

2026 TBNZ Open Championships

22nd Annual Tenpin Bowling New Zealand Open Championships

Certification # 2601



Singles – Doubles – Teams - Masters

Friday, 23 October – Monday, 26 October 2026

Entries close Sunday, 11 October 2026

Previous Champions:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Mens</u>	<u>Womens</u>	<u>Graded</u>	<u>Classic</u>
2005	Tauranga	Patrick Chan	Ivena Heald	Logan Nicholson	
2006	Porirua	Adrian Judd	Julieanne Mollet	Jane Cameron	
2007	Panmure	Eric Ang	Serena Cox	Sonja Southen	
2008	Tauranga	Pete Richardson	Julieanne Mollet	Bo Saetear	
2009	Lincoln	Tony Lum	Belinda Tan	Karl Shaw	
2010	Porirua	Jason Waters	Ivena Heald	John Miklos	
2011	Lincoln	Craig Nevatt	Melonie Lister	Michelle Powell	
2012	Manukau	James Kelly	Julieanne Mollet	Polly Delfim	
2013	Tauranga	Sonny Reguerra	Melonie Lister	Polly Delfim	
2014	North City	Carl Mollet	Melonie Lister	Dana Holt	
2015	Lincoln	Greg Nicolas	Stephanie George	Julie Burt	
2016	North City	Sonny Reguerra	Sarah Young	Lance Barns	
2017	Tauranga	Jason Waters	Angela Boswell	Phillip Mallitte	
2018	Manukau	James Kelly	Angela Boswell	Judith Devine	
2019	Lower Hutt	Sonny Reguerra	Julieanne Mollet	Vanessa Powell	
2020	Pins	Blake Brooks	Melonie Lister	Daniel Lee	
2021	Manukau	Ben Pettit	Sarah Young	Nathan Lindsay	
2022	Tauranga	Ben Pettit	Sarah Young	Phillip Mallitte	
2023	Manukau	Ben Pettit	Sarah Young	James Sampson	
2024	Tauranga	Connor Frith	Sarah Young	Jade Lang	Zharkobi Ewington
2025	North City	Ben Pettit	Sarah Young	Logan Edwards	Vanessa Tomlinson
2026	Pins				

Eligibility:

This tournament is open to all current members of Tenpin Bowling New Zealand Inc. (TBNZ), or any member of an affiliated organisation to the International Bowling Federation.

Playing Rules:

All TBNZ general playing and tournament rules will apply.

Anti-Doping Policy:

All bowlers who enter this tournament may be tested for compliance with the TBNZ Anti-Doping Policy. Many drugs remain present in the body for months after use. If you are unsure about your drug free status, do not enter this tournament.

Divisions:

There will be three divisions, an Open division, a Classic division, and a Graded division. In the Open division Men and Women will compete separately. The Classic and Graded divisions will be mixed; i.e. Male & Female competitors will compete against each other. The Classic division is a scratch based division, women will receive an 8-pin handicap per game. The Graded Division is handicapped.

Events:

In each division the events to be played will be singles, doubles and four (4) person teams. Bowlers will be eligible for the All Events if competitors have entered all three events and paid the All Events fee.

Bowlers will only be eligible to compete for Masters in the All Events division for which they have registered and paid.

A scratch Open Mixed Doubles event will be held during the tournament. Open Mixed Doubles scores will not count towards the All Events for any competitor.

Number of Games per Event:

Singles shall consist of six (6) games per bowler. Bowlers will change lanes on completion of each two (2) game block. The number of lanes to change will be determined by the tournament committee. Doubles and Teams events shall consist of three (3) games per bowler. There are no lane changes for Doubles or Teams events.

Multiple Entries:

Multiple entries will only be accepted as follows:

Teams: At least two members of the team must be different, with a total of 4 people per team.

Doubles: You may only bowl with the same partner once, with a maximum of three (3) doubles entries.

Singles: Each entry must be in a separate division.

Open Mixed Doubles: You may only bowl with the same partner once.

