

KYLE TROUP WINS 10TH CAREER TITLE AT PBA TOUR FINALS

by Nolan Hughes

ARLINGTON, Wash. – At 16 years old, Kyle Troup followed in his father Guppy's footsteps and joined the PBA Tour. Sixteen years later, the two-handed North Carolinian celebrated the very moment he always dreamed of.

Troup swept Kris Prather in the championship match to win the PBA Tour Finals at Strikerz Bowling in Angel of the Winds in Arlington, Wash.

With the win, the 10th of his career, Troup becomes eligible to be voted into the PBA Hall of Fame when he crosses the 20-year service threshold.

"I had to not think about the Hall of Fame continued on page 4



2023 PBA Tour Finals Champion Kyle Troup



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ly licensed PBA trading cards, featuring the most talented and beloved professional bowlers in the world. With a rich heritage spanning over six decades, the PBA has captivated audiences continued on page 6

PBA REGIONAL RECAP: TACKETT, KENT PICK UP MIDWEST REGIONAL TITLES

by Chase Kaufman

With the details of the PBA Regional Players Invitational releasing earlier this month, there's now a bit of added focus in regional action. The PBA division will award \$15,000 to the winner at the event in January, while the champ of the PBA50 division will earn \$10,000. Along with the top point-getters in each division, a qualifier will be held in each region for a handful of direct continued on page 6



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“CALIFORNIA’S BEST BOWLERS” Do Well at The USBC - PWBA QUEENS TOURNAMENT

by Frank Weiler

LAS VEGAS, NV - California’s top female professional bowlers showed they are capable of competing against the best female bowlers in the world.

Ten of the 216 entries at this season’s QUEENS TOURNAMENT were from California. All of our ladies bowled well with three cashing and making the cut to the Top 64 and Match Play. Our California ladies finished as follows after 15 games of qualifying:

Place	Bowler	Home Town	Average	Plus/Minus
9	Miranda Pattinson	Redwood Valley	210	+136
11	Missy Parkin	San Clemente	209	+129
60	Alejandra Urrutia	Highland	195	-73
64	CUT LINE			
66	Virginia Young	Vista	194	-87
110	Kristie Leong	Daly City	189	-165
116	Stephanie Zavala	Downey	189	-170
141	Nicole Hiraoka	Daly City	185	-230
161	Roberta Vann	Downey	181	-280
201	Jennifer Dorn	Chino	171	-430
207	Debbie Ayers	La Mesa	168	-475

MIRANDA PATTISON was California’s Top Finisher after Qualifying. She ended up in ninth place after fifteen games. VIRGINIA YOUNG came close, just missing the cut by a few pins! That’s just missing the cut by a few pins after fifteen games of qualifying. Making the cut would have meant a check and the opportunity to win the title. Once you’re in Match Play anything is possible. Win six consecutive matches and you would be Top Seed on the step ladder finals. That would mean just one more win to win the Queens. Making the cut is all about POSSIBILITIES.

What is going on in DALY CITY and DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA? Some say it’s the water, some say it’s the “grass”. Anyway, two of California’s outstanding bowlers competing at this years Queens are from Daly City and two are from Downey. That’s twice as many competitors from Daly City and Downey as from any other community in the most populous state in the United States! Daly City and Downey placed placed more women in the Queen’s field than Los Angeles, San Francisco, Sacramento and SanDiego combined!

Why aren’t the best female bowlers from California’s biggest cities competing on the PWBA TOUR? Come on ladies show us what you’ve got.

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Bryanna Cote Owes Her Bowling Career To Grandpa

by Dave Williams

It's not often that a professional credits their grandfather to a career in any sport or other endeavor, but in the case of Bryanna Cote, that's exactly what happened. Bryanna grew up in Tucson, Arizona, and her whole family, including grandpa, were bowlers. "My grandfather bought me my first ball," said Bryanna in a special report to tucson.com. "It was a red Mickey Mouse ball. I remember it like it was yesterday."

