

**JULY 30, 2020**

# CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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## WESLEY LOW JR. ROLLS 900 SERIES

by Matt Cannizzaro - Bowl.com

ARLINGTON, Texas - Former Team USA member Wesley Low Jr. of Palm-dale, California, is familiar with being a record holder, and he claimed another special place in bowling history Sunday when he rolled three consecutive perfect games during tournament competition.

This record never can be beaten, however, and Low's name permanently will be etched into the United States Bowling Congress record book as the 36th bowler to roll a 900 series.

The 23-year-old left-hander, who uses a two-handed approach, was competing in the 44th Annual Ponderosa Singles Classic at Glenfair Lanes in Glendale, Arizona. He started the 10-game event with 36 consecutive strikes across two pairs of lanes. All competitors bowled two games

on each of the five pairs they visited. Low's fourth game was 249.

"I don't think I've ever bowled back-to-back 300s, so that was a cool way to start the day, but it didn't sink in until about the seventh frame of the last game that I had a chance at 900," Low said. "I really made an effort to stay calm and refocus. I still can't believe it happened. I always said I felt like I had a better chance at a hole-in-one in golf than 36 strikes in a row, and I'm not even that good at golf. To shoot 900, things really have to go your way. You need to make a lot of great shots, but you also need some breaks along the way."

Previously, Low earned recognition as the youngest bowler to win a Professional Bowlers Association regional event, which he



did at 15 as a non-member. Not long after, he claimed the all-events gold medal at the 2014 World Bowling Youth Championships with a record 18-game total of

4,224, a 234.6 average.

His latest achievement is pending approval from USBC. It would be the first perfect series of the 2019-2020 season and 37th

USBC-approved 900 overall.

The record run helped Low to a 10-game total of 2,453, which unofficially earned him a ninth-place

finish in the handicap event.

One part of the experience that caught Low off guard was how quiet the continued on page 5

## Kris Prather Ends As King But PDW Steals The Show

by Lucas Wiseman

JUPITOR FL – On a night when Pete Weber came to play, Kris Prather was up to the challenge.

Prather was able to finish the three-night run of the 2020 PBA King of the Lanes with the crown on his head as he beat Weber, 279-226, in the final match of the event in Jupiter, Florida. Weber put up a fight, however, and was in the match late. The final score was not an indicator of just how close the match was.

After seven frames, the match was even with both players leaving and converting a 10 pin early. In the eighth frame on the right lane, however, Weber got the ball a little inside and left a blower seven pin on a tough break.

Moments later, Prather stepped up on the right lane in the ninth frame and missed left as well but luck was on his side. He broke up the 4-7-10 late for a strike and it was the difference maker in the match.



Despite the fact that Prather ended the event as the king, Weber stole the show in the final hour.

In the contenders match against Kyle Troup, Weber put on an afro wig as the match got underway.

A few frames later after he struck, Weber pulled a hair pic out of his pocket and picked out his own hair at Troup as he went on to a 235-227 victory.

In classic Weber fashion, he also called out someone

off set for laughing in the middle of his backswing. Later on Twitter, PBA CEO Colie Edison said it was her. Fortunately for Weber (and probably Edison), he struck on the shot.

Prather earned the crown in the first hour of the night when he defeated reigning king Sean Rash, 243-213.

It was a close match early but a blowout 7-10 split by Rash in the sixth frame was a tough pill to swallow. Prather was able to stay

ahead of Rash and got the first hit in the 10th to lock up the win.

Prather started his night by taking down Gazmine Mason, 230-194. Leading the match heading into the ninth frame, Mason left a rocking 10 pin and missed it, a mistake that ultimately cost her a shot at the win.

The next scheduled event for the PBA right now is the PBA League, currently scheduled to be held the end of September.



## BOBBY "The Cat" LYONS is Still Roaring

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS – This is my tribute to my longtime friend and "Big Brother" Bobby Lyons. For years Bobby always referred to me as his "Little Brother". It is a moniker I will always be proud of because of the person Bobby Lyons is.

Bobby is at the same time one of the fiercest competitors you will ever meet on the lanes and yet one of the nicest guys on GOD'S green earth. He is one of a kind. His bowling game roars with talent while his personality purrs. He is mild mannered and liked by everyone. He has a heart of gold and always exhibits a huge smile for everyone. Bobby "The

Cat" Lyons is special, a wonderful human being. Bobby, Thank You for being who you are.

