
THE MASTER BOWLERS' ASSOCIATION
OF ONTARIO



INFORMATION BOOKLET
WITH
PULL-OUT
MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION

REV 8/08

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General Information

The Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario (MBAO) is a non-profit organization which was formed in 1964 for the following reasons:

1. To provide top flight competition for the province's best 5 pin bowlers.
2. To work towards the improvement of the image of 5 pin bowling by our conduct on and off the lanes.
3. To work for the future of the 5 pin game in various other ways, including the instruction and coaching of all bowlers with special emphasis on the Youth Bowling Canada (YBC).

The MBAO has strict rules which must be adhered to and new applicants should be sure they are aware of these rules as well as other obligations they accept by becoming members.

PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY:

- ** All applicants, new and old, must be approved for membership by the MBAO Executive Committee, and must read the pre-amble to the application form. The MBAO rules, are not stricter than those of other sports wishing to attain "Major League" acceptance.
- ** All applications for membership (except unaffiliated tournament division, unaffiliated teaching division and seniors only) must be signed by a Proprietor or Manager of a member bowling centre of the Bowl Ontario (BO).
- ** The MBAO is a division of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association (O5PBA)

2008-09 OFFICIAL MBAO DRESS CODE

The MBAO Official dress code for all MBAO Tournament events during the 2008-09 season will be as follows:

DRESS CODE (BOTTOM) APPLICABLE FOR TEACHING/

TOURNAMENT/SENIORS: "BLACK" dress pants/shorts (for men) and "BLACK" dress pants/skirts/skorts/shorts (for the ladies). New for 2008-09 "BLACK" dress shorts will be permitted at all MBAO events providing they are "golf length". Cotton pants/skirts/shorts will be permitted provided they are not faded, have no rips, tears or studs on them and have no slits up the side of them. Jeans, harem, spandex, leggings, stirrups, sweatpants, cargo pants, capri pants or warm-up pants of any kind are prohibited. No pants/slack/skirts/shorts with external pockets on the sides will be accepted.

DRESS CODE - SHIRT (AFFILIATED TEACHING/TOURNAMENT MASTERS):

All Master Bowlers affiliated with a bowling centre at all events involving youth (Master Junior, Master Bantam, and Master Senior) will be required to wear the MBAO Official Uniform Shirt. At all other events (optionals) the option will be the MBAO Official Uniform Shirt and/or a MBAO logoed golf shirt. Golf shirts with other provincial logos and/or national souvenir shirts are not approved attire.

DRESS CODE - SHIRT (UNAFFILIATED TEACHING/TOURNAMENT MASTERS):

All unaffiliated Master Bowlers will wear a MBAO logoed golf shirt. Golf shirts with other provincial logos and/or national souvenir shirts are not approved attire.

DRESS CODE - SHIRT (SENIORS DIVISION ONLY): All unaffiliated Master Bowlers will wear a MBAO logoed golf shirt. Golf shirts with other provincial logos and/or national souvenir shirts are not approved attire.

Any master found out-of-uniform will be given a warning. **A fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) will be levied against each MASTER BOWLER for a second offence.**

Incorporation

The Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario (MBAO) became incorporated on February 21, 1980.

Our objectives are as follows:

1. To create and conduct uniform instruction and coaching programs for all 5 pin bowlers across Ontario.
2. To provide a competitive tournament program for its membership.
3. To set high standards of sportsmanship, ethics and conduct for its membership.
4. To participate in a National Championship as conducted by the Master Bowlers' Association of Canada (MBAC).
5. To support the aims and objectives of all bowling associations working in the best interest of 5 pin bowling.
6. The Corporation has the power to accept donations, gifts, legacies and bequests.

A copy of our complete By-Laws and Letters Patent are available upon request. However, every member should be aware of the following guidelines and rules.

