

CHECK OUT 'TIPS FROM THE PROS' — PAGE 8

# BOWLER'S Digest

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



VOL. 36, NO. 24

Detroit, Michigan — Published Every Other Wednesday

JULY 25, 2012

## INCLUDES 'WINTER SWING' AT THUNDERBOWL 2012-13 PBA Tour 'Super-Sized'

SEATTLE — The Professional Bowlers Association has been "super-sized."

The upcoming 55th annual PBA Tour season, which includes a "Winter Swing" stop at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, will be longer. The number of titles up for grabs will be greater. The fields will be larger. Even the length of many TV shows will be increased.

PBA Commissioner Tom Clark made the announcement that the PBA's historic 2012-13 campaign

will run from November's PBA World Series of Bowling IV at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas through December 2013 and include up to 40 opportunities for players to win PBA Tour titles.

"This season will be big," Clark said. "Every year the greatest players in the world produce unforgettable moments in their quest for PBA titles, but the PBA and its fans wanted more. The stage is now set."

The PBA schedule will include

two World Series of Bowling, five major championships, new Winter and Summer Swing open events with multiple titles at stake, and an estimated 15 World Bowling Tour stops that will award PBA Tour titles if won by PBA members and PBA International members.

Approximately 50 hours of action will be televised nationally during the season. Additionally, the PBA's online bowling channel Xtra Frame plans more than 200 hours of live coverage.

Clark said the 14-month season will also mean a move towards a regular calendar-year PBA season starting in January, 2014.

Significant highlights from the 2012-13 schedule include:

- The United States Bowling Congress Masters will be held at Brunswick Zone Carolier Lanes in North Brunswick, N.J., in February, the PBA Tournament of

Champions will be hosted by long-time PBA host Woodland Bowl in Indianapolis in March, and the 70th U.S. Open will be held at a site to be announced in July 2013.

- The new PBA Winter Swing will be contested in January at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Mich., host of WSOB I. In addition to four national titles including a revamped PBA Players Championship, the Winter Swing will introduce a significant new format to be announced.

- Ten of the scheduled nationally-televised shows have been increased from 90 minutes to two hours, which means the USBC Masters and PBA Tournament of Champions, among others, will feature five-player stepladder finals instead of four.

- All World Series event finals will return to stepladder formats. (Continued on Page 6)

### Champions Crowned at North Pointe Junior Gold in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS — Four bowlers earned national youth titles at the 2012 North Pointe Junior Gold Championships presented by Brunswick.

AJ Johnson of Oswego, Ill., Robyn Renslow of Brentwood, Calif., Bradley Crouse, Nazareth, Pa., and Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., all came away with championships in their respective divisions at Woodland Bowl. A record total of 1,929 athletes took part in the event competing for more than \$250,000 in scholarships.

A Team USA and Junior Team USA member in 2012, Johnson rolled to the 20-and-under boys title by going undefeated in the double-elimination match-play bracket with a 5-0 record. He defeated Andrew Anderson of Holly, Mich., 453-411, in the two-game title match.

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S & B Pro Shop  
Wins Team  
All-Events Title

After a number of close calls over the years, Nick Wissinger of Clinton Township, Mich., finally can call himself a champion after leading his team to the 2012 Team All-Events title at the 2012 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships in Baton Rouge.

The 44-year-old right-hander got off to a rocky start with a 169 game, but averaged more than 247 the rest of the way to help S & B Pro Shop 1 to a 9,954 total. His 2,152 all-events effort was fourth overall, and he was joined by Dave Ewald (2,049), Bill Orlikowski (2,038), Kerry Kreft (1,900) and Mark Moore (1,815). Ewald, Kreft and Moore also claimed the 2004 Regular Team title together, while Kreft and Orlikowski are 1999 Team All-Events winners.

"This feels awesome, there's no doubt about that," said Wissinger, who made his 24th Open Championships appearance. "Honestly, I really didn't think the score would hold up, but I'm sure glad it did. I couldn't ask for a better team. It's nice to have 10 guys who are great bowlers and so dedicated on and off the lanes."

# YAHOO!

You can now e-mail the Bowler's Digest at [bowlersdigest@gmail.com](mailto:bowlersdigest@gmail.com)

## IN THE NEWS

### New '11-in-a-Row' Award Unveiled

ARLINGTON, Texas — United States Bowling Congress members will have a new reward for the 2012-13 season. USBC is introducing a laser-engraved crystal-style trophy for the 11-in-a-row award.

