

ASIAN SENIORS BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Divisions and Brackets

Men's & Women's Division

Senior Bracket 50-64 years old

Grand Senior Bracket 65 years old or above

2. Events

Consists of the following events for the four brackets (Senior and Grand Senior Brackets for men and women)

Singles

Doubles

Four Player Teams

All Events

Masters

Note: In case there are less than 5 teams/bowlers entered for an event of a bracket, the event will not be conducted in the bracket.

3. Eligibility

Only athletes representing a member federation of Asian Seniors Bowling Council are eligible to compete in the Asian Senior Bowling Championships. Bowlers must be fifty (50) years old or above for Senior Bracket, sixty five (65) years old or above for Grand Senior Bracket in the year of the championship.

Each member federation of the Asian Seniors Bowling Council may enter the maximum of four (4) Men's teams and four (4) Women's teams for Senior and Grand Senior Brackets, as determined by the host federation.

In case a four player's team or a doubles team from the same division consists of the bowlers from both Senior and Grand Senior Brackets, the team has to be registered in the Senior Bracket.

4. Entries

Entry Form

Entry forms shall be submitted by the allocated deadline and will include a passport size photo to be sent electronically.

Entry Fee

US\$ 200 per bowler and officials and US\$150 per supporter. (fees include transportation from the airport, hotel to the centre, return to the airport, welcome reception and victory banquet).

5. Competition Methods

Tournament Rules

The Asian Senior Bowling Championships will be conducted in accordance with the latest World Bowling (WB) Rules and Regulations. In case of translation-related disagreement over the rules, the English text shall take precedence. Any unforeseen incident not addressed by the rules shall be resolved as follows:

General Issues: in accordance with the Asian Senior Bowling Council Rules and Regulations.

Technical Issues: in accordance with the spirit of the WB Rules and Regulations.

Tournament Format

Style of Play

Each game shall be bowled on a pair of lanes. Teams and/or individuals shall successively and in regular order bowl one frame on one lane, and on the next frame alternate and use the adjoining lane until five frames are bowled on each lane of the pair, completing the game.

When there is a question concerning which of any two bowlers shall bowl first, it is incumbent upon the bowler on the right to do so.

6. Competition Procedure

Singles

Open to all members of each squad. 6 games in one block across twelve lanes, when feasible, two persons from the same federation scheduled per lane. Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes. Players from a given federation shall be scheduled on at least two different squads if required.

Doubles

6 games in one block shall be conducted across twelve lanes. Each game shall be played on a different pair of lanes. Two teams from each federation, one to be scheduled per lane. The teams of the same federation shall be scheduled on different squads if feasible. Change of players or order of bowling is not permitted at any time during the Doubles event.

Four Players Team

6 games in two three-game blocks would be conducted in two days. Both blocks shall be bowled across twelve lanes. One team scheduled per lane with each game of a block bowled on a different pair of lanes. Line-up changes are not permitted during a block.

Masters Finals

Master Finals shall be round robin competition between the top 16 players based on their 18 qualifying games. A maximum of 4 players from each country will be eligible to qualify for the finals. All qualifying pinfall will be dropped. One game matches will be played. The final match will be played as a position round, making a total of 16 games. The determination of champion is based on the total pinfall (including bonus points) of 16 games.

These 16 games shall be bowled over two days, 8 games on the first day and 8 games on the second day according to a pre-arranged schedule.

Position number for the pre-arranged schedule shall be decided by draw. However, the Technical Committee will select position numbers for players from the same federation to ensure such players will compete against each other within the first 8 games, where possible.

Standings shall be based on total pinfall from each of the matches together with a bonus of ten for each match won, including the position round. Each player shall receive a bonus of five for a tie.

Any vacancies that may exist at the start of Master Finals shall be filled by the non-qualifiers available at the time and in order of finish in the qualifying competition. Ties between two or more players shall be decided by draw.

7. Tournament Rules

Bowling Ball Inspection

All participants must register and submit their bowling balls for inspection to confirm that their weight and other specifications are in compliance with the WB Playing Rules and Regulations. The score of participants bowling with non-registered balls shall be declared invalid.

Substitution

A player who has already started in an event shall not be replaced.

In case of an injured player having to leave the game, the remaining players on the team shall continue their games for all event purposes.

Interrupted Game

The Tournament Director may authorize the completion of a game and/or series on another pair of lanes when equipment failure on the starting lanes would delay the normal progress of the series. An interrupted game and/or series that cannot be completed on the same day must be resumed from the point of interruption on the next day.

