15th CETBA-NBT OPEN BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

TOURNAMENT DATE: NOV. 23-29, 2026 (MONDAY-SUNDAY)
VENUE: SM CITY CEBU, NRA, MABOLO, CEBU CITY. PHILS.

TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following Tournament Rules & Regulations are hereby adopted and will govern the conduct of the 15th CETBA-NBT Open Bowling Championships 2026. Any circumstances not explicitly stated and wherein these rules do not cover, IBA rules shall apply.

ORGANIZATION & ELIGIBILITY

This tournament is organized by the Cebu Tenpin Bowling Association (CETBA). It shall be sanctioned in its entirety by the Philippine Bowling Congress (PBC) and is the 10th leg of 2026 **National Bowling Tour (NBT);** and is ***open to all bowlers*** regardless of class and affiliation.

AVERAGES & CLASSIFICATION

Bowlers are classified according to the latest NBT averages. The latest NBT average, 4th quarter of 2026, shall be the basis for all entering averages for this tournament.
In the event that the bowler does not have an NBT average available, the following will be required:

1. Record of league results of any NBT-recognized or sanctioned Association/Club league or tournament with minimum number of 36 games can be used.
2. Latest club average from Association/Club duly certified by Tournament Director or Association President – with copies of at least 4 actual league results. The absence of certified league results shall invalidate any certification/s issued therein.

Bowlers WITHOUT certified average, whom will register and play - will be automatically assessed playing averages of 196 for Men and 189 for Ladies, subject to confirmation of the Tournament Committee.

Members of the National and National Youth Teams and Training Pool from 2016 – 2026 will have an automatic entering average of 200 for Men and 195 for Ladies.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to reclassify a bowler, as it may deem fit.

CATEGORIES

There are 3 playing divisions for this Tournament, categorize as follows: (2) main playing categories – the Open Masters Category and the Novice Masters Category; and one (1) Side-Event the Seniors Category.

Main Categories:
Open Masters – open to all bowlers of all ages and averages.
Novice Masters – bowlers of all ages; with entering average of 160 & below.

Side Event Category:
Senior Masters – bowlers aged 50 years old and above only; and entering average of 185 & below. *Bowlers can ONLY play in this category provided he/she is also registered in either Open or Novice category (Double Up package) and qualified in the entering average cut-off.*

I. FORMAT

A. A modified Singles Classic Format is adopted for this tournament. Each player will bowl a minimum of **two (2) blocks of three (3) games per block**. The qualifying scores for the Masters events will be based on the bowler's best two blocks from the Singles event.
B. Re-try is allowed. Any registered bowler can play multiple tries or as many sets he/she wants to try for the best qualifying score.
C. Bowler, who wishes to double-up their scores for 2 divisions, must inform the Tournament Committee/Secretariat prior to the start of their block of games.
D. Bowlers who wish to play for the Senior category shall pay for a double-up since this said category is not one of the main categories.

II. HANDICAP

MIXED OPEN CATEGORY

Averages	HANDICAP		Additional Age Factor HDCP		
	Men	Women	60 yo (+)	70 yo (+)	80 yo (+)
196 & Above	0	6	5	8	11
191 - 195	3	9			
186 -190	6	12			
181-185	9	15			
176-180	12	18			
171-175	15	21			
166-170	18	24			
161-165	21	27			
160 & Below	24	30			

Note: Max possible HDCP is 35 for men & 41 for Women

NOVICE CATEGORY

Averages	HANDICAP		Additional Age Factor HDCP		
	Men	Women	60 yo (+)	70 yo (+)	80 yo (+)
156-160	0	6	NA	NA	NA
151-155	3	9			
146-150	6	12			
141-145	9	15			
136-140	12	18			
131-135	15	21			
126-130	18	24			
121-125	21	27			
120 & Below	24	30			

SENIOR CATEGORY					
Averages	HANDICAP		Additional Age Factor HDCP		
	Men	Women	60 yo (+)	70 yo (+)	80 yo (+)
181-185	0	6	5	8	11
176-180	3	9			
171-175	6	12			
166-170	9	15			
161-165	12	18			
156-160	15	21			
151-155	18	24			
146-150	21	27			
145 & Below	24	30			
Note: Max possible HDCP is 35 for men & 41 for Women					

A. Senior bowlers who are 60 yo and above as of opening day, Nov. 23, 2026 will be given additional handicap as indicated in the **age factor bonus** above. Proof of age must be presented upon request.