MEMBERSHIP

1. TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Teaching Division Membership (Affiliated/Unaffiliated)
2. Tournament Division Membership (Affiliated/Unaffiliated)
3. Seniors Division
4. Graduating YBC Seniors
5. Associate Membership

2. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- a) To regulate and guide the activities and conduct of Master Bowlers. Affiliated Master Bowlers will represent only those bowling centres who are members of the Bowl Ontario (BO).
- b) All applicants must provide proof of average by submitting all league average sheets from the previous bowling season with a minimum of 50 games. Failure to provide proof of average will result in the average calculation being defaulted at 230 for men and 215 for ladies. If the applicant is a graduating YBC Senior, the average sheets for adult leagues must all be submitted.
- c) Applicants must be approved by the elected board of the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario.
- d) Membership in the MBO is limited to individuals who are no longer eligible to bowl YBC due to age restrictions. The MBO offers *all Graduating YBC bowlers next year's membership dues free* to either division. YBC Graduates will just need to purchase their MBO uniform shirt if they are going to be "affiliated" or the dues of \$70.00 and a MBO logoed Golf Shirt if they are going to be "unaffiliated" (costs as per order form attached to application form).
- e) New members will be accepted for the current year (August 1 - July 31). In the Tournament division, new members may enter until December 31 of the current year. Teaching division members will be accepted until February 1st of the current year and Senior members may enter any time. For renewals of membership, the above timelines will be maintained, but both prize money and assessments, for all compulsory tournaments missed, must be paid for teaching and tournament members.

3. FEES

- a) On acceptance of the application form of the Master Bowler, yearly fees become due and payable to the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario. This fee is for administration expenses of the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario and is non-returnable and non-transferable.
- b) The Master Bowler (Teaching or Tournament) and/or his/her Bowling Proprietor must pay for an official uniform as outlined on page 3 of this booklet.
- c) The membership fee to the Association is paid only once by any individual.

4. RULES

- a) Any dispute between Master Bowlers and Proprietors with the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario will be settled by the right of appeal in writing by any or all parties.
- b) Suspension of, or fining of a Master Bowler for conduct detrimental to the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario or the sport of 5 Pin Bowling will be the end result of a written complaint and a hearing conducted by the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario Board of Directors. The right of appeal in writing by any or all parties is an inherent part of the by-law.
- c) The Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario and its members will support the aims of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association, the Bowl Ontario, the Youth Bowling Canada and any other local, provincial or national association that acts in the best interest of bowling in Canada.
- d) Rule Infraction Penalties - Tournament Play
 - i) The consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or drug stimulants during a tournament is prohibited unless a brewer or distiller is sponsoring the event and it is also a non-youth event. In an event where there is a brewer or distiller sponsor, drinking in moderation will be permitted. Otherwise, members under the obvious influence of alcohol or drugs at the start of a tournament or during a tournament could face IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION from current tournament by the MBOA Tournament Director.

1st offence: Minimum suspension of three (3) tournaments including the current tournament in which the act was committed. Maximum suspension not to exceed one (1) year from date of infraction.

2nd offence: Permanent Suspension.

- ii) Uncomplimentary conduct, i.e. cursing, swearing, kicking ball rack, and including abuse of personal equipment during any tournaments. could result in immediate disqualification.
 - e) Any members suspended during the season would be liable for any and all financial obligations as laid out for the Tournament, Teaching and Senior Division members during the current year in which the suspension occurred. Failure to fulfil these obligations would eliminate any chances of reinstatement in the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario until such time as obligations are paid in full.
 - f) Members must observe all rules and regulations of the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario in all Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association (O5PBA) sanctioned tournaments.
 - g) All MBO members must be a card-carrying member of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association (O5PBA).
 - h) Failure to comply with any of the above would be subject to discipline as laid out by the Association.
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Tournament Division

The MBO Tournament Division is the elite division of the Master Bowlers' Association. This is where the higher average players compete in five (5) events during the season to qualify for a spot on the National Tournament Teams or Singles Representative.