Though he is approaching his mid-eighties "The Cat" is still on the prowl and roaring when on the lanes. Lyons has the same passion for the sport of Bowling as when I first met him about 25 years ago. While physical difficulties have slowed him down there has been no diminishment in his mental capacity or reduction in his awareness of the complexities inherent in the sport of Bowling. Bobby still knows more about the sport of Bowling than me or any other bowler who frequents continued on page 7





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# Here’s a Bowling Terminology Quiz to Pass the Time

by Fred Eisenhammer

Have some time on your hands because your bowling center is still closed? To keep you in the game, here’s a Bowling Terminology Quiz to get you back thinking about your sport. This quiz is designed to enrich your bowling experience because it’s helpful to know the jargon that other players casually toss around. But first, here’s some bowling humor to get you in the mood of taking this quiz:  
“When bowling, remember you don’t have to join the union to be striking.” And: “Went bowling with some friends the other day. Thought I should go first, just to get the ball rolling” Now that you’re ready (hopefully!), here goes the Bowling Terminology Quiz:

1 – What is “Grandma’s teeth?”

- a) A random group of pins that is left standing from one end of the lane to the other.
- b) A split that occurs after a slow-moving and lightweight ball enters the “mouth” of the pins.
- c) A straight-on shot typically rolled by a senior bowler with little “bite” to it.

2 – What is a “clean game?”

- a) A game in which a player finishes without an open frame.
- b) A game in which a team “throws in the towel” and concedes when it falls too far behind its opponent.
- c) A game in which a player shoots 10 open frames.

3 – What is a “field goal?”

- a) A score of three pins in a frame.
- b) A ball rolled between two pins of a wide split without knocking down either pin.
- c) When a player kicks the ball return three times after a poor shot.

4 – What is “smashmouth” bowling?

- a) Rolling a blazing fastball at the head pin.
- b) Bowling before the pins are re-set.
- c) When a bowler’s shot results in the chipping of a pin, which then has to be replaced.

5 – What is a “garbage hit?”

- a) A direct hit on the head pin on a strike ball that nets only five pins.
- b) A hit that causes a pin to wobble but not fall.
- c) A badly thrown shot but one that still results in a strike.

6 – What is “throwing rocks?”

- a) Piling up strikes with a speed ball.
- b) Caving into pressure on the last two frames.
- c) Throwing repeated gutter balls.

7 – What is a “sixpack?”

- a) Six strikes in a row.
- b) Six opens in a row.
- c) Six spares in a row.

8 – What is a “perfect game?”

- a) A score of 300, or a game of all strikes, 12 in all.
- b) A score of 300, or a game of all strikes, 10 in all.
- c) A score of 200.

9 – What is a “turkey?”

- a) Three strikes in a row.
- b) A bowler who lets his or her team down in the 10th frame.
- c) A derogatory term for a league member who continually bowls on the wrong lane.

10 – What is an “anchor?”

- a) The last person to bowl for a team in league play. This player is usually the best bowler and the most clutch performer.
- b) A bowler whose abnormally low score keeps the team from winning.
- c) Another term for the 7-10 split.

Extra credit – What is an “X?”

- a) The symbol for a replacement player on a league team.
- b) The symbol for a foul.
- c) The symbol for a strike.
- d) The symbol for a zero score given to a player in a frame as a penalty for an X-rated comment.

Here are the answers:

1a; 2a; 3b; 4a; 5c; 6a; 7a; 8a; 9a; 10a, Extra credit c

Scoring:

- 9-11 correct: A kingpin.
- 7-8: An expert.
- 5-6: Still learning the game.
- 0-4: Needs to enroll in a bowling course.

## BOWLING CALENDAR

SPECIAL NOTICE: PLEASE CHECK WITH EACH EVENT IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE TO BE SURE THE CENTER IS OPEN FOR THE EVENT

### JULY

by Bette Addington

USBC Open Nationals, National Bowling Stadium, Reno, NV—CANCELED (2021 will be in Las Vegas, NV)  
USBC Women’s Nationals, SouthPoint, Las Vegas, NV—CANCELED, bowl.com (2021 will be in Addison, IL)  
20th Summer TAT, The Orleans, Las Vegas—CANCELED, 1/844/321-8100

Now thru Aug. 30: Sam’s Town Open Spring Trio Tournament, Sat. & Sun., squads at 11am, 1pm, 3pm, Las Vegas, NV, Entry fee \$105 per trio team, walk-ins welcome/reservations recommended, 702/454-8022

