

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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LPBT CO-FOUNDER, PWBA HALL OF FAMER JOHN FALZONE DIES AT AGE 80

ARLINGTON, Texas – John Falzone of Morris Chapel, Tennessee, co-founder of the Ladies Professional Bowlers Tour and a Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Famer, died Monday at the age of 80.

Falzone co-founded the LPBT in 1981 shortly after the dissolution of the Women's Professional Bowlers Association.

He served as both LPBT President and Commissioner while tour continued on page 5



USBC AND LAS VEGAS EVENTS, SOUTH POINT EXTEND AGREEMENT THROUGH 2039

by Aaron Smith

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress will continue to bring top-tier competition to Las Vegas through 2039 after extending its agreement with Las Vegas Events and the South Point Hotel and Casino.

The extension will continue to bring the USBC Open and Women's Championships to

the South Point Bowling Plaza, a 60-lane tournament venue located on the South Point property, as part of the current three-year cycle.

The Open Championships now will be at the Bowling Plaza in 2024, 2027, 2030, 2033, 2036 and 2039. The Women's Championships will be hosted at the facility in continued on page 5

EJ TACKETT WINS SECOND TITLE OF SEASON AT PBA SHAWNEE CLASSIC

by Nolan Hughes

SHAWNEE, OK – For the second time this season, EJ Tackett earned the No. 1 seed. For the second time this year, Tackett needed a strike in the 10th frame to win the title, this time at Firelake Bowling Center during the PBA Shawnee Classic.

And for the second time this year, Tackett delivered in the clutch. In a battle between the two most recent Triple Crown winners, he defeated Dom Barrett, 231-226, to win the PBA Shawnee Classic and claim his 18th career PBA Tour title.

"I've been there so many times over the years and either thrown bad shots or thrown good shots and got nine," Tackett said. "I feel like



(L-R) Proprietor Chris Skillings and Champion EJ Tackett

I'm on the roller coaster. You just have to take the good and the bad, continue to put yourself in position, do the best that you can and let the pins fall where they may."

The 30-year-old led the field by 545 pins, a margin of more than 15 pins per game, to earn the top seed.

"This pattern developed and ended up playing, to me, very similar to the fourth pattern at the U.S. Open," he said. "I've always bowled well here (at Firelake). A lot of things gave me confidence, so when I saw my ball start striking, it really loosened up my swing."

Despite two low-

scoring matches on the championship pair, Tackett knew that wouldn't hold true for long against Barrett.

"Dom Barrett is obviously one of the greatest players of the time, so I fully anticipated him to bowl a good game," Tackett said. "I never ex-

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USBC SMART PROGRAM MAKES \$7 MILLION EARNING ALLOCATION

by Aaron Smith

ARLINGTON, Texas – The USBC SMART program is making an investment earnings allocation of \$7 million to provide additional scholarships for youth bowlers. The \$7 million allocation is consistent with funding provided in 2022 and matches the largest investment earnings allocation in SMART history.

Due to a new policy adopted in 2021, a portion of the allocation will immediately go to new scholarships for youth bowlers. SMART has seen significant success with more scholarship funds being paid for the benefit of students. In 2022, SMART processed the largest total disbursements in pro-

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UV CONTENT NO LONGER A MANDATORY LANE OIL ADDITIVE

by Dave Schroeder

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress will no longer require UV content as a mandatory additive in USBC-approved lane oils but will continue to use lane oil with the UV additive for its championship tournaments.

The decision comes after USBC received comments from lane oil manufacturers Brunswick and Kegel supporting the change.

The UV additive allows the amount of lane oil applied to the lane to be read by tapes with a Computer Lane Monitor system. While the UV additive is no longer mandatory in all USBC-approved lane oils, manufacturers will be able to electively produce lane oils with the additive.

Due to the continued suspension of the 3-unit rule, less utilization of the continued on page 5



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The Power Of The NBA All Star Weekend

by Dave Williams

If you're looking for professional bowling this weekend on cable or network television, you won't find it. That's because all of the action will be completed by Friday at the Firelake Bowling Center in Shawnee, Oklahoma. Could this be a result of the NBA All Star Weekend that's scheduled to air on TNT?

Only the Easter Bunny knows for sure, but just how popular is basketball on television, you might ask. Well, last year's NBA All Star Weekend averaged a 3.1 rating and 6.28 million viewers, according to sportsmediawatch.com. That's a far cry from the recent bowling ratings that sit at a 0.32 rating, with about 1 million viewers each week, according to ustvdb.com.

While Fox and FS1 have done a lot to boost the ratings and understanding of bowling with a glimpse of the different oil patterns and a lane graph that shows the speed and path of the bowling ball on each delivery, Kimberly Pressler seems to think there's another reason for the overall improved ratings of bowling.

Pressler, a former Miss USA, has been doing the lane side announcing for the PBA televised events since 2010. She feels that spotlighting the different bowling personalities has resonated most with the viewers since the switch from ESPN to Fox and FS1 in 2017. In an article from the Associated Press that appeared at WTOP News, Pressler commented, "I think that it accentuates the show in its entirety because we're focusing on them (the players) as more than just bowlers."

