

CHECK OUT 'TIPS FROM THE PROS' — PAGE 6

BOWLER'S Digest

Official 'Voice' of Bowling in the Bowling Capital of the World
• Established by Steve Cruchon in 1976 •



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PBA Detroit Winter Swing Events Underway at Thunderbowl Lanes

The PBA Detroit Winter Swing, featuring the historic debut of the Professional Bowlers Association League, along with four PBA Tour individual championship events, is underway at Thunderbowl Lanes in suburban Detroit.

The eight-team PBA League, featuring celebrity owners and an all-star roster of PBA Tour players, is making its debut with four days of qualifying followed by five ESPN television events, including the live two-hour opening round

telecast on Sunday, Jan. 27, at noon.

The Winter Swing features the Carmen Salvino Classic, Mark Roth Classic, Don Carter Classic and Earl Anthony Players Championship with a total of 135 players, including the 40 PBA League players.

During the individual qualifying rounds, PBA League players will be bowling for their teams. Scores for all five players will be added together to determine the team's qualifying positions for the Baker format stepladder finals. The top three teams after each

team round advance to the stepladder finals; the other five teams will bowl a one-ball eliminator "Clash" round to determine the fourth team that will advance to the stepladder final.

All PBA League finals on ESPN will be one-game Baker team stepladder matches. In Baker format competition, each member of the team bowls two frames (i.e., the leadoff bowler will bowl the first and sixth frames, the anchor bowler will bowl the fifth and 10th frames, etc.).

Total team points after five
(Continued on Page 4)

IN THE NEWS

High School Seniors Can Apply for IBMA Pezzano Scholarships

The Chuck Pezzano Scholarship is awarded annually to worthy students who are high school seniors, vocational school seniors or current college students and not over the age of 25 during the year in which the awards are presented. The award is named in honor of International Bowling Media Association (IBMA), (formerly Bowling Writers Association of America, BWAA), United States Bowling Congress and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Fame journalist Chuck Pezzano.

Up to three scholarships per year may be awarded based on the applicant's credentials. Any or all of the funds may or may not be distributed at the discretion of the committee. Individual awards and or combined scholarships may not exceed \$3,000 per year. If there are ties, scholarship awards will be split. Winners will also receive a one-year paid membership in IBMA.

Applicants may download an application by visiting the IBMA website (www.bowlingmedia.org). Complete the form and return it, including supporting documents, postmarked no later than May 15th, 2013. Winners will be announced at the BWAA Annual Meeting & Convention at Bowl Expo scheduled June 23-28 in Las Vegas, Nev.

CBS Sports Network to Air USBC Intercollegiate Championships

ARLINGTON, Texas — The United States Bowling Congress Intercollegiate Singles Championships and the USBC Intercollegiate Team Championships will be part of a four-week series that will air nationally in May on CBS Sports Network.

This is the 12th consecutive year of national television for the team event and the second for singles. Dave LaMont will handle play-by-play, while USBC spokesman and Team USA member Chris Barnes will provide color commentary.

CBS Sports Network will air the one-hour shows in high definition over a four-week period each Friday in May, beginning May 3. The Intercollegiate Team Championships and Intercollegiate Singles Championships annually crown national champions in college bowling.

All four shows will be taped at Sun Valley Lanes in Lincoln, Neb., on April 20. Leading up to the taped television shows, bowling fans will be able to watch all rounds of qualifying and match play for both events on BowlTV.

◆ For more information, visit BOWL.com/collegiate.

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Lynda Barnes,
Jason Couch
Join USBC Hall

Lynda Barnes and Jason Couch have been elected to the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame in the Superior Performance category.

The two will join six other inductees who were elected in November by the USBC Hall of Fame Committee. They are Rick Steelsmith, Shirley Levens, Sandra Postma and Frank Santore in the Outstanding USBC Performance category, Don McCune in the Veterans category and Tamoria Adams for Meritorious Service.

The induction ceremony will take place May 2 at the 2013 USBC Convention in Reno, Nev.

A USBC panel of veteran bowling writers, hall of famers and board members vote on USBC Hall of Fame nominees. This year's ballot also included Steve Cook, Doug Kent, David Ozio, Danny Wiseman and Larry Laub.

The USBC Hall of Fame was created in 2005 by merging the former ABC and WIBC Halls of Fame. With the eight new inductees, there will be 402 members of the USBC Hall of Fame — 267 in Performance, 115 in Meritorious Service and 20 Pioneers.

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WHERE TO FIND IT

Directory charge is \$12 per issue (Limit 50 words). FAX (586) 286-5877, or send to: "Where to Find It," c/o Bowler's Digest, P.O. Box 96, Fraser, MI 48026
 bowlersdigest@ymail.com

PLEASE NOTE: Because of an agreement with Detroit area bowling centers, Bowler's Digest does not publish open bowling or "Rock 'n Bowl" rates.

