

WIAA // GESA CREDIT UNION

## **POSTSEASON STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

# **BOWLING**

**FEBRUARY 4-5, 2026 (4A)**

**FEBRUARY 6-7 (3A)**

**FEBRUARY 9-10 (1A/2A)**

Bowlero (Tukwila)

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# COACH INFORMATION

## EVENT SCHEDULE

- **Monday, February 2** - Coaches Meeting, 6:30 pm via Zoom - [LINK](#)
  - One copy of the roster, listed in order of 1-5 bowlers + substitutes, must be provided to the tournament manager by end of day. Include any alternates that have qualified for individual competition.
- Wednesday, February 4 - Thursday, Feb 5 - **4A**
- Friday, Feb 6 - Saturday, Feb 7 - **3A**
- Monday, Feb 9 - Tuesday, Feb 10- **1A/2A**
- Each Tournament will consist of two days of competition.
  - The first day of competition will consist of Individual and Team Competition.
  - Individual awards will be given at the end of day one, with only team competition continuing to day two.
  - All teams will qualify for the second day of competition.

## SITE DETAILS & PARKING

- Parking is available in the main parking lot.
- Teams should park on the north side of the building.
- Seating:
  - Several elevated stools will be available for spectator seating along with plenty of standing room.
  - Please note that the spectator area sits behind a wall at bar height, which could impact the sight lines for any individuals planning to bring personal chairs into the facility.
- All participant bags should be stored in the space directly behind the settee area.
- Schools may contact [Bowlero](#) to request pre-tournament practices at the expense of the school.
  - Reservations are highly recommended.
- Food or drink may **NOT** be brought into the facility, although participants may bring water and team snacks.

## PRE-ORDER MERCHANDISE

- Participants are encouraged to [pre-order state event merchandise](#), beginning **Thursday, January 29**, at 8:00 am.
  - The deadline to pre-order will be on **Monday, February 2**, at 11:59 am.

# SPORT-SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

## STATE TOURNAMENT QUALIFICATION & ENTRY PROCESS

- Team and individual allocations are made to each WIAA district using the allocation process.
- A team roster shall consist of no more than seven bowlers, with five bowling, at any given time during any game.
- Each District is allocated individual participants from non-qualifying teams, allowing for the following numbers:
  - 8 teams = 20 individuals
  - 12 teams = 30 individuals
  - 16 teams = 40 individuals

- Each school may include 2 coaches and 1 staff on its pass gate list.

## SCORING

- Scoring Procedure: Scoring cards shall be given to the coach of each competing team (one card for each game).
  - Coaches shall sign the score cards game-by-game to validate the score.
  - The score cards must be submitted by the coach to the Tournament Manager after each game.

## RULES & REGULATIONS

This tournament will be conducted under the auspices of the WIAA and the United States Bowling Congress (USBC). The tournament lanes must be certified by USBC.

- Coaches:
  - Each qualified team may have no more than two coaches behind the bowlers' settee seating area.
  - Each qualified individual may have 1 coach behind the bowlers' settee area.
- Practice:
  - 15 minutes are allowed for practice balls: 7½ minutes on the starting lane, 7½ minutes on the opponent's lane.
  - This practice shall take place prior to the beginning of a round.
  - Teams are limited to five bowlers in the lane during warmups.
- Order of Competition:
  - The rotation order of teams is determined by a draw conducted by WIAA staff or the Tournament Manager.
  - Teams are given lane assignments based on the number of competing teams.
  - The order of competitors on each team will be determined by the coach.
- Official Scorer:
  - The official scorer will verify each team's complete lineup, record all scores and calculate totals. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the tournament manager.
  - The 2025-26 State Bowling Tournament's Official Scorer is Justin Brien.
- Games Committee
  - Tournament Manager - [Jeneé James](#)
  - Co-Tournament Manager - Brooke Wilkinson and Courtney Mc Curry
- Handling and Altering of Ball Surface:
  - The ball may not be removed from the establishment during the competition.
  - USBC playing rules will be followed for altering the surface.
- Open Substitutes:
  - Open substitutions are allowed at any time during a regular game.
  - If a substitute enters during a game, they must assume the score of the competitor they are replacing.
  - The score will not be assigned to anyone, and the original competitor can not re-enter the game.
  - All substitutions shall be noted on the scorecard.
- Uniform:
  - Athletes shall appear in appropriate matching tops and bottoms for their school's bowling uniform.
  - Slacks, hemmed shorts, skirts and collared sport shirts with commercially lettered school names/logos on the back are acceptable. Hats are not allowed.
  - Coaches shall appear in professional clothing.

