

POP WHITTEN PRO TOUR 2026/27 TOUR RULES

Governing Body - **GARY MCKINSEY, MARK KLINGELHOFER, MIKE MANNS**

1 MEMBERSHIP

- Full membership \$50. You can pay \$25 the one stop and the next \$25 the second time you bowl.
- **All bowlers must be sanctioned. If you don't bowl in a sanctioned league, you must pay \$20 to sanction.**

2 ADOPT-A-BOWLER

- Open to any bowler who has never bowled on the PWPT or previous bowlers who have not bowled since the 2023/24 season.
- Can only be used for 1 stop. If you want to bowl another stop, see MEMBERSHIP rules.

3 DRESS CODE

- **All current/previous members must wear a shirt with their name on the back and the PWPT patch either on the left sleeve or breast pocket.**
- **You've already been warned, 1st time the fine is \$10, next time you don't bowl.**
- New members will get a patch when they join the tour.
- Shorts and Hats are permitted. Be respectful to the tour. Nothing vulgar, racist or any shorts with holes in them.

4 PERSONAL CONDUCT

- While representing the PWPT Tour, you will conduct yourself and others in your party as professionals at all times.
- Penalties for intentionally lofting balls, foul language, slamming or hitting any equipment, and any other issue are:
- Verbal warning at the time of the announcements, 1st offense \$10, 2nd offense you'll be removed from the lanes

5 AVERAGES

- A 2025/26 Final Tour average, minimum 45 games
- B Add 2025/26 & 2024/25 tour games together to get to 45 games
- C 2024/25 Final Tour average, minimum 45 games,
- D 2025/26 Composite average for sanctioned league and tournament, min 45 games
- E 2024/25 Composite average for sanctioned league and tournament, min 45 games
- F 2025/26 & 2024/25 Combined Composite average for sanctioned league and tournament, min 45 games
- G Highest sanctioned average 2026 Summer league, minimum 45 games. ****must provide average sheet****
- H 2023/24 Composite average for sanctioned league and tournament, min 45 games
- I Highest sanctioned average from the current 2026/27 Winter league, minimum 45 games. ****must provide average sheet****
- M Highest NON-sanctioned average from the 2025/26 Winter league, minimum 45 games. ****must provide average sheet****
- N Highest NON-sanctioned average from the 2024/25 Winter league, minimum 45 games. ****must provide average sheet****
- O Highest sanctioned average from the 2025/26 Youth league, min 45 games ****must provide average sheet****, only use previous season, unless you have 45 games as adult
- P NO AVERAGE, bowler will use 160 until they can get 45 games in through any of the rules listed above. Their average will NOT change after 18 games.

The Governing Body has the right to re-rate any average for any current or new member.

- After 18 games, your average will change. It may go up or down a maximum of 5 pins. If a bowler is 12 pins above their entering average, take the difference between the two and divide it in half, add to their entering average and that is the new average

6 TOUR STOPS

- The tour season runs from September to August. 11 total stops, skipping the month of December.
- **Entry fee \$85 Stops unless it is a 2 Star event which is \$100**
- ****SPECIAL EVENT** (2) Winners. Must be at least at least half member to be eligible, Stops at AMF Southwest, Parkville, & White Oak. NO Adopt-a-bowlers.**
- **Entry fee for Stop 11 - White Oak Bowl is \$100 and a 2 star event. You must have bowled at least 1 stop previously and paid full membership to be eligible to bowl.**
- Lane assignments are usually posted on Friday, 1 week before the tour stop. (subject to change)
 - Signups (pwpt05@gmail.com) for the next stop is always on Tuesday at 12 noon. Invitation letter will still be sent out on Monday.
 - Payment can either be mailed or paid at the time of bowling
 - Check (payable to PWPT or Pop Whitten Pro Tour) or Cash
 - If we receive a bad check, you will be fined \$40 to cover the bank expenses and must pay by cash.
- **If you sign up and don't show or call to cancel 1/2 hour before your shift, you'll be fined: 1st time \$10, 2nd time \$20, 3rd time suspended**

7 ROLL CALL

- **Please arrive 30 minutes prior to your shift time. Announcements should be 10 minutes before the shift starts.**
- If you arrive late and the shift has already started, you get a zero for every frame missed. If you miss a complete game, you are disqualified. If there is an opening on the next shift, the director may allow you to bowl on that shift.

8 QUALIFYING ROUND

- 6 game block is bowled (Friday or Saturday) Depending on the amount of entries for a shift, we may bowl frame for frame or ball for ball
- Qualifiers are based on the number of entries (see prize list)
- **Any changes to your scorecard must be initialed by the shift director or a member on the Governing Body.**
- **After each game, you MUST have another bowler initial your scorecard. When done bowling, make sure you sign your scorecard and turn it in.**
- **If there are no initials or a signature on your scorecard, 1st time warning, 2nd time \$20 fine your scores don't count.**
- Anyone found cheating will be suspended from the tour and written up to the NDBC.
- In the event of a tie for the last scratch qualifier:
 - 1 game roll-off (Saturday if both bowlers are present or Sunday at 9:00am)
 - If still tied after 1 game, 2 frame roll-off will be used. If still tied, 1 frame at a time to determine the winner.
- In the event of a tie for the last pins over average qualifier:
 - 1 game roll-off, bowler with the most pins over their average advances
 - If both bowlers don't bowl over their average, the bowler closest to their average advances. If still tied, highest score wins.
- In the event of a tie for the final scratch spot, if one of the bowlers can qualify for a pins over average spot, they get that spot and the other bowler makes the scratch cut
- In the event of a tie for the final scratch spot where both bowlers can qualify as pins over average, the bowler with the most pins over average will get the POA spot and the other bowlers will get the scratch spot.
- In the event of a tie for the final scratch money cut spot, the bowler with highest game gets the money cut.
- In the event of a tie for the final POA money cut spot, the bowler with most pins over their average in 1 game gets the money cut.
- In the event of not enough POA qualifiers above their average, we'll move bowlers from the scratch cut, working from last in then up that had pins over their average and put them in the POA division. For every one that moves, we take the next scratch bowler for the scratch division.