Pressler, winner of the Miss USA pageant in 1999, continued: "We're focusing on them as true athletes, so that everyone can get to know them. People get to see them in a different light. They don't see them as if they were bowlers in the 1970's... they see them as athletes in 2023."

The Predictability Of Bowling

I miss the bowling of the 1970's. You knew that bowling would be on every Saturday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. The ratings were through the roof, with only collegiate basketball offering any type of competition in that familiar time slot. The format was always the same, with a stepladder finals featuring the top five contestants. You also knew that the players had bowled a total of 42 games (or 56 games in the more prestigious events) in order to qualify for the TV finals.

Today it's hard to tell what the format will be from one week to the next, or when to watch the telecast, which I contend is part of the problem with the rat-



Indiana Hoosier Wins 2023 Shawnee Classic
(l-r) Chris Skillings, owner of Firelake Bowling Center, with winner E.J. Tackett

ings. Case in point: during the U.S. Open contested a couple of weeks ago, a total of 48 qualifying games were rolled. Seeds 5 through 9 then participated on Saturday afternoon in a stepladder roll off to determine which of the five would advance to the TV finals on Sunday afternoon, against the top 4 seeds (1 through 4) in yet another stepladder competition.

This week the players rolled just 16 games of qualifying, with the top 12 overall players advancing to a round-robin match play consisting of 12 games. According to the pba.com website, only the top 4 overall players advance to the TV finals this week. Will they be rolling a traditional 1 through 4 stepladder, or is there another format awaiting us on Friday? Only time will tell.

What I Like About Basketball

Basketball was always my "other" sport while growing up. I used to love watching the Boston Celtics almost every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. on the ABC network. In order to watch the game, I'd made a special arrangement with my parents to sometimes forgo the traditional Sunday church service and attend a weekly Bible class for youths that was frequently taught by none other than Charles M. Schulz, the creator of the Peanuts comic strip.

I participated in all sports while in elementary school, but by the time high school rolled around, my focus was centered on basketball, track and of course bowling. A fractured ankle while playing basketball put an end to my basketball career. I was

sidelined for three weeks without bowling, which was unthinkable. I never missed another week of bowling for the next 25 years.

However, basketball remained an integral part of my life, because I was frequently taking time to shoot free throws in the afternoon as a means of developing concentration and helping me to prepare for an evening of bowling by visualizing my routine. I also continued to watch those Sunday morning games with the Boston Celtics, one of the greatest teams ever assembled.

Along about 1976 the ABA created the first Slam Dunk Contest, featuring five of their more prominent stars: Artis Gilmore, George Gervin, Larry Kenon, David Thompson and of course Julius "Doctor J" Irving. The Doctor won that first contest, and it became an integral part of the NBA All Star Game when the ABA and NBA merged about a year later. I don't think anyone could argue that Michael Jordan is the greatest dunk master of all time, with his famous double clutch from the foul line, or coming in sideways with the hang time of Superman.

But for me, the greatest one year dunk performance was by Aaron Gordon at the 2016 Slam Dunk Contest. By incorporating the Orlando Magic mascot into some of his attempts, he brought the Slam Dunk to another level. Even more incredible is the fact that Gordon, who will not be participating this year, has never won a Slam Dunk Contest, although he has performed two of the most spectacular dunks in history. www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7vO9EW8eWg

Back To Bowling

Surely no one would believe me, so I won't even go there, except to say that out of the final four contestants this week, I would have chosen E.J. Tackett. While I did mention that Tackett lapped the field at the U.S. Open, and yet still chose Anthony Simonsen... E.J. obliterated the field this week, by a margin of 545 pins. That's more than 15 pins ahead of the second place contender Dom Barrett. Wow, that's impressive.

Tackett polished off Barrett in the televised finals by a score of 231-226, good for a \$25,000 paycheck. For his efforts Barrett received \$16,000, followed by D.J. Archer (\$12,000) and Joseph Grondin (\$10,000). There was a total of only 22 cashing places in the main event (that's a 1 in 3 ratio, with a total of 66 entries). A PTQ event was conducted this week, with a total of 59 entries. It may just be me, but those numbers still look weak compared to the 1970's.

Or maybe a lot of members stayed home to watch the NBA All Star Weekend?

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CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND SCORES	
Championship: EJ Tackett def. Dom Barrett, 231-226	
Semi-final: Dom Barrett def. DJ Archer, 174-170	
Final: DJ Archer def. Joseph Grondin, 225-165	
STANDINGS	
EJ Tackett,	\$25,100
Dom Barrett,	\$16,000
DJ Archer,	\$12,000
Joseph Grondin,	\$10,000
Sean Lavery-Spahr,	\$8,000
Eric Tackett,	\$7,500
Anthony Simonsen,	\$7,000
Jack Allen,	\$6,500
Lu Williams,	\$6,100
Tom Cooley,	\$5,500
Thomas Käyhkö,	\$5,100
Matt Ogle,	\$4,800



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TIM FRANK Is “Bowler of The Week”

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS - Tim Frank is “Bowler of The Week”. WHY? Why is Tim Frank “Bowler of The Week”?

What is a “Bowler of The Week”? What does it take? What did Tim do to be chosen the most accomplished local bowler last week? What did it take to outshine a field of hundreds of bowlers plying our local lanes in several dozen leagues. What scores had to be bowled or was there more involved than scoring when it came to selecting him for this prestigious award?

