

**SIR BOWLING MANUAL**

**STATE BOWLING COMMITTEE BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES**

**Sons in Retirement, Incorporated**

[**www.sirinc.org**](http://www.sirinc.org)

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**SIR STATE BOWLING COMMITTEE**

**SONS, INC.**

**BYLAWS**

**Article I – Name and Affiliation**

**Section 1.**

The Name of this committee shall be SIR State Bowling Committee. (Hereafter called The Committee).

**Section 2.**

The Committee shall be a Standing Committee of Sons, Inc., and is established pursuant to Policy 46a of the SIR Corporate Bylaws.

**Section 3.**

The State Board of Directors of Sons, Inc., uses Procedure Policy 46a to specify the composition and responsibilities of the SIR State Bowling Committee.

**Article II. – Objective**

**Section 1.**

1. The objective of this committee shall be to achieve the aims and purposes of Sons iagencies having jurisdiction.

members. This shall be accomplished by:

1. Ensuring that SIR affiliated Branch Bowling Tournaments are conducted in accordance with SIR Guidelines and United States Bowling Congress (USBC) rules and any directive issued by authorized officials of any federal, state or local agencies having jurisdiction.
2. Ensuring, through management oversight, successful SIR State Bowling Tournaments (Reference: Policy 46a Process 7) are conducted in accordance with SIR Guidelines and current USBC rules.
3. Ensuring, through advice and cooperation of The Committee, that successful Branch bowling activities are conducted in accordance with SIR Guidelines.
4. Encouraging each Branch’s bowling activities to attract new SIR members through promoting the bowling activity to prospective SIR Members.

**Article III. – Membership**

**Section 1.**

A Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Policy Advisor, Operations Advisor and Website Manager shall constitute The Executive Board of The Committee.

1. The Chairman of The Committee is appointed by, and serves at the pleasure of, the SIR State President. Unless otherwise directed by the SIR State President, he may not serve more than three (3) consecutive calendar years, excluding any partial year prior to January 1st of the first full year of service. Eligibility to serve is reestablished after one (1) full calendar year of absence from the position.
2. All other Executive Board Members of The Committee are appointed by the Chairman of The Committee, with no limits on term of office.

**Section 2.**

The Corporate Vice President shall be an Ex Officio member of The Committee, without the right to vote per Policy 46a Process 1.

**Section 3.**

Area Bowling Chairman, Branch Bowling Chairman and Tournament Managers (TM’s), along with their assistants, shall be Ex Officio members with voting rights at General Meetings.

**Article IV – Executive Board Officers and Their Duties**

**Section 1.**

Duties of the **Chairman and Vice-Chairman** of The Committee.

1. Duties of the Chairman shall be to:
2. Call all meetings of The Committee, whether Executive or General.
3. Preside at all meetings of The Committee.
4. Provide information relating to SIR Bowling Tournaments to new Branches.
5. Approve payment of actual and necessary expenses of members to The Committee.
6. Form Policy and Operations subcommittees as requested by the Policy and Operations Advisors to further the accomplishment of their duties. The Policy and Operations advisors shall be Chairmen of such subcommittees, which they may choose to be either standing or ad hoc.
7. Represent The Committee at SIR Inc. General Meetings.
8. Encourage Region, Area and Branch bowling leaders to utilize the bowling activity to attract new SIR members.
9. Be present at the annual audit of The Committee.
10. Duties of the Vice-Chairman shall be to:
11. Assume the duties of the Chairman, when the Chairman is unable to perform his duties.
12. May lead or participate in tasks requested by the chairman.

**Section2.**

Duties of the **Secretary and Assistant Secretary** of the Committee.

A. Duties of the Secretary shall be to:

1. Prepare and keep the minutes of all meetings of The Committee. A copy of the minutes of each meeting shall be posted on the SIR website within thirty (30) days following the meeting.
2. Ensure that Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Tournament Guidelines are physically modified and/or updated in a timely manner to reflect changes approved by the Executive Members of The Committee, and ensure current versions of these documents are posted on the SIR Bowling website.

