

# CALIFORNIA

# NOVEMBER 30, 2023

# BOWLING NEWS

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**Southern CALIFORNIA**  
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The Southern California 2023 Junior Shootouts are this week at Cal Bowl in Lakewood on Saturday December 2nd.

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A 180+, B 161 - 185, C 136 - 160 and D 135 and below. Grand Championships at Cal Bowl in Lakewood in January 2024. See advertisement on page 3. Contact Cal Bowl at (562) 421-8448 for more info.

2023 **PLAYER OF THE YEAR** NOMINEES

The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) announces the nominees for the 2023 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year award,

which recognizes the best player during the 2023 PBA Tour.

Listed in alphabetical order, here are the nominees for the 2023 Chris

Schenkel PBA Player of the Year award: Jason Belmonte, Jakob Butturff, Packy Hanrahan, Kevin McCune, Matt Ogle, Anthony Simonsen, EJ

Tackett, and Kyle Troup. To qualify for the ballot, a player must have won at least one PBA Tour title and ranked continued on page 4

**THE 2024 PBA ELITE LEAGUE**

ADDITIONAL 14 ROUNDS & 5 TELEVISED PBA ELITE LEAGUE SHOWS

PBA ELITE LEAGUE VIRTUAL DRAFT IS 12/13 AT 8PM ET ON **BOWL TV**

2023 **ROOKIE OF THE YEAR** NOMINEES

The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) announces the nominees for the 2023 Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award, which recognizes the best first-year player dur-

ing the 2023 PBA Tour.

Listed in alphabetical order, here are the nominees for the 2023 Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award: Ramsey Basurto, Andrew Hall, Dallas Leong, Cor-

tez Schenck, and Nate Stubler.

To qualify for the ballot, a player must finish inside the top-five in points and earnings among rookies.

Winners for all 2023

PBA player awards, including the Tony Reyes Community Service and Steve Nagy Sportsmanship awards, will be announced during the week of Dec. 4.

continued on page 6



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## DERRICK JONES Is "Bowler of The Week"

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS – Derrick Jones is "**Bowler of The Week**" and a strong candidate for "Bowler of The Year". What does it take to be "Bowler of The Week" and why has Derrick been selected "Bowler of The Week"?

A bowler is selected "Bowler of The Week" based on his/her contributions to our sport and the rolling of a significant bowling score.

Why is Derrick Jones this weeks "Bowler of The Week"? First of all he is a **TEAM PLAYER**. He is a positive influence on everyone around him. He is particularly supportive of his bowling teammates looking for ways to help them and always encouraging them. Derrick loves the sport of Bowling and competing. He competes in several leagues and is a regular in local tournaments. Also, Derrick is a regular at the USBC OPEN Tournament.

Second, Derrick is lighting up the scoreboard in two leagues this fall. He is carrying the **high average** in the NFL Clubhouse League (231) and the Golden Agers League (226). He has also bowled **two perfect 300 games** this season with several huge series, including a **766** (300 - 199 - 267) in the NFL Clubhouse League and a **756** (300 - 245 - 211) in the ODD'S N END'S League. Derrick used his Storm Axiom to bowl his big scores.

Congratulations to Derrick Jones for his great bowling and high scoring. He is another example of why "**CALIFORNIA BOWLERS ARE THE BEST BOWLERS IN THE WORLD**".



*Kathy Nakano (left) and Therese Weiler (right) congratulate Lela Bonneau (center) on her 80th birthday at Empire Bowl last week.*

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**PBA Player of the Year** continued from page 1

among the top-10 earners during the calendar year. Any player with multiple titles during the year is automatically added to the ballot.

**2023 CHRIS SCHENKEL PBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINEES**

**Jason Belmonte — Australia**

Title (1): PBA Tournament of Champions  
 Other notes: Runner-up at World Championship (lost to EJ Tackett); Won Super Slam Cup (non-title event); Shot televised 300 game at Tour Finals (first player with three TV 300 games in title events)

The seven-time and reigning Player of the Year finished third in points (23,180), earnings (\$338,825), and fourth in average (221.02). Belmonte's eight top-10 and 13 top-25 finishes in 17 events were also top four on Tour.