This membership is mainly for the higher average player who wants to compete at the highest level of tournament play. Tournament Division members are required to adhere to the official dress code outlined on page 3. As well, all Members must adhere to the code of conduct in showing good sportsmanship, maintaining control of language and physical gestures and always speaking in a positive way about our game and bowling establishments. New Tournament members are urged to apply early for membership and to place their order for uniforms as soon as possible.

Members of the Tournament Division can be affiliated with a Bowling Centre and work with the local YBC Programs to share their skills and knowledge of the game. Affiliated Tournament Masters are required to participate in the Master Junior and Master Bantam events and must wear the MBO official uniform shirt.. They may also participate in the Master Senior and the dress code for youth events will apply.

A Tournament Division member may also apply as an unaffiliated member when their schedule does not allow them to commit time to their local proprietor. These members are excluded from the Master Junior and Master Bantam events but they may compete in the Master Senior.

The Tournament Division events are all eight (8) to twelve (12) games in length, with the Year-End Tournament being a twelve(12) game Petersen Point match play event. Competition is on a scratch basis only and the field is cut down after the qualifying round to continue in a variety of match play formats to declare the tournament winner for both the ladies' and men's divisions. Winners receive a MBO Tournament Ring. All Tournament Division members are obligated to pay the no-show fee (\$50.00) for each compulsory event they do not compete in.

The qualifying scores are accumulated over the current bowling season and these aggregate totals are used to determine the Ladies' and Men's National Teams and the two Singles Representatives at the National Championships.

In order to be eligible for the National Tournament Division singles or teams, players must play in and count all five(5) events. The top male and top female

who obtain the highest scratch total of all players will be declared the MBO Single Representatives for the National Championships. The next five(5) males and next five (5) females will form the Men's and Ladies' teams.

Affiliated Tournament Masters must also compete in the Master Bantam and Master Junior tournaments; however, these events are not included in the National Team aggregate totals.

Compulsory events that all Tournament Masters must attend and compete in for the National Team are:

Waterloo Classic – 10 games
New Year's Classic – 12 games
Bradford Bowl Classic – 8 games
Jeffrey Allan Classic – 8 games
Year-End – 12 games

Aggregate based on 50 games.

Tournament Masters (Affiliated or Unaffiliated) are encouraged to participate in the Special Olympics Ontario and the Master Senior tournaments.

TOURNAMENT DIVISION STANDARDS

1. Male applicants for membership should have a suggested minimum average in one or more leagues of "230" and must be of good character.
2. Female applicants for membership should have a suggested minimum average in one or more leagues of "215" and be of good character.
3. Tournament Division Masters may transfer to the Teaching Division, but must do so before the zone round of the Master Junior to be eligible for the Teaching Division Aggregate.

Teaching Division

A. AFFILIATED TEACHING

The MBO Teaching Division is our largest division, dedicated to instructing the game of 5 Pin Bowling, mainly with the youth bowlers or the Youth Bowling Canada (YBC), but our members also instruct others as well.

This Teaching Division is mainly for the player who wants to enjoy tournament play without too much pressure, and not necessarily will they have a high average. The Pins-Over-Average (POA) formats of our events provide the opportunity for all levels of player to enjoy the competition and have a chance at winning the event, while our new scratch component of the Optional Tournaments allow the higher average teaching members to put their skills to the test. Teaching Division members are required to adhere to the MBO official dress code outlined on page 3 of this booklet. The MBO official uniform shirt must be worn for the Master Junior, Master Bantam and Master Senior tournaments. As well, all Members must adhere to the code of conduct in showing good sportsmanship, maintaining control of language and physical gestures and always speaking in a positive way about our game and bowling establishments. New teaching members are urged to apply early for membership and to place their order for uniforms as soon as possible.

Most of our members have taken the “new” NCCP Training for 5 Pin Bowling and have achieved at least Level 1 or the “new” community coach. Courses are offered throughout the year for you to complete, and improve your coaching skills and knowledge of the game.

Teaching Masters are sponsored and approved by their local Bowling Centre Proprietor by obtaining a signed membership application or renewal. This affiliates the member to a bowling centre where they will work with the YBC or other groups, and participate in the two (2) MBO youth events we hold (i.e. Master Junior and Master Bantam). New members must supply all adult average sheets from the previous bowling season in order to establish a fair average to play in the MBO events.

