

BASIC MEMBERSHIP (SHORT SEASON)

Bowlers competing in short-season leagues that begin March 1, 2014, or later can purchase a United States Bowling Congress membership at a reduced price.

The new USBC Adult Basic membership will be available for bowlers who compete in leagues that have 16 or fewer sessions. The membership will cost \$10, not including state dues, and it provides a USBC-certified average so bowlers can compete in local, state and national tournaments.

In addition to the league having 16 or fewer sessions, the league must designate as a short-season league; the league's prize fund will be bonded. Each USBC Adult Basic membership will be good only for that league, which means if a bowler wants to participate in another short-season league, they would have to purchase another USBC Adult Basic membership.

"USBC membership flexibility is important for association leaders and proprietors as they create programs for bowlers," said USBC President Andrew Cain. "The Adult Basic membership was developed so associations will have a lower-cost product for bowlers who compete in short-duration leagues."

High score achievements will be recognized and officially recorded by USBC, but awards such as rings and plaques are not included in the USBC Adult Basic membership. Members do have the option to purchase high score awards. Membership cards will be electronic only for the USBC Adult Basic membership .

Bowlers with a current Adult Standard membership would not be required to purchase a USBC Adult Basic membership to compete in a short-season league and would be eligible for honor score awards earned in the league.

At the 2012 USBC Annual Meeting, delegates approved a change to have all memberships end each July 31. The USBC Adult Basic membership was designed to provide a reasonably-priced alternative for proprietors and bowlers who want a USBC membership for short-season leagues, particularly in the spring or summer.

Of the \$10 cost for the USBC Adult Basic membership, \$7 will go to USBC National and \$3 to the local association. State associations may charge their current dues which is \$0.50.

Basic Membership for a short season in West Virginia will cost \$10.50.

All associations that will have a short season league must add the "Basic Membership" to the list of membership products with the above-mentioned allocations for national, local and state dues.