The new trophy is six inches tall and comes in a commemorative box. It will be awarded to USBC members who accomplish the feat during the 2012-13 season.

The award is given to a bowler who is able to record 11 consecutive strikes in a single game when the score is 299 or less. It is awarded once per member per season (Aug. 1 thru July 31).

Go to [BOWL.com](http://BOWL.com) and click on the membership tab to learn more about USBC awards.



HEY, BOWLERS! IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO...

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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,

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• **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

• **CONTINENTAL LANES**, 31055 Gratiot, Roseville. Cosmic Glow Bowling. By the hour, up to 5 people on a lane. \$15 one hour, \$25 two hours, \$32 three hours. Friday 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Saturday 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Call (586) 293-2300.

• **IMPERIAL LANES**, 44650 Garfield, Clinton Twp. "Best Cosmic Show" with two giant video screens. Every Friday and Saturday night at 8 p.m. at \$18 an hour per lane. Saturday daytime from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at \$2.75 per game. Call (586) 286-8700.

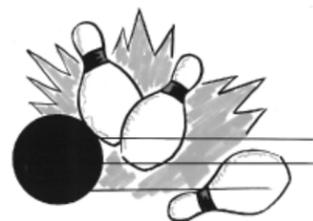
• **THUNDERBOWL LANES**, 4200 Allen Rd., Allen Park. "Cosmic Bowling" is available on Friday and Saturday nights. Cosmic pricing includes 3 hours of bowling, unlimited FREE arcade play and music videos on large screen TVs. Sessions start at 10 p.m. The price is \$15 per person plus \$3 for shoes. For 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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Bowler's Digest is the official publication and "voice" of bowling in Southeastern Michigan. Serving more than 250,000 men, women and youth bowlers in and around the Bowling Capital of the World and many parts of Michigan. Bowler's Digest appears every two weeks in leading bowling centers, bowling supply stores, etc., compliments of the proprietors.

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**YAHOO!**

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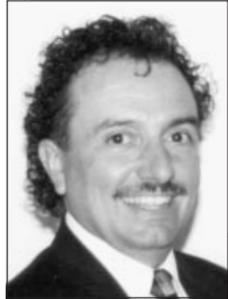
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# League Supplies Available at MDUSBC Office

## METRODETROIT USBC NEWS

By Association Manager  
**Mark A. Martin**

For more information about the Metro Detroit USBC, call 1-888-753-6350 or visit [www.mdusbc.com](http://www.mdusbc.com)



their center to determine if the center will be hosting a center-only distribution night. In those cases all of the supplies will be given out at that center by MDUSBC representatives.

For those leagues where the center will not be hosting a center-only event the supplies can be picked up at the MDUSBC office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If this is inconvenient please call the association office to make other arrangements.

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### EVENT LOCATIONS FOR 2012-2013 SEASON

• THE 2012-13 season promises to be very busy with 11 tournaments on the schedule. Bowling tournaments can be very rewarding so you should plan your schedule around some of our events.

The MDUSBC Adult / Youth Tournament will be held Sunday, Oct. 7 and Oct. 14 with two squads each day at Universal Lanes in Warren. Parents, this is a great opportunity to do something with your kids.

• HISTORICALLY, the Metro Detroit USBC and former organizations have set aside dates to distribute supplies to leagues for the upcoming seasons. This year there will be no set dates for distribution.

Due to the fact that half of the centers within MDUSBC host their own distribution school for their leagues only, the leagues which would attend the association-wide distribution has dwindled dramatically.

Each league secretary should check with

The MDUSBC Junior Masters will be contested Saturday, Oct. 27 at Classic Lanes in Rochester Hills. If you are a youth bowler, why not step up to the challenge and bowl against the best in our association in this scratch event?

For those over the age of 60, the MDUSBC Super Senior Masters will take place Nov. 3-4 at Mayflower Lanes in Redford. This scratch event is open to all members of the association 60 years of age and older.

The ever popular MDUSBC Queens will be held on Sunday, Dec. 2 at Universal Lanes in Warren. This scratch event features the best female bowlers in the association with six games of qualifying and match play.

The MDUSBC 500 Club tournament is a fun time for women bowlers in our association and will take place on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 300 Bowl in Waterford. The only requirement is that the female bowler must have bowled a 500 series in her lifetime and be ready to have a good time.

Once the calendar turns over to 2013, the action really heats up.

