



**SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL OPEN
TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2026**
6-12 SEPTEMBER 2026 | MEGALANES SARAWAK,
KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA



SIOTBC26 RULES & REGULATIONS – OFFICIAL UPDATES

1. ORGANISATION & SANCTION

1.1 The Sarawak International Open Tenpin Bowling Championships 2026 (SIOTBC26) is organized by the Amateur Bowling (Tenpin) Association of Sarawak (ABAS) and sanctioned by the Malaysian Tenpin Bowling Congress (MTBC), Asian Bowling Federation (ABF) and International Bowling Federation (IBF). International Bowling Federation (IBF) Statutes and Playing Rules shall apply on matters not covered herein.

1.2 This championship will be held from 6th to 12th September 2026 at Megalanes Sarawak @ Emart Batu Kawa, Kuching, Sarawak.

2. Eligibility

2.1 This Tournament is open to all current paid up members of ABAS, MTBC, ABF & IBF affiliates. All local participants must show proof by producing their membership cards or receipts for examination.

2.2 All overseas participants must obtain clearance from their respective National Tenpin Bowling Associations or Congress.

3. Averages

3.1 Only official average of MTBC will be used. Overseas bowlers must produce written confirmation of their averages from their respective National Association or Congress. Any bowler unable to obtain an official average from their association/congress will be deemed as 205 average.

4. CLASSIFICATIONS

4.1 Main Divisions

4.1.1 Open Division

Open to all bowlers.

4.1.2 Classified Division

Open to all bowlers who are not members of any National Elite Team and are not professional bowlers effective 1st January 2025.

4.1.3 3DU Division

All male and female bowlers born in the year 1996 and after are eligible to participate in this division.

4.1.4 Challenger Crown Division

Open to all bowlers who are not members of any National Elite Team and are not professional bowlers effective 1st January 2025 with with an average of 190 and below



4.1.5 U21 Division

All boys and girls bowlers born in the year 2005 and after are eligible to participate in this division.

4.2 Sub-Divisions

4.2.1 Boys 20–22

All male bowlers born between 2004 and 2006 are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.2 Girls 20–22

All female bowlers born between 2004 and 2006 are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.3 Boys 17–19

All male bowlers born between 2007 and 2009 are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.4 Girls 17–19

All female bowlers born between 2007 and 2009 are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.5 Boys 14–16

All male bowlers born between 2010 and 2012 are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.6 Girls 14–16

All female bowlers born between 2010 and 2012 are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.7 Boys Under-13

All male bowlers born in 2013 and after are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

4.2.8 Girls Under-13

All female bowlers born in 2013 and after are eligible for prizes in this sub-division.

5. REGISTRATION OF ENTRIES / SQUAD TIMES

5.1 All fully paid entries must be submitted to the Secretariat by 1st September 2026 at 8:00 p.m. (Malaysia Time).

6. CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIAL OIL PATTERN

6.1 All Masters Qualifying, Finals and Stepladder rounds shall be played on the SIOTBC26 Official Championship Oil Pattern.

There shall be only one (1) oil pattern used throughout the Championships.



7. MASTERS QUALIFYING

7.2 The top sixty (60) bowlers in each division shall qualify for their respective Finals.

7.3 Divisions contested are:

- a) Open Division
- b) Classified Division
- c) 3DU Division
- d) Challenger Crown Division
- e) U21 Division

7.4 Qualifiers shall advance to the following Finals:

- a) Open Masters Finals + Last Man Standing
- b) Classified Masters Finals + Positioning Round
- c) 3DU Masters Finals + Top 3 Stepladder Finals
- d) Challenger Crown Finals + Knock-Out Matchplay
 - Seeds #1 to #4 shall receive a bye into the Round of 32.
 - Seeds #5 to #60 shall compete in the Preliminary Knock-Out Round, with the twenty-eight (28) winners advancing to the Round of 32.
- e) U21 Finals + Knock-Out Matchplay
 - Seeds #1 to #4 shall receive a bye into the Round of 32.
 - Seeds #5 to #60 shall compete in the Preliminary Knock-Out Round, with the twenty-eight (28) winners advancing to the Round of 32.

7.5 Joker Squad

7.5.1 After the end of each day's Masters Qualifying Squad, a Joker Squad will be opened for registration. For registration and roll-off time for the Joker Squad please refer to the Championship Schedule.

7.5.2 The Joker Squad will consist of 1 game. If the game in the Joker Squad is higher it will replace the lower game of that day's Masters Qualifying.

8. Masters Final

8.1 Open Masters Final

8.1.1 Finalist will bowl a total of 8 games. Top 4 bowlers with the highest pin fall including handicap shall proceed to the "Last Man Standing Round".