Bowling Parties

• **ASTRO LANES**, 32388 John R, Madison Heights. Come have an "Astro Experience" with us. Our fundraisers, class reunions, company,

birthday and anniversary parties are the best! We have full catering service for any type of party. Call (248) 585-3132.

• **CLOVERLANES BOWL**, 28900 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia. We offer awesome Adult and Children's Birthday Parties. Take advantage of our upper lounge and its large dance floor. Choose us for your next Group or Company Party. To meet your special needs we offer full service catering. For more information call (734) 427-6410.

• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. The 2-hour party includes: bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play, pizza, pop, paper products and a cosmic bowling pin

for the birthday child. \$12 per person with a 6-person minimum. For more information, call (313) 928-4688.

Cosmic Bowling

• **IMPERIAL LANES**, 44650 Garfield, Clinton Twp. "Best Cosmic Show" with two giant video screens. Every other Friday at 9:30 p.m. - 1 a.m. at \$20 an hour per lane. Saturday night at 11:30 p.m. - 3 a.m. at \$20 an hour per lane. Additional time is discounted. Saturday afternoon from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at \$3.50 per game, per person. Call (586) 286-8700.

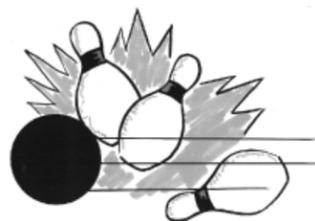
• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. "Cosmic Bowling" is available on Friday and Saturday nights. Cosmic pricing includes 3 hours of bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play and music videos on large screen TVs. Sessions start at 10 p.m. The price is \$15 per person plus \$3 for shoes. For more information, call (313) 928-4688.

Extreme Bowling

• **THUNDERBIRD LANES**, 400 W. Maple Rd. Troy. "EXTREME Bowling." Metro Detroit's best! High Tech Lights, Music and Huge Video Screens. Friday nights 10 p.m. to midnight. And for the family "PINDEMONIUM" with family-friendly music and music videos. Sunday afternoons. 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information call (248) 362-1660.

Dancing/Video Fun Night

• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. Watch music videos on a 160" screen as well as on over a dozen large screen TVs while you're bowling. Videos are played nightly. Call Thunderbowl Lanes at (313) 928-4688 to get complete details.



Moonlight Doubles

• **SUNNYBROOK LANES**, 7191 East 17 Mile Rd., Sterling Heights. "9-Pin, No Tap" Moonlight Doubles. Saturdays at 11:30 p.m. Check-in at 10:45 p.m. \$25 per couple includes three games of bowling, first and second mystery games and prize fund. We guarantee a minimum of five places paid. Additional jackpots available. For more info, call (586) 264-2700.

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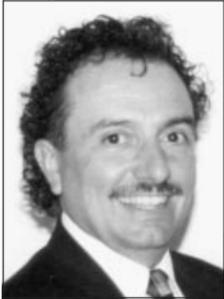
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By-Law Changes, Delegates Elected at MDUSBC Annual Meeting

METRODETROIT USBC NEWS

By Association Manager
Mark A. Martin

For more information about
the Metro Detroit USBC,
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or visit www.mdusbc.com



• THE ANNUAL meeting of the Metro Detroit USBC was held on Sunday, Jan. 20 at DeCarlo's Banquet and Convention Center in Warren.

Reports were given by President Mike DeRousie outlining the progress of the association, Association Manager Mark Martin reporting statistics, Finance Committee chairman John Vorpapel with the financial report, Anita Maiorana reporting on tournaments and Ann Block with Youth Committee activities.

All members of the association were invited to attend the meeting and the attendance was as expected. The meeting lasted one hour and 58 minutes.

There were three proposed bylaw changes and all passed by the required two-

thirds majority. The first removed the term limits for directors and the second allows for election of the officers by the board of directors. Both were effective immediately. The third bylaw change changed the local membership dues from \$8 to \$9, which changes the standard annual adult membership fee from \$19 to \$20 effective August 1, 2013.

After the business portion of the meeting was concluded elections were held for six adult Directors, two Youth Representative Directors, delegates to the various state meetings and delegates to the USBC Convention.

Richard Banks, Debra Dickerson, Patricia Klix, Anita Maiorana, Tammy Quinn and John Vorpapel were elected as adult directors. Kurt Suokas and Penny Breen were elected as Youth Representative Directors.

Debra Dickerson, Celeste Forsythe, Libbi Fletcher, Patricia Klix, Anita Maiorana, Diane Maluzhinsky and Dorothy Thompson were elected as delegates to the Michigan State WBA Annual Meeting.

Richard Banks, Mike DeRousie, Libbi Fletcher, Anita Maiorana and John Vorpapel were elected to represent the MDUSBC at the Michigan State BA meeting.

MDUSBC BOWL FOR THE CURE FUNDRAISERS

The MDUSBC will host two fundraisers for Bowl for the Cure during February.

The first one will be at Mayflower Lanes in Redford on Saturday, Feb. 2 at 1 p.m. and the second one will be at Astro Lanes in Madison Heights on Saturday, Feb. 23 at 12 noon.