Bowling on Wrong Lane

A ball shall be declared dead and the player or players required re-bowling on the correct lane if no more than a total of 4 individual frames have been bowled on a pair of lanes by the players for Singles, Doubles, and Team.

If more than four individual frames have been bowled on the wrong lane, that game will be completed without adjustment. Any succeeding game must be started on the correctly scheduled lane.

Tie-Break Procedures

The player or team with the highest score in each event shall be the winner. When equal scores (ties) are registered for any of the first three places in the Four Player Teams, Doubles and Singles events, co-champions or co-winners shall be declared. That is: in case of a tie for the 1st position, for example, the individuals or teams involved shall be declared as gold medallists, and 2nd and 3rd positions shall be filled from the next highest scores.

When a tie occurs for sixteenth place in the All-Events total, a one-ball roll-off shall be held. If a tie still exists a one-ball roll-off shall be repeated until the tie is broken.

In case of a tie in the Master Final before the position round (after 15 games) between places 2-3, 4-5, 6-7 and so on, the player with the higher position is the one who in the round robin has:

- a. The higher total scratch pinfall.
- b. Won their match.
- c. Won more matches.
- d. The least difference between the highest and the lowest game.
- e. The higher game.

When a tie occurs after the position round for first, second or third place, a one-ball roll off shall be held. If a tie still exists a one-ball roll-off shall be repeated until the tie is broken.

Slow bowling / Lane Courtesy

Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery when the pairs immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left are clear (one (1) pair lane courtesy).

Competitors must observe one (1) pair lane courtesy at all times. Competitors on the same pair may not bowl consecutive deliveries without allowing one (1) competitor from the pair to the right and one (1) competitor from the pair to the left have made a delivery, unless those competitors are not ready to bowl or they give way.

If a player does not observe the procedures outlined in paragraphs 4.22.1 and 4.22.2, it shall be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows;

- a) A white card for the first offence (no penalty)
- b) A yellow card for the second offence (no penalty)
- c) A red card for the third and each succeeding offence in any block of games (six games for singles and doubles, three games for team and all games of match play in a day). The penalty shall be a zero pin fall for the frame

For interpretation of the enforcement of this rule, the Referees/Tournament Officials shall specifically monitor any player or team that gets more than four frames behind the leader in a singles, doubles or master event; or more than two frames behind in trios or team, not counting the end pairs of lanes. In Baker format competition the same rule applies as for the singles event. Whenever there is any question concerning the enforcement of this rule, or lack thereof, in the Masters Grand Finals, the ASBC President or his designee, notwithstanding the reference to the Referees/Tournament Officials, shall make the final decision.

Code Numbers and Lane Assignments

Code Numbers shall be allocated by the Tournament Director and used to schedule lane assignments for each federation.

All Line-ups shall be submitted to the Tournament Office one day prior to the day of the event.

Handicap System

Handicap will be allotted during the championship on the basis of age and only after the age of 66 is obtained during the year of the championship. Bowlers who have not attained the age of 66 years during the year of the championship will compete on a scratch basis.

Bowlers of 66 years old will get one (1) pin of handicap, those of 67 years old two (2) pins, 68 three (3) pins, That is, one pin of handicap is awarded to 66 years old and additional one pin will be awarded to it as handicap as one year of age increments. (For example, five (5) pins to 70 years old and fifteen (15) pins for 80 years old.)

Grand Senior Bowlers competing in the Senior Division will not be given handicap when bowling with the Senior Division for doubles or team event. However, handicap, based on age as described in above, will be added for their All-Events standings.

If there is a total of four representatives and two are bowlers eligible for the Grand Senior while the other two members are eligible for the Senior Division, they shall be separated into two divisions during the doubles event by age category in order for the handicap to apply for the older aged bracket.

8. Uniform

All players shall wear a standard uniform approved by their federation. Individual variations are not permitted. The uniform and advertising shall be in accordance with stipulations of WB Rules.

9. Equipment

Asian Senior Bowling Council will use equipment meeting World Bowling approved standards.

10. Competition Management

Responsibility for management of the competition will be assumed, under the guidance of the WB, ABF and ASBC, by an organization of competition officials belonging to and appointed by the host federation.

Officials

Tournament Director

The host federation shall select a Director for the tournament. He and his designated representatives shall supervise and direct the tournament. This shall include responsibility to the Technical Committee, compliance with the WB Rules and Regulations and other WB directives.