Belmonte's improbable comeback at the Tournament of Champions marked his lone title of the season. He nearly brought home a second major title at the World Championship, in a similar come-from-behind fashion, but fell in the final frame to Tackett.

**Jakob Butturff — Tempe, Ariz.**

Title (1): PBA Scorpion Championship  
 Other notes: Runner-up at PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers (lost to Kevin McCune)

Butturff led all left-handers and finished third overall on Tour in average (223.43), third in top-10 finishes (9), fourth in points (20,450) and fourth in earnings (\$175,125).

After a midseason lull, he notched seven consecutive top-eight finishes from the Cheetah Championship through the Tour Finals. During that stretch, he tallied his first title since 2019 at the Scorpion Championship.

**Packy Hanrahan — Wichita, Kan.**

Titles (2): PBA Kokomo Classic, Roth/Holman Doubles Championship (with Mitch Hupé)

Three players won multiple titles in 2023: Tackett, Simonsen, and Packy Hanrahan. In a breakout season of his own, the two-handed lefty bested Ogle to win the Kokomo Classic, then dominated the Roth/Holman Doubles Championship with Mitch Hupé to tally Hanrahan's first two career titles.

Despite a slow start to the 2023 campaign, Hanrahan ranked fourth on Tour in top-five finishes (5), sixth in points (16,060) and ninth in earnings (\$98,100).

**Kevin McCune — Munster, Ind.**

Title (1): PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers  
 The 2022 Rookie of the Year runner-up scoffed at the idea of a sophomore slump. McCune ranked sixth on Tour in earnings (\$141,300) and eighth in points (14,357).

McCune took down Zac and EJ Tackett, Simonsen, and Butturff to capture his Players Championship crown. That win made the McCunes the first three-generation PBA Tour champion family, as Kevin followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, Don, and father, Eugene.

**Matt Ogle — Louisville, Ky.**

Title (1): Shark Championship  
 Other notes: Runner-up at Kokomo Classic (lost to Packy Hanrahan) and Roth/Holman Doubles Championship (lost to Packy Hanrahan and Mitch Hupé with partner Sean Rash); Finished 2nd at PBA SKILL Ball Challenge (non-title event; lost to Dom Barrett)

A true breakout season, in which he captured his first career singles title and second overall, resulted in Ogle's first appearance on the Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year ballot. The 39-year-old ranked fifth on Tour in points (16,995) and seventh in earnings (\$114,200). He racked up four top-five and nine top-25 finishes in his 13 title events.

Ogle's season could have been even greater had title matches in Indiana (against Packy Hanrahan) and Delaware (against Hanrahan and Mitch Hupé) gone in his favor.

**Anthony Simonsen — Las Vegas**

Titles (3): PBA Wichita Classic, USBC Masters, Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles (with Danielle McEwan)

Other notes: Finished top-10 in all 17 events; Finished top-4 in all five majors; Runner-up at Jackson Classic (lost to EJ Tackett)

The 26-year-old reached new heights during the 2023 season. He finished top 10 in all 17 title events, leading the Tour in games (508), top-five finishes (13), top-10 finishes (17), top-25 finishes (17), and cashes (17). He ranked second in points (36,265), earnings (\$347,500) and titles (3).

Perhaps the strongest way to exemplify Simonsen's excellence is by his low-lights: His lowest finish of the season was 10th at the Springfield Classic; his lowest major finish was fourth at the U.S. Open and Players Championship.

The highlight of Simonsen's season came during his second consecutive USBC Masters triumph, which included a 34-strike 845 series to clinch the No. 1 seed and a new match-play record with a 250.4 average for his 18 games.

**EJ Tackett — Bluffton, Ind.**

Titles (5): U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!, PBA Shawnee Classic, PBA Jackson Classic, PBA Cheetah Championship, PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon

Other notes: Earned No. 1 seed at four majors (first player to achieve this feat in PBA history); Runner-up at TOC (lost to Jason Belmonte) and Scorpion Championship (lost to Jakob Butturff); Shot televised 300 game at Super Slam Cup Finals (non-title event)

The 2016 Player of the Year turned in the best season of his career thus far. Tackett led the Tour in points (41,200), earnings (\$458,450), average (227.18), titles (5), major titles (2), and runner-up finishes (2).

