

PA.B.O.

Pro-Am Bowling Open

Formerly The Key Pro-Am



A New Era of Pro-Am Bowling.

Introducing the Pro-Am Bowling Open.
An evolution of The Keys Pro-Am.

\$15,000 Cash Prize Australia's Best Bowlers

Key Dates

P.A.B.O Tour
(WA, SA, NSW, QLD, TAS)
May 26 - June 26, 2026

P.A.B.O Tour State Finals
(WA, SA, NSW, QLD, TAS)
Reference page 5

P.A.B.O Victorian Qualifiers
June 30 - July 30

P.A.B.O Finals
The Keys Leisure Centre
Saturday - Sunday
August 1 - 2, 2026

How to Qualify

There Are Multiple Ways to Qualify for P.A.B.O 2026.

P.A.B.O *Tour*

Bowlers from New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania can qualify through PABO Tour Qualifiers between May 26 and June 26, 2026.

(See page 4 for full P.A.B.O TOUR Qualifier details.)

P.A.B.O *Victoria*

Victorian bowlers can qualify through Victorian Qualifiers held between June 30th - July 30th

P.A.B.O *Local League*

Local Keys League bowlers can qualify via The Keys Champions League event, held on June 22, 2026.

The Champions League is exclusively open to registered Keys Social League bowlers.

(See page 8 for Champions League Qualifier details.)

P.A.B.O Tour



The "P.A.B.O TOUR" provide the official qualification pathway for bowlers outside of Victoria to earn their place in the P.A.B.O 2026.

Tour Qualifiers will be held between May 26 and June 26, 2026 in the following states:

- South Australia
- Western Australia
- Queensland
- New South Wales
- Tasmania

Four bowlers from each state will earn entry into the P.A.B.O 2026 Finals, hosted at The Keys Leisure Centre in Preston, Melbourne.

Successful qualifiers will receive return flights to Melbourne, accommodation for the Finals Weekend, and the opportunity to compete for the largest individual cash prize in Australian tenpin bowling.

HOW TO ENTER

Bowlers wishing to enter the P.A.B.O 26 Tour Qualifiers must first register their interest via the official P.A.B.O Website and complete the one-off registration payment before submitting any scores.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Once registered, bowlers may compete at any bowling centre within their registered state during the qualifying period (May 26 – June 26, 2026).

To enter the leaderboard, bowlers must submit their highest single game by uploading a witnessed photo of the official game score to the PRO-AM Portal. All submitted scores will be verified and ranked on a live leaderboard throughout the qualifying period. At the conclusion of qualifying, the top 32 highest single-game scores in each state will be invited to compete in their respective State Final, held on Sunday, June 28, 2026 at the affiliated bowling centre in their state.

There is no limit to the number of qualifying attempts once registration has been completed.

Registration Fees

\$30 AUD Early Bird Registration - All registrations completed	May 26, 2026
\$60 AUD Standard Registration - All registrations completed on or	May 26, 2026

STATE FINALS

At the conclusion of the qualifying period, the top 32 bowlers from each state will advance to their respective State Final, competing in a knockout format against fellow state qualifiers. All players will be seeded based on their highest single-game qualifying submission. In the event of a tie in qualifying scores, the submission received earliest will be awarded the higher seed.

All State Final matches are contested over one game, head-to-head. The format progresses from a Group Stage into a knockout bracket, mirroring the structure of the PRO-AM Finals in Melbourne on August 2, 2026.

Please refer to page 6 for the full tournament structure in each state.

P.A.B.O Tour

How to Qualify
P.A.B.O. 26

STATE FINALS

LOCATION - DATES

SUNDAY THE 28TH OF JUNE, 2026

• **WESTERN AUSTRALIA TOUR FINAL**
ZONE BOWLING JOONDALUP
1/23 Franklin Ln, Joondalup WA 6027

• **TASMANIA TOUR FINAL**
THE ALLEY DEVONPORT
103-105 William Street, Devenport, TAS

SATURDAY THE 4TH OF JULY, 2026

• **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOUR FINAL**
LOGAN CITY TENPIN, LOGAN CENTRAL, QLD
13-17 Wembley Rd, Logan Central, QLD

SUNDAY THE 5TH OF JULY, 2026

• **QUEENSLAND TOUR FINAL**
LOGAN CITY TENPIN, LOGAN CENTRAL, QLD
13-17 Wembley Rd, Logan Central, QLD