First of all, Tim Frank is a nice guy and a positive influence on everyone around him. He is particularly supportive of his bowling teammates. He always sports a huge smile and is a strong leader. AND, while leading his teams to victory last week he bowled three huge scores in sanctioned league play.

Tim rolled sanctioned scores of 730, 713 and 748 in three leagues last week. In the Monday Doubles League, he rolled 730 (171-280-279). In the Tuesday Senior Trio League Tim rolled 713 (219-247-247). Then on Thursday in the Senior Laughlin League Tim rolled a 748 (224-248-276) series. “HOLY COW”.

Tim used his Columbia 300 Eruption drilled by Zack Jellsey to roll his big scores. Thanks to Zack for keeping Tim on top of the lanes and scoring like a professional. Tim is a senior bowler, showing that older fellas can bowl.

Congratulations to Tim Frank for his great bowling and high scoring. He is another example of why “CALIFORNIA BOWLERS ARE THE BEST BOWLERS IN THE WORLD.

Falzone continued from page 1

operations were headquartered at The Cherry Bowl in his hometown of Rockford, Illinois.

Among Falzone’s many achievements while running the LPBT was his development of Sam’s Town Hotel & Gambling Hall’s umbrella sponsorship of the tour, which helped guarantee that the sport’s best female competitors would have a world class venue to compete in on a yearly basis.

That accomplishment and many others led to Falzone’s 1996 enshrinement in the PWBA Hall of Fame in the Meritorious/Builder Category, which is reserved for those who have advanced the PWBA as an organization and promoted the PWBA Tour through media.

Falzone is survived by his wife of 61 years, Kathy Falzone, his son Benny, daughters Brenda and Bonnie and by multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

More information on services for Falzone will be available soon.



I AM BOWLING RENEWS UNIFORM PARTNERSHIP WITH USBC AND IBC YOUTH

by Gene J. Kanak

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress and I AM Bowling, powered by Logo Infusion, have agreed upon a contract renewal to keep I AM Bowling the official uniform sponsor of USBC and International Bowling Campus Youth staff, the Team USA program and the Junior Gold Championships through 2026.

The extension makes I AM Bowling a Gold Industry Partner at the USBC Open Championships, Women’s Championships, Team USA Trials, Intercollegiate Team Championships, Intercollegiate Singles Championships, Junior Gold Championships and digital programs.

“USBC is very excited to continue its relationship with I AM Bowling, a company that is not only known for producing stylish, high-quality apparel but also for being a major supporter of bowlers and the bowling industry as a whole,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said.

The renewed partnership means that I AM Bowling’s dye-sublimated jerseys will be worn by USBC and IBC staff and competitors at high-level tournaments across the country and will be donned by all levels of the Team USA program, including Junior, Para and Developmental Team, as they compete abroad as well.

USBC’s Team USA and Junior Team USA comprise the top bowlers, professional and amateur, in the United States. The men’s and women’s teams represent the U.S. in international bowling competitions throughout the world, such as the Pan American Games, World and American Zone Championships, World Games and International Bowling Federation World Cup.

Players earn spots on Team USA and Junior Team USA by competing in the annual Team USA Trials, a week-long tournament designed to identify the best, most-versatile men’s and women’s bowlers in the country. Positions on Junior Team USA and the Developmental Team also are awarded based upon standings at each year’s Junior Gold Championships. Members of Para Team USA are chosen by the USBC National Selection Committee.

The elevation to USBC Gold Industry Partner status seats I AM Bowling alongside some of the industry’s most iconic brands such as Brunswick, Motiv and Storm Products, Inc. As such, I AM Bowling will be highly visible, with signage at event venues across the country.

One such event will be the Junior Gold Championships, where I AM Bowling is the official tournament sponsor. Because of this, youth bowlers around the country can pre-order their favorite 2023 “official” Junior Gold jerseys right away.

“I AM Bowling is grateful for the opportunity to continue as USBC’s and IBC’s official uniform sponsor, and we are excited to now be a Gold Industry Partner as well,” said Ken Keegan, founder of I AM Bowling. “It’s amazing to see our jerseys being worn and our logo on display at so many great tournaments all over the world. This contract extension guarantees that will continue to happen for many years, and that is both exciting and humbling”

Go to IAMBowling.com to learn more about its popular jerseys and other products available from I AM Bowling.

South Point continued from page 1

2023, 2026, 2029, 2032, 2035 and 2038.

The 2023 Women’s Championships will take place from April 23 to July 2.

The agreement also will bring 16 of USBC’s short-duration events to other properties across Las Vegas between 2023 and 2039.

In addition to the competition in Clark County, the extension also will see the USBC Convention and Annual Meeting be held in venues across Las Vegas four times between 2023 and 2039.

“We’re excited to be able to extend our partnership with Las Vegas Events and the South Point Hotel and Casino,” USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. “Both of these organizations have supported the sport of bowling and our events over the years, and this agreement will help continue the relationship between USBC and the great city of Las Vegas.”

Many of USBC’s short-duration events have been contested in facilities in Las Vegas in recent years, and several tournaments have been regularly held across different venues, including the USBC Team USA Trials, USBC Senior Queens, USBC Senior Masters and Super Senior Classic.