The cost of the Astro event is \$25 (\$20 if paid at least four days in advance of the event) which will include 9-pin, no-tap bowling, pizza and shoe rental.

The events are open to everyone.

Why not get a group of your friends together for a fun event and help raise funds to fight breast cancer. Over 200,000 new cases of breast cancer are discovered every year.

You can download the flyers at www.mdusbc.com or call Vicki Ingham at Mayflower Lanes at (313) 937-8420 or call Diane Maluzhinsky at (248) 835-9518 to enter.

Mark Hurttgam, Tammy Quinn and Kurt Suokas were elected as delegates to the Michigan State Youth meeting.

The MDUSBC is entitled to 50 delegates to the USBC Convention. At the meeting 27 were elected to represent the association and the president was empowered to appoint additional eligible delegates.

The delegates elected were Katrina Banks, Richard Banks, Jordan Barber, Shirley Beard, Terrance Bell, Ann Block, George Bresinski, Miquelle Christian, Clifford Davis, Michael DeRousie, Debra Dickerson, Eric Fisher, Constance Fordyce, Ina Herbert, Lavern Hester, Alisa Hudgins, Mark Hurttgam, Vera Johnson, Patricia Klix, Anita Maiorana, Diane Maluzhinsky, Katherine Martin, Rose McCall, Jeanette Myers, Tammy Quinn, Marie Sawyers and John Vorpapel.

The minutes of the annual meeting along with all board and committee minutes are posted on www.mdusbc.com

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The MDUSBC will award four \$1,000 scholarships this year to two male and two female bowlers. Applicants must be at least 14 years of age and can only win once.

The scholarships are a result of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association, Detroit Women's Bowling Association and Pontiac Women's Bowling Association restricting funds for this purpose.

Applicants must write a minimum 100-word essay about their future educational plans and submit a completed application

(Continued on Page 5)

DETROIT ALL-STAR CLASSIC

Storm/Thunderbowl Takes Top Spot

• THE DETROIT All-Star Classic, into its 78th season of competition, watched Storm Products/Thunderbowl Lanes sneak into the top spot after three weeks of the Spring Season.

Storm, trying to reverse their Winter Season struggles, have slowly climbed in the lead after a hard fought two out of three from Ansara's Restaurant Group at Bonanza Lanes this past Thursday behind Craig Nidiffer who stroked a 762 set that included a 299 the third game.

Jeff Hicks returned to Storm (after spending the last 10 weeks on the afternoon shift at his job) by rolling 719. Welcome back, Jeff. Looks like you haven't missed a beat. Nidiffer's set was able to hold off Ansara's Ken Wyatt who had the league's high series for the evening with a fine 783.

In other matches at Bonanza, 2 Booli/Maximum Potential Pro Shop won two out of three from Cozy Inn behind Ronnie Sparks Jr. who stroked 759. Frank Snodgrass 736 and Mike Lee 713 paced Red Robin/DBT/Charrette State Farm to a sweep. Red Robin Restaurants/Sunnybrook Lanes won two out of three from Plaza Lanes. Eastridge Insurance swept their match with the help of Nick Faber 782 and Mike Bosco 716.

Scoring the previous week at Woodhaven Lanes was as follows — Tim Bishop 770 and Jeff Roche 299 in 737 from Storm Products/Thunderbowl Lanes, Dan McLalin 745 from Columbia 300/Eastown Printing, Adam Jablonski 720 from Red Robin Restaurants/Sunnybrook Lanes, Randy Warnken 300 (his third of the season in the All Stars) in 727 and Nick Wissinger 753 from Plaza Lanes.

The All Stars remain on the East Side for the rest of January with stops at Madison Park Bowl on the 24th and Regal Lanes on the 31st. All January start times are at 7:30 p.m. We will kick off February with a stop at Cherry Hill Lanes in Inkster, also starting at 7:30 p.m.

Make your plans to come out on Thursday evenings to watch the best bowlers in the State of Michigan compete.

— Art Schroeder, Secretary, Detroit Traveling All-Star Classic

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DEXTER & LIND SHOES IN STOCK

'Team Bud Light' Roars to Top of Ebonite All-Stars at Thunderbowl

• TEAM BUD Light roared into first place of the second "third" of the Ebonite All-Stars at Thunderbowl Lanes on an impressive performance, shooting 3502 for a team series against Team 3 captained by Jim McLeod.

Team Bud Light was strong across the board with Captain Dave Tulak posting 737, Ed Burbo 731, Jim Deplanche 717 and Bob Slayden at 693. Team 3 did not bowl so bad themselves with Dave Krivitz shooting a 286 for the men's high game of the night in the second game and the high series at 770. Their three-game total series was 3469, not far behind what Team Bud Light posted. Luck as always is involved in who you bowl that night.

