THURSDAY ANY MIX TRIO INVITATIONAL LEAGUE FALL (EST. 2016)
RULES & REGULATIONS FOR 2026-2027 FALL SEASON – 33 Weeks Aug. 27, 2026 – April 29, 2027

Secretary/Treasurer: Shaun Ciesielski | President: Ted Rosenquist | Vice President: Larry Achten

The Thursday Matchplay Trio League at Inman's Bowling & Recreation Center in Valparaiso, IN shall be sanctioned by the United States Bowling Congress. All "USBC" rules shall govern league play with the inclusion of the following:

1. **League Schedule:** The league will bowl all games at Inman's Bowling & Recreation Center on Thursday's commencing August 27, 2026 and will bowl 33 weeks with Practice turning on at 6:50pm. No Bowling Thanksgiving & Dec. 24, & 31.

2. **Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors will consist of all Team Captains, President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer. Each director will have an equal vote in all league decisions and will meet when necessary to review matters and resolve problems.

3. **Team Rosters:** The league will consist of the number of teams as designated by the Board of Directors. Each team will field 3 bowlers each night. Any mix of Men or Women with no limits of gender per team. Subs will be assigned to a team.

4. **Substitutes:** Once a substitute bowler bowls on a team, they become part of that team's roster. They may float to other teams, but they cannot bowl against the team they are rostered to. Team captains will decide if a Sub pays or does not pay. The team will be paying for 3 bowlers weekly regardless, so teams will decide who pays and how prize money is distributed within each team.

5. **League Fees:** Team Captains are responsible for collecting and paying all league fees. The weekly bowling fee will be $30.00 per person per week ($17.00 bowling fee plus $13.00 prize fund). Therefore, each team must pay $90.00 every week. If a team shortage totals more than $270.00, then that team may forfeit points and can be voted by the board to be removed from the league at any time. All 33 weeks of payment must be paid in full by week 32. This means sometime during the year, you must pre-pay the final week. If you have a Vacant, the team must pay the prize fund portion.

6. **Sanction Fees:** USBC Sanction Fees $28/bowler ($15 USBC/$13 Local Greater Calumet Area USBC) must be paid through the league payment envelopes. It is the Team Captains responsibility to make sure all bowlers on the team including subs have paid sanction fees. All Sanction fees not paid will be deducted from that team's prize fund. If a bowler is already sanctioned in the Greater Calumet Area USBC Association, there is no fee. If a bowler is USBC sanctioned outside of the Greater Calumet Area USBC Association, they will pay $13.00. Easy way to sanction is to go on www.Bowl.com

7. **Entering Averages:** Held for the first 9 games bowled (3 weeks). Bowlers use their highest average from this league, going back 1 year. If a bowler has no prior "Thursday Any Mix Trio" average from last year, then the highest USBC average shown on bowl.com from a League bowled at Inman's Bowling & Recreation Center will be used with 21 games or more. If no prior "Inman's" League average from last season, then bowlers will use their highest USBC average from the most recent season with 21 games or more going back a maximum 3 seasons. If a bowler has no USBC average from any of those seasons, then they establish an entering average after 9 games. There is NO team average limit or cap

8. **Handicap:** Each bowler shall receive a handicap of 95% of the difference between 225 and the bowler's entering average for the first 9 games. After 9 games it is based on the bowler's true average.

9. **15 Pin Handicap Drop Rule:** If a bowler's average drops more than 15 pins from their entering average, their handicap will be locked in at that 15 pin average drop. Example: Entering average 200, True Average 181. They can only get handicap based at 185 avg, 15 pins less their entering average.

10. **Legal Line-Up and Forfeits:** Lanes will be turned on promptly at 6:50pm for 10 minutes of practice. League Scoring will begin immediately after practice around 7:00pm. Each team must have at least 1 member of its roster ready to bowl at the start of each game or will forfeit that game after the opposing team completes one full frame. Teams bowling against a forfeit must bowl their own team average less 45 pins to earn points for that game.

11. **Tardy Bowlers:** Provided that a legal line-up exists, bowlers who arrive late may enter any game provided that the 5th frame has not been completed by both teams. If both teams agree, the bowler can make up games missed immediately following that night. Blatant stalling by any team could result in the forfeiture of a game depending on the decisions of the Board of Directors. (Only protests in writing will be reviewed.)

