

MEMBERSHIP

Membership into IGBO is by invitation only. There are three voting membership classifications in IGBO:

League. A gay/lesbian bowling league. A league member receives all benefits of IGBO, including voting privileges at the Mid-Year and Annual meetings. Voting allotments are established in the IGBO Bylaws, Article 6.4. Annual dues are established in Policies and Procedures and are based upon the regular member's playing strength.

Tournament. A gay/lesbian bowling tournament. A tournament member receives all benefits of IGBO, including voting privileges at the Mid-Year and Annual meetings. Voting allotments are established in IGBO Bylaws Article VI. Annual dues are established in Policies & Procedures and are based on a flat fee per tournament as well as a per-bowling participant dues submission within 30 days following completion of the tournament event.

Organization. A gay/lesbian sports organization that sponsors a bowling activity. Organization annual dues are \$250 US.

There are three classifications of non-voting membership in IGBO:

Associate. An individual who receives all benefits of IGBO, except voting privileges. Annual associate dues are \$25 US.

Lifetime Associate. An individual who is voted into permanent membership gratitude for service to IGBO, or as a recipient of the IGBO Fellowship Award or the Tom Hack Service Award. Lifetime Associates do not pay annual dues to IGBO.

Individual. A participant contributing to any League member's normal playing strength shall be considered an Individual member of IGBO. Individual members do not pay annual dues to IGBO.

Procedures for applying and maintaining membership are in IGBO Bylaws, Article I. Voting authorization procedures for Regular members are in Policies and Procedures, Article V. Procedures for removal from membership are defined in IGBO Bylaws Article 1.5 and Policies and Procedures (P&P) Article 4.3.

New Members Fact Sheet

How to Apply

Contact the IGBO Secretary or your Regional Director. The Secretary or Regional Director will send you a new member application form. Fill it out and return to the Secretary with the appropriate application fee (see below for annual dues).

When submitting an application for Voting membership, you must supply verification of your league's "normal playing strength", which is defined in the Bylaws as "number of teams times number of competing bowlers per team," such as a weekly standing sheet, etc. This is needed to document how much your annual dues are and for determining vote allocation.

Tournament member applicants must supply information about its most recently held tournament event. Within 30 days following conclusion of its event while a member, the Tournament member must submit a \$.50 per participant dues submission, and submit scoring and cash prize results of the event, including the format used to calculate the results.

All applications and dues must be submitted to the Secretary prior to the two times when new members are voted in: the Annual and Mid-Year meetings/tournaments. The Annual meeting always is on the (U.S.) Memorial Day weekend. The Mid-Year Tournament/General Membership meeting is held over the weekend occurring closest to November 11, the US Veterans Day holiday (if the holiday falls on a Wednesday, the event is held over the preceding weekend).

Attendance Requirements

All applicants for Voting membership are required to have a representative from the organization attend the meeting at which the application will be considered.

New member applications are considered at the end of New Business during the General Membership meeting.

Attendance by applicants for ASSOCIATE or ORGANIZATION membership may be waived at the discretion of the IGBO Board of Directors. The applicant should submit this request in writing to the IGBO Secretary.

Annual Dues

Annual dues are established for IGBO members are as follows: League members pay based upon their league's "playing strength." The dues are:

<u>League Playing Strength</u>	<u>Dues</u>
1 through 25	\$ 50 US
26 through 50	\$ 75 US
51 through 100	\$100 US
101 through 150	\$125 US
151 through 200	\$150 US
201 through 250	\$175 US
251 and greater	\$200 US

Dues for Tournament members are a \$50.00 flat fee, and a \$0.50/bowling participant submission within 30 days following conclusion of the tournament event. Associate members pay \$25.00 per year, and Organization members pay \$250 per year.

For applicants voted into membership at the Mid-Year meeting the dues are good through the following June 30. For applicants voted into membership at the Annual meeting, the dues are good from the May acceptance date through the following June 30 (approximately 13 months).

Voting

Only league, tournament, or organization members may vote. For league members, votes are apportioned based upon "normal playing strength" of the league. Currently, the distribution is:

1-150 = 1 vote

151-250 = 1.5 votes

251 and up = 2 votes.

Each tournament member is allotted one vote.

Since new members are voted in at the end of meetings, league and tournament members will not be able to vote on issues at the meeting at which their application is considered.

IGBO Rep

Each voting member is required to have an IGBO rep. The method of selection is at the discretion of each organization, including election, appointment, volunteering. It is the responsibility of the IGBO rep to open and maintain communications channels with the Regional Director and IGBO Secretary. [*See section in IGBO handbook entitled "Organization" for responsibilities of an IGBO rep.*]

Handbook

All new members will receive a copy of the IGBO Handbook, which includes information about IGBO's history and operations, as well as responsibilities of IGBO Board members and league and tournament representatives.

Summary

There are three major requirements for a Voting member to join IGBO:

1. Submit the new member application form to the Secretary.
2. Pay the required annual dues.
3. Have a representative in attendance at the Annual or Mid-Year meeting in which their membership application is to be considered by the membership.