The Teaching Division is offered multiple tournament events throughout the bowling season with the Master Junior and Master Bantam tournaments as the two mandatory events that all members must play in as an “affiliated” member. Tournaments in the Teaching Division are mainly based on Pins-Over-Average (POA); however, for the current season the MBO will also be

offering our members the opportunity to play a scratch side on the three (3) Optional Tournaments. Players must register to compete in the POA event . If they choose to pay the extra prize money portion, they can compete on both sides of the event and be eligible to win prize money on both sides. MBO Tournament Rings will be awarded only on the Pins-Over-Average (POA) basis.

To be on the National Teaching Division teams, our members who attain the top five (5) positions in the province over the course of the current bowling season based on a Pins-Over-Average (POA) total for both Ladies’ and Men’s will be qualified on these teams. Events that Teaching Masters must attend to be considered for the National Team are:

Optionals for Aggregate

Western Ontario	6 games
Central Ontario	6 games
New Year’s Classic	6 games
Eastern Ontario	6 games

Compulsory

Master Junior	3 games
Master Bantam	3 games
Mid-Winter Blues	6 games
Year-End	10 games

Teaching Masters who play in more than one (1) Optional Event will be allowed to drop the lowest POA total from any other Optional Event of the combined POA total for the Master Junior and Master Bantam Tournaments. The lowest POA total will be dropped automatically to calculate the aggregate total as the season progresses. However, a teaching master must have played in both youth tournaments in order to keep their aggregate eligibility for the National Team.

Teaching Masters are also allowed to play in the Special Olympics Ontario and the Master Senior tournament. They may also fill-the-field in any Tournament Division events (except the Year-End Tournament) if they would like to experience an event in this elite division.

B. UNAFFILIATED TEACHING

For the bowler who cannot commit time to their local bowling centre, due to other commitments, the Unaffiliated Teaching Division Membership may be a good option.

Players who register as an “Unaffiliated” member for the Teaching Division do not seek approval from a local proprietor but will register directly with the Master Bowlers’ Association of Ontario (MBAO). The MBAO Board Executive Committee will review and approve the membership request or if denied an explanation will be given back to the applicant. Members must follow all the rules of the MBAO during tournament events, and conducting themselves in the manner required of a Master Bowler.

“Unaffiliated” Teaching Masters are required to adhere to the official MBAO dress code outlined on page 3. As well, all Members must adhere to the code of conduct in showing good sportsmanship, maintaining control of language and physical gestures and always speaking in a positive way about our game and bowling establishments

The “Unaffiliated” Teaching Master are offered six (6) tournament events throughout the bowling season and **ARE NOT** eligible to participate in the Master Junior or Master Bantam tournaments. Tournaments are mainly based on Pins-Over-Average (POA); however, for the current season the MBAO will also be offering our members the opportunity to play a scratch side on the three (3) Optional Tournaments. Players must register to compete in the POA event . If they choose to pay the extra prize money portion, they can compete on both sides of the event and be eligible to win prize money on both sides. MBAO Tournament Rings will be awarded only to the Pins-Over-Average (POA) winner.

To be on the National Teaching Division teams, our members who attain the top five (5) positions in the province over the course of the current bowling season based on a Pins-Over-Average (POA) total for both Ladies’ and Men’s will be qualified on these teams. Events that “Unaffiliated” Teaching Masters must attend to considered for the National Team are:

Optionals for Aggregate

Western Ontario	6 games
Central Ontario	6 games
New Year’s Classic	6 games
Eastern Ontario	6 games

Compulsory

Mid-Winter Blues	6 games
Year-End	10 games

Unaffiliated Teaching Masters will count their best 3 blocks of 6 games plus the Year-End event for the aggregate (based on 28 games). An unaffiliated teaching master must play in the Mid-Winter Blues event in order to keep their aggregate eligibility for the National Team.

