

## **MBA Rules - String Pinsetters**

MBA certify string pinsetters and string pin bowling as an independent category of equipment. The system currently approved is with string length of 137.16cm or 54 inches as per USBC rules 1st August 2023.

Composite average can only be derived from either free-fall machines or string pinsetters. The two (2) averages must be separate and cannot be mixed.

The rules set out here are strictly applicable to federal competitions and tournaments authorized by the association, held exclusively in bowling centre(s) equipped with the innovative String Pin machines. The lane and approach must meet the basic lane dimensions. Centres with shorter lanes than the normal 18.28mtrs or 60 feet are not counted as legal. Any centres and or lanes must be certified by EBF (European Bowling Federation).

### **Additional rules to cover String Pins:**

- 1.** String pinsetter machines only detect if a pin is standing or has fallen. If standing, the machine lifts the pin back into the stabilizing ring and replaces it on spot. It has no mechanism to place a pin back to its final standing location.
- 2.** If a string is seen to interfere and aid during a pin falling, the pin counted as legal pinfall.
- 3.** If a pin slides off the pin deck and stands in the gutter, it is legal pinfall. If the automatic scorer registers it as “standing”, score correction is required.
- 4.** If a pin is in the act of falling and is at some angle to the normal vertical, upright direction of a standing pin, the pin is counted as fallen if the pinsetter does not touch it, same as in free-fall. Score corrections are made if it is scored incorrectly. With string pinsetter machines there is no pinsetter to contact the pin. The string just pulls the pin back up. If the string moves a certain distance, the string pinsetter machine will detect this and register the pin as fallen. If a pin is in the act of tilting, bowlers cannot definitively determine if it will fall or stand back up. So, for string pinsetter bowling, the automatic scoring will determine if the pin has fallen or should be re-spotted.
- 5.** If a pin slides off spot and remains in the upright position, and the automatic scorer system considered it as “legal”, score must be updated accordingly:
  - a)** If this occurs on the first ball, the pin must be re-spotted
  - b)** If this occurs on the second ball, the pinfall does not count, and score must be updated
- 6.** If a pin does not move but registered as falling because one string or pin might move the string of another pin far enough to register the pin as “fallen”, the pin is counted as “standing”. A score correction must be made if necessary.
- 7.** If a pin rebounds out of the pit and knocks standing pins down, the score is legal, same as in free-fall.

The Additional General (Pin Setters) playing rules updated and approved by MBA committee on

29-07-2024