

WEST VALLEY MATCH CLUB BY-LAWS

2026

HEREAFTER REFERRED TO AS WVMC BY-LAWS

1. Members are encouraged to mingle, to be friendly, and to have fun with opposing club members at match games, always informing the opposing club members of upcoming events.
2. Refreshments will be provided at all home matches. The refreshments, when authorized by West Valley Bowl, will consist of dessert and/or snacks. A designated club member will purchase dessert and/or snacks and bring to each home match and present a receipt to the Treasurer for full reimbursement of cost.
3. Every effort will be made by the Matchmaker to assure that couples will be scheduled to bowl together, unless they are told by the couple that they do not mind bowling separately.
 - a. Leaves of absence are allowed, but any member on leave of absence is considered inactive and not allowed to vote on club matters, participate in club matters, Fun Day Tournaments or Sweepers. Leave of absence must be requested in writing with all dues and fines paid in full.
 - b. Should any member fail to be a member in good standing before his/her leave of absence or if no written request is submitted, said member shall be dropped from the club. Said member may be reinstated, upon vote of members, only by paying full fees as required by any new member.
 - c. When an elected officer of the Club submits a request for a leave of absence, that letter shall be regarded as a letter of resignation for that officer's position. The President will appoint someone new for the remainder of the term, if the remaining term of office is less than six months. If the remaining term of office is longer than six months, then an election will be held for that officer's position.
 - d. No leave of absence shall be longer than six (6) months unless the member has requested, in writing, an extension of leave; this excludes a military or medical leave of absence, which can be for one (1) year or more.
 - e. Upon return from leave of absence, the member must pay the current year's sweeper fees for the months during his/her absence.
4. The Club's banking account is maintained at Bank of Stockton and is available online. Up to four (4) current Board members will be listed on the account: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Matchmaker. The bank statement must be reviewed each month by two (2) of the listed Board members.
5. The Board of Directors consists of the President, Matchmaker, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms and Member-at-Large; they exclusively will not pay dues including sweeper and prize fund fees during their terms of office. The Board of Directors will be elected annually, and elections of officers are held at the year-end meeting. Any Board member deemed to not be fulfilling his/her duties may be removed from office by majority vote of membership.

6. Officers will be elected each year at the annual meeting. The term shall be 2 years. The election of officers will be staggered as follows:

**Officer terms that start every even year; President, Sgt at Arms, Member-at-Large
Officer terms that start every odd year, Matchmaker, Vice President, Secretary,
Treasurer**

- a. The President shall preside at all meetings; announce the business that comes before the members as listed in the agenda, verify monthly bank statements and enforce the Bylaws.
- b. The Vice President shall assume all duties of the President and other officers in their absence.
- c. The Secretary shall keep a record of all the minutes of the meetings and provide copies to members to review for approval prior to the next meeting; keep official membership records (i.e. applications, leave of absence, resignations); roll call at each meeting; maintain the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations with any amendments. Attend to necessary correspondence; perform other duties as prescribed by the President.
- d. The Treasurer shall collect and keep all monies of the WVMC and disburse them by the authority of the Board of Directors; bill members of dues and receives payment of them providing receipts for monies received and keep a ledger of each member's account; maintain the bank account; submit monthly written reports of all monies received and/or paid out along with a report of the financial condition of WVMC which shall be at all times open to inspection by the membership; makes a full financial report annually; file annual tax returns.
- e. The Matchmaker shall coordinate all match club matches including scheduling with other clubs for the current and following year, team assignments, and maintaining the WVMC matchmaker website. The Matchmaker can also assist the Treasurer by sending out the monthly due's statements from the WVMC website.
- f. The Sergeant-at-Arms is responsible for checking in members at meetings and giving them a raffle ticket for the drawing; collects dues for the Treasurer; serves as doorkeeper to deny entrance to unauthorized people as only members or authorized guests are permitted in meetings; preserving order at meetings and home matches.
- g. The Member-at-Large represents Club Membership on the Board of Directors with no other specific duties.

