

EBF's Tournament Calendar

International Hammer Challenge 2025 / Page 1

Tournament on the Web	
Website	www.bowling.fi/IHC2024

Tournament information	
The tournament is open for	Athletes from IBF's member federations
Tournament organizer	OY Bowling AB
Centre	Tali Bowling Centre
City	Helsinki
Federation	Finland
First day	5 September 2025
Last day	14 September 2025

Tournament delimitations	
Category	Open
Event	Singles Mixed
Women handicap	8 pins per game
Max women scratch game	292

Tournament contact	
Contact person	Jukka Savolainen
Mobile	+358 44 7090 319
Email	jukka.savolainen@bowling.fi
Registration	https://bowl4u.com

Centre address	
Address	Tali Bowl Huopalahdentie 28 00350 Helsinki Finland
Phone	+358 447 004 301
Email	bowling@bowling.fi
Website	www.bowling.fi

Centre specifications	
Number of lanes	36
Approaches	Brunswick Pro Anvilane Texture
Surfaces	Brunswick Pro Anvilane
Pin decks	Brunswick Anti s Kid
Pin setters	Brunswick GSX
Pins	Brunswick Max
Score system	Brunswick Vector with Vector Plus

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Dressing specifications	
Oil machines	Brunswick Max
Oil	TBD
Cleaner	TBD
Pattern prepared by	Tali Bowling Centre
Dressing done by	Tali Bowling Centre

Prize money specifications	
Prize fund status	Fixed
Tax on prizes	Yes
Tax rules	<p>Because of the Finnish tax regulations, there will be a tax on prize money for non-Finnish participants. The tax, which is 15% of any prize, will be deducted from the prizes by the organizer.</p> <p>Anyhow, an exception exists for US citizens competing in Finland, since their income is free from Finnish tax, if the total of one person's income does not exceed 20.000 USD over the tax year. If this limit is passed, then the whole sum is liable to taxation.</p> <p>The payer can consider the tax treaty relief only if it is marked in the tax at source card.</p> <p>read more https://www.vero.fi/en/individuals/tax-cards-and-tax-returns/arriving-in-finland/work-in-finland/specific-instructions-for-different-occupations/performing-artists-sportsmen-and-athletes/</p>

Prize money expressed in €				
Position	Mixed	Senior Mixed Ages 50+	Standard Mixed Ages 20 to 49	Junior Mixed Ages -19
Position 1	7.000			
Position 2	4.500			
Position 3	2.800			
Position 4	2.800			
Position 5-8	1.700			
Position 9-16	900			
Position 17-32	500			
Position 33-50	300			
Position 51-59 / 4-6		200	200	200
Position 60-77 / 7-12		BBO2026 GC _(100€)	BBO2026 GC _(100€)	BBO2026 GC _(100€)
First 300 game or high game	1.000			
300 game/high game	2.000			
250eXtra winner	500			

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No250eXtra winner	300			
Total	48.300	600 ₍₆₀₀₎	600 ₍₆₀₀₎	600 ₍₆₀₀₎
Grand Total	50.100 ₍₁₈₀₀₎			

