



Rule 122: AVERAGES – GENERAL PLAYING RULE

A bowling average is determined by dividing the total number of pins credited to a bowler by the number of games bowled in one league in a season.

When establishing an average in league play, a right-handed bowler must bowl right-handed at all times. Similarly, a left-handed bowler must bowl left-handed at all times.

No combination of scores bowled both right and left-handed will be used in computing an average.

A new average must be established if the bowler finds it necessary to change his delivery from right to left-handed or vice versa. Refer to **Rule 212** for further details on deliveries.

In all cases, extra pins or fractions must be disregarded when using averages for handicapping or classification purposes. The extra pins will be reduced to a percentage of a pin only for the purpose of deciding individual position standings in a league.

Rule 312: ENTERING AVERAGES

The following methods are used to calculate averages:

- 1) Where an individual has previously bowled 21 or more games in this League then the previous seasons finishing average from this League is to be used. This method is typically used for a 3 game leagues.
- 2) Where an individual has previously bowled 21 or more games but not in this League then the highest current average in any League in which 21 or more games have been played is used. If no current average exists, then the highest yearbook average over 21 games is to be used.
- 3) Where an individual has previously bowled in a league but hasn't bowled 21 Games in one League. In this situation the current average in the League in which the most games have been bowled or the highest yearbook average, whichever is the highest is used.

It also must be noted that the above averages shall be used for the first nine (9) games of the new season. After nine (9) games have been bowled, the total current seasons pinfall will be divided by nine (9) to determine the new average.

If a bowler has no previous experience they must bowl three (3) games and have the total pins divided by three (3) to determine the average to be used.

Also, premiership points will be allocated to teams from the beginning of the season using the above averages.

Q: "A bowler is using the two-handed approach. The bowler's dominant hand is the right hand (Bowls the ball down the right hand side of the body). Can the bowler use the right hand only for spares?"

A: Yes, since both deliveries are with the same dominant hand, the bowler did not change delivery and, therefore this is not a violation of any rules.

Q: "We have a new bowler join our league, he also plays with another league with a high average of 196. Is his average determined by the first 9 games of bowling in the new league or should he be using his current average with the 2nd league he plays with?"

A: Clause 2 in Rule 312 (above) answers this. When a new bowler joins a league, if previously they have bowled 21 or more games but not in this League, then they are to use their highest current average in any League in which 21 or more games have been played. If no current average, then the highest yearbook average over 21 games.



Did you know that any member of an Association who commits any of the offences listed in Tenpin Bowling Australia's Rule Book may be liable to suspension from membership of that Association for such period as the Association Board of Directors thinks fit.

Any member suspended under any of the rules in this Chapter will:

- (a) cease to be registered with TBA for the duration of the suspension unless an appeal is lodged.
- (b) have the right of appeal to TBA.

OFFENCE 501

Attempting to Gain Unfair Advantage

Gaining or attempting to gain an unfair advantage by any means whatsoever during League or Tournament play including (but without limiting the generality of this provision) the following:

- (a) By **tampering**, directly or indirectly with lanes, bowling pins, bowling balls or other bowling equipment so that such lanes, pins, balls or other bowling equipment or any of them no longer meet with TBA requirements or specifications.
- (b) By **misrepresenting their average** in order to gain a greater handicap, to qualify for a lower classification in a league or tournament or to gain any similar unfair advantage.
- (c) By **establishing an average below their ability** prima facie proof whereof will arise where it appears that the bowler has repeatedly exceeded his or her League average in handicap or classified competition without re-submitting themselves for re-rating, re-handicapping or re-classification.
- (d) **By deliberately throwing his ball into the gutter.**
- (e) **By deliberately committing a foul.**

Suggested Penalty

For any of the above offences – loss of game or games in which the unfair advantage was gained or attempted including loss of prize money (if any) and suspension of membership for not less than 6 months or suspension of membership or other penalty for a period of time as deemed appropriate by the Local Association Board of Directors.