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COTÉ WINS GOLD, PRATHER BRONZE IN SINGLES AT 2022 IBF WORLD CUP IN AUSTRALIA

by Gene J. Kanak

Queensland, Australia – Team USA's Bryanna Coté won the Women's Singles gold medal while Kris Prather captured the men's bronze on the final day of Singles competition at the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup at Suncity Tenpin Bowl in Queensland, Australia, on Tuesday morning.

Coté captured the gold by sweeping Singapore's Hui Fen New 2-0 in the finals, taking Game 1 by a score of 194-186 before wrapping things up with a 226-201 victory in Game 2.

Hui Fen New took home the Women's Singles silver medal while Germany's Birgit Noreiks, the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, secured the bronze.

The 2022 IBF World Cup was Coté's first world-level tournament as a member of Team USA, so reaching the top of the podium was an honor she didn't take lightly.

"It feels amazing, but I'm still kind of at a loss for

words," a visibly moved Coté said when reflecting upon the achievement. "I'm just grateful for this opportunity and so thankful for my coaches and teammates. I had a great support system; I couldn't have done this without them."

The entire Team USA entourage, Prather included, was sitting front and center cheering Coté on throughout her march to gold.

However, Prather couldn't cheer the entire time; he had to address some business of his own.

Prather captured his medal by defeating Malaysia's Timmy Tan 2-0 (288-279; 215-206) during the men's bronze-medal match.

Prather was forced to settle for a shot at bronze after falling to Australia's Jason Belmonte 2-1 (224-199; 210-300; 204-212) in the semifinals.

Belmonte wouldn't go home with gold either though; he was forced to settle for silver after losing

continued on page 4

TEAM USA MEN WIN GOLD, WOMEN TAKE FOURTH ON LAST DAY OF 2022 IBF WORLD CUP

by Gene J. Kanak

[RESULTS AND INFORMATION](#)

Queensland, Australia – Team USA's men won a gold medal while the women took fourth place in Baker Team play on the last day of competition at the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup at Suncity Tenpin Bowl in Queensland, Australia.

The Team USA men struck gold by defeating Puerto Rico 3-1 (214-172; 262-202; 221-222; 209-198) during Wednesday's morning's Men's Baker Team final.

Puerto Rico walked away with the silver medal. Australia topped the Philippines to earn bronze.

The Team USA women narrowly missed out on a medal, finishing fourth after falling to Malaysia 3-2 (204-226;



A.J. Johnson, Jakob Buttruff, Kris Prather and Kyle Troup

182-219; 226-192; 248-220; 228-235) during the women's bronze-medal match.

The women's gold went to Sweden, which defeated Germany in the finals. Germany settled for the silver.

Even though it would

have been nice to have the women's team bring home a medal after bowling so well throughout the tournament, Team USA Head Coach Bryan O'Keefe was proud of his teams' performances on the final day of competition and during the

2022 IBF World Cup as a whole.

"As I've said many times, you can never just take for granted that you're going to walk away with medals at a world cup," O'Keefe said. "You go up against

continued on page 6

BOWLERO WEST COVINA LANES SALUTES OUR VETERANS!

by Tony Lizama, USMC

WEST COVINA – It was quite a patriotic scene at Bowlero West Covina Lanes on Sunday, November 6, 2022, as another BVL Tournament goes down in history! It had the feel of a Fourth of July Parade, especially with so many American Flags and Veteran posters displayed throughout the bowling center. Many Veteran Bowlers proudly donned their military hats and ribbons honoring their individual armed forces

continued on page 8



Wayne Lunde and Dan Bradeen displaying brochures from their American Legion Hall 18th District Post 508.



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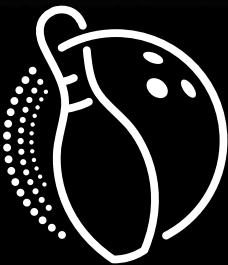
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The Inland Empire Ladies Club
(IELC) Kicks Off 38th Season

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS – **CARI BURRIS** is back to continue her third decade as IELC League Secretary. The league kicked off it's **38th season** in September with a strong field of women competing in the Singles Match Play League. Former league champions are back as are many competitive Match Game players known for their competitive edge.

With the new Kegel Lane Machine cleaning the backends like never before, Empire Bowl scores are down across the board. Even **BIG BERTHA** would struggle to meet expectations on these slick lanes. Most IELC **“league regulars”** are feeling the pinch. Nonetheless these ladies are willing to compete to win no matter the obstacles in their path.

LORI SCOTT and **SUELEE SANTERO** have posted the Top averages after the first month of competition. No surprise since these ladies have averaged high numbers in the past. Both have been among Empire Bowl's top female bowlers for the past decade.

The **TOP 5** League Averages follow:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Lorri Scott | 192 Average |
| 2. SueLee Santero | 175 |
| 3. Stephanie White | 166 |
| 4. Kathy Nakano | 163.5 |
| 5. Cari Burris | 163.0 |

The **TOP 5** League Point Standings follow:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. Lorri Scott | 18.38 Points |
| 2. Edna McGee | 17.28 |
| 3. SueLee Santero | 17.04 |
| 4. Kathy Nakano | 16.58 |
| 5. L. Elias | 16.30 |



Inland Empire Ladies Club kicks off it's 38th year with Cari Burris as Secretary for 36 of those years!

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This Could Be An Uplifting Experience For PWBA Sponsorship

by Dave Williams



Shannon O'Keefe - Photo provided by PWBA

After writing last week's column about finding a sponsor for the regional women's tournaments, I decided to take a look at possible candidates in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, where the Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) still appears to be housed and under the auspices of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and Bowling Proprietors Association of America (BPAA) umbrella. The number of Fortune 1000 companies in the area is quite impressive, with a total of forty-five organizations listed by dallaschamber.org.

A couple of the really big firms are Exxon Mobil (#6) and AT&T (#13). But the one that really got my attention was American Airlines (#114). I'll tell you why in a moment, but first I'd like to share a story with you about a recent experience I had that could provide the impetus for a sponsorship program with the PWBA. It all began innocently enough while preparing my weekly story which I distribute to bowling publishers every Sunday morning.