The MDUSBC Youth City Tournament will take place on Sundays in January and February at Cherry Hill Lanes in Dearborn Heights.

One of the premier events in our association will be held in January, when the MDUSBC Masters is held at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park. This event runs two weekends with 10 games of qualifying on the first weekend and match play the second weekend. This is an event that every top bowler in our association points to and

wants on their resume.

Once the calendar turns to February it's time for the MDUSBC Women's Championship and MDUSBC Open Championship. These two events will once again be held at the same center, Bowl One Lanes in Troy, at the same time. Get your reservations and entries in early to make sure you don't get shut out.

The MDUSBC Senior Masters is open to all association bowlers 50 years of age and older in mid February. The site this year will be Parkway Lanes in Trenton. One day of qualifying is followed by two days of match play to crown the champion.

The final event of the season is the MDUSBC Senior Team event. Bronco Lanes in Warren will be the host in March. This team event is open to all USBC members over the age of 55 and promises to be fun filled.

Thanks to Turbo 2-N-1 Grips for sponsoring the Junior Masters, Super Senior Masters, Queens, Masters and Senior Masters. Red Robin Restaurants and Ansara Restaurants sponsor the Masters and Senior Masters. Their support is very much appreciated.

\*\*\*

### HOW THE ASSOCIATION WORKS

• RULES ARE the foundation of the bowling game. The USBC and formerly the ABC and WIBC were founded to develop and enforce uniform rules for the game. Before the ABC and WIBC developed the rules and specifications, the physical aspects

(Continued on Page 7)

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# Never Underestimate Bowling Accessories

• NEVER UNDERESTIMATE the value of bowling accessories, but don't expect them to provide miracle results either.

Bowling balls and bowling shoes are not helpers, they are musts. But in every bowling center or bowling pro shop there are dozens of accessories, bags, arm, wrist and hand supports, tape, grips and inserts, towels and first-aid supplies.

It was in the late 1950s that bowling ball manufacturers, having created a demand for bowlers to own more than one bowling ball, combined with firms in South Korea and Taiwan to produce bowling bags designed to carry two, three and four bowling balls. They were strong but easy to handle, and more like fine luggage, complete with wheels.

Along the bowling way the most popular and largest assortment of helpers have been developed to assist bowlers make bet-



**By CHUCK PEZZANO**

*Bowling Hall-of-Famer and Nationally Syndicated Columnist*

ter shots by keeping the shoulder, arm, elbow, wrist and fingers in the most desired position throughout the approach and delivery.

The Don Carter glove has been one of the most successful accessories in the history of the sport, giving the palm of the hand close and comfortable contact with the ball. Pete Weber wears a glove that has little to do with the improvement of his game, but much to do with protecting his fingers.

Tape is a simple help to bowlers. Fingers and thumb swell and shrink according to use, too much or too little, and also due to varying temperatures, both in and out of the bowling center. So the skillful use of tape, smooth and rough, can help fill or make space in holes and allow the ball to release smoothly.

It takes time to perfect the use of tape but quick lessons from a pro or top ama-

teurs can help bowlers in the applying or removal of the tape strips. Notice that top pros do it all the time on TV.

There is such a thing as bowler's thumb. It can be an ugly sight, a rough, red, blistered, swollen and at times, bleeding digit, often almost twice the size of the non bowling thumb.

Mark Roth, one of the greatest bowlers of all time, always had to care for his thumb because he put so much pressure on it during his explosive delivery. One time it was so bad that the producers of a telecast of a national tournament final showed it full screen at the start of the show.

Bowlers who abuse their thumb and fingers can obtain relief by taking preventive

action by using always available collodion products before and even during bowling. They are easy to apply, dry quickly and with cotton form a new skin on the affected areas.

Don't forget such simple helpers as resin bags and towels. The resin bag keeps hands dry and the towel also dries the hands and brow, and is handy and to wipe off the ball if it picks up some of the conditioner used or the lanes.

Do forget such things as blinders that restrict your vision only to the lane before you. They might work for horses but didn't help bowlers at all.

Accessories give many bowlers a more secure feeling, and are worth a try if they can enhance mental or physical needs.



