Cleveland Ohio USBC Association

SCRATCH SINGLES STEPLADDER TOURNAMENT W/HANDICAP OPTION

(Tournament Certification #06420)

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Date: **Sunday, December 13, 2026**

Squad Times: **9:00 AM Qualifying Round**
12:00 PM Scratch Stepladder Finals *

Location: **Spins Bowl Independence (3831)**
5619 Brecksville Road
Independence, Ohio 44131
216-524-4833

Entry Fee: **$30.00 per bowler**
$12.00 (Special Olympics)

Optional Handicap: $6.00 per bowler

Reserved Entry Deadline: Wednesday, December 2, 2026

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1. Participation in COUSBC youth tournaments requires that the youth bowler hold a 2026-2027 USBC certification card. Bowler certification will be verified via www.bowl.com.

   NOTE: This is a USBC-certified tournament; therefore, **the foul rule will be enforced for all divisions**. A foul occurs when a part of the player's body encroaches on or goes beyond the foul line and touches any part of the lane, equipment or building during or after delivery. A ball is in play after a delivery until the same or another player is on the approach in position to make a succeeding delivery. A legal delivery (when the ball leaves the player's possession and crosses the foul line into playing territory) must be executed for a foul to be committed.

2. This is a **SCRATCH** tournament with an **optional HANDICAP division (additional fee of $6.00 is required to participate in the handicap option)**. Each bowler will bowl three (3) games league style. **The field will be cut to the top five (5) scratch bowlers in each division (girls & boys) who will advance to the stepladder finals. Bowlers should remain at the center until the names of the youth advancers are announced. *Stepladder finals will begin approximately 15 minutes after the finish of the qualifying round.**

   HANDICAP OPTION: Handicap is 90% of 225 based on three (3) games. Youth bowlers will use their highest 2025-2026 USBC certified average for 12 games or more. If a bowler does not have an average from that season, they will use their current 2026-2027 USBC certified average (minimum of 12 games) as of November 27, 2026. If the bowler has neither of these averages, he/she will bowl scratch using 225 as the average. Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own average, whether submitted by the bowler or other individual. If the submitted average is lower than reported, the average will be corrected with no penalty to the bowler.

3. **Divisions are determined by the gender and seasonal age of the youth bowler prior to August 1, 2026.** There will be separate divisions for boys and girls. NOTE: The tournament manager reserves the right to combine boys and girls into one division if there are less than three bowlers in their respective division. **Replacements are permitted, and the bowler will be placed in the appropriate division.** Divisions are as follows:

   Bumpers
   U10 (Birthdate 08/01/2016 or later)
   U12 (Birthdate 08/01/2014 – 07/31/2016)
   U15 (Birthdate 08/01/2011 – 07/31/2014)
   U18 (Birthdate 08/01/2008 – 07/31/2011)
   Special Olympics

4. Entry fee is $30.00 (scratch) per bowler plus an additional $6.00 per bowler for the handicap option and is broken down as follows:

Bumpers / U10 / U12 / U15 / U18	Scratch	Handicap	Special Olympics
Lineage ($3.00 per game)	$ 9.00	$0.00	$ 9.00
Scholarship	$15.00	$5.00	$ 0.00
Awards / Expenses	$ 6.00	$1.00	$ 3.00
	$30.00	$6.00	$12.00

5. **All entries must be filled out completely on the official entry form** and submitted with full payment along with standing sheet as of November 27, 2026, showing bowler's full name, number of games, total pins and average. Check or money order should be payable to Cleveland Ohio USBC (COUSBC). Checks returned for non-sufficient funds (NSF) will be charged a $35.00 fee plus the amount of the check. Only cash will be accepted for NSF checks. Reserved entries mailed to the COUSBC office (14950 Snow Road, Suite 100, ATTN: Youth Department, Brook Park, Ohio 44142) should be received by Wednesday, December 2, 2026. There will be no refunds (except for illness; see Rule #15).

6. Walk-ins will be accepted 30 minutes prior to the qualifying squad based on lane availability (8:00 AM – 8:30 AM).

7. **Scratch awards** will be given to the top five (5) places in each division (girls & boys). **Handicap awards** will be given in each division (girls & boys) at a ratio of at least 1 in 5 entries or major fraction thereof. All award fees will be returned 100% in the form of an award.

8. **Scratch Event**: Scholarship money will be awarded to the top five (5) places in each division (girls & boys). **Handicap Option**: Scholarship money will be awarded in each division at a ratio of at least 1 in 5 entries or major fraction thereof. NOTE: Scholarship money is not awarded in the Special Olympics division because scholarship funds are not allocated in their entry fee, resulting in a lower entry fee; see Rule #4. 100% of all scholarship funds collected from entry fees and additional scholarship resources will be deposited in the USBC SMART Program (Account #10843) for management and disbursal. No cash awards will be given to any bowler. Bowlers can confirm the deposit of scholarship awards by visiting their SMART account statement at www.bowl.com.

9. All bowlers are expected to be appropriately attired. All bowlers must wear sleeved shirts. Shorts/skorts are permitted; however, length of skirts, dresses, skorts or shorts must be below the competitor's fingertips when they are standing, and their arms are hanging down at their side. Length MUST be long enough to not see your bottom area (even if covered by under shorts) at any time, standing or bent over. Attire depicting alcohol, tobacco, gambling, an illegal substance or inappropriate language/gestures may not be worn in accordance with USBC Rule 301b. The use of non-medical headgear (hats) and/or artificial devices (headphones, AirPods, etc.) to listen to music or a broadcast is prohibited during competition. Bowlers are not allowed to use electronic equipment of any kind in the bowler's area during competition unless the equipment is being used to track the bowler's score with a scoring application.

