

**2026 OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
SOUTHWEST DISTRICT
BOYS AND GIRLS BOWLING – RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Per the decision of the Southwest District Athletic Board, DI schools assigned to tournament sites in the South (Crossgate and Fairfield) will participate in an Open Draw while schools in the North will participate at their assigned site as published in the Regulations: Obligations: Rule 5.

Coaches in the north are required to attend (in-person or virtual) the manager's meeting but they will not be voting on seeds. In the South, prior to the Manager's meeting, the manager will distribute voting procedures (Open Draw) to each coach. This will allow the coaches participating in the open draw to have their votes in by **noon on Saturday, January 31, 2026.**

Tournament seed results shall be made available by the Tournament Manager to schools assigned to compete no earlier than 24 hours and no later than two hours prior to the first team going onto the tournament bracket.

By board action, starting with the 2021-22 tournaments, ties will be broken as follows:

- The team that receives the most individual votes at the tied position or above shall receive the higher seed.
- If the results are still tied, the tie shall be broken by a coin toss. The school that calls the toss shall be the first one to appear in the alphabet (official school name without the respective city name ahead of it unless the city name is part of the official school name), going from A to Z in even-numbered years and Z to A in odd-numbered years

Once ties are broken, schools will place themselves in rank order at the sectional site of choice until the site is full. A coach may choose to pass, and if he does so, the coach of the next seeded team will place himself. Once this happens, the coach that passed will be given the opportunity to place himself. This process will continue until each site is full.

In an Open Draw and non-bracketed tournament (sectionals in South), if a coach does not show up at the draw meeting, the manager will place the team in the sectional with the most open spots. If there is a tie in open spots, the manager will flip a coin to determine placement. This placement will occur in the order as pre-determined by the coaches' votes.

Any team that does not show up at the Manager's meeting will be assigned a site at the conclusion of the meeting. Any school that does not enter their seeding data online and processed by Saturday, February 1, 2025, will not be permitted to vote at a later time. Any school that does not meet voting standards but does attend the manager's meeting will receive the votes that the school received for placement purposes. If a coach is late for the seed meeting and has missed his opportunity to place himself, his absence will be determined as a pass and he will be given an opportunity to place himself once he is in attendance.

By board action, starting with the 2022-23 tournaments, Passing shall be permitted as follows:

- The number of schools advancing to the district tournament may pass
- All others must place themselves on the bracket when their seed is called

Per action of the State Board of Directors, the following fine structure is in place:

1. Failure to submit seeding information when prescribed by OHSAA guidelines. Fine of \$50.00.
2. Failure to vote in online voting process to determine seeding. Fine is \$50.00.
3. Failure for coach, administrator, or authorized team representative to attend the tournament draw meeting. The tournament manager shall attempt to call the head coach and/or athletic administrator from the school(s) not present in order for a representative from the missing school(s) to participate in the tournament draw/seed meeting electronically/virtually. If no one attends - Fine is \$150.00
4. Failure to show up for tournament contest / refusal to finish contest which has been started and suspended for any reason is a fine of \$150.00 plus cost of officials, site expenses, and team expenses incurred by opposing team, except pre-sale ticket revenue.

Team Competition

1. The team format for the Sectional Championships will consist of three (3) games of regular bowling followed by six (6) games of Baker format bowling. The sum total of all team scores will determine teams that advance to the District Championship.
2. Lanes for teams will be assigned based on a draw for lanes conducted at the mandatory sectional coaches meeting. Teams not in attendance at the mandatory sectional coaches meeting will have lanes assigned by the Tournament Manager.

10-Pin Games

1. Teams will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes of practice (7.5 minutes on each lane) on their starting pair of lanes prior to the beginning of the first regular game.
2. Each team will bowl three (3) regular games. Teams will move lanes after each regular game at each sectional tournament as determined by facility considerations.
3. There will be a break at the completion of the regular games preceding the Baker games.

Baker Games

1. Each team will bowl Baker games on the same pair of lanes accompanied by another team.
2. Teams will be assigned lanes for Baker games based on the team standings after the three (3) regular games.
3. Each team will bowl a complete Baker game on the same single lane and will switch lanes on the same pair after each Baker game.
4. The team higher in the tournament standings after the three (3) regular games will select which lane to bowl their first Baker game.
5. There will be a brief announcement ceremony after the completion of scores at the conclusion of the Baker games.
6. The sum score of the three (3) regular games bowled by the individual entrants and individuals on non-advancing teams will determine advancement to the District Championship.
7. Twenty-four (24) teams and twenty-four (24) individuals will qualify for the Division I District Championships; Twenty-four (24) teams and twenty-four (24) individuals will qualify for the Division II District Championships. The following numbers will qualify from each site to the District based on number of full teams that competed in previous year:

BOYS

Division I Sectionals

North – Poelking Woodman Lanes (24 teams)	10 teams and 10 individuals qualify to District
South 1 – Rollhouse Lanes (20 teams)	7 teams and 7 individuals qualify to District
South 2 – Crossgate Lanes (20 teams)	7 teams and 7 individuals qualify to District

Division II Sectionals

North – Capril Lanes (29 teams)	12 teams and 12 individuals qualify to District
Central – Rollhouse Fairfield (12 teams)	5 teams and 5 individuals qualify to District
East – Madison Bowl (14 teams)	7 teams and 7 individuals qualify to District