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\*\*\* 2012 HSC entry form and complete rules on reverse side \*\*\*

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**2012 Schedule**

Date	Bowling Center	Time
Mar. 3	Sterling Lanes	10 am
Apr. 7	Thunderbowl Lanes	10 am
May 5	Sunnybrook Lanes	10 am
June 2	300 Bowl	10 am
Aug. 4	Plaza lanes	10 am
Sept. 22	Mayflower Lanes	10 am
Oct. 6	Cherry Hill lanes	10 am
Nov. 3	5 Star Lanes	10 am
Dec. 1	Sunnybrook Lanes	12 pm
	( Grand Finals )	

# Metro Detroit USBC Needs More Volunteers

## METRODETROIT USBC SCENE

By MDUSBC Director  
**Libbi Fletcher**

For more information about  
the Metro Detroit USBC,  
Call 1-888-753-6350



• WELL, SUMMER as we know it in the bowling world is coming to a close. The Metro Detroit USBC Board of Directors held a meeting recently to prepare for the coming season.

After the meeting concluded, we all loaded up our vehicles with league packets for all of the workshops that have been scheduled at the various centers in the next month to get the league officers prepared for the upcoming season.

During this process of the loading of the cars, it became aware to me that the 17 members of the board cannot do everything that is needed to provide excellent service to our leagues and proprietors. We are in desperate need of more volunteers to become lane representatives at our nearly 80 bowling centers.

So if you are reading this, you obviously care about the sport of bowling and especially bowling in Metro Detroit. Perhaps you would like to volunteer to be a lane representative in a center that you frequent, that is near your home or work, or just want to

assist in any way you can? Perhaps you just don't know what you can do to help?

Being a lane representative entails introducing yourself to the proprietor or manager(s) of the bowling center, representing MDUSBC by presenting awards, distributing supplies such as tournament entries to the center, assisting in events held at the center, and garnering support for the tournaments and events from the bowlers who bowl in the center.

Also, by learning the benefits provided by USBC and MDUSBC, teaching both certified and uncertified leagues why they should belong. Please give Mark Martin a call at our office and let him know that you can help!

Many bowlers just want to bowl, both uncertified and certified bowlers. But if you would like to give something back to the sport that gives you so much joy, lend us a hand if you can.

If you are a tournament bowler, become a squad leader. Put together some teams that you bowl with or any MDUSBC bowlers, and create a fun group of your friends to support the various tournaments provided to our members. There are incentives offered for squad leaders. Please review the tournament entries to see what being a squad leader could mean to you!

To the youth coaches and youth league coordinators, we need you too! Our youth membership was down 10% last year! This is our future! We need to work on this NOW!

If you have ideas how to increase membership at the youth level, please let us know. If you need help with your leagues, let us know so we can offer assistance where necessary.

The youth members will receive a new jersey this year with their USBC Youth membership, and it is sharp! It was designed by youth bowlers and is my favorite so far! I hope your youth bowlers like it, too.

If you would like to become involved to help make decisions and bring ideas to grow our youth membership, perhaps you would like to join our Youth Committee? If so, please contact Mark Martin, as there are openings now on our youth committee for the coming season.

If anyone has a special talent, interest or just wants to help in anyway, we will not turn you down! We all need to work a little bit harder if this sport is to not only survive, but thrive.

If you are a league officer, please attend

the league officer workshops in your center to pick up your supplies and get all of the information to make sure your league runs smoothly this year. Thanks to all of you for your commitment to the game of bowling and the Metro Detroit USBC.

If you are a bowler, go ask someone to bowl who maybe never bowled a league, or dropped out of a league and may want to come back. Sometimes people just want to be asked.

Enjoy the rest of your summer! I will see you soon!

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2012-13 Season

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# Footwork Supplies Leverage Through Swing

**TIPS FROM THE PROS**



**By CHERYL DANIELS**

*Member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association*

• **THE FEET** are the foundation of the swing, and having good solid footwork supplies leverage throughout the approach and at release point.

In all sports today, footwear plays an important role and has become more and more "high tech." Tennis players, golfers, basketball players, boxers, runners, football players, etc., all have sport specific shoes for their respective sports. Bowling, like all sports, has become more high tech and so has the bowling footwear.

Being able to generate power from the legs becomes much easier when you have good footwear. In bowling, the right foot for right-handed bowlers is used to push off into the slide or last step. If your right foot (right-handers) slips out from under you as you push off into your slide or last step you are losing a lot of leverage at release point.

The better made shoes have a rubber push off sole on the right shoe and a leather slide sole on the left (for right-handers). The casual shoe is made to fit a left-handed or right-handed bowler and both the left and right shoe is a slide sole.