B. Duties of the Assistant Secretary shall be to assume the duties of the Secretary, if and when the Secretary is unable to perform his duties.

**Section 3.**

Duties of the **Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer** of the Committee.

A. Duties of the Treasurer shall be to:

1. Keep accurate and complete records of all financial transactions pertaining to the receipt and distribution of funds subject to control by the Committee.
2. Deposit all funds received by the Committee, including those from the Fee (Reference: Procedure 12) in an established banking facility in a single account under the name, “SIR State Bowling Committee”, using the Corporate tax identification number (TIN). Two signatures shall be required on all checks or other withdrawals from this account in excess of five hundred ($500.00) dollars. The Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Committee shall be authorized to sign such documents.
3. Prepare an updated financial report for submission to the Chairman of the Committee at each General meeting. A copy of this report will be sent to the SIR State Treasurer.
4. Prepare The Committee’s annual budget for the following calendar year for submission to the Chairman by the first week in August. A copy of this budget will be sent to the SIR State Treasurer.
5. Comply with the provisions of Corporate , which includes preparation and submission to the Chairman of The Committee, the SIR State Treasurer and the SIR State President, a quarterly financial report showing receipt, disbursement and amount on hand of all funds in his possession.
6. Be present at the annual audit of The Committee.
7. Conduct audits of SIR Bowling Tournaments as required by SIR, Inc.
8. Prepare required audit forms.
9. Prepare list of documents required of Tournament Managers.
10. Select audit date, time and place.
11. Select Committee members to conduct audit.

B. Duties of the Assistant Treasurer shall be to assume the duties of the Treasurer, when the Treasurer is unable to perform his duties.

**Section 4.**

Duties of the **Policy Advisor** of The Committee shall be to:

1. Review and study the activities of SIR and its Branches pertaining to SIR Bowling activities. After approval by The Committee, his recommendations proposing changes in Corporate Bylaws, Standing Rules and Guidelines shall be submitted to the SIR State President for review and approval.
2. Conduct other studies related to SIR Bowling as may be directed by the SIR State President or the SIR State Board of Directors.
3. Work with the State Growth and Membership Committee to develop programs, brochures and publicity to attract prospective SIR members from the bowling community.
4. At the annual General Meeting held the first week of February during the current Chairman’s final year of office, appoint a three (3) member ad hoc committee for the purpose of selecting a candidate for Chairman of The Committee. By the first week in August, he shall present its candidate to the present Chairman and to the Executive Board for a vote of approval prior to further presentation to the Corporate President.
5. Review and recommend to the Executive Board of the Committee changes in the Bylaws and Standing Rules of The Committee as he determines to be necessary or desirable to the furtherance of the duties and responsibilities of The Committee.
6. Review actual and necessary expenses of the Chairman of The Committee prior to payment by the Treasurer of The Committee.

**Section 5.**

Duties of the **Operations Advisor** of The Committee shall be to:

1. Gather and disseminate ideas and suggestions related to SIR Bowling.
2. Be responsible for developing and/or overseeing the development of the SIR Bowling Tournament Bowling Average (SBTA) and posting the current results each quarter on the SIR bowling website.
3. Instruct Tournament Managers, upon request, how to run their tournaments so as to conform to Standing Rules and Guidelines of SIR Inc. and The Committee.
4. Review all tournament application forms prior to their mailing and posting on The Corporate website. The Operations Advisor may submit draft applications to the Policy Advisor and Website Manager for additional review.
5. Review all draft tournament results and notify the Tournament Manager of any required changes. The Operations Advisor may also submit draft tournament results to the Policy Advisor and Website Manager for additional review. Once tournament results are accepted, the Operations Advisor forwards the results to the Website Manager for posting on the Corporate Website and notifies the Tournament Manager to distribute the prize funds.
6. Recommend through the Chairman of the Committee to the SIR State Board of Directors, at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the SIR State Board of Directors in the calendar year, a proposed schedule of the SIR Bowling Tournaments (Bowling Calendar) to be held during the following year, with the understanding that unusual circumstances may dictate changes.
7. Exercise management oversight of the annual SIR State Bowling Tournament, including, but not limited to, site selection, review of entry forms and tournament results, and payment of awards and expenses.
8. Submit current schedules of SIR Bowling Tournaments to the Website Manager for posting on the SIR Bowling website.
9. Coordinate with the Secretary of The Committee to ensure that Bylaws, Standing Rules and Tournament Guidelines are physically modified and updated to reflect changes approved by the Executive Members of The Committee. (Added 2-9-2016)