“Las Vegas takes great pride in its rich bowling history, and Las Vegas Events is proud to continue our partnership with USBC through 2039,” LVE President Tim Keener said. “From the first Women’s Championships held in Las Vegas in 1973 and 1983 to the Open Championships in 1986 and then again in 2009, through the multi-tiered agreement that brought top-tier competition since 2015, Las Vegas has become a premier destination for the USBC. Our extension with the USBC includes multiple Open Championships and Women’s Championships at the state-of-the-art South Point Bowling Plaza, as well as short-duration events and USBC Conventions that will allow us to continue to showcase our city to bowlers from around the world.”

The South Point Bowling Plaza first opened its doors to USBC competition at the 2016 Women’s Championships. The facility has hosted the Open Championships four times since 2017.

“When we opened the Tournament Bowling Plaza in 2016, we knew it was going to be an amazing addition to the sports landscape in Las Vegas,” South Point General Manager Ryan Gowney said. “However, these events have exceeded all of our expectations, and for that reason, we are excited to continue the partnership with the USBC and Las Vegas Events to host these incredible tournaments until 2039. We are committed to providing a first-class experience for all participants and look forward to continuing to grow and evolve these historic annual traditions.”

To learn more about Las Vegas Events, visit LasVegasEvents.com. To learn more about the South Point Hotel and Casino, visit SouthPointCasino.com.

Lane Oil continued from page 1

technology, and less demand for measuring any lane pattern at any time (a survey of tournament managers across the country revealed 94.7% of local tournaments no longer utilize tapes to regulate their lane conditions), the equipment specifications committee moved to no longer mandate UV additive.

Kegel, as the official lane maintenance provider for USBC Championships, will continue to use lane oil containing UV additive for USBC championship tournaments such as the Open and Women’s Championships, USBC Masters, USBC Queens, U.S. Open and U.S. Women’s Open (among others). Protocols to confirm the lane pattern will remain in place at USBC Championships.

USBC-approved lane oils that continue to include the UV additive must still comply with USBC guidelines as outlined in the equipment specifications manual.

More information on those guidelines can be found in the equipment specifications manual (pg. 50/51) available here.



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With ITC and ISC Sectionals now less than a month away, if teams want to get on a roll heading into the postseason, the time is now.

The Spring Arbor men and Alama women took a step in the right direction by walking away with victories at the 2023 Scotty Classic, which was held at Jax 60 in Jackson, Michigan, on Feb. 11. The varsity competition was made up of 21 men's teams and 17 women's teams. All squads bowled four traditional games and 16 Baker games with total pinfall determining the champions.

Spring Arbor's men used traditional games of 983, 1,035, 987 and 1,094 to finish atop the qualifying standings with a four-game total of 4,099, which put them 63 pins ahead of Concordia (4,036) and 117 pins in front of Marian (3,982) heading into Baker play.

Not wanting to let its grasp on first place slip away, Spring Arbor came out strong during Baker as well, breaking 200 during eight of its first nine games – including a 243 in Game 2 and a 246 in Game 3 – and then hanging on down the stretch to cross the finish line with a winning total of 7,323. Rock Valley secured second place with 7,230. Marian (7,197), Concordia (7,156) and Notre Dame College (7,120) claimed the remaining spots in the men's top five.

Concordia's Jeffrey Lizewski took home the individual crown, carding a four-game total of 940 (a 235 average), which was helped greatly by the tournament-high 288 he fired during Game 2.

Spring Arbor's Caleb Tate finished his individual set with a 268 to grab the second spot on the podium with 869 overall. He needed every bit of it too as that put him just five pins ahead of Aiden Compton of Notre Dame College, who finished third with 864.

Brady Bak of Michigan and Ryan Dreiksoen of Marian grabbed the final all-tournament team honors with 860 and 852, respectively.

In women's action, the hosts from Alma built a lead of nearly 150 pins after qualifying and then stayed steady throughout Baker to take home the women's title with a grand total of 6,774.

The Scots' closest pursuer was Madonna, which finished in second place with 6,555. Concordia (6,431), Notre Dame College (6,345) and Spring Arbor (6,244) walked away with top-five finishes as well.

Top women's individual honors went to Kassidy Alexander of Spring Arbor, who led the pack with a four-game total of 814 (a 203.5 average) thanks to games of 210, 193, 193 and 218. Taylor Smith of Ball State was the only other woman to average over 200. She used a final-game 229 to finish just behind Alexander with 804 (a 201 avg.).

Brooklyn Sutter of Olivet College was third with 793, which included a 245 during Game 2. Kyley Olson of Rock Valley (785) and Abigail Bird of Adrian College (770) finished in the women's top five as well.

In other collegiate action:

- At the Brick City Classic in Webster, New York, the Erie Community College men and women topped their respective fields to walk away with titles.

- At the Cedar Valley Invitational in Waterloo, Iowa, both squads from Mount Mercy emerged victorious.

- At the Central Florida Shootout in Orlando, Webber International breezed to the top of the standings in both the men's and women's divisions.

- At the James Brown Invitational in Towson, Maryland, Maryland-Eastern Shore finished more than 300 pins ahead of their closest pursuers during qualifying and then won the bracket portion of competition as well.

