



Canadian Tenpin Federation, Inc.
Fédération Canadienne des Dix-Quilles, Inc.

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New Centre Certification Requirements

The United States Bowling Congress has implemented new requirements for lane inspections and based on recent research conducted by the USBC Equipment Specifications and Certifications team. Since the Canadian Tenpin Federation has a reciprocal average agreement with the USBC, it must follow USBC's equipment specifications.

USBC's research included analysis of the lane certification paperwork, an examination of more than 1,000 lanes throughout the USA, in which lanes were checked to determine compliance with current specifications, a study of the pin deck, and an examination of lane topography.

The studies were undertaken to determine the extent of lanes that were out of specification, which pin deck measurements have the most effect on scoring, how lane topography shifts over time, and how lane topography affects the ball path.

The key changes to lane certification will be the specification change for new installations, including overlays on existing lanes, the number of measurements required for each lane, and how kickbacks, the side panels of each lane in the pit area, are measured.

For new installations, including overlays on existing lanes, the specification for crowns/depressions and crosswise tilts now will be plus/minus thirty-thousandths of an inch (0.030") starting Aug. 1, 2019. The specification change only is at the time of installation, and will minimize maintenance costs. **The specification returns to plus/minus forty-thousandths (0.040") for the next annual inspection.**

Lane topography, which looks at contours, crowns and depressions, showed lane surfaces can change throughout the year because of environmental conditions such as temperature and humidity. If lanes start flatter, they will stay within the current specification of forty-thousandths of an inch (0.040") for a longer time, prompting the specification change.

A new application for centre certification is available on tenpincanada.com that will address the number of measurements required for each lane and how kickbacks are measured.

Lane inspectors will be required to measure the lanes at five locations for crowns/depressions and crosswise title, instead of the current three locations. With many lanes using synthetic panels, and the fact it takes five synthetic panels to construct a lane, there is a need to have at least one measurement for each panel.

A pin deck area scoring study determined the most important measurement affecting percentage of strikes is the distance between the kickbacks at the back of the pin deck. **Measurements now will be taken from kickback plate to kickback plate starting with the 2018-2019 season**, as it simplifies the measuring process and is not a change in the specification.

Go to BOWL.com/EquipAndSpecs and click on Lane-Centre Certifications to learn more and to view the complete Lane Certification Study.