

F.L.I.R.T. 2012

TOURNAMENT RULES

Sanctioning

- 1) The F.L.I.R.T. 2012 Tournament is a United States Bowling Congress (USBC) sanctioned tournament. The tournament is a mixed handicap competition open to men and women by invitation only.
- 2) All participants must be a member of USBC and be able to provide proof of membership (current sanction card or signed statement from the League Secretary verifying membership). If the participant is not a member of USBC, he or she must pay a \$5.00 participation fee and become concurrently subject to the USBC rules and jurisdiction for the tournament.

Event Participation

- 3) The Tournament is a USBC Certified tournament with Moral Support certification open to all paid-up Members of IGBO, their spouse or significant other, and sponsored guests whose membership is pending selection. IGBO Associate Membership applications may be made at registration with payment of \$25 dues. All bowlers must present proof of membership at registration.
- 4) The tournament events shall be handicap events as follows: Singles, Doubles and Team. Optional Individual Scratch and Scratch Masters Divisions will be offered.
- 5) Each participant shall bowl three (3) games per event and must enter all three events. Teams will consist of four (4) members comprising any combination of men and women. Men and women will compete on an equal basis. Doubles partners must come from the same team.
- 6) Each participant may bowl only once in each event.

Entering Averages

- 7) Any bowler entering the F.L.I.R.T. 2012 Tournament must establish a ten-pin average acceptable to USBC. The following rules shall be used to determine the entering average:
 - a) USBC Book average 2010/11 or IGBO Tournament average (minimum of 21 games since 01/15/11). The highest average will be used.
 - b) If none of the above is available, use the highest summer average 2011 with a minimum of 21 games.
 - c) If none of the above highest Fall league 2011/2012 average with a minimum of 21 games prior to November 2, 2011.
 - d) If none of the above is available, the entering average shall be 225.
 - e) The above averages MUST be verified by the use of the IGBO web site and/or www.bowl.com.
 - f) Only **ONE** PBA card HOLDER (pro bowler status) per team will be allowed. Current PBA card holder (pro bowler status) is someone who is or has been a card carrying member within the past 12 months. **INACTIVE*** card members holders are allowed to participate at FLIRT 2012. **(*Inactive card member holders are bowlers who have NOT participated in ANY professional event hosted by the PBA or any other professional entity after January 14, 2011)**
- Amateurs who have competed in a PBA event, but are not members of the PBA will be allowed to compete. Any bowler/team who fails to disclose their PBA status will be disqualified from FLIRT 2012.
- g) Any issues not covered in these rules will be resolved by USBC protocol for a final decision to be made by FLIRT 2012 tournament directors.

- 8) The handicap for the tournament shall be based at 95% of the difference between the bowler's entering average (see Rule 7) and a scratch score of 225.
- 9) As of the beginning date of the F.L.I.R.T. 2012 Tournament, any bowler who has qualified for a cash prize of three hundred dollars (\$300 US) or more in any single event MUST report all positions and all amounts won and all scores for the previous 12 month period to the Tournament Directors no later than at the time of registration for possible re-rating. Such re-rating must be done before the entrant bowls (in compliance with IGBO rules). Failure to report this information shall result in AUTOMATIC disqualification and loss of all winnings. No refunds will be issued for bowlers disqualified.
- 10) The Tournament Directors have the authority to adjust the entering average of any bowler. Average adjustments will be applied as set forth under IGBO and USBC rules. All average adjustments will be completed prior to the start of each event. A bowler unwilling to accept an average adjustment is entitled to a refund for that event.

11) USBC rules regarding the **bowler's** responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her entering average, **applies to all bowlers**, whether submitted by the bowler, the team captain, or other. Failure to use the proper average shall disqualify scores if the submitted average is lower than the actual average, resulting in a lower classification and/or increased handicap. Prize winnings shall be based on the higher average if it is higher than the entering average.

Attendance and Substitutes

- 12) It is solely and entirely the bowler's responsibility to be present at the assigned lanes at the time of bowling. Each bowler shall have the total responsibility to arrive in time to bowl. Mechanical failures, transportation irregularities, improper directions and related reasons DO NOT alter the application of Rules 14 and 15 below (USBC rules will apply).
- 13) Complete doubles and team entrants must be present for bowling each event. If a team member is not present the team may use an authorized substitute (Rule 15). If no substitute is available, a zero score will be used for the missing bowler or bowlers.
- 14) Late bowlers will begin bowling in the frame in which they are ready, with prior frames being scored as zero. No practice balls will be allowed late bowlers.
- 15) Substitutes may bowl at the discretion of the Tournament Directors. Their entering averages must comply with the rules previously stated. Substitutes must complete an entry form.
- 16) Bowlers will be allowed ten(10) minutes of practice per event.