The Cell Phone Conundrum

While wrapping up the story and preparing final edits, I noticed that my cell phone was in need of a charge. I went to the kitchen counter and plugged in the charger and then inserted the connector to my cell phone. I did not hear the customary click noise that accompanies this motion, so I unplugged the phone and inserted the connector once again. This time there was nothing — the phone was a total blackout.

Although there is a telephone manufacturer in the mall close to my home, I knew that it might take a day to secure an appointment, so I decided to visit a local phone store in my block to see if they might be able to help me with the device. The store representative indicated that the phone was five years old, and typically they only last about five years. This would make

sense because my first purchase of a cell phone was in 2007, and this would make my fourth phone purchase.

I decided to go ahead and purchase a new phone that was on sale, so that I would be able to coordinate my photos and other downloads with the article the next day. Everything was fine up until this point, as the representative began the process of transferring the information on my existing phone to the new version. The retailer was able to transfer the phone number and some of my recent calls made, but that was about it. The representative said that I would have to take the old phone to the telephone manufacturer in order to retrieve the other information.

The store representative also informed me that the initial month for the new phone service would be approximately twice what I had been paying, but after that it would revert to what I had been paying, or possibly less. I asked about an invoice explaining all of this and I was told that it would all be explained in my next statement. This all sounded suspicious to me, and I kept thinking to myself, "If it sounds too good to be true... you know the rest!"

Later that weekend I made an appointment with the phone manufacturer. I looked on line for what might be the problem with my old phone, and discovered that it could be lint that had lodged in the plug-in position. That indeed was the problem and the area was cleared. The agent said that the phone would take quite awhile to recharge, so I was to take it home and charge it overnight and then return to the phone store.

Back and forth this process went for a couple of visits. I won't bore you with all the details. Eventually I was able to retrieve all of the photos on my phone that I had not previously downloaded to my home computer, and somehow I was able to add my email address and saved messages to the new phone. Don't ask me how!

My impression from this experience was that both parties were very interested in selling me a new phone, but beyond that I was on my own. This got me thinking about what an opportunity the PWBA tour might be to provide image advertising for a cell phone manufacturer or carrier. Picture the commercial as we fade in, with Danielle McEwan and Shannon O'Keefe comparing their cell phones. Danielle comments to Shannon, "I was having trouble figuring out all of the new functions of my phone, until I discovered that they provide classes to help explore all that can be done."

Here's another possible scenario: "Leading money winner on the PWBA Tour this year, Brigit Noreiks of Rendsburg, Germany, relies on her cell phone to keep in touch with everyone at home." Another ex-



Leila Wagner - Photo provided by Dave Williams

ample might be her sharing a video with friends and relatives in Germany. Whatever the result, it would be safe to say that there's a need for more communication (no pun intended) between telephone customers and providers.

The American Airlines Connection

While all of the above provides an interesting opportunity to partner with the PWBA, it was American Airlines that really came to the fore in my mind when I remembered a pro bowling representative that had it all... she had the charm, the determination and the good looks to go with a phenomenal bowling career; and an equally legendary career as color analyst alongside Denny Schreiner on television broadcasts. Her name is Leila Wagner, who in her spare time was also a stewardess for American Airlines!

Can you imagine all of the possibilities? Here's one feasible storyline: "Hi, I'm Leila Wagner, former pro bowler and color analyst for ESPN. Whenever I had to make a choice of what airline to use while traveling to the next stop on the PWBA tour, I always chose American Airlines. I liked the airline so much that I even went to work for them!"

Stock analysts are predicting robust air travel for this holiday season and all of 2023, in spite of the surge in fuel prices and inflation. The demand for travel could be based upon pent-up demand for leisure trips that dropped sharply during the COVID years. Whatever the reason, there appears to be enough interest to spawn an advertising campaign for travel. Why not use the PWBA, and Leila Wagner... and not just for regional sponsorship, but for all PWBA events.

To be continued?



Birgit Noreiks - Photo provided by PWBA



Danielle McEwan - Photo provided by PWBA

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IBF World Cup Singles continued from page 1

2-1 (269-157; 189-189 (49-59); 218-223) in the finals to Germany’s Paul Purps. Purps walked away with the gold medal and the coveted IBF World Cup trophy. Although Prather obviously would have loved to win gold for Team USA, he was far from disappointed with his bronze-medal performance.

“I really wanted to come out on top, but I have no regrets,” Prather said. “I’m very fortunate just to have had the opportunity to be here. Now, I’m hoping that we can bring home some gold for the team.”

They could very well get that chance as Team USA’s men’s and women’s teams have both qualified for their respective semifinals in Baker Team competition. The men will take on Australia while the women have a date with Germany. Baker Team play will wrap up with the semifinals and finals Tuesday night into Wednesday morning on the final day of competition at the 2022 IBF World Cup. Team USA Head Coach Bryan O’Keefe would love to see both squads walk away with medals, but he wasn’t talking about that Tuesday morning; instead, he was taking a brief moment to appreciate the outstanding Singles performances authored by Coté and Prather.

“Anytime we come to these events, our main goal is to medal, so I’m super happy that we got one on each side,” O’Keefe said. “We would have loved to have two golds, but any medal in a world event is something that we, as a team, should be proud of. Today was a great day.”

Women’s Final Coté (USA) def. New (Singapore) 2-0 (194-186; 226-201)

It may be hard to imagine there was much drama in a match that ended in a sweep, but the opening game between Coté and Singapore’s Hui Fen New was definitely not boring.

Only one pin separated the two women after four frames, but Coté caught the first break when New made an uncharacteristic mistake by missing a single-pin spare in the fifth.

That open allowed Coté to jump ahead by nine pins through six frames. The lead didn’t last long though as Coté left a 2-10 split and suffered an open of her own in the seventh. That gave New a two-pin lead, one that she would still possess as both bowlers prepared for the 10th frame.

