

# CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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## 2021-2022 STORM 625 Scratch Trio League SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

by Frank Weiler

“LET THE GAMES BEGIN”. Let’s Bowl. That is the call throughout the United States of America at this time of year at hundreds of Bowling Centers. It is no different at **Pins N Pockets Entertainment Center** in Lake Elsinore. League play is beginning and the Top Bowling League in Riverside County should have another great season.

That Top League, the **Storm 625 Scratch Trio League**, has kicked off the 2022-23 Bowling season with some of the top bowlers from SoCAL competing for thousands of dollars in prize money up for grabs. Last season the Prize Fund exceeded **\$33,000**.

With the 2022-23 season opening I wish to report on some of the highlights for last season.

The League Leaders in Match Game Points were:

| Bowler             | Match Points |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 1. Kevin Gagnon    | 101          |
| 2. Mark Dyer       | 98           |
| 3. Darron Peters   | 80.5         |
| 4. Jason Hockman   | 78           |
| 5. Jeff Lewen      | 77.5         |
| 6. Warren Nelson   | 75.5         |
| 7. Dean Townsend   | 73           |
| 8. Matt Murtishaw  | 72           |
| 9. Lloyd Irwin Jr. | 71.5         |
| 10. Ted Pratt      | 69.5         |



**Jeff Lewen - 625 Scratch League Highlights Leader**

The league competed on a “**Challenging oil pattern**” which limited scoring but **Kevin Gagnon** still scored at a 234 pace to lead all bowlers. His nearest competitor, James Doolen, was eight pins behind at 226.

The **TOP THREE Teams** and their averages follow:

**Team 8 League Champions & High Team Average**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Dean Townsend | 206 |
| Mark Dyer     | 222 |
| James Doolen  | 226 |
| Team Average  | 654 |

**Team 14 Second Place & 2<sup>nd</sup> High Team Average**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Darron Peters | 216 |
| Steve Hodgson | 197 |
| Kevin Gagnon  | 234 |
| Team Average  | 645 |

**Team 15 Third Place & 3<sup>rd</sup> High Team Average**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Jason Hockman | 222 |
| Scott Filipi  | 188 |
| Jeff Lewen    | 216 |
| Team Average  | 626 |

The High Team Trio Game (770) and High Team Three Game Series (2171) were bowled by Team 8 (Dean Townsend, Mark Dyer and James Doolen) the League Champions.

My thanks to league Secretaries **SCOTT** and **SHARI FILIPI** for providing the data I needed to report on the best league I have ever bowled in. I competed in the league for ten seasons with great teammates like **KEN CLAY, DAVE COOK, JERRY DeYAGER** and **ALAN MOJADO** to name just a few. “THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES”.

## SMART PROGRAM ALLOCATES ADDITIONAL \$750,000 FOR PELL GRANT MATCH

by Aaron Smith



ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins (SMART) program is making an additional investment earnings allocation up to \$750,000 in 2022 to provide additional scholarships for youth bowlers in support of the SMART Pell Grant Match program.

In February, SMART announced \$1.2 million in funding for the new SMART Pell Grant Match program for 2022, and there has been enough interest in the program to exhaust the initial allocation. The SMART Oversight Committee approved additional funding of up to \$750,000 to continue accepting qualified applications for the program through the rest of 2022.

“Changes to the SMART program earlier this year are succeeding in our goal to increase use of scholarship funds by more youth bowlers,” said Frank Wilkinson, chair of the USBC SMART Committee. “The SMART Pell Grant Match is proving to be a great success in helping students within our bowling community, so SMART is adding more resources to meet the need.”

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 is available to any student with at least one season of USBC Youth participation and two seasons overall of USBC membership.

Students can request the SMART Pell Grant Match by visiting [BOWL.com/SMART](http://BOWL.com/SMART). Applications for the SMART Pell Grant Match will be accepted through the end of the year or until funding is exhausted.

Complete language of the SMART policies and an FAQ guide are published on [BOWL.com](http://BOWL.com).

