



# Membership Applications

Tips and everything you need to know about membership applications but were afraid to ask.

## These cards have historically not been easy to tear apart cleanly.

- Prior to distribution of your membership cards, fold them a few times along the perforations.
- Fold on the perforation between the cards.
- Fold again on the perforation between the application and the Temporary Membership Receipt.
- Probably best not to try and tear the whole lot at one go.

You will find a number of blank cards for new bowlers. This year we printed 50% extra as blanks for each league, since we were missing a lot of bowlers last year. Each center is supplied with additional blanks if you need more. All bowlers who participate in your league must fill out a membership application and pay, or already have paid, USBC annual membership dues.

## The following dues are applicable to the Madison Area USBC:

- **Standard** | \$23.00
  - Most bowlers will pay the standard annual membership fee.
  - This fee entitles the bowler to participate in all leagues in our jurisdiction, all tournaments in Wisconsin, and all national tournaments.
  - This fee entitles the bowler to earn National and Local achievement and recognition awards.
- **Adult Basic** | \$10.00
  - This dues package is for short season leagues.
  - The entire league must be certified as Adult Basic.
  - These dues are good ONLY for this league.
  - No local awards to Basic Leagues.
  - Adult Basic dues are not an option in a Standard league.
  - Bowlers already certified Standard do not pay Basic dues, however...
  - Bowlers who certify Adult Basic must pay the difference (\$13.00, one-time) if joining a Standard league.
- **Local Only** | \$10.00
  - This is for bowlers who paid Standard membership in another association outside the jurisdiction of the Madison Area USBC. Madison Area USBC includes all centers in Dane County, Iowa County, Sauk City, and Cambridge.
- **USBC Lifetime Member** | \$0.00
  - Some bowlers purchased lifetime memberships in the past and no longer pay annual dues.
  - Lifetime members have a USBC ID number that starts with 1-.

### **Return the receipt portion of the membership applications to your bowlers.**

- This is their proof of payment for use when joining other leagues or entering early season tournaments.
- The receipt is good for 45 days.
- Keep track of who paid in your league, and who did not!

### **Send membership applications to the bowling office right away.**

- Please don't wait to collect a few or several weeks' worth of cards, as this delays processing for those who paid their dues early.
- A copy of the league application must accompany the first set of cards.

### **After your membership applications are received and processed by the Madison Area USBC, you will receive a league roster by email or regular mail.**

- Please check over the roster to make sure that:
  - All bowlers in your league are on the roster.
  - All bowlers on the roster are in your league.
  - All bowlers who paid in your league are credited with doing so.
  - If your account balance is not \$0.00, there will be a request for information or clarification.
  - Future updates will also be sent as membership applications are received through the season.

### **New bowlers, new subs, and blank cards.**

- Please be sure the Bowling Center and League Name are filled in on every membership application. Sometimes, the applications come into the office in batches from the centers, and it is not always possible to discern what league a bowler belongs to.
- Whenever you send in cards, be on the lookout for a roster update! This is how you will know the cards have been successfully received and processed by the bowling office.

### **We understand it seems unfair that someone who only participates "once or twice" has to pay dues.**

- Most importantly, it is a USBC rule. Protect your league.
  - Any bowler can protest a match if an uncertified bowler has participated, and they will very likely win that protest.
- Bowlers who join the USBC are eligible to participate the entire season, in any league or tournament.
- Bowlers who join the USBC are helping to support the sport, local tournaments, youth scholarships, and a host of other benefits.
- If somebody is just filling in, consider using them as a pacer instead.
  - Membership is not required, and the "sub" gets to bowl.
  - Use the absentee score of the missing bowler.
  - There is little mathematical advantage to using a new bowler who is establishing average.