

## **FACH LEADS REGIONAL PLAYERS INVITATIONAL, 2021 REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

JANUARY 4, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Fach holds an 83-pin lead over second as the top regional players of 2021 are honored

Las Vegas—Graham Fach leads all players after the first eight games of qualifying in the 2022 PBA Regional Players Invitational (RPI). Fach averaged 244 to post a score of +352, 83 pins ahead of Carlos Granados, who sits in second place.

"You can't start a year off any better than this," said Fach. "Leading already is great, but match play is a different animal. I want to be prepared for that as best I can."

The 120-player 2022 PBA RPI features the top 54 PBA regional players and 26 PBA50 regional players based on competition points earned during the 2021 season. The remaining 40 spots were earned through tournament qualifiers held in each region.

Granados, who averaged 233.63 to get to second place, was one of many players honored at an awards reception following qualifying, earning the South Region Rookie of the Year Award. Each of the seven regions honored their Bowler of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Senior Bowler of the Year and Pat Patterson Award winners (see below for the full list). The Pat Patterson Award honors contributions to the regional program.

The RPI resumes today with the final eight games of full-field qualifying beginning at 1 p.m. ET. The top 32 players will advance to match play, which begins at 8 p.m. ET. The tournament concludes Wednesday with the final rounds of match play starting at 11:30 a.m. ET and the championship match taking place at 3:30 p.m. ET.

### **RPI TOP 10 THROUGH 8 GAMES**

South Point Bowling Plaza – Las Vegas

Graham Fach +352

Carlos Granados +269

Joe Bailey +230

David Krol +221

Tom Adcock +212

Deo Benard +209

PJ Haggerty +208

Dimitri Cruz +201

Patrick Dombrowski +194

Ryan Liederbach +186

[View the full PBA Regional Players Invitational standings](#)

### **2021 PBA REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS**

Northwest Region

Bowler of the Year: Nick Borgaro

Rookie of the Year: Nick Borgaro

Senior Bowler of the Year: Greg Thomas

Pat Patterson Award: Lance Lorfeld

West Region

Bowler of the Year: Sam Cooley  
Rookie of the Year: Matt Zweig  
Senior Bowler of the Year: Ron Mohr  
Pat Patterson Award: Tim Cagle

Midwest Region

Bowler of the Year: Nick Kruml  
Rookie of the Year: Kevin McCune  
Senior Bowler of the Year: Eugene McCune  
Pat Patterson Award: Ted Baer

Southwest Region

Bowler of the Year: Anthony Lavery-Spahr  
Rookie of the Year: Joseph Grondin  
Senior Bowler of the Year: Mike Bailey  
Pat Patterson Award: Mark Williams

Central Region

Bowler of the Year: JR Raymond  
Rookie of the Year: Scott Matthies  
Senior Bowler of the Year: Eugene McCune  
Pat Patterson Award: Rick Zakrajsek

East Region

Bowler of the Year: Anthony Pepe  
Rookie of the Year: Brandon Runk  
Senior Bowler of the Year: Ryan Shafer  
Pat Patterson Award: Rick Graham

South Region

Bowler of the Year: Mike Coffey  
Rookie of the Year: Carlos Granados  
Senior Bowler of the Year: Glenn Smith  
Pat Patterson Award: Joey & Terrie Cruz

RPI REMAINING COMPETITION SCHEDULE

South Point Bowling Plaza – Las Vegas

Tuesday, January 4

1 p.m. ET – Qualifying (8 games)  
8 p.m. ET – Round of 32 match play (best of five)  
10 p.m. ET – Round of 24 match play (best of five)

Wednesday, January 5

11:30 a.m. ET – Round of 16 match play (best of three)  
1 p.m. ET – Round of 8 match play (best of three)  
3 p.m. ET – Semifinals (one game)  
3:30 p.m. ET – Championship (one game)

**PBA REGIONAL PLAYERS INVITATIONAL FIELD CUT TO 16**

JANUARY 5, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Graham Fach leads all players into the final day of competition

Las Vegas—Graham Fach retained his lead through 16 games of qualifying to earn the No. 1 seed in the PBA Regional Players Invitational (RPI) match play bracket at South Point Bowling Plaza. Fach and the rest of the top eight qualifiers received byes into the round of 16, in which they'll face the players who emerged from last night's rounds of 32 and 24.

Four of the eight round of 24 matches lasted the full five games. Colin Champion converted a 2-10 split late in the fifth game to eliminate PBA Hall of Famer Tom Baker, Brandon Runk defeated Nick Kruml, Arturo Quintero took out Ernest Lukacs Jr. and Michael Martell got past Michael Coffey.

Michael Fitzgerald swept Dave Wodka and the other three matches required four games: Sean Wilcox over Tom Hess, Matt Taylor over Kyle Duster and Deo Benard over Ryan Liederbach.

The RPI concludes today with the final rounds of match play starting at 11:30 a.m. ET and the championship match taking place at 3:30 p.m. ET.

#### RPI ROUND OF 32 RESULTS

South Point Bowling Plaza – Las Vegas

No. 32 Tom Hess def. No. 17 Eugene McCune, 3-0  
No. 24 Tom Baker def. No. 25 Mike Eaton Jr., 3-2  
No. 28 Matt Taylor def. No. 21 Dimitri Cruz, 3-2  
No. 20 Brandon Runk def. No. 29 Matt Zweig, 3-0  
No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald def. No. 31 Nathan Michalowski, 3-1  
No. 23 Michael Coffey def. No. 26 Bob Rosenau, 3-1  
No. 22 Arturo Quintero def. No. 27 David Leverage, 3-2  
No. 19 Ryan Liederbach def. No. 30 Ken Yokobosky, 3-2

#### RPI ROUND OF 24 RESULTS

No. 16 Sean Wilcox def. No. 32 Tom Hess, 3-1  
No. 9 Colin Champion def. No. 24 Tom Baker, 3-2  
No. 28 Matt Taylor def. No. 12 Kyle Duster, 3-1  
No. 20 Brandon Runk def. No. 13 Nick Kruml, 3-2  
No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald def. No. 15 Dave Wodka, 3-0  
No. 10 Michael Martell def. No. 23 Michael Coffey, 3-0  
No. 22 Arturo Quintero def. No. 11 Ernest Lukacs Jr., 3-2  
No. 14 Deo Benard def. No. 19 Ryan Liederbach, 3-1

[View the full PBA Regional Players Invitational standings and match play bracket](#)

#### RPI ROUND OF 16 MATCHES

No. 1 Graham Fach vs. No. 16 Sean Wilcox  
No. 2 Patrick Dombrowski vs. No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald  
No. 3 Joe Bailey vs. No. 14 Deo Benard  
No. 4 Carlos Granados vs. No. 20 Brandon Runk  
No. 5 Tom Adcock vs. No. 28 Matt Taylor  
No. 6 David Krol vs. No. 22 Arturo Quintero  
No. 7 PJ Haggerty vs. No. 10 Michael Martell  
No. 8 JR Raymond vs. No. 9 Colin Champion

#### RPI REMAINING COMPETITION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 5

11:30 a.m. ET – Round of 16 match play (best of three)

1 p.m. ET – Round of 8 match play (best of three)

3 p.m. ET – Semifinals (one game)

3:30 p.m. ET – Championship (one game)

### **STATEMENT FROM PBA ON RESIGNATION OF CEO COLIE EDISON**

JANUARY 5, 2022 JLAUFER

The PBA announced today that CEO Colie Edison will be resigning from her position effective January 21, 2022.

"It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to lead the PBA, especially through these difficult past two years. The resiliency, creativity, and flexibility of the PBA is truly unmatched - our ability to not only survive, but thrive, in these times is a testament to the passion and commitment of our players, fans and staff. I am extremely proud of the work we have done to increase the visibility and awareness of the sport of bowling and know that the organization will continue its forward momentum as the 2022 season commences. I thank everyone in the bowling community for their unwavering support over the past decade and look forward to sharing news of my next steps in the weeks to come," said Colie Edison.

The PBA will continue to be run by its senior leadership team including Commissioner Tom Clark, Vice President Carissa Del Bene, COO Lev Ekster, Senior Director of Regional Tournaments Michelle Terrell and National Tournament Director John Weber. A successor to Edison has yet to be named.

### **CARLOS GRANADOS WINS 2022 PBA REGIONAL PLAYERS INVITATIONAL**

JANUARY 5, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Defeats Joe Bailey to earn the Walter Ray Williams Jr. trophy and a berth in the 2022 PBA King of the Lanes series

Las Vegas—Carlos Granados, who two days ago was named the PBA South Region Rookie of the Year, won the 2022 PBA Regional Players Invitational for his first PBA Regional title. Granados defeated Joe Bailey in the championship match, 228-211, at South Point Bowling Plaza.

With the match close going into the ninth frame, Granados left a 4-6-10 split, nearly handing the match to Bailey. Granados then converted the split, bouncing the 6 pin off the side wall and into the 10 pin, which then went across to take out the 4 pin.

"I haven't ever made that in my life," said Granados. "I just threw it as hard as I could and hoped for a lucky bounce."

The conversion kept Granados in the lead. When Bailey finished with 211, Granados needed a mark to win and struck on his first shot to secure the victory.