With each player entering the 10th on a spare, Coté couldn’t be content just matching New’s performance; she’d have to top her in the final frame or go down 0-1.

The right-hander from Singapore was up first, and she delivered a quality pocket shot. The pins refused to cooperate, however, so she was left to deal with a 10 pin. As New surveyed her spare, Coté stepped up and delivered a strike. The hit was important, but it would only be enough if New failed to cover the 10 pin.

Coté wouldn’t have it that easy as her opponent made the 10 pin with ease, putting the pressure back on the American.

The game would be determined by Coté’s next shot. If she struck, she’d be a winner. Anything less, and she’d be down a game and on the brink of defeat.

But Coté didn’t deliver anything less; instead, she pounded the pocket with the strike she needed to take Game 1 (194-186).

The fact that the American delivered under pressure shouldn’t have come as a surprise; after all, she’d already done it multiple times throughout the tournament.

“I have experience in situations like that, so I know how to handle myself and my emotions,” Coté said. “I tend to like to get amped up and into it, but I knew that in that moment I needed to take a deep breath and take it one shot at a time.”

Coming up with the shot that she needed was incredibly important for Coté as there is a very big difference between being up 1-0 or down 0-1 in a best-of-three match. Being up means earning some much-needed breathing room while being down equals having no more margin for error.

New learned that lesson the hard way as the match transitioned into Game 2. Riding the momentum of the opening-game victory, Coté came out strong yet again, starting the second game with a turkey before leaving back-to-back 10 pins in the fourth and fifth.

New, on the other hand, got behind the eight-ball quickly. She started strike, spare but then left the 3-4-6-7 in the third frame and the 4-10 in the fifth. Both splits resulted in opens, allowing Coté to build a 46-pin lead at the halfway point.

To her credit, New rebounded, notching a turkey of her own in frames six through eight.

Unfortunately for her, Coté answered the first two of those strikes, which kept the American’s lead at 35 pins with time running out.

Once Singapore’s star ended her string with a 2 pin in the ninth, it was clear that the gold would go home with Coté.

“I’ve learned over time not to look at the scoreboard, so I was trying my best not to look even as we got toward the end of the second game,” Coté said. “I finally looked up after I made my spare in the ninth, and that’s when I realized the situation and had a sigh of relief and pure joy wash over me.”

Men’s Bronze Medal Match Prather (USA) def. Tan (Malaysia) 2-0 (288-279; 215-206)

As mentioned above, matches that result in a two-game sweep can easily come off as boring, but anyone who watched Prather and Tan battle for the bronze medal know their match was anything but.

The duo started throwing strikes back and forth at one another from the very start of Game 1, and as each passing frame ticked by, the crowd began wondering if they would ever stop.

The excitement really ratcheted up once both bowlers reached the front nine, bringing to mind the suddenly real possibility of the highly-unlikely 300-300 tie.

It wasn’t meant to be, however, as Tan left a 10 pin on his first ball in the 10th frame.

Usually, when a bowler starts with the front nine, he or she has already locked up the victory before stepping up for the 10th. That wasn’t the case for Prather.

Instead, he found himself needing nine for the tie or a strike for the win. Anything less than nine, and he’d lose Game 1 as long as Tan made his spare.

Prather wasn’t about to let the chance at victory slip away, however, and he let it show by delivering the strike he needed to put himself in the 280s and take the opening victory.

The only question remaining at that point was whether or not Prather would finish off the 300.

If such a thing as bowling karma existed, then Prather should have been rewarded with a strike on any ball close to the pocket on ball 11. After all, Prather had already had two 300s thrown against him at this year’s IBF World Cup.

Sadly, bowling karma doesn’t exist, and perhaps that’s why Prather’s next shot left a 10 pin.

“Honestly, I thought it was going to be 300-300 and go to a roll-off,” Prather said. “His look was good, and I felt comfortable with what I had as well. It was an exciting match for sure; I was just fortunate that I came out on top.”

What was even more fortunate for Prather was that after coming out on top in Game 1, he’d never trail again.

He began Game 2 spare, double, spare, four-bagger while Tan started spare, open and failed to record more than a double during that same stretch.

That put Prather up 30 pins through seven frames and gave him a good deal of breathing room.

It appeared as if he may need it after he missed a single-pin spare in the eighth, but Tan couldn’t double to capitalize.

Still leading by 19, Prather spared in the ninth and struck on the first ball in the 10th to lock Tan out and secure the bronze medal.

Women’s Semifinals Coté (USA) def. Posadas (Philippines) 2-1 (207-201; 171-175; 214-190)

Despite getting through and eventually taking home the gold medal, Coté’s victory over Lara Posadas of the Philippines did not come easy.

Coté pounced on two early Posadas opens to go up by 31 pins through four frames in Game 1, but poor pin count by Coté and a late Posadas four-bagger lessened the gap considerably.

In fact, once Posadas struck on her first ball in the 10th frame and Coté left the 2-4-5, it began to look like the bowler from the Philippines was about to complete a comeback victory.

It was not meant to be, however, as Posadas left a 2-4-5 of her own on the very next shot.

That shifted the advantage back over to Coté. As long as she covered the 2-4-5, she’d win the game. That’s precisely what she did, taking Game 1 by a final score of 207-201.

Game 2 was a grind as neither bowler was able to record a double.

Unfortunately for Coté, a double is precisely what she needed in the 10th frame in order to erase a three-pin deficit and complete the sweep. She got the first strike, but her second shot crept just slightly high and refused to trip the 4 pin. That gave Posadas the win (175-171) and evened the match at one game apiece.

The deciding game was a back-and-forth affair with Coté jumping out to a 21-pin lead through three frames only to see the margin cut to 10 just three frames later.

However, that’s when disaster struck for Posadas

Not only did she leave a 7 pin in the eighth frame to break up her double, but she also went on to miss that 7 pin.

With her lead suddenly back up to 22 pins, Coté could smell blood in the water. Not wanting to let things get close again, she carded a double in the ninth and first ball in the 10th to put Posadas away once and for all.

