



Issue No. 8 | Spring 2026

GRUSBC Open Meeting

The Greater Richmond USBC held its annual Open Meeting on April 18th. Letters were sent to league secretaries to share with their bowlers and invite them to attend. An event was also created on GRUSBC's Facebook page alerting bowlers to the meeting. The annual meeting is a USBC requirement and is open to all certified bowlers who are current members of the GRUSBC association.

Elections were held for the board members whose terms are up on July 31, 2026. Congratulations to **Vickie Rengers** who was voted in by acclimation to serve another term as GRUSBC's President. **Bret Loeb** was voted in by acclimation as the board's 2nd Vice President. The following are returning board members that will serve their terms as Directors: **Peggy Atkins, Stephen Atkins, Raymond Clark, Karen Harrison, Johnnie Moore, and Tammy Spivey**. We would also like to welcome new board member, **Zachary Rogers** who will be a Director. New terms begin August 1, 2026 and run for 2 years.

Elections were also held for members to serve as delegates to the 2027 national USBC convention in Las Vegas (Vickie Rengers, Raymond Clark, Bret Loeb) and the VA State USBC meeting in Sept. 2026 (Raymond Clark, Bret Loeb, Karen Harrison, Ray Otto).



Summer leagues are now forming that will soon begin their short season in most of the local centers. For a complete list of available leagues, check the center's website or stop by the center to check out their flyers. Summer leagues is a great opportunity to keep your skill sets up or to see if you'll like bowling on a league. Here are some common questions bowlers ask about summer leagues:

Q. I'm a current member of the GRUSBC, do I have to purchase another membership?

No, current memberships are valid for the summer leagues. Current memberships expire on July 31, 2026, but will continue to be valid if your summer league ends shortly thereafter.

Q. I'm currently not a certified member of the GRUSBC, how much is the membership?

An adult basic membership can be purchased at \$10 per league as long as the league does not exceed 16 weeks. Or, bowlers can purchase a regular adult membership for \$25. Both memberships expire on July 31, 2026.

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Summer Leagues. Continued from Page 1...

Q. What's the difference between the \$10 basic and \$25 memberships? Which one is right for me?

Both are Adult memberships. The \$10 Adult Basic membership can only be purchased in leagues that are 16 weeks or less. If the bowler decides to bowl in two short summer leagues, they must purchase a \$10 basic membership in each league. The bowler is not eligible for any national or local awards. The \$25 full Adult membership can also be purchased and the bowler can bowl in as many summer leagues as they wish and are eligible for national and local awards. Both adult memberships expire on July 31st or when the summer league ends.

Q. Can I bowl with my minor (under 18) child in a summer league?

Most certified leagues are considered adult leagues unless they specifically state they are both youth and adult leagues. If the league permits youth bowlers who are under the age of 18 to participate, all adult members of the league must be Safe Sport Certified and complete a background check at their own expense prior to bowling their first night on the league. This is required by federal law for any certified sporting event. Leagues that are not certified, do not fall under this requirement.

Q. What if I sign up, bowl for a few weeks, and decide I don't like it?

Bowling in a certified league is a commitment. Leagues essentially contract with the center for a certain number of bowlers for a certain number of weeks. If you sign up, you should plan on completing the season. Or, work with your team captain to help find a permanent replacement.



The Greater Richmond USBC would love to see their local bowlers get more involved with association activities to become familiar with how the board serves you! Additionally, this gives the board an opportunity to listen and gain knowledge on what the bowlers like or what opportunities they see.



1. Attend meetings that are open to the membership. Annual meetings include the Open Meeting held in the spring and the Secretaries Workshop where all league officers are invited.
2. Get to know your bowling center GRUSBC House Reps. They are a great resource for answering questions and assisting.
3. Add your name to the Annual Yearbook by becoming a Booster. It's only \$2.00.
4. Become a voice! We love to hear from our membership on what we're doing well and what opportunities we have.
5. Join a league and participate in the local tournaments. The comradery is addicting! Ask any seasoned bowler about their "extended family."