- At the Lady Techster Classic in Dallas, Sam Houston State qualified second before going on to win the bracket to take home the tournament title at USA Bowl.

- At the Ohio Bowling Conference Championships in Columbus, Ohio, the Muskingum men and Ohio State women secured first place in their respective divisions.

- At the Br. Pat Lacey Memorial in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, Daemen College emerged with an easy victory, topping their closest opponent by more than 150 pins.

- At the Flyer Classic in Lockport, Illinois, the top-seeded women from McKendree rallied from an 0-2 deficit to top Maryville 4-2 and walk away with another tournament title.

- At the Suffolk Tournament in West Babylon, New York, the hosts from Suffolk-Grant won the men's division while Molloy captured the top spot for the ladies.

- At the Sunshine State Classic in Orlando, Stephen F. Austin dominated the competition during Baker play to take home first place.

- At the Tiger Cup in Webster, New York, it was the Rochester Institute of Technology men and Roberts Wesleyan women besting all opponents to come home with victories.

- At the Viterbo V-Hawk Invitational in La Crosse, Wisconsin, Judson swept the opposition and finished first in both the men's and women's divisions.

- At the Wildcat Challenge in Lawrence, Kansas, Kansas Wesleyan emerged victorious in men's competition while Baker University grabbed the top spot for the women.

Collegiate bowling will be featured live on [Bow!TV](#) this weekend at the 54th annual Hoosier Classic. The event is taking place at Royal Pin Western in Indianapolis with action broadcast live on Feb. 18-19.

For the full schedule of collegiate events, results and more, visit [BOWL.com/Collegiate](#) and [Colleg-eBowling.Bowl.com](#).


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RECIPIENTS SELECTED FOR 2023 USBC NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

by Dave Schroeder

ARLINGTON, Texas – Rebecca Cole of Gresham, Oregon, Dalia Keyes of Valrico, Florida, and Brent Prentice of Eagan, Minnesota, were selected by the United States Bowling Congress Board of Directors to receive USBC National Recognition Awards.

Cole is the Joyce Deitch Unity Award winner, Keyes is this year’s recipient of the Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service and Prentice has been selected as the USBC Proprietor of the Year.

The annual awards honor outstanding bowling leaders for their contributions to the sport. Selections were made from submitted applications, and the recipients will receive their awards at the 2023 USBC Convention in Las Vegas.

The USBC Joyce Deitch Unity Award is named in honor of the seventh president of the Women’s International Bowling Congress. It recognizes organizations and individuals who have made important contributions to the sport of bowling by being motivators, visionaries, leaders and/or innovators.

Cole has been involved in the sport of bowling, either as a competitor and/or volunteer, for more than 30 years and is devoted to growing the sport on multiple levels in the Pacific Northwest region.

She is the current Oregon State USBC Association Manager and also serves as that organization’s chair of the Cooperative Sponsorship Committee for High School Bowling and Youth Committee. In addition, Cole serves on the Hall of Fame Committee and the Youth Committee for the Greater Portland USBC and is assistant general manager and league director at KingPins Portland. She has previously filled roles as a league secretary, vice president and president.



Cole, 41, enjoys sharing her knowledge of organizing, promoting and running leagues and tournaments, conducting fundraisers for events and youth bowlers and is a source of encouragement to bowlers of all ages and skill levels.

Not only is Cole the tournament director for multiple organizations in the region, but she also takes the time to promote and assist tournaments that are run by others. She openly shares her knowledge of tournament formats and ideas with other tournament organizers for the betterment of the sport, and her devotion to fundraising for local centers, associations

and youth bowlers has been a constant over the years.

Cole has been praised for her leadership, innovation and humility in her tireless effort to recruit new bowlers to the sport, grow the base of current bowlers and better the lives of all bowlers in her area.

She is a member of the Greater Portland USBC Hall of Fame (Meritorious Service) and was the Oregon State USBC 2017 Volunteer of the Year.

“I feel very honored and blessed to be chosen to receive the Joyce Deitch Unity Award,” said Cole. “This game has given me so much over the years, including lifetime friends, amazing adventures and priceless memories. To be recognized with such a special award brings tears to my eyes, and I’m forever grateful for the opportunities to serve and help grow something I am so passionate about.”

The USBC Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service is named in honor of the fifth president of WIBC and recognizes an outstanding bowling leader who has made invaluable contributions to local and state associations as an innovator, creator and mentor of adult programs.



Keyes, 71, has been a member of both the Greater Tampa and Florida State USBC for 49 years. At both levels, Keyes has contributed her time and talent in a variety of roles while serving in a number of director, officer and committee positions.

Keyes is the present Greater Tampa USBC Association Manager and a member of the Youth Committee. On the state level, she is the current Sergeant at Arms, Youth Tournament Director and Youth Leader Advisor. On the national level, Keyes is a former director of the Women’s International Bowling Congress and the Young American Bowling Alliance.

Her commitment to the sport is noteworthy as Keyes has spent countless hours visiting bowling centers in an effort to inform league members about the benefits of sanctioning with the USBC.

Keyes became a USBC trained coach in 2004 and is a tireless advocate for youth bowling in her area. She has spent years conducting youth lessons and traveling to help organize and assist with youth tournaments.