Elected officers shall assume their duties on January 1st and serve through December 31st of the following year and are eligible to serve any number of terms in the same office. A member can hold more than one office at a time. In the event, an officer is removed from office, the President will appoint someone new for the remainder of the term, if the remaining term of office is less than six months. If the remaining term of office is longer than six months, then an election will be held for that officer's position.

7. Other offices can be provided in the By-Laws as approved by the membership only at the first meeting of the year.

8. Assessments:

If the club funds are depleted to \$3000.00 or less, an assessment may be made of each member not to exceed \$5 per month.

9. Dissolution:

- a. The Match Club may be dissolved at any time by a ballot vote of the majority of the members.
- b. A quorum for club dissolution must be by a majority of the current club membership.
- c. If the club folds all assets will be donated to a youth bowling organization that has been submitted and brought before the club.
- d. No funds or property will be dispersed to any club member if the club folds.

10. Charitable Donations:

- a. Donations will be made based on the Club minimal funding of \$8000.00. If the Club bank balance is below \$8000, no donations will be made that year.
- b. A youth bowling organization, to be voted on by the members, will be the recipients of a charitable donation.
- c. A list of youth bowling organizations being considered will be discussed by the board and then brought to the club and voted on at the annual meeting.

11. The WVMC Calendar year shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

12. Any new Bylaws may be added with a majority vote. Old Bylaws can only be changed at the first meeting of the year with a majority vote of the members present.

RULES & REGULATIONS

The following Rules and Regulations will govern the conduct of the West Valley Match Club.

1. MEETINGS

WVMC will hold meetings per the annual schedule. A quorum will be the membership present at any regular meeting. Motions can be enacted by a simple majority vote of the membership present. When the meeting is called to order, members in attendance who are scheduled to bowl will receive a raffle ticket. A drawing will take place at the end of the meeting. The winner will be able to bowl without paying his/her bowling fee for the day or waive one month's dues.

2. MEMBERSHIP

WVMC is classified as a mixed traveling club. Any combination of men and women on a team is acceptable. Ten (10) pins will be deducted from an Absent bowler's average. The Board of Directors will decide on any condition not covered by these rules, using the USBC rule book as a guide, although WVMC is not USBC sanctioned.

A prospective member may bowl a maximum of two (2) matches as a guest of the club. The first match will be free; however, for the second match bowled as a guest, the prospective member will be required to pay the same fees/fines as required of WVMC members.

Any person wishing to join WVMC will fill out an application for membership. The Board of Directors will have the final say on accepting a new member. Total membership of WVMC shall not exceed 60 members.

New members who have an established USBC book average from winter/summer league will use their composite average with winter taking precedence over summer, for their first match (3 games) and then their newly established match club average after that. New members with no average will establish a match club average with the three (3) games of their first match and handicap will be calculated after the match, if agreeable with the opposing club.

To maintain membership, all members must keep dues and fines in good standing. If there is a delinquency of two (2) months dues and/or fines, the member will be notified by an officer and not be allowed to bowl matches. If said dues/fines are not received by the next month, the member will be dropped from the club.

Any WVMC members holding membership in more than one match club must inform West Valley Match Club. On Tournament/Fun days, such members must bowl with the match club presenting the event and must wear the uniform of the presenting club.

3. DUES/FEES

Monthly membership fees will be \$10.00 per month: \$7.00 for dues, \$3.00 for sweeper and prize fund. Paying dues in advance is encouraged. If a member leaves WVMC for any reason after paying in advance, they will be refunded the dues not yet used.

The first month's dues are waived for new members (sweeper and prize fund fees are not waived). To be eligible for sweeper and league award payouts, all new members joining after January 1st and before November 31st must pay the sweeper and prize fund amount due from January 1st through the current month. As in any league, sweeper and prize fund monies are not refundable. Any new member joining after December 1st will not pay into sweeper and prize fund until January and will not be eligible for sweeper and prize award payouts for the current club year. He/she may, however, bowl in club sweeper and participate in all other club sweeper activities provided he/she pays current house lineage fee for that day.

New bowlers must purchase a WVMC bowling shirt. The cost of the shirt ranges from \$48-\$60 depending on the size.

Any prior club member who resigned in good standing may apply for reinstatement and must be voted on by the Board of Directors. If accepted, he/she must pay sweeper fees from January through the month joined. If a new shirt is required by a returning member, it must be purchased by the member.