B. RP Team/National Pool and RP Youth Team/Pool members (from 2016 to present) shall be given 0 handicap (men) and 6 (ladies)

C. Maximum score is **"300"** including handicap.

III. PRIZES

A. *MASTERS EVENT PRIZES*

PRIZES	OPEN MASTERS	SENIOR MASTERS	NOVICE MASTERS
CHAMPION	70,000.00 + TROPHY	40,000.00 + TROPHY	30,000.00 + TROPHY
1ST RUNNER UP	35,000.00 + TROPHY	20,000.00 + TROPHY	15,000.00 + TROPHY
2ND RUNNER UP	25,000.00 + TROPHY	10,000.00 + TROPHY	8,000.00 + TROPHY
3RD RUNNER UP	10,000.00	5,000	5,000
4TH RUNNER UP	5,000.00	3,000	3,000

The Top Qualifier in each category will earn a FREE Masters finals fee.

B. *PERFECT GAME*

PERFECT GAME "300	30,000.00	To be divided equally among perfect gamers

IV. MASTERS EVENTS

A. ***Senior Masters***. This event is open to all bowlers who are 50 yo and above as of opening day, November 23, 2025 with an average of 185 & below. Provided however, he/she is enrolled also in either Open or Novice division.
Qualifiers shall play an eight (8) game series with lane movement after every two (2) games. The top FIVE (5) finishers, based on total pinfalls plus handicaps, shall be declared Senior Master Champions, 1st Runner-Up, 2nd Runner-Up, 3rd Runner-Up, and 4th Runner-Up respectively.

Senior Masters Finals: November 27, 2026 (Friday).
9:00-9:45 AM Check-in Time/Registration
9:46 AM Call on Reserves
and Roll-10:00 AM Roll-off
Game fee (FINALS) : **PHP 3,800.00**.

Top 28 Finalists/Qualifiers shall be as follows:

i. The top six (6) female
ii. The top twenty-two (22) bowlers from the mixed (male & female) pool qualifiers

B. ***Novice Masters.*** This event is open to bowlers of all ages; with bowler average limit at 160 and below.
Qualifiers shall play a six (6) game series with lane movement ***after every 2-games***. The top FIVE (5) finishers, based on total pinfalls plus handicaps, shall be declared Novice Masters Champions, 1st Runner-Up, and 2nd Runner-Up, 3rd Runner-Up, and 4th Runner-Up respectively.

Novice Masters Finals: November 28, 2026 (Saturday).
9:00-9:45 AM Check-in Time/Registration
9:46 AM Call on Reserves
and Roll-10:00 AM Roll-off
Game fee (FINALS) : **PHP 3,200.00**

Top 28 Finalists/Qualifiers shall be as follows:

i. The top six (6) female
ii. The top twenty-two (22) bowlers from the mixed (male & female) pool qualifiers

C. ***Open Masters.*** This event is open to all bowlers regardless of age & averages. Qualifiers shall play a ten (10) game series with lane movement ***after every game***. The top three (3) bowlers based on total pinfalls plus handicaps, shall advance to the Step- Ladder Finals.

Open Masters Finals will be on <u>Sunday, November 29, 2026</u>.
9:00-9:45 AM Check-in Time/Registration
9:46 AM Call on Reserves
and Roll-10:00 AM Roll-off
Game fee (FINALS) : **PHP 4,000.00**.

Top 35 Qualifiers shall be as follows:

i. The Defending Champion
ii. The top six (6) female qualifiers
iii. The top twenty-six (26) bowlers from the mixed pool
iv. The top two (2) from the desperado squad

Qualification for Desperado: Bowlers must have played at least six (6) sets in the Open Masters qualifying to be able to play in the Desperado Squad. Top 2 bowlers with highest score with handicap shall advance to the finals.
Desperado fees: **Php1,500.00**

V. STEP-LADDER FINALS (Open Masters Division)

The top three (3) bowlers after the preceding 10 games in the Open Masters finals shall advance to the SLF as follows:

Semifinals: The No. 2 and No. 3 seed will play over one (1) game, with handicap. The surviving bowler will advance to the Grand Finals.