**Section 6.**

Duties of the **Website Manager** of The Committee shall be to:

1. Publish the annual schedule of SIR Bowling Tournaments on The Corporate website.
2. Publish entry forms for SIR Bowling Tournaments on The Corporate website.
3. Publish the results of each SIR Bowling Tournament on The Corporate website.
4. Publish on The Corporate website such other information as may be requested by The Committee including contact information for members of the Executive Committee, and approved minutes of the General and Executive Committee meetings.
5. Develop, refine and post on The Corporate website Application Templates that are easy for bowlers to fill out and easy for the Operations Advisor to review.
6. Publish SIR Bowling information and invitations through Constant Contact.
7. Document all SIR tournament bowlers and scores for SBTA and statistics.

**Article V – Duties of Branch Bowling   
Chairman and Tournament Managers**

**Section 1 Branch Bowling Chairman.**

Duties of the Branch Bowling Chairman shall be to:

1. Form a Branch bowling league, if possible, when none exists. Where there is insufficient interest in his Branch to support a league, it may be possible to join with other branches to do so.
2. Encourage, promote and report upon bowling activities within the membership of his Branch.
3. Promote SIR membership among the bowling community utilizing bowling-oriented programs, brochures and publicity.
4. Advise his Branch Executive Committee of SIR Bowling Activities (Tournaments).
5. Promote SIR Bowling Tournaments by listing upcoming Tournaments in the Branch newsletter.
6. Reproduce the annual SIR Bowling Tournaments schedule, and distribute copies to all interested bowlers.
7. Distribute SIR Bowling Tournament entry forms to interested bowlers in his Branch.

**Section 2 Tournament Manager.**

The responsibilities of Tournament Managers for SIR Bowling Tournaments are many and varied. Tournament Managers are the heart, backbone and soul of the SIR Bowling activity that reaches beyond the individual Branches. Managing a tournament’s numerous tasks is a monumental responsibility, one that requires an epic contribution of time and talent to the SIR Organization. Key responsibilities of Tournament Managers for SIR Bowling Tournaments are summarized in the ***SIR Bowling Tournament Guidelines*** pamphlet and include:

1. Read and digest the detailed information presented in the ***SIR Bowling Tournament Guidelines*** pamphlet. This document includes checklists, required time lines, an outline of Tournament Manager’s responsibilities, operational specifics, and useful forms and helpful hints for running a successful tournament.
2. Contract for his SIR Bowling Tournament with the bowling establishment.
3. Prepare and disseminate Tournament announcements.
4. Assure smooth check-in and smooth functioning throughout the Tournament.
5. Assure that conditions are consistent for multi-day tournaments
6. Arrange Tournament fiscal matters.
7. Prepare and disseminate Tournament results, ensuring that all participants have access to the results.
8. Assure timely payments of prizes and other fees.
9. Send tournament results to the USBC.

**Article VI – Meetings**

**Section 1.**

All meetings, which may require voting, shall be called by the Chairman of The Committee, otherwise meetings or discussions may be initiated by any Executive Board member at any time. Meetings may be in person, by email, or by teleconference.

**Section 2.**

Executive Board Meetings may be called at any time.

**Section 3.**

General Meetings shall be called a minimum of once a year. General Meetings will include the Executive members, the Tournament Managers and the branch bowling activity chairmen.

**Article VII – Tournaments**

**Section 1.**

Branch Bowling Tournaments are those authorized by The Committee and sponsored by one or more SIR Branches.

**Section 2.**

State Bowling Tournaments are those approved by the State Board of Directors and supervised by The Committee.

**Section 3.**

Collectively, tournaments are hereafter called SIR Bowling Tournaments.

