



THE GREATER DENVER USBC ANNUAL **DUCHESS** **TOURNAMENT**

USBC Certified

January 25, 2026

Holiday Lanes

★ **LIMITED TO FIRST PAID 36 ENTRIES** ★

2026 FORMAT:

1) DUCHESS DIVISION – 189 AVERAGE AND BELOW

Average determination: Entrants will use the higher of their 2024-25 book average or their certified average of 21 games or more as of January 1, 2026.

2) QUALIFYING: Sunday, January 25, 2026 – 9:30 am

-- 6 games across 12 lanes

-- Division finals participants will be based on the number of entries. (Finals rounded up to 4, 6 or 8 finalists – minimum four (4) finalists– maximum eight (8) finalists)

3) FINALS: 2-Game Single Elimination Match Play – Total pins determines winner.

4) ENTRY FEE: **DUCHESS -- \$110.00**

Prize fund \$73.00, Bowling fee \$32.00, Expense fee \$5.00

ENTRIES CLOSE ONE HOUR PRIOR TO START OF QUALIFYING SQUAD.

An allocated position for the 2025 defending Champion will be held until tournament entry closing date. Entry fees are the responsibility of the defending champions. If the position has not been claimed by tournament entry closing, the position will be released. If a defending champion has entered the tournament and has not changed divisions, she will be exempt from the qualifying round and will be seeded for the match play competition. She is permitted to pace during the qualifying round, however, she must pace for the entire qualifying block. Only the QUEENS champion will win paid entry in the National USBC Queens Tournament All finalists will cash. (Duchess finalists win cash only).

DUTCHESS ENTRY FORM:

PAST CHAMPION ☐ HALL OF FAME ☐

January 25, 2026 DIVISION: DUCHESS

Name: _____

USBC ID# _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

2024-25 Book average: _____

Signature: _____

Average Jan 1, 2026: _____

Mail or bring entries to:

GREATER DENVER USBC

99 Zenobia St., Denver, CO 80219

Phone: (303)934-3100

General Rules and Regulations:

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** DUCHESS is open to all female USBC adult members within average requirement. Limited to the first paid 36 entries. (Will adjust entries based on entries in the other divisions)
2. **DRESS CODE:** Entrants are requested to wear suitable attire while participating in this tournament. Obscene attire will not be permitted.
3. **PRIZES:** Prize fund will be returned 100%. A minimum of 4 qualifiers will cash in the division.
4. **EQUIPMENT:** Each bowler is responsible for their equipment meeting USBC specifications. Forms to record ball manufacturer and model will be completed. Bowling balls must be listed in the USBC "Approved Bowling Ball" list. (The "Approved Bowling Ball" list can be located on the specifications and certifications page of ***bowl.com*** on the internet.)
5. **QUALIFYING ROUND:** The qualifying round will be held to determine the finalists who will compete in the match play competition. Each bowler will bowl 6 games across 12 lanes. Total pins for the 6 game block will determine the finalists in the division. Finals participation will be based on the number of entries, rounded up to an even number of competitors – 4, 6, or 8. A minimum of four (4) finalists and a maximum of eight (8) finalists. (Eligible defending champions automatically advance to the finals.)
6. **MATCH PLAY FINALS:** Match play will consist of either an 8, 6 or 4 person bracket. Each match will consist of two games, total pins determining the winner. In a 6 person bracket the top two (2) qualifiers will draw a bye for the first match. Match play procedures will be used. Higher seed chooses starting lane. The bowler on the odd numbered lane shall bowl one frame. The opponent then bowls two consecutive frames starting on the even numbered lane. The starting bowler then bowls two frames, etc. Once defeated, players are eliminated. The winner of the match play finals will determine the GREATER DENVER USBC DUCHESS CHAMPION. If a bowler is unable to appear for match play the next qualifier will be given the opportunity to bowl. After first match play begins no replacements allowed. Non-appearance, regardless of cause, will constitute forfeiture of the match and the player present will bowl her games without opposition.
7. **TIES for the last qualifying spot** after the 6 games of qualifying will be broken by a one-game roll-off immediately following the qualifying round. If the tie is not broken after the one-game roll-off, two additional frames will be bowled and scored as the 9th and 10th frames. This two-frame roll-off will continue until the tie is broken.

TIES in the finals match game competition: Winners will be determined by the two-frame roll-off procedure.
8. **LANE ASSIGNMENTS/PAIRINGS:** Entrants will draw for starting lanes in the qualifying round when they check-in. Pairings in the finals will be determined by the bowler's finishing position in the qualifying round.
9. **PRACTICE:** 10 minutes of practice will be allowed prior to the first game in the qualifying round. 10 minutes of practice will be allowed prior to the first match in the finals.
10. **CHECK-IN: All bowlers must be present and ready to bowl at least 30 minutes prior to scheduled starting times.**
11. **USBC RULES AND REGULATIONS WILL APPLY IN INSTANCES NOT SPECIFICALLY COVERED BY THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS.**