All Events:

An All Events Champion will be declared for each division. A bowler's score in their Singles, and first attempt bowled in Doubles and Teams will count towards their All Events score regardless of the division in which the events are bowled. Bowlers must indicate on the entry form which All Events division they are entering.

Multiple All Events:

A bowler can enter two (2) All Events divisions if below the average cutoff. They must complete two (2) separate sets of singles/doubles/teams. A separate entry must be submitted for each division entered and bowlers must pay two (2) appropriate All Events fees. Due to the Masters scheduling the 2 All Events must be Open and Classic OR Open and Graded

A \$10 all events fee must be paid for each All Events division entered.

Entries:

All entries must be accompanied by full payment. **Entries close Sunday, 11 October 2026** Late entries will only be accepted at the discretion of the Tournament Manager or the Tournament Director if the tournament has begun.

Payment:

Full payment must be received in the TBNZ bank account by Sunday, 11 October 2026

The bank account number is 03-0227-0331250-00, please include your name and 'OPEN NATS' in the reference details so we may identify your payment. Entry into any squad is not guaranteed until entry fees are paid in full. Until then all entries will be added to the reserve list of the squad entered. A more detailed explanation of this rule can be found on the squad listing page.

Entering Averages:

Bowlers entering this tournament shall use their current TBNZ tournament average obtained from the TBNZ Rankings page as at 11 October 2026. The average used must be established over a minimum of 21 games.

If a bowler does not have a TBNZ tournament average, then their highest league average based over a minimum of 21 games must be submitted as at 11 October 2026. If a bowler cannot provide proof of any average they must compete in the Open division.

Males with 185 or higher must enter the Open division.
Females with 175 or higher must enter the Open division.
Bowlers with no average must enter the Open division.
Note: All other bowlers are permitted to enter either the Open, Classic or Graded division.

Review of Bowlers Entering Average:

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to review any bowlers entering average prior to the start of the tournament and re-grade any bowler where necessary.

The average used in the Graded Masters will be the bowlers approved entering average for the tournament.

Handicaps:

The Classic division includes an 8-pin handicap for female bowlers.

The Graded division is handicapped on 90% of a 200 base.

Replacements or Substitutes:

All replacements or changes to the original entry line up must be approved by the Tournament Committee prior to the scheduled bowling time. The average of the replacement or substitute cannot change the grading of the original entry.

Check-in Qualifying Rounds:

Bowlers must check-in **15 minutes** prior to the scheduled start time of any squad they have entered.

Check-in Masters:

Bowlers (& Reserves) must check-in **15 minutes** prior to the scheduled Masters start time. If a bowler is late for check-in they will be disqualified from the Masters and will not be permitted to bowl. Reserves that have met the check-in time may be invited to contest the Masters in the Division they have qualified for if a Bowler has missed the required check-in time.

Lane Draw:

Bowler's starting lanes will be decided by **RANDOM** lane draw. All efforts will be made to have competitors from the same divisions compete together in the doubles & teams events.

Practice Balls:

Each bowler will be entitled to the following practice times, prior to the start of that event:

- Singles: Seven (7) minutes practice before the first game of block one (1) only.
- Doubles: Seven (7) minutes practice before the first game only.
- Teams: Fifteen (15) minutes practice before the first game only.
- Masters: Five (5) minutes practice before the first game only.

Masters Event:

A Masters event will be held in each Division as follows:

- Open Men's division 12 finalists
- Open Women's division 12 finalists
- Classic division (mixed) 8 finalists
- Graded division (mixed) 8 finalists

The bowlers with the highest 12 game total from the All Events in each division will proceed to the Masters final.

20 Bonus points will be awarded for a win and 10 for a draw. No points will be awarded for a loss.

The Masters will be a round robin event playing each player once. The bowler with the highest total pinfall including bonus points will be declared the winner of their respective Masters event.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to reduce/increase the number of participants in a Masters event depending on the number of entries.

National Champions:

The National Champion for each division will be determined by the bowler with the highest combined pinfall from the All Events and Masters final, including bonus points. National Champions will be declared in the following divisions:

- Open Men's
- Open Women's
- Classic (men's and women's combined)
- Graded (men's and women's combined)

National Representation:

Bowlers who are seeking to represent New Zealand must compete in the Open Division. For more information refer to the National Squad Policy.