“I am honored and humbled to be accepting the USBC Helen Baker Award this year, and I’m proud to be among the previous winners who have also contributed so much to bowling,” said Keyes. “Although I never met Helen Baker, I have worked with many of the women and men who worked under her on the lo-

cal, state and national levels, and I’m fortunate to have learned from some of the sport’s great leaders. It is truly an honor to be given an award like this when you are so passionate about the sport of bowling, and I’d like to thank Ruby Johns, former president of the Tampa Women’s Bowling Association, for nominating me.”

In addition to being honored as this year’s USBC Helen Baker Award recipient, Keyes is a Meritorious Service inductee in the Florida State USBC, Tampa Women’s Bowling Association and Florida State USBC Youth Halls of Fame and is a two-time recipient of the Youth Leaders Landen Memorial Dedication Award.

The USBC Proprietor of the Year Award annually recognizes a bowling center proprietor for outstanding support of USBC local, state and/or national association programs.



Prentice, 49, started working at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan, Minnesota, 28 years ago when he took a job working the counter while in college. From there, he quickly progressed to assistant bowling center manager, center manager, president, and then, 20 years ago, co-proprietor of the 32-lane venue.

Under his leadership, Cedarvale Lanes added Fitz’s Bar and Grill and a space for volleyball. Perhaps most notably, Prentice has made the facility a hub for tournaments of all different levels, from professional to youth.

Cedarvale Lanes played host to Professional Women’s Bowlers Association tour stops in 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022, generating excitement for the sport within the community, especially among the younger bowlers who were able to experience the sport at its highest level.

Prentice also has made Cedarvale Lanes available for numerous high school tournaments, hosted Special Olympics events and has created a youth program that quickly built itself to more than 150 participants.

Additionally, he was the catalyst for Minnesota submitting a bid for a future USBC Junior Gold tournament. Community members cite Prentice’s “Why Not Us” attitude when noting what makes Cedarvale Lanes the perfect place for tournament organizers and coaches who support growing the sport, especially for youth bowlers.

Prentice started bowling when he was seven years old and has 32 300 games and 31 800 series to his credit. He earned numerous state and local titles before retiring from competitive bowling in 2007 and is a member of the Twin Cities Bowling Association and Minnesota State Halls of Fame in the Superior Performance category.

Prentice is quick to credit his entire staff for their skill and support and notes he couldn’t do anything without them.

“I’m so honored to receive this award from the USBC . . . I feel like this is a Super Bowl-type award for myself and the Cedarvale and Fitz’s Bar and Grill team,” said Prentice. “You can’t win a Super Bowl without a great team, and that’s what we’ve had here for many years. So, this is our award, not just mine.”

The National Recognition Awards will be presented during the 2023 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting, which is set for April 24-27 at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

Visit [BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards](https://www.bowl.com/ScholarshipsAwards) for more information on the National Recognition Awards and to learn about past recipients. Visit [BOWL.com/Convention](https://www.bowl.com/Convention) for information about the 2023 USBC Convention.

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FIVE CANDIDATES SLATED FOR USBC BOARD ELECTION, NINE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO BE DECIDED

by Dave Schroeder

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Nominating Committee has slated five candidates for election to the USBC Board of Directors, and delegates also will vote on nine legislative proposals at the 2023 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting.

The 2023 USBC Convention will take place April 24-27 at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, with the Annual Meeting legislative sessions to take place on the final day.

Delegates will vote to fill three open positions on the USBC Board of Directors. Incumbents Glenda Beckett and Adam Mitchell are among the five slated, as well as current director Mike Cannington who will term out as a Youth Committee member. He is seeking election by the delegates.

The USBC Nominating Committee, which may slate up to two candidates for each opening, set a slate of five candidates:

- Glenda Beckett, Palmetto Bay, Florida
- Brandon Bowman, Mukilteo, Washington
- Mike Cannington, Fort Myers, Florida
- Adam Mitchell, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
- Cheryl Younger, Leavenworth, Kansas

Beckett has been on the USBC Board of Directors since the 2020-2021 season. She currently serves on the Awards and Recognition, Nominating and Legal and Legislative Committees. Beckett has been the Greater Miami USBC Association Manager since 2012 and, on the state level, she has been a Florida State USBC board member since 2018. She was inducted into the Greater Miami USBC Hall of Fame for meritorious service in 2014. Professionally, Beckett retired from AT&T/Lucent Technologies in 2001, having worked as executive assistant to the president for the Caribbean and Latin America region.

Bowman is a 31-year USBC member who currently serves as a director on the boards of Washington State USBC and Snohomish County USBC. As chair of the Youth and Communications Committees for both associations, Bowman has coached youth for four years while managing youth programs, websites and social media platforms. He also serves on the Scholarship and Finance Committees. Professionally, Bowman is a Sustainable Business Consultant and Finance Manager, focusing on strategy, operational efficiency and financial management of corporations.

Cannington has been a member of the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee since 2014. He is the sales and marketing director for Bowling Management Associates, operators of seven bowling centers in southwest Florida. A lifelong bowler, Cannington was captain of the University of South Florida bowling team (1978-1980). He has taken on leadership roles with both business and civic organizations throughout his four decades in business. Cannington served eight years as a member of the Southwest Florida USBC association and currently is working on the Member Events Committee for the Bowling Centers Association of Florida (BCAF).