Right behind the leaders are Random Budz, for which Mike Norris mans the anchor spot. Barmatic is one further point behind, manned by the crew of Terry Kandes,



By TOM STROBL
Bowler's Digest Contributor

Greg Daniels, Dave Forfitt, Charlie Cassise Sr. and Steve Trimble. They are tied with Thunderbowl Lanes, whose Ronnie Sparks just came off a win of the Michigan Majors Competition at Thunderbowl Lanes this past weekend. Ronnie led all qualifiers and defeated Jeff Roche, a member of the Romulus Auto Supply in the final match.

In the past week, Lisa Hollis had the high scratch game of the evening, just in not only the ladies but most of the men at 290 in a 747 series. Notwithstanding, her Mud's Warriors lost four to Random Budz who had a consistent effort from all bowlers. Mike Norris finally woke up in the last game with a 267 after the 186 and 191.

• All Star bowlers who are either participating in the 2013 Winter Swing or the PTQ Qualifier include Mike Norris, Keith

Caldwell, Mark Cassise, George Juszczyk, Roche. Good luck to them all! It would be great to see one of them on a television show.

'PBA Detroit Winter Swing' Underway

(Continued from Page 1)

rounds will determine the top four teams that will advance to the PBA League Elias Cup finals which will be contested in conjunction with the live PBA Tournament of Champions finals on March 31 at Woodland Bowl in Indianapolis.

The team representing Detroit, the Motown Muscle, features celebrity owner Jerome Bettis and players Mike Fagan, Dallas; Tom Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich.; Mike Scroggins, Amarillo, Texas; Ronnie Russell, Marion, Ind.; Jesse Buss, Belvidere, Ill.; supplemental pick: Brad Angelo, Lockport, N.Y.

The Detroit PBA Winter Swing will produce five ESPN television shows, including a live telecast of PBA League Round 1 on Sunday, Jan. 27, at noon. Subsequent shows will be taped at noon on Saturday, Jan. 26 (PBA League Round 2 and Carmen Salvino Classic championship match); 3:30 p.m. Saturday (PBA League Round 3 and Mark Roth Classic championship match); 7 p.m. Saturday (PBA League Round 4 and Don Carter Classic championship match); and at 3:30 p.m. Sunday (PBA League Round 5 and Earl Anthony PBA Players Championship title match). ESPN telecasts will air on Feb. 10 (1 p.m. ET), Feb. 17 (3 p.m.), March 3 (3 p.m.) and March 24 (1 p.m.).

The PBA League Elias Cup finals will be contested on March 31 in Indianapolis and will air on ESPN on Sunday, April 7, at 1 p.m.

Tickets for all general sessions as well as the ESPN telecasts can be ordered online through pba.com, by contacting Thunderbowl Lanes at (313) 928-4688 or by visiting thunderbowl.org for more details.

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2013 SCHEDULE

DATE	CENTER	TIME
1/5/2013	OAK LANES	10:00 AM
2/23/2013	PLAZA LANES	10:00 AM
3/30/2013	CHERRY HILL LANES	10:00 AM
4/27/2013	BOWL ONE LANES	10:00 AM
5/18/2013	THUNDERBOWL LANES	10:00 AM
6/15/2013	SUNNYBROOK LANES	10:00 AM
8/31/2013	NOVI BOWL	10:00 AM
9/28/2013	DRAKESHIRE LANES	10:00 AM
10/26/2013	HAZEL PARK BOWL	10:00 AM
11/23/2013	FIVE STAR LANES	10:00 AM
12/7/2013	WAYNE BOWL - FINALS	10:00 AM

February is 'Bowl for the Cure' Month

METRODETROIT USBC SCENE

By MDUSBC Director
Libbi Fletcher

For more information about
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• FEBRUARY IS Bowl for the Cure Month! Metro Detroit USBC has always been active in supporting this great cause, raising \$66,423.03 since 2007, and this year will be no exception. There are many ways everyone can help out and I hope that everyone can find a way. I would like to share some ways you can help.

Former Bowl for the Cure Chair, Aileen Hnidy, who is never short for ideas to raise money for a cause that is near and dear to her heart being a breast cancer survivor herself, has come up with yet another project... she wants to collect one million pennies!

There will be containers placed on the counters of several bowling centers around town asking bowlers to dump their pennies to support Bowl for the Cure. If you don't see one in your center, ask them to use one of the 50/50 jugs, etc. and start one yourself! MDUSBC committee members will be happy to come and pick them up at the end of February. This is an easy and great way to support the cause... thanks AGAIN, Aileen! You rock!

Vickie Ingham from the Blue Ribbon

Bowling Group always comes up with ideas, as well. Vickie has made up envelopes for leagues to pass down the lanes during February asking for donations. Many leagues will pick one night in February and donate their 50/50 money to Bowl for the Cure. If you would like one of these envelopes, please contact the MDUSBC office and we will get one out to your league.

This is not the only idea Vickie has had to support

Bowl for the Cure, which she is so passionate about since her mom is a breast cancer survivor. Her mom, by the way, has made ornaments to sell for Bowl for the Cure, as well as BVL fundraisers at Mayflower. Thanks!