30-2 – 21st PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mxd. Doubles Tourn., Copperfield Bowl, Houston, pba.com—CANCELED  
31-2 – 12th Cal Bowlers Tour Reno Invitational, National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 925/757-2695, CalBowlerTour@aol.com  
31-2 – PBA50 West Regional, Epicenter, Klamath Falls, OR, gary.mage@pba.com

### AUGUST

- 1 – Bowling Ball Spec. goes into effect on NO BALANCE HOLES
- 1 – USBC Youth Max. Age change from 20 to 18
- 1-30 – The Mega Bowling Tournament (Singles, Dbls., Team, All Events), Wink’s Silver Strike, Douglas, NV, 775/762-5018
- 2 – Bowlero Fontana Senior (50+) Scratch 6 Gamer, 8am, Bowlero/Foothill Lanes, Fontana, 909/822-9900
- 2-7 – 2020 Teen Masters, Richmond, VA, TeenMastersBowling.com
- 5-20 – Military Team Classic, SouthPoint, Las Vegas—CANCELED
- 7-9 – PBA Tony Reyes Memorial West/NW Member/Non-Member Doubles, 4th St. Bowl, San Jose—CANCELED
- 8 – CUSBC Diddy Watts Challenge Finals, Rancho Bowl, Santa Maria—CANCELED
- 8-9 – Elite Bowling Club 4 Squad Scratch 5 Gamer, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 909/450-9415—SOLD OUT!
- 8 – National Bowling Day, 2020
- 15-16 – 24th Brunswick Modesto Masters, Yosemite Lanes, Modesto, 209/524-9161
- 16 – 12th Laughlin Blast/Sr. No-Tap Handicap Dbls., Riverside Lanes, Laughlin, 619/251-9660

Calendar brought to you by California Bowling Writers ([www.calbowlingwriters.org](http://www.calbowlingwriters.org))  
Email your upcoming events for inclusion to [baddington@addington.net](mailto:baddington@addington.net)





# Malott Defends Crown At King Of The Lanes

by Lucas Wiseman  
The King is Back

Wes Malott, the undisputed king of bowling, will returned to the lanes to take on new challengers as the PBA King of the Lanes gets underway. Standing in his way of keeping the crown is a long list of PBA and PWBA stars who will try to take it from him over the next three nights.

In the first contenders match, bowling legends Walter Ray Williams Jr. and Norm Duke will battle for the right to dethrone Malott.

The action continues tonight as Anthony Simonsen and EJ Tackett will face off to take on whomever survived the earlier matches.

Over the next three nights a variety of players will have a chance to become the king (or queen) with Bill O’Neill, Sean Rash, Jakob Butturff, Clara Guerrero, Kris Prather, Gazmine Mason, Kyle Troup and Pete Weber waiting for their chance.

## Results Night 1

**Contenders Match 1**  
Norm Duke def. Walter Ray Williams Jr., 266-211

**King Match 1**  
Duke def. Wes Malott, 248-219. Duke is the new King.

**Contenders Match 2**  
Anthony Simonsen def. EJ Tackett, 217-193

**King Match 2**  
Simonsen vs. Duke, 198-185. Duke remains King.

## Results Night 2

**Contenders Match 3**  
Sean Rash def. Bill O’Neill, 256-227

**King Match 3**  
Rash def. Norm Duke, 262-255. Rash is the new King.

**Contenders Match 4**  
Clara Guerrero def. Jakob Butturff, 204-195

**King Match 4**  
Rash def. Guerrero, 289-237. Rash remains King.

## Results Night 3

**Contenders Match 5**  
Kris Prather def. Gazmine Mason, 230-194

**King Match 5**  
Prather def. Sean Rash, 243-213. Prather is the new king.

**Contenders Match 6**  
Pete Weber def. Kyle Troup, 235-227

**King Match 6**  
Prather def. Weber, 279-226. Prather remains king.



# Duke Rules The First Night At King Of The Lanes

by Lucas Wiseman  
2020 PBA King of the Lanes Norm Duke

Monday night’s PBA King of the Lanes show turned out to be a masterclass in how to and how not to break down the lanes on a very scorable lane condition.

Norm Duke ruled the day, topping reigning king Wes Malott and then challenger Anthony Simonsen to sit on the throne heading into the second night. And the first hour of Monday’s show was vastly different than the second hour at Bowlero Jupiter in Florida.