As the No. 4 seed following 16 games of qualifying, Granados earned a bye into the best-of-three round of 16, in which he eliminated Brandon Runk, two games to one. Granados then took out Tom Adcock, 2-0, in the round of eight, and No. 1 seed Graham Fach, 267-237, in the one-game semifinals.

In addition to the Walter Ray Williams Jr. trophy and the \$20,000 first prize, Granados also earned a spot in the 2022 PBA King of the Lanes series taking place later this year.

Granados, originally from Venezuela and now living in Orlando, Fla., will next compete in the PBA Players Championship South Region qualifying taking place January 15 and 16.

"I plan to go full-time on the national tour this year and see what I can make of it," he said.

#### PBA RPI RESULTS

South Point Bowling Plaza – Las Vegas

##### Round of 32 (Best of Five)

No. 32 Tom Hess def. No. 17 Eugene McCune, 3-0  
No. 24 Tom Baker def. No. 25 Mike Eaton Jr., 3-2  
No. 28 Matt Taylor def. No. 21 Dimitri Cruz, 3-2  
No. 20 Brandon Runk def. No. 29 Matt Zweig, 3-0  
No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald def. No. 31 Nathan Michalowski, 3-1  
No. 23 Michael Coffey def. No. 26 Bob Rosenau, 3-1  
No. 22 Arturo Quintero def. No. 27 David Leverage, 3-2  
No. 19 Ryan Liederbach def. No. 30 Ken Yokobosky, 3-2

##### Round of 24 (Best of Five)

No. 16 Sean Wilcox def. No. 32 Tom Hess, 3-1  
No. 9 Colin Champion def. No. 24 Tom Baker, 3-2  
No. 28 Matt Taylor def. No. 12 Kyle Duster, 3-1  
No. 20 Brandon Runk def. No. 13 Nick Kruml, 3-2  
No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald def. No. 15 Dave Wodka, 3-0  
No. 10 Michael Martell def. No. 23 Michael Coffey, 3-0  
No. 22 Arturo Quintero def. No. 11 Ernest Lukacs Jr., 3-2  
No. 14 Deo Benard def. No. 19 Ryan Liederbach, 3-1

##### Round of 16 (Best of Three)

No. 1 Graham Fach def. No. 16 Sean Wilcox, 2-0  
No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald def. No. 2 Patrick Dombrowski, 2-0  
No. 3 Joe Bailey def. No. 14 Deo Benard, 2-0  
No. 4 Carlos Granados def. No. 20 Brandon Runk, 2-1  
No. 5 Tom Adcock def. No. 28 Matt Taylor, 2-1  
No. 6 David Krol def. No. 22 Arturo Quintero, 2-0  
No. 7 PJ Haggerty def. No. 10 Michael Martell, 2-1  
No. 8 JR Raymond def. No. 9 Colin Champion, 2-1

##### Round of 8 (Best of Three)

No. 4 Carlos Granados def. No. 5 Tom Adcock, 2-0  
No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald def. No. 7 PJ Haggerty, 2-1  
No. 1 Graham Fach def. No. 8 JR Raymond, 2-1  
No. 3 Joe Bailey def. No. 6 David Krol, 2-1

##### Semifinals (Single Game)

No. 4 Carlos Granados def. No. 1 Graham Fach, 267-237  
No. 3 Joe Bailey def. No. 18 Michael Fitzgerald, 215-175

##### Championship (Single Game)

No. 4 Carlos Granados def. No. 3 Joe Bailey, 228-211

**PBA LEAGUE TEAM MANAGERS TO ANNOUNCE SAVED PLAYERS FOR 2022 ROSTERS  
ON JANUARY 11**

## **JANUARY 10, 2022 JLAUFER**

Ten teams to protect up to three players during "Managers Saves" broadcast via PBA Facebook livestream at 1 p.m. ET

New York, NY – After a year-long hiatus from competition due to the pandemic, the PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon is set to make its return to raucous Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine, in July, with ten elite teams, including three newly rebranded franchises.

The rebranded teams are:

Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen (formerly Philadelphia Hitmen)  
PBR Milwaukee Pounders (formerly Brew City Ballers)  
Snickers Waco Wonder (formerly Brooklyn Styles)

Managers Jason Couch, Marshall Holman and Johnny Petraglia will remain team managers of their respective franchises, in addition to the 2020 Elias Cup Champions Portland Lumberjacks (manager Tim Mack); Silver Lake Atom Splitters (Mark Baker); Motown Muscle (Del Ballard); Dallas Strikers (Norm Duke); and NYC KingPins (Carolyn Dorin-Ballard).

Team managers will announce the three players they're choosing to protect for their 2022 rosters during a special Managers Saves broadcast via livestream on Jan. 11 at 1 p.m. ET. The livestream will be free to fans on the PBA's Facebook page – [facebook.com/professionalbowlersassociation](https://facebook.com/professionalbowlersassociation).

Any remaining players not protected will go back into the draft pool and will be available on Draft Day with the top 75 players in 2022 season competition points. Draft Day will take place in April with players being selected by team managers in the reverse order of how they finished in 2020.

The PBA League's ninth season of competition will return to FOX Sports' FS1 in July. The Portland Lumberjacks are the two-time defending champions of the PBA League, which will also include fan-favorite individual TV events, the PBA Strike Derby and PBA League All Star Clash. Dates/times below.

PBA League Anthony Division Finals – Wednesday, July 6, 8 p.m. ET on FS1 (LIVE)  
PBA League Carter Division Finals – Thursday, July 7, 8 p.m. ET on FS1 (LIVE)  
PBA League Elias Cup Finals – Sunday, July 10, 1 p.m. ET on FS1 (LIVE)  
PBA League Strike Derby – Saturday, July 16, 1 p.m. ET on FS1  
PBA League All Star Clash – Sunday, July 17, 1:30 p.m. ET on FS1

2020 PBA League Declaration Day selection order with current rosters:

1. New York City KingPins  
Manager: Carolyn Dorin-Ballard  
Players: Pete Weber, Marshall Kent, Kyle Sherman, Darren Tang, Osku Palermaa
2. Snickers Waco Wonder  
Manager: Johnny Petraglia  
Players: Walter Ray Williams Jr., Brad Angelo, Rhino Page, BJ Moore, Thomas Larsen
3. Silver Lake Atom Splitters  
Manager: Mark Baker  
Players: Chris Barnes, Jesper Svensson, Tom Daugherty, Chris Via, AJ Chapman

4. L.A. X

Manager: Andrew Cain

Players: Jason Belmonte, Jakob Butturff, Stu Williams, Patrick Girard, Anthony Lavery-Spahr

5. Motown Muscle

Manager: Del Ballard

Players: EJ Tackett, Anthony Simonsen, Josh Blanchard, Mitch Hupe, Matt McNiel

6. Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen

Manager: Jason Couch

Players: Dom Barrett, Tom Smallwood, Shawn Maldonado, Jason Sterner, Matt Ogle

7. PBR Milwaukee Pounders

Manager: Marshall Holman

Players: Sean Rash, Ryan Ciminelli, Dick Allen, Christopher Sloan, Zeke Bayt

8. Dallas Strikers

Manager: Norm Duke

Players: Norm Duke, Tommy Jones, Bill O'Neill, Brad Miller, Nick Pate

9. Las Vegas High Rollers

Manager: Amleto Monacelli

Players: Francois Lavoie, Andrew Anderson, AJ Johnson, Richie Teece, Ildemaro Ruiz

10. Portland Lumberjacks

Manager: Tim Mack

Players: Wes Malott, Kyle Troup, Kris Prather, Martin Larsen, Packy Hanrahan

**2022 SEASON BEGINS WITH PLAYER OF THE YEAR KYLE TROUP DEFENDING HIS PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE**

JANUARY 11, 2022 JEF GOODGER

PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers begins this weekend

For the second consecutive year, the Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season begins with the PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers. Five regional qualifying events will be live-streamed on FloBowling Saturday and Sunday, from which five players from each region will advance to the regional finals to air on FS1 beginning January 22. The championship finals will air live on FS1 on January 29.

Here are some of the storylines heading into the 2022 PBA Players Championship:

**PLAYER OF THE YEAR DEFENDS HIS TITLE**

Kyle Troup won the 2021 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year Award on the strength of two titles, the first of which was the PBA Players Championship. He led all the way through, from East Region qualifying to the seeding round and ultimately the championship match. He carried the season-opening momentum through to his win in the PBA Playoffs and also finished second three times among nine top-10 finishes in 2021.

**FIVE REGIONS ESTABLISH PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP IDENTITY**

Last season, we saw a mix of established stars and relative unknowns qualifying for the regional finals in each of the five regions, adding a new type of excitement to the telecasts while also establishing a distinguishing feature of The Players Championship. All PBA members are eligible to enter and compete in their regional qualifiers in an effort to ultimately make it to the regional finals and the championship finals.

#### MOOKIE BETTS RETURNS TO PBA COMPETITION

Los Angeles Dodgers superstar Mookie Betts, who famously rolled a 300 game during World Series of Bowling IX in 2017, will compete in the West Region qualifier. Betts last competed on the PBA Tour in the 2020 Hall of Fame Classic.

