

Dear League Supervisor/League Level Coordinator;



Welcome to another bowling season with an old tournament (Pepsi) rebranded to a new name (Virginia Youth Scratch Championships). New name, same tournament with a few tweaks. Divisions have been adjusted to align with the National Junior Gold tournament. Advancement ratio to the STATE LEVEL remains at least one (1) for every seven (7) entries per division, or major fraction thereof, including last-place ties. Entry fees will be \$24.00 for the U8 and U10 divisions, and \$40.00 for the U12, U14, U16 and U18 divisions. The Optional Handicap Event also remains the same with cost staying at \$10.

As always, bowlers qualify for the STATE LEVEL based on their scratch scores at the League Level as in the past. If the bowler opts to bowl at the STATE LEVEL, they will be able to also enter the Optional Handicap Event by paying the additional fee noted above. The tournament is still ALL scratch in ALL divisions to determine STATE LEVEL qualifiers. See the STATE LEVEL rules for additional details.

Scholarships will be awarded at the STATE LEVEL in ALL divisions. More than **\$34,000** in scholarships were awarded in the 2025 Pepsi tournament. Make sure your bowlers have their opportunity for this year's scholarships.

The STATE LEVEL champions in the U12, U14, U16, and U18 divisions will receive a paid entry into the 2026 Junior Gold Championships conducted during July 2026. Champions of the optional handicap divisions will NOT receive an entry to the 2026 Junior Gold Championships. A travel stipend will be available to the Junior Gold qualifiers. See the State Level Rules for additional details.

League qualifying will be in accordance with USBC rules included with your league kit. *In case you didn't get the league kit; you can download the league level handbook and other information at either <http://vastateusbc.com/youth/> or [BOWL.com](http://BOWL.com) | Youth Scratch Championships. Make sure your bowlers initial the worksheet forms confirming their birth dates, divisions and they are provided with a copy of all level rules.* Qualifying windows for your league qualifying are as follows and feel free to adjust to suit your league's schedule, center events, and of course, the weather:

**NOVEMBER WINDOW: November 9 - 22, 2025      FEBRUARY WINDOW: Jan 25 – Feb 7, 2026**

Enclosed are your copies of the format and rules for the STATE LEVEL competition of the 2026 VIRGINIA YOUTH SCRATCH CHAMPIONSHIPS. Also, enclosed is a checklist with the November Qualifiers Form to help you schedule your events and the STATE QUALIFIERS form to list your qualifiers for the STATE LEVEL.

Return the STATE QUALIFIERS Forms (**one form per league**) and STATE LEVEL fees to me as soon as **possible after the end of the February qualifying period. Fees are \$24.00 for Divisions U8 and U10 and \$40.00 for Divisions U12, U14, U16 and U18. Optional handicap event fee is \$10.00 for all divisions. The STATE LEVEL deadline for submitting qualifiers is March 19, 2026. All entries must be postmarked by March 20, 2026.**

The STATE LEVEL competition will be held at Bowlero Mechanicsville, 7317 Bell Creek Road, Mechanicsville, Virginia. **Dates will be April 18, 19, 25, 26, and May 2 & 3, 2026.** Squad times will be 10:00am and 2:00pm each day. Squads may be cancelled at the discretion of the tournament director.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth D. Sprigings  
Tournament Director