When the final balls had been thrown, Coté had won the game (214-190) and match.

Men’s Semifinals Belmonte (Australia) def. Prather (USA) 2-1 (199-224; 300-210; 212-204)

With Prather and Belmonte being two of the biggest stars on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, everyone expected this semifinal to be exciting from start to finish.

It didn’t disappoint.

Prather accomplished something during Game 1 that very bowlers get to lay credit to: he had Belmonte pretty much locked out before the 10th frame.

That’s because Prather stayed clean and recorded two turkeys while Belmonte opened twice, in the third frame on a 1-2-4-10 and in the ninth on a 1-2-10.

he second open was the costly one as it ended Belmonte’s run of three strikes in a row and allowed Prather to coast to a 224-199 victory.

Knowing that he had already lost, Belmonte used his 10th frame to try to get lined up for the games to come.

Whatever he did, it definitely worked as he struck out the 10th of Game 1 and then proceeded to throw all 12 strikes in Game 2 to even the match with a 300-210 victory over Prather.

Belmonte’s 300 was the third and final perfect game shot during Singles competition at the 2022 IBF World Cup. Marek Talpa of the Czech Republic had the first, and Merwin Tan of the Philippines had the second, which was also shot against Prather.

Belmonte opened Game 3 with a double to run his string to 17 strikes in a row, but it ended one frame later when he came in light and left a 2 pin.

Nevertheless, after covering the spare, the Australian superstar went on to throw another turkey, giving him 23 strikes in a 25-shot span going back to Game 1.

Prather, meanwhile, struggled to throw a double. In fact, he still didn’t have one as the two bowlers entered the ninth frame of the deciding game.

This is where the match was decided.

After Belmonte left a 7 pin in the ninth, Prather had an opening.

The single-pin leave had just reduced Belmonte’s max score to 225. Prather needed the last four strikes for 226.

Unfortunately for the American, it was not meant to be.

Despite throwing a shot that he liked off his hand, Prather’s first shot in the ninth frame left the bucket. He converted the spare, giving Belmonte something to think about.

However, once Belmonte converted the 3-10 baby split in the 10th frame, the

match was over; Belmonte had beaten Prather (212-204) and advanced to the gold-medal match.

Women’s Quarterfinals
Coté (USA) def. Clague (Australia) 2-1 (170-213; 243-153; 222-163)

As magnificent as Coté’s day ended up being, it got off to a scary start against fan-favorite Chloe Clague of Australia.

The young right-hander showed no fear of Coté during the early stages of the match, quickly grabbing the lead in Game 1 and continuing to build it out until she was up by 32 pins after eight frames.

Once Clague counted nine on her first ball in the ninth frame, the match was officially over. She was up 1-0 thanks to a 213-170 victory.

However, that number was at least a little bit misleading as Coté used her final two frames to begin getting dialed in for Game 2, which meant not even attempting to make the 4 pin she left in the ninth frame.

Nevertheless, even though it made her Game 1 final score look worse than it actually was, the experimentation worked as Coté’s ball reaction got much better in Game 2 and Game 3.

For Clague, meanwhile, things went the other way.

While Coté started Game 2 with the front six, Clague struck just once and had to endure a 3-6-7 in the fifth. Those two factors allowed Coté to open up a 67-pin lead that she would never relinquish.

When all was said and done, Coté had used a 243-153 victory to even the match and keep her hopes of advancing alive.

As the scoresheet turned over to Game 3, Coté didn’t have to hope. After all, she was staying strong, and Clague was struggling to hold on.

Coté started the deciding game strike, spare, spare, four-bagger while Clague started strike, spare, strike, open.

Clague did her best to stay in the game by making her spares, but her inability to string any strikes together simply made it impossible for her to cut into Coté’s lead.

By the time the two bowlers reached the ninth frame, there was no longer any doubt as to who would be moving on versus who would be going home.

Men’s Quarterfinals
Prather (USA) def. Syahmi (Singapore) 2-1 (180-247; 202-169; 217-190)

Prather’s quarterfinal-round bout with Nu’Man Syahmi of Singapore played out in very much the same fashion as Coté’s battle with Clague.

Syahmi came out swinging during Game 1, striking in six of the first seven frames to immediately put the American star on his heels.

Prather did his best to weather the storm, but Syahmi was simply too much during Game 1, taking an easy 247-180 victory.

Syahmi would literally never lead again.

The combination of a Prather turkey in frames four, five and six and Syahmi opens in the second and eighth allowed the American to roar back with a stress-free Game 2 victory (202-169) that evened the match.

Sensing that momentum was on his side, Prather didn’t let up; instead, he started Game 3 double, spare, turkey to immediately bring the lead to his side once again.

Syahmi tried to dig in and fight back, but his ball reaction and pin carry just wouldn’t allow it. When all was said and done, Prather won the game (217-190) and match and earn a semifinal bout with Belmonte.

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TEAM RESULTS	
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2 nd -\$ 450 – Ajia Esqueda, Eric Macapagal, Bruce Gruman, Dean Bowker, Quentin Nogosek - 4318	
3 rd - \$ 350 – Nettie Nelson, Chris Jamieson, Jeffrey Moss, Bruce Yochim, Shawn Switzer - 4311	
4 th -\$300 – Ranon Samuels. Sheri Hanks, Rodger Hill, Kaitlin Silva, John Hanks - 4163	
5 th - \$ 280 – Christine Kline, Molly Armstrong, Gina Rodriguez, Shane Armstrong, Max Rodriguez - 4144	
6 th - \$ 250 – Michele Garcia, John Loch, Jim Hiller, Ron Anderson, Frank Paravato - 4118	
7 th - \$ 170 – Susie Pierce, Chrystal Soper, Erin Silvera, Luc Soper, Xanath Stack - 4056	