**Section 4.**

SIR Bowling Tournaments shall be sanctioned by USBC.

**Article VIII – Branch Leagues**

**Section 1.**

Each Branch is encouraged to form a bowling league.

**Section 2.**

Branch leagues are to be autonomous bodies with their own Executive Boards elected by majority vote of those league members present at a general league meeting held prior to the start of league play. Except that, according to Corporate Standing Rule 552, The Committee shall from time-to-time monitor Branch bowling activities to ensure compliance with SIR Guidelines, including Corporate standing rules 40 and 557 when applicable.

**Section 3.**

Branch league Standing Rules of Operation shall be determined by majority vote of those league members present at a general league meeting held prior to the start of league play.

**Section 4.**

Branch leagues are recommended to be sanctioned by USBC and follow the rules of USBC.

**Article IX – Fiscal Matters**

**Section 1.**

This section establishes a fee to be known as “SIR Ten Pin Assessment Fee” (hereafter known as The Fee), which is to be used so that the activities of The Committee may be self-supporting.

SIR Bowling Tournaments are organized around Singles, Doubles, and Team events. A per bowler event fee shall be included in SIR Bowling Tournament entry fees. The Fee, along with its effective date, will be set at the General Meeting of The Committee, and will be used solely to keep The Committee solvent.

**Section 2.**

Actual and necessary expenses of the Executive Board of The Committee, both collectively and individually, may be paid upon authorization of the Chairman of The Committee, including travel expenses for attending meetings of The Committee. Ex-Officio members of The Committee may, upon application, be reimbursed for travel expenses necessary to attend meetings of The Committee by the State or Branch entity sponsoring them.

**Section 3.**

At the end of each fiscal year The Committee, in the presence of its Chairman and Treasurer, shall provide for audit its fiscal records to the SIR State Audit Committee.

**STANDING RULES**

**Modifications to Bylaws and Standing Rules**

1. Additions, deletions and other changes to these Bylaws and Standing Rules must be approved by a majority of the Executive Board of The Committee, and recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

**Meetings**

1.The General Meeting of The Committee shall be called by the chairman in the first quarter of the year and additional General Meetings as needed.

1. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman, or his designate, to ensure proper dissemination of meeting date and time changes, with a fifteen (15) day notice, when practical. ( 9-2022)
2. A standing agenda item of General Meetings of The Committee shall be to inquire as to the “health” and stability of Branch bowling activities, and, when requested, to offer any assistance that the Branches may require of The Committee.
3. A majority of Executive Board Members shall constitute a quorum for an Executive Board meeting, whether held in person, by email, or by teleconference.
4. For a motion to pass a majority of the quorum must vote “aye”. The Chairman of The Committee must verify this majority when voting by email or teleconference.
5. Informal discussions may be held in person, by email, or by teleconference at any time between any numbers of Executive Board Members.

**Tournaments**

1. **Branch Tournaments** shall have at least two of these events: Singles, Doubles, Team; and a Handicap All Event.
2. Number of divisions per event to be determined by TM’s, with divisions being as equally divided by averages as possible.
3. Guests are allowed in these tournaments at the TM’s option.
4. Special events, such as scratch events and brackets, are allowed at the TM’s option.
5. Brackets do not require 100% return of money.
6. Excess bracket money must be held in the bank account used to finance the tournament.
7. There shall be an **Annual State Bowling Tournament** for active SIR members only. (8-2023)
8. This tournament shall consist of two of these events: Singles, Doubles and Teams. Each event, including All Events, shall have two Divisions divided as equally as possible according to averages; higher averages define one division and lower averages define the other division. (8-2023)
9. It is the TM’s responsibility to see that lanes are stripped and oiled between squads and that the same oil pattern is to be used each day.
10. Site selection shall rotate in order through the Bowling Calendar. The Executive Committee will encourage the TMs to host the Bowling State tournament if the rotation method fails.
11. If a TM cannot, or chooses not, to have his bowling center host the Annual SIR State Bowling Tournament, the choice rotates to the next TM in line.