Vickie sells coffee mugs to her senior leagues which then entitle them to free refills. She runs special 50/50 raffles during leagues, and then has a great family event. This year the event at Mayflower will be Saturday, Feb. 2. This will be a fun event for adults and kids. This event is nearly sold out, so please contact Mayflower if you are interested in attending, and get your pink on!

Also, on Friday, Jan. 25, Beech Lanes will be hosting their Bowl for the Cure Event. Please call the center if you would like to take part in their event.

The MDUSBC Bowl for the Cure Event, chaired by Diane Maluzhinsky, will be held this year at Astro Lanes. This is the event that has always been at Fairlanes in Madison Heights, but since it has closed, Astro stepped up to host.

The staff at Astro, anchored by Penny Breen, who is also a breast cancer survivor, is excited to have this opportunity and this year will be a great event. The event will be held at noon on Saturday, Feb. 23. It will be a 9-pin, no tap event with many prizes to win, 50/50, pizza and lots of fun!

There will be a Bowl for the Cure bowl-

ing ball that will be auctioned as well!

If you would like to donate a prize for our auction or 200 items for our goodie bags, please contact the office at 248-443-2695 and we would be happy to pick up the items. Or if you would like to sponsor a lane for your company or organization, the cost is \$50.



Entry blanks for the bowling events are available on our website: www.mdusbc.com So dust off that PINK shirt of yours, grab some friends and come out and support one or all of these events, because... EVERYONE

DESERVES A LIFETIME!

Thank you all in advance for your support!

John Szczerbinski, Danielle McEwan Take Team USA Trials Titles

HENDERSON, Nev. — John Szczerbinski of North Tonawanda, N.Y., and Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, N.Y., emerged as the champions Monday at the 2013 United States Bowling Congress Team USA Trials and will represent the United States at the QubicaAMF World Cup later this year.

Szczerbinski held on in a tight championship match, defeating defending champion Marshall Kent of Yakima, Wash., 218-211, while McEwan successfully defended her title with a 267-194 win over Diandra Asbaty of Chicago at Sunset Station's Strike Zone Bowling Center.

Kent had a chance to take the title and continue his reign as Team USA Trials champion but needing a double in the final frame, he left the 2-4-5 on his first shot to concede the title to Szczerbinski.

In the women's title match, McEwan rolled to her second consecutive title with ease, knocking off Asbaty, who earned a spot on Team USA for a record 15th time.

In the semifinals, Kent took down John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Fla., 257-196, while McEwan defeated Josie Earnest of Nashville, Tenn., 199-181.

All of the players who advanced to the stepladder finals earned automatic spots on Team USA in 2013 by surviving a grueling five-day, 30-game format that awarded points based on the position they finished in each day.

For more information on the Team USA Trials, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSATrials.

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What is the Difference Between Synthetic and Wood Lanes?

TIPS FROM THE PROS



By CHERYL DANIELS

Member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association

• SYNTHETIC LANE surfaces are becoming more and more common today. Chances are that most bowlers today have bowled on both wood and synthetic surfaces.

Wood lanes are made of maple and pinewoods. The first 15 feet or the "heads" are made of a maple, which is a harder wood that can absorb the impact of the ball constantly landing on it. The last 45 feet are made of pine, which is a softer wood.

To protect the wood there is a finish which is applied to the surface which is usually made of a clear polyurethane. Wood lanes, over time, develop a worn area known as a "track" with lots of dents from the impact of the ball. As a result there is a lot of maintenance involved, and over time, the surface must be sanded and recoated with the polyurethane finish.

Synthetic lanes are made of plastic sheets, and the surface is much smoother than wood. All lane surfaces should be oiled daily to protect the lane surface and control the amount of lane hook.

Because synthetic lanes have little or no porosity the oil sits on top of the surface. Whereas a wood lane, which has lots of porosity, will absorb the oil. The smoothness of the synthetic surface will tend to produce more skid in the front part of the lane or what the pros call more "push".

A bowler made need to use equipment that gets into an earlier roll to compensate for the extra "push" in the heads. Solid shell particle balls and solid shell reactives will roll sooner than pearlized shell balls.

A bowler may also need to consider choosing a lower "RG" ball. The "RG" is other wise known as the Radius of Gyration. A low "RG" ball rolls earlier and in simple terms has a lower center of gravity. A high "RG" ball has a higher center of gravity, making it a little more top heavy thus making it skid further.

If you are having a hard time getting the ball into a roll, you may need a low "RG"

ball with a solid shell cover stock. A bowler who struggles to get the ball long enough before it starts to hook should consider a pearlized reactive or particle shell and a high "RG" ball.

◆ *Send Questions to Cheryl Daniels, P. O. Box 252, Novi, MI 48376 or e-mail me at "shebe@freeway.net" or visit www.cheryldaniels.com.*

GDUSBC Annual Meeting Results

(Continued from Page 3)

signed by their coach.

