

# Rule 400

For youth membership in USBC, individuals shall not have reached their 20th birthday on or before August 1 of the current bowling season. Individuals who purchase Youth membership in a summer league and turn 20 on or before August 1 will receive the current season membership. The age limitation is waived for those authorized as mentally challenged.

- a. Except as provided in Item b, a youth may not bowl, substitute or pace in any bowling activity which offers any of the following as prizes:
  1. Cash or bonds.
  2. Merchandise exceeding \$500 in value.
- b. Youth may bowl in singles competitions (including side competitions/brackets) offering such prizes, provided, prior to bowling:
  1. The competition agrees to award the youth's prize in the form of a scholarship; or
  2. The youth signs the USBC Singles Competition Prize Waiver waiving his/her rights to any prize in violation of this rule.

In youth competition, youth members may participate in side competitions/brackets provided all entries are returned 100% in the form of scholarships only and awards comply with Item a above

Buying or selling of earned prizes is prohibited.

Any youth bowler deemed in violation of this rule is subject to disciplinary action including the potential loss of youth membership.

**NOTE:** There are no limits on scholarship amounts or entry fees (must be paid directly to the tournament director/manager) and reimbursement of actual travel expenses into the next higher level of competition or any tournament or event. (Receipts must be provided upon request.) *Chapter 1: USBC Introduction 11*

The prizes authorized by a state high school athletic association or a collegiate athletic association recognized by USBC and USBC Collegiate are not subject to the limitations of this rule.

## 17d. Youth Conduct

Individuals holding youth membership can be removed from competition/functions and/or suspended/denied membership for the following:

1. Conduct derogatory to the best interest of youth bowling including, but not limited to, the following in conjunction with youth competition and functions:
  - a. Using tobacco products, illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages.
  - b. Using foul language or gestures.
  - c. Wearing clothing depicting foul language or gestures.
2. Prior adjudication of delinquency or conviction of a crime including, but not limited to, crimes involving physical or mental abuse or sexual assault.

## 17e. Infractions of Rule 400 - Youth Membership Eligibility

Upon witnessing, or being informed of an infraction, the adult leader shall do the following:

1. Explain to the youth bowler:
  - a. How they violated [Rule 400](#) and that youth membership could be suspended or denied because of the violation.
  - b. They must stop bowling in the activity immediately.
  - c. Any cash or awards received in violation of [Rule 400](#) must be returned.
  - d. The violation will be documented with USBC Headquarters.
2. File a written report to USBC Headquarters. The report should be filed within seven days of contacting the youth bowler and include:
  - a. Bowler's name, address and birthdate.
  - b. Date and location of activity.
  - c. How they violated [Rule 400](#).
  - d. List any cash or awards received in violation of [Rule 400](#) and/or returned.

The individual's membership status remains unchanged until a decision is made by USBC Headquarters.