All good bowlers and aspiring bowlers should invest in a good pair of bowling shoes. The tennis style or casual shoes are fine for beginners, but if you want better support and a more consistent slide, a good pair of bowling shoes is essential.

The most high tech shoes have changeable slide soles and slide heels. If you bowl in different centers or lots of tournaments, you will encounter many different approaches. Some approaches will be slippery and some will be tacky (sticky).

Being able to adjust your slide sole and heel to fit the different approaches is invaluable. Today there are a lot of bowling manufacturers that offer the better made bowling shoes that will help you get more out of your

bowling game.

◆ *Send Questions to Cheryl Daniels, P.*

*O. Box 252, Novi, MI 48376 or e-mail me at "shebe@freeway.net" or visit my website at www.cheryldaniels.com.*

## 2012-13 PBA TOUR 'SUPER'SIZED'

*(Continued from Page 1)*

- The PBA Tournament of Champions will return to a traditional limited-field invitational event.
- The World Tenpin Bowling Association's World Bowling Tour points list — based on cumulative totals over a span of two years — will determine the finalists for the men's and women's WBT Finals presented by the PBA which will be held at both WSOB IV and WSOB V.

Also to be announced will be the annual PBA Chris Paul Celebrity Invitational. Future news releases will also detail the full ESPN and Xtra Frame coverage slates. Additional updates will be posted on pba.com. Also follow the PBA on Twitter @pbatour and on its Facebook page Professional Bowlers Association (PBA). To subscribe to Xtra Frame, visit pba.com.

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### 2012-13 PBA TOUR SCHEDULE (FIRST HALF)

(Tentative: certain elements subject to change; PBA Tour and PBA International members only are eligible to win PBA Tour titles in World Bowling Tour events. Additional WBT events are expected to be added later.)

Nov. 2-11 — PBA World Series of Bowling IV, South Point Bowling Center, Las Vegas Men's and Women's World Bowling Tour Finals presented by the PBA; Cheetah Championship; Viper Championship; Chameleon Championship; Scorpion Championship; PBA World Championship (major). WBT Women's Final also will be included, but is not a PBA Tour title event. (Open to all PBA members).

Nov. 29-Dec. 1 — Round One's International Japan Cup, Japan (invitational).

Dec. 4-8 — WBT Dubai Open, Dubai, United Arab Emirates (open field).

Dec. 9-15 — WBT Qatar Open, Doha, Qatar (open field).

Jan. 4-13 - WBT Brunswick BallMaster Open, Helsinki, Finland (open field).

Jan. 15-19 — WBT International Bowling Championship, Nagoya, Japan (open field).

Jan. 19-28 — PBA Winter Swing, Thunderbowl, Allen Park, Mich. Carmen Salvino Classic; Mark Roth Classic; Don Carter Classic; PBA Players Championship (open to all PBA members).

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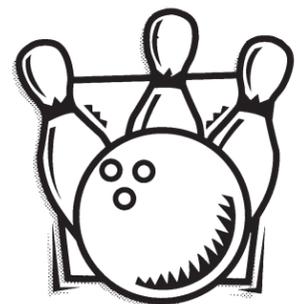
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# Budweiser MMBA Back in Action Aug. 18

Whew, it has been one hot summer, reaching triple digits and setting heat records.

The Budweiser Michigan majors Bowling Association have been cooling it. There have been no tournaments for the month of July. The next tournament will be held on Aug. 18 at Galaxy Lanes in Grand Blanc.

The MMBA has completed better than half of the 2012 schedule. Craig Nidiffer is the only two-time winner with titles at Nortel and 5 Star Lanes. Duane Henderson got the year started by winning his first title at Thunderbowl Lanes. Corey Miller (Plaza Lanes), Mike Lucente (Match Game Championship at Wayne Bowl) and Justin O'Hara (Doubles with Dale Hofmeister at Lodge lanes).

The four first-time winners in the same



**By KEN CHARRETTE**

*Member of the Greater Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame*

year are an all-time record in the 46-year history of the Michigan Majors. Hofmeister just keeps rolling along. The win in the Doubles was his record 18th title. Matt Randall won his fifth title at Sterling Lanes to round out the first seven tournament winners.