Applications must be submitted to the MDUSBC office by April 5, 2013.

Applications can be obtained by calling the MDUSBC office or visiting www.mdusbc.com and clicking on forms.

* * *

DECEMBER 31st SHEETS

It is critical that league secretaries return the December 31st average sheets for adult leagues and December 1st and 31st average sheets for youth leagues to the MDUSBC office. This information is used when verifying the results of the various MDUSBC tournaments. If you haven't sent it in yet simply mail or fax the form to us. The fax number is (248) 443-2690.

Along with the December sheets is a list of bowlers registered in their league who had not paid their membership fees in any league according to our records.

While many of these have been resolved some are still lingering. There are many reasons why this situation may have occurred.

One reason could be a lack of linking two bowlers with similar names together. One card may have been received with a first name of Charles, while the other may be Chuck or some other name the bowler goes by. Remember the Metro Detroit USBC Association database has over 350,000 names in it, so sometimes it is difficult for us to figure it out.

It also causes us extreme difficulty when the December 31st sheet comes in with added bowlers and no application cards for the bowler. Many times they only come in with a first initial and last name. Do you know how many J. Smith's there are in the MDUSBC? Believe it or not there are 365 of them.

League secretaries, when you get this letter about the bowlers get the information requested and mail or fax it back to us. We want to make sure everyone is accounted for.

* * *

METRO DETROIT USBC TOURNAMENTS

The Masters will be held at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, located at 4200 Allen Rd. The date for qualifying is Jan. 26-27 with match play on Feb. 2-3.

The entry fee is \$150 with a first prize of \$4,000 and second of \$2,000 based on 140 entries. Rick Capaldi is the defending champion.

The field will be limited to the first 160 entries so it is critical for returning entrants to send their entry fee and blank in as soon as it is received.

The Senior Masters will be held at Shore Lanes in St. Clair Shores, located at 31100 Harper Ave. The date for qualifying is Feb. 9 with match play on Feb. 10 and 16.

Harry Sullins of Chesterfield is the defending champion. The entry fee is \$120 with a first prize of \$3,000 and a second of \$1,500 based on 140 entries.

The Metro Detroit USBC Association will conduct Annual Women's and Open Championship Tournaments with both starting Sat., Feb. 2 through March 3 at Bowl One Lanes in Troy. Squad times are 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

All-events, team, doubles and singles, for both tournaments will be contested at the same site. Handicap is based on 90 percent from 230. Squad organizers of 10 or more teams are eligible for \$10 per team organized. Spots can be paid for by check made out to MDUSBC, VISA or MasterCard. The prize ratio will be at least 1 in 10 entries.

For the Women's Championship there are three average divisions (149 and under, 150-169 average and 170 average and up). The cost is \$22 per person, per event and a \$2 all-events fee. The Women's Championship is open to all female members of the MDUSBC who bowled at least 21 games in the 2011-12 season in the Metro Detroit USBC Association or have 21 games or more in the current season in MDUSBC as of the time of bowling.

For the Open Championship the cost is \$150 per team for teams with a team average of 1001 or more and \$125 for teams with a team average of 1000 or under. Doubles and Singles are \$25 per person, per event and a \$10 all-events fee. The Open Championship is open to all members of the MDUSBC who bowled at least 21 games in the 2011-12 season in the Metro Detroit USBC Association or have 21 games or more in the current season in MDUSBC as of the time of bowling.

In the Open Championship bowlers can bowl as many times as they wish in the team, doubles and singles events. They can even bowl with the same exact lineup twice, but only cash once with that lineup. To bowl other times a team can compete by changing two bowlers. In doubles the same two players can bowl together twice, but only cash once. In singles a bowler can only cash once.

For more information on the MDUSBC tournaments call the MDUSBC office at (248) 443-2695.

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Ronnie Sparks Jr. Wins First Michigan Majors Title at Thunderbowl

The Budweiser Michigan Majors Bowling Association began its 47th year of competition at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park on Jan. 12. A field of 96 bowlers battled the grueling lane conditions and when the smoke cleared it was Ronnie Sparks Jr., bowling in his first MMBA tournament, winning the title in impressive fashion over Jeff Roche, 256-207.



By KEN WYATT

*Executive Director,
Michigan Majors
Bowling Association*

Sparks took home a beautiful crystal plate provided by Thunderbowl Lanes as well as the first-place check of \$1,400. Roche settled for second and took home \$700 for his efforts.

Strikes were hard to come by all day on a tough lane condition. Sparks led the six-game qualifying round with a total pinfall of 1348 while a score of only 1168 was needed to make the semi-final round.

The stepladder finals provided some excitement as the first match featured a battle between two Hall of Famers — Dale Hofmeister and Jeff Roche. Hofmeister is the all-time leading money winner as well as the all-time leader in titles with 19. Roche was inducted into the MMBA Hall of Fame in 2011 and has eight titles to his credit. This match was dead even after seven frames until Hofmeister left a solid nine-pin in the eighth frame. Roche continued to strike and went on to win, 248-217.

