

CONTACT NAMES

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ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Persons requiring additional accommodations, i.e.: Dietary Needs, or Americans With Disability Act needs, please contact one of the Directors listed above.



Gotham Open 2008
P.O. Box 11676
New Brunswick, NJ 08906-1676



The 22nd Annual Gotham Open

Presents



APRIL 4 - 6, 2008

Hosted at:
AMF Syosset Lanes
111 Eileen Way
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 921 - 7575

NY State prohibits smoking in all public establishments.

www.gothambowling.com

GOTHAM OPEN 2008 RULES

1. The Gotham Open 2008 (G.O. '08) is an USBC certified tournament. All participants are subject to the USBC rules and jurisdiction for the event. The Tournament is a mixed handicap competition open to men and women and is 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 league secretary verifying membership). If the participant is not a USBC member, he or she must pay a participation fee of \$5.00. (Rule 300c) G.O. '08 permits the participation of non-sanctioned bowlers, who shall use a minimum average of 130. Such bowlers shall be required to submit all league averages and tournament scores for possible re-rating. USBC permits the tournament manager to assign an average higher than the minimum average prior to participation. (USBC rule 319b).
3. The entry fee is \$100.00 (U.S. Currency) per person. Entry closing date is **March 20, 2008**, unless schedule is full sooner, or closing date is extended. All entries must be postmarked on or before **March 21, 2008** and must be accompanied with all fees, which are to be paid via certified checks or money orders ONLY, payable to "Gotham Open." Personal checks will NOT be accepted and will be returned. All entries are to be mailed "Certified, Return Receipt Requested." All entries and inquiries should be mailed to Gotham Open, P.O. Box 11676, New Brunswick, NJ 08906-1676. **All information requested on the Application must be filled in completely and in legible (BLOCK) print. Incomplete or illegible applications received are subject to delays including, but not limited to, the application being returned to the Team Captain for completion or clarification.**
4. G.O. '08 will consist of team, doubles, and singles competitions. Each set will consist of three (3) games. Team competition will consist of five (5) bowlers (any combination of men and women). Each bowler may only participate once in each event. In the doubles event, four (4) members of each team must comprise two doubles pairings. The 5th team member shall be paired with the 5th member of another team in the tournament field. This bowler may request to bowl with someone specific by filling in the name of that bowler in the space provided in the application grid under Bowler 5 "Doubles Partner". Bowlers will not be paired by request unless each other's names appear on **both** team's applications. All other Bowler 5 doubles pairings will be chosen at random by the tournament's registration director.
5. This is a handicap tournament. Handicap will be calculated at 90% of the difference between the bowler's average and 230. Minimum handicap is zero (0) and negative handicaps will not apply.
6. All cash awards shall be based on the total pins with handicap for singles, doubles, and team events. For the all events competition, cash prizes and awards shall be based on cumulative scores with handicap for singles, doubles, and team events. The prize ratio is at least 1 in 8 for singles, doubles, and all-events, 1 in 5 for the team event.

ENTERING AVERAGES

7. **PLEASE SUBMIT BOTH (A) and (B) BELOW IF APPLICABLE (see rule #10)**
 - (a) Current highest USBC certified league average based on a minimum of 21 games as of **January 31, 2008**. This includes games bowled on that date. If competing in more

- than one league, the bowler MUST submit the HIGHEST AVERAGE of ALL leagues bowled.
- (b) Highest 2006-2007 book average from USBC certified fall/winter league with a minimum of 21 games.
- (c) If neither of the above, "A" or "B" applies, an average of 230 will be assigned. (Rule 319b).
- (d) The above averages MUST be verified by the use of: League Standing sheet, signed and dated by:
 - ♦ League Officer, or
 - ♦ Letter from League President or Secretary
 - ♦ Photocopy of book average (with year noted), signed and dated by League Officer
- (e) Averages from "Sports Condition" leagues are not acceptable at any time.

TOURNAMENT AVERAGES / RE-RATE PROCEDURES

It is the bowler's responsibility to report tournament averages as listed below. Any application containing bowlers that are known to fall under the following criteria that do not include tournament averages may be returned. These rules apply to all bowlers. A bowler who submits an application before the **March 20, 2008** deadline for applications will be notified of re-rating based on the information submitted no less than one week before the first day of the tournament. Any re-rated bowler is entitled to withdraw from the tournament and receive a full refund of tournament entry fees if he/she chooses. The bowler must withdraw before his/her first scheduled event.