4. MATCHES

Members displaying poor sportsmanship will be warned by any WVMC officer present and be brought before the Board. Repeat offenses may result in a vote being taken at the next meeting for possible dismissal from the club.

To remain in good standing, members must bowl at least the minimum required number of home and away matches per club calendar year. All members listed as active at the start of the club year (currently January 1) and any new member who joins during the first four months (January-April) must meet full eligibility requirements of three (3) home matches and three (3) away matches. Members who join during months five through eight (May-August) must meet the requirement of two (2) home matches and two (2) away matches. Members who join during months nine through eleven (September-November) must meet the requirement of one (1) home match and one (1) away match. Members who join in month twelve (December) will not have to meet these requirements until the following club calendar year. Away matches can count as home matches if

needed to make the minimum required matches. Any disputes will be handled by the Board of Directors.

The team captains for each match will be designated by the Matchmaker; this member will be responsible for all team paperwork involving the match. At home matches, each team captain shall ensure all information for both teams have been entered correctly on the computer monitor. The designated team captain is also responsible for entering all scores on the recap sheet and for the collection of monies owed by club members for bowling fees/fines.

At all matches, the maximum paid by each WVMC bowler shall not exceed \$6.00. Each bowler will pay \$2.00 for each game his/her average is not met. Any member who has signed up for a match and is not in attendance and hasn't given at least 24 hours' notice to the Matchmaker will be considered a No-Show and must pay a \$15.00 No-Show fine. This fine will be added to the dues statement and must be paid at the next match where the member is in attendance or by the end of the month. Members will not be allowed to bowl until this fine has been paid. If a member notifies the Matchmaker within those 24 hours prior to the match and a replacement bowler is found the \$15 fine will be waived. If the member believes the absence should not warrant payment of this fine, he/she needs to submit their appeal notice within (1) week of the absence to the Board for review. The Board will determine if the fine remains or be excused.

Any member bowling a 300 game will be awarded \$100.00, limited to once each year.

5. UNIFORMS

The uniform for the West Valley Match Club is the WVMC shirt and is required to be worn at all matches and Fun Day events. A \$5.00 fine will be assessed on-site for failure to wear a club shirt. This fine must be paid prior to the member being allowed to bowl.

No children are allowed in the settee area during any matches.

At least two (2) officers must attend each match at home and away.

Before bowling a new club, the Board of Directors must take a vote to add said match club to the schedule. Before dropping a club from the schedule, the Board must take a vote to drop the club. All current club member averages will be based on a 21-game rolling average. New members will establish a WVMC average according to rules set forth in Section II, fourth paragraph.

WVMC averages will be used for all WVMC matches. USBC composite book average or other average, as required by sponsoring clubs, will be used for Fun Day events.

All members, prior to participating in match club functions, must be in good standing (i.e., all dues paid, and bowl required matches).

6. FUN DAY EVENTS

We will hold an invitational Fun Day event each year, to be held the first or second Weekend of June as the house allows. All winners' averages will be verified before paying out the prize fund. All members are encouraged to attend and must wear their match club shirts. A fun day Chairperson is to be appointed by the President. Every member, bowling or not, is required to bring at least one (1) \$20.00 value raffle prize or donate \$20.00 for the purchase of raffle prizes for the Fun Day Tournament by March 1st. If a member hasn't donated by March 1st a \$20 charge will be added to the April Dues. Donation to raffle of additional gifts is optional but encouraged.

7. SWEEPER

As is standard with leagues, the WVMC will have a Sweeper at the end of the Club year. The WVMC Sweeper will be held in December each year. This Sweeper is for West Valley Match Club members only. To be eligible to bowl in the Sweeper, members must be in good standing with the club, and not be in arrears of any dues, fines, assessments, etc. However, only members who have bowled the minimum required number of home and away matches per club calendar year (see section on Matches) shall be eligible to receive sweeper prize money and year-end monetary awards.

Any of the Rules and Regulations may be changed and new Rules added by a majority vote of the membership present at any meeting during the calendar year.

Andre Wainwright, President

Donna Hutchinson, Secretary

Revised 1/10/2025.