Cote related that her grandfather would go to as many tournaments as he possibly could to watch her bowl. "This tournament (the US Open) win is beyond special to me, and I dedicate it to my grandpa who we lost recently," said Cote in an article posted at her alma mater website at the University of Central Missouri.

It's amazing to me how many times in sports, and life in general, this happens. For most it's a period of grief, but for others it's a moment of exaltation for the deceased. I'm sure that most of you have heard the expression, particularly in sports, "I know that he would have wanted me to be here." And invariably the result is a win or top place finish. I guess there's really something to that old saying about someone looking down on you.

Bryanna continues in the tucson.com article, "I got my first job at Golden Pin Lanes as a nursery attendant when I was 14. I discovered that I could actually get scholarships to go to school for bowling. I sent demo tapes to Central Missouri, Nebraska, and Wichita State, stating that I'm looking at going to college. Would you be interested?" Cote said that she fell in love with Central Missouri and stayed all four years.

"It really sunk in when I made Team USA in 2006," said Bryanna. "I was one of the best juniors and could compete internationally. It wasn't overwhelming because I was just so excited about getting the opportunity to bowl. Being so young, I was not blinded by the risks of going to a foreign country and competing. None of that crossed my mind. I just wanted to bowl and win."

Cote is another PWBA star, like Leanne Barrette Hulsenberg, Wendy Macpherson, and others, that makes you ask the question what might have been if the women's tour had not folded in 2002. "I was in high school at the time, and after that I was not sure I would ever get the chance to compete professionally," said the Tucson native. "Then 2015 came along and we heard that the tour was coming back. I went all in and said all right, I'm going to be a pro bowler, and I've been doing it ever since."

Bryanna Cote's win at the US Open was her fifth pro title, and first major. She previously had won at Lexington, Ky. (2016), Arlington, Tex. (2021), Rockville Centre, N.Y., and Dallas, Tex., in 2022. She was voted the 2021 PWBA Player of the Year, to go with numerous Team USA titles, including 12 gold medals dating back to 2006.

Cote earned her spot in the title match by stopping the run of the number five seed Danielle McE-



2023 US Open TV Finalists L. Clara Guerrero, Bryanna Cote, Diana Zavjalova, Liz Johnson and Danielle McEwan

wan of Stony Point, N.Y., who was attempting to run the stepladder and collect her second US Open title (she had previously won the 2019 event in North Las Vegas). McEwan defeated veteran Hall of Fame member Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, N.Y., in the first match, 212-201, then defeated Diana Zavjalova of Latvia (now living in Texas), 227-192, before falling to Cote in the semifinal match, 248-199.

Nerves got the best of both Cote and top seed Clara Guerrero of Columbia (also now living in Texas) in the final match, with Bryanna eking out a hard fought 153-142 victory for the \$60,000 first prize. My guess is that the TV ratings were high for this telecast because non-bowlers as well as bowlers enjoy a close match. The scores aren't as important as the competition and hard fought battle.

The fact that there was no blue or red (or whatever color) lane oil showing the "blocked" lane condition was also refreshing, although in this instance the colored lane oil might have revealed a "reverse-block" condition. The right lane in particular brought back nightmares for me... hit the nine board, miss the pocket to the right; hit the eleven board and it's a runaway Brooklyn. Ah, memories!

TRIVIA THAT YOU WON'T FIND ANYWHERE ELSE — Did you know that Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Cathy Dorin-Lizzy, and Kelly Kulick, all announcers for the PWBA telecasts, grew up and bowled at Linden Lanes, a part of the Nationwide Bowling Centers chain, in Linden, N.J.? Carolyn now lives with her husband, PBA Hall of Fame member Del Ballard and their daughter Alyssa, in the Dallas suburb of North Richland Hills, Texas. Cathy married pro bowler Jeff Lizzy and they own two bowling centers in Sandusky, Ohio. They also have one daughter, Olivia. Kelly Kulick is about 10 years younger than Carolyn and Cathy, and I still see her on occasion while practicing at Jersey Lanes, another bowling center located in Linden, and not far from her home in Union, N.J.



