# MARII IOSE RODRICUUELWIISS 2023 PWBA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIIP FOR THIRD CAREER MAOORTITIL 

WATERLOO, Iowa Colombia's Maria José Rodriguez wants to win every tournament she enters, but she's willing to concede that majors mean a bit more.

In that case, every Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title Rodriguez has won to date must mean a lot to her because they've all been majors.

The 34-year-old righthander's latest triumph came Tuesday night when she defeated Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, 234200, to win the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center.

The stepladder finals were contested in front of a standing-room only crowd and broadcast live on CBS Sports Network. The win gave Rodriguez her second Tour Championship crown she won the 2018 event in Richmond, Virginia and third major victory overall; her first came at the 2014 United States Bowling Congress Queens, which was held at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.
It also allowed her to take home the trophy and $\$ 50,000$ first-place check. Kovalova earned $\$ 25,000$ for her runnerup finish.


2023 PWBA Tour Championshp Winner Maria Jose Rodriguez Rodriguez can't ex- "I think maybe I'm plain why things just lucky that l've just won seem to click for her at the majors," Rodriguez majors, but it's not some- said. "I don't know why thing she's complaining that's happened beabout either.
goal is to win a regu- shots to grab a 16-pin lar event as well. You lead over Kovalova at put more emphasis and the halfway point.

Kovalova, a five-time PWBA Tour titlist and past major champion herself, did her best to hang tough, but a 2-4-810 split in the sixth and a pocket 7-10 in the seventh proved to be too much to overcome.

Rodriguez stayed clean, and by the time she stepped up to bowl her 10th frame, the title was already hers.

Even though Rodriguez already felt herself to have had a solid season, she had to admit that winning the season's final tournament, continued on page 8

## For the Record

 by Fred EisenhammerWINNETKA - A big rolled an 886 in 2019 at thank you to Dave Schet- Winnetka Bowl.
tini for reporting that Schettini wrote that Frank Chiodo's name he was bowling fourth on should have been includ- Chiodo's team that day ed among the top series and he shot a strong 676 bowlers in San Fernando but Chiodo "beat me by Valley-area history.

In the story last week about the closing of Pickwick Bowl, Sylvester Foster was cited for blasting an 878 series at the Burbank center in 2016. That score was believed to be the second-highest sanctioned Valley-area series behind Anthony Sharpsteen's 888 in 2011 at now-defunct Mission Hills Bowl.

However, Schettini noted that Frank Chiodo

## \$9,430 In SMART Scholarship Awarded In This Weekend's Summer Shootout Events <br> 19 More Shootout Events To Go With Over S110K Up For Crabls

by David Yamauchi
DIAMOND BAR The Bowling Centers of Southern California's fourth and fifth events took place this weekend with action at Bowlium in Montclair and Oak Tree Lanes in Diamond Bar. \$9,430 in SMART scholarships were awarded to 34 recipients over the weekend.
The A Division (\$40 entry, 5 games, over 185 average) saw Leoj Chin win both events, banking \$1025 with Daniel Hong finishing second twice and earning $\$ 875$. In the


A Division SS: Saturday and Sunday A Champion Leoj Chin and 2nd Daniel Hong
B Division ( $\$ 35$ entry, $4 \quad \$ 485$ with Lathan Chin games, 161-185 aver- scoring the Sunday win age) Ethan Santos took and $\$ 375$. C Division the Saturday event for ( $\$ 30$ entry, 3 games,

135-160 average) saw Cailyn Robey take the weekend sweep for $\$ 730$. In the D Division (\$30 entry, 3 games, under 135 average) Jase Wilson took the Saturday win for $\$ 310$ with Max Torres striking to the Sunday win for $\$ 310$. Congratulations to all the scholarship winners!

There are still 19 events left on the schedule with up to $\$ 6,000$ up for grabs at each event. With entry fees from $\$ 30$, these are fun, affordable continued on page 5 Optional Pots \& PLENTY of \$5 Brackets


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##  metrifuluss Lusic

by Jill Winters
The Villages, Florida - A healthy, comfortable, and confident Tom Adcock just added his name to the list of firsttime PBA50 Tour winners this season.
"Validity," he said, about what winning the 2023 PBA50 The Villages Classic means to him. "It means that what l've done in the past was not just a walk in the park. Can I compete out here? I believe I can, and I just proved it."


After earning the No. 1 seed for the stepladder finals on Friday, Adcock faced one of his good friends, Brad Angelo, in the championship match.