• **NEW SOUTH WALES TOUR FINAL**
SHELLHARBOUR TENPIN BOWL
8-10 Sunset Ave, Barrack Heights, NSW

FIELD SIZE: 32 BOWLERS IN EACH STATE

FINALS ENTRANCE FEE: \$80.00AUD

Lineage: \$35
Prize Fund Contribution: \$29
P.A.B.O TOUR Expenses: \$16

FORMAT: 3 GAME GROUP STAGE
TOP 16 ADVANCE TO KNOCK OUT ROUNDS

PRIZE FUND: BASED ON 32 BOWLERS, PAID TO THE TOP 16 FINISHES

1st Place - \$165.00
Runner up - \$120.00
2x Preliminary Finalist - \$103.00
4x QTR Finalist - \$45.00
8x Round of 16 - \$31.50

*Prize fund is based on a full field of 32 competitors and is subject to change should entries differ.
Payout structure to be published prior to competition.

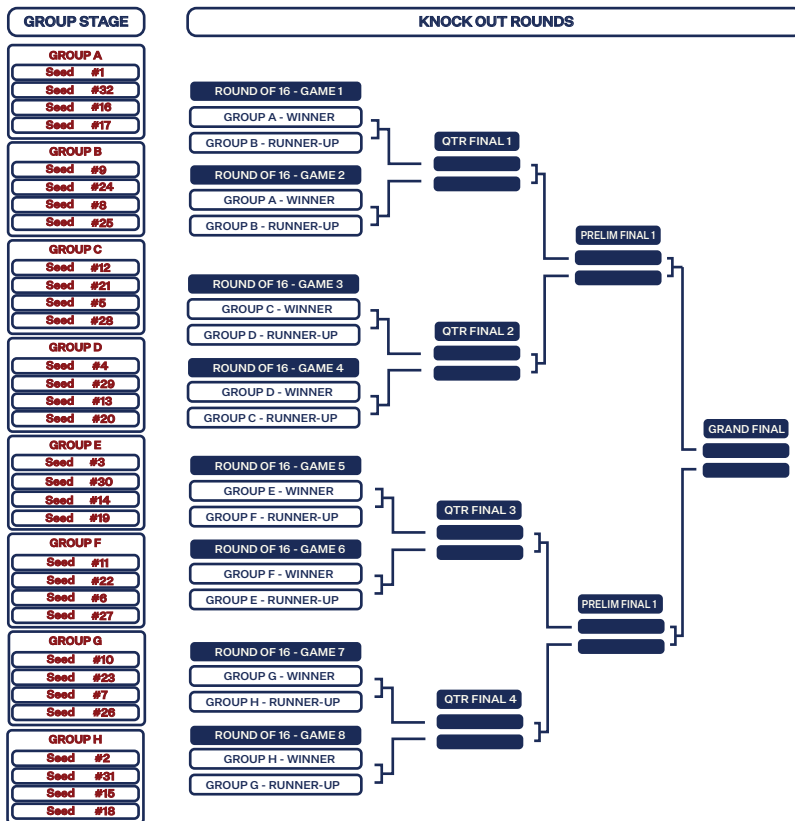
P.A.B.O 26 FINALS ENTRY, RETURN FLIGHTS AND 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN MELBOURNE REWARDED TO THE TOP 4 FINISHES. These prizes are in addition to the advertised prize fund and are funded by THE KEYS LEISURE CENTRE

BOWLER INCENTIVES:

ALL 32 FINALISTS WILL RECEIVE A P.A.B.O26 MERCH PACK, INCLUDING AN OFFICIAL P.A.B.O26 T-SHIRT
A FOOD AND BEVERAGE VOUCHER TO THE KEYS LEISURE CENTRE TO THE VALUE OF \$50

P.A.B.O. *Tour*

STATE FINALS



GROUP STAGE

Bowlers are divided into groups (based on ranking of qualifying score).
Each bowler plays every other bowler in their group once.
3 matches per bowler (in a 4-bowler group).

Win = 3 points Draw = 1 point Loss = 0 points

In the event of a tie on points at the conclusion of the Group Stage, the highest total pinfall across each individual's 3 games will determine the the ranking.

