

The Stark County High School Bowling Program

Details and information on the past season is available for review on the conference website - <http://starkcountyhsbowling.com/>. That site has pertinent links to the OHSAA and OHSB websites.

- Sport
 - Bowling began as club sport in Stark County for the 2001-02 season
 - Bowling became OHSAA recognized sport in 2006-07
 - Like all other recognized sports, bowling is governed by OHSAA rules. In addition to general rules, there are bowling-specific ones for which revisions are currently being considered.
 - The Stark County High School Bowling Conference (SCHSBC) has a constitution which governs conference organization and competition.
- Funding & Sponsorship
 - Formerly, the funding was provided almost exclusively by bowling center proprietors, augmented by school fund raisers and contributions from individuals and business sponsors.
 - Currently, the responsibility for contracting for match and practice time at a host center is the responsibility of each school.
 - The costs for the SCHSBC to schedule and administer conference activities are funded by contributions from the host proprietors along with support from sponsors.
 - Schools may elect to participate in non-conference tournaments at their own expense.
 - The OHSAA conducts a state-wide tournament. An entry fee to defray costs to use the center and to administer the tournament have and will likely continue to be charged at the sectional tournament level. No entry fees are charged beyond that level in tournament play.
 - Participating Centers (with number of teams hosted) include Park Centre Lanes (3), AMF-HoF Lanes (3), Eastbury Bowling Center (2), Colonial 77 Lanes (2), Carroll Lanes (1), College Bowl (1), East Sparta Recreation (1) and Minerva Bowl (1).
- Participation
 - In 2009-10, the conference membership included: Carrollton, Central Catholic, Heritage Christian School, GlenOak, Hoover, Jackson, Lake, Massillon, McKinley, Minerva, Perry, Sandy Valley, St. Thomas Aquinas & Timken
 - In 2009-10, 13 of the 14 Stark schools participated in varsity competition.
 - Most schools also fielded a junior varsity team if their host center has sufficient space (10 lanes as a very minimum, 12 acceptable and 16 preferred).
- Administrative Structure
 - The league is administered by a President (presently Annie Case), Vice-President (Jeff DiMarzio), Chair of the Awards, Affairs & Functions Committee (Jim Heighway) and the SCHSBC Commissioner (Bob Kolarik) as elected officials. The Commissioner serves as Secretary/Treasurer.
 - There are several committees have been appointed by the officers to divide the work.
 - Head coaches are members of the Conference Board.
 - A proprietor is also selected to serve on the Advisory Board.

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- Organization

- An organizational meeting for the SCHSBC coaches is held prior to the start of the season.
- Attendance at a rules interpretation meeting will likely be mandated by the OHSAA.

- Conference Structure

- The conference teams are divided into two divisions based on enrollment, with the smaller schools participating in the American Division and larger schools in the National. With a boys and girls division in each for a total of four divisions.
- Divisional alignment for 2009-10 was as follows:

<u>National Division</u>	<u>American Division</u>
GlenOak	Carrollton
Hoover	Central Catholic
Jackson	Heritage Christian
Massillon	Lake
McKinley	Minerva
Perry	Sandy Valley
Timken	St. Thomas Aquinas

- Schedule

- The OHSAA dictates and publishes a starting date for required organized practices, a first match date, a required to join a team date, and tournament start dates.
- The 2009-10 season's schedule had each team facing each other team once.
- A conference schedule was devised given the window for competition, the availability of the respective centers and coaches, a balanced number of home and away matches, one or two matches per week, and the OHSAA contest limit.
- The number of allowable scrimmages (2) and scored contests (matches or tournaments - currently, 22) is set by the OHSAA.
- A tournament is considered to be one contest if it is a single-day event with some competition involving the whole field in a qualifying round. If there is no full-field portion of the format, each head-to-head match counts against the contest limit.

- State Tournament

- The OHSAA state does not count against the school's contest total.
- In 2009-10, there were three levels in the OHSAA state tournament – sectionals, districts and state. No regionals were held.
- All schools electing to participate in bowling are assigned to sectional tournament sites as directed by the OHSAA and the Northeast District Athletic Board.
- Presently, a 1:3 ratio is used to advance teams to the District tournament, with a designated number from each district advancing to the state from each district.
- Sixteen teams participate in each of the girls and boys divisions at the state tournament.

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- Commissioner's Role
 - The Commissioner administers the SCHSBC by scheduling matches, managing the and publishing the match results using the SCHSBC's website, and managing the finances.
 - The Commissioner provides roster and match forms to register teams members.
 - The Commissioner uses e-mail as the vehicle for critical communications, and the website for general communication. Telephone calling is done only for urgent matters.
 - The Commissioner posts match results promptly on the conference website.
- Competition
 - The school is required to ensure eligibility of the school's team members and the head coach is responsible for sportsmanship of the bowlers and coaches representing the school.
 - The state requires two games using five individual bowlers using conventional scoring and two games of Baker composite scoring for a match to be official. The conference guideline is for 2 regular and 4 Baker games to be bowled.
 - Generally matches are scheduled to start on weekdays at 4:00 p.m. with practice beginning at 3:50 p.m. To date, Friday and Saturday contests have been avoided. The match end time is set by the center depending on its evening schedule, but generally is between 5:20 and 5:30 p.m.
 - A school may reschedule a match with appropriate notice given to the opposing team and the Commissioner.
 - Match results are to be communicated to the Commissioner and The Canton Repository (generally by FAX) within one hour of conclusion.
- Post Season
 - Provisions for the post season competition and awards are covered by the constitution of the SCHSBC.
 - An East-West All-Star Match is contested after the completion of the state tournament. Teams are divided East: Carrollton, GlenOak, Heritage Christian, Hoover, McKinley, Minerva, and Sandy Valley, West: Central Catholic, Jackson, Lake, Massillon, Perry, St. Thomas and Timken.
 - Each coach names one representative with the match coach – from the team with the best record among the teams – naming one additional participant from any team.
 - A conference banquet may be held with the coaches (boys and girls), the athletic director and all award winners invited at the conference's expense. Guests (sponsors) are invited at the discretion of the conference officers. Others (family) are asked to purchase a ticket with the number available dependent on site and budget.
 - Awards with various sponsorship are presented at the conference banquet.
 - Trophies are presented to each of the four division winning teams. All-Conference awards for the top eight players, boys and girls, in each division are determined by the ranking of averages in varsity matches. A player of the year award is given in each division, currently determined as the top average bowler. High game and series awards are presented along with any honor scores.
 - Special recognition may be given to four year All-Conference bowlers or state qualifiers.