In a high-scoring opening hour, Duke took down Walter Ray Williams Jr., 267-211, for the right to take on Malott.

Duke and Williams broke the lanes down perfectly, setting up a very scorable environment and Williams got off to a hot start with the front four. But then he pulled the ball high in the fifth frame and left the 6-7-10 split for an open. He was unable to keep up after that miss, however, as Duke strung together nine strikes in a row.

Duke then dethroned Malott, 248-219, in a match that Malott actually led after seven frames. Disaster struck for Malott in the eighth frame, however, when he left the Greek Church for an open. A nine pin in the ninth frame all but ended his night.

After the first two matches, the lanes were reoiled for the next set of contenders and the outcome could not have been more different.

EJ Tackett and Anthony Simonsen started too deep and caused the lanes to break down very unfavorably. The result was a relatively low-scoring match.

Trailing by 19 pins after four frames, Simonsen resorted to using a backup ball the rest of the game and pulled away for a 217-193 victory. Much like over the weekend at the PBA Tour Finals, Tackett never looked comfortable as he only struck once in the first six frames.

"I think me and EJ showed why when league bowlers get upset when their teammates start at 20 or 25," Simonson told Randy Pedersen during the show. "We just didn't really develop anything to the right side of the lane. So the fronts are kind gross and there's no hold down the lane."

With the pattern now a mess, Duke came on to defend his crown and it didn’t take long before he decided to take the pattern out of play. Duke decided in the third frame to throw the ball straight and it worked well as he defeated Simonsen 198-185.

Simonsen started the game throwing from the right side, switch to a backup ball and eventually tried throwing urethane straighter.

In the end, Simonsen gave himself a shot to win but he was unable to get the necessary double in the 10th frame, leaving a high four pin on his first shot.

The three-night King of the Lanes event will continue Tuesday live on FS1 (United States) and FloBowling (international) with Duke set to defend his crown.



# Rash Nearly Perfect As He Becomes New King

by Lucas Wiseman  
2020 PBA King of the Lanes Sean Rash

A night after the lanes broke down in disastrous fashion, the opposite happened at the 2020 PBA King of the Lanes and Sean Rash was there to take advantage of it.



Rash knocked off reigning king Norm Duke and then successfully defended his crown against Clara Guerrero on Tuesday night in Jupiter, Florida.

With four righthanders who played the lanes straighter along with a lefty, the lanes broke down perfectly on both shows and Rash made the most of it.

On the first show, Rash started off his night by defeating Bill O’Neill, 256-227, as he used some good fortunate in the ninth frame to all but put the match away. Working on six in a row, Rash got the ball way wide and barely clipped the headpin but it was enough to trip out the 2-8-10 for a strike.

O’Neill started the match with the front six but left a 3-4-6-7 split in the seventh for an open. A blower seven pin in the ninth frame doomed him.

Rash faced his toughest challenge of the night against Duke, who was not eager to give up his crown. But in the end Rash survived with a 262-255 victory.

Finishing the match first, Duke had a chance to strike on his first shot in the 10th to win the match but a rolling messenger failed to take out the 10 pin.

Needing a double and four pins, Rash struck out to secure the win and snatch the crown.

On the second show of the night, Guerrero, the first of two women competing in the King of the Lanes, picked up a big win over lefty Jakob Butturff, 204-195.

Guerrero led the entire match and just needed a mark in the final frame to lock up the win. She left a 10 pin but converted it perfectly to advance.

While that match was going on, Rash was sitting on his throne licking his chops at the way Guerrero had broken down the lanes. The stage was set for Rash to have a big game and that’s exactly what happened.

Rash said he was able to throw some practice shots right on top of where Guerrero was bowling to create more area. He then moved a little left and tossed strike after strike.

In the end, Rash had a shot at a perfect game in the final frame but on his 11th shot stuffed a four pin to end his run. He won the match easily, 289-237.



# It's a Small World, This Bowling World of Ours

by Dave Williams

An interesting article by Fred Eisenhammer caught my attention in the July 9th edition of the California Bowling News, titled *“It’s Difficult to Accept the End of an Era.”* The topics discussed in the piece brought back many fond memories, as I took a ride to my Mini-Storage Museum to see if I could dig up some supporting materials.