Adcock came out firing with strikes in five out of his first six frames, while Angelo started off with a spare and an open in frame two. Angelo bounced back with a strike and a single-pin spare before he started striking again to tighten the match.

Back-to-back 2-8 conversions by Adcock on the right lane in the seventh and ninth frames gave Angelo his opening. But first, Adcock would step up in the 10th with his focus on making three quality shots.
"I obviously got a break on the second ball in the 10th and took a re-rack," he said. "I had to calm myself down and go through the process."

Adcock struck again, posting a 238 and he took a seat.

Angelo, struck on his first ball, which was his sixth straight strike. But on his next shot, he left the 3-6-10 and got one for a score of 232 .
"I forced him to get them," the 61-year-old said. "When he didn't get the second one, I about lost it."

After leading numerous tournaments during his senior career, the lllinois native was thrilled he could finally walk through a door he just couldn't seem to get through before.
"The feeling is exhilarating," he said after winning \$8,000.

Leading up to the title match, Adcock referred to it as a murderer's row for the senior circuit. The first match featured Chris Barnes, who had led throughout qualifying and the advancers round, before losing to Danny Wiseman in match play.

Barnes faced No. 4 seed Angelo in the opening match of the stepladder. They matched each other strike-for-strike through four frames before Barnes picked up four straight single-pins. Angelo struck in the fifth and missed a 10-pin in the seventh. Yet, he rebounded with four strikes to earn the 253-223 win.

Next up for Angelo was Danny Wiseman. Angelo started with an open after leaving the $4-10$ split, while Wiseman struck on his first professional championship round shot in 14 years, he said.

After a nervous smile, Wiseman covered back-toback spares then threw a double for an 11-pin lead halfway through. Angelo would then strike on four out of his final six shots for 206. Wiseman's first shot in the 10th resulted in the 2-4-5-8 which he covered followed by a strike for 202.

The semifinal match saw Angelo take on Parker Bohn III, a rematch of last year's PBA50 title match in The Villages. Angelo struck on six out of his first seven shots while a costly 6-8 split in the seventh hurt Bohn III. He would get a spare and throw the final four strikes for 214 but Angelo proved too much as he finished with a 257 .

## Championship Round Scores

Match 1: Angelo def. Barnes, 253-223
Match 2: Angelo def. Wiseman, 206-202
Match 3: Angelo def. Bohn III, 257-214 Championship: Adcock def. Angelo, 238-232

## Final Standings

1. Tom Adcock, \$8,000
2. Brad Angelo, $\$ 4,500$
3. Parker Bohn III, $\$ 3,500$
4. Danny Wiseman, $\$ 2,900$
5. Chris Barnes, $\$ 2,400$

Full standings - PBA50 The Villages Classic


# And Another One Gone... 

 Pichwick Bow| Closes IIs Doorsby Dave Williams

Tuesday, August 15th was indeed a sad day for residents of Burbank, Calif., and all of Southern California, as one of the most beloved bowling centers in the area closed its doors for the last time. Pickwick Bowl, located along the meandering Riverside Drive that follows the path of the Los Angeles River, shuttered their doors after more than 60 years of service to local residents.

The outpouring of local residents was felt throughout the area as all of the major television networks carried video interviews of residents gathered together one last time in the parking lot of the bowling establishment. Even horse back riders from the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, located directly across the street from Pickwick Bowl, came to pay their last respects.

It was a bittersweet moment for me, as I remembered all of the fond memories associated with Pickwick Bowl. Although I don't ever remember bowling at Pickwick, it was the kindness of a longtime employee and her son that allowed me to spend a few years in the area while driving up and down the coast of the western United States, promoting bowling for AMF.

When the company sent me to the San Fernando Valley, where I was stationed at AMF Rocket Bowl, my meager income at the time was making it difficult to find a place to live. I must have been bowling in a tournament and crossing lanes with Gregg Lewis and explained my dilemma to the standout bowler. He suggested that I could possibly move into his older brother's room since he had recently moved out.

The next day I got a call from Shirley Lewis, Gregg's mom, and she invited me to come and live with them for $\$ 100$ per month! I'm not sure if I ever asked Shirley about her occupation at Pickwick but assumed that she must have been either the day manager or bookkeeper. Their home was on Keystone Avenue, directly across from Disney's famous "Back Lot."

I can still see the home from an aerial view on the internet, because their property had an enormous swimming pool. The Disney Studios had a beautifully landscaped 10 foot high concrete and brick wall that was set back from the roadway, preventing anyone from seeing what was happening inside the huge complex.