Awards and Prizes

- 17) All cash awards shall be based on the Total Pins PLUS assigned handicap for each event (with exception of the Optional Scratch and Scratch Masters Divisions).
- 18) Awards will be given, in the Handicap Division for the best Singles, Doubles, Team, and Individual All Events. Individual All Events is defined as the nine (9) game total including handicap of an individual bowler.
- 19) The award ratio for the Handicap Division shall be at a minimum of at least 1:10.
- 20) Awards in the Optional Scratch Divisions shall be given for the Best Single Game from any of the events, Best Three (3) Game Series from any of the events, and Best All Events (nine game total).
- 21) The award ratio for the Optional Scratch Divisions shall be at a minimum of at least 1:20 per division.
- 22) Prizes will be distributed via check payable in U.S. currency within thirty (30) days of the completion of the tournament, barring any protests. A tie in any position will result in the sum of the prizes being aggregated for the tied positions and divided equally by the number of ties for that placing. Prize funds will be based on 100% participation.
- 23) 100% of the prize fund from each division in the Optional Scratch Divisions shall be returned to that division.

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Entry Requirements

- 24) The entry fee is payable in **U.S. FUNDS ONLY BY MONEY ORDER or PERSONAL CHECK** made payable to F.L.I.R.T. 2012 TOURNAMENT. An additional fee is required to enter the Optional Scratch and Scratch Masters Divisions. Mail completed entries to the F.L.I.R.T. 2012 Tournament address:

F.L.I.R.T. 2011 TOURNAMENT
P.O. Box 23535
Oakland Park, FL 33307

Entries shall be limited to a maximum 216 bowlers. Once this maximum has been reached, no more entries will be accepted. FLIRT 2012 will sell out at 54 teams. Entries will be accepted on a first come first served basis. Entrants' acceptance will be based on the order the entries are received using the postmark date. Entries must be postmarked by January 1, 2012. Once an entry has been accepted, NO refunds will be issued, except as stated in Rule 10.

- 25) Partial team entries will be accepted and the Tournament Directors will make every effort to fill vacancies.

26) Entry Fee for F.L.I.R.T. 2012 will be \$109.00. \$50.00 Prize fund, \$22.50 Lineage, \$33.00 Banquet, \$3.00 Miscellaneous Expenses, .50 IGBO Dues. Non Bowler Fee is \$45.00

Protests

27) Any claims of errors or disputes must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Directors or their appointed representatives(s). The protesting bowler(s) or team, the Tournament Directors shall settle the dispute according to F.L.I.R.T. 2012 Tournament rules and USBC Tournament rules. For more information concerning disputes, please refer to the IGBO Policy and Procedures section concerning the IGBO Rules Committee.

28) All other USBC rules will apply.

29) Any person attending requiring special needs MUST notify the Tournament Directors in writing when the application is submitted.

30) The team captain MUST sign the entry form acknowledging he/she has read and understands the rules.

31) All rules will be covered by USBC.

Optional Scratch Division

32) Optional Scratch Divisions will be offered to all participants using Six (6) divisions as determined by entering average (see Rule 7).

33) The Optional Scratch Divisions shall be as follows:

Division A: averages 0 to 149

Division B: averages 150 to 164

Division C: averages 165 to 179

Division D: averages 180 to 194

Division E: averages 195 to 204

Division F: averages 205 and above

34) Scores used for the Optional Scratch Divisions shall be those Scratch games (without handicap) as bowled in the Handicap Division of the tournament.

Scratch Masters Rules

35) The Scratch Masters, in conjunction with the **F.L.I.R.T. 2012 Annual Tournament**, is a mixed competition open to men and women by invitation only.

36) **The Tournament Directors may place a bowler in a higher division at their discretion. Any adjustments of this type will be made before the entrant bowls.** The six (6) game scratch Singles/Doubles totals will be used to determine the top six (6) qualifiers in each division. Scores do not carry over into Scratch Masters. In case of a tie a 9th and 10th frame roll off will determine the top 6th.

37) Scratch Masters Divisions will be offered to all participants using Six (6) divisions as determined by entering average (see Rule 7).

38) Scratch Masters Divisions shall be as follows:

Division A: averages 0 to 149

Division B: averages 150 to 164

Division C: averages 165 to 179

Division D: averages 180 to 194

Division E: averages 195 to 204

Division F: averages 205 and above

39) The top six (6) qualifiers in each division will bowl step-ladder format starting with 6th and 5th with the winner moving on. The higher ranked player chooses to finish first or last. Two (2) practice balls will be allowed before each game for the two players bowling that game. A warm-up lane will be provided for the players waiting to bowl.

40) A lane schedule will be given to each division prior to the start of competition. **No exceptions. The bowlers are responsible for checking in if they have qualified. Sheets will be posted at the bowling center and in the lobby of the host hotel by 10:00pm, Saturday, January 14, 2012.**

41) Payout will be 100%.

42) **The match game competition will begin at 1:00 PM on Sunday January 15, 2012 at bowling center for all Divisions.**

43) A bowler who is not available to bowl at the scheduled time will be disqualified and the alternate will replace him/her.

44) Bowlers must check in thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled shift (12:30pm).

45) Bowlers will be allowed ten (10) minutes of practice before the first match.

46) Any claims of error in the roll-off competition must be submitted before the start of the next match. In case of an error in the final match, any claims of error must be reported within one (1) hour after the end of the last match.

