

[2022-2023 Playing Rules Book](#)

September 2022

Last month, we discussed league start up and the rule changes for the 2022-2023 season.

If you missed any of last month's *Rules Extras*, please click [here](#).

This month, we will discuss absentee and vacancy scores and prize lists.

If you are no longer a league officer, please forward *Rules Extra* to newly elected officers if you have their email address so they will be more knowledgeable in their new role.

Please forward *Rules Extra* via email to your fellow officers and league members.

 LEAGUE RESOURCES

Absentee Score or Vacancy Score

The Rules team receives many calls about what score to use if a bowler on the roster is absent the first week of the schedule. Many believe you cannot use the absentee scores of a bowler until the person has bowled in the league. However, that is contrary to [USBC Rule 112](#). The absentee score of a player on the roster is used unless the league rules require the vacancy score be used.

ABSENTEE AND VACANCY SCORES

Prize lists

The president must appoint a prize committee and ensure the committee provides the league with at least one prize list for consideration by Week 5 ([Rule 104b](#)).

Bowlers often believe they must vote for one of the prize lists even if they do not agree with any of the choices. This causes many bowlers to vote for the prize list they can live with or not to vote at all. In order to allow bowlers to vote without settling for a prize list they do not like, each prize list presented by the committee should have a column for yes and no votes.

PRIZE LISTS

 IN THE NEWS

COVID rule updates

Changes to Rule 18, which allowed for the use of isopropyl alcohol to clean a ball during competition, and Rule 113a, which allowed for the use of a single lane during competition, have been rescinded for the 2022-2023 season.

 ATHLETE SAFETY/RVP

Athlete Safety/RVP

The U.S. Center for SafeSport policy states that any adult (18 years of age and older) who participates with minors (17 years of age and under) must go through SafeSport training. Additionally, all officers need to be registered volunteers with USBC (SafeSport training and a background screening through NCSI).

ATHLETE SAFETY/RVP HANDBOOK

BECOME A REGISTERED VOLUNTEER

 **DON'T FORGET!**

Don't forget...to pass out league rules to every officer and team captain as quickly as possible.

 **DO YOUR BOWLERS KNOW?**

Do your bowlers know...lane courtesy? You can print copies of the [Etiquette Guidelines](#) to hand out to your bowlers.

Do your bowlers know...about online membership? Memberships can be purchased online through [Join USBC](#) on BOWL.com prior to leagues starting.

 **MYTHS MYTHBUSTERS**

Busted, Plausible or Confirmed:

MYTH #30: A team or individual can pre-bowl for the first league session.

MYTH #34: Once adopted all league rules are final.

MYTH #45: A bowler must bowl before their absentee score can be used.

MYTH #47: I should not vote if I do not like any of the prize lists.

[Get the answers to these and other bowling myths.](#)