TEACHING DIVISION STANDARDS

1. The Teaching Division is open to all calibre of bowlers. There is NO average restriction.
2. Affiliated Teaching Masters are required to bowl in the Master Bantam and Master Junior tournaments and may compete in all non-compulsory tournaments offered by the Association (except the Year-End Tournament).
3. Teaching Division Masters are allowed to "Fill the Field" in all tournament division events except year-end each season?.
4. Teaching Masters win an MBA ring for their first tournament win.
5. Teaching Masters may apply for transfer to the Tournament Division.
6. Teaching Division Masters must observe ALL Rules and Regulations of the Master Bowlers' Association of Ontario and failure to comply would be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in (b) of the Rules.

SENIORS DIVISION

Our Seniors Division is open to anyone fifty (50) years of age as of December 31st of the current season. The Seniors play in four (4) events throughout the bowling season with each event consisting of five (5) games.

Seniors play in a Pins-Over-Average (POA) category, a Scratch category or they may pay the extra prize money and play in both sides of the event.

The same rules of conduct apply to our Seniors as in all other MBAO divisions and members must adhere to the MBAO dress code outlined on page 3.

We also declare a National Team for our Seniors who play a Pins-Over-Average (POA) tournament at the National Championships. To qualify for the National Team, Seniors Members must participate in at least three (3) of the four (4) events. If a member plays in all four (4), then the lowest POA total and the lowest Scratch total of the four (4) events will be dropped to calculate the aggregate totals.

National Team members are selected as the man and lady who has the highest aggregate total Pins-Over-Average (POA) and the man and lady who have the highest aggregate scratch scores in three (3) of the four (4) events. A 5th player is added as the wild card player and it is the 2nd place person in one of the categories. For the 2008-2009 season, the wild card will be "Men's POA".

A full paying Senior member is allowed to bowl in the four (4) Senior tournaments, the Master Junior and the Master Bantam. They may also fill-the-field in two tournament division events (excluding the Year-End tournament). A "Senior Only" member can only bowl on the Seniors Tour. Members receive an award recognizing any tournament victories and aggregates as well as top prize money. Senior tour victories are included separately in the MBAO history along with the Tournament and Teaching Division winners. A ring has been designed for the Senior's Division, and the winners of an event may choose to purchase one. They may accept the usual trophy award or use the cost of it towards the purchase of a ring. Any Senior member may purchase a ring for previous victories.

GRADUATING YBC SENIORS

For the 2008-2009 season, the MBAO will offer a one (1) year free membership to any YBC graduate who joins the MBAO in the September immediately following their graduating year. This means that the YBC Senior will not have to pay the initiation fee or registration fee for their first year membership in the Association. IF THEY JOIN THE YEAR AFTER THEIR GRADUATING YEAR, THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE FULL MEMBERSHIP DUES. All graduating YBC Seniors must submit all average sheets (including adult leagues) with their application form. Failure to provide proof of average will result in the average calculation being defaulted at 230 for men and 215 for ladies.

YBC Seniors will be required to pay for the following:

- a. purchase the "Official" MBAO shirt if they are affiliated with a bowling centre or a MBAO logoed golf shirt if they want to register as an unaffiliated member.
- b. "Unaffiliated" membership costs \$70.00 plus the cost of an MBAO Golf Shirt. ***Note: The MBAO encourages all YBC Seniors to participate in a local YBC Program to assist in the instruction of other YBC members and assist your local bowling centre and/or proprietor thus registering with the MBAO as an "Affiliated" Teaching Master.***

All graduating YBC Seniors entering the MBAO must adhere to the official MBAO dress code outlined on page 3. Also, the MBAO has a rule of conduct that everyone (including graduating YBC Seniors) is required to follow. This includes maintaining control of language and physical gestures and always speaking in a positive way about our game and bowling establishments.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

A non-participant member, an associate member, will receive all mailings. An associate membership may continue indefinitely.

Please retain the booklet portion for
future reference.

Mail only the pull-out applicaion
and shirt order form.