#### ANOTHER CHANCE FOR O'NEILL

Bill O'Neill won the 2020 PBA Players Championship and qualified for the 2021 East Region finals before having to withdraw due to illness, costing him a chance to defend his title. This year, O'Neill will attempt to do what he did last year and qualify for the regional finals, with the goal of getting through to the championship and winning what would be his third career major title.

#### CHRIS VIA'S MAJOR PERFORMANCE

Chris Via has finished in the top five in five of the last seven majors in which he's competed, including earning his first career title in the 2021 U.S. Open. In last season's Players Championship, Via made it to the East Region finals and bowled a 300 game (his first of two on the season) before being eliminated.

#### MORE MAJOR MILESTONES

A win for Norm Duke would make him the third player ever to complete the Super Slam of all five majors, joining Mike Aulby (1996) and Jason Belmonte (2020). Duke owns two PBA World Championship titles, two U.S. Open titles and one each in the USBC Masters and Tournament of Champions.

If Belmonte can win the Players Championship, he'll become the first player to win four different majors on three separate occasions. He has four USBC Masters titles, three World Championship titles, three Tournament of Champions titles and two Players Championship titles along with his lone U.S. Open win.

Since it returned to the PBA Tour in 2011, the Players Championship has been relatively friendly to first-time major champions. Four of the last nine winners, including Troup in 2021, won their first major championships in the event. Belmonte (2011, retroactively credited), Scott Norton (2013) and Graham Fach (2016) are the others.

Live coverage on FloBowling begins Saturday, January 15 at 10 a.m. ET from each of the following regions:

West: Bowlero Cerritos, Cerritos, Calif.

Southwest: AMF Garland Lanes, Garland, Texas

Midwest: AMF West End, Milwaukee, Wis.

East: Bowlero West End, Richmond, Va.

South: AMF University Lanes, Tampa, Fla.

#### PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS SINCE 2011

2011 – Jason Belmonte

2012 – not held

2013 – Scott Norton

2014 – not held

2015 – Parker Bohn III

2016 – Graham Fach

2017 – Jason Belmonte

2018 – Tom Smallwood



2019 – Anthony Simonsen  
2020 – Bill O'Neill  
2021 – Kyle Troup

## **PBA LEAGUE TEAM MANAGERS ANNOUNCE SAVED PLAYERS FOR 2022 ROSTERS**

JANUARY 11, 2022 JLAUFER

Ten teams protected up to three players during "Managers Saves" broadcast via PBA Facebook livestream on January 11

New York, NY – PBA League Team Managers announced saved players for their 2022 rosters during a special Managers Saves broadcast via Facebook livestream on January 11.

Unprotected players go back into the draft pool and will be available on Draft Day with the top 75 players in 2022 season competition points. Draft Day will take place on April 3 with players being selected by team managers in the reverse order of how they finished in 2020.

Here are the players each team saved and dropped:

New York City KingPins

Saved: Pete Weber, Darren Tang, Marshall Kent

Dropped: Kyle Sherman, Osku Palermaa

Snickers Waco Wonder

Saved: Walter Ray Williams Jr., BJ Moore, Thomas Larsen

Dropped: Brad Angelo, Rhino Page

Silver Lake Atom Splitters

Saved: Jesper Svensson, Tom Daugherty, Chris Via

Dropped: Chris Barnes, AJ Chapman

L.A. X

Saved: Jason Belmonte, Jakob Butturff, Stu Williams

Dropped: Patrick Girard, Anthony Lavery-Spahr

Motown Muscle

Saved: EJ Tackett, Anthony Simonsen

Dropped: Josh Blanchard, Mitch Hupe, Matt McNiel

Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen

Saved: Dom Barrett, Tom Smallwood, Shawn Maldonado

Dropped: Jason Sterner, Matt Ogle

PBR Milwaukee Pounders

Saved: Sean Rash, Ryan Ciminelli, Dick Allen

Dropped: Christopher Sloan, Zeke Bayt

Dallas Strikers

Saved: Norm Duke, Tommy Jones, Bill O'Neill

Dropped: Brad Miller, Nick Pate

Las Vegas High Rollers

Saved: Francois Lavoie, Andrew Anderson, AJ Johnson  
Dropped: Richie Teece, Ildemaro Ruiz

Portland Lumberjacks

Saved: Wes Malott, Kyle Troup, Kris Prather  
Dropped: Martin Larsen, Packy Hanrahan

The PBA League's ninth season of competition will return to FOX Sports' FS1 in July. The Portland Lumberjacks are the two-time defending champions of the PBA League, which will also include fan-favorite individual TV events, the PBA Strike Derby and PBA League All Star Clash. Dates/times below.

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PBA League Elias Cup Finals – Sunday, July 10, 1 p.m. ET on FS1 (LIVE)

PBA League Strike Derby – Saturday, July 16, 1 p.m. ET on FS1

PBA League All Star Clash – Sunday, July 17, 1:30 p.m. ET on FS1

## **JONES, RASH, BARRETT, RUNK, BELMONTE LEAD PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP REGIONS HALFWAY THROUGH QUALIFYING**

JANUARY 16, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Tommy Jones outpaces players in all regions entering final day of qualifying

Tommy Jones averaged 243 over 14 games to lead the South Region halfway through qualifying in the 2022 PBA Players Championship, more than doubling the closest competitor in his region and posting the highest score among players in all regions. Sean Rash (Midwest), Dom Barrett (Southwest), Brandon Runk (East) and Jason Belmonte (West) lead their respective regions with the final two rounds of qualifying to play.

Four of the five regional leaders are multi-time PBA Tour major champions. Jones is already in the Hall of Fame and the others—Rash, Barrett and Belmonte—all have Hall of Fame credentials for eventual consideration.

Jones holds a 352-pin advantage over second-place Colin Champion in the South Region. Rash leads AJ Johnson by 133 pins in the Midwest Region and Belmonte has a 13-pin advantage over Jakob Butturff in the West Region.

Brandon Runk was recently named the 2021 PBA East Region Rookie of the Year and now finds himself on top of the East Region field through 14 games. Runk averaged 233.93 and sits nine pins ahead of second-place Graham Fach.

After 28 total games of qualifying, the top five players from each region advance to the televised regional finals that begin airing on Fox Sports' FS1 Saturday, January 22. The winners of each region will then advance to the PBA Players Championship Finals airing Saturday, January 29, on FS1.

East Region Top 10 Through 14 Games  
Bowlero West End – Richmond, Va.

Brandon Runk +475

Graham Fach +466  
Kyle Troup +406  
Paul Smith +397  
Bill O'Neill +396  
Parker Bohn III +327  
John Furey +325  
Zeke Bayt +311  
Michael Martell +305  
Nathan Ruest-Lajoie +302  
[View the full east region standings](#)

South Region Top 10  
AMF University Lanes – Tampa, Fla.

Tommy Jones +606  
Colin Champion +254  
David Stouffer +252  
DJ Archer +235  
Nate Garcia +230  
Dick Allen +219  
Tom Daugherty +215  
Norm Duke +209  
Toby Sambueno +209  
Carlos Granados +208  
[View the full south region standings](#)

Midwest Region Top 10  
AMF West Lanes – Milwaukee, Wis.

Sean Rash +540  
AJ Johnson +407  
Ronnie Russell +378  
Zach Weidman +360  
Bailey Mavrick +359  
Kris Prather +342  
Tom Hess +331  
Mitch Hupé +270  
Wes Malott +263  
Scott Matthies +250  
[View the full midwest region standings](#)

Southwest Region Top 10  
AMF Garland Lanes – Garland, Texas

Dom Barrett +525  
Richie Teece +422  
Kyle Sherman +390  
François Lavoie +339  
Shawn Maldonado +249  
Anthony Lavery-Spahr +246  
Arturo Quintero +243  
Packy Hanrahan +242  
Dimitri Cruz +239

Raymond Lussier +237  
View the full southwest region standings

West Region Top 10  
Bowlero Cerritos – Cerritos, Calif.

Jason Belmonte +315  
Jakob Butturff +302  
Tyler Cortez Schenck +258  
Wesley Low Jr. +244  
Jake Peters +181  
Sam Cooley +168  
Deeronn Booker +122  
Anthony Simonsen +83  
Michael Fitzgerald +73  
Morgan Moore +52

## **MAJOR CHAMPIONS EARN ALL FIVE TOP SEEDS FOR PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP REGIONAL FINALS**

**JANUARY 17, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Defending champion Kyle Troup qualifies as the No. 4 seed in the East Region*

Major champions Graham Fach (East), Sean Rash (Midwest), Dom Barrett (Southwest), Tommy Jones (South) and Jakob Butturff (West) will lead their respective regions into the PBA Players Championship Regional Finals. After 28 games of qualifying, the top five players from each region earned a spot in the telecasts that begin airing on Fox Sports' FS1 Saturday, January 22.

The East Region features three former Players Championship winners, led by 2016 champion Fach, who averaged 234 and also posted the highest score of all players in all regions. 2020 champion Bill O'Neill is seeded third and 2021 champion Kyle Troup earned the fourth seed in an attempt to defend his title. Joining them are two players looking for their first titles: fifth seed Patrick Dombrowski and second seed Brandon Runk, the 2021 PBA East Region Player of the Year.

