

Why Bowling?



1. Bowling is the newest Ohio High School Sport!

In April, 2006 The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) unanimously voted to make boys bowling and girls bowling the two newest Ohio high school sports!

2. High School Bowling welcomes Every Student!

Bowling is a sport without gender or physical limitations. Size, speed, and strength do not preclude anyone from participating. Bowling provides a chance for non-physical students to participate in a non-contact sport activity. Bowling brings new students into Athletic Department activities and the more students in school sports programs makes the importance of athletics in the school stronger. Everyone can learn to bowl!

3. Bowling is a Lifetime Activity!

Students have great opportunities today to participate in a wide selection of youth sports activities. Few other sports offer the chance to play after a certain age without a high skill level. Bowling does not have a "weeding-out" process. Bowling is a lifetime activity. The chance to play is forever. Skills learned in high school bowling are applicable long after graduation.

4. High School Bowling can lead to College Scholarship Opportunities!

Over 200 colleges and universities have men's and women's bowling teams and many offer full and partial bowling scholarships. Bowling is now an NCAA-recognized women's sport.

5. High School Bowling is a School Budget "Bargain"!

As school budgets to expand programs for students become tighter, Athletic Departments committed to finding new activities for students are finding that bowling, compared to other team sports, is a budget "bargain". Here are 7 reasons why bowling "works" for even the tightest school budgets:

1. **Zero Equipment Costs:** Athletes provide their own customized equipment (balls, bags, shoes) or use equipment available at the sponsoring bowling center at no charge.
2. **Lower Transportation Costs:** Boys and Girls teams compete separately but simultaneously at bowling matches. This results in fewer busses needed to transport multiple teams to multiple away match sites. One bus can transport both the boys and the girls team to a match instead of a separate bus for each team. This results in about half the transportation cost for bowling than other sports.
3. **Lower Personnel Costs:** Since both the boys and girls teams practice and compete simultaneously, one coach can coach both the boys and girls bowling teams. A separate coach for each team is not required. The same is true at the reserve varsity level.
4. **Negligible Facility Costs:** Bowling Centers have invested hundred of thousands of their dollars to make high school bowling a reality in Ohio. Every school has a privately-negotiated relationship with their sponsoring bowling center. Many centers will gladly donate lane time for practice and matches in exchange for becoming part of the school "family". Other centers offer high school teams "significantly" reduced and affordable lineage rates. Bowling Centers and parents WANT high school bowling and parent "boosters", used to paying the participation costs for students to bowl, are eager to contribute.
5. **Low Uniform Costs:** A school bowling team uniform consists of a simple polo shirt with embroidery. Such shirts are available for as little as \$15.00. At some schools, the shirts are re-used multiple seasons.
6. **Zero Officiating Costs:** Paid assignors, referees, or umpires are not used in bowling.
7. **Income Opportunities:** A high school bowling match is an exciting, fast-paced event to watch and, as an indoor winter sport activity that operates in a controlled environment, can generate gate income.