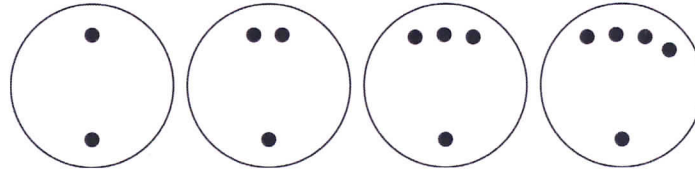




August 1, 2020

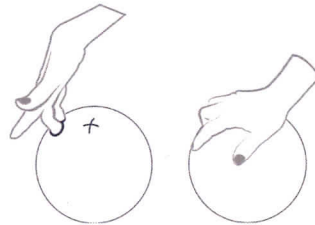
Bowling Ball Drilling Rule Changes

The rule eliminating balance holes takes effect Aug. 1, 2020. The rule, announced in April 2018, states all holes in a bowling ball must be used on every delivery.



Example of up to five holes used for gripping purposes.

Additionally, bowlers who do not use their thumb when delivering the ball will need to mark, by scribe or engraver tool, a plus sign (+) near the intended center of palm. See image below for an example.



What does this mean for your association?

As the local governing body for USBC, your association can help educate centers, league officials, and bowlers about the new rule prior to the start of fall leagues.

Here's ways your association can help:

- Ensure your board of directors understands the new rule; if anyone has questions, contact your Regional Manager so they can provide guidance.
- Call and email your league officials to ensure they are aware of the new rule, and review the best way to enforce the rules.
 - o Suggest announcements before a league starts and consider creating small notes to put in the pay envelopes the first week.
 - o If someone is using a ball with a weight hole, it should be brought to the attention of the competition official.
 - o The bowler is to be informed of the ball being illegal and cannot be used in USBC certified competition.
 - o Games where illegal equipment is used are subject to forfeiture.
- Visit league meetings to make sure bowlers are aware of the rule change.
- Check with your local pro shop to make sure they understand drilling requirements.
 - o Guide them to [BOWL.com/BowlingTechnologyStudy](https://www.bowl.com/BowlingTechnologyStudy) for further questions.

Visit **[BOWL.com/BowlingTechnologyStudy](https://www.bowl.com/BowlingTechnologyStudy)** to learn more