Sean Rash, a 17-time PBA Tour champion including two majors, clinched the top seed in the Midwest Region in the final game of qualifying, passing No. 2 seed AJ Johnson, who is attempting to win his first title. EJ Tackett, who owns two majors among 14 career titles, earned the third seed, followed by 2021 PBA Rookie of the Year Matthew Russo and Bailey Mavrick, who is competing in his first ever national PBA Tour event.

Two-time major winner Dom Barrett led the Southwest Region and is joined by Arturo Quintero, five-time PBA Tour champion (three majors) François Lavoie, Brad Miller and

Kyle Sherman. Both Quintero and Miller are seeking their first PBA Tour titles and Sherman is attempting to win his first since 2019. Lavoie finished third in last season's Players Championship after winning the Southwest Region.

Tommy Jones is one of two PBA Hall of Famers in the South Region finals, taking the top spot ahead of No. 2 seed Norm Duke. The Players Championship is the only major to elude Duke over his legendary career, and if he can claim the title, he'll become the third player in PBA history to win the Super Slam of all five majors, joining Mike Aulby and Jason Belmonte. Two players seeking their first PBA Tour titles—David Stouffer and Toby Sambueno—own the third and fourth seeds, respectively, and two-time winner DJ Archer jumped into the fifth spot with a clutch final game of qualifying.

Seven time champion (one major) Jakob Butturff dominated the competition in the west to take the top seed, followed by PBA Tour champion Jake Peters, who is making his return to full-time competition in 2021. Wesley Low Jr. is the third seed and one of just five players (along with Troup, O'Neill, Lavoie and Butturff) to qualify for the regional finals two straight years. The all-time record holder in PBA Tour majors with 13, Belmonte sits fourth and is attempting to win the Players Championship for the third time. If he can do it, he'll become the first player ever to win four different majors on three separate occasions. Rookie Cortez Schenck, bowling in his first PBA Tour event as a member, rolled 250 in his final game of qualifying to secure the No. 5 seed.

### **PBA Players Championship Television Schedule**

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas

All telecasts on FS1

January 22 at 4 p.m. ET – East Region

January 22 at 6 p.m. ET – South Region

January 23 at 4 p.m. ET – Midwest Region

January 23 at 6 p.m. ET – Southwest Region

January 24 at 7 p.m. ET – West Region

January 29 at 8:30 p.m. ET – PBA Players Championship Finals

### **East Region Stepladder Finalists**

Bowlero West End – Richmond, Va.

1. Graham Fach
2. Brandon Runk
3. Bill O'Neill
4. Kyle Troup
5. Patrick Dombrowski

[View the full east region standings](#)

### **South Region Stepladder Finalists**

AMF University Lanes – Tampa, Fla.

1. Tommy Jones
2. Norm Duke
3. David Stouffer
4. Toby Sambueno
5. DJ Archer

[View the full south region standings](#)

### **Midwest Region Stepladder Finalists**

AMF West Lanes – Milwaukee, Wis.

1. Sean Rash
2. AJ Johnson
3. EJ Tackett
4. Matthew Russo
5. Bailey Mavrick

[View the full midwest region standings](#)

### **Southwest Region Stepladder Finalists**

AMF Garland Lanes – Garland, Texas

1. Dom Barrett
2. Arturo Quintero
3. François Lavoie
4. Brad Miller
5. Kyle Sherman

[View the full southwest region standings](#)

### **West Region Stepladder Finalists**

Bowlero Cerritos – Cerritos, Calif.

1. Jakob Butturff
2. Jake Peters
3. Wesley Low Jr.
4. Jason Belmonte
5. Cortez Schenk

[View the full west region standings](#)

## **H5G TO AWARD \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS TO WINNERS OF PBA JR. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SPECIAL DOUBLES EVENT**

JANUARY 19, 2022 JLAUFER

New Berlin, Wis. – H5G, Official Jersey Provider of the Professional Bowlers Association since 2013, has partnered with PBA Jr. to provide an additional \$1,000 scholarship to the winners of the PBA Jr. National Championship Special Doubles Event.

H5G's staff of champions Tommy Jones, Sean Rash, Liz Johnson, and Danielle McEwan will join the PBA Jr. finalists in a pro/juniors double competition in the second hour of the PBA Jr. National Championship telecast on Fox Sports FS1 on January 30 at 2:30 p.m. ET. The winner of the boys and girls matches will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship provided by H5G.

H5G's scholarship will add to the PBA Jr. National Championship prize fund, which guarantees a \$16,000 first-place SMART Scholarship, the highest SMART scholarship to ever be awarded, in both the boys' and girls' divisions.

"We really wanted to do something special with the PBA Jr. National Championship and this seemed like a great opportunity" H5G President Todd Molbeck announced. "Bowling in a doubles event with some of the best bowlers in the world should add another element that showcases the PBA Jr. program" Molbeck added, "We certainly hope that this adds just another reason why the PBA Jr. Club is such a great program for our youth bowlers."

"H5G has been a great partner to the PBA and we're excited about expanding our partnership with PBA Jr.," said Mike Sledz, PBA Director of Membership. "We look forward to offering more opportunities to the PBA Jr. youth bowlers with H5G's support."

H5G Brands is the official merchandise provider to the PBA and it has cultivated sponsorship programs with the Professional Women's Bowling Association, the Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles Championship and a number of other youth bowling and charity events. Special incentive programs to provide custom-designed, high-quality apparel to collegiate and high school teams are also available.

To purchase official PBA merchandise, visit the "Shop PBA" link on pba.com. For more information about the company and its other offerings, visit [www.h5gbrands.com](http://www.h5gbrands.com), H5G Brands on Facebook or @h5gbrands on Twitter.

## **FACH WINS EAST REGION, JONES CAPTURES SOUTH REGION TO ADVANCE TO PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS**

JANUARY 22, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.

Become first two players to advance to the finals of the season's first major

EULESS, Texas - East Region top seed Graham Fach of Urbana, Ohio, defeated Patrick Dombrowski of Parma, Ohio, while South Region top seed and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina, knocked off fellow PBA Hall of Famer Norm Duke of Clermont, Florida, to earn the first two spots in the PBA Players Championship Finals.

The action took place at Bowlero Euless and was broadcast live on Fox Sports' FS1 as part of a six-show series that will determine the first major champion of the 2022 PBA Tour season.

The first five shows are regional showdowns, featuring the five remaining players in each region, who have converged on the Dallas-Fort Worth area for a shot at the \$100,000 top prize.

Fach and Jones will be joined by the winners of the Midwest, Southwest and West Region Finals, which have yet to be decided.

The Midwest and Southwest Region Finals will air live Sunday at 4 p.m. Eastern and 6 p.m. ET, respectively, also on FS1. The West Region Finals will wrap up the regional broadcasts and will air live Monday at 7 p.m. ET.

Fach, who won the 2016 PBA Players Championship, was making his fourth career television appearance, but first since 2017. The 30-year-old left-hander didn't miss a beat and now is one step closer to his second career major title and second overall PBA Tour victory.

"The majors are the biggest tournaments we can bowl," said Fach, who last appeared on television at the 2017 U.S. Open, also a major on the PBA Tour. "They're so prestigious, and so important in our season because of how the points are weighted, so to be in contention for a major championship, and all that encompasses, is everything."

Fach opened the final match with six strikes in his first seven frames to put pressure on Dombrowski, who found his first double in the sixth frame. He didn't strike again until the ninth frame, however, while Fach continued his torrid pace on the way to a 259-192 victory.

Though Fach entered the night needing to win just one match to advance to the 2022 PBA Players Championship Finals, he knew he would have to toss a big game because of Dombrowski's excellent start.

After sneaking by defending champion and 2021 PBA Player of the Year Kyle Troup, 177-171, Dombrowski averaged 261 en route to defeating 2018 PBA Players Championship winner Bill O'Neill of Langhorne, Pennsylvania (265-201), and Brandon Runk of Milton, Pennsylvania, who bowled in his first event as a PBA member (257-243).

"I was watching both Pat and Brandon's ball reactions very closely and trying to figure out which lane they were better on and which lane they struggled on," said Fach, who originally hails from Ontario, Canada. "But, I couldn't pick one for either of the bowlers because they bowled an incredible match. That strategy didn't work, so I just had to play to my strengths.

"I decided to pick the right lane to start, which was the Chameleon pattern. I chose it because I had the better look, even though I didn't miss on the left lane, but that's how it goes sometimes."

In the South Region Finals, the hall-of-fame clash between Jones and Duke lived up to the billing, when Jones opened his final match with five strikes in his first six frames. Duke trailed by 31 pins after an open frame and two splits on the books during that span.

Duke, who put the crowd into a frenzy by converting the 3-4-6-7-9-10 split in the sixth frame, closed with seven consecutive strikes, but Jones never wavered and finished with six strikes of his own for a 268-242 victory.

"I was pretty fortunate to use the same ball on both lanes, which none of the other competitors could do," said Jones, whose last title came at the 2020 PBA Hall of Fame Classic. "I caught a couple good breaks there, and Norm paid the full penalty for both of his mistakes. But, that's the way the breaks go, and I'm fortunate to come out on top."



