



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

2026 Canadian Team Trials

Tournament Rules - Sanctioned by Canadian Tenpin Federation

ENTRY FEE: \$350.00 (plus cc fees of \$15 if paid by cc)

The Canadian Team Trials have separate divisions for: adult men, adult women, youth men, and youth women. Each team will be identified as Junior Team Canada and Adult Team Canada. The events for international play will be determined by the International Bowling Federation and Pan Am Bowling and approved by the Canadian Tenpin Federation. Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals shall be awarded in each division.

Eligibility

- All participants must be CTF members in good standing
- All participants must be Canadian citizens and able to obtain a Canadian passport no later than January 31st of the year of the international competition
- To qualify for Junior Team Canada, participants must be 13 years of age and not 21 years of age as of January 1, 2026
- To qualify for Adult Team Canada participants must be 16 years of age as of January 1, 2026
- The 2026 Junior Team Canada will consist of the top 4 males and the top 4 females.
- The 2026 Adult Team Canada will consist of the top 6 males and top 6 females from team trials, and selections will be added to finalize the team. See the selection process below.

Bowling Equipment

- a) All participants must submit their Ball Registration Form to the Tournament Office at midnight on practice day.
- b) Once Ball Registration is submitted, no substitutions will be allowed except in case of damage and approved by the Tournament Manager.
- c) Additional Balls can be added if the participant has not submitted the maximum of 9 bowling balls at the time of registration.
- d) Only bowling balls listed on the USBC Approved list as of December 31st of each year.
- e) Only bowling balls that are registered may be stored in bowling center, all others must be removed. Any competitor who is in possession of a non-registered bowling ball may be disqualified.
- f) After each block, the Tournament Manager or designate will carry out random verification of bowling equipment. The inspection will include a visual comparison of the serial number on the bowling ball with the serial numbers listed on the Ball Registration Form.

Violations of any of the rules a-f could result in disqualification.

Bowling on Wrong Lane

If a competitor rolls a strike on the wrong lane they must shoot over on the correct lane. If the competitor does not strike, his/her pin fall will stand, and he/she must shoot the spare on the same lane.

Disruptive behavior

Disruptive behavior by any athlete will not be tolerated. Disruptive behavior is anything that is deemed inappropriate such as offensive language, rude gestures, hitting machines, slow play, etc. The Tournament Manager shall have the final say as to what would constitute disruptive behavior. An authorized tournament official shall warn anyone not observing this rule as follows:





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- (a) A white card for the first offence (no penalty).
- (b) A yellow card for the second offence (no penalty).
- (c) A red card for the third and each succeeding offence in any block of games, and the penalty shall be a zero-pin fall for the frame.

Dress Code

A dress code will be enforced during the Canadian Team Trials which will include the Official Practice Block. Men will wear dress pants. Women may wear dress slacks, dress shorts, dress skirts, dress skorts, or dress capris. All shirts must have sleeves. T-shirts are not allowed. Sweatpants, leggings, and/or track-style pants are not allowed. Shirts with the athlete's names are encouraged but not mandatory. Competitors may not wear hats during competition.

Entry Fees and Expenses

All entries and fees must be postmarked or received by CTF National Office no later than midnight PST **December 5th, 2025**. All entries received after December 5th will be put on a waiting list, and it will be based on lane availability.

Official Practice attendance is not mandatory. 1 Squad will be available on January 6th at Noon for 2.5 hours. There is no extra fee for competitors as the cost of practice is included in the entry fee.

Cheques, Money order, credit card or e-transfer will be accepted. For payments via credit, a \$15 fee will be added for processing fees.

Funding for Team Canada Events comes from Sport Canada Funding and fundraising efforts. The Canadian Tenpin Federation will do its utmost to ensure funding is available but cannot be held accountable if Sport Canada should cut off funding. Not all qualifying teams are 100% funded.

Format

The Canadian Team Trials is an annual tournament where bowlers compete to qualify for Team Canada in the divisions as listed above. Men and Women will bowl in separate divisions.

1. The tournament consists of 2 - 6 game qualifying blocks on Day 1 & 2, and a 1 – 6 game qualifying block on Day 3.
2. At the conclusion of the 3rd block of 6, (Day 2), the field will be cut to the top 50% for both men and women.
3. At the conclusion of the 4th block of 6, the field will be cut to the top 12 men and 12 women.
4. At the conclusion of the 5th block of 6, the field will be cut to the top 3 men and top 3 women for the stepladder finals.
5. A random lane draw will start the tournament off All future lane draws will be determined by the number of lanes and competitors before the competition begins.
6. One Position Rounds will be held, at the cut to 12.
7. Pinfall carries forward for all blocks.

Gold Medalist – Adult Team

Gold Medalists for both women's and men's teams will receive a complimentary entry into the 2027 Canadian Team Trials. Non-transferable.

Head Phones, Ear Buds, Noise Cancelling Devices

May be worn in the seating area only and cannot be worn on the approach while competing.



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Lane Courtesy

Competitors must observe one lane courtesy at all times.