<p>Tournament format</p> <p>Mixed for A-Final and three (3) categories for B-Final: Senior bowlers, Standard bowlers and Youth bowlers</p> <p>Senior bowlers are bowlers who are or will reach during the year 2025 the age of 50, Super senior bowlers are bowlers who are or will reach during the year 2025 the age of 60, Super seniors will bowl inside the Senior bowler's category. Standard bowlers are bowlers who are or will reach during the year 2025 the age of 20 and will not be or will not reach the age of 50 during the year 2025. Youth bowlers are bowlers who will not reach the age of 20 during the year 2025, Junior bowlers are bowlers who will not reach the age of 16 during the year 2025, Junior bowlers will bowl inside the Youth bowler's category.</p> <p>Qualification</p> <p>Entries and re-entries, 6 games All bowlers are participating mixed category and their own category.</p> <p>41 athletes will qualify for the A-final steps</p> <p>A: Top 14 from the general standing will qualify directly to the A-final step 2 B: Next 27 (15-41) from the general standing will qualify to the A-final step 1</p> <p>36 athletes will qualify for the B-final steps</p> <p>C1: Next 12 from the Senior bowler's category who are not qualified in A-final, at least two (2) of the bowlers must be Super senior bowlers (ages 60 or over) C2: Next 12 from the Standard bowler's category who are not qualified in A-final C3: Next 12 from the Youth bowler's category who are not qualified in A-final, at least two (2) of the bowlers must be Junior bowlers (ages under 16).</p> <p>An athlete will qualify only once and always in the listed order starting from A. Totally 77 bowlers will qualify in A and B finals. The Players will get their seeding number from the qualification position number.</p> <p>B-Final step 1</p> <p>12 players in each category will play best of three matches, 1 vs 12 etc. Losers will be positioned 60-77.</p> <p>B-Final step 2</p> <p>Winners of step 1 will play best of three matches, high seeded vs low seeded. Losers will be positioned 51-59.</p> <p>A-Final step 1</p> <p>Athletes positioned 15-41 (B) in qualification and the winners of B-Final step 2, totally 36 bowlers will play in A-Final step 1. They will play best of five matches, high seeded vs low seeded. Losers will be positioned 33-50.</p> <p>A-Final step 2</p> <p>Athletes positioned 1-14 (A) and winners of the A-Final step 1, totally 32 bowlers will play in A-Final step 2. They will play best of five matches, high seeded vs low seeded. Losers will be positioned 17-32.</p>

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A-Final step 3

Winners of the A-Final step 2. They will play best of five matches, high seeded vs low seeded. Losers will be positioned 9-16.

A-Final step 4

Winners of the A-Final step 3. They will play best of five matches, high seeded vs low seeded. Losers will be positioned 5-8.

A-Final step 5

There will be 2 one game Semi Final matches, both starting from scratch.

Semi Final 1

Second seeded winner of the A-Final step 4 vs third seeded winner of the A-Final step 4

Semi Final 2

Highest seeded winner of the A-Final step 4 vs lowest seeded winner of the A-Final step 4

The internal ranking between the two losing athletes will be decided by ranking the athlete with highest seeding number first.

A-Final step 6

Two athletes will play a one game match, starting from scratch.

The loser of the match will be ranked 2

The winner of the match will be ranked 1

Tournament tie rules

Qualification

The highest positioned athlete will be the athlete scoring the highest last game. If a tie still exists, the highest positioned athlete will be the athlete with the highest second last game etc.

Final Step 1-6

In case of a tie in any match, a one-ball roll off on a full set of pins will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

The International Hammer Challenge 300eXtra

The International Hammer Challenge 300eXtra (IHC300eXtra) is open only for all International Hammer Challenge participants. The total fixed prize money in IHC300eXtra is 3.800 €.

The entry fee for entering the IHC300eXtra is € 10. One entry fee covers one 6 game qualification. The entry fee also covers all bowler games in the final if he/she enters the 300eXtra competition in the squad he/she qualifies for the final.

Eventually games played before the athlete enters the IHC300eXtra are not valid in the competition. Eventually games played in squads, where the athlete does not enter the BBO300eXtra, are not valid in the competition.

An athlete cannot pay an entry fee just before the final, to participate in IHC300eXtra at the final day.

First 300 game:

If there are no more 300 games, the first 300 game will win 3.000 €.

If there are more 300 games, the first 300 game will win 1.000 €.

If there will be more 300 games, the bowler who made the first 300 game will play in the roll off for 2.000 € (see the tie rules below).

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Next 300 game(s):

All bowlers who make a 300 game will play a roll off for 2.000 €. Bowler who made more than one acceptable 300 games will get one entry per accepted 300 game in the roll off.

If there is no 300 game in the IHC300eXtra in any phase, the 3.000 € will be split among bowlers scoring the highest game in the IHC300eXtra in any phase.

Tie rules

A one-ball roll off with a full set of pins will be played, repeated until the tie is broken.

If more than two bowlers take part in the roll off and there is a tie in the roll off, only bowlers, who tie with the highest score, will continue to the next roll off.

The roll off will be played after the TV finals of the International Hammer Challenge and on the TV-pair.

