

# 2023 MN State Meeting Recap

- Our own Bev Saatzer was inducted into the MN State Hall of Fame for all her hard work and dedication to the sport. Congrats again Bev!
- MN's Brent Prentiss was voted as the USBC Proprietor of the Year and was recognized at the national level.
- We were urged to get the state information for any nominations that we could do at the national level.
- There are currently 75 associations in MN. Six have 500 or more in their membership. 52% of MN membership belongs to metro/large associations.
- Last year, MN membership was made up of 12,025 women, 19,470 men and 3,019 youth (14<sup>th</sup> largest youth membership in the nation and 11<sup>th</sup> in the nation for overall membership).
- We have 200 more adults and 10 more youth compared to last year.
- Nationally there are 941,080 adult and 104,855 youth bowlers, up 4% from last year and 78% of leagues are certified.
- There was a call to vote for a \$2 decrease in state dues which was voted against based on the proposed budget.

- National will be proposing a \$2 increase for dues in the 2024-25 season for the 2027-28 season and it will be put to a vote. Currently our total membership dues are \$27, with \$9 for local, \$5 for state and \$13 for national. There are very few organized sports that have a yearly membership with a cost as low as this. There are also several membership benefits that come with your USBC membership. For all benefits, go to: [www.bowl.com/member-rewards](http://www.bowl.com/member-rewards) where you can utilize the benefits hub.
- State would really like to put a lot of focus on BVL this year as there are 3 more VA homes opening in MN this fall, and every donation helps. We'll continue to pass the can during Veteran's week like we normally do and I hope we'll have an awesome contribution.
- There were good conversations had with a representative from BPAM (Bowling Proprietors Association of Minnesota). They are so invested in building our youth and making sure that they have the necessary tools to be successful – like putting together bowling kits for athletic programs at schools. Feel free to check out their website for more information: [www.gobowlingminnesota.com](http://www.gobowlingminnesota.com)
- State is seriously scouting for venues to host Junior Gold. They're planning on putting together bid packages and are very interested in bringing it to MN.

- We need to make sure we spend down our SMART account by February 15<sup>th</sup> of 2024, or the funds will be reallocated back to national.
- Youth can apply to the state board for scholarships; most were approved for last season.
- Adult and youth recognition forms are available on the State website: [www.mnstatebowl.org](http://www.mnstatebowl.org). They would love to get more nominations for recognition, as they rarely receive them. Let's give recognition where it's due.
- State is dedicated to trying to improve upon and provide consistent tournament experiences for all state-run tournaments.
- State is looking at doing online tournament registration. Your email will be linked to your bowl.com login. Right now, there are 21 states that have signed up for online tournament registration.
- From National, this is year 1 of 3 for center certifications. There are 420 centers and over 10,000 lanes. They are using a measuring robot and centers will receive 60-90 days' notice before a national representative comes.
- String spotter updates: With updates to manufacturing and string length, final specs have been approved. It will be certified as a separate independent category from free fall machines, effective 8/1/23.