**Participation**

1. All SIR bowlers must be in good standing in SIR in order to bowl in SIR Tournaments.
2. For SIR Bowling Tournament purposes, any bowler who is not an SIR (or a widow of a SIR) is a Guest Bowler. (9-2022)
3. All Guest Bowlers must be at least fifty (50) years of age, except that spouses and retired or semi-retired males may be of any age.
4. The number of Guest Bowlers may not exceed fifty per cent (50%) of the number of SIR Bowlers.
5. Each SIR Bowler may invite no more than one (1) Guest Bowler.
6. Guest Bowlers may not invite other Guest Bowlers.
7. A Doubles pair may have only one Guest Bowler, and a Team may have no more than two Guest Bowlers.

**Averages** (Modified 1-31-2018)

1. The tournament application must specify either the SIR Bowling Tournament Average (SBTA) [a.] or the USBC Standard Composite Average [b.] for a specific season as the primary source.
2. If the SBTA is the primary source, all bowlers shall use the SBTA at time of entry submission (18 games or more) or use prior year’s SBTA average until 18 games are bowled in current year. The USBC must be the backup source for those bowlers who do not have a SBTA. If a TM decides to use SBTA as the first choice for average and player does not have a SBTA, the player must use their USBC average. This is when USBC rules regarding average will apply to the player using a USBC average.
3. If the USBC average is specified as the primary source, it shall be the **Standard Composite Average** for a specified season, such as 2017-18. The SBTA must not be specified because all bowlers with a SBTA will have a valid USBC average.
4. If a. and b. are unavailable, use the highest current **verifiable** USBC sanctioned league average of 21 games or more at time of entry.
5. If bowler’s average is unverifiable, entrant must bowl scratch (i.e., no handicap).
6. USBC Rules 319a, 319a-1b, 319a-2, 319a-3, 319c and 319d apply for players using USBC averages.
7. Each bowler’s scratch performance in a SIR tournament will be recorded by the Committee’s Operations Advisor or his designate for calculation of the bowler’s SIR Bowling Tournament Average (SBTA) on a quarterly basis. Scores from SIR “no tap” tournaments will not apply to the SBTA.

**Errors**

1. TM’s must recognize that providing correct results is critical to the success of their tournament, must take it upon themselves to correct prize payout errors, if any occur, and must modify their data handling techniques to reduce future errors.
2. The Operations Advisor of The Committee shall review and, if necessary, confer with new TM’s concerning their tournament results compilation, with the objective being to eliminate errors in published results.
3. The Committee, upon request by a new TM, shall assist in identifying errors in tournament results, and recommend procedures to correct those errors.

**Tournament Results**

1. After each SIR Bowling Tournament and the results being reviewed and approved by the Operations Advisor, the TM shall provide to the Website Manager of The Committee for website posting. Tournament results show, at a minimum, bowler’s name, bowler’s average, USBC Number, guest indication, SIR Branch if applicable, Individual Handicap, Handicap Scores, Place Standings, and Prize Payouts.

**SIR Bowling Tournament’s Yearly Schedule**

1. Through coordination with SIR Bowling Tournament TM’s, The Operations Advisor of The Committee shall provide to the Chairman of The Committee, by the first week of August, a SIR Bowling Tournament Schedule final draft for the following 12 month period, beginning with January. A rough draft shall have been presented at the General Meeting of The Committee. (Modified 8-6-2013)
2. The Chairman of The Committee shall forward the SIR Bowling Tournament Schedule to the State Board of Directors for approval.
3. After a SIR Bowling Tournament schedule has been approved by the State SIR Board of Directors, it shall be posted in the Bowling section of the State SIR website.