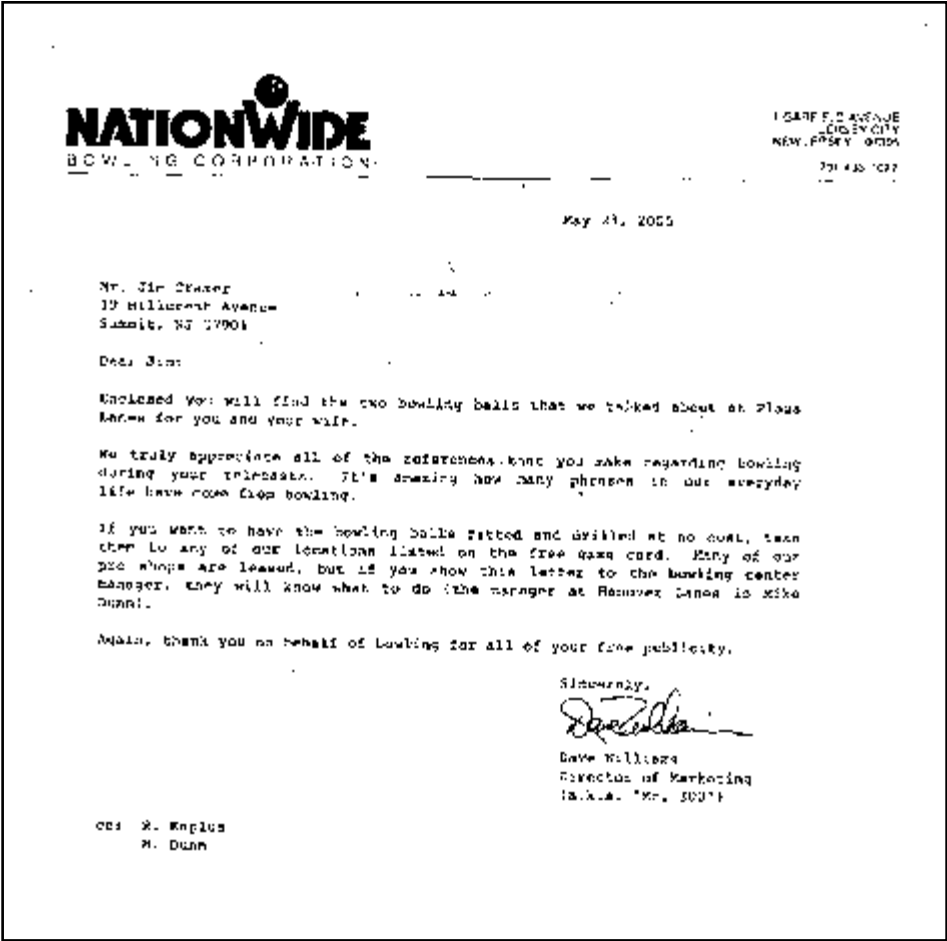
Whether or not Fred and I have met over the years is really not important, but our backgrounds seem to indicate that we must be about the same age. I too remember when Jim Cramer developed his own “Mad Money” television show for CNBC back in 2005. It was like 1966 all over again for me, when as a teenager I couldn’t wait for Batman to air a couple of nights a week on ABC-TV!

Cramer’s show began as a 6:00PM show on CNBC, but within a short amount of time CNBC began repeating the broadcast at 9:00PM and 11:00PM each night. That was just fine with me, because most nights I just was not able to get home for that first airing. And for anyone with even just a small interest in stocks, Cramer made it so much fun to watch... even resorting to throwing chairs against the walls whenever he was upset with a company’s performance.

The more that I became a fan of the show, the more I began to appreciate his interest in bowling, as one of his first sound effects was for something he called “pin action - compliments of the Plaza Lanes in Madison, New Jersey.” Then Cramer began plugging fundraisers at Plaza Lanes for his charitable trust. “If you’re in the area, come on out and meet me tonight,” he would often say.

On a particular evening that I was at Hanover Lanes, a nearby property owned by Nationwide Bowling, I decided that I would stop by and check out Cramer’s fundraiser at Plaza Lanes on my way home. When I arrived, there was no one at the door, as the party was already underway. I asked if Jim Cramer was there and someone pointed behind the bar. There he was, tending bar and playing the gracious host.

He was most congenial and asked me to have a seat at the bar while he continued making drinks for the upscale crowd which was made up of Fortune 500 elites from the area (there are many!). During our conversation I asked if he was going to be bowling and he said that he didn’t even own his own bowling ball.



2005 - A special note of thanks to CNBC's Jim Cramer for all of his free bowling publicity.