For Jones, his 268 game was a continuation of the momentum gained during a stellar South Region qualifying performance, which he led by nearly 300 pins. Even so, it's never an easy task when you shoe up against a fellow hall of famer, especially one with the last name Duke.

"It's not easy bowling a hall of famer who you know is going to give you everything he's got," Jones said. "He made the four-through-the-middle split, which most people would think he's not going to make, but I knew he was going to make it. It was pretty stressful, actually."

On the way to the meeting with Jones, Duke defeated DJ Archer of Simpsonville, South Carolina, 248-246. Duke stepped up in the 10th frame needing a nine spare and nine pins on the fill to win. Duke left a 4 pin on his first offering which he spared and then struck on the fill to advance. Archer, the No. 5 seed, advanced to face Duke after defeating No. 3 seed, David Stouffer of Fort Myers, Florida, 226-194, and No. 4 seed Toby Sambueno of Orlando, Florida, 223-203.

The 10 players on Saturday's shows were the top performers in their respective regions last weekend.

Each regional qualifier included 28 games on two oil patterns – the 39-foot PBA Chameleon and 45-foot PBA Dragon (14 games each) – and total pinfall determined who advanced.

For the televised portion of the event, both lane conditions are being used. The left lane Saturday featured the Dragon pattern, and the right lane was Chameleon.

The PBA Players Championship Finals will air live on FS1 on Saturday, Jan. 29 at 8:30 p.m. Eastern.

#### EAST REGION STEPLADDER FINALS RESULTS

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas

Graham Fach, Urbana, Ohio, advances to PBA Players Championship Finals

Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, \$15,000

Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., \$13,000

Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., \$11,000

Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., \$10,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – No. 5 Dombrowski def. No. 4 Troup, 177-171

Match 2 – No. 5 Dombrowski def. No. 3 O'Neill, 265-201

Match 3 – No. 5 Dombrowski def. No. 2 Runk, 257-243

Match 4 – No. 1 Fach def. No. 5 Dombrowski, 259-192

#### SOUTH REGION STEPLADDER FINALS RESULTS

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas

Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., advances to PBA Players Championship Finals

Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., \$15,000

DJ Archer, Simpsonville, S.C., \$13,000

David Stouffer, Fort Myers, Fla., \$11,000

Toby Sambueno, Orlando, Fla., \$10,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – No. 5 Archer def. No. 4 Sambueno, 223-203

Match 2 – No. 5 Archer def. No. 3 Stouffer, 226-194

Match 3 – No. 2 Duke def. No. 5 Archer, 248-246

Match 4 – No. 1 Jones def. No. 2 Duke, 268-242

#### UPCOMING PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas  
All telecasts on FS1

January 23 at 4 p.m. ET – Midwest Region  
January 23 at 6 p.m. ET – Southwest Region  
January 24 at 7 p.m. ET – West Region  
January 29 at 8:30 p.m. ET – PBA Players Championship Finals

## **RASH CAPTURES MIDWEST REGION, QUINTERO TAKES SOUTHWEST REGION TO EARN BERTHS INTO PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS**

**JANUARY 23, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.**

*Join Graham Fach and Tommy Jones as finalists in the season's first major*

**EULESS, Texas** - Midwest Region top seed Sean Rash of Montgomery, Illinois, squeaked by Matthew Russo of Manchester, Missouri, while Southwest Region No. 2 seed Arturo Quintero of Plano, Texas, defeated top seed Dom Barrett of Great Bentley, England, to earn the next two spots in the Professional Bowlers Association Players Championship Finals presented by Snickers.

The matches took place at Bowlero Euless and were broadcast live on Fox Sports' FS1 as part of a six-show series that will determine the first major champion of the 2022 PBA Tour season.

The first five shows are regional showdowns, featuring the five remaining players in each region, who have converged on the Dallas-Fort Worth area for a shot at the \$100,000 top prize.

Rash and Quintero now join Graham Fach (East) and Tommy Jones (South) in the finals. Fach and Jones won their respective regional finals Saturday evening, also live on FS1. The West Region Finals will wrap up the regional broadcasts and will air live on FS1 on Monday at 7 p.m. EST.

The final match of the Midwest Region Finals was an emotional rollercoaster for Rash, who is looking for his third major title and 18th career PBA title overall.

After eight complete frames, Rash trailed Russo by 17 pins. Russo stepped up in the ninth frame with a chance to move closer to victory, but he left the 2-4-6-7-10 split. In thrilling fashion, Russo converted the troublesome leave to remain in the lead.

After sparing a 10 pin in the ninth frame, Rash struck on the first shot of his 10th frame but left the 3-6 combination on his next offering. He converted the spare to finish with a

207 game. Russo needed 9 pins on the first shot of his own 10th frame to defeat Rash and become the first non-No. 1 seed to advance to the finals.

Instead, Russo left another 2-4-6-7-10 split, which he had to convert to advance.

Unfortunately, the talented two-handed southpaw only took the 4 pin from the five-count split, leaving Rash with a Midwest Regional Finals win while sitting on the bench, 207-201.

"I didn't make a very good shot to start the match, and I didn't throw a very good shot in the 11th (frame)," said Rash, who averaged 228.75 for 28 games to lead qualifying at the Midwest regional qualifier. "Matt bowled a phenomenal game and bowled great matches throughout the day." Rash was able to give his father, Gene, an excellent birthday present, since Gene was on-site and able to celebrate his 73rd birthday with his son. Rash also was thinking about his family in Illinois, which recently endured a family emergency.

"A lot of emotions today," Rash said. "It's my dad's 73rd birthday, and I couldn't be prouder to have him here with me. The last time we were together, I won my 17th title in Virginia. Then, I had a scare at home with a medical emergency with my baby girl. I'm just glad she's home, and I'm very thankful for my wife."

Russo advanced to face Rash by dispatching PBA Tour newcomer Bailey Mavrick (235-209), 14-time PBA Tour champion EJ Tackett (223-212) and PBA standout AJ Johnson (259-219).

In the Southwest Region Finals, Quintero opened with five strikes in his first six frames and built a 48-pin lead against Barrett, despite a missed spare in the second frame. Barrett came out of the gates scuffling with two open frames during that same stretch and never quite figured out the challenging PBA Dragon (45 feet) and PBA Chameleon (39 feet) oil patterns.

With his family in the crowd, the 43-year-old right-hander, originally from Mexico, saw his dream come true by defeating Barrett, 207-179, to advance to finals of a major tournament for the first time.

"For me, it means the world," said Quintero, who defeated Kyle Sherman in the semifinal match, 239-193. "I'm so happy. I was so nervous on the show because I wanted to do it so badly. I'm thankful for all of the support I have. I'm so, so happy right now."

Quintero, who turned pro in 2003, has traveled all over the world competing but he recently spent several years away from the sport. He's rededicated himself to the craft and being a professional bowler, and all of his hard work was on display Sunday evening.

"I feel really excited," Quintero said. "Finally, during this last year, I decided to really turn into a professional bowler. I told myself, 'If you're going to do this, you have to do it good.' This is the result of all my work and effort. I'm really, really happy right now."

Before falling to Quintero in the semifinals, Sherman defeated his friend and business partner, Brad Miller of Lee's Summit, Missouri, 213-205. Sherman and Miller together make up the successful, "Brad and Kyle" YouTube channel.

Sherman then defeated Francois Lavoie of Quebec City, Canada, 233-209.

The 10 players on Saturday's shows were the top performers in their respective regions last weekend.

Each regional qualifier included 28 games on the two oil patterns –Chameleon and Dragon (14 games each) – and total pinfall determined who advanced.

For the televised portion of the event, both lane conditions are being used. The left lane Saturday and Sunday featured the Dragon pattern, and the right lane was Chameleon.

The PBA Players Championship Finals will air live on FS1 on Saturday, Jan. 29 at 8:30 p.m. Eastern.

#### **MIDWEST REGION STEPLADDER FINALS RESULTS**

##### **Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas**

Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., advances to PBA Players Championship Finals

Matthew Russo, Manchester, Mo., \$15,000

AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., \$13,000

EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., \$11,000

Bailey Mavrick, Peru, Ind., \$10,000

#### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – No. 4 Russo def. No. 5 Mavrick, 235-209

Match 2 – No. 4 Russo def. No. 3 Tackett, 223-212

Match 3 – No. 4 Russo def. No. 2 Johnson, 259-219

Match 4 – No. 1 Rash def. No. 4 Russo, 207-201

#### **SOUTHWEST REGION STEPLADDER FINALS RESULTS**

##### **Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas**

1. Arturo Quintero, Plano, Texas, advances to PBA Players Championship Finals
2. Dom Barrett, Great Bentley, England, \$15,000
3. Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., \$13,000
4. Francois Lavoie, Quebec City, Canada., \$11,000

5. Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., \$10,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – No. 5 Sherman def. No. 4 Miller, 213-205

Match 2 – No. 5 Sherman def. No. 3 Lavoie, 233-209

Match 3 – No. 2 Quintero def. No. 5 Sherman, 239-193

Match 4 – No. 2 Quintero def. No. 1 Barrett, 207-179

#### UPCOMING PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas

All telecasts on FS1

### January 24 at 7 p.m. ET – West Region Finals

### BELMONTE CLAIMS WEST REGION TO EARN FINAL BERTH INTO PBA PLAYERS

#### CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS JANUARY 25, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.