Tackett earned the No. 1 seed in four of five major championships this season — the U.S. Open, Tournament of Champions, World Championship and Players Championship — becoming the first player in PBA history to accomplish that feat.

All in all, Tackett won five titles during the 2023 campaign, beginning with a Triple Crown-clinching victory at the U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!

**Kyle Troup — Taylorsville, N.C.**

Title (1): PBA Tour Finals  
 Other notes: Runner-up at U.S. Open (lost to EJ Tackett)

The 2021 Player of the Year ranked fifth on Tour in earnings (\$145,400) and 12th in points, while notching five top-five and 10 top-25 finishes in 17 title events.

Troup's Tour Finals title in June — which brought his career total to 10 titles and made him PBA Hall of Fame-eligible — and U.S. Open runner-up finish highlighted his 2023 season.

The 2023 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year award winner will be announced during the week of Dec. 4.

**Past Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year Winners**

- Jason Belmonte, 2022
- Kyle Troup, 2021
- Jason Belmonte, 2020
- Jason Belmonte, 2019
- Andrew Anderson, 2018
- Jason Belmonte, 2017
- EJ Tackett, 2016
- Jason Belmonte, 2015
- Jason Belmonte, 2014
- Jason Belmonte, 2013

[Complete list of Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year award winners](#)





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**PBA Roolie of the Year** continued from page 1

**2023 HARRY GOLDEN PBA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINEES**

**Ramsey Basurto — Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.**

Basurto, the eldest of the five Rookie of the Year finalists, closed the season with a season-high 25th-place finish in the Players Championship. He finished third among rookies in points (2,340) and fourth in earnings (\$4,000) and average (207.03).

**Andrew Hall — Westborough, Mass.**

Hall finished fifth among all rookies in points (1,280), earnings (\$3,200) and average (205.36) this season. The 25-year-old Massachusetts native tallied his best performance of the season in March, finishing 18th at the Kokomo Classic.

**Dallas Leong — Las Vegas**

No rookie started the 2023 campaign stronger than Leong, who finished in 19th place in the season-opening U.S. Open. Leong advanced to match play at the USBC Masters as well, and was the lone rookie to tally three top-50 finishes in major championships.

Leong ranked second among rookies in points (2,375) and earnings (\$5,550) while finishing third in average (207.93).

**Cortez Schenck — Phoenix**

Schenck led all rookies in points (3,465), earnings (\$11,800), average (215.02), and top-25 finishes this season. He closed the campaign with his two strongest performances: 10th place in the Roth/Holman Doubles Championship and 24th in the Players Championship.

While Schenck bowled in two events during the 2022 season, the 2023 season is considered his rookie season by PBA rules because he bowled fewer than three events during the 2022 season.

**Nate Stubler — LaSalle, Ill.**

Stubler, the top left-handed rookie, notched the lone top-five finish of any rookie this season. He brought home a fifth-place finish with Breanna Clemmer at the Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles tournament in July.

The 25-year-old finished second among all rookies in average (210.40), third in earnings (\$5,000) and fourth in points (1,817).

The 2023 Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award winner will be announced during the week of Dec. 4.

**Past Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year Winners**

- Santtu Tahvanainen, 2022
- Matt Russo, 2021
- not awarded in 2020 due to the pandemic-interrupted season (2020 rookies retained eligibility through 2021)
- Mykel Holliman, 2019
- Kamron Doyle, 2018
- Matt Sanders, 2017
- François Lavoie, 2016
- Jesper Svensson, 2015
- Marshall Kent, 2014
- EJ Tackett, 2013

[Complete list of Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award winners](#)

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- #4 – BOWLERO FRESNO, Fresno
- #5 – BOWLIUM LANES, Montclair

**DISTRICT FINALS – JANUARY 21, 2024**

- #3 – DELTA BOWL, Antioch
- #6 – MIRA MESA LANES, San Diego

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# To Subscribe, Or Not To Subscribe

by Dave Williams

My first yearly subscription to *Bowlers Journal International* had to be in about 1970. Most of those years were complimentary, as they were included with my PBA membership; and later with three multi-unit bowling center operators, where I was the marketing arm that provided information in the form of news releases to the Chicago-based (and now Arlington) publication.