8.1.2 "Last Man Standing" Game 1 - Top 4 seeds will bowl in a 1-game-roll-off (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women) where the bowler with the lowest score will be eliminated and be placed as 4th in the overall standings. The 3 survivors will proceed to the "Last Man Standing" Game 2.

8.1.3 "Last Man Standing" Game 2 - The remaining 3 bowlers will bowl in a 1 game roll-off (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women) where the bowler with the lowest score will



be eliminated and be placed as 3rd in the overall standing. The 2 survivors will proceed to the “Last Man Standing” Final.

8.1.4 The remaining two (2) bowlers will bowl a one-game roll-off (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women). The bowler with the higher score, including handicap, shall be declared the SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 OPEN DIVISION CHAMPION.

8.2 Classified Masters Final

8.2.1 Finalist will bowl a total of 9 games.

8.2.2 Bowlers will bowl 4 blocks of 2 games and the final 9th game will be the positioning round. Bowlers will bowl on the pre-assigned lanes according to their position after 8 games.

8.2.3 The bowler with the highest total pinfall including handicap after the Positioning Round shall be declared the SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 CLASSIFIED DIVISION CHAMPION.

8.3 3DU Masters Final

8.3.1 Finalist will bowl a total of 8 games.

8.3.2 Top 3 bowlers with the highest pin falls including handicap shall proceed to the Stepladder Rounds.

8.3.3 The 2nd seed and 3rd seed shall bowl a 1-game-roll-off in the Stepladder Semi-finals. The bowler with the highest pin fall including handicap (Scratch for Male / +5 for Female) shall be declared as winner and move on to the Stepladder Final as the Challenger.

8.3.4 The Stepladder Final shall be played in a 1+1 Repechage format. Handicap shall be awarded to eligible bowlers (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women). If the top seed wins the first game, he/she shall be declared the SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 3DU DIVISION CHAMPION.

8.4 Challenger Crown Finals

8.4.1 The top sixty (60) bowlers based on total pinfall, including handicap where applicable, shall qualify for the Challenger Crown Finals.

8.4.2 Seeds #1 to #4 shall receive a bye into the Round of 32.

8.4.3 Seeds #5 to #60 shall compete in the Preliminary Knock-Out Round consisting of one (1) game (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women). Match-ups shall be arranged according to the qualifying standings as follows:

* Seed #5 vs Seed #60

* Seed #6 vs Seed #59



- * Seed #7 vs Seed #58
- * Seed #8 vs Seed #57

...and so on until all twenty-eight (28) matches have been completed.

8.4.4 The twenty-eight (28) winners from the Preliminary Knock-Out Round shall be re-seeded according to their original qualifying positions and shall join Seeds #1 to #4 in the Round of 32.

8.4.5 From the Round of 32 onwards, all Matchplay rounds shall consist of one (1) game. Match-ups shall be played on a seeded bracket basis (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women).

8.4.6 The winners of the Round of 32 shall advance to the Round of 16.

8.4.7 The winners of the Round of 16 shall advance to the Quarter Finals.

8.4.8 The winners of the Quarter Finals shall advance to the Semi Finals.

8.4.9 The winners of the Semi Finals shall advance to the Final.

8.4.10 The winner of the Final shall be declared the CHALLENGER CROWN CHAMPION of the SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 (SIOTBC26).

8.4.11 In the event of a tied game during any Matchplay round, the tie shall be resolved in accordance with Paragraph 12.4 of these Rules and Regulations.

8.5 U21 Division Finals

8.5.1 The top sixty (60) bowlers based on total pinfall, including handicap where applicable, shall qualify for the U21 Division Finals.

8.5.2 Seeds #1 to #4 shall receive a bye into the Round of 32.

8.5.3 Seeds #5 to #60 shall compete in the Preliminary Knock-Out Round consisting of one (1) game (Scratch for Men / +5 for Women). Match-ups shall be arranged according to the qualifying standings as follows:

