

# 2025 IBMA INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



## ORGANIZATIONAL TENETS

**MISSION STATEMENT** – to be bowling’s source of excellence in the gathering and distribution of news and information through multiple media platforms, as well as to encourage the pursuit of bowling media as a full or part-time career.

**VISION STATEMENT** – The IBMA is an organization that is beneficial to the industry as it disseminates information to a world-wide bowling media, encourages bowling media as a career choice for younger bowlers, and provides updates on technology.

**HISTORY** – The Bowling Writers Association of America (BWAA) was founded in 1934 by 16 charter members in Peoria, Illinois. BWAA merged with the National Women Bowling Writers in 2006 and became the International Bowling Media Association (IBMA) in 2011. IBMA merged with the World Bowling Writers in 2012. We subscribe to the highest ideals in communicating the word of bowling throughout the world; are dedicated to enhancing writing, broadcasting and photographic skills; and actively promote the free exchange of ideas and information. IBMA represents hundreds of professional and amateur bowling writers, authors, photographers, graphic artists, cartoonists, illustrators and internet writers. As a media member or industry partner, we invite you to become a member of the world’s most preeminent bowling media organization.

## MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES





**STUDENT** - Membership is open to any college student, 25 years or younger, with a major in journalism/communications or related field. Applicants must provide a copy of their student identification card and proof of age (if not listed on their I.D.).  
**Annual dues FREE.**

**INDIVIDUAL MEDIA** - Membership is for individuals who are engaged in bowling media as either a paid professional or volunteer. **Annual dues \$30** for cash or check payments. Payments by PayPal or credit card unfortunately need to be raised to \$32 to defer the extra charges for these methods of payment.

**CORPORATE** – See CORPORATE Membership link on our website [www.bowlingmedia.org](http://www.bowlingmedia.org).

## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

**ISSUING AWARDS and VOTING RIGHTS** - IBMA administers awards to recognize extraordinary levels of achievement in service to the sport as well as superior performance on the lanes. Awards include: Luby Hall of Fame Award; Alberta Crowe Meritorious Service Award; Hennessy Award of Merit; Rip Van Winkle Award; Male and Female Bowler of the Year; Male and Female Senior Bowler of the Year and Chuck Pezzano Media Scholarship. As a member you are encouraged to nominate candidates and provide input to the awards committees. In order to earn a couple of the awards does involve IBMA membership.

**MEMBER ONLY DISCOUNTS or SPECIAL PRICING** - Discounted or complimentary registration for International Bowl Expo. Complimentary online subscription to  Members meeting certain qualifications (any media member who regularly covers and/or communicates bowling to readers/viewers or those in the bowling industry) is also eligible for a complimentary  subscription. IBMA members will also receive regular  press releases and can attend the  convention (non-voting unless a delegate).

**NETWORKING** - The exchange of information and ideas with like-minded journalists and communication professionals.

**FACEBOOK POSTING** – We are working on that only current IBMA members (regular, corporate and life members) may initiate posting in the IBMA Facebook Group. We are also working on a MEMBERS ONLY Facebook group for our members to discuss common issues, ask questions or anything else of interest to the group.

**OTHER BENEFITS** – Members will also receive a personalized dated membership card for identification purposes where ‘press’ membership is required. We also are working hard on other member benefits that we hope to roll out this coming year.

Please fill out (you can do on your computer as the blanks should be ‘fillable’ and return to us regardless of payment method.

This will help us to better serve our members.

# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

(allow 10 days to process application)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: State/Prov: Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Web: \_\_\_\_\_

Company / Publication: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you on:

Facebook yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ "X" (Twitter) yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_

## WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST APPLIES TO YOU:

\_\_\_ I make the majority of my living as a communications professional in the bowling industry (Full-time)

\_\_\_ I am compensated for my freelance work in bowling communications (Part-time)

\_\_\_ I do volunteer work in bowling industry communications

## PLEASE CHECK ALL WHICH APPLY TO YOU:

\_\_\_ Contributes bowling related information to a magazine, newspaper or website.

\_\_\_ Owner/Publisher of bowling periodical.

\_\_\_ Owner, designer, editor or writer of an active website or electronic newsletter.

\_\_\_ Photographer/cartoonist/illustrator who regularly contributes bowling artwork.

\_\_\_ Radio or television announcer on a local, regional, national or live stream bowling show.

\_\_\_ Public Relations professional actively involved in the bowling industry.

\_\_\_ Member of USBC local and/or state association charged with disseminating information.

\_\_\_ Freelance writer not covered by any of the above who writes bowling articles or books.

\_\_\_ Other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

WHICH MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY APPLIES TO YOU: \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA

**YOU CAN IGNORE THE BELOW FIELDS IF YOU MADE PAYPAL OR CREDIT CARD PAYMENT ONLINE**

\_\_\_ **PAY BY PayPal, Venmo or Credit Card on the IBMA Website or use this URL:**

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/HP63YSKBSGLPS>

Please return this form to [operations@bowlingmedia.org](mailto:operations@bowlingmedia.org) . If paying by check or money order, mail your application and payment to

**International Bowling Media Association, 404 Ridge Road, Mahomet, IL, 61853**