Shirley was born in Denver, Colo., in 1924. She married George Lewis in 1945 and moved to California, where she remained until her death in 2002. The couple had two sons, George and Gregg. Because of her son's interest in bowling, she became one of Southern California's most active proponents for junior bowling.

Shirley served as director of various youth organizations, including the Greater Los Angeles Junior All Stars, while working at Pickwick Bowl. She was an avid Dodger baseball fan, and I can still hear the broadcasts with Vin Scully turned up on high whenever she was at home.

## Celebrity Bowling At Pickwick Bowl

Many of you will hopefully remember the Celebrity Bowling program that originated at the KTTV studios in Hollywood. The show ran from 1971 to 1978, and featured Jed Allan and AMF's Cheryl Robinson as color commentator. Each week four celebrities would get together in a "best ball" format to try and win prizes for individuals in the audience, and also lucky home viewers.

Members of the viewing audience discovered that a few Hollywood celebrities were "closet" bowlers, including the most famous, Roy Rogers. Additional shows were reportedly attempted over the years, including The New Celebrity Bowling in 1987 (once again hosted by Jed Allan), a TV syndicated show from the Silver Nugget Casino in North Las Vegas in 2008, and Stars and Strikes from the Lucky Strike Bowl in downtown Los Angeles, in 2011.

Perhaps the most successful attempt since the initial show with Jed and Cheryl was Chris Hardwick's All-Star Celebrity Bowling that ran for a couple of years from 2012 to 2013 and streamed online over Hardwick's Nerdist Channel (Chris is the son of Hall of Fame bowler Billy Hardwick).


It was not uncommon to see horses from the Equestrian Center in the parking lot. Here, one of the famous Budweiser Clydesdales visits with Pickwick customers (2018)

While searching online at various pages designed by and for Pickwick Bowl, I discovered that there's a new crop of "closet" bowlers in Hollywood. Perhaps the most frequent and well known is Kristen Dunst, the redhead from the Spiderman movies. She has been spotted and photographed at Pickwick Bowl, and also at Pinz, a bowling center in Studio City.

Other frequent visitors to Pickwick in recent years include Amy Poehler of hit TV show Parks and Recreation, who reportedly filmed portions of their first episode (and others) at Pickwick Bowl. According to those same pages there have been numerous sightings of Martin Lawrence of both TV and movie fame, as well as a couple of "old timers" from That 70's Show that have now tied the knot Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis.

## The Sad News

Here's the sad news that was posted by the Pickwick Bowl general manager on their website earlier this month. Portions of the letter have been edited due to space limitations. You can view the entire letter at: facebook.com/pickwickbowl.

Dear Friends and Families of Pickwick Bowl,
Pickwick Investments LLC has announced the permanent closure of Pickwick Bowl, an iconic destination for over 60 years. It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of its closing.

Pickwick customers have become friends and are like family. Many of you have celebrated life's milestones at Pickwick, and we hope the memories stay with you in the years to come.


The Pickwick Bowl sign, with colorful red roses in bloom

I have cherished my time at Pickwick Bowl, being greatly honored to participate in many special events and tournaments with our incredible customers. Inviting you into Pickwick has been our honor over the years and we will miss each of you and look back with fond gratitude on the times we shared.

Darin Mathewson
General Manager Pickwick Bowl and Banquets


Weekly Scratch 5-Gamer Every Tuesday
\$50 Entry Fee with Optional Pots and Brackets Check-in at 6pm • Bowl at 7pm • 1 in 5 Payout August 22: Don Carter Saturday HDCP No-Tap Tournament $\mathbf{\$ 2 5}$ Entry Fee with Optional Pots and Brackets Check-in at 11am • Bowl at Noon - 1 in 5 Payout 4 Games on Same Pair of Lanes on House Shot


B Division Sunday: Sunday B Champion Leoj Chin and 2nd Jacob Major


C Division Sunday: Saturday and Sunday C Champion Cailyn Robey and Sunday 2nd Kaili Purugganan


D Division Sat: Saturday D Champion Jase Wilson


D Division Sun: Sunday D Champion Max Torres

## II. Shootout continued from page 1

events for Southern California junior bowlers to have a chance to earn SMART Scholarship funds for their future.

Bowlers entering at least three events in the series will be eligible to enter the Southern California Grand Championships in January of 2024. Over $\$ 100,000$ in scholarships will be available in the mega-event thanks to the Bowling Proprietors of Southern California. Hope to see you at Westminster Lanes this Saturday, August 26th and Empire Bowl on Sunday, August 27th!