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1990 - The centerfold of this ARC brochure highlighted the benefits of owning ARC stock, including the Distinguished Shareholder Pass.

Well, that was the opportunity that I was looking for, and before the night was over, I had secured ball weights, colors and matching ensembles for Jim and his wife.

Cramer never forgot that moment of generosity and on a couple of occasions gave me unsolicited thanks for the bowling equipment with the wink of an eye during his program. He even conducted a couple of his fundraisers at Hanover Lanes when Plaza Lanes could not accommodate him, which more than made up for the complimentary bowling equipment.

As I continued reading Eisenhammer’s article, I also enjoyed the reference to the Brunswick Recreation Centers VIP Lifetime Pass. It reminded me of a similar program that American Recreation Centers (ARC) had called the Distinguished Shareholder Card. To become a Distinguished Shareholder with ARC, you were required to purchase 300 or more shares of ARC stock to receive free open play practice bowling at any ARC bowling center when lanes were available. As long as you continued to own 300 or more shares of stock, the offer was extended to the next year.

The promotion was so impressive to me that I purchased 300 shares of ARC stock while living and working for AMF in Richmond, Virginia. Since ARC’s closest center was in Houston, Texas, you can see the effect that it had on potential customers from coast to coast. Robert Feuchter, the founder of ARC, once confided that the Distinguished Shareholder concept was a very important promotion in the early years of the company, helping to provide the necessary capital to grow the business from the original 3 locations in Monterey, Hayward and Sacramento.

It’s interesting to note that at one time Brunswick Recreation Centers (BRC) was by far the largest operator of bowling centers, with close to 500 locations worldwide. While the vast majority of AMF’s locations were acquired by default and bankruptcy, Brunswick was actually in the business of building bowling centers to operate, sometimes to the detriment of their overall operation, which included the sale of bowling equipment.

When AMF decided to follow Brunswick’s lead and seek sites for new construction, they sent me to Brunswick’s Management School so that we could develop our own management program... with Brunswick’s approval! I actually became a trainer for the Bowling Proprietors Association of America in conducting “The Winning Series,” a program developed by Brunswick for Manager Trainees. It’s a small world, this bowling world of ours!





## A man wearing a white baseball cap with a black logo, glasses, and a blue t-shirt with a graphic that says "MOTIV" is smiling. He is holding a blue and purple bowling ball in his left hand and a white sign in his right hand. The sign reads "900 SERIES" and "7-19-2020". He is standing in a bowling alley with bowling lanes and pins visible in the background.

36-lane bowling center got as he approached perfection.

"After each of the first two 300s, people came down to congratulate me, but when I turned around and looked up after the third one, it seemed like the whole place was behind me, and everyone had their phones out to get a video," Low said. "I've never seen a place completely stop like that, but it was an awesome experience. After that, I knew I still needed to bowl really well to have a chance in the tournament, but even if things didn't keep going my way, I wanted to get the highest score possible."

Like most bowlers, Low's time on the lanes this year has been limited by the unprecedented COVID-19. The pandemic also brought his rookie campaign on the PBA Tour to a halt after just a few months and a handful of events.

Even with some early success on the PBA Tour, Low felt like the break actually might have been for the best. He didn't feel like his career got off to the hottest start, but the few events he did compete in were a huge learning opportunity and gave him ideas about the things he'd need to work on.

Since the World Series of Bowling XI concluded in March, Low has made a few trips to Arizona to practice and train, though much of his time has been spent on schoolwork, as he closes in on earning his MBA (Master of Business Administration) from Wichita State University.

"My goal is to bowl well on tour and continue to have the chance to bowl for Team USA, and while my season wasn't the best overall, it did give me a lot to work on," Low said. "I learned what it took to be a better youth bowler and then a better amateur bowler and then a better collegiate bowler, and I'm ready for the next step. But, while we're not bowling as much, it's also the perfect time to

continued on page 6



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### 900 Series continued from page 5

finish my MBA, which is very important to me, too." This week's visit to Arizona came on a whim, when the current state of COVID-19 slowed progress in California and forced the cancellation of the PBA regional Low was planning to attend. His friends in Arizona convinced him to fly down to get sharp for an upcoming PBA regional in Las Vegas, and the Ponderosa event offered a last-minute competitive opportunity.

