

SASBA is a non-profit corporation owned by its members, formed to conduct scratch bowling tournaments for bowlers fifty and older, to promote the sport of bowling, and to aid its sponsors in promoting their businesses. SASBA's first tournament was in Rosenberg, Texas in April, 1990 with 33 entrants. Since that first tournament, over twenty years ago, there have been more than 750 events, which are now averaging in Texas more than 100 entries each. The membership has grown to over 600 bowlers from 23 states. SASBA is open to any bowler over the age of fifty (including PBA members) and there is no minimum average requirement. There is an initial membership fee of \$60 and an annual renewal fee of \$30.

SASBA holds tournaments in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi. SASBA is sponsored by BRUNSWICK and balls donated by BRUNSWICK are sold at discounted rates to help raise money for the SASBA general fund.

The tournaments are generally singles events with an entry fee of \$180, \$190, or \$230, depending on format and amount of added money. There also are some tournaments with other formats including doubles, trios, and team events. One is a member-member doubles event. There is a foursome mixed tournament, where many of the best women bowlers and younger men team up with our members. And, there are member-guest tournaments, where a member can bowl with anyone regardless of age or sex (even another member). There are trio formats and the bowling year is capped off with our annual team tournament where any member who has qualified by bowling in earlier events can bowl with other members in a team/individual match play format. The computer picks evenly matched teams based on individual SASBA tournament averages during the year.

Brackets and side pots are available during the tournaments for those bowlers who want more action. Entry fees for these are \$10 for brackets and \$5 per game for side pots. A portion of the income from brackets is added to the general fund. This fund is used to cover expenses, buy equipment, and for added money into special format tournaments.

There is a \$20 sweeper with five or six squads on Friday afternoon before most every tournament. Some hosts will run a Pro-Am on Friday night. This will require volunteers to bowl in the Pro-Am. The tournament schedule will be posted at the desk when you arrive. Please check with the tournament director to let them know that you are in town. Most centers will have a special practice price for SASBA bowlers. There will be a bowler's meeting, usually at 8:00 or 8:30 on Saturday. Newsletters, available on the SASBA web site (www.sasba.com), provide the starting times and other details for upcoming tournaments. Lane assignments are generally posted on the website by Thursday.

On the regular format, bowlers will be divided into two squads. Each squad will bowl an 8-game qualifying block on Saturday. "A" squad will usually start at 8:45 a.m. Saturday, "B" squad will bowl at 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., after the lanes are re-oiled. The field will be divided in half by score and both groups will bowl four more games of qualifying on Sunday morning. The lower half of the field starts at 8:45 a.m. and the upper half at 11:00 a.m. Saturday squads will be determined by a blind draw, unless you have specific needs and can't bowl one or the other. The finals will usually start at 1-2 p.m. Sunday (after re-oiling) with eight games of match play. The number of bowlers taken to the finals depends on the number of entries. Typically, 12 bowlers will go to the finals for 59 or fewer entries, 16 for 60-79 entries, 20 for 80-99 entries, and 24 for 100 or more entries. When entries are low and lanes allow, we bowl all on one squad. In this case, the Saturday shift starts at 9:00 - 9:45 a.m., with eight straight games. Sunday morning, we start at 8:45 a.m. with four more games, and then the finals will follow.

There is no re-oiling before the finals when there is only one squad on Sunday morning. Thirty bonus pins are awarded for each win in match play. The order of finish for the finalists is determined by total pins in qualifying and match play (twenty games total) plus bonus pins for match play wins.

One in three will cash, except for some of the \$230 tournaments where one in two cash. First place will be at least \$1000. Super Senior (60 and over) prizes will usually be awarded to some non-cashing Super Seniors. Special prizes will be awarded to some high Sunday block non-cashers. If you score poorly on Saturday, it is common courtesy to show up on Sunday. You might learn something...and you can still get a check.

SASBA's bowling courtesy rule works great when everybody follows it. First, be ready to bowl when you are up. When a bowler has rolled a ball on your pair, you must wait for a bowler on the pair to the left and the pair to the right to roll a shot, *then* it is your turn. If you don't understand it, please ask. Once you are used to it, you will agree that it is the best courtesy rule in use. During practice, it is common courtesy to throw one shot at a time, not stand on the lane and wait to shoot your spare, as is common in many league practices. Your group can get a lot more shots in if they don't have to wait on you to shoot your spare. If you want to shoot a 10 pin or some other spare near the end of practice, ask the person following you and he will usually consent, but it is his/her call.

Although SASBA tournaments are not USBC certified, USBC rules are followed unless specifically stated otherwise. Any USBC approved balls are OK. Plugged balls are OK. SASBA reserves the right to check any ball. Sanding or polishing balls after play has started will not be tolerated. However, it is allowed during the practice session. Cleaning balls during competition is allowed as long as USBC certified cleaners are used.

SASBA's dress code requires that all members have a shirt with their name on the back while bowling. Slacks only, no jeans or shorts and no headgear. Female members must follow the same dress code. Capri pants are allowed...as are knickers for men. Guests are encouraged to wear name shirts as well. Male guests must wear slacks. Female guests are allowed to wear slacks, walking shorts or skirts. Both must wear collared shirts or bowling industry sponsored mock Ts. No regular T-shirts or jeans will be allowed.

SASBA bowls on the house's tournament shot. We ask proprietors to try to achieve parity between the left and right side. Some will be easy and some will be tough. It's up to the house. To the extent possible, we will use the same number of pairs on each squad, using three on a pair as needed. In the case of a tie for the last spot in the finals of the tournament, high last game will break the tie if more places are paid under the finals cashers. If there are no paid spots under the finals, then a one-game roll-off will be used to break the tie.

Please mail or turn your entry in early. Entry forms are available in the Newsletters and on the SASBA web site. They should be mailed to: SASBA, 2321 E. Common St. #200, New Braunfels, TX 78130, Attn. Jim King. If you have to withdraw before bowling begins because of an emergency, your entry will be credited toward a future tournament. No entries will be accepted after the bowler's auction is completed.

SASBA members are the greatest! We are having fun! After the age of fifty, it is great to have a sporting event on a world-class level that we can compete in. Come try a tournament or two to see if you like it. A list of tournaments for 2013 can be found on the website at: <http://sasba.com/sasba2013.pdf>