Mitchell began his second term on the board in the 2020-2021 season. He served as vice president for two seasons, also starting during the 2020-2021 season. He was a board member for Nation's Capital Area USBC from 2014-2020 and continues to serve as a Virginia State Youth Director. He started bowling at age 10 and was a local Youth Leader for the Young American Bowling Alliance (YABA). Off the lanes, he is Chief Executive Officer of Global Solutions Inc., a company he started in 2013 to provide managed security, human capital management, fingerprinting and payroll services to federal contractor clients.

Younger has more than 20 years of USBC membership and serves as second vice president of the Kansas State USBC, where she also serves as co-chair for the Tournament Committee and is a member of the Finance Committee. Younger also serves as a director on the board of Wy-Jon County USBC, where she is chairperson for the Hall of Fame/Bowler of Year Committee and has served on the BVL Committee. Professionally, she worked 45 years in the corporate travel and financial services industry, most recently as senior manager of strategic relationship management for American Express Global Business Travel.

Additional candidates for the USBC Board of Directors may run from the floor, provided they give notice of their candidacy to the committee by March 27, 2023. Go to BOWL.com/Convention for the Nomination from the Floor information.

Full biographies of all the candidates will be published in the coming weeks and included in the USBC Convention program.

Of the nine proposed amendments to be voted on by delegates at the USBC Annual Meeting, five relate to bylaws, two are for league rules and two more are for tournament rules. Bylaws proposals require a two-thirds majority vote for adoption, while league and tournament rules require a majority vote to pass.

[Visit BOWL.com/Convention](http://VisitBOWL.com/Convention) for more information about the 2023 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting, including the proposed legislation.

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- First place scratch finishers in each division will receive a **FREE** berth (6 total) into the Junior Gold Championships held July 14-22, 2023 in Indianapolis, IN (if they have not previously qualified).
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- #5 – CAL BOWL, Lakewood
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Smart continued from page 1

gram history, nearly reaching \$9 million. Included in this allocation (approximate numbers):

- \$3.7 million in bonus scholarships to the 5,237 active SMART Recipients. These are students who used SMART funds in 2022. Each student will immediately receive a new \$715 SMART scholarship.
- \$2 million in new SMART deposited unassigned funds for Providers to allocate toward future scholarships. This is in addition to the new \$2.9 million SMART deposited unassigned funds Providers received for allocation in January from expired Recipient accounts.
- \$1.2 million is set aside for the SMART Pell Grant Match Program.
- USBC's SMART Committee intends to maintain the annual earnings allocation at \$7 million or more through at least 2024, unless investment market conditions significantly change. This will allow SMART Providers and Recipients to plan on similar new funds from SMART for future years.

"We are seeing the SMART program impact the lives of more young bowlers in a meaningful way than ever before," USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. "USBC will continue with our intention to maintain at least a \$7 million allocation annually for SMART, so SMART Providers should aggressively use their unassigned funds knowing there will be consistent new funding ahead."

The federal Pell Grant is a national program that helps students and families with the greatest financial need pay for college. The SMART Pell Grant Match maximizes the power of this federal program for bowlers by matching it dollar for dollar. The SMART Pell Grant Match will be available to any student with at least one season of USBC Youth participation and two seasons of overall USBC membership. In 2022, SMART awarded nearly \$2 million in grants through the program.

Students can request the SMART Pell Grant Match by visiting BOWL.com/SMART. Applications for the SMART Pell Grant Match will be accepted through the end of the year or until the \$1.2 million in funding is exhausted.

"The SMART Pell Grant Match has proven to be highly successful and shows we have students in financial need within our bowling community," said Frank Wilkinson, chair of the USBC SMART Committee. "We encourage everyone involved in USBC programming to help build awareness about SMART, so kids will check their accounts and take advantage of the resources available to them."

In 2021, the USBC Board of Directors approved a series of policy changes for SMART, designed to increase scholarship benefits for SMART Recipients. The new policy allocates a portion of investment gains to be awarded as new scholarships in SMART Recipient accounts.

For more information on SMART, visit BOWL.com/SMART.



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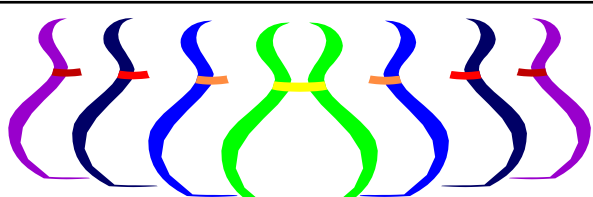
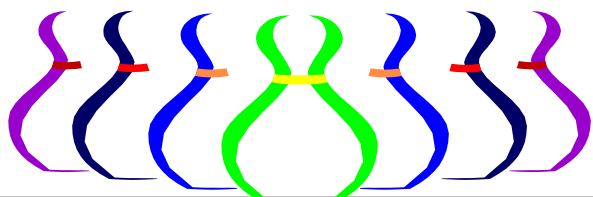
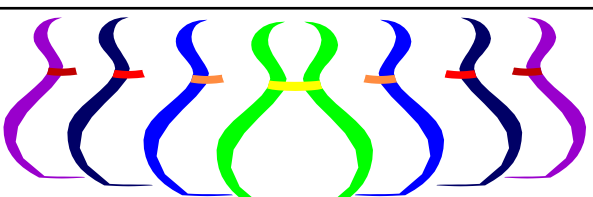
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INVITATIONAL

Three Teams Jump Out Fast On The New Fourth Round Shot

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY — The Brunswick Invitational took the lanes for the first week of the fourth round. The new pattern for this seven-week segment was the pattern used at the 2022 USBC Nationals Team Event. The pattern is a 2.63:1 low-ratio 42' pattern that should offer distinct zones of play, and the bowlers were all over the lanes looking for a groove on the new look.