The playing order will be chosen by the athlete who rolled the first 300 game.

In case of further ties, the order will be reversed for each round.

All athletes will shoot on the same lane.

The lane will be chosen by the Tournament Director.

If there are more rounds in the roll off, the lane will be alternated on each round.

Athletes have two practice balls on both lanes.

Practice lanes will be available on a lane specified by the organizer before the roll off.

250eXtra roll off finals

All athletes entering the 300eXtra in squads 1 to 12 are automatically included in the 250eXtra competition for no additional fee.

All athletes who bowl one or more scratch games of 250 or higher will play a roll off.

The winner of the roll off will be awarded € 500. The lane draw for the roll off is done by the organizer.

The athlete will play the first 3 roll off rounds at the same lane.

If there are still more than 24 athletes left back in the roll off, they will bowl at the same lane until there is 24 athletes or less left back.

The roll offs will be played on Friday 12th September at 21.00 (right after the last squad).

There will be no lane maintenance before the roll offs.

1st roll off

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins. Athletes scoring 8 pins or more will continue to the next roll off.

If there are no score of 8 pins or higher, the athletes who are tied at the highest score, will continue to the next roll off.

2nd roll off

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins. Athletes scoring 9 or more will continue to the next roll off.

If there are no score of 9 pins or higher, the athletes who are tied with the highest score, will continue to the next roll off.

3rd roll off and further in case where more than 24 athletes continue

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

Athletes scoring strikes will continue to the next roll off.

If no strike is scored the, athletes who are tied with the highest score, will continue to the next roll off.

4th roll off and further

If the number of athletes is 24 or less, a new lane draw is made by the organizer.

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

Athletes scoring a strike will continue to the next roll off.

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If no strikes are scored, the athletes who are tied with the highest score will continue to the next roll off.

For the next roll off the athlete move one lane to the right.

The winner will be the winner of the last roll off.

No250eXtra roll off finals

All athletes entering the 300eXtra in squads 1 to 12 are automatically included in the No250eXtra competition for no additional fee.

All athletes who are NOT bowling a scratch game of 250 or higher will play a roll off. The winner of the roll off will be awarded € 300.

The lane draw for the roll off is done by the organizer.

The athlete will play the first 3 roll off rounds at the same lane.

If there are still more than 24 athletes left back in the roll off, they will bowl at the same lane until there is 24 athletes or less left back.

The roll offs will be played on Friday 12th September at 21.00 (right after the last squad).

There will be no lane maintenance before the roll offs.

1st roll off

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

Athletes scoring 3 pins or less will continue to the next roll off.

In every roll off, a ball hitting no pins at all are calculated as a strike.

If there are no score of 3 pins or less, the athletes who are tied at the lowest score, will continue to the next roll off.

2nd roll off

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

Athletes scoring 2 or less will continue to the next roll off.

If there are no score of 2 pins or less, the athletes who are tied at the lowest score, will continue to the next roll off.

3rd roll off and further in case where more than 24 athletes continue

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

Athletes scoring one pin will continue to the next roll off.

If there are no score of one pin, the athletes who are tied at the lowest score, will continue to the next roll off.

4th roll off and further

If the number of athletes is 24 or less, a new lane draw is made by the organizer.

All athletes included will bowl a one ball roll off on a full set of pins.

Athletes scoring one pin will continue to the next roll off.

If there are no score of one pin, the athletes who are tied at the lowest score, will continue to the next roll off. The winner will be the winner of the last roll off.

Lane assignments and lane movements

Lane draws	Done by the organizer
Athletes per pair in squads	Four, Three in minor squads
Frequency of movement	After each game
Movement method	Left lane athletes moves left and right lane athletes moves right
Number of lanes to move	Four lanes (over one pair of lanes)

Booking policies

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Booking restriction before	A maximum of three squads can be booked before the tournament starts
Booking restriction during	Maximum three non-played entries Reservations in standby list is not limited
Total number of bookings	Unlimited
Booking cancellations	All cancellations must be done in email to jukka.savolainen@bowling.fi Before the tournament starts, no penalties. After the tournament starts, cancellations must be done at least one hour before the squad.
Registration deadline	30 minutes before scheduled squad times