Grand Final: The winner of semifinals shall face the Top seed, with the Top seeded bowler enjoying a twice-to-beat advantage. The winner shall be declared the **15th CETBA-NBT OPEN MASTERS CHAMPION.**

VI. REGISTRATION & TOURNAMENT FEES

The registration of all duly accomplished entries and corresponding payments shall be accepted prior to the start of the games. Entries shall be accepted subject to lane availability and squad time. A one-time Registration fee of **PHP4,000.00** per bowler will be charged for ALL participants. Registration fee is to be paid **<u>prior</u>** to playing the first squad games and is inclusive of six (6) games (2 sets of 3 games). NO refunds will be allowed. **Double up registration has an additional PHP600 fee.**

VII. RETRY FEES

The bowler should inform the registrar which category(s) he/she will be re-trying for upon the payment.

1) Single **– P700** *(1 set of 3 games, entered for 1 category)*
2) Double-up **– P700 + P300** *(1 set of 3 games, entered for 2 category)*

VIII. SQUAD TIMES & SCHEDULE OF GAMES

	8 AM	9 AM	10 AM	11 AM	12 NN	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM	6 PM	7 PM	8 PM	9 PM
NOV.23 MON					OILING	OPENNING	SQ1	SQ2	SQ3	OILING	SQ4	SQ5	SQ6	SQ7
NOV. 24 TUE					OILING	SQ1	SQ2	SQ3	SQ4	OILING	SQ5	SQ6	SQ7	SQ8
NOV. 25 WED					OILING	SQ1	SQ2	SQ3	SQ4	OILING	SQ5	SQ6	SQ7	SQ8
NOV. 26 THU					OILING	SQ1	SQ2	SQ3	SQ4	OILING	SQ5	SQ6	SQ7	SQ8
NOV. 27 FRI	OILING	SENIOR MASTERS FINALS						SQ1	SQ2	OILING	SQ3	SQ4	SQ5	SQ6
NOV. 28 SAT	OILING	NOVICE MASTERS FINALS						SQ1	SQ2	OILING	SQ3	SQ4	SQ5	DESP
NOV.29 SUN	OILING	OPEN MASTERS FINALS							STEP LADDER		AWARDING			

If preferred squad times indicated on the entry forms are not available, the Tournament Director/s or their Assistants reserve the right to reallocate squad times at their discretion. The Tournament Director/s reserve the right to open additional squad as deemed fit.

Qualifying Round. November 23-28. Bowlers with reserved slots must be physically present at the tournament area thirty (30) minutes before their reserved time. Slots for reserved players who are NOT present will be FORFEITED and given to other bowlers five (5) minutes before squad time. The **LAST QUALIFYING SQUAD FOR EACH CATEGORY** will be the last squad of the day prior to the respective finals schedule.

IX. CHECK IN TIME

All Participants are encouraged to check-in at the tournament counter at least thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled squad time. The Bowling Center time shall be the official time of the tournament.

X. PLAYING AREA

Other than the players, officials and individual/team coaches, only tournament officials including scorers and bowling lane mechanics shall be allowed to enter the playing area.

XI. OILING

Uniform oiling will be used throughout the tournament.

XII. BALL MANAGEMENT

a. Bowlers are only allowed to change the surface of their ball in between games, at an area designated by the Tournament Committee.
b. Tournament balls must have **NO BALANCE HOLE**, so defined as an extra hole that is not used in play
c. The use of liquids, creams and other similar materials applied on the ball will not be allowed once a block of games has already started.

Violation of these rules will result in the ball in question being taken out and the game being given a (O) score.

XIII. UNIFORMS

Bowlers are encouraged to wear the uniform of their respective clubs/associations. Male bowlers are NOT allowed to wear singlets (Sando) or sleeveless shirts, or any headgear/caps while bowling. *Wearing shorts in the qualification round is allowed*. **However, long pants are required to be worn in the finals.**

Female bowlers may wear shorts, half-length slacks (skorts) or skirts. Any bowling uniform shall be allowed that is reflected of their association, club or sponsor. The Tournament Committee shall not allow a participant to bowl wearing improper attire.

XIV. HEADGEAR

No headgears of any sort shall be allowed during play. This shall include but not limited to caps, hats, headbands (for men), headsets, & earphones. Hearing aids and Hijabs shall be the only exception.

