers from Greater Hamilton and Miami Valley USBC associations are eligible to bowl but must also purchase the $10.00 crossover sanction into Greater Cincinnati USBC.

A2) All bowlers must be able to provide USBC membership card or pay USBC dues of $27 at check-in.

A3) The tournament director reserves the right to disqualify any entrant not in compliance with the rules of the GCUSBC tournament. Premature termination of the tournament brought about by war, national emergency or emergency causes relating thereto of fire, natural disaster or any other reason beyond the control of GCUSBC tournaments shall cause, to the extent required hereby, all to be prorated in accordance with the number of entrants who have bowled in each of the respective events up to the time of such termination.

A4) Each entrant can bowl each event TWO (2) TIMES. Two (2) bowlers must be changed in team event and one bowler must be changed in the doubles event to be eligible to cash separately. A participant can only cash ONE (1) TIME in singles.

A4.1) Bowlers participating more than once in an event shall count their first series in each event towards optional handicap all events, optional scratch all events and their qualifying scores for The Masters. See Rule 306

A5) Entrants who bowl doubles must also bowl singles and vice versa. Bowlers must enter both events and will stay on the same pair of lanes.

A6) Bowlers entering Optional All Events are automatically entered into Handicap and Scratch divisions. Bowlers can only cash once in All Events in each division.

A7) When a team captain secures a replacement, once the replacement has started to bowl, the replacement must finish the game being bowled. The tournament director reserves the right to accept or reject the substitution offered by the team captain. Bowling order is finalized when entry is submitted.

A8) Teams or individuals failing to appear at scheduled pair of lanes and scheduled time, will forfeit entry fee, unless a sufficient reason is given to warrant postponement.

A9) Late bowler: Any participant not present at the start of any event will receive zero for all frames missed.

A10) All entries for the first weekend must be submitted by Wednesday 1/6/27 All entries for the second weekend by 1/13/27. Pre-paid entries only. Walk-ins will be accepted up to "one hour" before the shift scheduled start time, based on lane availability.

A11) Bowlers who are identified as professionals or who have applied for membership in any professional organization during the year preceding the GCUSBC event and up through their date of competition shall be eligible to bowl as follows:

A11.1) Not more than TWO (2) bowlers in a TEAM line up and ONE (1) bowler in a doubles line up.A11.2) Each such bowler shall be eligible to enter Singles and ONLY SCRATCH optional all events.

A12) Practice: Participants in Team Event will receive 15 minutes of practice on assigned pair of lanes. Participants in Doubles and Singles will receive 10 minutes of practice on assigned pair of lanesbefore the start of Doubles Event.

A12.1) There will be no practice prior to the start of Singles Event.

A12.2) In the event of a lane/mechanical breakdown, bowlers moving lanes will receive one (1) frame of practice each on new pair. Once completed, bowling will resume with normal scoring.

A13) ABUSE of center equipment or abusive language will not be tolerated. Any entrant involved is this activity will be ejected from the tournament with no refund of entry fees.

A14) PROPER ATTIRE REQUIRED. Examples; No profanity or offensive language. Cutoff jeans, etc.

A15) Speakers or any other electronic device emitting sound is strictly prohibited during tournament.

A16) Lanes will be reconditioned before each shift.

A17) Tournament shift times may be added, if needed, before the 2:00pm shift on Sun Jan 17th, 2027.

A18) No Transfers or refunds the day of the event to entries submitted unless extenuating circumstances presented. Must be approved by a combination of the tournament manager, tournament director, and/or officer(s) present

A19) Bowlers responsibility to confirm all the events entered is accurate prior to competition starting. If you modify an entry, a new entry form must be submitted and will be added to the original entry copy. If you are NOT confirmed in the event(s) entered, you will not be eligible to win the corresponding division, title, trophy, or associated prize money

Section B: AVERAGE RULES

B1) A bowlers entering average will be highest average between either 2025/2026 standard composite average, based on a minimum of 21 games as shown on bowl.com, unless rule B3 10 PIN over rule applies.

B2) Average adjustment: If a bowler's only valid average is in a sport or challenge league, then this average will be adjusted utilizing the corresponding USBC average conversion chart found on bowl.com.

B3) 10 pins over rule: If highest certified individual league average, as of January 9, 2027, 21 games or more is 10 pins or higher than the above, this will be bowlers entering average.

B4) What average will a bowler use if they DO NOT have a 2025/2026 standard composite average or a "tournament average"?

B4.1) Entering average will be highest individual certified league average as of January 9, 2027 for 21 games or more. A copy of this league sheet must accompany the entry form.

B4.2) If a bowler does not have any of the above, the bowlers entering average will be scratch 220.

B5) Scratch for this tournament is 1100 for team event, 440 for doubles and 220 for singles.Handicap is based on 80% of the difference between entering teams combined average for team event and doubles and individual average for the singles event.

Section C: RERATING

C1) All provisions of USBC rule 319A apply. It is the responsibility of each participant to verify the accuracy of their average whether submitted by the bowler or other.

C2) **Bowlers who have qualified for a prize of $600 or more in cash or merchandise in any event of a tournament within the last 12 months, must report actual scratch score, position, and amount won atthe time of bowling in a GCUSBC event for a possible rerate REGARDLESS OF ENTERING AVERAGE.**

C3) Bowlers shall acquaint themselves with Rule 319C concerning rerates.

C4) If a bowler has received a rerate or adjustment within the past 12 months from any tournament, bowler MUST report this to the tournament director prior to bowling for possible average adjustment in any GCUSBC tournament.

Section D: PAYOUT

D1) All prizes will be returned 100%; 75% to handicap and 25% to scratch.

D1.1) Handicap division: One prize for each six (6) entries in Team, Doubles, and Singles will cash.D1.2) Scratch division: One prize for each eight (8) entries in Team, Doubles, and Singles will cash.

D2) Optional All Events: All prizes will be returned 100%; 50% to handicap, 50% to scratch.

D2.1) Handicap division: One prize in eight (8) entries will cash.

D2.2) Scratch division: One prize in eight (8) entries will cash.

D3) Co-Champions will be declared if there is a tie for 1st place in any event, with 1st and 2nd place prize money being divided equally and duplicate trophies awarded.

Section E: EQUIPMENT

E1) Ball surface change or cleaning with a substance after the first ball is thrown in competition for that squad in team event or doubles is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

E2) In accordance with USBC Rule 18, once competition begins the outer surface of the bowling ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel.

E3) There will be no practice prior to the start of singles and ball surface changes at that time are PROHIBITED.

E4) There COULD BE random checks of any participants bowling equipment any time before, during or after any GCUSBC tournament.

E5) Any USBC approved ball can be used in competition. ** All rules have been approved by USBC.