KNOCKOUT ROUND SEEDING

The knockout bracket is pre-set, not reseeded
Group A winner plays Group B runner-up.
Group B winner plays Group A runner-up
Same pattern continues across all groups

KNOCKOUT ROUNDS

Round of 16 and Beyond

From the Round of 16 onward, all matches are head-to-head, single-elimination games.
If a match is tied at the completion of the game, a Strike Off will be used to determine the winner. (see page 11 for the Strike of Rules)

The Victorian Qualifiers provide the official qualification pathway for bowlers from Victoria to earn their place in the PABO 2026 Finals.

Victorian qualifying will be held between June 30 and July 30, 2026.

At the conclusion of the qualifying period, eighty bowlers from Victoria will earn entry into the P.A.B.O 2026 Top 100, hosted at The Keys Leisure Centre in Preston, Melbourne.

HOW TO ENTER

Bowlers wishing to enter must first register via the official P.A.B.O Website link and complete the one-off registration payment before submitting any scores.

Once registered, bowlers may compete at any bowling centre within Victoria during the qualifying period.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

To register a qualifying score, bowlers must submit a witnessed photo of their highest single game to the P.A.B.O Portal.

All scores will be verified and ranked on the official leaderboard throughout the qualifying period.

At the conclusion of qualifying, the top 80 individual game scores will be awarded entry into the P.A.B.O 2026 Top 100, hosted at The Keys Leisure Centre in Preston, Melbourne.

There is no limit to the number of qualifying attempts once registration has been completed.

Registration Fees:

Registering a Score at Any Centre in Victoria

\$30 AUD Early Bird Registration - All registrations completed before June 30th, 2026

\$60 AUD Standard Registration - All registrations completed on or after June 30th, 2026

Registering a Score at The Keys Leisure Centre Only

\$15 AUD Early Bird Registration - All registrations completed before June 30th, 2026

\$30 AUD Standard Registration - All registrations completed on or after June 30th, 2026

Registration payments include unlimited score submissions. Standard lane fees apply and are subject to the venue.

The top 80 Bowlers with the highest registered individual game score from Victoria come the end of the qualifying will gain access to the P.A.B.O 2026 Finals on Saturday the 1st of August 2026, to battle out for a major prize of \$15,000AUD, the highest individual prize in all of Australian Bowling.

For more details on the P.A.B.O 2026 Finals structure please refer to page 14.

P.A.B.O.
Pro-Am Bowling Open
Championship

Saturday & Sunday, August 1st & 2nd, 2026
Hosted by The Keys Leisure Centre
188 Plenty Road, Preston, Victoria

P.A.B.O *Championship*

LOCATION: THE KEYS LEISURE CENTRE
1/188 PLENTY ROAD, PRESTON, VICTORIA

DATE:
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 1ST - 2ND OF AUGUST

FIELD SIZE:
100 QUALIFIED BOWLERS + 5 CHAMPIONS LEAGUE, KEYS SOCIAL LEAGUE BOWLERS
1 RETURNING CHAMPION (BLAKE WALSH)

FINALS ENTRANCE FEE: \$120.00AUD
Lineage: \$55.00
Prize Fund Contribution: \$45.00
Tournament Expenses: \$20

FORMAT:
SATURDAY THE 1ST OF AUGUST - ELIMINATION ROUND
3 GAME SERIES, TOP 32 (TOTAL PIN FALL) PROGRESS TO THE SUNDAY

SUNDAY THE 2ND OF AUGUST
SINGLE GAME KNOCKOUT ROUNDS

PRIZE FUND:
BASED ON 100 BOWLERS, PAID TO THE TOP 32 FINISHES

1st	-	\$15,000AUD Thanks to Love Shack Brewing Co.
Runner up	-	20% of Prize fund = \$900AUD*
2x Semi Finalist	-	10% of Prize fund = \$450AUD*
4x QTR Finalist	-	5% of Prize fund = \$225AUD*
8x Round of 16	-	2.5% of Prize Fund = \$112.5AUD*
16x Round of 32	-	1.25% of Prize Fund = \$56.25AUD*

*Prize fund is based on a full field of 100 competitors and is subject to change should entries differ.
Payout structure to be published prior to competition.

BOWLER INCENTIVES:
ALL TOP 100 FINALISTS WILL RECEIVE A P.A.B.O 26 MERCH PACK, INCLUDING AN OFFICIAL TOP
100 P.A.B.O 26 T-SHIRT
ROUND OF 32 WILL RECIEVE OFFICAL P.A.B.O26 FINALIST SHIRT

P.A.B.O. *Championship*

Saturday, August 1st, 2026

THE TOP 100

The 100 qualifiers (80 Victorian Qualifiers, 20 Tour Qualifiers) will be given a selected time on Saturday the 1st of August to bowl a 3 game series.