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> CLARISSA TORO Rolls 298 At Laughlin's RIVERSIDE LANES

by Frank Weiler
LAUGHLIN, NV. - Californian Clarissa Toro with a hundred or so other California bowlers migrated for a week of gaming and bowling at Don Laughlin's Riverside Lanes last week.

Clarissa was competing in a semiannual Senior No-Tap Handicap Tournament hosted by Riverside Lanes. The tourney, hosted by House Director Brian Markowitz, is a fun event with hundreds of dollars up for grabs. Besides California, bowlers came from Arizona, Nevada and Utah to compete.

This was the $18^{\text {th }}$ version of this event and Clarissa is a regular here. I saw her with Hall of Fame husband Andy Toro in the Prime Rib Room. I guess meals of eighteen ounces of red meat make a difference on the lanes. One of her handicap no-tappers was a huge 298!

A 298 game of any type is big. Especially by a petite pretty one hundred ten pound lady rolling a bowling ball at 7.5 MPH. In addition to her no-tap strikes Clarissa's big game included a natural triple. Three perfect strikes!

The majority of guys I saw at the tournament could not top Clarissa's score

The California crew of bowlers at the tournament did our state proud and again showed that "CALIFORNIA BOWLERS ARE THE BEST BOWLERS IN THE WORLD"


Jose Sanchez ( $L$ ) is presented his $800+300$ rings by Phil Yoakum. Jose bowled 300-290-236, 836 series May 20,2023 in Phil's beat the pro tourney at Gage Bowl. This was Jose's first $300+800$ series.

## To The Editior

We have witnessed MANY bowling alley closures in the Los Angeles area in the past few years, nearly always lost to more housing.

If the housing built was for the benefit of "natura persons" instead of corporations, perhaps we could say that it was necessary. But the loss of our bowling alleys is benefiting corporations, not the people.

Bowlers, leagues and bowling alleys need to help find a way with these corporations to keep a presence in this new "necessary" housing, so at least the people can maintain the benefit of bowling within their community.

# PBA REGIONAL RECAP: TOURSTARS ANDAPBALEAGUE ROOKIE PREVAII 

by Chase Kaufman
Of the recent trio of PBA Regional Tour stops in Ohio, the granddaddy of them all took place at Pla-Mor Lanes in Coldwater, Ohio. It's an event that many players put on their schedule because of the high payouts and brutal lane conditions, bringing in phenomenal bowlers to the center. The PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair awarded \$10,000 top, and that cash went to Frank Snodgrass of Center Line, Mich.

As one of five bowlers who will make their PBA League debut this fall, Snodgrass was selected by the Snickers Waco Wonders and Johnny Petraglia in the second round. The now two-time regional champ put his name in the hat at the very beginning of the 2023 PBA season, making his first telecast appearance in the U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling! in late January.

PBA OVERLAND PARK SOUTHWEST/MIDWEST OPEN


A full field of 120 bowlers entered Bowlero Overland Park, but only one exited a champion. After qualifying, it became evident that a local would have to be on their A-game to emerge victorious, as the top seven players competed on the PBA Tour in 2023.
As the advancer rounds continued, PBA Tour pros filled out the stepladder in François Lavoie, Nick Pate, Nathan Bohr, and Zach Wilkins. Wilkins defeated Bohr in the opening match, 225-216, but lost to Pate 195-174. In the final game, Pate lost to his friend Lavoie, 278-224, as the Canadian picked up his ninth regional title and second this season.

PBA Overland Park Southwest/Midwest Open Final Standings
François Lavoie, 2,500 points, \$3,000
Nick Pate, 1,500, \$2,000
Zach Wilkins, 1,150, \$1,600
Nathan Bohr, 950, \$1,325
PBA Overland Park Southwest/Midwest Open Full Results

## PBA SHOWTIME CUP ASHEVILLE OPEN



It's Showtime! Ethan Fiore led the way in Asheville at Sky Lanes, averaging 242 on the 40 -foot Don Johnson pattern. After the first advancer round, Zachary Tackett joined the fray, and it was a battle between those two for the rest of the day. Fiore's lead started to expand over Tackett, but once the two were the last remaining, all scores dropped and it was one winner-take-all match.

Fiore began with a split and grabbed the lead back with a double, while Tackett went spare, strike, spare. But Tackett put up a double in the fifth frame and never relinquished the lead. Tackett, who is not the brother of PBA Tour star EJ Tackett by the same name, won 229-194 and earned his third career title and his second of the season.