- Conduct of Coaches and Players
  - The coach shall be the official representative of the team in all communications with tournament officials.
  - Only the two coaches and five bowlers bowling in a round may occupy the area around the scorers' table.
  - No person except the bowlers who are bowling shall be permitted in the settee seating or lane playing area.
  - No headphones or earbuds are permitted near, in, or on the ear during active participation or while on the approach.

## **TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

- All individual competitors and teams will bowl six regular games on day one, with total pin counts used to determine the Individual State Champion.
- Individuals must bowl all six games to be eligible for the individual title.
- The top 12 individuals will be awarded medals for all classifications.
- In the event there is a tie for the Individual State Champion, a bowl-off will take place between the tied individuals.
  - They will bowl the 9th and 10th frames. If the tie remains, they will continue to bowl the 9th and 10th frames until the tie is broken.
- A round robin format is used on the second day, with each team bowling 14 Baker Games.
- Baker Format:
  - This format emphasizes team effort over individual accomplishment.
  - All team members follow each other in regular order to bowl a single game.
  - For a 5-player team, Player #1 bowls frames 1 and 6; #2 bowls 2 and 7; #3 bowls 3 and 8; #4 bowls 4 and 9 and, #5 bowls the 5th and 10th frames.
  - The order of bowling is set by the coach and may be adjusted at the conclusion of any game.
- The total pin count from days one and two will be added together to decide the top four teams receiving trophies.
- If there is a tie for the final position after the final round, the two teams will bowl a Baker Game to break the tie.
  - If the teams remain tied, they will continue to play Baker Tiebreak Games until the tie is broken.

## **FACILITY REGULATIONS**

- Upon request, the oil patterns used for State Bowling will be changed yearly using the following rotation:
  - 2020-21: Main Street
  - 2021-22: Easy Street
  - 2022-23: Wall Street
  - 2023-24: Main Street
  - 2024-25: Easy Street
  - 2025-26: Wall Street.

## **AWARDS**

- The team with the highest GPA in each classification will earn a plaque recognizing academic achievement.
- The presentation will happen during the scheduled awards ceremonies

# 2025-26 GENERAL SOPS

## ALLOCATIONS

Postseason berths are allocated to WIAA Districts based on the total number of schools offering the sport in that classification/gender. Additional information can be found on the WIAA's [Tournament Berths](#) page.

## QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS/EVENTS

Qualifying events must conclude by the Saturday before the WIAA State Tournament begins.

## STATE TOURNAMENT TICKETS

The WIAA partners with GoFan to offer digital ticketing. Fans are encouraged to buy tickets online in advance but can also purchase digital tickets onsite. Limited paper tickets will be available at most sites on event day.

- The Tacoma Dome, Yakima Valley SunDome, and Spokane Arena manage their own tickets. Venue-imposed fees apply.
- Visit the WIAA's [State Tournament Tickets](#) page for detailed ticket information.
- Service fees apply to all tickets

## TOURNAMENT PROGRAMS

Programs are offered exclusively online, via each sport's Tournament Central page. Programs will no longer be printed and sold physically on-site. Programs are expected to be available online roughly 48 hours before the State Tournament, and can also be accessed directly through [ISSUU](#).

## ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAMS

The WIAA does not select/announce an 'All-Star' or 'All-Tournament' team. If one is announced and publicized, it is not organized by the WIAA.

## INSURANCE

Leagues, WIAA Districts, and the WIAA maintain General Liability for their respective tournaments. The WIAA also provides catastrophic insurance for its postseason events. All other coverage, including accident insurance, is the responsibility of participating schools and/or individuals.

## GAMES COMMITTEE

Tournament Managers will appoint a Games Committee available onsite or by phone for all postseason qualifying and State events. Full details regarding the members and duties of the Games Committee can be found in Rule 22.0.0 of the [WIAA Handbook](#).