Group 1:

40 Bowlers (Victorian Qualifiers, 4 to a lane)

8.30am - Registration
8.50am - Warm up starts
9.00am - 3-Game Series Commences

Re Oil Lanes

Group 2:

40 Bowlers (Victorian Qualifiers, 4 to a lane)

12.00pm - Registration
12.20pm - Warm up starts
12.30pm - 3-Game Series Commences

Re Oil Lanes

Group 3:

16 Bowlers (Tour Qualifiers, 4 to a lane)

3.30pm - Registration
3.50pm - Warm up starts
4pm - 3-Game Series Commences

Who advances?

Top 32 Bowlers (based on total 3 game series pinfall) will advance to the Group stage on Sunday the 2nd of August 2026.

Tie breaks will be determined by count back with reference to scores made in each of the previous rounds until a higher score is determined.

1. Top 100 game 3
2. Top 100 game 2
3. Top 100 game 1
4. Qualifying Game Score

Sunday, August 2nd, 2026

THE TOP 32

All Finals matches are contested over one game and follow a progressive knockout format. Players will be seeded based on their total pinfall at the completion of the Top 100 on Saturday, August 1. In the event of a tied total pinfall, countback procedures as detailed on page 16 will determine final seeding. If a match is tied at the completion of the game within the Top 32, a Strike Off will be used to determine the winner. (see page 11 for the Strike of Rules)

P.A.B.O *Championship*

Sunday, August 2nd, 2026

ROUND OF 32

Eight groups of four bowlers will compete over eight lanes. Each group bowls one game.

- The highest total pinfall in each group advances directly to the Round of 16.
- The second highest score in each group progresses to the Elimination Round.
- The lowest 2 scores will be eliminated from the competition.

ELIMINATION ROUND

The second placed bowlers from Groups 1-4 will bowl in Elimination 1. The second placed bowlers from Groups 5-8 will bowl in Elimination 2.

- The top two scores from each group advance to the Round of 16.
- The lowest 2 scores from each group will be eliminated from the competition.

ROUND OF 16

Four groups of four bowlers will bowl one game.

Each group is made up from round of 32 winners, elimination round winner and Champions league qualifiers.

- The highest total pinfall in each group advances to the Round of 8.
- The second highest score in each group progresses to an Elimination Head to Head.
- The lowest 2 scores in each group will be eliminated from the competition.

ELIMINATION HEAD TO HEAD

Two head to head matches will be played over one game.

- The winners advance to the Round of 8, joining: The Carry Over Champion from PRO-AM25 and The Keys Champion League Champion.
- The lowest score will be eliminated from the competition.

ROUND OF 8

Two groups of four bowlers will bowl one game.

- The two highest total pinfalls in each group advance to the Semi Finals.
- The two lowest scores in each group are eliminated.

PRELIMINARY FINALS

Two head to head matches will be played over one game.

- The winners advance to the Championship Match.
- The losers will be eliminated from the competition.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

Two bowlers compete over one game.

The highest total pinfall will be crowned the P.A.B.O 2026 Champion.

P.A.B.O *Championship*

Sunday, August 2nd, 2026 - Time Schedule

Round of 32: 32 Bowlers (8 groups of 4 to a lane, Across lane 1 - 8)
Lane assignment chosen at random
9.00am Registration
9.30am Photos and Press
9.50am Warm up starts
10.00am Round of 32 commences

Elimination: 8 Bowlers (2 groups of 4 to a lane, Across lane 3-6)
Lane assignment chosen at random
10 Minute warm up time,
Starts 10 minutes from the last completed game of the round of 32
~11.00am Warm up starts
~11.10am Elimination round starts

Round of 16: 16 Bowlers (4 groups of 4 to a lane, Across lane 9-12)
Lane assignment chosen at random
10 Minute warm up time
Starts 10 minutes from the last completed game of the Elimination round
~11.50am Warm up starts
~12.00pm Elimination round starts

**Elimination
Head to Head:** 4 Bowlers (2 groups of 2 to a lane, Across lane 9-12)
Lane assignment chosen at random
10 Minute warm up time
Starts 10 minutes from the last completed game of the Round of 16
~1.00pm Warm up starts
~1.10pm Elimination round starts