## Who Reads The California Bowling News? The Baristas at Starbucks in Edison, New Jersey, That's Who!



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# Stephanie Zavala Wins Back to Back Greater LA County USBC Queens at Cal Bowl

From Stephanies Facebook Page



Had a VERY slow start this morning and was the last bracket qualifier but finally settled down and climbed that ladder.

Threw a whole lot of everything including the Wolverine Dark Moss (shocker), super nova, night road, and infinite physics. The ball that got it done though was my old reliable ALL ROAD.

Thankful for my parents who came down to watch me bowl for a bit and Chris who stuck out my grind and got me to that win! I really can't do it without you.

It's always cool when you can recreate photos from a couple years ago.

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# Mookie Betts “Strikes” Again

by Dave Williams

As I was wandering through some baseball highlights on [mlb.com](https://www.mlb.com), I noticed a mention of bowling in one of the [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) videos from ESPN's game of the week on Sunday nights. The video turned out to be a twenty minute infomercial for bowling!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdTr04rNCPQ>

It all starts at about the 4 minute mark when a fan from Twitter asks, “Which feels greater: hitting a grand slam or bowling a perfect 300?” Betts, who was mic'd and playing in the outfield during the entire interview, responded very diplomatically: “I’m going to say hitting a grand slam, because that’s what I get paid to do.”

Mookie then goes on to say that bowling is his way of getting away from baseball. He gets together with a couple of PBA guys, his family and some of the coaches every Monday at a local Los Angeles bowling center, before the establishment opens to the public. “Bowling is near and dear, and it’s an important thing that I started doing this year and I feel that it has played into my success.”

Betts began bowling at the Donelson Plaza Strike and Spare Lanes in Donelson, Tennessee, a suburb of Nashville. He excelled at three sports while attending high school - baseball, bowling and basketball. He was named the Tennessee Boys Bowler of the Year in 2010, the same year that he averaged .548 for a local high school baseball team in Nashville.

Bowling, and a full scholarship to the University of Tennessee did not stand a chance when at the age of 19, Betts signed a \$750,000 contract with the Boston Red Sox. By 2014 (age 21), Mookie had become a starting outfielder/2nd baseman for the Red Sox. On August 29th of that year, Betts hit his first grand slam and tied a record for the youngest Red Sox ever to do so (the other was Tony Conigliaro in 1965).

Betts has a penchant for home runs. He’s hit three home runs in a game on 6 different occasions, and that ties him with Johnny Mize and Sammy Sosa for the most 3-home run games in major league history. He has two World Series rings with two different teams after only 9 seasons in the big leagues, and appears to be headed for another this year.

The conversation on the [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) video continues as the announcers bring up such topics as “The Big Lebowski” starring Jeff Bridges (The Dude), and Mookie’s basketball prowess. “Chris Paul is a good friend of mine,” says Mookie. “He lives right around the corner from me.” The announcer then asks him if he’s played CP-3 a little one-on-one basketball? “No, I refuse,” says Betts.

“But we have bowled,” says Mookie, “and that didn’t end too well for him.”

### Let’s Talk Baseball - Dodgers and Giants Baseball

I have so many fond memories of Giant-Dodger baseball games. Even though the San Francisco Giants were the runners up most years to the Los Angeles Dodgers during my childhood, I always enjoyed the games which were just about the only ones aired on local television station KTVU Channel 2 while I was growing up. All of the other games could be heard on the powerful KSFO-560AM radio station.

There was nothing quite like watching or listening to a home run by Willie Mays, Willie McCovey or Orlando Cepeda, and the call of Russ Hodges with his patented “Bye Bye Baby,” or Lon Simmons with his classic “You Can Tell It Goodbye.” The tradition continues today, with former Giants 2nd baseman Duane Kuiper embellishing the most iconic home run call in modern baseball for the past 36 years... “It Is Outta Here!”

