



# **2025 BOWLING FINALS**

## **QUALIFIERS INFORMATION**

**Division 4**

**Northway Lanes, Muskegon**

**February 28 – March 1, 2025**

[MHSAA Participating Schools Tournament Information](#)

[MHSAA Bowling Coach Manual](#)

[MHSAA Bowling Managers Manual](#)

Congratulations on qualifying for the MHSAA Division 4 Bowling Finals **February 28 & March 1** at Northway Lanes in Muskegon. Below, you will find important information on hotels, directions, parking, schedules, and event format. Additional information is listed below – please communicate to parents and athletes. If there are questions not addressed in this document, please call our office at 517-332-5046 or e-mail at: [cole@mhsaa.com](mailto:cole@mhsaa.com)

**Rosters & Entry** – All team & individual Finals qualifiers that advanced from their respective Regional are automatically “entered” into the MHSAA Finals Bowling Tournament. There is no roster or lineup to send to the MHSAA in advance. Schools are responsible for the eligibility of their athletes. Roster limit is **SEVEN** per team for the MHSAA Finals.

**Alcohol/Tobacco Policy** – Use of alcohol or tobacco, including e-cigarettes or other smoking devices, is prohibited at MHSAA tournament events by players, coaches, and spectators.

**Admission/Parking** – Finals spectator tickets will be \$11 for each day of the competition. Each spectator requires a ticket. Digital ticketing (GoFan) will be used as the only entry method. Spectators should enter through the **Main** entrance of the facility. Parking is free of charge. Coaches & participants should enter through **Main** entrance. Two coaches for each team are allowed free admission. **Please be reminded spectators are not allowed to bring food or beverages into the Finals Bowling Centers. Spectators are also not allowed to bring large purses, backpacks, duffle bags, oversized bags/totes, and coolers. Spectators are allowed a single clear bag not exceeding 12" x 6" x 12" - e.g., One-gallon clear plastic freezer bag (Ziploc bag or similar). Exceptions for parents accompanied by a small child with diaper bags and spectators with medical supply bags will be permitted.**

**Directions** – Northway Lanes is located at **1751 Evanston Ave, Muskegon, MI 49442**.

**Entrance & Check-in Area** – **Coaches & bowlers MUST ENTER and check in together and at the same time.** No ENTRY will be permitted unless the complete team is together, players and coaches on Friday A.M. For Saturday singles, all participants and their coaches must enter at the same time. Bowlers and coaches must enter through the **Main/North** entrance where they will be directed to the check-in and registration area. Each qualifying team and/or singles qualifier(s) will receive a packet with the Finals program and ID wristband(s). Team qualifiers will receive two coach wristbands for a head and assistant coach. Singles qualifiers will receive one coach wristband. Schools with multiple bowlers qualifying for the singles event will receive two coach wristbands. Only coaches with wristbands will have coaching privileges in the bowlers’ area during the respective competitions.

**Coaching Supervision** – All student-athletes **must** be accompanied by an adult coach as designated by the school. Athletes will not be checked in or allowed participation without adult coaching and supervision as required by MHSAA Regulation II, Section 2. Only two coaches will be allowed in the bowler area for each team during the team event. During the singles event, only those teams with multiple singles qualifiers will be allowed two coaches in the bowlers area. **If a team has two coaches in the bowlers area, only one coach may stand at any given time, while the other must remain seated.**

**Conduct** – Coaches and team members are reminded that rules of good sportsmanship will apply in MHSAA Tournament Bowling. Athletes and coaches will be subject to the MHSAA Regulation V, Section 3(D) regarding unsportsmanlike conduct. Profanity, taunting, kicking ball returns, and throwing equipment will not be tolerated. **Crowding of the approach will not be allowed by opposing teams. Only two bowlers will be allowed to stand during a match if seating is available. One that is bowling and one that is on deck.**

**Uniforms/Dress Code** – Athletes and coaches will be required to follow the MHSAA bowling uniform/dress standards. Caps, headgear, blue jeans, t-shirts, or cutoffs are not allowed. Female bowlers will be allowed shorts, skorts, or skirts of appropriate length. Yoga pants are

not allowed. **If a violation of the MHSAA Dress code/Uniform rule occurs, a warning will be given to the player and coach of the violating team. If, at that time, the dress code is not followed, a loss of bowling privileges and disqualification from the MHSAA Finals will result.** Prior to competition, warm-ups (jackets, sweatshirts, hoodies) must be removed and may not be used in competition. Coaches must also adhere to the MHSAA uniform/dress code regulations.

**Format/ Pairings** – The Finals format in singles will begin with a 6-game qualifying block, with the top 16 bowlers in each gender advancing to the match play round. Match play will be a two-game total pins format with pairings and brackets based on qualifying round scores.