Lane Patterns

Up to 5 lane patterns may be used and will be determined by the Tournament Committee. Patterns will be announced a minimum of 1 week before the event and will be used for Official Practice blocks. Before the stepladder finals, the lanes will be dressed using a pre-selected pattern (leader selection), which will be announced before the stepladder begins.

Protests and Appeals

Protests involving eligibility, scores and general play rules must be confirmed in writing to the tournament manager by the beginning of the next squad of the tournament or in case of the final squad or stepladder, by completion of the award presentations of the tournament.

Re-racks

Competitors will be allowed two (2) re-racks per game during qualifying blocks. Additional re-racks may be requested from the Tournament Manager or Judge of Play. Any competitor who takes additional re-racks during a game without permission from Tournament Management will be given zero (0) for the frame.

Refund Policy

- A refund will be given:
 - Less \$50 cancellation fee, if written notice is given before December 15, 2025
 - Less \$100 cancellation fee, if written notice is given before December 31, 2025
- No refund will be given:
 - If written notice is given after December 31, 2025 unless doctor's note is submitted to the tournament manager. If refund is approved, the cancellation fee will be \$100.

Selection Process

Upon completion of the Canadian Team Trials, the top six men and top six women will automatically qualify for Adult Team Canada. The National Selection Committee will select a **minimum** of two additional men and two additional women through an application process; to complete the Adult teams and this selection will be announced according to the policy.

Applications will be available online and will also be emailed upon request. Please note deadline in Selection Policy.

Stepladder

The stepladder final will consist of semi-final and final matches. The semi-final match will be a one game match where the #3 seed bowls the #2 seed. The winner of the semi-final match will advance to the stepladder final against the #1 seed. During the stepladder final, the semi-final winner must defeat the #1 seed twice to win the Championships.

Scoresheet

Each competitor is responsible for verifying their own scores. If automatic download of scores is available, competitors should record scores on scoresheet and keep for verification on internet. If an automatic download of scores is not available, scoresheets must be handed in and all competitors must sign the scoresheet to verify scores. Competitors have 1 hour after the block to verify posted scores.



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Smoking & Alcohol

No Smoking or Vaping is permitted during any blocks of competition. This includes breaks of any kind such as position rounds or lane breakdowns, etc.

No Alcohol is permitted during any blocks of competition. This includes breaks of any kind such as position rounds, or lane breakdowns, etc.

Spectators may consume alcoholic beverages if they are not in the bowling area.

Slow Play

Players shall be ready to bowl when it is their turn and shall not delay the start of their approach or delivery as competitors must always observe 1 lane courtesy. Arrows are not to be reversed unless advised by the tournament manager.

Ties

In the event of a tie after qualifying for the last advancing position; a one (1) game roll-off will be required to break the tie. The roll-off will take place on a pair to be determined by the Tournament Manager, where neither competitor bowled for the prior two (2) games. The competitor with the highest block will receive a choice of starting lane. Should that match result in a tie, one ball roll-off will be bowled on the same pair of lanes to break the tie. The highest seeded competitor shall determine the starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors will alternate lanes in the same bowling order until the tie is broken.

In the case of a tie going into the position round, the competitor with the highest total actual pinfall prior to the position round game will be awarded the higher position. If total actual pins are equal, the competitor with the highest game in previous block will be awarded the higher position.

In the event of a tie for a final spot in the stepladder, a one (1) game roll-off will be required to break the tie. The roll-off will take place on a pair to be determined by the Tournament Manager, where neither competitor bowled for the prior two (2) games. The competitor with the highest block will receive a choice of starting lane. Should that match result in a tie, a one ball roll-off will be bowled on the same pair of lanes to break the tie. The highest seeded competitor shall determine the starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors will alternate lanes in the same bowling order until the tie is broken.

In the event of a tie in the semifinal or final match in stepladder, a one ball roll-off will be required on the same pair of lanes to break the tie. The highest seeded competitor shall determine the starting lane and order for the roll-off. The competitors will alternate lanes in the same bowling order until the tie is broken.

Tournament Management

Tournament Management has the final authority to make interpretations of any tournament rules and make decisions regarding anything not covered in the rules.

Use of Abrasives on Ball Surface

Altering the surface of any bowling equipment by use of abrasives is NOT permitted during any shift or game. If a ball is altered during a game and the competitor uses the equipment, the competitor forfeits all pins earned during the frames where the altered ball was used. The step ladder is considered a shift.

Use of Ball Cleaning Machine & Other Substances

Use of a cleaning machine on the tournament premises is permitted before or after the competition but may not be used during competition.



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Once competition begins, no cleaners, abrasives, or Polishes may be used on the outer surface of the bowling ball. Only a dry towel may be used.

No substance, including, but not limited to, talcum powder and EZ slide, can be applied to the bottom of the player's shoes.

International Bowling Federation Rules, Canadian Tenpin Federation and USBC Rules in that order will take precedence for any rules not addressed in the above rules if applicable.