Perhaps the greatest broadcasting moment of all time was Hodges calling the last game of the season and Bobby Thompson blasting “the home run that was heard round the world.” Over 70 years later, you can still feel the emotion of a youthful Hodges when he proclaimed, “There’s a long drive, it’s gonna be I believe, the Giants won the pennant, the Giants



(l to r) Tommy Jones and Mookie Betts, winners of the 2019 CP3 Invitational

won the pennant, the Giants won the pennant, the Giants won the pennant! They’re going crazy. I don’t believe it.” That game was against the Dodgers. The Giants had come from 13 1/2 games back in the final month of the season to win the pennant by half a game. Incredible.

Of course if you are a Dodger fan, you had all of the phenomenal pitchers, including Sandy Koufax, Don Drysdale and Don Sutton, to name a few. No one could call a game quite like Vin Scully. In an interview with David Letterman in 1990, Scully said that he tried to call every game straight, with no favoritism. He did just that. It was as though he was sitting there in your living room with you, detailing every pitch of a McCovey and Drysdale confrontation. And who can forget Scully’s famous call of Kirk Gibson’s walk-off home run in the 1988 World Series against the Oakland A’s... “In a year that has been so improbable, the impossible has happened.”

It’s amazing how close the Giants and Dodgers are in every respect. Both teams were founded in 1883. The Giants have 8 World Series Championships, while the Dodgers have 7 (and one tie). The one area where the Giants have dominated is with Hall of Fame inductees — a total of 63, versus 49 for the Dodgers. Their records in 138 years are also very close, with the Giants totaling 11,301 wins to the Dodgers 11,125. After the current season is done the Dodgers should be much closer!

### Mookie Betts - A Bowling and Baseball Phenom

I’ve written a couple of articles about Mookie Betts and the unusual coincidence of pros that have excelled in both bowling and baseball. Don Carter and John Burkett are the other most notable. Both succumbed to money. In the case of Carter it was a \$1 million bowling endorsement by Ebonite (the largest salary in sports history at the time), while for Burkett it was the guaranteed yearly salary from five different baseball teams over 13 years. John is now enjoying his retirement from baseball as a member of the PBA50 Bowling Tour.

It’s interesting how this baseball-bowling celebrity connection has taken place about every 30 years. First it was Carter in the 1960’s, then Burkett in the 1990’s, and now Betts in the 2020’s. It’s up to Mookie Betts to continue that tradition and live up to the moniker that I gave him a few short years ago: “a professional bowler that makes baseball look easy!”

Statistics used in this article were derived primarily from [baseball-reference.com](https://www.baseball-reference.com), [mlb.com](https://www.mlb.com), and [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). Photo provided by PBA, LLC.

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The 2022-2023 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season officially got underway last weekend in Columbus, Ohio, with the Muskingum men and Campbellsville women recording victories at the Welcome Back Tournament.

The event featured eight varsity programs in the men's division and seven varsity teams on the women's side. All teams competed in nine traditional games, with total pinfall determining the champion.

In the men's division, Muskingum started its trek toward the top spot after posting a 1,215 score in Game 2. The Fighting Muskies finished with six games over 1,000 on the way to a 286-pin victory with a 9,391 total (208.68 team average).

Midway finished in second place with a 9,105 total, and Campbellsville took third with 8,668.

In the individual standings, Campbellsville's Andrew McWhorter kicked off his season with a 279 game and rolled to the top spot, finishing with a 2,020 total for nine games (224.44 average).

Muskingum's Ethan McDonald was second with 1,981, and Midway's Caleb Marshall claimed third with 1,927. Muskingum's Evan Thro (1,924) and Kenny Haslip (1,861) rounded out the top five.

Midway's Zackery Halstead rolled the first perfect game of the 2022-2023 season, connecting for 12 consecutive strikes during Game 8.

On the women's side, things got interesting for Campbellsville on the way to the win, but the Lady Tigers were able to hold the top spot in the standings by 22 pins with a total of 8,315.


Campbellsville opened up a 157-pin lead after posting the highest team game in the women's division, 1,037, which came during Game 8, but Midway nearly was able to make up the difference as Campbellsville struggled in the final game. Midway posted 941 in Game 9 to finish in second with 8,293.