In the past couple of years, I had become disillusioned with the new format and content provided by the *Bowlers Journal*. There are still writers and columns that I enjoy; namely, "Yesteryear," by J.R. Schmidt, and "The One Board," with Jef Goodger. But overall, the format and content of the magazine does not impress.

The result of the above comments brought me to the topic of this week's article. Since the magazine was available for free on the internet, I decided not to subscribe in 2023, because the above mentioned authors could always be viewed online. That was back in January of 2023. Then a few months ago I received a rare email from J.R. Schmidt:

"My piece in the next *Bowlers Journal* is about Don Glover. I vaguely remembered his spinning-ball trick but didn't have the details until I ran across one of your articles. So naturally, I gave you credit in my article."

The article of mine that Jake was referring to appeared in most publications in April or May of 2019. While doing a bit of searching for a Leanne Barrette-Hulsenberg thank you letter that she wrote to me following the U.S. Open tournament at AMF Major League Lanes in Winston-Salem, N.C., I stumbled upon another piece of memorabilia... a 1960's era autographed photo of professional bowler Don Glover.

Don was born in Arizona but spent most of his early life in Bakersfield, Calif., where he excelled in both golf and bowling during his high school years. When the golf coach learned that Don had received money from a professional bowling tournament in Fresno, and would no longer be eligible for golf, Glover decided to concentrate on bowling.

Glover was an immediate success on the tour and signed with the Ebonite Pro Staff. Primo Liberatore, proprietor of our small bowling center in Sebastopol, Calif., was always looking to promote the center and booked Glover for an exhibition during a swing he made in Northern California. Glover spent the day at L & L Lanes, autographing photos, conducting clinics, bowling an exhibition against the top "lefties" in our area, and wrapping up the day with some trick shots.

The trick that Don Glover made famous was called the spinning ball top. As I mentioned in the article from 2019: "Now I don't know if it was because the lanes had just been resurfaced, or if there were specific weights that he had placed in the bowling ball, or just what the reason... but he set the ball on the lane and spun it very fast, like a top, and gave it a slight nudge."

"Next, he went to the lounge and ordered a draft beer, as the ball continued its journey on the lane. Back and forth the ball would go, edging closer and closer to the pins, but never going into the gutters. About halfway through his beer, Glover came out to inspect the progress of the bowling ball as it had reached the pins."

"He returned to the lounge, and the ball began a journey back to the foul line! Once he had finished his beer, Glover returned to the lanes and the ball had almost returned to its original location at the foul line. I tried for years to duplicate this trick and was able to match the spinning ball maneuver which prevented the ball from entering the gutter most of the time, but was never able to conquer the 'approach-to-pins-and-back-again' activity."

In Schmidt's article, he expanded upon the emergence, and mysterious disappearance, of Don Glover. He began his pro bowling career in 1968. While all of the top pro's were in Akron, Ohio, for the Firestone Tournament of Champions, the PBA staged a concurrent tournament for non-champions in St. Louis, according to Schmidt. Glover won the event for his first pro title. He won again in November at Joliet, Ill., this time competing against a full strength field.

Schmidt resumes, "Glover continued on into January 1969, defeating Don McCune on national TV at Tempe, Arizona. He won a month later at Kansas City, Missouri. And in April, in his first appearance in the ABC Tournament, his Wrist Masters team captured the Classic Division Team championship."

*Bowlers Journal* named Glover to the All-America team that year, but it was in 1970 at the ABC Masters tournament that Glover was at his best. Schmidt continues: "Glover moved through his first four matches, until Bob Strampe dumped him into what was known as the losers bracket. Then Glover rebounded and won two more matches, to advance to the finals against the winners bracket survivor — Bob Strampe. Now needing to defeat Strampe twice, Glover rose to the occasion. He won both the matches and became the 1970 Masters champion."

In my article from 2019, I wondered whatever happened to Don Glover. I learned from searching the internet that Don had passed away in 1998, at the tender age of 51, and that his memory had been immortalized in Bakersfield with the formation of the Don Glover Masters Tournament. Schmidt's further investigation provides more answers to what happened.