12. **Absent and Vacancy Scores:** If a bowler is absent, the team shall use an absent score of the bowler's average less 15 pins plus that bowler's handicap. Teams must use the roster bowler with the most games. If there is no roster bowler to use for this absence, then the team will receive a vacancy score plus handicap = 210 w/hcap (15 pin penalty off of what handicap is based on). This rule is in effect every night of scheduled bowling.

13. **League Season and Schedule**: The league season shall bowl 33 weeks with a 31 week schedule broken into Thirds. 1st Third 10 weeks, 2nd Third 10 weeks, 3rd Third 11 weeks. Week 32 & Week 33 will be the Playoffs/Tournament.

14. **Point System:** Scoring for the league will be based on a 23 point system (11 Team Points, 12 Individual matchplay Points). Team points will be 2 points for each handicap game won, 3 for handicap series, 2 Bonus points for the Highest Handicap Game on each pair. Individual matchplay points: 1 per handicap game/series per person each game against the bowler in the same line up position. Right Lane sets their line-up first, the Left Lane has the final choice on how to set their line-up.

15. **Position Rounds, Tournament, Playoff Eligibility**: No New Bowlers on Position Rounds unless approved by the League Officers. Must have bowled 3 games before any position round. To be eligible to bowl in the Playoff/Tournament, each bowler must have 21 games bowled. Only bowlers on your roster can be on the playoff team. Extra Bowlers who meet the game requirements can bowl the individual sweeper on extra lanes and will pay the league bowling fee of $25. Their prize fund portion goes straight to sweeper prize fund. Any extenuating circumstances like a bowler injury or removal from a team, the board of directors will make any final decisions in the best interest of the league.

16. **Playoff Teams:** 6 Teams make the playoffs. The winners of each Third and 3 Wild Card Teams that have the most wins but does not win a third. If a team wins multiple thirds, then Extra Wild Card Teams will be added each time if this occurs.

17. **Playoff/Tournament Night Last 2 weeks of League:** Weeks 32 & 33 are the Team Playoffs & Two 3 Game Individual Handicap Series Tournaments for Everyone to win Bonus Prize Money. The 6 Playoff Teams will all be facing each other all 6 games in the Total Points Matches the same time as the two separate 3 game individual tournament scores are being bowled. Indv. Matchplay points: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0 each game and series per bowler. Team Game Points 6, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. Team Series is worth 7, 5, 3, 2, 1, 0. & High Hcap Game Bonus: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. Teams are seeded by total team points for the season. All Prize Money will be paid out on that final night of bowling.

18. **Prize Money:** The league will post the tentative league prize fund based on last year's payouts. The number of teams may vary each third, payout may differ from one part to the next. You may ask the secretary for the prize list at anytime. Prize money will be distributed the last night of bowling once all standings become final and be posted on InmansValpo.com

19. **Quitting the League:** Any individual(s) or team(s) quitting this league before the season's end will forfeit all claims to prizes. The team or individual quitting will also be responsible for all debts up to 2 weeks after their date of resignation. A 2 week notice must be given and 2 week must be paid for by an individual. The team will be responsible for paying for 3 bowlers for the full amount of weeks the league bowls. Any team shortages will be deducted from the total team prize money on the final night.

20. **Bowl Outs/Pre-Bowling:** Individual pre-bowl/ bowl-outs are allowed. Please make arrangements with the bowling center for lane availability and contact the secretary when you are bowling out. No Post Bowling except under emergencies and the league secretary must be notified before league. If approved by the League Secretary, Post Bowl must be completed the day before the next league date. Avoid bowling out after 4pm on Wednesday & Friday. And anytime later on Saturday and Sunday. As the colder weather arrives, lane availability becomes nearly impossible. Contact Shaun to arrange bowlouts.

21. **Solicitation:** At no time can a member of the league or any other non-league person solicit the league members for money unless approved by the Board of Directors prior to that solicitation. We do allow 50/50, bowling side pots, fundraisers and other items of this kind. Please get approval from the league secretary before starting such thing.

All decisions made final by the board of directors and rules will be followed per USBC Rule book. League rules override USBC Rulebook. Any questions or concerns regarding the bowling center, contact the league secretary or Inman's Management at 219-462-1300 ext. 203