2023 PBA Schedule				
DATE	TIME	CHANNEL	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION
U.S. OPEN PRESENTED BY GO BOWLING!				
SAT. 2/4	4:00P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	ROYAL PIN WOODLAND INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
SUN. 2/5	2:00P	FOX	FINALS	ROYAL PIN WOODLAND INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
SUN. 2/19	1:00P	FS1	PBA COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP	ROYAL PIN WOODLAND INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
SUN. 3/12	12:00P	FS1	GO BOWLING! PBA CELEBRITY EVENT (TBA)	PHOENIX, ARIZONA
PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS				
FRI. 3/17	10:00P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	AMF RIVIERA LANES FAIRLAWN, OHIO
SAT. 3/18	7:30P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	AMF RIVIERA LANES FAIRLAWN, OHIO
SAT. 3/18	9:30P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	AMF RIVIERA LANES FAIRLAWN, OHIO
SUN. 3/19	12:00P	FOX	FINALS	AMF RIVIERA LANES FAIRLAWN, OHIO
SAT. 3/25	7:30P	FS1	PBA JR. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP	AMF RIVIERA LANES FAIRLAWN, OHIO
USBC MASTERS				
FRI. 3/31	7:00P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	THUNDERBOWL DETROIT, MICHIGAN
SUN. 4/2	1:00P	FOX	FINALS	THUNDERBOWL DETROIT, MICHIGAN
GUARANTEED RATE PBA WORLD SERIES OF BOWLING XVI				
SAT. 4/15	2:00P	FS1	USA VS. THE WORLD MATCH PLAY	BOWLERD WAUWATOSA WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN
SUN. 4/16	12:00P	FS1	USA VS. THE WORLD	BOWLERD WAUWATOSA WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN
MON. 4/17	7:00P	FS1	PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP	BOWLERD WAUWATOSA WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN
TUES. 4/18	7:00P	FS1	PBA SCORPION CHAMPIONSHIP	BOWLERD WAUWATOSA WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN
WED. 4/19	7:00P	FS1	PBA SHARK CHAMPIONSHIP	BOWLERD WAUWATOSA WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN
SUN. 4/23	12:00P	FOX	PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON	BOWLERD WAUWATOSA WAUWATOSA, WISCONSIN
PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP				
SAT. 5/6	10:30P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	BOWLERD NORTH BRUNSWICK NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY
SUN. 5/7	12:00P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	BOWLERD NORTH BRUNSWICK NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY
SUN. 5/7	9:30P	FS1	MATCH PLAY	BOWLERD NORTH BRUNSWICK NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY
SAT. 5/13	12:30P	FS1	SEMI FINALS	BOWLERD NORTH BRUNSWICK NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY
SUN. 5/14	1:00P	FOX	FINALS	BOWLERD NORTH BRUNSWICK NORTH BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY
PBA SUPER SLAM CUP				
SAT. 5/20	2:00P	FS1	PRELIMS	BOWLERD JUPITER JUPITER, FLORIDA
SUN. 5/21	3:00P	FOX	FINALS	BOWLERD JUPITER JUPITER, FLORIDA
PBA LEAGUE ELIAS CUP PLAYOFFS PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON				
SUN. 9/24	8:00P	FS1	QUARTERFINALS	BAYSIDE BOWL PORTLAND, MAINE
MON. 9/25	9:00P	FS1	QUARTERFINALS	BAYSIDE BOWL PORTLAND, MAINE
TUES. 9/26	8:00P	FS1	SEMIFINALS	BAYSIDE BOWL PORTLAND, MAINE
WED. 9/27	9:00P	FS1	FINALS	BAYSIDE BOWL PORTLAND, MAINE
SUN. 10/1	7:00P	FS1	PBA LEAGUE BOWLER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASH	BAYSIDE BOWL PORTLAND, MAINE
TIMES ARE ET. SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE				

UBF World Cup Team continued from page 1

the best of the best, and one bad break can send you home empty handed.

“We’re leaving this world cup with medals in three out of four events, and we bowled well enough to take a medal in Women’s Team as well; a few things just didn’t go our way. Coach Kelly (Kulick), Coach Kendra (Cameron-Curry) and I are very proud of our men and women for how they performed and carried themselves on and off the lanes during this trip. They did an amazing job; they should be proud of themselves.”

Even though all four members of the men’s team shared the same time and space on the lanes, all four members of the quartet will leave the 2022 IBF World Cup with slightly different answers as to what they enjoyed most about the experience and what they’re most proud of.

For **Kyle Troup**, a great deal of pride came simply from being able to represent his country again. However, he’ll also remember this trip because it was the one on which he won his first Team gold medal as a member of Team USA.

“We communicated well, we stayed as one and we had each other’s backs even during the bad moments, and we all had some of those at different times throughout the tournament,” Troup said. “It was a long journey from the time we left camp and were selected for this event to the time that we’re standing here now.

“We had the team gold medal in mind all that time, and when we won that last game, it hit me that it had finally happened; I was overcome with emotion. When you’re wearing the Team USA logo on your back, everything means more. This is right up there with anything I’ve accomplished in my career. We couldn’t have asked for more.”

What stands out in **Jakob Butturff**’s mind is the amazing team chemistry among this foursome and how proud he is of the support that they showed one another no matter the situation or outcome on the lanes.

“Winning the IBF World Cup is an amazing feeling,” Butturff said. “We have such strong chemistry on this team; everyone just has that team mindset, so you know that the other guys have your back no matter what happens. That makes it a lot of fun to go out there and compete.”

Kris Prather was awestruck by the group’s ability to seamlessly flip the switch from being competitors week in and week out on the Professional Bowler’s Association Tour to being teammates when coming together to represent Team USA.

“Doing this for a living as we do, we’re singles competitors the overwhelming majority of the time, so to be able to come out here and accomplish a goal that the whole Team USA organization wants to achieve is huge for us,” Prather said. “Being a part of something like this is like being a part of a special fraternity; we’ll always have this and be able to talk about it and share it no matter where we go or how much time goes by. It’s almost surreal.”

Finally, **A.J. Johnson** will remember the unique feeling that only comes from finding success while competing for one’s country.

