

## Gotham Open 2017 (GO17) Rules

- 1) The Gotham Open 2017 is a 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.

### **USBC/IGBO Membership**

- 1) 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/she must pay a participation fee of \$5 (Rule 300c). GO2015 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 (Rule 319b).
- 2) All participants must be members of IGBO. Any participants not currently a member of IGBO must fill out the application for membership and submit to tournament secretary along with \$25 fee for annual membership. Applicant will be voted into IGBO at the next General Membership Meeting in Fort Lauderdale in May 2017.

### **Gotham 2017 Events**

- 3) GO17 will consist of team, doubles, singles, and all-events competition. Each set will consist of three (3) games with all-events including the three previous 3-game set (for 9 games total). Team competition will consist of four (4) bowlers (any combination of men and women). Each bowler may only participate once in each event.
- 4) All applications will be completed online through the tournament's website. The entry fee is \$110 which breaks down as follows:
  - a. Lineage: \$27 (for 9 games)
  - b. Banquet: \$35
  - c. Prize Fund: \$44
  - d. Expenses\*: \$4
    - i. Expenses include trophies, the 50 cent per bowler IGBO donation, and supplies needed to run the tournament. Any unused expense funds will be added to the prize fund.Any entry received after March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 will be assessed a \$10 late fee. Entry closing date is March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 unless the tournament sells out sooner. Gotham 2017 has a capacity of 38 teams (152 bowlers).
- 5) The following additional optional events will be offered at GO17 with 100% of the costs paid back as prize fund at a ratio of 1 in 10.

#### **Handicap Events**

- a. Best 3 of 9: \$10
- b. Best 3 of 6: \$10 (Singles and Doubles Events on Saturday)

#### **Scratch Event**

- c. Optional Scratch Divisions (Paying Game/Series/All Events) as follows:

- i. PhD – 206 and above: \$30
- ii. Grad Student – 186 to 205: \$25
- iii. Senior – 166 to 185: \$25
- iv. Junior – 146 to 165: \$20
- v. Sophomore – 126 to 145: \$20
- vi. Freshmen – 125 and below: \$15

The optional events listed above may be entered with your tournament application or at tournament registration. It is recommended that you enter these events with your application. GO17 will also offer brackets, mega brackets, and other side events at registration and during the tournament.

- 6) The trophies and prizes for the tournament will be awarded at an awards banquet. All participants and guests must select the awards banquet with the tournament entry. Guests not participating in the tournament but are attending the banquet must pay a fee (\$35).
- 7) All cash awards shall be based on the total pins with handicap for the all events, team, doubles, and singles events, as well as the optional best 3 of 6 and best 3 of 9. The prize ratio is at least 1 in 10 for all tournament events unless otherwise noted.

#### **Average/Re-rate/Verification Rules**

- 8) This is a handicapped tournament. Handicap will be calculated at 90% of the difference between the bowler's average and 240. Any bowlers over 240 will receive a 0 handicap.

#### **League Averages**

- 9) 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<sup>st</sup>, 2017. This includes game bowled on that date. If competing in more than one league, the bowler must submit the HIGHEST average of all leagues bowled.
  - b. Highest 2015-2016 book average from USBC certified Fall/Winter league with a minimum of 21 games.
  - c. If none of the above applies, a 240 entering average will apply.
  - d. The above averages must be verified by one or more of the following methods:
    - i. By the use of a league standing sheet, signed and dated by a league officer or a letter from the league president or Secretary. The signature or letter cannot come from the entering participant.
    - ii. It will also be acceptable to submit bowler abstracts from bowl.com and/or provide league numbers/standing sheets from bowl.com or leaguesecretary.com, or a league's official website.
    - iii. If a bowler's league is not sanctioned, or not posted on the two websites above or a league's official website, or the bowler has chosen not to allow public access to their bowl.com profile, all average paperwork including past tournament results must be received by the tournament secretary within one week after application is received or by the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline (whichever comes first), or the application is subject to rejection or the assignment of an average of 240.

