



Frequently Asked Questions

Inaugural Minnesota Grade State Bowling Championships

Last Updated on March 26, 2022

1. Q: **How good at bowling do my classmates and I need to be to participate in this event?**

A: This event is for any 4th – 6th grader who enjoys bowling and wants to participate in a new, fun, and exciting event. It is for kids of all skill and experience levels. There are three ways to win prizes to give everyone - regardless of their skill level or their competitiveness level - an opportunity to win a prize:

A. The three teams in each grade division that have the highest total score will win a prize.

B. Teams can win “spirit award prizes” for dressing similarly and for doing the best job cheering their teammates on in a positive manner.

C. Teams can win prizes for accurately predicting what their 10-game total score will be for the competition (better than other teams).

2. Q: **I have never participated in a bowling competition before. What can I expect?**

A: You can expect to have a fun experience at an exciting event. The tournament director, Josh Hodney, will be hosting an informational meeting for all team managers before each of the four shifts at the Grade State Championships. He is also available leading up to the event to answer any questions. Email is the best way to contact him (josh@mhsb.org). He can also be called at 763-755-2552 or 1-800-622-7769.

3. Q: **Do I need my own bowling ball and shoes to participate in this competition?**

A: While having your own bowling ball that has been custom fit to your hand and fingers can make it easier to roll the ball more accurately, you do not need your own bowling ball. You also do not need to own bowling shoes. The bowling center where the event is taking place (Drkula's) will have both bowling balls and bowling shoes for you to borrow (at no extra expense to you).

When picking out a bowling ball, you want it to be approximately 9 to 10% of your body weight. So, a bowler that weighs 90 pounds would want to use a ball that weighs 8 or 9 pounds. A bowler that weighs 120 pounds would want to use a ball that weighs 11 or 12 pounds. And so on.

4. Q: **Do all of the bowlers on my team have to attend the same school?**

A: Yes

5. Q: **Do all of the bowlers on my team have to be in the same grade?**

A: No. Bowlers from different grades can be on the same team. However, keep in mind that the division a team will be placed in is determined by the bowler on the team that is in the “highest” grade. So, for example, if a team has five bowlers and four of them are in 5th grade and one of them is in 6th grade, the team will compete in the 6th grade division.

6. Q: **Can a business sponsor our team's entry into the event? Can the business' name appear on the shirts we wear at the competition?**

A: Yes to both! However, each bowler will need to register on their own. A business can reimburse a single bowler, multiple bowlers, or a school the cost of an entry fee or fees.

7. Q: **Team rosters can be made up of four, five, or six bowlers. What do you recommend?**

A: A roster of four bowlers will be the easiest for a team manager to manage (i.e. no substitutes to be concerned with). However, the tournament director recommends a roster of five bowlers just in case someone on the team gets sick or injured. If a team loses a bowler, they can bowl with three players, but then the team would need to take a zero in frames 3 and 7 for each game.

8. Q: **How do you pronounce the name of the bowling center where the event is being held?**

A: “Drkula's” is pronounced as DRA-KOOL-AHS

9. Q: **The event is taking place in Inver Grove Heights. Why are we registering through Spring Lake Park Community Education?**

A: The tournament resides within the Spring Lake Park School District, so a relationship was already established. This being a first of its kind event (anywhere ever), the tournament director wanted to offer a registration opportunity that people could have confidence in.