“I feel like there’s nothing better than bowling as a team, and when you get to do it for Team USA, the greatest team in the world, it’s that much sweeter,” Johnson said. “I felt like I didn’t have my best stuff today, but that’s why we’re a team; we pick each other up. We won gold, and there’s no better feeling; it never gets old.”

Even though the Team USA women narrowly missed out on a medal, Jordan Richard was proud of how she and her teammates competed throughout the event.

“We continue to put ourselves in position to win, and that’s really all you can do at the end of the day,” Richard said. “We fought our hardest until the final ball was thrown; we just came up on the wrong side a couple times today. Still, we continue to learn and grow so that the next time we find ourselves in that situation, we can be better.”

Men’s Baker Team Gold Medal Match USA def. Puerto Rico 3-1 (214-172; 262-202; 221-222; 209-198)

On paper, a 3-1 match victory may appear to have been smooth and easy for the winning team, and there were certainly portions of the gold-medal match that fit that picture for Team USA.

Take Game 1 for example. The Americans opened with a five-bagger to jump ahead to a 50-pin lead by the end of the fifth frame.

Puerto Rico used a late double and a Team USA open to make things respectable, but the end result was still a relatively easy 214-172 Game 1 win for the Americans.

Game 2 wasn’t much harder as Team USA went strike, spare, spare, eight-bagger to run away and hide from Puerto Rico yet again, this time by a final tally of 262-202.

That win put the Americans up 2-0 and on the cusp of capturing the coveted 2022 IBF World Cup and Men’s Baker Team gold medal.

It looked like it would only take Team USA one more game to get it as they started off strong yet again in Game 3.

The Americans started the game with a four-bagger before a chopped spare slowed their momentum down just a bit in the fifth.

Nevertheless, Team USA was still up 23 pins after the open, and they quickly recovered from it by throwing a turkey immediately thereafter.

But Puerto Rico quietly tossed a four-bagger of its own in frames six, seven, eight and nine, and when Team USA chopped another spare during its half of the ninth frame, what had looked like a guaranteed American victory just moments before had suddenly come into doubt.

If Puerto Rico’s anchor bowler struck on his first shot in the 10th frame, the Americans would lose. That first shot didn’t strike, however; instead, a 4 pin was left standing.

Suddenly, Team USA had a reprieve. If their anchor bowler could double, the game would end in the Americans’ favor after all.

Team USA’s anchor succeeded in notching the first strike, but the second shot came in light and left the 2 pin. Once the spare was converted, Team USA had posted 221.

Puerto Rico’s man needed nine to tie or a strike to win; anything less would hand the gold to the Americans.

Puerto Rico’s fill shot crept high into the 1-2 pocket and looked to have left the 6 pin, but some late pin action tipped the six forward, keeping Puerto Rico alive with a thrilling 222-221 come-from-behind victory in Game 3.

As unlikely as it sounds, Game 4 was similar with the Americans jumping out to a lead and appearing to be on cruise control only to see things screech to a grinding halt and tighten up greatly as the game moved to the final frames.

This time, a 26-pin Team USA lead through five frames was cut in half by the eighth frame, forcing the Americans’ last two bowlers to step up and deliver or risk having the Puerto Ricans steal another game in the 10th frame and even the match.

Team USA wasn’t about to let lightning strike twice though; instead, they notched marks in both the ninth and tenth to finally put Puerto Rico away (209-198) and lay claim to the 2022 IBF World Cup and Men’s Baker Team gold medal.







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**Women’s Baker Team Bronze Medal Match
Malaysia def. USA 3-2 (226-204; 219-182; 192-226; 220-248; 235-228)**

Even if you’re the best team in the world, coming back from an 0-2 deficit in a best-of-five match is a very tall order. The Team USA ladies learned that lesson the hard way twice on the final day of Baker Team competition.

The bronze medal match against Malaysia went very much the same way that Team USA’s semifinal loss to Germany had gone just a couple hours earlier. The Americans didn’t bowl badly during Game 1, but they weren’t quite finding the right combinations of bowling balls and attack angles to consistently knock all ten pins down either.

Team USA did a nice job of staying clean to keep things close, but Malaysia was able to roll a late five-bagger to top Team USA (226-204) in Game 1.

Game 2 brought more of the same, meaning too few strikes for the Americans and a few too many for the Malaysians, at least as far as Team USA fans were concerned.

That combination allowed Malaysia to cruise to a 219-182 victory that put them ahead 2-0 and brought them just one win away from the bronze medal.

Team USA wasn’t ready to let them have it though, not yet at least.

Showing tremendous fight and determination, the Americans began clawing their way back into the match.

They struck on five of their first six shots to establish a 36-pin lead midway through Game 3.

Try as it might, Malaysia wouldn’t get much closer, allowing Team USA to thwart the sweep with a 226-192 victory.

The Americans rode the momentum to an even stronger performance during Game 4, pounding the pocket relentlessly and recording eight strikes to take another game off the Malaysians, this one by a final of 248-220.

Team USA had successfully erased another 0-2 deficit. Now, they just needed to get over the top and complete the comeback. The bronze medal was riding on it.

Things looked good during the early going in Game 5 as the Americans started with a four-bagger.

Unfortunately, the Malaysians got off to a great start as well, beginning the deciding game spare, five-bagger to take a ten-pin lead through six frames.

The lead would shift back to Team USA’s side just two frames later though after Malaysia chopped a 3-6 in the eighth.

With just two pins separating the two powerhouses as both teams’ bowlers stepped up in the ninth frame, every shot was crucial.

Both teams struck in the ninth frame, keeping the Americans ahead by two heading into the tenth.

Malaysia’s anchor bowler stepped up and started the 10th frame with a strike to put the pressure back on the Americans. If their anchor couldn’t match, the bronze medal would go to Malaysia.

Unfortunately for Team USA, it was during the next moment that the sometimes-cruel nature of bowling presented itself.

The American anchor bowler stepped up and buried her first shot deep in the 1-3 pocket, but instead of being rewarded with a strike that would’ve kept the Americans ahead and put the pressure right back on Malaysia, the shot left a solid 8 pin.