Prior to Sunday's trifecta, Low was the owner of 22 USBC-certified perfect games and 14 series of 800 or better, with a previous high of 833. Two of those 300s came at the USBC Team USA Trials in 2015 and 2018, respectively, while an additional one, not part of his USBC record, came at the 2014 World Youth Championships.

Low's list of accolades also includes a pair of wins at the Junior Gold Championships in 2013 and 2017, both in the 20-and-under category, five appearances on Junior Team USA and more than two dozen international medals, including five gold medals in three trips to the World Youth Championships.

In 2019, he earned a spot on the adult version of Team USA for the first time as the runner-up to longtime Team USA member John Janawicz at the Team USA Trials. Low then went on to defeat Janawicz for the men's title at the 2019 United States National Amateur Bowling Championships, which ran concurrently with the Team Trials.

Low's recent jump to the professional ranks was a long time coming, but certainly very calculated, as well. He had success in PBA regional competition as a youth bowler and won four times as a non-member, and the fast success could have made anyone extra eager to experience the next level. Low, however, was focused on finishing his youth career and moving on to bowl collegiately. He recently put the finishing touches on an All-America career at Wichita State, where he earned a bachelor's degree in management.

Now a full-time touring member of the PBA, Low is ready to resume his rookie campaign and globetrotting ways, and he knows he'll return to the lanes mentally and physically stronger. He'll also be more familiar with his bowling equipment, which was new to him in January when he switched to a new brand.

While he waits for the world to return to normal after COVID-19, school will be a priority, with an expected completion date in the fall of 2020 or spring of 2021.

The first USBC-approved 900 occurred Feb. 2, 1997, when Jeremy Sonnenfeld rolled three consecutive perfect games in Lincoln, Nebraska.

For more information on any USBC records, visit [BOWL.com/Records](http://BOWL.com/Records).

#### USBC-Approved 900 Series (37)

- Jeremy Sonnenfeld (R), Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 2, 1997
- Tony Roventini (L), Greenfield, Wis., Nov. 9, 1998
- Vince Wood (R), Moreno Valley, Calif., Sept. 29, 1999
- Robby Portalatin (L), Jackson, Mich., Dec. 28, 2000
- James Hylton (R), Salem, Ore., May 2, 2001
- Jeff Campbell II (R), New Castle, Pa., June 12, 2004
- Darin Pomije (R), New Prague, Minn., Dec. 9, 2004
- Robert Mushtare (R), Fort Drum, N.Y., Dec. 5, 2005 and Feb. 19, 2006
- Lonnie Billiter Jr. (R), Fairfield, Ohio, Feb. 13, 2006
- Mark Wukoman (R), Greenfield, Wis., April 22, 2006
- P.J. Giesfeldt (R), Milwaukee, Dec. 23, 2006
- Rich Jerome Jr. (R), Baltimore, Dec. 22, 2008
- Chris Aker (L), Winnemucca, Nev., Oct. 30, 2009
- Andrew Teall (R), Medford, N.J., Nov. 2, 2009
- Andrew Mank (R), Belleville, Ill., March 18, 2010
- William Howell III (L), Middletown, N.Y., Oct. 21, 2010
- Matt Latarski (R), Medina, Ohio, Nov. 28, 2010
- Bob Kammer Jr. (R), Crown Point, Ind., Jan. 8, 2011
- John Martorella Sr. (R), Greece, N.Y., April 12, 2012
- Jimmy Schmitzer (R), Riverside, Calif., April 20, 2012
- James Williams (R), Pawcatuck, Conn., (bowled in Wakefield, R.I.), April 16, 2013
- Joe Scarborough (R), Charlotte, N.C., (bowled in The Villages, Fla.), April 21, 2013
- Todd James (R), East New Market, Md., (bowled in Laurel, Del.), March 18, 2014
- Amos Gordon (R), Colorado Springs, Colo., April 11, 2014
- Earon Vollmar (R), Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 19, 2015
- Hakim Emmanuel (R), Stoughton, Mass., Feb. 19, 2015
- David Sewesky (L), Dearborn, Mich., Jan. 10, 2016
- Dale Gerhard (R), Mill Hall, Pa., Jan. 12, 2016
- Sean Osbourn (R), Houston, Nov. 21, 2016
- John Buchanan III (R), Evansville, Ind., Jan. 11, 2017
- Sam Esposito (R), Homer Glen, Ill., Feb. 3, 2017
- Brady Stearns (R), St. Cloud, Minn., March 28, 2017
- Joe Novara (R), East Patchogue, N.Y., Oct. 16, 2017
- Jonathan Wilbur (R), North Clarendon, Vt., Jan. 14, 2019
- Jeremy Milito (L), Holbrook, N.Y., April 25, 2019
- Wesley Low Jr. (L), Palmdale, Calif. (bowled in Glendale, Ariz.), July 19, 2020\*\*
- \*\* Pending formal approval by the United States Bowling Congress.



