

News Story

Indianapolis to host youth events in 2009, 2010

6/25/2008

The United States Bowling Congress has reached an agreement to conduct the USBC Junior Gold Championships and the USBC Youth Open Championships in the Indianapolis metropolitan area in 2009 and 2010.

The USBC Junior Gold Championships is the nation's premier competition for high-average youth bowlers and will be conducted for the 12th consecutive year. The event is expected to draw more than 2,000 athletes and their families to the Indianapolis area as bowlers compete for the crown of U.S. Junior Amateur champion.

The USBC Youth Open Championships is open to all USBC Youth members and will be conducted for the third consecutive year. That event is expected to draw nearly 3,000 bowlers.

It is estimated that these events will bring \$10 million in business to the local economy.

"Indianapolis last hosted the Junior Gold event in 2005 and we were extremely pleased with the success of that year's event," USBC Director of Youth Development Brian Graham said. "The facilities available to us in the Indianapolis area are second to none, which makes that city a perfect fit for these extremely important youth championships."

The Junior Gold Championships will take place at Woodland Bowl, Expo Bowl and Western Bowl from July 11-17, 2009 while the Youth Open will be conducted at Expo Bowl from July 16-25, 2009.

In a change from past years, the Pepsi USBC Youth Championships will no longer be conducted at the national level. The program will continue at the local and state level with scholarship dollars continuing to be awarded to bowlers. The top two male and top two female players in the scratch division from each state will advance to the Junior Gold Championships.

"The Pepsi championships are an excellent competitive opportunity for youth members at the local and state levels and we hope all those players will strive to advance to the Junior Gold Championships at some point," Graham said. "Increased travel expenses were cost prohibitive for many of the Pepsi national finalists, preventing their participation and prompting changes to the program. The championships still have USBC's complete support at the local and state levels."