

**Florida State USBC, BA**  
**205 E. Joel Blvd., Suite 200**  
**Lehigh Acres, Fl 33936**  
**(239) 369-2638**

Dear Captain;

Included in this mailing are the checks due the winners of the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Championship Tournament. You may or may not have winners on your team.

One of the reasons for this letter is to explain what is going on in this tournament. We have received quite a few comments as to our efficiency in handling your prize funds and feel it is time for you (the team captains) to understand what our responsibilities are when we take on the task of overseeing your championships and your funds.

This tournament has a basic set of rules for entry into and operation of. One of your pet peeves is the dress code. It will remain the same for next year as your Board of Director's agree it is not too restrictive. Since this is a handicap tournament one of our duties is to check on averages etc. to insure that everyone who places in the prize fund has abided by the entering and ten-pin rules of the tournament.

After checking 1500 averages we had to disqualify 170 bowlers for one of the above or both reasons. It has come to our attention that in the past four or five years we need to be a little more diligent in checking averages. Now that *bowl.com* is available it is much easier and more efficient to follow up on verifications. I can guarantee you that we check the averages of every bowler who qualifies to receive any part of the prize funds. We do not do this to try and "catch" someone, only to verify that all bowlers follow the rules that are posted.

I feel you should also be aware that the amount of prize fund that the disqualified bowlers would have been paid if we hadn't done our duty came to \$25,000.00. We also know that over \$30,000.00 was paid on the spot to the same bowlers in handicap brackets. This problem will be addressed and controlled during the next tournament. As a member of the United States Bowling Congress you are protected by rules. I, on the other hand, am hired to make sure that everyone follows those rules of play and disqualify those that don't. By the same token, every bowler has the right to appeal my decision to disqualify a bowler. All those bowlers were informed that their appeals would not hold up with two appealing the judgment of the rules committee since they still feel they should not be disqualified. These two bowlers caused a delay of an additional thirty days since the judiciary committee has to review their cases and make a ruling.

In the future I hope that as captain you will inform your team(s) of the rules and make sure they give you proper entering averages. You will find all the averages posted on *bowl.com*. You only need the bowlers national ID number (printed on their card) to find the averages from all the leagues they bowled in last winter. When you get your letter of verification back next year and you see an asterisk (\*) next to a bowlers average that means that the average is not verified as correct. If you see that please find out what average the bowler should be using to enter the tournament.

In closing I would like to thank each of you for bringing teams to the tournament. We will be looking forward to your participation in the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Championships coming to Spring Hill in 2009. The tournament will run for eleven (11) week ends beginning in April and ending on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

You will find the entire prize fund along with final standings of all the teams, doubles, singles and all events in both the Handicap and Scratch categories posted on our web site *www.usbcfsba.org*.

Since this will be our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we will have a special commemorative gift for every bowler and look forward to you and your team(s) participation.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Peters  
Association Manager  
Tournament Manager