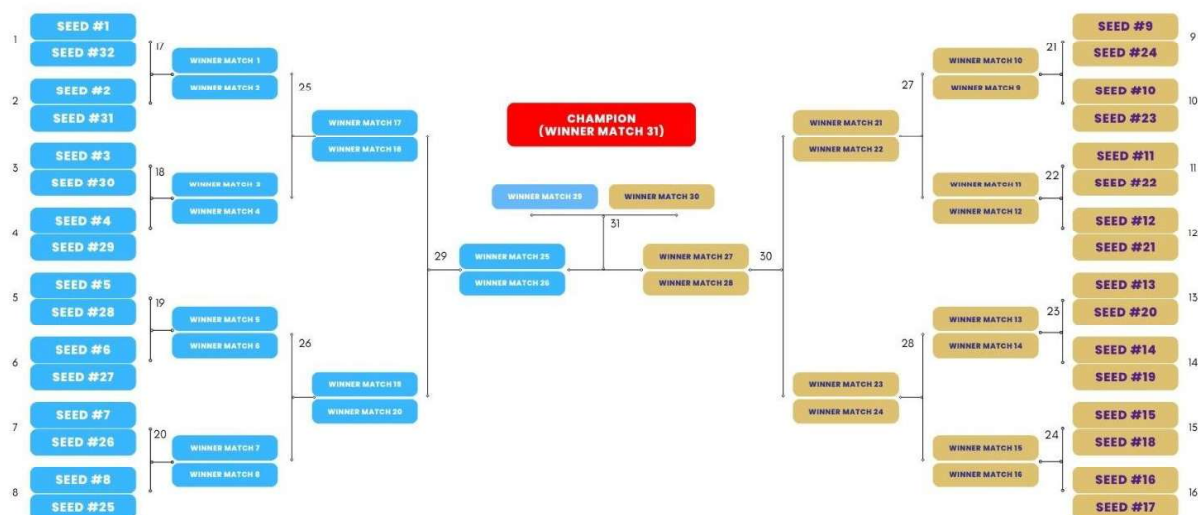
- * Seed #5 vs Seed #60
- * Seed #6 vs Seed #59
- * Seed #7 vs Seed #58
- * Seed #8 vs Seed #57

...and so on until all twenty-eight (28) matches have been completed.

8.5.4 The twenty-eight (28) winners from the Preliminary Knock-Out Round shall be re-seeded according to their original qualifying positions and shall join Seeds #1 to #4 in the Round of 32.



8.5.10 The winner of the Final shall be declared the U21 CHAMPION of the SARAWAK INTERNATIONAL OPEN TENPIN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 (SIOTBC26). In the event of a tied game during any Matchplay round, the tie shall be resolved in accordance with Paragraph 12.4 of these Rules and Regulations.



Senior 51–55 (born 1971–1975) +2



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Senior 56–60 (born 1966–1970)	+2
Senior 61–65 (born 1961–1965)	+2
Senior 66 and above (born 1960 and before)	+2

3DU Division	
AVERAGE	Hdcp
195 and above	0
185 - 194	5
184 and below	10

CATEGORIES FOR ADDITIONAL HANDICAP

Women	+5
Born 2014 & After	+10
OKU – Physically Challenged	+5

U21 Division	
AVERAGE	Hdcp
195 and above	0
185 - 194	5
184 and below	10

CATEGORIES FOR ADDITIONAL HANDICAP

Women	+5
Born 2014 & After	+10
OKU – Physically Challenged	+5

Challenger Crown Division	
AVERAGE	Hdcp
190 - 181	0
180 - 171	5
170 and below	10

CATEGORIES FOR ADDITIONAL HANDICAP

Women	
OKU – Physically Challenged	
Senior 50 and above (born in 1976 and before)	+5

Additional Senior Handicap	
Senior 51–55 (born 1971–1975)	+2
Senior 56–60 (born 1966–1970)	+2
Senior 61–65 (born 1961–1965)	+2
Senior 66 and above (born 1960 and before)	+2

10. QUALIFYING, FINAL, JOKER SQUAD FEES

10.1 The entry fees for Qualifying Rounds are as follows

- A. RM1,200.00 for Open Division Only
- B. RM1,200.00 for Classified Division Only
- C. RM1,000.00 for 3DU Division Only



- D. RM1,000.00 for Challenger Crown Only
- E. RM1,000.00 for U21 Only
- F. RM1,400.00 any 2 Divisions
- G. RM1,500.00 any 3 Divisions
- H. RM1,600.00 any 4 Divisions
- I. RM1,700.00 All Divisions
- J. RM 200.00 Joker Squad
- K. RM 200.00 SABATI Cup

10.2 The Final fees for Masters are as follows

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • RM350.00 Open Division | 8 Games + Top 4 Last Man Standing |
| • RM300.00 Classified Division | 9 Games (8 + 1 Positioning Round) |
| • RM250.00 3DU Division | 8 Games + Stepladder Finals |
| • RM250.00 Challenger Crown | 1 Game + Top 32 Bracket Match |
| • RM250.00 U21 Division | 1 Game + Top 32 Bracket Match |

11 .PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

11.1 Please refer to "Prize Distribution" schedule.

12. TIE BREAKING RULES

12.1 Any tie for the Top Three (3) positions shall be decided by a one-ball roll-off until the tie is broken.

12.2 Any tie for qualification to the next round of play shall be decided by a one-ball roll-off until the tie is broken.

12.3 Any tie for prize-money positions shall be decided by the highest last game. If a tie still exists, the highest second last game shall be used as the tie-breaker, and so on until the tie is broken.