2023 US Open Champion Bryanna Cote

Special thanks to:

- "In Their Own Words: PWBA Bowler and Tucson Native Bryanna Cote," by John McKelvey of the Arizona Daily Star (tucson.com)
- "Former Jennies Bowler Bryanna Cote Captures PWBA US Open Title," by University of Central Missouri Staff at ucmathletics.com
- "Cote Wins 2023 US Women's Open for First Career Major Title," by Gene J. Kanak of bowl.com
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With dates, event, center, location and broadcast channel (subject to change):

- July 27-30, PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles**, Copperfield Bowl, Houston, BowITV
- Aug. 8-10, PWBA Waterloo Classic** - Waterloo, Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center, Waterloo, Iowa, BowITV
- Aug. 11-12, PWBA Pepsi Classic** - Waterloo, Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center, Waterloo, Iowa, BowITV
- Aug. 13-15, PWBA Tour Championship** - Waterloo, Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center, Waterloo, Iowa, National TV

2023 PBA50/60 TOUR SCHEDULE

(PBA50 Majors are in bold, PBA60 events are italicized):

- July 2-July 5: *Tristan's TAPS Memorial, Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl, Columbus, Ohio*
- July 10-July 13: PBA50 South Shore Classic, Olympia Lanes, Hammond, Indiana
- July 15-July 23: PBA50 World Series of Bowling, JAX60, Jackson, Michigan**
- July 16 & July 19: PBA50 Ballard Championship, JAX60, Jackson, Michigan
- July 17 & July 20: PBA50 Monacelli Championship, JAX60, Jackson, Michigan
- July 18 & July 21: PBA50 Petraglia Championship, JAX60, Jackson, Michigan
- July 16-July 23: PBA50 World Championship, JAX60, Jackson, Michigan**
- July 31-August 3: PBA50 Morgantown Classic, Suburban Lanes, Morgantown, West Virginia
- August 6-August 10: Players Championship, Bowl America Dranesville, Sterling, Virginia**
- August 14-August 18: PBA50 The Villages Classic, Spanish Springs Lanes, The Villages, FL
- August 20-August 23: PBA50 Ft. Myers Classic, Lightning Strikes Lanes, Ft. Myers, FL
- August 26-August 30: PBA50 Tournament of Champions, Orange Bowl, Lakeland, FL**

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PBA continued from page 1

the last few frames,” said an emotional Troup. “With the season that I’ve had, making the switch to grips... that’s number 10. It’s special, man.” Though Troup achieved both of his preseason goals — winning title No. 10 and making match play at the U.S. Open — his season was filled with struggles. Following his U.S. Open runner-up performance, he earned just two more top-10 finishes before the Tour Finals.

In many ways, he replicated his 2022 season when he won the PBA Playoff following a disappointing regular season. “It goes to show the fight that I have, sticking to the process during the tough times,” Troup said. “We normally always have the ball reps, and to get this win done without one... obviously I want to have my team here at all times, but that just gives me all the confidence in the world moving forward for the next month,” Troup said. “A lot of the hard work has really paid off. I’ve got to credit Eric Krauss and his buddy Andy. They gave me a tip to think about — and that was it.”

The Group 1 positioning round on Saturday featured a heavyweight battle between Troup and EJ Tackett, one the latter earned a narrow victory to secure the top seed today. However, Troup flipped the script on Sunday afternoon as competition shifted to dual patterns (38-foot Webb on the left lane and 43-foot Anthony on the right lane).

Tackett, who sought to become the first player to win six titles in a season since 1993, won the opening game in the Best-of-Two match. However, Tackett squandered his opportunity to clinch the match by whiffing a 10-pin in the 10th frame. “I did remember once yesterday he left a 10-pin that he kind of stuck (on the approach) a little bit, so maybe there was a chance. But I still didn’t expect him to do it,” Troup said. Troup answered with a game-stealing triple in the 10th and forced a two-frame roll-off.