The prestigious awards of Bowler and Rookie of Year are up for grabs with five tournaments remaining. Dale Hofmeister with 80 points, Craig Nidiffer (76), Bob Chamberlain Jr. (61), Ken Wyatt (57), Randy Warnken and Jeff Roche with 55 points each. Rookie of Year is also close. Chris Nielson has 46 points, John Kelley and J.R. Raymond have 44 each and Matt Richard 32 points.

The leading money winners at the summer break are: Nidiffer \$2,240, Hofmeister

\$1,770, Chamberlain Jr. \$1,600, Lucente and Miller at \$1,500. Kelley is the leading rookie with \$970 followed by Raymond \$745, O'Hara and Nielson at \$695.

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• YOU CAN get all tournament results and stats by logging onto the Budweiser Michigan Majors web site at [www.michiganmajors.com](http://www.michiganmajors.com)

The membership will be at it again on Aug. 18 at Galaxy Lanes in Grand Blanc. The starting time is 11 am.

The remaining schedule is Sept. 15 at Royal Scot in Lansing and Oct. 20 at Bay Lanes in Bay City. Then comes the remaining two gems of the "Triple Crown" — the

Championship Tournament on Nov. 17 at Cherry Hill Lanes in Dearborn Heights and the Tournament of Champions on Dec. 15 at Taylor Lanes in Taylor.

The cost for joining the MMBA is \$60 yearly dues. The entry fee is \$80 for all regular tournaments. Anyone interested in joining the MMBA, contact the tournament office at 21317 Frazho, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081 or call (586) 775-2414 or go to the web site and download the application and mail it in.

Everyone have a great summer. Keep sharp by going to your favorite air-conditioned bowling establishment and practice.

## LEAGUE SUPPLIES AVAILABLE

(Continued from Page 3)

of our game could vary dependent upon the area of the country or bowling alley. Once the specifications were established, the game became more of a sport, with which competitors from across the country could compete. By defining those rules and specifications, competitors could refine their "game" to compete with others on the same playing field.

The rules have changed throughout the 100+ years of the organized competition, but the physical characteristics have remained virtually unchanged. This is one of the items that makes our game great.

Rules have to be updated to keep up with some changes in society. Each year changes are proposed to the USBC Convention delegates for their action.

Each year the changed rules in the book are marked with brackets ([ ]) to denote a change. The MDUSBC is dedicated to helping members; league officers and leagues understand the rules. Because of this the office staff answers many questions surrounding the rules, which is one of our support functions to the membership.

Many of the rules questions we get center around league fee arrearages, postponements, forfeits, position rounds, etc. Each situation has its own merits and many times determinations need to be made whether a particular rule fits the situation, which is where the MDUSBC can be helpful in that determination.

It is important for all members to be aware of the rules, so that they can comply and enjoy the game of bowling more. If you are bowling in an unsanctioned league, think about the rules support you receive as a member of the MDUSBC that you'd miss. The real problem in bowling in an uncertified league is that you never realize what you're missing until you need it and it's not there.

The Metro Detroit USBC Association is committed to making the game more enjoyable for everyone involved. One of the ways we do that is to participate in the rules making process at the convention and by helping the members understand the rules. The final way we help is to resolve issues regarding the rules.

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#### 2012 Schedule

Date	Bowling Center	Time
Feb. 25	300 Bowl - ( over/under 50)	12:30
Mar. 24	Bowl One Lanes	12:30
Apr. 14	Cherry Hill Lanes - Mixed	12:30
Sept. 29	Plaza Lanes	12:30
Oct. 13	Pampa Lanes	12:30
Oct. 27	Westland Bowl	12:30
Nov. 24	5 Star Lanes - (over/under 50)	1:00
Dec. 22	Merri Bowl Lanes ( Grand Finals )	12:30

All tournaments are without average cap  
ALL DATES, CENTERS, AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF NEEDED.

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- Wednesday Eagle Men' at 6:15 p.m. • 5-Man  
Call Jim at 248-543-4943
- Thursday Men at 7:15 p.m. • 5-Man  
Call Pat at 248-585-3132

# 2012 USBC Open Championships Concludes in Baton Rouge

BATON ROUGE, La. — Matt McNeil of Prior Lake, Minn., made history on the lanes at the Baton Rouge River Center this year, and now that the 2012 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships has ended its 151-day run, he can add two more titles to his growing resume.

The 27-year-old left-hander rolled a tournament-best 847 series to become the first bowler in the event's 109-year history with three 800s on the championship lanes. The effort catapulted him and Charles Vashaw of Deephaven, Minn., to the Regular Doubles title with a 1,489 total. McNeil added a 792 series in team and 563 in singles to also grab the Regular All-Events crown with a 2,202 total.