Qualification squads and fees in €						
Squad	Day	Date	Time	Spots	E fee	Re fee
Squad 01	Friday	05.09.2025	18:00	72	45-85	
Squad 02	Saturday	06.09.2025	11.00	72	65-105	65-105
Squad 03			15.00	72	65-105	65-105
Squad 04	Sunday	07.09.2025	11.00	72	65-115	65-105
Squad 05			15.00	72	65-115	65-105
Squad 06	Tuesday	09.09.2025	14.00	72	65-115	65-105
Squad 07			18.00	72	65-115	65-105
Squad 08	Thursday	11.09.2025	14.00	72	65-115	65-105
Squad 09			18.00	72	140	115
Squad 10	Friday	12.09.2025	10.00	72	140	115
Squad 11			14.00	72	140	115
Squad 12			18.00	72	140	115
Squad 13	Saturday	13.09.2025	9.00	72	140	115
Squad 14			13.00	72	140	115

A 185-bowler is a bowler with a federation average below 185.
In Squads 2 to 8 all 185-bowlers pay only 60 € in entry or re-entry fee.

A 200-bowler is a bowler with a federation average below 200.
In Squads 2 to 8 all 200-bowlers pay only 80 € in entry or re-entry fee.

A senior bowler is a bowler with age of 50 or more or a bowler, who is reaching the age of 50 later during the year of 2025.

A super senior bowler is a bowler with age of 60 or more or a bowler, who is reaching the age of 60 later during the year of 2025.

A youth bowler is a bowler, who have not yet reached (and will not reach) the age of 20 during the year of 2025. A Youth 185-bowler will pay only 40 € for an entry fee in Squad 1.

A Junior bowler is a bowler, who have not yet reached (and will not reach) the age of 16 during the year of 2025.

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Squad 1:

This is the Early Bird Squad. The fee for 185-bowlers in this Squad is 40 €. The fee for 200-bowlers in this Squad is 60 €. The fee for all other bowlers in this Squad is 80 €.

Squad 2:

This is the 185-bowler Squad. The Squad is open for all athletes. The top three 185-bowlers in Squad 2 will win an extra prize, a Hammer bowling ball or a free re-entry.

Squad 3:

This is the Youth Squad. The Squad is open for all athletes. The top three Youth bowlers in Squad 3 will win an extra prize, a Hammer bowling ball or a free re-entry.

Squad 4:

This is the Women's and the 200-bowler Squad. The Squad is open for all athletes. The top three women bowlers and the top three 200-bowler in Squad 4 will win an extra prize, a Hammer bowling ball or a free re-entry. Bowler can win only one prize. Women 200-bowlers are counted before 200-bowlers.

Squad 5:

This is the Senior Squad. The Squad is open for all athletes. The top three senior bowlers in Squad 5 will win an extra prize, a Hammer bowling ball or a free re-entry.

Squad 6:

This is the Super Senior (+60) Squad. The Squad is open for all athletes. The top three Super Senior bowlers in Squad 6 will win an extra prize, a Hammer bowling ball or a free re-entry.

The first entry fee includes the Athlete Pass for free entry to the centre from Saturday 13th September to Sunday 14th September, worth 15 €. A single day ticket between Saturday 13th September and Sunday 14th September costs 10 €/day.

Schedule for the final steps

Saturday 13th September 2025

Lane maintenance
17:00 B-Final step 1
18:30 B-Final step 2
Lane maintenance
21:00 A-Final step 1

All starting times are indicative. Final steps can start earlier depending how many games are needed and how fast bowlers will play. B-Final step 1 will not start before 17:00. A-Final step 1 will not start before 20:30.

Sunday 14th September 2025

Lane maintenance
10.00: A-Final step 2
Lane maintenance
13.00: A-Final step 3
15.00: A-Final step 4
17.30: A-Final step 5
18.00: A-Final step 6
18.30: Awards

All starting times are indicative. All starting times on September 14th are subject to change depending on the starting time of the live TV show

Hotels provided by the organizer

Please check www.bowling.fi/IHC2025 for details