8. If any bowler has bowled in any tournament games from **April 4, 2007** to **April 3, 2008**, the bowler must report his/her scores for all tournament games bowled (sanctioned or not, IGBO type tournaments or not, including all "scratch masters" games bowled):
 - a. If the tournament average (in 21 games or more) is 10 or more pins higher than the reported league average, the tournament average will be used for handicap purposes. (USBC rule 319e).
 - b. If the tournament average is 10 or more pins higher in 9 games or less, a 50% re-rate will be applied.
 - c. If the tournament average is 10 or more pins higher in 10-20 games, a 75% re-rate will be applied.
 - d. Any bowler whose entering average is re-rated based upon rule 9 and whose tournament averages meet any of the conditions listed under rule 8 is subject to an additional re-rate.
 - e. The tournament directors may re-rate any bowler who falls under a USBC rule not listed here. It is the individual bowlers' responsibility to know all the USBC re-rate rules for tournament play.
9. If a bowler's reported **January 31, 2008** average (Rule 7a) is 10 or more pins less than his/her final 2006-2007 fall/winter average (Rule 7b), a 50% re-rate will be applied. (10-pin drop rule).
10. USBC rules regarding the BOWLER'S responsibility to verify the accuracy of his/her submitted average, whether submitted by the bowler, team captain, or other, apply to ALL bowlers.
11. Failure to report proper averages at the time of application or at the tournament registration period will disqualify the bowler if the submitted average is lower than the actual average as determined by rules 7 through 9, thereby resulting in a lower classification or more handicap. Winnings will be based on the submitted average, if it is higher than the correct average. (USBC Rule 319A, item 3).

12. The tournament management reserves the right to re-rate any entrant prior to bowling for reasons other than set forth in rules 8 or 9.
13. Substitutes meeting USBC requirements and G.O. '08 tournament rules may bowl at the discretion of the tournament's executive committee.
14. Late bowlers will begin bowling in the frame in which they are ready with prior frames scored a zero (0). It is the bowler's responsibility to be at the lane when bowling begins.
15. No substitutions in doubles or team event lineup can be made after a series has started without good and sufficient cause at the discretion of the tournament management. Changes to doubles pairings must be made before the completion of the tournament registration period. The team captain must make team event lineup changes before he/she leaves the bowling house after the completion of the singles and doubles events.
16. All prize monies will be paid out within 30 days after the completion of the tournament. A tie in any position will result in an equal division of prizes.
17. Each bowler will receive a copy of the final standings of the tournament, lists of all winners, and prizes won, and a financial accountability of the tournament within the 30-day period listed above. This information will also be provided to IGBO and the USBC.
18. An optional scratch competition is available. The fee and divisions breakdown are as follows with 100% of fees returned in each division at a ratio of 1 in 8.

Division A - 200 and above	Fee \$25
Division B - 180 to 199	Fee \$20
Division C - 160 to 179	Fee \$20
Division D - 140 to 159	Fee \$20
Division E - 139 and below	Fee \$15
19. An optional "Best 3 of 6" competition will be available. The fee will be \$5, and the total score will be determined by adding together the bowler's 3 highest scratch games bowled during the singles and doubles events, plus handicap. Payout will be 100% of fees returned at a ratio of 1 in 8.
20. After a score has been recorded, it cannot be changed unless there has been an obvious error in scoring or calculation. Obvious errors must be corrected by a tournament official immediately upon discovery. Questionable errors must be reported to a tournament official within two (2) hours of the error, and the appropriate action will be decided by tournament management. (USBC rule 328).
21. A protest or appeal involving eligibility or playing rules must be filed with the tournament management, the local association or USBC before tournament prizes are paid. The protest or appeal must be in writing and the grounds for the protest or appeal briefly stated. An appeal regarding the decision of the tournament management or local association may be made to the USBC. The decision of USBC is final and binding on all involved parties. Prizes for the positions affected cannot be distributed until the protest or appeal is resolved. (USBC rule 329).
22. All other USBC rules will apply.
23. The team captain MUST sign the entry form acknowledging he/she has read the rules.