"It's an absolute relief to finally get the call," said McNeil, who is the 108th bowler in history to claim multiple titles in one year. "I had to work so hard for it this year, and to be able to now say I have three eagles is absolutely amazing. I'm so blessed to be in this position, and I'm humbled to be in the company of so many great bowlers."

McNeil entered the event as the two-year average leader (253.72), which included a 299 game and 806 series in singles in 2010 and a 300-822 performance in doubles in 2011. He is one of 31 bowlers with a 300 and 800 at the USBC Open Championships, and the perfect game he tossed in doubles

this year makes him one of 24 competitors with multiple 300s.

"In 2010, it all happened so fast and didn't really hit me until I got done," said McNeil, who won Regular All-Events in 2010 with a record score of 2,326 and finished third in 2011 with 2,241. "Last year, I let it get away, and I promised myself that would never happen again."

Henry Teetz III of West Allis, Wis., rolled the only other 800 series of the 2012 tournament, and it earned him the Regular Singles title. The 40-year-old right-hander put together games of 232, 279 and 289 on April 1 for 800 on the nose, and he's waited more than three months to see if it was enough.

The 2012 Regular Team title also is headed back to the Badger State and into the hands of Nick Heilman and his Nicholas J's Pro Shop 2 teammates of La Crosse, Wis., who nearly led wire to wire.

The group of youngsters, who have combined for just 22 tournament appearances, with nine belonging to Heilman, rolled games of 1,115, 1,165 and 1,121 for a 3,401 total on March 5 and held the top spot for four of the tournament's five months. Their companion team, Nicholas J's Pro Shop, moved into second place the same night with 3,204 and went on to finish 16th.

Heilman set the pace for Nicholas J's Pro

Shop 2 with a 769 series and was joined by Andy Mills (680), Trevor Yonan, who rolled a 300 game in his 2011 debut (679), Matt Mysliwicz (659) and Greg Pizl (614). Heilman added 710 in singles and 642 in doubles for a fifth-place finish in Regular All-Events with 2,121.

After a number of close calls over the years, Nick Wissinger of Clinton Township, Mich., finally can call himself a champion after leading his team to the 2012 Team All-Events title.

The 44-year-old right-hander got off to a rocky start with a 169 game, but averaged more than 247 the rest of the way to help S & B Pro Shop 1 to a 9,954 total. His 2,152 all-events effort was fourth overall, and he was joined by Dave Ewald (2,049), Bill Orlikowski (2,038), Kerry Kreft (1,900) and Mark Moore (1,815). Ewald, Kreft and Moore also claimed the 2004 Regular Team title together, while Kreft and Orlikowski are 1999 Team All-Events winners.

"This feels awesome, there's no doubt about that," said Wissinger, who made his 24th Open Championships appearance. "Honestly, I really didn't think the score would hold up, but I'm sure glad it did. I couldn't ask for a better team. It's nice to have 10 guys who are great bowlers and so dedicated on and off the lanes."

In the Classified Division, two titles were

decided in the first month of the tournament.

Randy Tennant of Onida, S.D., and Tim Luken of Gettysburg, S.D., struck first and grabbed Classified Doubles glory with a 1,231 total Feb. 19, while Joel Fee of Pella, Iowa, set the bar in Classified Singles with 655 on Feb. 25.

The Classified Team title belongs to Nite Owls of Madison Heights, Va., and Ed Swietek of Sarasota, Fla., is the 2012 - Classified All-Events winner. Nite Owl posted games of 971, 870 and 866 for a 2,707 total. John Sperry led the way with a 59 series and was followed by Winston Ware (578), David Dean (541), Michael Hicks (56) and team captain Leon Clark (503). Swietek, a 56-year-old left-hander, was the last to stake his claim after shooting 602 in singles, 600 in doubles and 595 in team for a 1,797 all-events total on June 15.

The 2012 Open Championships kicked off Feb. 11 and lasted a near-record 151 days, concluding July 10. During that time, nearly 12,000 five-player teams (more than 60,000 bowlers) made their way to the Baton Rouge River Center, which also hosted the tournament in 2005. Only the 2009 event in Las Vegas was longer at 154 days.

This year's event featured 19,300 games, six 299s, five 298s and two 800 series. Another 20 bowlers recorded 11 strikes in a row.

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