   No smoking by athletes; no smoking by guests on the concourse or in the settee area, only in designated areas.

   Bowlers are responsible for their own conduct during tournament competition. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated on the lanes or inside the bowling center. Abuse of equipment and foul or disruptive language/behavior by bowlers or spectators is prohibited. Apparel and behavior violations may result in the non-refundable dismissal from participation or attendance at the tournament (bowlers will receive a verbal warning for the first offense). The decision of the tournament director is final. One lane courtesy will be observed by bowlers and enforced throughout the tournament.

10. Only bowlers and tournament officials shall be permitted in the settee area.

11. Bowling equipment must meet USBC specifications. No balance holes will be permitted. All holes drilled must be used for gripping purposes on every delivery. NOTE: House balls are exempt from this rule. The use of any powder or foreign substance on shoes, on the approach, on the facility floor, on the carpet, or on a bowling towel is not allowed. **Use of all liquids, sprays and sanding pads must be done prior to the first ball of tournament competition.** NOTE: Any cleaner that is used prior to the start of competition must be approved by USBC (refer to the "Approved Cleaners" list in the Equipment Specifications manual on www.bowl.com) and in its original container which displays the USBC Approved Before/After logo. **Once competition has begun, the outer surface of the bowling ball may only be cleaned with a dry towel (USBC Rule 18). (Competition starts once any bowler throws a ball for score in the tournament.)** If a bowler is seen altering the ball surface during the tournament, the ball will be disqualified for the remainder of the tournament as soon as this is discovered. If the bowler incurs a second equipment offense, the bowler will be disqualified from the current event with NO refund of entry fee. NOTE: Should a foreign substance appear on the outer surface of a bowling ball which cannot be removed with a dry towel, an approved cleaner may be used with consent from the tournament manager.

12. If a lane malfunction occurs during tournament competition that requires participants to be moved to a new pair of lanes, the participants will start their tournament competition from the point of interruption with no practice/shadow balls on the new lanes. NOTE: The tournament director/official may authorize participants on the pair to practice prior to resuming the game/series.

13. The entrant, by signing his/her name, hereby agrees that the COUSBC, its officers and agents shall be liable only to the extent of returning the entry fee if and when this entrant shall be prevented from bowling in the tournament through delay, unexpected yet necessary schedule change, or premature termination of the tournament, which may be brought on by war, national emergency or emergencies caused by unexpected weather conditions or causes relating thereto or resulting therefrom fires, strikes, lockouts, labor difficulties or causes beyond the control of the COUSBC.

14. Decisions of the tournament director are final unless an appeal is made in accordance with Rule 329 and is filed within 72 hours of the infraction and/or decision.

15. Illness Precautions: If you are feeling sick, have a fever over 100 degrees, have come in contact with someone who has had a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the last 14 days leading up to this tournament or have an emergency, please contact the COUSBC Office to withdraw from the event. You will receive a full refund.

16. All participants agree to allow his/her name and likeness to be used on social media in regard to this event.

17. Questions should be directed to the COUSBC office (216-898-9115).

SCRATCH SINGLES STEPLADDER TOURNAMENT
(WITH HANDICAP OPTION)

Spins Bowl Independence – December 13, 2026

5619 Brecksville Road ♦ Independence, Ohio 44131♦ 216-524-4833

***** OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM. PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION CLEARLY AND COMPLETE ENTRY IN FULL. *****

YOUTH'S FULL NAME ______________________________ USBC ID# ______________________

ADDRESS ______________________________ BUMPER BOWLER _______YES _______ NO

CITY/ZIP CODE ______________________________ PHONE # ______________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS ______________________________ CENTER ______________________

MALE/FEMALE (Circle one) BIRTHDAY ________________ AGE (prior to 08/01/2026) ________________

HIGHEST 2025-2026 BOOK AVERAGE (12 games or more) ____________ # OF GAMES ________________

HIGHEST 2026-2027 CURRENT AVERAGE (12 games or more) ____________ # OF GAMES ________________

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ENTRY FEE: $30.00 PER BOWLER / $6.00 ADDITIONAL FEE FOR HANDICAP OPTION

DIVISION (Circle one): Divisions are determined by the seasonal age and gender of the youth bowler prior to August 1, 2026.

GIRLS	BUMPERS	U10	U12	U15	U18	SPECIAL OLYMPICS
BOYS	BUMPERS	U10	U12	U15	U18	SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HANDICAP OPTION: Yes / No (Circle one)

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Mail check or money order payable to Cleveland Ohio USBC (COUSBC) along with standing sheet as of November 27, 2026 to COUSBC, 14950 Snow Road, Suite 100, ATTN: Youth Department, Brook Park, Ohio 44142 by the reserved deadline of Wednesday, December 2, 2026. Questions should be directed to the COUSBC office (216-898-9115). Thank you for your participation in this tournament!

For Office Use Only:

DATE PAID	CH / MO / CASH	AMOUNT PAID	HANDICAP OPTION	DIVISION	VERIFIED BY
__________	_______________	$ ____________	Yes / No	_________	____________

Revised 11/2026