

NWGA-USBC Open Championship & Gail Tanner Memorial Tournament Rules

Eligibility & Championship Selection

- Entry is open to current Northwest Georgia USBC members.
- The NWGA Open Championship permits men's, mixed, and women's entries. The Gail Tanner Memorial Women's Open is restricted to women; all members of a Gail Tanner team or doubles entry must be women.
- Each championship maintains separate Team, Doubles, Singles, and All Events prize funds.
- Women may enter either championship or pay to enter both, with the same scores counting in each selected championship. Championship selections are made separately for Saturday Team and the Sunday Singles/Doubles block; singles and doubles must be entered together in the same championship.

Entry & Payment

- Entry is fifty dollars (\$50) per bowler per event: Team, Doubles, or Singles. Optional All Events is twenty-five dollars (\$20) per bowler per championship. Entry in all three events plus one All Events pool totals one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$170).
- Bowlers may enter Team, the combined Singles/Doubles block, or all three events. Singles nor doubles may be entered alone.
- Women entering an event in both championships pay only the additional prize-fund portion for the second championship. No additional lineage or association charge applies to the second championship.
- Entries completed in advance via electronic payment by March 15, 2027, receive priority for lane assignments. Walk-in entries are subject to available lane availability and cannot be guaranteed.
 - **Electronic Payment:** Advance entries must be paid electronically. QR codes on tournament flyers and the association website provide access to payment options, including Apple Pay, Cash App, credit/debit card, Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo, and Zelle.
 - **Walk-In Payments:** Cash and checks are accepted only at tournament check-in for walk-in entries. Checks must be payable to NWGA Tournament Fund. Returned checks incur a \$30.00 administrative fee plus any applicable bank charges.

Schedule

- The championships will be held April 3–4, 2027, at Southern Lanes.
- Squads begin at 1:00 p.m.; check-in opens one hour before each squad.
 - Saturday, April 3rd, will be the four-person team events.
 - Sunday, April 4th will be the doubles/singles events. Doubles will be bowled first, with no break in between sets.

Entering Average & Handicap

- The bowler's highest book average from 2025-2026 is used; if none exists, 2024-2025 is used, then 2023-2024. The search stops at the first season with an available average. Bowlers with no average in any of those seasons enter at 230.
 - Highest book requires a minimum of 21 games.
- Handicap is eighty percent (80%) of the difference between the entering average and 230, rounded down.

Competition & Standings

- Each event consists of three (3) games.
- Team standings are the combined three-game totals of all four bowlers, including handicap.
- Doubles standings use the combined three-game totals of both partners, including handicap.
- Singles standings use the individual three-game total, including handicap.
- The optional All Events standings will use each bowlers' nine (9) personal games from Team, Doubles, and Singles, including handicap, regardless of which championship events those were entered into. A bowler in only one championship cannot enter both All Events side pots.
 - Women who compete in both championships may pay for entry into each championships' All Events pot.

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Entry Fee Allocation & Prizes

- Team/Singles allocation: fifty dollars (\$50), twelve dollars (\$12) to lineage, five dollars (\$5) to the association, and thirty-three dollars (\$33) to the prize fund.
- Doubles allocation: fifty dollars (\$50), twelve dollars (\$12) to lineage and thirty-three dollars (\$38) to the prize fund.
 - The association's five dollar (\$5) share is charged one per bowler per day, not per event.
- All Events: the entire twenty dollar (\$20) entry fee goes to the selected All Events prize fund.
- Each event within each championship pays one (1) place for every eight (8) entries
 - There will also be plaques for each event winner.
- Tied entrants receive the same placing and equally divide the combined prize money for the positions occupied; all tied first-place winners, including each member of tied teams or doubles pairs, receive plaques.

General Rules

- USBC playing rules will apply to all tournament competition.
- Any protest or rules dispute will be handled by the Tournament Manager and, when applicable, will follow USBC appeal procedures.