*Joins Graham Fach, Tommy Jones, Sean Rash and Arturo Quintero as finalists in the season's first major*

**EULESS, Texas** - Jason Belmonte of Orange, Australia, climbed the ladder and dispatched top seed Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona, to earn the fifth and final spot in the Professional Bowlers Association Players Championship Finals presented by Snickers.

The match took place Monday night at Bowlero Euless and was broadcast live on Fox Sports' FS1 as part of a six-show series to help determine the first major champion of the 2022 PBA Tour season. Belmonte and Butturff were representing the PBA West Region.

The first five shows were regional showdowns, which featured the five remaining players in each region, who converged on the Dallas-Fort Worth area for a shot at the \$100,000 top prize and first major title of the 2022 PBA Tour season.

Belmonte joins Graham Fach (East), Tommy Jones (South), Sean Rash (Midwest) and Arturo Quintero (Southwest) in the finals. Fach and Jones won their respective regional finals Saturday evening and Rash and Quintero won their respective regional finals Sunday night. All shows were broadcast live on FS1.

The PBA Players Championship Finals will air live on FS1 on Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Eastern. To determine the seeding for the final show, the five regional winners will return to Bowlero Euless on Friday for a three-game match that will be streamed live on the PBA's Facebook page at 8 p.m. EST.

Their places in Sunday's stepladder will be based on the total pinfall for the three games.

After a 10-month hiatus from PBA Tour competition, Belmonte showed no signs of rust by averaging nearly 255 across four matches.

In the final match, Belmonte, the No. 4 seed for the West Region Finals, opened with four strikes in his first six frames, while Butturff struggled to get comfortable, leaving splits in two of his first four frames.

Butturff, who finished fourth in the 2021 West Region Finals, struck three consecutive times, starting in the fifth frame, but a solid 9 pin in the eighth frame ended his attempt at a comeback.

Meanwhile, Belmonte continued his pace on the 45-foot PBA Dragon (left lane) and 39-foot PBA Chameleon (right lane) oil patterns, tossing five consecutive strikes during that span and cruising to a 257-194 victory.

"We developed a bit of a good plan, and I really committed to it," Belmonte said. "When we started to see some of the changes, we made them quickly. After that, it was up to me to hit what I was looking at. Over the four games, I think I missed what I was looking at once and went Brooklyn, and every other shot I was pretty happy with."

While his performance spoke volumes, his smile also was the brightest. It was evident the six-time PBA Player of the Year was not only happy with his performance, but genuinely ecstatic to be back as a competitor on the PBA Tour.

"When I was home watching the boys bowl on tour, I hated it," said Belmonte, with a smile. "I hated watching them because I wanted to be here so badly. I had four games on TV to come back to, so I wanted to try and climb the ladder and have fun. And, I did. I'm loving it. I'm feeling great and I'm very happy."

Belmonte advanced to the final match after tossing 11 strikes en route to defeating 2021 PBA Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award winner, Jake Peters of Henderson, Nevada, 278-194. Peters owns one PBA Tour title.

In Match 2, Belmonte quickly dispatched No. 3 seed Wesley Low Jr. of Palmdale, California, 246-149. Low qualified second in 2021 and was one of just five players to qualify for the regional finals in back-to-back years.

In the opening match, Belmonte was tested by No. 5 seed Cortez Schenck of Phoenix.

Schenck, bowling in his first televised event as a PBA member, needed a double and five pins in the 10th frame to knock off Belmonte but left a 4 pin on the first shot to fall short, 238-212. The five players on Monday's show were the top performers in the West Region last weekend.

Each regional qualifier included 28 games on the two oil patterns – Chameleon and Dragon (14 games each) – and total pinfall determined who advanced.

For the televised portion of the event, both lane conditions were used. Throughout all five broadcasts, the left lane featured the Dragon pattern, and the right lane was Chameleon.

## **WEST REGION STEPLADDER FINALS RESULTS**

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas

1. Jason Belmonte, Orange, Australia, advances to PBA Players Championship Finals
2. Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., \$15,000
3. Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., \$13,000
4. Wesley Low Jr., Palmdale, Calif., \$11,000
5. Cortez Schenck, Phoenix, \$10,000

## **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 5 Schenck, 238-212

Match 2 – No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 3 Low, 246-149

Match 3 – No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 2 Peters, 278-194

Match 4 – No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 1 Butturff, 257-194

## **UPCOMING PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP TELEVISION**

### **SCHEDULE**

Bowlero Euless – Euless, Texas

All telecasts on FS1

January 29 at 8:30 p.m. ET – PBA Players Championship Finals

8:30 p.m. ET – PBA Players Championship Finals

## **SATURDAY: PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY SNICKERS FINALS LIVE ON FS1 JANUARY 25, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Graham Fach, Tommy Jones, Sean Rash, Arturo Quintero and Jason Belmonte compete for \$100,000 and a major championship*

**Eufless, Texas**—The field for the 2022 PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers features four major champions among the five players who won their respective regions to earn a berth in the stepladder finals to air Saturday, January 29 at 8:30 p.m. ET. Graham Fach (East), Tommy Jones (South), Sean Rash (Midwest), Arturo Quintero (Southwest) and Jason Belmonte (West) will battle for the Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season-opening major championship.

Fach, the top seed in the East Region, defeated Patrick Dombrowski to claim the East Region and advance to the finals. Fach won the 2016 PBA Players Championship as his lone PBA Tour title, which also made him the first Canadian-born player ever to win on the PBA Tour.

In the South Region, top seed Tommy Jones beat his fellow PBA Hall of Famer, Norm Duke, in the final match to get to the finals. Jones is a 20-time PBA Tour champion, including two majors, and is looking for his first Players Championship title.

Sean Rash won the Midwest Region to become the third top seed to qualify for the finals, but it was not without cost. Rash was fined an undisclosed amount, suspended for one PBA Tour event and put on one-year probation for a late-game incident in his win over runner-up and 2021 PBA Rookie of the Year Matthew Russo. Rash is a 17-time PBA Tour champion looking to win his third major title.

The Southwest Region was the first to be won by someone lower than the No. 1 seed, with second-seeded Arturo Quintero taking out No. 5 seed Kyle Sherman and then region leader Dom Barrett. Quintero is attempting to make his first PBA Tour title a major.

Jason Belmonte, making his return after 10 months away from PBA Tour competition, climbed the West Region stepladder and eliminated Cortez Schenck, Wesley Low Jr., Jake Peters and Jakob Butturff to move on. Belmonte is the all-time leader in major championships with 13 and could become the first player ever to win four different majors on three separate occasions. He has four USBC Masters titles, three World Championship titles, three Tournament of Champions titles and two Players Championship titles along with his lone U.S. Open win.

Prior to the stepladder finals, the five players will compete in a three-game, total-pinfall competition to determine seeding for the championship round. The players will be placed into the stepladder based on their three-game totals in the seeding round, which will be live streamed on the PBA Facebook page Friday, January 28 at 8 p.m. ET.

### **PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS SINCE 2011**

2011 – Jason Belmonte  
2012 – not held  
2013 – Scott Norton  
2014 – not held  
2015 – Parker Bohn III  
2016 – Graham Fach  
2017 – Jason Belmonte  
2018 – Tom Smallwood  
2019 – Anthony Simonsen  
2020 – Bill O'Neill  
2021 – Kyle Troup



## **Jon Delaney and Chris Barnes Win PBA and PBA50 Regional Titles in Odessa**

**Odessa, Texas, (January 23, 2022)** – Jon Delaney of McKinney, Texas, won his first PBA regional title on Sunday's PBA Odessa Southwest Winter Open at Diamond Lanes. The victory came on Delaney's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Delaney was tied for the tournament lead going into the eight game round robin match play finals, fell back in the standings after the first five games, then finished with games of 239 and 258 in games six and seven before defeating defending champion Anthony Lavery-Spahr from Pasadena, Texas, 258-248, in the final game position round to claim the \$2,800 first place check.

Venezuelan Ildemaro Ruiz Jr rolled a 265 his last game to surpass Lavery-Spahr and grab second place, earning \$1,800, while Lavery-Spahr collected \$1,350 for third.

In the PBA50 competition, PBA Hall of Famer, Chris Barnes, now living in Denton, Texas, finished on top of a quality field of senior players.

In the 21-game event, Barnes grabbed the lead early in the qualifying and led most of the way, holding off a mild challenge from Tony Lanning, of Yukon, Okla., who finished second. The win was Barnes third in PBA50 Regional competition, and 33<sup>rd</sup> regional title overall.

The PBA Southwest Region's next event will be the PBA Houston Copperfiled Challenge April 15-17, a non-champions event.