Ties:

National Champion - If there is a tie for National Champion, a one (1) game roll off will take place to decide the overall winner.

Masters Qualifying - If there is a tie for the last qualifying position for the Masters, a one game roll off will take place to determine the final qualifier.

All other ties for positions/medals will be shared.

Tardy Bowlers:

Any bowler not ready to bowl at the scheduled starting time will not be permitted to catch up and will commence at the frame being bowled.

Slow Bowling:

Slow bowling will not be tolerated, except when caused by lane breakdowns or circumstances outside of the bowler's control. Players preparing to step on to the approach and deliver a ball shall have the following rights and obligations:

- a) Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery.
- b) A bowler is given 30 seconds from the moment their lane is available. Tournament Officials may use a stop watch to randomly check the timing of the bowlers in their delivery.
- c) If a player does not observe the procedures outlined in a) and b) above, it shall be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorised tournament official as follows:
 - i) A verbal warning will initially be given for the first two infringements.
 - ii) For the third and each succeeding offence during the event. The penalty shall be a zero pinfall for that frame.

Lane Changing:

On completion of each game/block, bowlers in the qualifying rounds or Masters can immediately move to their next lane when it becomes clear and commence bowling when their opponent arrives, and their names appear on the screen.

Equipment:

Random ball checks may be conducted each day. A minimum of two and a maximum of four bowlers may be randomly selected to have all their equipment checked. These checks will take place as convenient to the bowler and checker but must be concluded before the bowler is next due to bowl.

Each player will be permitted to register a maximum of six bowling balls for this tournament. Only one of the six registered balls can have coverstock consisting of 50% or more Urethane by volume. This ball can NOT be on the USBC banned list. The bowling ball registration form must be completed and submitted to TBNZ tournament committee prior to players first game. No replacements or additions will be allowed once the bowling ball form has been lodged.

Any bowler whose equipment is deemed to be illegal or not included in the ball registration forms will be given a score of zero and lose all scores/points won up to and including that game in the session. Forfeited games will be included in the calculation of the bowler's average for that competition.

Dress Code:

- Short sleeved, collared shirt or any approved bowling branded shirt must be worn.
- Men may wear either, dress trousers or dress shorts.
- Women may wear either, dress trousers, dress shorts, skirts, skorts or ¾ pants.
- The length of shorts, skirts or skorts must be below the bowler's fingertips when standing with their arms hanging naturally. If there are special circumstances that prevent this, approval will be required by the TBNZ Tournament Committee.
- No denims, cargo type pants or tracksuit pants will be permitted.
- A clean and tidy standard of dress will be required at all times.
- Headwear will not be permitted, the only exception being for culture, health/medical or religious reasons.

General Conditions:

- Only participants, scorers and officials shall be allowed in the players' area.
- Drinking and eating in the bowler's area is not permitted.
- The consumption of alcohol is not permitted while competing or if you have events still to complete for the day.
- Smoking/vaping is not permitted while competing in any event.
- Bowlers are always expected to exercise the highest standards of sportsmanship.
- Abuse towards centre staff, centre equipment, other competitors or members of the public will not be tolerated. This includes any inappropriate use of social media.

Card System:

The three-tiered card system will be used for any transgressions as determined by the Tournament Committee:

White card – general warning given to the participant regarding a rules breach or behavioral offence.

Yellow card – an official warning to the participant regarding a rules breach or behavioral offence.

Red card – Immediate disqualification of the participant from the tournament for repeated or serious transgressions.

Ball Storage:

Host centre to provide ball storage.

Presentations:

Presentations will be made at the times specified by the Tournament Committee.

Protests:

Protests are to be given verbally to the Tournament Committee within 10 minutes of the infraction occurring and confirmed in writing within 30 minutes of completion of the block of play concerned.

Special note / Disclaimers

Any matters which arise and are not covered herein shall be decided by the TBNZ Tournament Committee.

The tournament officials, the bowling Centre management and their staff will not be held responsible for any loss or damage of belongings or equipment during the tournament.