PBA Showtime Cup Asheville Open Final Standings
Zachary Tackett, 2,500 points, $\$ 3,000$
Ethan Fiore, 1,500, \$1,360
Kyle Troup, 1,150, \$1,040
Garrett Thompson, 950, \$1,040
PBA Showtime Cup Asheville Open Full Results

## PBA BOWLERS SUPPL//STORM OPEN

On the 38 -foot Marshall Holman pattern, it took a 218 average to get inside the top 12 for match play, which meant Anthony Neuer grabbed the final spot. He shot the event's lone 300 during match play, but still couldn't catch up to the tournament leaders Alex Cavagnaro and Jake Rollins.

Cavagnaro and Rollins sat in first and second place with only the position round remaining. Cavagnaro held a 38-pin lead, meaning Rollins needed a ninepin victory in the final match. Rollins got the win by 20 pins to jump into first place, take the title and $\$ 2,500$.

PBA Bowlers Supply/Storm Open Final Standings
Jake Rollins, 2,500 points, \$2,500
Alex Cavagnaro, 1,500, \$1,300
Adam Zimmerman, 1,150, \$1,100
Ryan Galli, 950, \$1,000
PBA Bowlers Supply/Storm Open Full Results

## PBA BOWILERO/FINDLAY CENTRAL OPEN

In the first tournament of a back-to-back-to-back swing in Ohio, Patrick Dombrowski, in his home state, led at +275 for eight games. He earned a bye in the first round along with three others, but he fell in the Round of Eight to Graham Fach.

Fach then fell to Jean Perez, while Dean Vargo eliminated Jordan Malott to advance to the finals. Perez was looking for a repeat performance, as he won this event last year, while Vargo was searching for his first title. The latter happened as Vargo collected a 222-183 victory and a banner at future tournaments.

PBA Bowlero/Findlay Central Open Final Standings
Dean Vargo, 2,500 points, \$2,000
Jean Perez, 1,500, \$1,200
Jordan Malott, 1,150, \$900
Graham Fach, 950, \$900
PBA Bowlero/Findlay Central Open Full Results


## PBA KREMER ROOFING CENTRAL CLASSIC



The bowlers traveled about an hour south for the middle of the three tournaments with a larger field at 72 entries. In a field with plenty of big names, the biggest name grabbed the one-seed in EJ Tackett. Graham Fach, Zach Weidman, Michael Davidson, and Sam DeWitt III took seeds two through five.

In the opening match of the stepladder, Davidson left a pesky 10-pin in the 10th frame as DeWitt took the first win by single digits. Weidman dominated in match two, starting with the front-10 before leaving a 10-pin and winning 289207. Weidman put up another solid 248 with the front-six to Fach's 202 to advance to the finals.

In the final match, EJ Tackett put up a huge double in the 10th to shut out Weidman and win 236-226. This marks EJ Tackett's 12th regional title and second this season.

## PBA Kremer Roofing Central Classic Final Standings

EJ Tackett, 5,000 points, $\$ 4,000$
Zach Weidman, 3,000, \$2,000
Graham Fach, 2,300, \$1,500
Sam DeWitt, 1,900, \$1,200
PBA Kremer Roofing Central Classic Full Results

## PBA BOWLERSTORE.COM CLASSIC PRESENTED BY MOXY'S XTRA PAIR



In one of the most anticipated events of the regional season, Coldwater, Ohio, brought in 96 bowlers with $\$ 10,000$ on top. After a few advancer rounds, Michael Davidson and Michael Schlabach barely missed out on the stepladder, while Frank Snodgrass, BJ Moore, Sam DeWitt, and Graham Fach took the top four seeds.

Snodgrass stayed near the top for the first 15 games, but in the third advancer round, the righty vaulted up the leaderboard. Shooting a 513 for his two games in the final advancer round, which included the front-eight strikes, Snodgrass jumped from fourth to first to put him one match away from a $\$ 10,000$ check and the accolades that come with it.

In the opening match, DeWitt threw too many good shots for Fach to keep up with. A 258 would get the job done for DeWitt, who looked to avenge his stepladder loss in the previous tournament. Fach, who shot a 197, started strong but lost count with a five-spare and six-spare in the middle of the game, which drained his hopes. Next, BJ Moore stepped up in match two and struggled with ball reaction, switching between reactive and urethane throughout the game. Moore gave himself a chance, striking out in his final frame to force DeWitt to mark in the 10th, but DeWitt threw a beautiful shot to win 196-186.