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Lyons continued from page 1

Empire Bowl.

Bobby Lyons has been the dominant senior league bowler at Empire Bowl over the last 20 years. Two decades of excellence. From 2000 to 2020 Bobby has averaged 200 or higher every year. He averaged 220 for the first time in 2006 when he was approaching 70 years of age! From then on, he pretty much averaged over 220 until he turned 80.

During his top senior league years Bobby regularly averaged in the 230s with a high of 235 in 2011, when he was in his mid 70s!

Bobby rolled several 800 series in Empire Bowl’s senior leagues and at one time held the all-time house senior league series record of 829. During these last two decades in the senior leagues Bobby rolled at least one perfect 300 game every season.

In addition to scoring higher than anyone else in Empire Bowl’s senior leagues during most of the last two decades he was the best of Empire Bowl’s senior league bowlers because he was the most knowledgeable, most accurate, most consistent and smoothest senior league bowler.

Bobby’s bowling knowledge comes from his training as a silver coach. He used his acquired knowledge to develop superior bowling skills and fine-tune his bowling game. Bobby’s training and knowledge led to his unique ability to accurately match bowling balls to his bowling style. This made scoring easier. This rare ability was developed as a result of his coaching knowledge and ball drilling experience.

When someone is able to expertly match equipment to form and style you have bowling Nirvana. Bobby is one of a few bowlers I know capable of doing this.

Bobby’s silver coaching training also allowed him to develop a smooth effortless style that made him more accurate and consistent than any other senior league bowler.

Simply put Bobby Lyons was and still is a great bowler. In his heyday nothing rattled him, and he was oblivious to pressure. I watched him roll long strings of strikes with ease. Nothing phased him. He bowled as if he was a machine.

I look forward to the end of this pandemic so I can watch Bobby Lyons bowl again. I wrote about Bobby several times in the past describing how “Bobby Lyons Roared” on the lanes. “Bobby ‘The Cat’ Lyons is Still Roaring”.

**The California Bowling Writers has adopted Operation Freedom Paws!**  
*Operation Freedom Paws nonprofit organization was founded by “California Bowler and Veteran” Mary Cortani in 2010 that has provided service dogs and training support to veterans and others who suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome, complex PTSD, traumatic brain injury and other physical, neurological, psychological and mobility needs. According to experts, service dogs help empower people with disabilities to live quality lives.*  
*Operation Freedom Paws carefully matches clients with their specially chosen four-legged companions, most of which come from rescue shelters. The partners then begin a 48-week program which trains the clients to train their own dogs. At the end of the program, they’re certified together as service dog teams.*

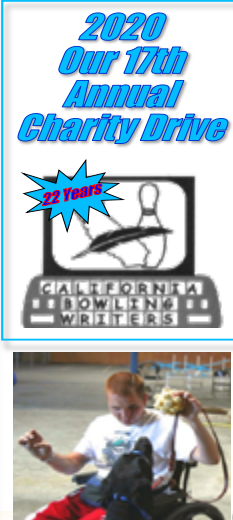
*Make donations payable to CBW and mail to Treasurer Tina Martin, 57 Shields Lane, Novato, CA 94947-3877.*  
*“We are pleased to continue supporting Vets.”*

**Donation deadline:  
December 31, 2020**

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CBW's OFP Third Annual  
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Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020  
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*Thanks for supporting our veterans!  
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**Sunday, September 27, 2020 at 9:00am**  
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**THREE DIVISIONS:**  
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**USBC Certified event**  
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**\*Youth may participate,**  
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**ENTRY FEES:**  
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**Bowl.com printouts required for Apprentice entries.**

**FORMAT: 5 GAMES QUALIFYING.** The top 6 bowlers in each division will advance to a single game double elimination bracket. Champions will be crowned in each division. The three champions will bowl a one game match (scratch) to determine the overall champion of the tournament.

Contact Andre by email at aweubanks@yahoo.com or call (323) 252-7904 or with any questions.

**PAY WITH PAYPAL AND DOWNLOAD ENTRY FORM AT SLACUSBC.COM**

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