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9 DIVISIONS

- Roll call for all qualifiers and alternate(s) on Sunday is normally 9:30, sometimes 9:00. **LISTEN TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS!!**
 - **If you are late, you will not bowl.** The alternate will take the spot. You become the alternate.
 - Scratch Alternate will receive minimum \$100. If there is a tie, the bowler with the highest game during qualifying is the alternate.
 - POA Alternate will receive minimum \$100. If there is a tie, the bowler with most pins over their average for one game during qualifying is the alternate.
 - If the alternate does not show or stay for the entire head-to-head competition, no one will receive the alternate money. (Tour director decision)
 - Any tour when we have a POA Division, we will also have a POA alternate. Same rules apply above.
 - Bowlers high game will break ties for placement in Scratch divisions. Bowlers high POA game for POA divisions.
 - Each bowler will bowl 5 head-to-head games in their division. All ties have a 2 frame roll-off, then frame to frame.

10 LADDER FINALS (71 entries and below)

- All Division Winners and 1 Wildcard advance
 - Bowler with the best Won-Loss record wins the Division
 - 2 way tie - the bowler who won the head-to-head match wins the division
 - 3 way tie - the bowler with the highest pinfall wins the division (see bracket tiebreakers to break down further ties)
 - Wildcard is the next bowler with the best Won-Loss record and highest pinfall who did not win a division.
 - Division Winners are ranked by their Win-Loss record, then total pinfall. Wildcard is always the bottom seed.
 - In case there is a tie between Division winners or the Wildcard, there will be a 2 frame roll-off.
- 40-49 Entries - 12 Qualifiers (10 scratch / 2 pins over average) 2 Divisions (5 scratch / 1 POA in each division). Ladder Format
- 50-71 Entries - 18 Qualifiers (15 scratch / 3 pins over average) 3 Divisions (5 scratch / 1 POA in each division). Ladder Format

11 BRACKET FINALS - Top 2 in each Division advance (72+ entries)

- TIEBREAKERS:
- 2-way ties in the division are decided by who won head-to-head.
 - 3 or more ties are decided by pinfall. If top 2 have the same pinfall, 3rd bowler is eliminated and the division winner is determined by the 2 way tiebreaker.
 - If spots 2 & 3 have same pinfall, top spot wins division, the winner of 2/3 is determined by the 2 way tiebreaker.
 - If all 3 spots have the same pinfall, it goes to head-to-head-to-head. Unless they all went 1-1 against each other, they should be a 2-0, 1-1, 0-2.
 - If all 3 spots have the same pinfall and they all went 1-1, 2 frame roll off, top score is division winner, next score advances. Still tied, 1 frame roll off.
 - For seeding purposes, all ties (same record & pinfall) with bowlers on the bracket will be decided by their highest game.
 - Division Winners seeded, then 2nd place finishers seeded

13 PRIZE LISTS

- Minimum guaranteed payout for stops with at least 40 entries: (see Prize list on the website or at a tour stop)
 - 1st Place \$700, 2nd Place \$350, 3rd Place \$200 (Prize list changes depending on the number of entries)

14 AWARDS

- Any bowler who throws a 210 game or higher during the tournament will receive \$25.
- BOWLER OF THE YEAR AWARD (can only win 1 award, starting from the top prize down)
 - Preliminary points are awarded according to qualifying position: Top qualifier will earn 100 points, second will get 90, third 89, all the way down until you get to 5, then everyone below that receives 5 points. No half points, high game is tiebreaker.
 - Sunday points are awarded according to final position.
 - Ladder - 100,50,40,30,20 Bracket - 100,50,40,35,30,25 Division - 20,15,10,5
 - \$250 Bowler of the Year (bowler with the most points) & bowling pin trophy
 - \$250 Bowler of the Year (bowler with the most points with a starting average between **129-136**)
 - \$250 Bowler of the Year (bowler with the most points with a starting average between **121-128**)
 - \$250 Bowler of the Year (bowler with the most points with a starting average of **120 and under**)

15 STRIKE BALL

- Each shift will have 5 chances to win strike ball. 1st ticket is for the full amount, the next 4 chances are for half the pot.
- Strike ball will be thrown the next frame after that person has turned in the winning ticket.
- 60% of what is collected goes towards the strike ball, 40% back to the tour.
- Each shift will start out with a minimum of \$100.
- The money carried over from the previous stop will be split up between the total number of shifts at the next stop provided there is a minimum of 12 people bowling on that shift.