Teams were matched up by overall wins for the season, so the "A" match featured 2nd round winner Finishing Touch Floors (68) taking on first round winner Family Ties (65). Finishing Touch Floors took all but game three for a 4-1 result despite Mikey Villarreal's league-leading 706 set for Family Ties. Joe Pepitone led a balanced attack from Finishing Touch Floors with his 606 series.

The "B" match featured the current wildcard leaders Cal Bowl and Threadworks, both sitting just a few back at 64. Threadworks took game one by 20 but it was all Cal Bowl from there as they took games two, three and totals for a 4-1 win. Ramon Torres was huge for Cal Bowl with a 682 series while Ray Minter cracked six with a 603 for Threadworks.

Junior Amateur Tour (61.5) took on Forest Lanes (61) with both teams looking to jump start their rounds. Junior Amateur Tour put up a big first and second game to build up enough of a lead to fend off Forest Lanes' huge 877 game and take the 4-1 win. Jon Diso's big finish helped him lead Forest with a 606 series while Kevin Valmonte led Junior Amateur Tour with a solid 648 series.

Third-round winner DV8 (61) took on Bowlium (59) in the 7th vs. 8th matchup. DV8 kept their third-round momentum going by taking games one and two, then holding on by enough game three for a 4-1 result. Jeff Carr was back to lead DV8 with a 605 series while Billy Myers Jr. again was the man for Bowlium with a 598 set.

US Foods (51) and HB Complete Builders (47) were looking to get a quick start to get them back into contention for the playoffs. U.S. Foods finished the first game strong but dropped game two in a close match. U.S. Foods came back with a triple-digit win for the 4-1 result. Paul Baracco was strong for U.S. Foods with a 617 set while Anthony Rieger led HB Complete Builders with a 563 set to help them to their one win.

J.K. Inc. and Professional Approach were both sitting at 46.5 wins as they met up in the 11/12 match. Professional Approach started the night with a 75-pin win and didn't look back as they swept J.K. Inc. 5-0. Brian Ritchie was high for Professional Approach with a 571 set while Ian Markstrom paced J.K. Inc. with a 503 series.

Westminster Lanes (46), Allied Paving (40), Bowling Guys (38.5) and Don Julio Tequila (16) rounded out the evening's competition. Allied Paving came to bowl as they swept through Westminster Lanes 5-0. Edward Estrada led Allied Paving with a 571 set while Jonathan Gale paced Westminster Lanes with a 514 set. Bowling Guys started out the night with a big 47 pin win then kept the momentum going as they swept Don Julio Tequila 5-0. Javier Hernandez led Bowling Guys with a 557 set while William Morris was high for Don Julio Tequila with a 517.

Financial Advisor's Pot went to Mikey Villarreal (244) for \$160 with 2nd to Kyle Duster (227) for \$70. Sidepots went to Michael Montano (221) and Mikey Villarreal (244) for \$54 each with 2nd to Christian Eichelkraut (217) and Kyle Duster (227) for \$27 each. SuperPot went to Jon Diso (267) for \$162 with 2nd to Mikey Villarreal (257) for \$81.

Come on out and watch the teams adjust their arsenals next week to take on the 2022 USBC Nationals Team Event pattern!

TOP 10 TEAMS OVERALL			
Finishing Touch Floors \$\$	72	Threadworks	65
Cal Bowl	68	Forest Lanes	62
Family Ties \$	66	Bowlium	60
Junior Amateur Tour	65.5	US Foods	55
DV8 \$\$\$	65	Professional Approach	51.5

TOP 10 TEAMS ROUND 4			
Allied Paving	5	DV8 \$\$\$	4
Professional Approach	5	Finishing Touch Floors \$\$	4
Bowling Guys	5	US Foods	4
Junior Amateur Tour	4	Bowlium	1
Cal Bowl	4	Forest Lanes	1

TOP 10 THIS WEEK			
Mikey Villarreal	706	Jon Diso	606
Ramon Torres	682	Joe Pepitone	606
Kevin Valmonte	648	Jeff Carr	605
Paul Barraco	617	David Yamauchi	605
Anthony Santos	609	Ray Minter	603

SUPER SWEEPER POT
Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of
Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.
1st Mikey Villarreal 244 \$160 • 2nd Kyle Duster 227 \$70



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7502 Florence Ave., Downey CA 90240 • (562) 927-3351



Saturday
WEEKLY

Check in 11:00am • Bowl at 12:00pm • \$30 Entry Fee
Optional Pots & PLENTY of \$5 Brackets

Handicap is 90% of 230 • Call to Reserve a Spot (562)927-3351

NO TAP
Tournament

At Del Rio Lanes: 7502 Florence Ave. Downey, CA. 90240