Technical Committee

The Technical Committee shall consist of the Tournament Director, the Technical Delegate and Technical Committee Member. The President of the A.S.B.C. shall appoint all members of the Technical Committee except the Tournament Director who is appointed by the host federation.

The Technical Committee shall advise and counsel the host Tournament Committee and the Tournament Director regarding lane conditioning procedures and techniques on a daily basis during competition as well as prior to its start, from a date as agreed in advance between the

Technical Delegate and the Organizing Committee. Should there be disagreement between the host Organizing Committee and the Technical Delegate, the decision of the Technical Committee shall final.

Jury of Appeal

The President of the ASBC shall appoint a three-member Jury of Appeal for the Championships and three different federations must be represented on this body. It shall be empowered to cite before it all papers and persons involved in any appeal at a regularly scheduled meeting. Alternatively, if deemed appropriate, the Jury of Appeal may decide an issue by mail vote after all material involved in the matter has been studied by each of its members.

Protests

Eligibility

Protests involving eligibility or general playing rules must be confirmed in writing to a responsible tournament official not later than 24 hours after the game in which the infraction occurred, or before prize presentation, whichever is the sooner. If no written protest is entered prior to the expiration of the 24 hours period, the game or games shall stand as bowled. Each protest under this rule must be specific in itself and this rule shall not be construed to cover a similar or previous violation.

Errors

Errors in scoring or errors in calculation must be corrected by a responsible tournament official immediately upon discovery of such error. Questionable errors shall be decided upon by the Tournament Committee. The time limit for filing protests concerning scoring errors shall be one hour from the end of the event or block of games for each day of the tournament, but must precede the victory ceremony or the start of the next round (in an elimination event), whichever is sooner. Each protest under this rule must be specific in itself and this rule shall not be construed to cover a previous or similar violation.

Appeals Procedure

All appeals concerning the Technical Committee's decisions must be filed in writing with the Delegate of the Day or with any member of the Jury of Appeal. Such appeals may also be filed with the General Secretary of the WB. Each appeal must be specific and be accompanied by a fee of US \$100. If the Jury of Appeal does not uphold the appeal, the fee shall be forfeited to the WB.

11. Drinking alcohol

Players must not consume alcohol or be under the influence of alcohol while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a block of games.

In those instances where it is established that a player is in breach of this rule, he may be suspended by the Tournament Technical Committee from the tournament for the block of games then being played.

12. Smoking and using tobacco products

During championships smoking is not permitted in the bowling centre. However, it may be allowed in a closed area, provided it does not affect the environment in the player's and spectator's areas

Players and their coach(es) must not smoke, use tobacco products or use any kind of synthetic cigarettes or e-cigarettes while in competition; i.e. during the entire period of a block of games.

If a bowler is caught smoking during a game he will have zero pinfall for the game currently being played. If a bowler is caught smoking in between games, he will have zero pinfall for the succeeding game

For the second offence by the same player, the player will be excluded from the rest of the championship by the Tournament Technical Committee.

If a coach is caught smoking during a game

- a) the first penalty is suspension from the block of games when he violated the rule
- b) in case of a second violation the penalty is suspension from the rest of the Championship

13. Prizes

Awards Ceremonies shall normally be held following the completion of each event. Players participating in awards ceremonies shall wear their uniforms.

The following prizes will be awarded:

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| First Place: | Gold medal. |
| Second Place: | Silver medal. |
| Third Place: | Bronze Medal. |

Note: If a country wins all 3 medals in any event, then an additional bronze medal will be awarded to the individual or team from the next highest placed country.

14. Country Championships Trophy Points system

An overall championship trophy will be awarded to the country that has gathered the most number of points from winning performances by the bowlers/teams of each country in accordance with the table below.

	Singles	Doubles	Team	All Events	Masters Finals
Champion	5	10	20	10	20
2nd Place	3	5	10	5	10
3rd Place	1	2	4	2	4

In case of tie for 1st and 2nd places, the two teams or bowlers will share equally the total points

for the two said positions. For example, if two teams are co- champions in the team event each team will earn $(20 + 10)/2$ or 15 points. Similarly points will be shared in case of a tie for 2nd and 3rd place.

In case of a tie by two or more countries in total points earned, the country with the greater number of points from Champion (gold medal) performances will be declared the country champion. In case of further tie, then the country with the greater points from the 2nd place performances will be declared the winner. In case a tie still exists, then the countries will be declared co-champions.