XV. SCORESHEET

It is the responsibility of the bowler to verify the correctness of his/her score after each game by signing on the official score sheet. If bowler fails to sign the official score sheet, it is deemed correct and NO protests will be entertained. Errors in the scoring or calculation in a tournament play must be corrected by a tournament official immediately upon the discovery of such error. Questionable errors shall be declared/decided by the Tournament Committee. Any bowler who deliberately tampers his/her score sheet shall be disqualified immediately from participating in the tournament.

XVI. TIE-BREAKERS

a. When a tie occurs in any position of the **singles event**, the bowler with lower handicap shall prevail. Should a tie still ensue, the bowler with **least difference between the highest and the lowest game (including handicap)** of the series shall occupy the higher position. Should a tie still persist, the bowler with **least difference between the highest and the lowest qualifying set** will prevail. This shall also be applied in the last qualifying slot.
b. When a tie occurs in any position in **Masters qualifying**, the bowler with the lower handicap will prevail. Should a tie still persist, the bowler with **least difference between the highest and the lowest qualifying set** will prevail. Should a tie still ensue, the bowler with the higher last qualifying (3-game) shall prevail.
c. When a tie occurs during the **Masters Final**, the bowler with the lower handicap shall prevail. In case the tie continues, the bowler with the higher last game (with handicap) shall prevail. Should a tie still continue, the bowler with the higher second to the last game will prevail. This will continue until the tie is broken.

d. Ties in the Step-Ladder matches will be broken by a ONE BALL ROLL-OFF until the tie is broken.

XVII. OPEN BOWLING RESTRICTION

Upon the start of the tournament, participants shall NOT be allowed to play open or practice bowling regardless of lane availability.

XVIII. MISSING OR DOWN PIN

Frames with missing pin (s), once the ball is rolled shall be treated as good ball. Frames with fallen or down pin (s) on the pin deck must be re-bowled, Bowlers are NOT allowed to reset the pins, only the lane attendant, tournament officials and official scorers are allowed.

XIX. WRONG LANE

When the bowler bowls on the wrong lane(s) and the error is discovered before another bowler bowled, a dead ball shall be declared, and the bowler will be required to re-bowl on the correct lane. If the error is NOT discovered until the opposing bowler has bowled, the score shall be counted and the bowler shall be required to bowl his subsequent frame (s) on the correct lane.

XX. LANE BREAK DOWN

Should a single pair of lanes be rendered unusable for more than twenty (20) minutes before or during the game, the tournament committee reserves the right to assign any available lanes provided by the bowling center to affected participants. An interrupted game or series must resume from the point (frame) of interruption. NO shadow bowling will be allowed.

XXI. LOSS OF SCORE DURING TECHNICAL PROBLEM

In the event of power failure/TV monitor black-out in the progress of the game and the games score could not be traced after power supply resume, bowler (s) concerned have to re-bowl that particular game. However, previous games where the scores have been duly recorded shall stand unchanged.

XXII SLOW BOWLING

Players shall be ready to bowl when it is his/her turn as indicated in the scoreboard and shall not delay the start of his approach or delivery if the lanes immediately adjacent to him/her on both right and left are clear. A player failing to observe these procedures and consistently delaying the pace of the game shall be warned for *slow bowling* by authorized tournament officials.

XXIII. PROTESTS

Protest must be done in writing addressed to the Tournament Committee NOT later than twenty-four (24) hours after the game in which the infraction/violation was committed, or prior to the awarding of prizes, whichever comes first. Otherwise, such protest shall NOT be entertained. Each

protest under this rule shall be specific in it and shall NOT be constructed to cover a similar or previous violation.

XXIV. INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES & REGULATIONS

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to make the final interpretation in any of the rules and regulations mentioned above and to decide any matters NOT covered by the aforementioned rules and regulations. **The decisions of the Tournament Committee shall be considered FINAL** and shall be appealable ONLY to the NBT Board of Trustees, subject to its final arbitration. Where not covered by these Rules and Regulation, IBA rules shall apply.

XXV TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

This 15th CETBA-NBT National Open Bowling Tournaments Rules & Regulations is reviewed and duly approved by the CETBA Tournament Committee:

DOCDOC GOTHONG
RONANBARREDO
MARVIN SEVILLA
ROMMEL CALIPAY
FRANCIS DE LEON

CETBA