GIRLS

Division I Sectionals

North – Poelking Woodman Lanes (24 teams)	10 teams and 10 individuals qualify to District
South 1 – Crossgate Lanes (18 teams)	7 teams and 7 individuals qualify to District
South 2 – Rollhouse Fairfield (20 teams)	7 teams and 7 individuals qualify to District

Girls DII Sectionals

North – Rollhouse Dayton (25 teams)	12 teams and 12 individuals qualify to District
East – Madison Bowl (14 teams)	7 teams and 7 individuals qualify to District
Central – Rollhouse Lanes (9 teams)	5 teams and 5 individuals qualify to District

***Qualifiers at each site are subject to change based on late additions or subtractions.**

District Qualifiers

1. Division I Boys - Five (5) boys teams and five (5) individuals will qualify for the state championship.
Division II Boys – Four (4) boys teams and four (4) individuals will qualify for the state championship.
2. Division I Girls - Five (5) girls teams and five (5) individuals will qualify for the state championship.
Division II Girls – Four (4) girls teams and four (4) individuals will qualify for the state championship.
3. Teams will be allowed 7 ½ minutes of practice on each lane prior to the start of their first Baker game (15 minutes total).
4. Ties for advancing teams will be broken by a 9th-10th frame roll-off conducted on a pair of lanes selected by the tournament manager and bowled by one (1) bowler from each team selected by the head coach. See OHSAA rule 1:21a.

Individual Competition – General Description

1. Individual competition will consist of three (3) regular games of bowling conducted simultaneously during team game competition.
2. Individuals under consideration will be the participating members of each team and eligible non team-affiliated individuals representing schools without a team.
3. Non team-affiliated individuals will be assigned to lanes by the Tournament Manager.
4. Teams that do not qualify might have individuals that do qualify based on their individual scores.
5. Ties for advancing positions will be broken by high single game in the three (3) game series. See OHSAA rule 1:21b.

Additional Considerations

1. The OHSAA playing rules of bowling will govern this Tournament.
2. The same oil pattern will be used at all 2026 Southwest District Bowling Sectional and District events: **OHSAA 2026 Sectional and District Tournaments**. The pattern can be downloaded from SWD website.
3. The Tournament Manager will be classified as the tournament official empowered to enforce OHSAA rules. If a rules infraction is observed, coaches are required to stop bowling and report infractions immediately to the Tournament Manager for adjudication.

4. Only a school representative may report a rules infraction to the Tournament Manager.
5. One (1) lane courtesy will be observed during all competition.
6. Bowlers not in compliance with the OHSAA uniform rules will not be allowed to participate.
7. The lanes will not be re-oiled between the regular and Baker games.

Obligations

1. A board-approved school representative must accompany each participating team and non team-affiliated individual.
2. A. The cost for a team to participate in the Southwest Sectional/District Championships is \$125.00 per team.
 - The cost for a non team-affiliated individual to participate in the Southwest District Sectional-District Championship is twenty dollars (\$30.00).
 - SWDAB will make payments for all participants and teams. School no longer have to bring a check to managers meeting or to facility prior to bowling
3. The school representative is responsible for awareness of the OHSAA playing rules of bowling.
4. A Tournament Manager's meeting for participating coaches will be held on Sunday, February 1, 2026, at the sites and times below.
 - A. NORTH team coaches at Rollhouse Dayton, 6170 Brandt Pike, Huber Heights, OH 45424
Division I Boys and Girls at 1:00 p.m. (**Virtual Meeting**)
Division II Boys and Girls at 2:00 p.m. (**Virtual Meeting**)
 - B. SOUTH team coaches at Fairfield Rollhouse Lanes and/or Crossgate Lanes.
Division I Boys at 1:00 p.m. (**Virtual Meeting**)
Division I Girls at 2:00 p.m. (**Virtual Meeting**)
5. Tickets for all sectional and district tournament games will be sold online through HomeTown Ticketing. Gate sales are permitted provided the event is not sold out. No cash ticket options are available for bowling. Ticket prices will be:
 - Admission for all sectional and district tournaments are:
 - i. Student (6 years old +) - **\$5.00**
 - ii. Adults - **\$10.00**
 - iii. Children under the age of five (5) are provided complimentary admission
 - School Administrators Passes: Each participating school will receive complimentary admission for eight school administrators, digitally, through HomeTown Ticketing. One digital code will be provided to each school. Each code will have eight tickets attached to the code. The same code will be utilized, as a school advances in the tournament. **There is no admittance without a QR code from HTT.**
6. Eight (8) roster bowlers and two (2) coaches will be admitted without charge per participating team. Participating bowlers in the individual competition and one (1) accompanying school representative will be admitted without charge.

7. EQUIPMENT - The maximum number of bowling balls allowed in the bowling center at one time by each bowler is six. The maximum number of equipment bags in the bowling center at one time by each bowler is two. Bowlers may trade out bowling balls and equipment outside of the bowling center but must adhere to the maximum restrictions at any time while in the bowling center. The equipment maximums apply at all Sectional, District and State Tournaments

Communications

All communications will be conducted through the office of the school Athletic Director for all teams and non team-affiliated individuals.

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