Despite having executed the shot that was called for when it was needed most, the Americans had lost. Malaysia took Game 5 (235-228) and the match, sending the bronze medal home with the Malaysians and sending Team USA home with a fourth-place finish.

**Men’s Baker Team Semifinals
USA def. Australia 3-1 (278-192; 202-201; 193-224; 260-228)**

If there is one thing that the Team USA men showed over and over again throughout the 2022 IBF World Cup, it’s that few teams can match their striking power. The Americans put that power on full display while taking the host team out of gold medal contention.

Butturff, A.J. Johnson, Prather and Troup simply dominated the Australians during Game 1, starting with the front eight before Butturff rang a 7 pin to halt the string in the ninth.

It hardly mattered though as Team USA already had the game well in hand. Before the Aussies knew what hit them, they had lost Game 1 (278-192) and were already playing from behind. Game 2 wasn’t nearly as explosive for the Americans, but it was equally effective.

Australia was ahead early, taking advantage of a Team USA open in the fourth frame to hold a 19-pin lead through seven frames. But that all changed when the Aussies suffered back-to-back opens in the eighth and ninth.

Suddenly, Butturff found himself in position to help Team USA steal an unlikely Game 2 victory. Butturff only managed eight on his first shot in the tenth, but the Australian anchor bowler only counted seven, keeping the Americans ahead by one.

That’s where they would stay as Butturff delivered a flush strike on his fill ball to lock the Australian’s out (202-201) and put Team USA up 2-0.

Much to the delight of their fans, the Aussies refused to quit, using a late five-bagger to stave off elimination by defeating Team USA 224-193 in Game 3.

That only delayed the inevitable, however, as the Americans went five-bagger, open, five-bagger during Game 4, pushing their score to 260 and pushing the Australians out of the gold medal hunt thanks to a 260-228 match-ending victory for Team USA.

**Women’s Baker Team Semifinals
Germany def. USA 3-2 (158-223; 186-201; 211-185; 221-178; 207-237)**

As mentioned above, the bronze-medal match was not the only match of the day that saw the Team USA ladies rally back from an 0-2 deficit only to fall short in Game 5. Sadly, the exact same thing happened earlier in the day during the Americans’ semifinal matchup with Germany.

For whatever reason, the Americans just didn’t quite look like themselves during the first two games of the match.

In Game 1, Team USA posted just four strikes to go along with three opens. Germany, meanwhile, struck five times and, more importantly, stayed clean.

That combination helped the Germans capture Game 1 by a final score of 223-158. Unfortunately, for Team USA, Game 2 wasn’t much different.

The Americans struck just four times and failed to record a double. They also suffered another costly open, this one thanks to a 6-7-10 split in the seventh frame.

Germany took advantage, controlling the pocket and converting spares to come out on top yet again (201-186) and push Team USA to the brink of elimination. To nobody’s surprise, the Americans refused to go down without a fight.

They looked more like themselves during Game 3, staying clean from the second frame onward and delivering clutch shots down the stretch to grab their first victory of the match (211-185). They would keep the Germans even further away during Game 4, starting with a four-bagger and staying clean to coast to a 221-178 win that evened the match at 2-2.

Riding a two-game winning streak and with momentum finally on their side, the Americans looked poised to complete the comeback and take their place in the gold medal match. But Germany had other ideas.

Game 5 was close through the first seven frames, but Team USA held a four-pin lead. Things changed from there, however, as the Americans chopped a spare in the eighth while Germany put up a strike to notch a double. That reversal of fortune put the Germans’ fate squarely in their own hands, and they were not about to let it go.

Team USA tried to give German anchor Birgit Noreiks something to think about by striking in the ninth and on the first ball in the tenth, but Noreiks is not easily rattled. She demonstrated that fact just moments later when she struck on her first ball in the 10th frame to officially slam the door on Team USA.

When the final pins had fallen, Germany was victorious (237-207) and headed to the gold-medal match against Sweden.

Team USA would have to dust itself off and fight for a bronze medal by trying to take down Malaysia.

BVL continued from page 1

units. At every corner were displayed pictures of past and present members who served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces.

The effort put forth by the many wonderful volunteers did not go unnoticed! Without these dedicated volunteers, board members and staff, this tournament would not have been possible!

The official start of the tournament began with the traditional singing of our National Anthem, sung by Ken Burger, Tony Lizama and Eileen Bigornia. A smart-looking Honor Guard was provided by the American Legion Hall Post 508, 18th District San Gabriel Valley. All Veterans in attendance were asked to stand on the approach to be recognized.

As always, there was a great turn out in terms of volunteers, leaguebowlers, families, and friends. Special thanks go out to the USBC Board Members San Gabriel Valley for their hard work in putting this tournament together. All the monies raised via the selling of items, foods, and raffle tickets, helped raise much needed money for the BVL and Disabled Veterans. In total, the San Gabriel Valley USBC raised over \$10,000.

Unfortunately, Chris Pilios, President of San Gabriel Valley USBC, was unable to attend this year's BVL due to his serious health condition. He stated, "I wish my wife Linda and I could have been there with you.

God bless you my friends and thank you all for a job well done!"



Rick Freese (U.S. Army Veteran) at the approach.



Mel Molina pins Veteran Ray Tellez with 'Support our Troops Ribbon.



Members of the Velasco Family, proud longtime BVL supporters (Naval family). Mike and Lucy Velasco, son Martin, and nephews Cameron and Xander."



Color Guard from American Legion Borinquen Post 508. (l to r) Stephen Lopez (U.S. Airforce Vet), Carlos Garcia (U.S. Army Vet), and Captain John Figueroa (U.S. Marine Corps Vet)



Volunteers with their respective displays.