In the final match, Snodgrass started out strong with a spare and a six-bagger to take a 37-pin lead through seven frames. He split in the eighth frame to make things a tad interesting, but DeWitt couldn't find a strike in the eighth or ninth frames. The PBA League rookie needed just 26 pins in his final two frames, which he got thanks to a spare in the ninth.

Snodgrass hoped his softer ball speed would get his ball to read the treacherous pair a little more than his opponent, and it obviously did. The Michigan native earned a check for $\$ 10,000$ en route to winning his second career regional title and first since 2017

Snodgrass knew the conditions would be demanding, but also knew whoever got the job done would rightfully have earned it. In an event also won by EJ Tackett, Chris Via, Parker Bohn III, Darren Tang, and many others in years past, Snodgrass's picture will now be hung up next to those champs at the center. In an interview with BowITV's Kurtis Von Krueger, the champion credited his strong mental game to part of this win.

## PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair

 Final StandingsFrank Snodgrass, 5,000 points, \$10,000
Sam DeWitt, 3,000, \$5,000
BJ Moore, 2,300, \$2,500
Graham Fach, 1,900, \$2,000
PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair Full Results
View the season-long PBA Regional Tour points leaders here.

PWBA continued from page 1
and major, was a nice way to close out the 2023 PWBA Tour campaign.
"Obviously, it was a good season because I won," Rodriguez said. "You always want to do better. I mean, I would've loved to have had Jordan's season - referring to 2023 PWBA Tour Player of the Year Jordan Richard - but I don't want to sound like I don't appreciate the season I had. I just have really high standards for myself."

Rodriguez's standards have always been high, but not too long ago, it was unclear whether or not it was even worth setting performance goals anymore because there was no guarantee she was going to be able to continue competing.

That's because a host of foot and ankle injuries had Rodriguez struggling to walk without pain let alone being able to bowl at an elite level.

There were moments when she questioned whether or not she'd ever make it back to competition strength, which is a fact that made Tuesday night's win even more special.
"I questioned every day whether or not l'd be able to do this again," Rodriguez said. "lt's amazing that this has happened. A lot of people have come back from things like that, and a lot of people haven't, so you don't take anything for granted. It just feels awesome."

Kovalova earned her spot in the title match by taking down 2022 U.S. Women's Open champion Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, 211-173 in the seminfinals.

That match was close until McCarthy was unable to convert a 1-2-4-6-10 washout in the seventh frame.

Nevertheless, despite failing to reach the winner's circle, McCarthy authored some of the night's most thrilling moments.

First, she defeated England's Verity Crawley 10-6 in a roll-off after the two finished Match 1 tied at 268 .

Next, she converted a 3-4-6-7 split in the 10th frame of Match 2 to top Richard by a final score of 228-217. Richard was vying for her first career major title and fourth win of the season.

However, McCarthy's bid to run the stepladder was stopped one match later by Kovalova, which forced McCarthy to settle for a third-place finish and $\$ 15,000$.

Richard earned $\$ 12,000$ for placing fourth, while Crawley finished fifth and walked away with $\$ 9,000$.

The Tour Championship was the final event of the season-ending PWBA Championship Week - Waterloo, which featured three events - PWBA Waterloo Open, PWBA Pepsi Open and Tour Championship - and kicked off Wednesday with 85 athletes.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player had to be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field was filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which was the Pepsi Open.

The Tour Championship consisted of three eight-game rounds of match play Sunday and Monday. Total pinfall for 24 games, including bonus pins for each victory in match play, determined the five finalists for Tuesday's championship round.

Latvia's Diana Zavjalova won the Waterloo Open on Thursday for her first title of the 2023 season and fifth career title. Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas won the Pepsi Open Saturday night to claim her first PWBA Tour tournament victory.

The 2023 PWBA Tour schedule featured 12 events during the season and began in May at the PWBA Stockton Open at Pacific Avenue Bowl in Stockton, California.

Richard was the only player to win multiple titles during the season, reaching the winner's circle three times - PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open; PWBA Great Lakes Classic; PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open - while Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, collected her first major at the USBC Queens.

Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, won PWBA Rookie of the Year for the 2023 season. She secured the postseason honor after accumulating enough points to qualify for the Tour Championship.

Richard took home Player of the Year after leading the 2023 PWBA Tour in wins (3), championship-round appearances (6), average (219.69) and PWBA Tour points $(110,162.50)$. This marks Richard's first time earning the award; however, she was the 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year.
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|  |  | Las Mojas Laughtin |
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