## PROTESTS

All WIAA State Tournaments will follow the Protest Process outlined in Rule 29.0.0 of the [WIAA Handbook](#). Please visit the [Postseason Protest Procedures](#) resource page for general and sport-specific guidelines.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER: TEAMS/INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO ARRIVE FOR A STATE EVENT

Teams and individuals qualifying for State Events should have their participation rights protected, while participants must also understand these events follow specific facility, officiating, and operational restrictions. For safety reasons, uncontrollable weather

may require delaying, postponing, or canceling a contest or tournament, though the goal is to accommodate teams/individuals by rescheduling. Detailed information regarding the WIAA's Inclement Weather Policy and procedures for postponement or rescheduling can be found in Rule 25.4.0 of the [WIAA Handbook](#).

### **Thunder & Lighting:**

- If thunder is heard or lightning is seen, play is suspended for at least 30 minutes and people are immediately moved to a designated safe location.
- After suspension, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder or lightning before resuming play. Any new thunder or lightning resets the clock to another 30 minutes.

### **TEAM CEREMONIES**

Except for postgame awards, team ceremonies before or after contests must occur in the locker room or on the sideline to avoid delaying the contest or affecting other teams.

### **UTILIZING STUDENTS FOR SUPPORT POSITIONS AT ATHLETIC EVENTS**

Students younger than high school age may only hold support positions at WIAA State Championships if the parent signs the Underage Worker Form on the [Tournament Registration Page](#) and assumes all risk.

### **SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL**

Participating schools must register a Supervisory Staff member on their [Pass Gate](#) with the following expectations:

- Upon arrival, Supervisor will check in with Event Staff at the Pass Gate and receive a WIAA-issued 'Supervisor' pass to be worn for easy identification during their team's contests.
- Supervisor will monitor fan and student behavior for their crowd as outlined in the WIAA's [Fan Expectations](#) and assist the facility security staff or Event Staff when necessary.

### **FAN/SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS**

- The WIAA supports social justice, racial equity, and sportsmanship. Derogatory cheers, slurs, and hateful comments about identity (race, ethnicity, gender, disability, religion) are prohibited. Tournament Managers and event staff may remove offenders. Witnesses can report incidents using the WIAA's [Discrimination & Harassment Reporting Form](#).
- Schools are encouraged to share the WIAA's [Fan Expectations](#) with their communities and students prior to attending State Events for policies regarding cheers, signs, artificial noisemakers, mascots, face painting, continuous standing, clean-up, drones and more.

### **PEP BAND EXPECTATIONS**

Restrict playing to timeouts, between periods, pre and postgame or other dead ball situations, and maintain appropriate fan behavior as outlined in the WIAA's [Fan Expectations](#).

### **CHEERLEADER EXPECTATIONS**

Use only school district-approved cheers at appropriate times, direct cheers/chants only toward their school's team, and maintain appropriate fan behavior as outlined in the WIAA's [Fan Expectations](#).

## **TEAM ARRANGEMENTS**

- **LODGING:** Participating teams are responsible for their own lodging and must provide supervision for all school representatives at their place of lodging.
- **LOCKER ROOMS:** Teams must be supervised by school personnel while in their assigned locker room.
  - Participants are responsible for leaving locker rooms in undamaged condition.
  - Tournament Management is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- **PHYSICIANS/TRAINERS:** Teams interested in supplying their own physician/trainer must complete the [School Athletic Trainer/Physician Form](#) and return it to the Tournament Manager.

## **RETURN TO PLAY AUTHORIZATION**

Athletes removed from participation and attended to by a physician cannot re-enter competition until authorized by the physician who made the original decision.

## **STATE TOURNAMENT IDENTIFICATION AND MERCHANDISE**

The WIAA has registered the WIAA logo and identification term, "State High School Championships," with the Secretary of State, establishing the ownership of events through legal action and WIAA Executive Board policies.

- The WIAA has licensed [Rush Team Apparel](#) to print, sell, and/or distribute WIAA-registered merchandise. Schools are encouraged to contact the [WIAA Staff](#) for information regarding that partnership.
- Only official, pre-approved merchandise will be sold on-site before, during, or after the event.
- Schools interested in producing merchandise using any of the approved phrases listed above must do one of the following:
  1. Contact the [WIAA Staff](#) to procure merchandise through [Rush Team Apparel](#), or,
  2. Remit a percentage of the gross revenue of merchandise sold to the WIAA. The percentage will be agreed upon by the school and the WIAA.
- Permission to distribute items onsite at a State Event must be approved by the WIAA Staff.

## **SPONSORSHIP/VENDOR PRESENCE**

Advertising or recognition of non-school organizations/products is limited to WIAA-approved sponsors. Political displays and/or solicitation are prohibited.