Another 10-pin leave from Tackett in the roll-off opened the door again for Troup, who slammed it shut with a match-clinching strike. “I’ve always said I’m a fan of those ninth and 10th frame roll-offs,” Troup said. “I started talking to Mr. K — a stuffed animal from Aubrey, his girlfriend Breanna’s daughter — and just told him I was gonna make some good shots.” “I bowled really well last year and felt like I should have won my match and got to go further in the tournament,” Troup added. “My ball reads the lanes well here so I’m just fueling off a lot of confidence.”

Following the Group 1 finals, Prather climbed Group 2’s stepladder to reach the championship. He defeated Anthony Simonsen, Packy Hanrahan and defending champion Jason Belmonte.

Belmonte missed two makeable spares in the first game of the Best-of-Two match, which afforded Prather all the room he needed. But Belmonte said he envisioned this year’s Tour Finals going exactly the way last year’s did. In Game 2, he did all he could to ensure that would be the case.

Belmonte fired 300 to stave off elimination, becoming the first player in PBA history to throw three televised perfect games. Prather didn’t flinch. He took advantage of Belmonte’s 10-pin leave in the two-frame roll-off, doubling in his final frame to advance to the championship. With the win over Belmonte, Prather moved to 4-0 on television against the 31-time champion and 15-time major champion.

In the championship match, not even a literal shark could have stopped the Troup. The two-handed superstar fired games of 268 and 266 to sweep Prather and clinch the title he so desperately coveted.

“Guppy better start working on his speech to induct me into the Hall of Fame,” a beaming Troup said.

GROUP 1 STEPLADDER SCORES

- Match 1: No. 3 Dom Barrett def. No. 4 Jakob Butturff, 254-202
Match 2: No. 2 Kyle Troup def. No. 3 Dom Barrett, 278-215
Match 3: No. 2 Kyle Troup def. No. 1 EJ Tackett, 2-1
Game 1: Tackett def. Troup, 257-247
Game 2: Troup def. Tackett, 205-196
Roll-off: Troup def. Tackett, 48-40

GROUP 2 STEPLADDER SCORES

- Match 1: No. 4 Kris Prather def. No. 3 Anthony Simonsen, 233-226
Match 2: No. 4 Kris Prather def. No. 2 Packy Hanrahan, 268-217
Match 3: No. 4 Kris Prather def. No. 1 Jason Belmonte, 2-1
Game 1: Prather def. Belmonte, 228-215
Game 2: Belmonte def. Prather, 300-202
Roll-off: Prather def. Belmonte, 47-40

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

- Kyle Troup def. Kris Prather, 2-0
Game 1: Troup def. Prather, 268-225
Game 2: Troup def. Prather, 266-236

FINAL STANDINGS

- Kyle Troup, \$30,000
- Kris Prather, \$15,000
- Jason Belmonte, \$8,000
- EJ Tackett, \$8,000
- Packy Hanrahan, \$6,000
- Dom Barrett, \$6,000
- Anthony Simonsen, \$5,000
- Jakob Butturff, \$5,000



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Trading Cards continued from page 1

es with its thrilling competitions and outstanding athletes. Now, collectors will have the opportunity to own a piece of this dynamic sport through the beautifully designed trading cards offered by Leaf.

“We are absolutely thrilled to partner with the Professional Bowlers Association,” said Brian Gray, CEO of Leaf Trading Cards. “The PBA has a dedicated and passionate fan base, and we are excited to bring them an authentic and engaging collecting experience. Our trading cards will showcase the incredible talent and achievements of PBA players, capturing the essence of the sport in every pack.”