In Team competition, the 16 teams in each gender will begin with a qualifying block consisting of eight Baker games and two regular games. The top 8 scores based on total pinfall will advance to the head-to-head match play consisting of best-of-5 Baker games. Pairings and brackets will be based on qualifying round scores. (See time schedules)

**Hotels/Meals** – A list of area hotels is attached. **Daily lunch and continental breakfast with beverage will be provided for all bowlers and coaches each day at the Finals.** Schools and athletes are responsible for their own housing costs.

**Fees/Schedule** – All Finals lane fees will be paid by the MHSAA. Time schedules are attached.

**Practice** – Lanes will be available for practice from 3:00-5:00 PM on Thursday for teams participating in the team event and on Friday after the team Finals from roughly 2:00-4:00 PM for singles participants not in the team event. Practice lane fees must be paid by schools and/or athletes. Access to lanes for practice will be coordinated by the Northway Lanes bowling center counter staff. Competing bowlers are asked to work together to ensure all have equal opportunity to practice. Given the limited practice time available, coaches may not bowl with students during practice. There will be ample warm-up time prior to each round of the Finals.

**Lane Conditions** – The Finals lane condition will be the Kegel “Phantom 2” pattern. Pattern specifications on the [Phantom 2](#) pattern can be found on the Bowling AD/Coach page on [MHSAA.com](#). Coaches and bowlers are reminded that conditions are not absolute and the base pattern is subject to humidity, lanes, etc.

**Lane Assignments** – Lane assignments are determined in advance and will be in the team packet received at registration.

**Substitutions** – The MHSAA substitution rule will apply. Coaches who make changes to their team roster prior to the Finals may do so at check-in, provided all bowlers are on the school master eligibility list. There are no replacements allowed for singles qualifiers who are not able to bowl in the singles Finals.

**Pace of Play** – Coaches must inform their players of the importance of being ready to bowl at their turn. Intentional slow play will not be tolerated. Warnings will be given with possible disqualification if problems persist. A one-lane courtesy rule will be observed.

**Paddock/Equipment** – All equipment/bags, etc. will be stored in the paddock area. The paddock area is supervised, but bowlers and coaches should exercise good judgment in leaving valuables in bowling bags. Small padlocks for bags are recommended and care taken to not leave property scattered or away from the team’s assigned area. **A bowler is allowed five bowling balls in the Finals center. No more than two bowling balls may be in the competition area.**

**Foul Lights** – Automated foul-detecting systems will be turned on during MHSAA postseason tournament competition. IMPORTANT NOTE: activation of the foul light is not automatically a

foul – the foul-detecting system is there to assist in bringing awareness to fouls. A foul occurs when a part of the player's body encroaches on or goes beyond the foul line AND touches any part of the lane, equipment or building during a delivery.

Regular bowling rules apply for obvious foul line infractions; if a bowler clearly fouls, the player is not credited with any pins knocked down by that delivery.

If foul light is triggered, and it is obvious that the bowler did not foul, the delivery will stand and the tournament manager will be notified that there is a potential issue with the foul-detecting system.

If there is a dispute as to whether or not a foul has occurred, the delivery in question will stand, the tournament manager be notified, and the tournament manager will issue a warning. After the warning issued by the tournament manager, any subsequent foul will be a zero for that delivery.

Prior to any warning issued, the coaches are expected to work together with the tournament manager to determine if the foul-detecting system is working correctly. If there is an issue and it is determined that the foul-detecting system is not functioning correctly, the system will be turned off for the entire house for the remainder of that day's competition, and bowlers will use the honor system.

The decision to turn off the foul-detecting system will be made by the tournament manager in conjunction with the bowling center, and that determination may be made prior to the start of competition.

If the foul-detecting system is turned off during competition, bowlers will use the honor system regarding suspected foul line infractions. In the event of a dispute, the first suspected foul will result in the Tournament Manager issuing a warning to the bowler, with a subsequent foul being a zero for that delivery.

**Cell Phones/Electronic Devices** – Bowlers – Electronic devices such as cell phones may not be used during competition and should not be in the bowlers' competition area. Listening devices such as iPods, earbuds, or headphones may not be worn during competition. Wearable technology such as Apple Watches, Fitbits, or other Smart Watches are not expressly prohibited but may not be used as a communication device during competition – text, email, and any other communication capabilities must be turned off or otherwise disabled. After a warning is issued to discontinue such use, bowlers are subject to disqualification for repeated violations.

Coaches – Video recording devices such as iPads, tablets, or smartphones may not be used by coaches in the competition area for coaching purposes. Video recording devices can be used outside of the competition area. It would not be a violation for a coach to use an electronic device in the competition area for the purposes of tracking scores and stats, but any video capabilities functions must be disabled. If a coach is found to be using electronic devices inappropriately in the competition area during competition, a warning will be issued to discontinue such use. Following the warning, coaches will be subject to loss of coaching privileges in the bowlers area for repeated violations.