**Don Glover**

"It hasn't been mentioned, but Glover was a left-handed bowler," writes Schmidt. "In 1971, when complaints were being heard that lefties had an unfair advantage, the PBA took steps to address the problem. Glover later admitted that the controversy bothered him. His prize winnings shrank."

Schmidt continues, "In 1974, Glover suddenly disappeared from the tour. He resurfaced in Bakersfield, bowling in local house leagues. Rumors swirled. The reasons for Glover's abrupt departure were not fully revealed until he spoke to the *Bowlers Journal* staff seven years later, when he was featured on the cover of the August 1981 issue."

It seems that the PBA had placed Glover on probation for writing bad checks, according to Schmidt. "Glover said that he didn't know the checks would bounce," writes Schmidt. "He said his sponsor had been cheating him out of money. Then later that same year, Glover banged against a ball return, causing a logo plate to drop off and distract another bowler making his delivery."

Words were exchanged, according to Schmidt, and the PBA Tournament Committee elected to suspend Glover for a period of one year. After that, Glover returned to his roots in Arizona, and he became the proprietor of a 12 lane bowling center in Show Low, a small town about 180 miles northeast of Phoenix.

When I went to the internet to view the Schmidt article, I discovered that free access was no longer available, so because of great historical articles like the one prepared by J.R. Schmidt, I decided to renew my subscription. Discretion is the better part of valor...

Portions of the preceding article provided by *Bowlers Journal* and reprinted with permission.

Don Glover photo provided by Dave Williams.

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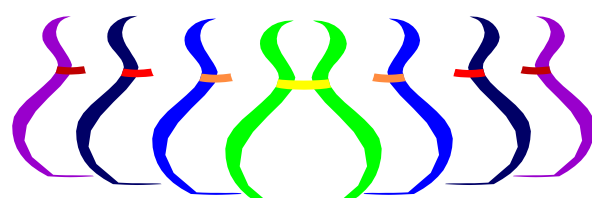
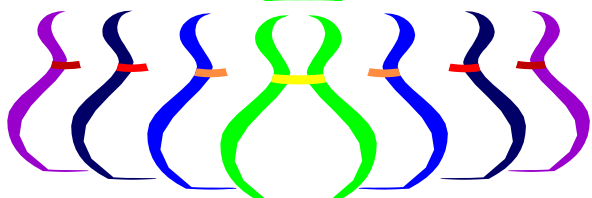
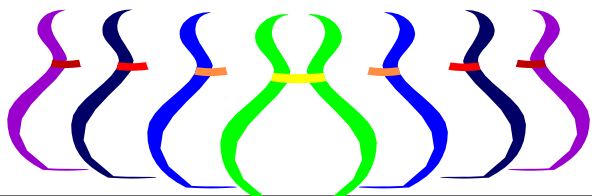
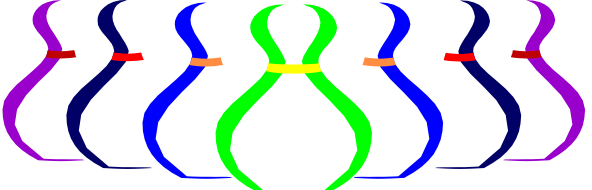
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LOCAL USBC ASSOCIATIONS

# BEATBOX®

## 37th Year! Brunswick® INVITATIONAL

### Bowlum Extends Their Second Round Lead With The Sweep

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY – The Brunswick Invitational took to the lanes for the fifth week of seven on the shorter-oil pattern. Again, scoring was at a premium as spare shooting became a big part of the results of many matches.

In the “A” match, **Bowlum** (Billy Myers Jr.) who jumped to 17-3 the previous week took on **US Foods** (Gabriel Martinez) at 14-6 with the league pulling for US Foods to reel Bowlum back to the pack. US Foods was short-handed and it showed as Bowlum came out on fire setting up the sweep of US Foods. Bowlum moves to 22-3 and will remain in the “A” match next week with just two weeks left in the round. Ramiro Garcia was huge for Bowlum with a 650 series while Charlie Kinstler posted 578 to lead US Foods.