Leaf Trading Cards has built a reputation for crafting high-quality, innovative trading card products across various sports, including baseball, basketball, football, and soccer. With their expertise in creating unique and visually stunning collectibles, Leaf is well-positioned to showcase the excitement and skill of professional bowling. “This collaboration opens up new avenues for fans to connect with their favorite players on a deeper level,” said CJ Breen, Director of Social Media Marketing and Athlete Relations. “Trading cards have always been a cherished medium for capturing the essence of sports, and I am excited to see how this partnership will bring joy and excitement to fans across the globe.”

This partnership will enable collectors to uncover exclusive PBA trading cards featuring a wide range of designs, including autographed cards, rare inserts, and limited-edition releases. These cards will provide fans with an opportunity to connect with their favorite bowlers in a new and intimate way, immortalizing their greatest achievements and moments on the lanes. “This partnership with Leaf allows the PBA to break into an industry that has seen tremendous growth in recent years,” said Lev Ekster, the Chief Strategy Officer at Bowlero Corp. “We are excited about the entertainment and promotional opportunities for our athletes in the burgeoning sports trading card market.”

EJ Tackett and Kyle Troup’s cards are specially released today in celebration of the partnership. You can purchase their cards as part of Leaf’s Web Exclusives collection [here](#). More official PBA trading cards will launch this fall on [LeafTradingCards.com](#). Stay up to date on all the exclusive launches by following @Leaf_Cards on Twitter, @LeafTradingCards on Instagram, and @PBATour on all social platforms.

About Leaf Trading Co.

Leaf Trading Cards is the Gateway to Collectible Excellence. Leaf takes center stage as the premier organization dedicated to the world class trading cards. Having a global following of passionate collectors and enthusiasts, Leaf Trading Cards has become synonymous with innovation in the sports industry. Visionary CEO Brian Gray resurrected the iconic Leaf brand in 2010, bringing back the nostalgic brand from its heyday in the 1940’s. Leaf continues to deliver value to customers with its outrageous list of autograph signers while continually advancing our products each year. For more information, please visit [LeafTradingCards.com](#).



PBA Regionals continued from page 1

spots to the RPI throughout the year.

Let’s check out who added a few points to their names in this week’s Regional Recap. Read more about the RPI [here](#).

PBA JAX-60 NON-CHAMPS CENTRAL/MIDWEST CHALLENGE

Once again, the only guarantee in a non-champs event is that someone will soon become a champ. The top 16 players advanced into bracket play at the one-day event, and with nobody earning a bye, anybody above the +80 mark sat on a level playing field for the next round. The one-seeded Charlie Brown Jr. won his first couple of matches to set up a meeting with five-seeded Nicholas Graveel, where Graveel won 201-176.

Bailey Mavrick also earned a spot in the finals after defeating Daniel Farish 278-201 and continued his strong run by defeating Graveel 268-223 in the championship for his first career title.

PBA JAX-60 Central/Midwest Challenge Final Standings

Bailey Mavrick, 2,500 points, \$1,500
Nicholas Graveel, 1,500, \$1,100
Charlie Brown Jr. 1,150, \$900
Daniel Farish, 950, \$900

[PBA JAX-60 Central/Midwest Challenge Full Results](#)

PBA FORT MEADE OPEN PRESENTED BY AUTO SPA EXPRESS

In Maryland, The Lanes Fort Meade hosted 51 bowlers for a two-day event with match play taking place on Sunday. The top four spots were of utmost importance, giving those players guaranteed first-round victories against the formidable ‘bye’ opponent.

However, in the upper half of the bracket, Jake Rollins and Nate Trentler defeated the one- and four-seeds, respectively, to meet in the semifinals. Trentler snuck past Rollins in the semis 227-222 to move into the finals.

Tim Foy Jr. and John Furey had byes and made use of it by winning their first matches, but Foy later beat Furey 258-253 in the semifinal. Trentler, looking to defend his title, had just one game to go, but Foy’s run was too hot to catch. Foy won 244-186 for his fourth career title.