Muskingum finished third in the women's division with 8,076.

Midway's Taylor Petrey finished the Welcome Home Tournament with seven consecutive games of 200 or higher to easily claim top honors in the women's individual standings with a total of 1,873 (208.11 average).

Campbellsville's Shelbi Morris was second with 1,797, and she was joined in the top five by Notre Dame-Ohio's Sarah Benedict (1,748), Muskingum's Kaylee Hauck (1,746) and Midway's Afton Lords (1,740).

For the full schedule of collegiate events, results and more, visit [BOWL.com/Collegiate](http://BOWL.com/Collegiate) and [CollegeBowling.Bowl.com](http://CollegeBowling.Bowl.com).



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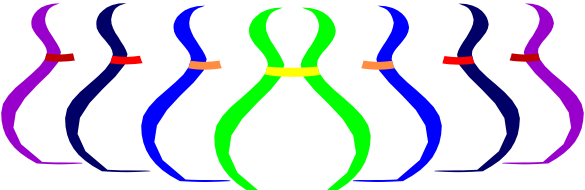
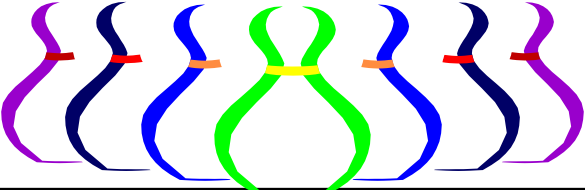
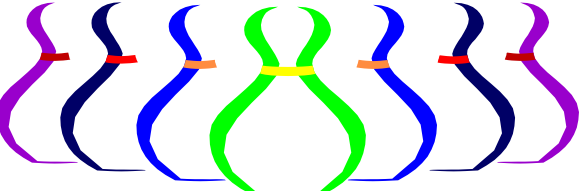
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| <b>CANYON LANES - 24</b><br>49750 Seminole Dr.,<br>Cabazon, CA 92230<br>(951) 572-6120 Fax: (951) 922-2385<br>Located next to Morongo Casino   |  | <b>SAN GABRIEL VALLEY</b><br>Association Manager - Linda Johnson-Piliros<br>4020 Shadydale Ave., Covina, CA 91722<br>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:thumpr2@verizon.net">thumpr2@verizon.net</a><br>(626) 337-6270 Fax: (626) 960-9260  |
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36th Year!

**Brunswick**<sup>®</sup>

**INVITATIONAL**

**FOREST LANES JUMPS THREE TEAMS, TAKES INVITATIONAL LEAD**  
*Duarte continues hot streak, averaging 251 through three weeks*

Monday night at Del Rio Lanes, the Brunswick Invitational bowled the third week of the first round. With the house shot on the lanes, confidence and scores are high. It's still early enough that all the teams are optimistic about their chances.

The first pair of lanes was a battle between two teams off to matching 9-1 records. Family Ties would take on U.S. Foods. A 257 by Vince Duarte was enough to get Family Ties off to an early 1-0 lead. In the middle game a 268 from Paul Barraco of U.S. Foods helped even the match at one win each. After two games, Family Ties held a 54 pin lead for totals. In the final game, a steady team effort by U.S. Foods added up to a 912 score which was enough to win by 42, but a 254 by Duarte kept U.S. Foods from overtaking Family Ties for total pins. Two wins by U.S. Foods, but totals gives Family Ties three wins, and keeps them on the top pair for next week. Vince Duarte put a 242 game up in the middle of his set, giving him a 753 series which was second high for the night. This was after shooting 809 last week. He's sitting at a 251 average after three weeks of play.

On the second pair, Westminster Lanes and Forest Lanes would square off, with both coming into the match at 8-2. Forest Lanes had no trouble in this match, sweeping all five games to improve to a league leading 13-2 heading into next week. JT Diso led the team with 247/705. Brad Jones added 667 and Jon Diso had 666 to help out. Bryan Osborn continued bowling well for Westminster, leading them with 245/673.