### **PBA ODESSA SOUTHWEST WINTER OPEN Diamond Lanes, Odessa, Texas, Sunday**

#### **Final Standings (21 games)**

1	Jon Delaney	McKinney, Texas	5-3	5016	\$2,800.00
2	Ildemaro Ruiz, Jr	Venezuela	7-1	4944	\$1,800.00
3	Anthony Lavery-spahr	Pasadena, Texas	4-4	4911	\$1,350.00
4	Joseph Grondin	Bel Air, Kan.	4-3-1	4891	\$1,000.00
5	Andy Patterson	Tyler, Texas	5-3	4863	\$900.00
6	Deeronn Booker	Anaheim, Calif.	4-4	4835	\$850.00
7	A.J. Chapman	Lewisville, Texas	4-4	4820	\$800.00
8	Travis Tribolet	San Angelo, Texas	4-4	4779	\$750.00
9	(N)Jared Ringener	Midland, Texas	3-4-1	4660	\$700.00
10	Johnathan Norman	Houston	2-6	4637	\$650.00
11	Derrick Woods	Houston	3-5	4627	\$625.00
12	Levi Fintel	Lubbock, Texas	0-8	4423	\$600.00

n-denotes non-PBA member

### **PBA50 ODESSA SOUTHWEST OPEN Diamond Lanes, Odessa, Texas, Sunday**

1.	Chris Barnes, Denton, Texas	6-2	5021	\$2,600.00
2.	Tony Lanning, Yukon, Okla.	4-4	4775	\$1,600.00
3.	Steve Fields, Roanoke, Texas	5-3	4740	\$1,050.00
4.	Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore.	3-5	4722	\$ 900.00

5.	Lee white, Odessa, Texas	5-3	4678	\$ 850.00
6.	Keith Lesko, Prosper, Texas	3-5	4613	\$ 800.00
7.	Mike Bailey, Carrollton, Texas	3-5	4549	\$ 750.00
8.	Mark Williams, Beaumont, Texas	3-5	4491	\$ 700.00

n-denotes non-PBA member,

## **SEAN RASH EARNS TOP SEED FOR PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP JANUARY 28, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

Will bowl for the PBA Players Championship title tomorrow on FS1

Euless, Texas—Sean Rash rolled a three-game series of 695 to claim the No. 1 seed for tomorrow's PBA Players Championship stepladder finals, which will air live at 8:30 p.m. ET on Fox Sports' FS1.

Trailing Rash are Jason Belmonte (693), Arturo Quintero (630), Tommy Jones (599) and Graham Fach (569). The three-game, total-pinfall seeding round streamed live on the PBA Facebook page to position each of the five PBA Players Championship Regional Finals winners into the championship round.

Rash, who won the Midwest Region, filled 20 pins in the 10th frame of the final game to stay ahead of Belmonte by two pins. Rash will need to win a single game tomorrow to earn his 18th PBA Tour title and third major.

### **Seeding Round Final Scores**

Sean Rash, 695 (222, 245, 228)  
 Jason Belmonte, 693 (230, 229, 234)  
 Arturo Quintero, 630 (214, 200, 216)  
 Tommy Jones, 599 (190, 197, 212)  
 Graham Fach, 569 (202, 190, 177)

## **BELMONTE IS EMPHATICALLY BACK WINNING HIS 14TH MAJOR JANUARY 30, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Euless, Texas – The championship match most wanted to see played out at the 2022 PBA Players Championship.

With the first major title of the season and \$100,000 on the line, fans got to see rivals Jason Belmonte and top seed Sean Rash battle it out.

It wasn't the cleanest match with both players struggling on the left lane. Rash had two splits on the lane, Belmonte had one and just one strike heading into the 10th frame.

"It was far from easy," Belmonte said about the challenging dual-pattern conditions. "Sean or I didn't really love that left lane and I had to finish on it. I knew coming into the 10th just to give myself one shot."

Belmonte surprised many when he picked up his Storm Spectre before the final frame, looked toward his Storm ball reps for affirmation, got the nod of approval to switch balls and he just let it fly.

He felt he was going "into the unknown" a little bit but he hit his target and "made the best shot I possibly could." He struck, threw his Storm Belmo Gold ball straight down the middle to get nine and converted the spare. That was the knockout punch he needed to defeat Rash, 210-202.

The two-handed Aussie raised his arms straight up, pounded his chest and emphatically yelled, 'I'm back.' He also pointed toward Storm CEO Bill Chrisman and said, 'thank you.' This year marks 20 years since Belmonte first signed a contract with Storm.

Belmonte is now a three-time winner of the PBA Players Championship, and he has 26 career PBA Tour titles to add to his impressive legacy. Next up, he will seek to earn yet another major at a difficult event.

"I'm going to go try to win the U.S. Open again," the all-time PBA major champion said. "I'm ready to just bowl and bowl and bowl. Just keep lining the tournaments up."

In the first stepladder match, Graham Fach was one shot short of perfection defeating Tommy Jones, 279-219. Arturo Quintero rolled past Fach in match two, 248-204, before he lost to Belmonte, 248-212. In that second match, a 2-8-10 split by Quintero in the 7th frame was the break Belmonte needed.

"That was probably one of my more nervous TV shows," Belmonte said. "He gave me an opening and I was able to take advantage of it."

#### PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS

Jason Belmonte \$100,000

Sean Rash \$60,000

Arturo Quintero \$45,000

Graham Fach \$35,000

Tommy Jones \$30,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Fach def. Jones 279-219

Match 2 – Quintero def. Fach 248-204

Match 3 – Belmonte def. Quintero 248-212

Championship match – Belmonte def. Rash 210-202

### **JORDAN & MARTIN WIN PBA JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP JANUARY 30, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Eules, Texas - With some of the best professional bowlers in the world watching, 15-year-old Landin Jordan and 17-year-old Jillian Martin shined as they won the 2022 PBA Junior National Finals in their divisions.

Martin, of Ohio, has been on this stage before, winning the girls championship last year while also becoming the youngest ever to win a PWBA national title at the 2021 PWBA BowlTV Classic.

She faced one of her closest friends, 15-year-old Kayla Starr. Starr worked her way up the stepladder averaging 245 over three games to get into the title match. Through five frames Starr held a 27-pin lead but then lost her look on the right lane.

Martin struck out in the 10th to force Starr to double and get one-pin for the win on the right lane. The Maryland resident left a pocket 7-10 to lose, 201-179.

"It feels amazing," Martin said, "especially going up there in the 10th frame knowing I needed all three to put the pressure on Kayla to get a double. Just to be able to go up there and do it is a big confidence boost."

The boys championship finals featured Jordan and fellow two-hander, 17-year-old Eric Jones. Jones won the 2020 PBA Oklahoma City Southwest Open to become the youngest ever to win a PBA regional.

They combined for 16 strikes in the match. After Jones missed the 2-4-7 in the 10th, Jordan stepped up needing a mark to win. The Illinois native aced yet another shot to win, 257-225. Both Jordan and Martin earned \$16,000 SMART scholarship with their victories.

"It was a stunning moment," the two-handed righty said after the win. "Anything is possible. I can compete against some of the greatest bowlers, and I can perform under the bright lights with immense pressure."

With the win, Jordan got the chance to team up with one of his "top-5" favorite bowlers, EJ Tackett to face Jones and PBA Hall of Famer Tommy Jones in the PBA/PWBA Pro/Junior Doubles Competition. Martin partnered with PWBA legend Liz Johnson and Starr bowled with Danielle McEwan. In the five-frame girls match, Martin/Johnson defeated Starr/McEwan, 129-108, while Jordan/Tackett beat Jones/Jones, 108-107.

"I think it is really cool how they include the pros," Martin said. "It's great to have an opportunity to bowl with Liz, have some fun and go out there and strike a lot."

In the doubles championship full game, Team Jordan/Tackett opened in the first frame then were nearly perfect as they topped Martin/Johnson, 267-237.

"He is someone I've always looked up to, so it was cool bowling with him," Jordan said. Both Jordan and Martin also earned an additional \$1,000 scholarship from H5G Brands for winning their doubles event.

After the event was over, Martin, who graduated high school in December, raced out of Bowlero Euless to catch her flight to Indianapolis to bowl in the U.S. Open Pre-Tournament Qualifier. She finished in 23rd place earning a spot in the tournament. After the U.S. Open, she plans to bowl some PWBA Tour events and PBA Junior Regional Tournaments when they fit into her busy schedule. This fall, she will attend and bowl for the University of Nebraska.

Next up for Jordan is an elite youth tour event and an Illinois scholarship tournament. "Knowing that I can do it helps my confidence an extreme amount," he said.

This tournament showed this sport is in great hands. Fourteen-time major PBA champion Jason Belmonte first saw Martin compete in a Storm Youth Championship when she was just 13. He has been impressed watching her game evolve and seeing this next generation compete on PBA oil patterns and on national television.

"Jillian coming through the ranks and having these opportunities, it's going to be really exciting to see where her career goes," he said. "It is no wonder why when you do look around the U.S. at the youth in this country how talented and how great these kids are already. It's because they have had so much access to high-quality competition and big event venues."

He predicts Martin will become the best female bowler in the world. And seeing a high number of two-handed youths competing definitely caught his attention.

"Many people know my story and about the difficult times through my career because I bowled a little bit different," he said. "Like 30 percent of the junior players in the U.S. bowl two-handed. Just to know that I had that kind of an impact is pretty awesome."