- iv. It is the bowler's responsibility to provide accurate and complete average information. The tournament will do due diligence on each submitted average, but it is not our responsibility to do exhaustive research if the bowler does not provide the information that is required.
  - v. If a bowler purposely provides false or misleading information to secure a lower average for the tournament, the application will be rejected and that person will not be permitted to bowl in Gotham 2017 nor will be invited back for future Gotham tournaments.
  - e. Averages from Sport Conditions leagues can be reported in absence of any other applicable league or tournaments from the above rules. However, the committee will re-rate the individual at a minimum based on the USBC provided adjustment chart. The re-rate will be broadcasted to the individual during the final confirmation and they have 24 hours to either accept or reject the re-rate through email notification to the same address that provided the final confirmation to receive a full refund.
- 10) If a bowler's reported current league average (Rule 9a) is 10 or more pins less than his/her final 2015-2016 Fall/Winter league average (Rule 9b), a 50% re-rate will be applied (10 pin drop rule).

#### **Tournament Averages/RE-rate procedures**

It is the bowler's responsibility to report tournament averages as listed below. These rules apply to all bowlers. Any bowler who is re-rated will be notified via confirmation email to be sent approximately one week prior to the start of the tournament. Any re-rate bowler is entitled to withdraw from the tournament and receive a full refund of tournament entry fees if they so choose. The bowler must withdraw within 3 days of the notification email before the tournament or prior to their first scheduled event (whichever comes first, does not apply to bowlers re-rated due to rule 9e).

- 11) If any bowler has bowled any tournament games between April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the bowler must report their scores for all tournament games bowled (sanctioned or not, IGBO or not, including all Scratch Masters games). This means the previous Gotham 2016 scores will count towards your tournament average.
- a. If the tournament average (with 18 games bowled or more) is 1 or more pins higher than the verified league average, the tournament average will be used for handicapping purposes.
  - b. If the tournament average (with 9 to 17 games bowled) is 1 or more pins higher than the league average, a 50% re-rate will be applied.
  - c. No re-rate will be applied for bowlers with less than 9 tournament games bowled.
  - d. Any bowler whose entering average is re-rated based upon rule 11 and whose tournament average meets any of the conditions listed under rule 12, they may be subject to additional re-rate.
  - e. The tournament director may re-rate any bowler who falls under a USBC rule not listed here. It is the individual bowler's responsibility to know all of the USBC re-rate rules for tournament play.
- 12) USBC rules regarding the bowler's responsibility to verify the accuracy of their submitted average, whether submitted by the bowler, team captain, or other, still applies to all bowlers.
- 13) 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 10 through 12, 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.

- 14) The tournament committee reserves the right to re-rate any entrant prior to bowling for reasons other than those set forth in the rules.
- 15) Substitutes meeting USBC requirements and GO17 tournament rules may bowl at the discretion of the tournament's executive committee.
- 16) The lanes will turn on for at least ten (10) minutes of practice before each event.
- 17) Late bowlers will begin bowling in the frame in which they are ready with prior frames receiving a score of zero (0). It is the bowler's responsibility to be at the lanes when bowling begins. Any weather-related delays will be at the discretion of the committee and broadcasted via the Facebook group.
- 18) No substitutions in the doubles or team event lineup can be made after a series has started without sufficient cause at the discretion of the tournament management. Changes to doubles pairing must be made before the completion of the tournament registration period.
- 19) 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 the prizes for the two positions.
- 20) Final results will be posted to the Facebook group and/or tournament website within 30 days of the completion of the tournament. All financials and scores will be reported as necessary to IGBO, USBC, and any other governing body.
- 21) After a score has been recorded, it cannot be changed unless there has been an obvious error in scoring or calculations. Obvious errors must be corrected by a tournament official or non-participating bowling alley employee 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 the tournament management (USBC rule 328)
- 22) 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 USBC. The decision of USBC is final and binding on all parties involved. Prizes for the positions affected cannot be distributed until the protest or appeal is resolved. (USBC rule 329)
- 23) All other USBC rules apply.