2 Hour break
P.A.B.O Final 8 will begin at 3.30pm
Live stream to commence

**Round of 8:
Game 1**

4 Bowlers (1 groups of 4 to a lane, Across lane 5-6)
Lane assignment chosen at random
3.00pm Registration / Run through
3.40pm Player Presentations, Press, Interviews
3.50pm - Warm up starts (5 minutes)
3.55pm - Game 1 of The Round of 8 starts

**Round of 8:
Game 2**

4 Bowlers (1 groups of 4 to a lane, Across lane 5-6)
Lane assignment chosen at random
~4.40pm Player Presentations, Press, Interviews
~4.50pm Warm up starts
~5pm - Game 2 of The Round of 8 starts

**Prelims:
Game 1**

2 Bowlers (1 groups of 2 to a lane, Across lane 5-6)
Lane assignment chosen at random
5 Minute warm up time
Starts 5 minutes from the last completed game of the round of 8
~5.45pm Warm up starts
~5.50pm - Game 1 of The Round of 4 starts

**Prelims:
Game 2**

2 Bowlers (1 groups of 2 to a lane, Across lane 5-6)
Lane assignment chosen at random
5 Minute warm up time
Starts 5 minutes from the last completed game of the round of 4
~6.20pm Warm up starts
~6.25pm - Game 2 of The Round of 4 starts

Championship:

2 Bowlers (1 groups of 2 to a lane, Across lane 5-6)
Lane assignment chosen at random
5 Minute warm up time
Starts 5 minutes from the last completed game of the round of 8
~6.50pm Warm up starts
~7.00pm - Championship Match

LANE OILING SCHEDULE

The Keys Leisure Centre will be cleaning and and oiling the lanes every morning in the lead up to the Pro-Am (June 30th - July 30th) with the competition pattern that will be used throughout the entirety of the event.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- This tournament is a scratch event, open to all bowlers.
- Despite not being a TBA accredited event, all games will be bowled in accordance with TBA Rules & Regulations.
- In the event of any scoring faults, individual lane referees will adjudicate and make corrections with appeals escalated immediately to the Tournament Director.
- The International/National code of ethics rules apply.
- Any bowler found suspected of cheating via submission of false qualifying scores will be investigated, and if deemed deliberate, the Tournament director has the right to remove the bowler from the competition with no refund of fund relating to the qualifying period or tournament registration provided.
- Unlimited qualifying attempts are permitted however no bowler is permitted to have more than one entry in the finals event.
- Finals Registration Entry Fee: \$120 payable upon player registration prior to the start of the PABO26 Top 100 Finals.
- Refund of Entry Fees – Should a refund of a player's entry fee be required because of an event cancellation or approved refund by the tournament director, the full amount paid will be transferred to the player's nominated bank account.
- Lane draws will be posted approximately 30 mins prior to start time
- Check-in and briefing will take place 30 minutes prior to each days assigned start time.
- Any bowler that fails to check in will be replaced by the first available reserve.
- OILING: Uniform oiling shall be used throughout the entire tournament.
- Protests must be lodged with the Tournament Director within 15 minutes of the completion of bowling in which the incident occurred.
- Tie Breaking Procedures. In the event of a tie in any finals game a 'Strike off' will decide the placings. See page 11
- Any matters not covered in these conditions will be decided by the Tournament Director whose decision will be final.
- This tournament is being filmed and photographed for the purposes of Live-Streaming; The Key's promotional material; digital and physical publications; documentary purposes and a Bowling TV Show, which may be aired in Australia and internationally on Commercial and Publicly owned networks and streaming platforms. By entering this competition, you (the participant named on the registration form) grant The Keys Preston Pty Ltd and its successors, assignees and licensees the full and irrevocable right to produce, copy, distribute, exhibit or transmit your voice and likeness in connection with the production. The participants acknowledge that any picture or recording taken of the participant under the terms of this agreement becomes the sole and exclusive property of The Keys Preston Pty Ltd in perpetuity and throughout the world. The participant further acknowledges that The Keys Pty Ltd has the right to use your name, portrait, voice and biographical information to promote or publicise the production and the venue and to authorize other parties to do the same. The participant agrees that no photos, footage or other material need be submitted to them for approval prior to usage. The participant acknowledges that The Keys Preston Pty Ltd has the right to assign the rights listed and agreed above, onto any other organisation or individual. The participant acknowledges that no financial or other form of remuneration will be provided for listed agreements. The participant acknowledges that they are free to enter into this agreement.

CONTACT

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