Bowling Trivia

A Trivia and Exercise Game

The following trivia questions are more educational questions as it relates to bowling, not necessarily rules questions. How well do you know the sport? See answers on the next page.

1. How many boards are there across one lane in a bowling alley?
2. What is the length of a single bowling lane?
3. What purpose do the arrows on the lane serve?
4. What is considered a “clean game?”
5. What is it called when you bowl a score of exactly 200 by alternating strikes and spares throughout each frame of a single game?
6. What is the split called when you have three pins on one side of the lane and two on the other (ex 4-6-7-8-10 or 4-6-7-9-10)?
7. What is a “Lily” in bowling?
8. What are grandma’s teeth in bowling?
9. What is meant when you hear someone say, “Joe has the front 8 on lane 21?”
10. How was 10-pin bowling born?

If you have a specific question that you would like answered, send an email to Bret Loeb at bratpk@gmail.com and ask! For common questions, we may feature it in an upcoming newsletter.

First Timer’s Club

Congrats to the following bowlers who had notable 1st time scores over the last few months.



Ryan Longoria

On February 7, 2026, Ryan bowled his first 300 game bowling in GRUSBC’s youth tournament at Bowl America Southwest. Very impressive Ryan!



Kevin Jones

Kevin bowled his first 300 game while bowling in the annual Virginia State USBC mixed tournament in March. Way to represent Kevin!



Wayne Morris

On April 2, 2026, Wayne bowled his first 300 game bowling in the Thursday Night Mixed league at Bowlero West End. Nice Job Wayne!

Other first timers include:

Deion Washington: 1st 300 game on January 6th bowling on the Tuesday Night Special league.

Bret Turvey: 1st 300 game on January 5th bowling on the Monday Night Madness league.

Matt Johnson: 1st 300 game on March 9th bowling on the Monday Night Madness league.



Upcoming Events

April 27 – 30, 2026: National USBC Convention in Reno, NV. Attending GRUSBC delegates are Vickie Rengers, Raymond Clark, and Aaron Layne.

April 11 – May 3, 2026: Virginia State USBC Women's Tournament. Team: Sparetime Lanes, S&D: Bowlero Yorktown.

May 16 – June 14, 2026: Virginia State USBC Open Handicap Tournament. Team: Fort Hill Bowl, S&D: AMF Lynchburg.

Trivia Answers

1. There are 39 boards across a standard USBC-certified lane. If you're a right-handed bowler, the #1 board starts from the right gutter (#1) to the left gutter (#39). For left-handed bowlers, the #1 board starts from the left gutter (#1) to the right gutter (#39).
2. 60 feet long from the foul line to the center of the head pin.
3. The arrows serve as a primary targeting aid, located roughly about 15 feet down the lane, and spaced every 5 boards, to help bowlers increase accuracy and consistency.
4. A single game comprised of strikes or spares in each frame.
5. Dutch 200
6. Greek Church
7. On the first ball, you leave the 5-7-10 pin split.
8. Also known as the Big Four split (4-6-7-10).
9. Joe has all strikes in the first 8 frames.
10. By 1841, ninepin bowling was outlawed in Connecticut due to its association with gambling. To get around the ban, players added an extra pin. And so, tenpin bowling was born.



2026 – 2027 Tournaments



The GRUSBC tournaments have been established for the 2026-2027 season. Tournament forms will be available on our website later in the year.

Please note that some tournaments do not follow the same time frames as year's past due to the State holding some of their tournaments at the same time.

Nov 7, 2026 BVL Tournament (Bowlero West End)

Nov 22, 2026 Youth/Adult (Bowlero West End)

Dec 5-6, 2026 Senior (Bowlero West End)

Jan 24, 2027 800 Club (Bowl America SW)

Jan 29, 2027 Youth/Adult (Bowlero West End)

Jan 30, 2027 Youth City S&D (Bowl America SW)

Jan 31, 2027 Youth City Team (Bowlero Richmond)

Feb 19, 2027 700 Club (Bowl America SW)

Feb 20-21, 27-28, 2027 Women's (Bowl Am. SW)

Feb 20-21, 27-28, 2027 City Open (Bowl Am. SW)

Contact Us



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