Board Members busy at register




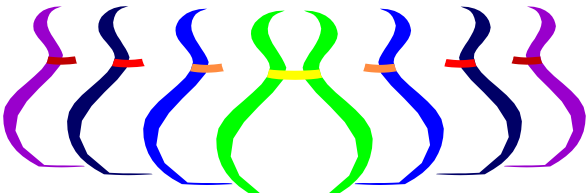
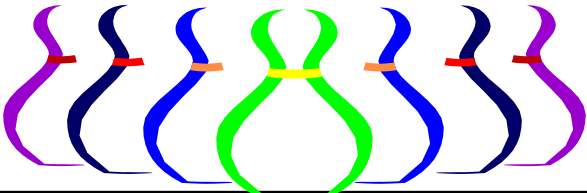
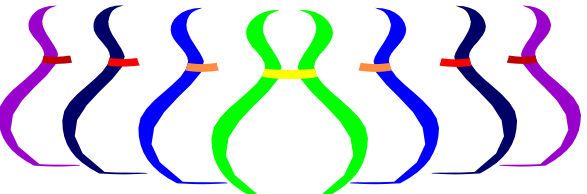
USBC President Chris Pilios and wife Linda Pilios-Johnson



Andrew Rietta conducting brackets.



Ken Burger and Mel Molina proudly display an old recruiting poster.

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Finishing Touch Floors Stays Atop The Board In Round Two

by Dsavid Yamauchi

DOWNEY – The Brunswick Invitational took the lanes for the fifth week on the new short pattern. Finishing Touch Floors was looking solid so far in the round with Junior Amateur Tour taking their turn in the featured match trying to get some wins from the round leaders.

The “A” match featured Finishing Touch Floors and Junior Amateur Tour. Junior Amateur Tour came out strong taking game one, but Finishing Touch stormed back and had the lead for totals after two. A close game went down to the last bowler, but it was Finishing Touch Floors with a clutch spare and a 5-pin total pins win. Finishing Touch takes three and moves to 20-5, staying atop the leaderboard with two weeks to go. Anthony Santos paced J.A.T. with a 600 set while Ramsey Basurto led Finishing Touch Floors with a 590 set.

The “B” match paired up DV8 who was coming off a sweep to move them to third facing Cal Bowl who was looking to bounce back after taking four losses to Finishing Touch Floors last week. DV8 took the first game by 87, then dropped the next two but kept it close and took total pins for the 3-2 lead. Ramon Torres was big for Cal Bowl with a 638 series while sub Jon Huff put up 582 to lead DV8.

Bowlmum and US Foods were looking to keep their round hopes alive both sitting at 12-8 going into tonight’s action. A low scoring match saw Bowlmum sweep through US Foods on the back of Billy Myers Jr.’s 584 set. Gabriel Martinez paced US Foods with a 550 set. Bowlmum jumps back into the round now just 3 points behind the round leader.

J.K. Inc. was sitting three games over .500 going into the night after a good matchup last week. They moved up to meet Threadworks who was looking to get back into the thick of things parked at 10-10. This one was all Threadworks as they swept the match on the back of Paul Varela’s 572 set. Ian Markstrum

led J.K. Inc. with a 556 but could not help the team manage a win.

Bowling Guys and Forest Lanes matched up in the 9 vs. 10 match with both teams looking to make a move in the standings. Forest Lanes started the night with abig 811 game and cruised to the 5-0 win. Javier Hernandez subbed to the lead for Bowling Guys with a 508 series while Brad Jones was big for Forest Lanes with a 626 series.

First-round winner Family Ties was the low of the 9-11 teams as they met up with Westminster Lanes sitting at 8-12. Family Ties started strong and kept the momentum going as they swept Westminster Lanes 5-0. Mikey Villarreal was huge for Family Ties with a 638 set while Michael Barnett led Westminster Lanes with a 580 series.

HB Complete Builders, Professional Approach, Allied Paving and Don Julio Tequila rounded out the matches on Monday. HB Complete Builders took the sweep of Professional Approach and Allied Paving took four from Don Julio Tequila, as they managed to take the middle game. Anthony Rieger led HB Complete Builders with a 534 set, John Struckman paced Professional Approach with a 459 set, Gary Duran led Allied Paving with a 503 set and Max Castillo was high for Don Julio Tequila with a 449 series.

The Financial Advisor’s Pot went to Mikey Villarreal (266) for \$160 with 2nd to Ramon Torres (237) for \$70. Sidepots went to J.T. Diso (256) and Mikey Villarreal (266) for \$50 each with 2nd to Sean Sosabee (233) and Michael Barnett and Ramsey Basurto (226) for \$25/\$12.50. SuperPot went to Anthony Santos (243) for \$150 with 2nd to Vernon Adams (233) for \$75.

Come on out and watch So. California’s Richest League battle as the scores continue to be all over the board as the bowlers adjust for next week at 8:00!

TOP 10 TEAMS ROUND TWO

Finishing Touch Floors 20	Threadworks15
DV8.18	Forest Lanes14
Junior Amateur Tour . .17	Family Ties \$.14
Bowlmum.17	U.S. Foods.12
Cal Bowl15	HB Complete Builders .12

TOP 10 THIS WEEK

Ramon Torres638	Billy Myers Jr.595
Mikey Villarreal638	Ramsey Basurto.590
Brad Jones626	Kurt Arakaki581
Anthony Santos600	Vernon Adams580
Tony Brunning597	Michael Barnett.580

SUPER SWEEPER POT

Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.

1st Mikey Villarreal 266 \$160 • 2nd Ramon Torres 236 \$70

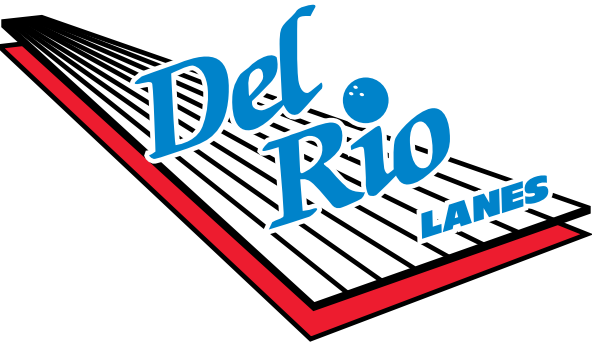


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7502 Florence Ave., Downey CA 90240 • (562) 927-3351

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