

*The National Bowling Association, Inc.*  
*Youth Leadership Council Program*

**Getting Started**  
**A Model for Success**

Every journey begins with the first step.

The Youth Leadership Council Program Handbook gives the purpose and organizational structure. It is the first step of the journey. Please read it thoroughly.

This model is intended to get you off to a good start on your road to a successful Youth Leadership Council Program. It is not intended to be a directive on how your program should operate but, instead it's designed to encourage action and growth. This model will hopefully give ideas on how to implement an active and progressive program that works within your Youth Program and Senate.

Let's begin;

For any organization to survive and grow it must have programs in place to foster future leaders, increase membership and a shared knowledge of its principals and beliefs. For the TNBA one of those programs is the Youth Leadership Council. The program operates on two levels, local and national.

First and foremost, I ask that you keep the following GOAL in mind as you travel along this journey.

“To educate, train and encourage youth to become aware and involved in the operation of their local Youth Program, Senate and TNBA”.

## Level 1: Senate (Local) Youth Leadership Council Program

- **Appoint an Advisor.**

The Advisor is the one that initiates your program and coordinates the activities. The Advisor should have a good understanding of the purpose and objectives of the Youth Leadership Council Program. The Advisor should be someone that knows TNBA's history and accomplishments. The Advisor should be someone that understands the operations of TNBA. The Advisor should be someone that can instruct the youths in the operation, administrative procedures and the various programs of the National Bowling Association Youth Program. The Advisor should be someone that works well with youth and has good organizational skills. The Advisor should be able to instruct the members in holding meetings, parliamentary procedures etc. The Advisor shall have each Youth Leadership Council member fill out the '**Application for Membership Form**' in the Youth Leadership Council Program Handbook (page 10). This form is to be held by the Advisor. See the Youth Leadership Council Program Handbook for more specifics.

The Advisor shall register the local Senate Youth Leadership Council (see page 11 above). If the Advisor fails to perform this step any further efforts to establish this program for their youths will be basically in vain! The Advisor should also make available a copy of the TNBA National Youth Program handbook to each council member.

- **Elect Officers**

Think of your Youth Leadership Council Program as a Youth Senate. At a minimum the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer should be established. The Advisor should guide the youths through the nomination and election process. See the Youth Leadership Council Program hand book for more specifics.

- **Form Committees**

The Youth Leadership Council Members may be appointed to serve on various committees of the Youth League/Program

- Youth Leadership Council members may assist in the operation of the Youth Bowling sessions
- Membership
- Fundraising
- Community Service

Other committees may be formed as needed and/or required

It may be helpful to appoint an adult to chair each committee.

- Coach Certification  
As recommended in the Youth Leadership Council Program Booklet, have your Youth Leadership Council Members attend a Certified Coaches Training Clinic.
- Senate Meeting  
Have Youth Leadership Council Members attend at least one Senate meeting annually. This is an excellent opportunity for the youths to learn about Senate and TNBA business. This should also provide an opportunity to learn how to hold meetings and parliamentary procedure.
- Other  
Some other suggestions might be to have the Youth Leadership Council create their own website (properly supervised by the Advisor). Submit articles about accomplishments of their youth league and Youth Leadership Council for publication in the Quarterly TNBA Bowler Magazine. Wear shirts that identify them as Youth Leadership Council Members (i.e. \_\_\_\_\_ Senate Youth Leadership Council). Order Youth Leadership Council Chevrons and apply them to the shirts. Send email to [jwcmc12@aol.com](mailto:jwcmc12@aol.com) to order chevrons or mail request to John W. Collins, 191 Victory Dr., Pontiac, MI 48342.

## Level 2: National Youth Leadership Council Committee

- **National Youth Leadership Council Committee Representative**

All Youth Leadership Council Members (age 15 and up) are eligible to be considered to serve on the National Youth Leadership Council Representative Committee. Selected youths attend the TNBA National Convention for \*two consecutive years with an optional “third” year available\*\*. Participation in a local Youth Leadership Council properly prepares youths for service on a national level. It is also a requirement for being selected. Please follow the instructions of the cover letter inside the Youth Leadership Council Program Handbook. This is a serious program for serious youths.

Below is a list of tips for what we are looking for in a nominee. Also some suggestions on resume preparation, essay and application preparation.

### What we’re looking for:

- Displays leadership abilities
- A genuine interest in learning about TNBA
- Active in local Youth Leadership Council
- Knowledge of the game of Ten Pins
- Active in school and community
- Follows instructions well
- Works well with peers and adults

### Resume

- The Youth Leadership Council *Member* should submit a resume of *his/her* qualifications. Be sure to include both bowling and non-bowling accomplishments. See program handbook for list of qualifications.

### Letters of Recommendation

- Letters of recommendation from Advisor\*, teacher(s), pastor, etc. would give even more insight into the applicant’s abilities and commitment. Maximum of three.

\*required

## Essay

The applicant must submit an essay (100 words or more) stating why they want to be a TNBA National Youth Leadership Council Committee Representative. If they have been active in their local Youth Leadership Council Program and gained a good understanding of its purpose this part should be relatively easy. Some keys to consider in the essay:

References to:

- TNBA's History or Accomplishments\*  
Organizational structure (visit web site; [www.tnbainc.org](http://www.tnbainc.org)) .  
A suggestion they would make to improve/ enhance the TNBA Youth Program, etc.

## Applications

- While the application information is self-explanatory it is important that the Advisor ensure the information is accurate and complete. Two applications must be submitted along with the resume and essay. \*The "Youth Leadership Council Application for Membership" and the "Youth Leadership Council Application for National Youth Leadership Council Representative". The deadline date is *January 31st*. All applicants, whether they are selected or not, and the Advisor will receive a response by *March 1st*.

## National Youth Leadership Council Achievement Award\*.

- Please contact the National Youth Leadership Council Director for a detailed explanation about this award.

## Local Youth Leadership Council Member of the Year Award\*

- See National Youth Leadership Council Handbook for detailed instructions.

\*revised 5/2016

Properly run, this program can have a positive impact on your youth league and your community. You will likely see an increase in membership, and increased enthusiasm from the youths and their parents. Your Senate will benefit by increasing the pool of potential Senate members and future leaders. There is National exposure and networking opportunities for the youths. This program is an added opportunity for the youths to showcase their talents. We also see this program as our contribution to help build well-rounded youth. Good leaders are *rarely* one-dimensional. They have to possess diverse skills and talents. Ultimately it is our hope that the investment we make in them today will benefit TNBA tomorrow. We need, no, must have well prepared, strong future leaders if TNBA is to continue to be a beacon of light in the sport of bowling.

In closing just let me say that a modest effort at implementing this program will pay large dividends now and in the future for your Youth League, Senate and TNBA.

John W. Collins, Director  
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