Roche then met Bob Chamberlain Jr. in match No. 2. This match was again even until Chamberlain opened in the sixth frame. Roche pulled away with strikes in the seventh and eighth frame and won, 214-176.

The next match was a nail biter. Roche and 2011 Bowler of the Year Craig Nidiffer went back and forth trading strikes and open frames until Nidiffer left the 1-2-8-10 wash-out in the ninth frame and failed to convert. Nidiffer finished spare/strike in the 10th for 183. Roche needed nine pins on two balls in the 10th for the win and left the bucket

(2-4-5-8). Roche chopped the spare but did get nine for a 184-183 win.

The championship match was never really in doubt. Roche opened in the second frame while Sparks pounded the pocket all game for an impressive 256-207 victory.

The next tournament will be held at Astro Lanes in Madison Heights with a start time of 10 a.m. The lane condition for this tournament will be Kegel's Beaten Path which is being used at the 2013 Michigan State Bowling Association tournament in Battle Creek. We hope to see you at

Astro Lanes.

The final standings at Thunderbowl Lanes — Ronnie Sparks Jr. (Ecorse) \$1,400, Jeff Roche (Dearborn) \$700, Craig Nidiffer (Trenton) \$600, Bob Chamberlain Jr. (Holly) \$500, Dale Hofmeister (Essexville) \$400, Mike Bradfield (Lansing) \$300, Jeremiah Westhoven (Swanton, Ohio) \$270, Mike Calhoun (Wyandotte) \$255, Mark Milasinovich (Macomb) \$255, Chris Nielson (Livonia) \$240, John Fedorka (Sterling Heights) \$230, Cory Hines (Jackson) \$220, Chris Steward (Clawson) \$210, Lonnie Jones (Ann Arbor) \$190, Elliot Arnold (Wayne) \$180, Brian Odom (Westland) \$170, Nick Kokenos (St. Clair Shores) \$160, Randy Warnken (Clinton Township) \$150, Brian Newcomb (Romulus) \$145, Shane Dufrense (Flint) \$140, Josh Chaney (Hazel Park) \$135, Carleton Chambers (Detroit) \$130, Jason Rasinske (Dimondale) \$125, Frank Snodgrass (Roseville) \$120.

• FOR INFORMATION on participation or joining the Budweiser Michigan Majors, contact the tournament Office at (586) 775-2414 or visit the official website at www.michiganmajors.com.



• RONNIE SPARKS Jr. (left) receives a beautiful crystal trophy provided by Thunderbowl Lanes for winning the Budweiser Michigan Majors 2013 season opener. Also pictured is runner-up Jeff Roche (right) and Thunderbowl Lanes General Manager Charlie Cassise (center).

Jones Successfully Defends International Bowling Championship Title in Japan

INAZAWA CITY, Japan — Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, S.C., successfully defended his International Bowling Championships title at Inazawa Futsal Stadium, defeating reigning Professional Bowlers Association Player of the Year Sean Rash of Montgomery, Ill., 209-204, for the \$75,000 first prize.

The International Bowling Championships 2013 supported by DHC was a World Ten-pin Bowling Association-World Bowling Tour "major" championship, and awarded Jones a PBA International Tour title, his 14th career PBA Tour title, and double points in the rolling two-year WBT points standings.

In the women's division, Singapore's Shayna Ng defeated PBA Tour champion Kelly Kulick of Union, N.J., 248-201, also earning \$75,000 for first place.

Rash and Kulick, as runners-up, each earned an estimated \$37,500.

In the men's title match, Rash led Jones by eight pins going into the ninth frame, but left a 7-10 split and opened. Rash then missed the headpin on his first shot in the 10th frame, converted the spare and struck to finish with 204. Jones, needing a spare and good count to win, converted a 4 pin and struck for a five-pin margin of victory.

In the women's finals, Liz Johnson of Cheektowaga, N.Y., joined Kulick and Ng in advancing out of the opening match, but Johnson was eliminated in the semifinal round.

At the conclusion of the International Bowling championships, Mike Fagan of Dallas held the lead in the men's World Bowling Tour points list with 464 points. Mika Koivuniemi of Finland dropped out of the lead and into second place with 453.

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Age-Old Debate: Are Pro Bowlers Athletes?

• ARE PRO bowlers athletes?

You have heard that question before, and you will hear it again and again.

The PBA Official Yearbook tells us that within a 42-game tournament, players will lift more than five tons, carrying it for a total of two miles while projecting the ball more than 700 times at an average speed of 17 m.p.h. at a target 60 feet away.

Dictionaries tell us that an athlete is one who contends for a prize. The word books also define an athlete as anyone trained or fit to contend in exercises requiring physical agility, stamina and often strength.

The pro bowler fits. Though strength is helpful and even necessary at times, the type needed in pro bowling is not the brute strength so needed in the heavy contact sports.



