**Three Rivers District**

**Harold F. Wrightington, Jr. 2024 Bowl-a-Thon**

**Scouts BSA Bowling Tournament**

**Team Bowling Tournament Rules for Troops, Crews, and Ships**

*(with all team members bowling and multiple elimination rounds)*

**Objective:**

The goal of the **Team Bowling Tournament** is for teams to accumulate the highest total score, with teams being eliminated in each round until the top 3 teams remain. The last 3 teams will be awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

**1. Tournament Format:**

* **Number of Teams:** The tournament will consist of teams each with **5 players**.
* **Elimination Process:**
  + **Round 1:** All teams will compete. The **top 8 teams** based on total score will advance to the next round.
  + **Round 2:** The **top 8 teams** will compete. The **top 5 teams** based on total score will advance to the final round.
  + **Final Round:** The **top 5 teams** will face off for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
  + **Eliminated Teams:** Teams who do not advance to the next round of the tournament may continue to bowl as part of the Bowl-a-Thon, but their scores are no longer calculated for purposes of the tournament.

**2. Team Setup:**

* **Team Size:** Each team consists of **5 players**.
* **Player Eligibility:** Each player must be a registered member of a Scouts BSA Troop, Venturing Crew, or Sea Scout Ship.
* **Lane Assignment:** Teams will bowl on their assigned lanes, no bumpers are permitted.
* **Bowling Equipment:** Players will use standard bowling balls provided by the venue. Each player should select a ball that fits their preferences.

**3. Game Rules:**

1. **Warm-Up:** Teams have 5 minutes before the start of the tournament to warm up.
2. **Game Format:**
   * Each team bowls **1 full game per round** (10 frames).
   * **Each player bowls 10 frames per game**.
   * The total team score for each round is the **sum of the scores** of all 5 players after 10 frames.
3. **Elimination Process:**
   * After each round, the **teams with the lowest total scores** will be eliminated, and the **top teams will advance** to the next round.
   * In case of a **tie** for the top spots, the highest score of the 10th frame will be used as a **tiebreaker**, the team with the lowest score in the tiebreaker will be eliminated.

**4. Team Scoring:**

* **Scoring Basics:**
  + Standard 10-pin bowling scoring applies:
    - **Strike:** 10 points + the sum of the next two rolls.
    - **Spare:** 10 points + the sum of the next roll.
    - **Open Frame:** The total of the two rolls in that frame.
* **Total Team Score:** After each round, the total score for each team is calculated by adding the scores of all 5 players.

**5. Tiebreakers:**

* If two or more teams are tied for the **top 3 spots** in the final round, a **tiebreaker** round will be held:
  + Each team bowls **1 frame per player** (one for each of the 5 players).
  + After the tiebreaker round, the team with the **lowest total score** in the tiebreaker will be ranked accordingly.

**6. Code of Conduct:**

* **Sportsmanship:** All players and teams are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, supporting their teammates and respecting the opposing teams.
* **Respect for Bowling Etiquette:** Players should wait for their turn to bowl, avoid distractions during others' turns, and respect lane safety.
* **Fair Play:** All players should bowl honestly, following the rules of the game.

**7. Equipment and Setup:**

* **Bowling Balls:** Players may choose from the standard balls available at the bowling alley. Each player should select a ball they feel comfortable using.
* **Lane Setup:** If there are enough lanes, teams will bowl at the same time. If not, teams will bowl sequentially, and teams will wait their turn.

**8. Safety Guidelines:**

* **Supervision:** The event must be supervised by adults or leaders to ensure safety and fair play.
* **Injury Prevention:** Players should avoid running or roughhousing in the bowling area. Any dangerous behavior will result in a warning or disqualification.
* **Proper Footwear:** All players must wear appropriate bowling shoes, which can be rented at the alley.

**9. Awards and Recognition:**

* **1st Place:** The winning team receives a medal and a plaque for their Troop/Crew/Ship.
* **2nd Place:** The second-place team receives a medal and certificate of recognition.
* **3rd Place:** The third-place team receives a medal and certificate of recognition.
* **Scout Spirit Award:** An additional recognition may be given to the team that best demonstrates the values of Scouting throughout the event.