12.4 Challenger Crown & U21 Division

12.4.1 In the event of a tie affecting qualification into the Finals, particularly for the final qualifying position (e.g. Seed #4 and Seed #5 or Seed #60 and Seed #61), the tied bowlers shall bowl a one-ball roll-off to determine the final seeding positions.

12.4.2 Should more than two (2) bowlers be tied for positions affecting qualification (e.g. Seeds #4, #5 and #6 or Seeds #60, #61 and #62), all tied bowlers shall participate in the one-ball roll-off. The bowlers shall be ranked according to the results of the roll-off, with the highest pinfall receiving the higher seed.

12.4.3 In the event of a tie between bowlers who have already qualified for the Finals (e.g. Seeds #1 to #31), seeding positions shall be determined by the highest score in the second game of the Masters Finals.

12.4.4 If the tie remains unbroken after comparing both games, the affected bowlers shall bowl a one-ball roll-off to determine their respective seeding positions.



12.4.5 In the event there is a tie during any Knock-Out Matchplay Round, the match shall be decided by a one-ball roll-off.

12.4.6 If the one-ball roll-off results in a tie, additional one-ball roll-offs shall be conducted until the tie is broken.

12.4.7 For all one-ball roll-offs, bowlers shall bowl on a full rack of ten (10) pins. The bowler with the higher pinfall shall be declared the winner. If bowlers record the same pinfall, the roll-off shall be repeated until the tie is broken.

13. GENERAL PLAYING RULES

13.1 No Jeans allowed for male and female bowlers throughout the tournament.

13.2 No sleeveless shirt and shorts for male bowlers throughout the tournament.

13.3 No objections to the final results will be entertained after the prize presentation.

13.4 The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any entry as they deem fit. Any matters arising that is not covered in the Tournament Rules, will be decided by the Tournament Committee whose decision is final, subject only to an appeal to ABAS. Such an appeal must be made in writing within 24 hours of the decision of the Tournament Committee.

13.5 Should the appeal involve position standings in any event of the Tournament, it is the prerogative of the Tournament Committee to withhold presentation of prizes for that event until the determination of the outcome of the appeal.

13.6 Slow bowling / Lane Courtesy

13.6.1 Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery when the pairs immediately adjacent to them on both the right and left are clear (one (1) pair lane courtesy).

13.6.2 Competitors must observe one (1) pair lane courtesy at all times. Competitors on the same pair may not bowl consecutive deliveries without allowing one (1) competitor from the pair to the right and one (1) competitor from the pair to the left have made a delivery, unless those competitors are not ready to bowl or they give way.

13.6.3 If a player does not observe the procedures outlined in paragraphs 12.7.1 and 12.7.2, it shall be construed as slow bowling. A player failing to observe these procedures shall be warned by an authorized tournament official as follows:

LOW OIL-ABSORBING HIGH PERFORMANCE (URETHANE) BOWLING BALLS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE USED.

Penalty will be zero points for the MQ Attempt. If used during the finals, the athlete will be DISQUALIFIED from the tournament.

Click the link below for the list of disallowed bowling balls.
[BOWL.com | Approved, Non-Approved Products](#)



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Please click on: [National Tournament Ineligible Ball List - No Slow Oil Allowed](#)

- ALL urethane balls (including Japan and Korea OEM urethanes)
 - ALL urethane mixed coverstocks, such as: MicroCell Polymers (MCP), React-a-Thanes, PBS Urethane Mix, Pyramid GPS Navigational Urethanes
- All participants are advised to check their bowling balls used in the tournament are within the specifications for weight and other specifications before they compete in their events. The onus is on the bowler to ensure that all balls he/she uses are within the specifications in accordance with International Bowling Federation Rules.

If at any time a bowler is found to have used an illegal ball even if previously certified legal by the Tournament Office, he/she shall be disqualified from the entire Tournament and stripped of all his/her winnings or positions standing and if the Tournament Committee is of the opinion that such usage was deliberate and was intended to cheat, he/she may be further reported to the MTBC Disciplinary Committee/ or ABF Executive Committee for additional penalization. He/she may also be asked to return immediately to one of the Tournament Directors any awards that may have already been given to him/her.

Altering the surface of bowling balls is allowed in a designated area during the official practice session, during the practice session immediately preceding a competition round, and in between blocks or competition round. Altering of the surface of any bowling ball is **NOT ALLOWED DURING OR IN BETWEEN GAMES WITHIN A BLOCK or ROUND OF COMPETITION**. If the surface is adjusted during the game, the penalty is zero pinfalls in that game, regardless of whether the ball is thrown during the game. The resurfaced bowling ball will also not be allowed to be use throughout the remainder of the block.