By CHUCK PEZZANO

Bowling Hall-of-Famer and Nationally Syndicated Columnist

In pro bowling, timing, coordination and a delicate touch at times add up to a high degree of finesse to go along with measured force to score consistently. However, pro bowling takes rhythm, balance and skilled muscular effort. The muscles must be supple and toned, always in shape, but not necessarily rock hard.

A pro bowler must be highly competitive. He pays to play, unlike baseball, football, basketball and other players who are paid to play. The bowlers pay is what he wins and he cashes well only with superior performances.

Dedication is a must for any successful athlete. A pro bowler must spend long hours for many years perfecting, maintaining and adjusting his skills. Too many times a pro bowler is classed with the average fun bowler.

That's akin to equating a touch football game at a picnic with the Super Bowl and a company softball game with the World Series.

A pro bowler rolls more games in a week than the average bowler rolls in a year. He probably spends more time in actual competition than any other sports performer. A pro bowler is firing away on the lanes more than seven hours a day. The total time involved, back and forth between squads, preparation (checking equipment and studying lane conditions) can more often than not add up to a 12-hour day.

There's no relaxing at any stage. Each and every roll of the ball counts since the total score takes in every game. There must be the utmost ability to concentrate under constant pressure, on TV and in a sport where you're always in a crowd, yet always all alone.

Spectators are only a few feet away from the competing bowlers. You sit next to other bowlers, yet it's you against the conditions and the pins. No teammate to help, nobody to coach or instruct once you're on that approach. You roll your way out of trouble or

wait until the next time.

Pro bowling has become a sophisticated and scientific sport. You must adjust practically every game to every lane. You must learn about equipment, lane surfaces, lane finishes, lane dressings and other variables, each in themselves worthy of deep study and plenty of homework. The sport looks simple. It is, simple to play, difficult to master, impossible to conquer. Each higher average plateau is a new challenge, tougher in every way and the pro side is the highest peak.

There are millions upon millions of bowlers. Only a few thousand average really high while those good enough to make a living at the sport can be counted in the hundreds.

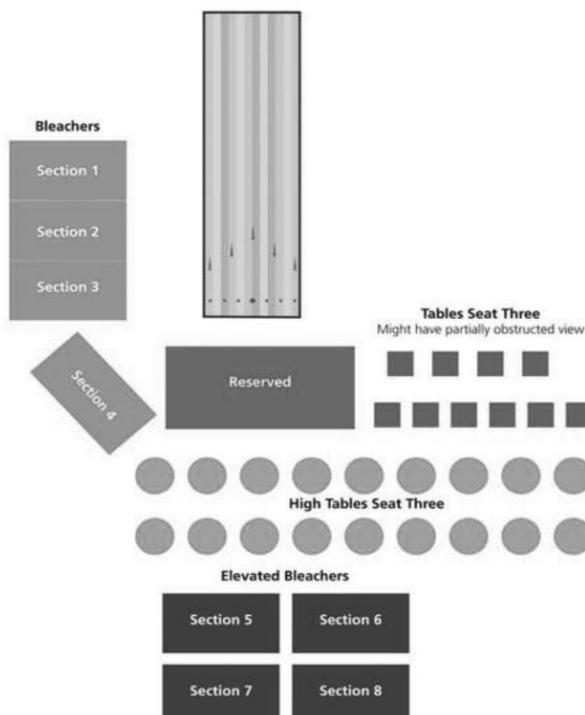
Is a pro bowler an athlete? If you rate physical contact and brute strength at the top of your list, the answer is an emphatic no.

But if you add up the definite skills and knowledge, physical and mental, necessary to success, there is little doubt that a pro bowler must be ranked as an outstanding athlete.



PBA DETROIT WINTER SWING

ESPN TELECAST TICKETS JAN. 26 - 27, 2013



Bleachers
Section 1
Section 2
Section 3

Tables Seat Three
Might have partially obstructed view

High Tables Seat Three

Elevated Bleachers
Section 5 Section 6
Section 7 Section 8

Reserved

Section 1
Saturday and Sunday \$10 one show
Saturday All Day \$20
Sunday All Day is \$15

Section 2
Saturday and Sunday \$20 one show
Saturday All Day \$40
Sunday All Day is \$30

Section 3
Saturday and Sunday \$30 one show
Saturday All Day \$60
Sunday All Day is \$50

Section 4
Saturday and Sunday \$40 one show
Saturday All Day \$80
Sunday All Day is \$70

Section 5-8
Saturday and Sunday \$30 one show
Saturday All Day \$60
Sunday All Day is \$50
\$10 Junior only (Saturday)
Must be 17 or younger

Floor Tables
Saturday All Day \$60
Sunday All Day \$50

High Top Tables
Saturday One Show: \$50 for one seat, \$125 for the table (3 seats)
Saturday All Day: \$100 for one seat, \$250 for the table (3 seats)
Sunday All Day: \$100 one seat, \$250 for the table (3 seats)
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