**Sportsmanship** – MHSAA Sportsmanship Regulations and Regulations prohibiting taunting will be followed and enforced. It is imperative that coaches and players understand that spontaneous emotion and positive cheering for teammates is entirely appropriate and welcome. However, any rehearsed and orchestrated chants and cheers that are designed to intimidate and disrupt other teams and bowlers will not be allowed. Tournament management will be the sole judge of appropriate conduct, warnings, penalties and/or disqualifications. We need the cooperation of coaches and bowlers to have an exciting event with great enthusiasm and energy within the parameters of good sportsmanship and respect for each other. **Crowding of the approach will not be allowed by opposing teams. Only two bowlers will be allowed**

**standing during a match, if seating is available. One that is bowling and one that is on deck.**

**Tiebreaker Procedures – Final** – For the Singles Qualifying Block, ties for the final qualifying position is one game; if still tied, then a 9-10th frame roll-off is repeated until the tie is broken. All other seeded positions are determined by the last game bowled.

In Singles Match Play, a 9-10th frame roll-off is used for all rounds.

For the Team Qualifying Block, ties for the final qualifying position is one Baker set (2 games); if still tied, then a 6-10th frame Baker format roll-off is repeated until the tie is broken. All other seeded positions are determined by the last game bowled.

In Team bracket Match Play, each head-to-head Baker game will count as 1 point. The team with the highest pin total is awarded the point for that Baker game. The first team to 3 points wins the head-to-head match, and advances. In games 1-4 of a head-to-head match, if teams are tied after the 10th frame, each team is awarded a ½ point and teams move on to the next Baker game. If after the fifth Baker game, neither team has 3 points, teams will bowl a 6-10th frame Baker format roll-off repeated until the tie is broken.

If a team wins in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> game and the next round opponent is still competing, the team that is waiting will be allowed to stay loose on their existing pair – 1 player at a time, in rotation. Only the player bowling will be allowed to be up at any one time – all other team members must be seated. The team waiting and staying loose will immediately stop once their next round opponent's round has been completed. The waiting team is expected to adhere to all expectations of good sporting behavior.

## **2025 Division 4 Bowling Finals Time Schedule – Northway Lanes**

### **Friday – Team Competition – Time Schedule**

7:00 a.m. – Check-in & registration (bowlers go immediately to starting lanes)

7:45 a.m. – Coaches meeting

8:00 a.m. – Opening ceremonies

8:10 a.m. – Warm-up period (15 minutes)

8:25 a.m. – Qualifying round begins, eight Baker games followed by two regular games. Rotate (odd left, even right) after each regular game, rotate after each Baker set (two games), 16 girls teams, 16 boys teams.

### **12:30 p.m. – Lunch & condition lanes**

1:15 p.m. – Top eight teams in each gender begin Quarterfinal match play round, best-of-5 head-to-head Baker games.

2:45 p.m. – Semifinal round match games, four girls teams, four boys teams.

4:15 p.m. – Championship match for final two girls teams and final two boys teams.

### **Saturday – Singles Competition – Time Schedule**

7:00 a.m. – Check-in & registration (bowlers go immediately to starting lanes)

7:45 a.m. – Coaches meeting

8:00 a.m. – Opening ceremonies

8:10 a.m. – Warm-up period (15 minutes)

8:25 a.m. – Singles qualifying round begins for 56 boys & 56 girls, 6 regular games, five or four bowlers on a pair, change lanes after each game. Top 16 advance to second round.

### **12:00 p.m. – Lunch & re-condition lanes**

1:00 p.m. – Second round match games begin, two games total pins, 16 boys & 16 girls, one match per pair, five-minute warm-up.

1:45 p.m. (approx.) – Quarterfinal round - eight boys & eight girls, two games total pins, one match per pair.

2:30 p.m. (approx.) – Semifinal round for four boys & four girls, two games total pins, one match per pair.

3:15 p.m. (approx.) – Finals for boys & girls, two games total pins, one match per pair.

## MUSKEGON LODGING

### **Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott**

#### **Muskegon – Norton Shores**

1520 E Mt Garfield Rd.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
231-799-0100

### **Hampton Inn Muskegon**

1401 E. Ellis Rd.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
231-799-8333

### **Baymont Inn and Suites Muskegon**

4677 Harvey St.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
231-798-0220

### **Quality Inn and Suites**

1675 E. Sherman Blvd.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
231-739-9092

### **Rodeway Inn Muskegon**

4620 Airline Rd.  
Muskegon, MI 49444  
231-733-2511

### **Shoreline Inn and Conference Center**

750 Terrace Point Rd.  
Muskegon, MI 49440  
231-727-8483