The “B” match featured **Cal Bowl** (Ramon Torres) and **Junior Amateur Tour** (Anthony Santos) both coming off sweeps the previous weeks and both short-handed but looking to gain some ground on the league-leaders. The first game came down to the 10th with a pocket split for JAT and a stone-9 for Cal Bowl ending the game in a 719-719 tie. After that, it was all Junior Amateur Tour as they cruised to a 4.5-.5 result led by Anthony Santos’ huge 673 set. Ramon Torres was solid for Cal Bowl with a 643 series. Junior Amateur Tour will move to the “A” match next week trailing Bowlum by 4.5 games.

**Westminster Lanes** (Jonathan Gale) fell to 13-7 after a scorching start to meet **DV8** (David Cogswell) who was looking to rebound after their own struggles last week. Westminster Lanes took game one, but it was all DV8 from there as they found their shot for the 4-1 win. Jeff Carr stroked his way to the lead for DV8 with a 567 set while Jonathan Gale put up a nice 585 series for Westminster Lanes.

First-round winners **Family Ties** (Mikey Villarreal) was taking on **Forever Hope Foundation** (Vernon Adams) with both teams looking to ride the momentum of the previous week. Forever Hope Foundation took a close first game, cruised to a 132-pin win in game

two, then snuck out a 680-679 win in game three for the sweep. Eric Williams Jr. led Forever Hope with a solid 623 series while Mikey Villarreal was again atop Family Ties with a 562 set.

**Forest Lanes** (Jon Diso) took on **Professional Approach Oak Tree** (John Struckman) with both teams sitting at 10-10 and looking for a breakout week. Forest Lanes found their groove as they struck to a strong 5-0 win. Jesse Perez again was big for Forest Lanes with a 562 series while David Silva struck to a 574 set for the Oak Tree bunch.

**Touchstone Homes** (Christian Eichelkraut) pulled the tough-draw **ThreadWorks** (Eric Snow) as both teams looked to heal wounds from rough matches in week four. The night was all ThreadWorks as they rode their roller-coaster anchor to a 5-0 result. Eric Snow posted a steady 585 set to lead ThreadWorks while Christian Eichelkraut led Touchstone Homes with a 552 series.

**Del Rio Lanes, Professional Approach Keystone, Professional Approach Del Rio and iColor Printing** rounded out the night’s action. The first match was all Del Rio Lanes as they swept Professional Approach Keystone 5-0. Sub Julian Zavala paced Del Rio with a 507 set while sub Chris Hefner led Professional Approach Keystone with a 498 series. Professional Approach Del Rio came out short-handed but strong to take the a close first two from iColor Printing but the printers stormed back for a triple digit win in game three and a 3-2 result with totals. Nathan Lopez led iColor with a 486 set while Anthony Bourges was the high bowler for Del Rio with a 427 series.

The Financial Advisor’s pot went to Anthony Santos (240) for \$160 with 2nd to Eric Williams Jr. (233) for \$70. Sidepots went to Eric Snow (235) and Anthony Santos (240) for \$48 with 2nd to Anthony Santos (212) and Arnold Cheesman (223) for \$24. SuperPot went to Eric Snow (225) for \$144 with 2nd to Anthony Santos (221) for \$72.

#### TOP 10 ROUND 2 WEEK 5

Bowlum.....22	Cal Bowl .....14.5
Junior Amateur Tour ..17.5	US Foods.....14
Forever Hope Foundation 16	Westminster Lanes...14
DV8.....15	ThreadWorks.....13
Forest Lanes.....15	Del Rio Lanes .....12

#### TOP 10 THIS WEEK

673 Anthony Santos	589 Vernon Adams
650 Ramiro Garcia	585 Eric Snow
643 Ramon Torres	585 Jonathan Gale
623 Eric Williams Jr.	578 Charlie Kinstler
595 Arnold Cheesman	576 D.A. Smith

#### SUPER SWEEPER POT

Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.  
Anthony Santos 240 \$160 • 2nd Eric Williams Jr. 233 \$70



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Come on out and watch Southern California’s Richest League Monday at 8:00 and see what a 30 foot, low volume, flat pattern looks like. There are just two weeks to go in the round and the action is heating up!

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

Saturday WEEKLY **NO TAP** Tournament

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

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