PBA Fort Meade Open presented by Auto Spa Express Final Standings

Tim Foy Jr., 2,500 points, \$2,500
Nate Trentler, \$1,325
John Furey, 1,150, \$950
Jake Rollins, 950, \$950

[PBA Fort Meade Open presented by Auto Spa Express Full Results](#)

PBA FARMERS UNION INSURANCE SUNSET LANES MIDWEST OPEN

What’s better than a regional event in the middle of the week? Nothing.

With multiple touring pros in the field, spectators had a ball watching the greats and getting autographs. Kris Prather led qualifying, but EJ Tackett took the one-seed after the advancer round. Brady Stearns, Prather, and Russ Oviatt grabbed the following three seeds for the stepladder finals.

Prather started with two wins, taking down Oviatt 223-186 and then Stearns 207-189. But in the finals, EJ used a bit of National Tour energy to win the title 227-213 for regional title No. 11.

PBA Farmers Union Insurance Sunset Lanes Midwest Open Final Standings

EJ Tackett, 2,500 points, \$2,500
Kris Prather, 1,500, \$1,700
Brady Stearns, 1,150, \$1,300
Russ Oviatt, 950, \$1,100

[PBA Farmers Union Insurance Sunset Lanes Midwest Open Full Results](#)

PBA FARMERS UNION INSURANCE MIDWAY LANES MIDWEST OPEN

How’s about we move on over in the Midwest from Minnesota to North Dakota, eh?

Just a few miles from Bismarck, Midway Lanes in Mandan, N.D. hosted the next event on the PBA Regional Tour. After qualifying and match play, Marshall Kent, Brady Stearns and Zach Andresen earned the top three seeds in the stepladder finals. Lucas Hersrud took the final spot in an exciting position round by defeating Prather to earn the four seed.

Hersrud then defeated Andresen 257-188, but fell to Stearns 207-199 in the stepladder. In the end, Kent found the podium with a 214-195 win for regional title No. 5.

PBA Farmers Union Insurance Midway Lanes Midwest Open Final Standings

Marshall Kent, 2,500 points, \$2,500
Brady Stearns, 1,500, \$1,700
Lucas Hersrud, \$1,300
Zach Andresen, \$1,100

[PBA Farmers Union Insurance Midway Lanes Midwest Open Full Results](#)

PBA VICTORY LANES MOORESVILLE OPEN

In the South for another event, again amassing over 100 entries, Nate Garcia smoked the field in qualifying. He averaged 228, almost 10 pins higher than Kyle Troup in second. Garcia still led after the first two advancer rounds, but after the third Mathew Woodall took the lead by 10 pins.


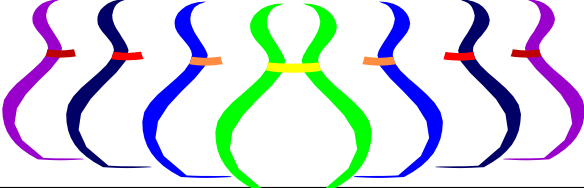
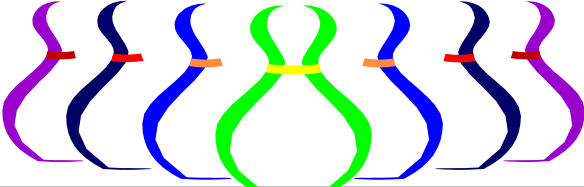
In an exciting winner-take-all final match, both players proved their worth for the title. Through seven frames, both players missed just once. Garcia held a one-pin lead, but left a 2-10 in the eighth frame to foil his championship hopes. Woodall struck out in the 10th to put a cap on the match and earned his first career title.

PBA Victory Lanes Mooresville Open Final Standings

Mathew Woodall, 2,500 points, \$2,500
Nate Garcia, 1,500, \$1,660
Connor Pickford, 1,150, \$1,100
Trevor Roberts, 950, \$1,100

[PBA Victory Lanes Mooresville Open Full Results](#)

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