Threadworks moved up to third place for the round following a 5-0 sweep against J.A.T. Alejandra Urrutia was subbing for Threadworks and shot a league leading 781 set, with games of 266-258-257. She had help as well for Threadworks as Eric Snow added 268/748 and Paul Varela had a 261/705 of his own. Anthony Santos and Kevin Valmonte were both over 700 for J.A.T. but they weren't able to pull out any wins.

DV8 and Custom Finished Floors had a great match on the next pair. Custom Finish got the first game, 934-869, being led by Joe Pepitone's 246. In

the middle game, DV8 evened it up with a couple of 240's from Tyler Veneracion and Jeff Carr. Total pins was in favor of Custom Finished Floors, but only by seven pins. Early four baggers by Mike Cammarata and Tyler Veneracion had DV8 in front by 70 after only four frames, but the Custom Finish team reeled off strikes on 19 of their next 20 shots to put the game and the match away. Vernon Adams closed with a 258 game for a 678 set. Pepitone led the team with 699.

The Professional Approach improved to 9-6 for the round with a 4-1 win over The Bowling Guys. The Bowling Guys took the final game, being led by Mark Zirges' 257 game for a pair leading 675. It was all Professional Approach in the first two games though. Scott Silva topped the team with 244/641.

Cal Bowl also got a sweep in their match, beating HB Builders by almost a hundred pins a game. Leonard Ruiz paced Cal Bowl with his 278/733 set. Scott Smith added a 279 in the final game on his way to 706.

J.K. Inc. got a 279 in the opener from Sean Sosebee and 278 from Ian Markstrum and it still wasn't enough to get the win as their 943 score didn't match up to the 989 posted by Team #13. Derek Lee had a 267, Juan Zavala a 259 and Gary Duran a 248 in the opener. Game two was all Team #13. J.K. Inc. got a big win in the final game, but total pins still went to Team #13.

Bowlum swept five games from a Jiffy Lube team that is still looking for their first win. Billy Myers Jr. led the team with 233/689. Arnold Cheesman was right behind with 248/681. William Morris of Jiffy Lube actually led the pair with 240/692 but it wasn't enough to get them in the win column. That's coming soon though.

The first sidepot of the night was won by Sean Sosebee with his 279 game. 278 was only enough to split second place, as Leonard Ruiz and Ian Markstrum had matching scores. In the middle game, Butch Jackson won the pot with 267, edging out Paul Varela's 261. The third game Super Pot was split between Ray Minter and Vernon Adams who both shot

| TOP 10 ROUND ONE  |    |                       |   |
|-------------------|----|-----------------------|---|
| Forest Lanes..... | 13 | Finishing Touch ..... | 9 |
| Family Ties ..... | 12 | Professional Approach | 9 |
| Threadworks.....  | 12 | Westminster Lanes.... | 8 |
| US Foods.....     | 11 | Bowlum.....           | 7 |
| Cal Bowl .....    | 9  | DV8.....              | 6 |

| TOP 10 THIS WEEK        |     |                      |     |
|-------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Alejandra Urrutia ..... | 781 | Scott Smith .....    | 706 |
| Vince Duarte .....      | 753 | JT Diso.....         | 705 |
| Eric Snow .....         | 748 | Anthony Santos ..... | 705 |
| Leonard Ruiz Jr. ....   | 733 | Paul Varela .....    | 705 |
| Kevin Valmonte.....     | 710 | Joe Pepitone.....    | 699 |

**SUPER SWEEPER POT**  
Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of  
Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.  
1st Paul Barraco 268 \$115 • 1st Eric Snow 268 \$115

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258, and won \$121 each. In another tie, Paul Varela and Eric Snow had to share the Financial Advisor's Pot, as both shot 258 games. They earned \$115 each for the split.

We'll pass the halfway point of the round next week as week #4 gets bowled. Come down to Del Rio Lanes to watch the action. There are still plenty of strikes to be thrown as round one continues. The action starts at 8:00. We would love to see you here.

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Q U A N T U M   E V O L U T I O N

