

**UPDATE ON THE 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT**  
**LAS VEGAS, NEVADA**  
**MAY 18-MAY 28, 2017**

Dear 2017 TNBA Tournament Participant:

First and foremost, thank you for your patience in allowing the tournament to deal with this very long process of disqualifications of bowlers this year. The process has been longer than what the Tournament Team would have ever anticipated. The good news is that we are nearing the end of appeals by the bowlers that are in question of being disqualified from this year's 2017 National Championship Tournament. I wish this process was as simple as it seems, but unfortunately it isn't. The USBC Rules Department consists of 3 individuals that are not only reviewing TNBA's long list of Disqualified Bowlers, but additionally, all bowlers certified across the country. These disqualifications were due in part to newly implemented USBC rules affecting bowlers across the nation.

Here are a few of the steps that take place in this long process. Once a Disqualified Bowler receives his/her initial letter, they have 10 days from the date of that letter to either accept the DQ, or file a rebuttal and send a letter or email to USBC stating why they should not be DQ'd. USBC then sends a letter to the Tournament Manager, carbon copying the bowler, requesting supporting documentation, if any, as to why the DQ should stand. Any additional information is sent back to USBC where they render a decision. This allows the bowler to appeal their case to the Judicial Department of the USBC Rules Department. This is where we are right now; where the final determinations are given. There are no more levels of appeals.

*Upon release of the 2017 Prize Fund, all files will be updated. This information will be placed the TNBA Website and notices will be placed on Facebook and Twitter informing you that we have updated the 2017 Prize Fund and where it may be found on TNBA's Website. You will have 24-36 hours after that to email the tournament with any concerns or corrections on the pending final payout. We will then begin to print checks.*

We do appreciate the outpouring of support that you have given the Tournament Support Team. ***We want to make sure that the right individuals are paid.*** We are working endless to make sure that when the green light is given, there will be no further delays in getting your tournament winnings to you. With that being said, here are some steps that you can take to help eliminate delays on your end:

- Team Captains, please make sure that you have the right address listed with the tournament. If you live in an apartment, please make sure that you have listed your Apartment No. as well.
- If it appears that you will win over \$600.00 please make sure that we have W-9 on file for you. You will not receive your tournament winnings until that form is properly filled out. ***No exceptions to this rule.***
- ***If you are living in the surrounding Texas area that has been affected by Hurricane Harvey, we will not mail your checks but wait to hear from you on how you want to receive your winnings.***

Let us continue to pray for safety and well being of those that have been in the path of destruction and affected by this storm. It was just by God's Grace and Mercy that it was not us. We are our brothers and sisters' keepers

*Yours in Bowling*

**Debbie R. Lewis, NDOT**

**Angie Jones, Assistant Tournament Director**