

**Indiana Middle School Bowling**  
**GUIDELINES & RULES FOR GRADES 6, 7 & 8 – IMSB 2012**  
**(www.imsbowling.org)**

1. The purpose of the Indiana Middle School Bowling Program will be to provide middle school students, **grades 6, 7 & 8**, the opportunity to experience the spirit of school competition and community pride. The program, available to both boys and girls will bridge barriers of size, age, strength, sex, race and handicap, providing opportunities for those who may lack the interest, or may not be able to compete in other sports. Home school students may participate, but cannot field a tournament team.
2. We are going to provide a program with basic guidelines for centers (schools) to use and implement a feeder program for the IHSB program. We will spell out basics, but allow each center to determine particulars as to how it will best work for them at the local level. The local competition may be singles or teams (any number) and they may bowl any number of games. It is suggested to not allow pre or post bowling. All bowling should be done in competition. Competition may be scratch or handicap. Local competition will take place from **February 27 – May 6, 2012**. We will spell out the rules for the 2-week (Saturday) tournament series. The tournament will run the two weeks prior to the Memorial Day weekend (**May 12 & 19, 2012**).
3. **Center information forms are due January 15, 2012.** There is no charge for Indiana Bowling Center Association (IBCA) members to participate. Non-members need to pay a \$100 deposit to participate in the program. Participating centers may request as many IMSB posters as they need. 'How To' manuals are available upon request. The local center will set a player's fee (\$80? – only suggested) that may provide the following: Bowling Lineage (Practices & Meets), Coaching, Banners, Awards and Secretarial Services for the 10-week program (**February 27 – May 6, 2012**). The center will forward \$30 per student to the IBCA. This will cover the cost of an official IMSB T-shirt, participation ribbon and singles entry into a regional tournament. The T-shirts will be provided by Classic Products and will sport our official Middle School Logo. Each center can choose their shirt color. **Shirts will be ordered and sent to centers as soon as monies and numbers are received. Coaches' shirts are \$5. Monies are due March 15, 2012. Any late registrations after the initial order will cost \$35 for bowlers & \$10 for coaches.** **THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONS AFTER APRIL 22.** Local fundraisers may supplement program needs
4. Centers may schedule no more than 1 school practice per week. Centers may schedule up to 10 meets (May have more than 1 per week to accommodate spring break, etc.). Competition will typically be scheduled after school. Some weekend competition might be necessary, based on lane availability and weather conditions (Competition will be allowed on Sunday after 1pm.). We will allow centers to determine practice time and

meet schedule within the allotted calendar time. (One option would be to schedule the practice prior to the meet so transportation is needed just once per week.) Competition may start **February 27, 2012**.

5. To be eligible to compete, students must meet the following requirements:
  - a. **They must be in grades 6, 7 or 8.**
  - b. They must be a certified USBC Youth. The program will abide by USBC rules as well as those set forth here. Bowlers must have a \$5 Basic or \$17 Standard Youth membership. It is recommended certifying local 'league' as a Basic League.
  - c. **They must meet the minimum academic guidelines to participate in athletic activities for their particular middle school.**
  - d. They must sign & follow the IMSB "Rules of Conduct & Uniform", and "Transportation Waiver of Liability",
6. Each participant and coach must arrange for his/her own transportation to and from practices, matches and tournaments. In some cases, school policy may dictate the transportation policy. In which case, the head coach would have the responsibility to conform to the school policy. A 'Transportation Waiver' must be on file before the student may participate.
7. IMSB events are Smoke-Free events. There will be no smoking allowed in the area designated for competition. Participants are subject to their school's policy on tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Anyone caught with any of the substances will be immediately suspended from the day's activities and become subject to school discipline.
8. Coaches must also sign and follow the IMSB "Coaches' Responsibilities" form. They are not permitted to use tobacco or alcohol in the competition area. All coaches are encouraged to enroll in the USBC (Registered Volunteer Program) RVP and wear their lanyards at all competitions. Dress code will be determined by local center. They must wear slacks (No cargo pants, blue jeans, shorts or Capri's) and either a polo shirt or IMSB T-shirt to be in tournament bowling area. Coaches will also be issued an official nametag.
9. Un-sportsmanlike conduct, including but not restricted to deliberate foot fouls, vulgar language, or abuse of equipment or facilities, is not permitted.
10. It is suggested that bowlers wear the official 'IMSB T Shirt' and slacks (No cargo pants, blue jeans, shorts or Capri's) to participate in local competition. Center official has final say on any inappropriate dress or jewelry. **The dress code will be strictly enforced at all tournament sites (Regionals and Finals). Bowlers must wear the official 'IMSB T Shirt' and slacks (No cargo pants, blue jeans, shorts or Capri's).**
11. CONTINGENCIES: IHSB Rules Committee will rule on any situation arising, which is not covered specifically by the IMSB Guidelines or the USBC Rule Book. This program is organized and operated by the Indiana Bowling Centers Association.