HOTEL AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Host Hotel: Hilton Long Island/ Huntington
598 Broad Hollow Rd
Melville, New York

Reservations: 631 - 845 - 1000
When making reservation refer to the
"Gotham Open group"

Room Rate: \$137.00 (plus applicable taxes) Per Night -
Up To 4 People (Double or King
Available)
Hotel Checkout Sunday 1pm

Rate available for 1 day before and 1
day after event - Block will be held until
March 4, 2008.

Parking: Hotel Parking is free. Park at your own
risk – hotel is not responsible to loss or
damage to vehicles.

ENTRY FORM INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read the tournament rules. If you have any questions, please contact any of the people listed on the back of the application. They will be more than happy to help.
2. Complete the application in its entirety. Remember to include the full address, postal code, and phone numbers for all.
3. Identify a team captain, and make sure they sign the application where indicated.
4. It is the responsibility of each bowler to read the tournament rules and to submit all information requested. This information includes, but it is not limited to, average verification, previous tournament performance and proof of USBC membership. (Copy of Sanction Card).
5. Acceptable proof of league average is a photocopy of league statistic sheet, signed and dated by the league's secretary. For tournament averages, please include a copy of each tournament's final results showing bowler's name, and scores bowled.
6. **INCOMPLETE OR ILLEGIBLE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED ARE SUBJECT TO DELAYS INCLUDING THE OPTION OF RETURNING THE APPLICATION TO THE TEAM CAPTAIN FOR COMPLETION OR CLARIFICATION.**

Mail completed entries (certified/return receipt) and applicable fees to:

GOTHAM OPEN 2008
P. O. BOX 11676
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08906-1676

NON-BOWLING PARTICIPANTS

Non-Bowlers are welcome to enjoy Gotham 2008 by joining the festivities as a non-bowling participant. The cost of this package is \$45.00 and it includes entry to the awards banquet, and access to the hospitality suite, host bars, and other complimentary events.

Guest 1 Name: _____
 Guest of: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ ST/Prov: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Gender: _____
 E-mail Address: _____

Guest 2 Name: _____
 Guest of: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ ST/Prov: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Gender: _____
 E-mail Address: _____

PARTICIPANT FEES

LINEAGE	\$20.25
PRIZE FUND	35.00
BANQUET	40.00
ADMIN/TROPHIES	4.25
IGBO DONATION	0.50
TOTAL	\$100.00

Early Bird Special:
 Entries postmarked on or before March 1, 2008 will be eligible for a drawing to win a refund* of Tournament fees. Refund will be \$100.00 and individual "Early Bird" refunds* will be drawn at the be drawn at the time of the banquet. Bowlers who redeemed "free entry" certificates for entry to GO' 08 will not be eligible for Early Bird Refund.

*Refund does not include guest fees, optional scratch, or best 3 of 6 entries.

OPTIONAL SCRATCH COMPETITION

Please circle the bowler number of each participant entering in each division and pay appropriate fee.

DIVISION / AVERAGE RANGE / FEE

A = Averages of 200 and above.. \$25.... A1 .. A2 .. B1 ...B2C
 B = Averages of 180 to 199..... \$20.... A1 .. A2 .. B1 ...B2C
 C = Averages of 160 to 179..... \$20.... A1 .. A2 .. B1 ...B2C
 D = Averages of 140 to 159..... \$20.... A1 .. A2 .. B1 ...B2C
 E = Averages 139 and below \$15.... A1 .. A2 .. B1 ...B2C

REMITTANCE OF FEES

Bowler/Guest	A1	A2	B1	B2	C
Entry Fee \$100					
USBC Participation \$5					
Optional Scratch \$15/\$20/\$25					
Best 3 of 6..... \$5					
Non-Bowling Guest*..... \$45					
Total US \$					

TOTAL CERTIFIED CHECK/MONEY ORDER ENCLOSED \$ _____

Optional Scratch and Best 3 of 6 may be entered at Tournament Registration.

AMF Syosset Lanes will reserve ten (10) lanes for Gotham Open bowlers on Friday, April 4, 2008 for practice at a league cost of \$2.25 per game.