**Communications**

1. When a member of the Executive Board of The Committee leaves his position, he shall thoroughly indoctrinate his replacement as to the duties and responsibilities of the position.
2. When an existing Tournament Manager resigns his position, he shall immediately inform the Operations Advisor of The Committee and provide the Advisor with the name, phone number and email address of his successor.
3. Each member of the Executive Board of The Committee shall inform the other Executive Board members of any known changes in the personal information (e.g., phone number) of any other Committee member, including ex-officio members.
4. Teleconference calls are to be considered meetings, and shall be called according to Article VI of the Bylaws.
5. Only the Chairman, or his designate, and the Treasurer of The Committee shall have access to the Passcode required to initiate a teleconference call. Therefore, one of them is required to set up the call. (9-2022)
6. Prior to a teleconference meeting or discussion, the Executive Board member requesting the meeting or discussion must provide the Vice-Chairman of The Committee, at least 15 days in advance, with the date, time, and names of the participants and agenda items. Email will suffice for this requirement. (Modified 9-2022)
7. The Chairman of The Committee shall notify all participants of the meeting. This notice may be issued by email. The following items are to be included in the notice: (9-2022)
8. Date
9. Time
10. Subject Matter
11. Conferencing Number
12. Access Code
13. Changes to these Bylaws and Standing Rules shall not be accomplished via email or teleconference meetings, unless called by the Chairman of The Committee.

(Modified 2-9-2016)

1. To vote by email each Executive Board Member must send an individual email containing his voting position to the Chairman of The Committee. A majority of Executive Board members must vote “in favor of” in order to change a Bylaw or Standing Rule. (Added 2-9-2016)

**Awards for SIR Bowling Tournaments**

1. Tournament Managers may provide awards to the winners of each event. The TM decides which awards (trophy, certificate, plaque).
2. Any bowler getting either a scratch 298, 299 or 300 game, or a scratch 800 or higher series, in any SIR Tournament shall receive an individual award appropriately inscribed to denote such achievement.
   1. Any individual bowler may receive only one such award during his lifetime. (Added 7-14-2012) (Modified 2-5-2013)
   2. The SIR Bowling Committee will create and manage these awards. (Added 8-24-2023)

**Fiscal Matters**

1. Claims by members of The Committee for expenses shall be itemized on SIR Expense Claim Voucher (Form 15) and forwarded to the Chairman of The Committee.
2. Upon approval by the Chairman of The Committee, the claims will be forwarded to the Treasurer of The Committee for payment.
3. Expense claims filed by the Chairman of The Committee shall be reviewed by the Policy Advisor prior to approval by the Treasurer of The Committee.
4. SIR Bowling Tournament income and disbursements shall be handled through:
5. A sponsoring Branch’s regular bank account

OR

1. A sponsoring Branch’s special (e.g., bowling) bank account, established per Corporate (Policy 12.c) and audited per Corporate Policy 12.g).
2. After a Tournament is complete, the TM shall submit all monies collected for The Fee to the Treasurer of The Committee, along with a completed Tournament Financial Statement Form. (Policy 12.b)
3. Each TM is authorized to collect “Expense Money” as part of the entrance fee for SIR Bowling Tournaments.
4. Expense money is to be used to meet the general and usual expenses of SIR Bowling Tournaments, including, but not limited to donuts, coffee, door prizes, etc., and to meet present and future unforeseen SIR Tournament expenses.
5. Expense money in excess of that required to meet actual tournament expenses must be held in the bank account as a “running tournament balance”, and must be shown on the Committee financial report. (An individual Treasurer may use his own accounting technique and nomenclature) Exception: Some or all excess expense funds may be added to prize funds.
6. Branch league financing for leagues sanctioned by USBC must adhere to the league financing rules established by USBC, therefore additional auditing is not required.
7. Branch league financing for leagues not sanctioned by USBC must be accomplished through a Branch league account, established per Corporate (Policy 12.c) and audited per Corporate (Policy 12.c).
8. The Committee holds the same position on raffles and lotteries as does SIR Incorporated. (i.e., raffles are forbidden, unless conducted in accordance with State of California laws)
9. Door prizes, which require no purchase, are acceptable and encouraged.
10. All SIR Tournament fees paid for events not bowled shall be returned, unless a substitute bowls. (Added 8-12-2014)

**Non-Compliance**

1. Failure to comply with Bylaws and Standing Rules of The Committee may result in a Tournament not being recognized as a SIR sponsored activity and subsequently removed from the SIR Bowling Tournament calendar. Of particular importance is the proper handling of tournament finances (modified 2-6-18).

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