



FACT SHEET

USBC Registered Volunteer Program

The United States Bowling Congress is implementing a landmark "Registered Volunteer" program to protect its youth members.

It has three main components:

1. Identifying and collecting the names and addresses of people involved with USBC Youth programs at the local level.
2. Conducting annual background screens to identify those with a proven history of violence and/or sexual misconduct.
3. Requiring that all USBC Registered Volunteers follow a Code of Conduct that identifies rules of behavior for volunteers.

Everyone who has direct involvement in any USBC Youth program will be required to become a Registered Volunteer. By doing so each will agree to provide his/her name and address for the national database, submit to an annual background screen, and behave according to a specific code of conduct.

The Registered Volunteer program works as follows:

1. The local association that serves youth bowlers will agree to participate in the program.
2. The local association will assign a point person, called the Registered Volunteer Supervisor (RVS). The RVS will sign a document agreeing to follow the rules, policies and procedures established by USBC.
3. The RVS will invite all bowling centers in the local association's jurisdiction to participate.
4. In the event a bowling center declines to participate, the center's management will be asked to sign a waiver, acknowledging the center was offered the opportunity to participate but declined. USBC has not decided what actions can or will be taken against bowling centers that decline.
5. Bowling centers that agree to participate will sign a document agreeing to follow the rules, policies, and procedures established by USBC. The bowling centers will also be asked to identify a point person from their center.

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6. The RVS, with help from the bowling center point people and the local association leaders, will identify people who need to register. They will use a list of roles and positions established by USBC to decide who should register.
7. The RVS will contact the people who need to register and ask them to become USBC Registered Volunteers. The RVS can ask the bowling center point person to help contact the people and distribute materials to those who need to register.
8. The RVS (or the bowling center point person) will ask the volunteers to review the information and sign the form right away. This will minimize the work involved with collecting the forms later.
9. This group of volunteers will have an option to decline participation. If they decline, they will automatically disqualify themselves from further service as a USBC Youth volunteer. Anyone who declines will be asked to sign a waiver acknowledging they were offered the opportunity to participate. USBC has not decided what actions it can or will take against a disqualified volunteer who continues to associate with USBC Youth programs.
10. The RVS will use the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI) Web site to pre-register the list of people who need to register. The NCSI is owned by the National Council of Youth Sports (NCYS). The NCYS is a not-for-profit organization that works closely with local, state, and federal governments to pass laws and establish guidelines and procedures to protect children.
11. The volunteers will access the NCSI Web site and provide the necessary personal information required for the background screen. Confidentiality and security of information is a high priority in this program.
12. NCSI will run the background screen according to a specific set of rules established by USBC.
13. NCSI will notify the volunteer, the RVS, and USBC HQ when a volunteer fails the background screen - called a "Red Light." NCSI will provide the volunteer with the information required by the Fair Credit Reporting Act. NCSI will not share the specifics of the reason for the Red Light with anyone other than the volunteer in question. The volunteer will be considered simply as "Not Approved" by USBC, the RVS and the bowling center.
14. The RVS will notify the bowling center point person when a volunteer receives a Red Light.

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15. The RVS and the bowling center point people will monitor the center(s) to make sure disqualified volunteers are no longer active in any USBC youth programs. The RVS will be asked to seek assistance from the bowling center point person and center management if a Red Light volunteer is still involved. The specific penalties or other actions the RVS and/or USBC can take in these situations are yet to be resolved.
16. USBC HQ will send welcome letters and Registered Volunteer ID cards to Green Light volunteers.
17. The RVS will work with the bowling center point people to identify and register new volunteers and to report any arrests or Code of Conduct violations that may occur after an individual has been approved as a Registered Volunteer.

General concepts

1. Success of the program depends on good cooperation and coordination between the USBC Youth associations and the bowling centers they serve.
2. The cost is \$25 per year per volunteer. The registration fee will be billed to the local association. If the local association cannot afford the fee, it can seek reimbursement from the volunteers, the bowling centers, local business sponsors, or a cost-sharing combination thereof.
3. Participation in USBC's Registered Volunteer program is mandatory among volunteers – including USBC Youth association leaders - and bowling center employees who have regular contact with USBC Youth bowlers. The "USBC Registered Volunteer Rules and Policies" specifically define roles and positions that must be registered. The latest version of that document is available on bowl.com at the following link:
<http://www.bowl.com/downloads/pdf/volunteers/rulesPolicies.pdf>.
4. USBC has created the Registered Volunteer process with Fair Credit Reporting Act requirements top-of-mind. This protects the rights of the volunteers who provide confidential information needed for the background screens. It is important that the volunteers understand their rights are protected under this act. NOTE: The FCRA does not mean USBC or NCSI are checking credit histories. This screening program does not involve any kind of financial credit check.
5. Background screens from other programs will not be accepted as substitutes for going through the USBC Registered Volunteer background screens. To be effective, consistent and uniform implementation of the program is critical to its success. We must treat all of the volunteers the same and apply exactly the same background screen criteria to all.

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