



**Youth Award changes for 2006/2007**

1. Effective August 1, 2006, the United States Bowling Congress is changing the USBC Youth awards program
2. As of Aug. 1, 2006, USBC Youth members will only earn symbolic medals, pins or emblems for their bowling achievements.
3. This issue has come to light recently because of USBC's increased involvement in and promotion of high school bowling programs over the past five years.
4. USBC is the only national governing body which issues awards in direct violation of high school athletic association amateur athletic bylaws.
5. Accepting an award which violates HS State athletic Bylaws could result in a youth being ineligible for high school bowling teams, as well as other high school athletics.
6. High school eligibility rules as they relate to awards are established at the state level by high school athletic associations. The rules vary by state. What's allowable in one state violates the rules in another state. Our current high score awards violate several athletic bylaws because of the value of the award and some athletic associations do not view them as a symbolic in nature.
7. Youth bowlers who roll USBC-certified 900, 800 series, 300, 299 or 298 games will have the opportunity to purchase additional commemorative items of greater value, such as rings, watches or plaques. These awards may only be purchased by the athlete or their parent/legal guardian.
8. Youth bowlers who roll Baker 300 games or 11 in a row games will have the opportunity to purchase commemorative plaques. These awards may only be purchased by the athlete or their parent/legal guardian.
9. Among the 341,238 certified youth bowlers last season, 1,428 rolled perfect games in certified USBC competition. Other season totals were 348 youth 800 series, 555 youth 299 games and 232 youth 298 games rolled in certified competition Aug. 1, 2004 through July 31, 2005.
10. A 2005 study conducted by the NFHS found that nearly 40,000 youth compete on high school bowling teams.

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