## PBA JUNIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS STANDINGS

Martin def. Starr 201-179

Jordan def. Jones 257-225

## PBA/PWBA PRO/JUNIOR DOUBLES COMPETITION

Martin/Johnson def. Starr/McEwan 129-108

Jordan/Tackett def. Jones/Jones 108-107

Championship match - Jordan/Tackett def. Martin/Johnson 267-237

## **PBA Jr. to Sponsor Never Give Up Scholarship at 2022 Storm Youth Championships**

### *PBA Jr. to Award Over \$5,000 in SMART Scholarships*

**New York, NY** – PBA Jr., the Professional Bowlers Association’s youth club for bowlers under age 18, is excited to announce a new partnership with Storm during the 2022 Storm Youth Championship tournaments.

PBA Jr. will sponsor a Never Give Up Scholarship at each of the Storm Youth Championships during the 2022 season that will equate to a total of \$5,400 in SMART scholarship funds. \$100 will be awarded in each age division to the youth bowler with the highest five game total during the final round of the tournament.

“The PBA is dedicated to growing the sport at all levels and the PBA Jr. Never Give Up Scholarship was created in an effort to encourage kids to never give up,” said Mike Sledz, PBA Director of Membership. “Even if they performed poorly on Saturday, they have an opportunity to come back and win on a Sunday.”

“Storm is proud to work closely with the PBA and PBA Jr., initiatives,” Gary Hulsenberg, Vice President of Community Relations said. “Both organizations are focused on the future and growing the sport of bowling, so it’s a natural fit. The PBA Jr. Never Give Scholarship is just one more example of how Storm and the PBA are supporting youth bowling and providing additional opportunities to all youth athletes.”

The PBA Jr. Never Give Up Scholarship will be available at all nine 2022 Storm Youth Championship events.

Storm Youth Championships Nevada (Las Vegas)  
February 19-20

Storm Youth Championships Delaware (New Castle, Del.)  
March 11-13

Storm Youth Championships North Carolina ( Mooresville, N.C.)  
April 8-10

Storm Youth Championships Iowa (Davenport, Iowa)  
May 27-20

Storm Youth Championships Ohio (Columbus, Ohio)  
June 16-19

Storm Youth Championships Idaho (Boise, Idaho)  
August 12-14

Storm Youth Championships Kansas (Wichita, Kan.)  
September 9-11

Storm Youth Championships Coastal Classic (Myrtle Beach, Fla.)  
October 7-9

Storm Youth Championships Florida (Orlando, Fla.)  
November 11-13

For more information on PBA Jr., please visit [pba.com/junior](https://pba.com/junior) and follow PBA Jr. on Facebook - [@PBAJunior](https://www.facebook.com/PBAJunior).

For more information on the Storm Youth Championships, please visit [stormbowling.com/syc](https://stormbowling.com/syc).

## **SIMONSEN SETS PACE ON FIRST DAY OF 2022 U.S. OPEN**

**INDIANAPOLIS** - Woodland Bowl has played a big role in the history of the Professional Bowlers Association and forever will be a special place for eight-time PBA Tour champion Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas.

The 25-year-old two-hander is back at the iconic center, where he became the youngest bowler to win a major title on the PBA Tour, and this week's visit for the 2022 U.S. Open could end with both redemption and another spot in the bowling record book.

Simonsen's last game on the U.S. Open stage was a title-match loss to Australia's Jason Belmonte at the 2020 event, and since he did not compete in the 2021 tournament, Simonsen has had to wait almost two years for another chance to add the coveted green U.S. Open jacket to his own wardrobe.

Simonsen has picked up right where he left off, and while he's a long way from reclaiming the No. 1 seed for the event's televised finals, finishing the first day of qualifying at Woodland Bowl as the overall leader provided a nice boost to his confidence and some reassurance that his game is where it should be.

Over eight games Tuesday on the first of the week's four lane conditions, Simonsen averaged more than 226 and topped the 108-player standings with a 1,810 total.

He was followed by EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana (1,793), Andrew Anderson of Holly, Michigan (1,761), Australia's Sam Cooley (1,748) and Tom Daugherty of Riverview, Florida, (1,739).

Defending champion Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, finished the first day of qualifying in 25th place with a 1,666 total, a 208.25 average.

The U.S. Open is the second event, and second major of the 2022 PBA Tour season, which got underway in late January with the PBA Players Championship. Belmonte kicked things off in

memorable fashion with his record 14th major victory.

The event went well for Simonsen, who collected a seventh-place finish in the West Region qualifier, but he also felt it could've gone better.

"I felt like at the Players Championship, I didn't bowl my best, but it also wasn't my worst, so there's some good momentum there," said Simonsen, who won the 2016 United States Bowling Congress Masters at Woodland Bowl at 19 years and 39 days old. "Getting out to a strong start today was big for my confidence and showing me that I'm not bowling badly, I just didn't have the best day there."

On the 45-foot oil pattern Tuesday at Woodland Bowl, one key was not missing any makeable spares. Filling frames always is a goal, of course, but when the conditions are as demanding as they traditionally are at the U.S. Open, it's even more imperative.

This week, the competitors will face a variety of conditions ranging from 37 to 45 feet.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com, and the event will conclude with a five-player stepladder live on FS1 on Sunday at 5 p.m. Eastern.

"The goal is to win them all, and this event is one of the most prestigious there is," Simonsen said. "I've had some success at previous U.S. Opens, and it's about continuing to put the pieces together. I wouldn't change how it all has unfolded for me, and I'll continue pushing. I'm going to take it one day and one block at a time. I think we'll see some fluctuation in the scoring pace on Day 2 and Day 3, so I'll take a look at how the rest of the field is handling it, then go about my business from there."

Adding to the prestige at Woodland Bowl is the fact that anyone who wins a PBA Tour event there will have a replica of their PBA champion banner permanently added to the rafters in the center's lounge area.

Among the names are five-time U.S. Open champion Pete Weber, the PBA Tour's all-time winningest player, Walter Ray Williams Jr., two-time U.S. Open winner Norm Duke and David Husted, who was the last bowler to successfully defend a U.S. Open title. It happened at the 1996 event, which took place at Woodland Bowl.

"It's really cool to see all of the banners for the guys who have won here, and being here just has a major feel to it that I didn't really get at the Players Championship," Simonsen said. "I didn't really feel the nerves at that event, but as I bowled the first two games today, my heartrate was really high because it has that major feel. That helps me because I love that feeling. I'm ready to get settled in, get through tomorrow and keep the momentum going the rest of the week."

Tackett echoed Simonsen's sentiments about Woodland Bowl, and his own feelings may even be magnified as a resident of Indiana, competing less than two hours from his current home.

Tackett is coming off a fourth-place finish in the Midwest Region Finals at the PBA Players Championship and feels like his game also is in a good place as the 2022 season gets rolling.

Adding to his motivation this week is remembering the feelings of just missing the winner's circle at Woodland Bowl in 2020. He and Marshall Kent were the runners-up to Jesper Svensson and Kyle Troup in the Mark Roth-Marshall Holman PBA Doubles Championship.

"Finishing second was heartbreaking because I want more than anything to win a tournament here and have my banner hanging in the bar area," said Tackett, a 14-time PBA Tour champion. "It's just one of those nostalgic things in our sport. There's so much history here, since the tour has been coming here for decades. Anytime I show up, I really want to perform well, and that may have added a little pressure in the past. I'm more experienced now, so I'm just going to go out and bowl and hope it goes in my favor. Today was a great start."

Competition at the 2022 U.S. Open will continue Wednesday with the second of the three qualifying rounds, this time on a flat 37-foot oil pattern. The action will get underway at 8 a.m. EST, live on

BowlTV.

All 108 entrants will bowl 24 games over three days, before the field is cut to the top 36 for the eight-game Cashers' Round on a fourth oil pattern. After 32 games, total pinfall will determine the 24 bowlers for round-robin match play, and 56-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will determine Sunday's finalists.

This year's champion will take home a \$100,000 top prize, the custom U.S. Open trophy and the green jacket. The last time the event awarded a six-figure prize to the champion was 2009.

If Simonsen is able to add to his success at Woodland Bowl with a win this week, he'd become the youngest bowler in history to win three major titles. His second major championship came at the PBA Players Championship in 2019.

USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Dave Davis holds the record. He won his third major at 25 years and 43 days old. Simonsen will be 25 years and 31 days old on Sunday.

The field this week in Indianapolis is made up of the sport's top performers in recent seasons. It includes the leaders on the PBA Tour points list, Team USA and Junior Team members, top performers at USBC events and PBA majors, and those who advanced from an on-site pre-tournament qualifier earlier Sunday.

The 2022 U.S. Open is a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. The total prize fund for the event will be \$282,000.

For more information about the U.S. Open, visit [BOWL.com/USOpen](http://BOWL.com/USOpen).

## **2022 U.S. Open At Woodland Bowl Indianapolis**

### **Tuesday's results**

#### **ROUND 1 QUALIFYING (Eight games)**

1, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 1,810. 2, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 1,793. 3, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 1,761. 4, Sam Cooley, Australia, 1,748. 5, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 1,739. 6, Daniel Farish, Louisville, Ky., 1,733.

7, Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 1,732. 8(tie), Ronnie Russell, Marion, Ind., and Brent Boho, Indianapolis, 1,727. 10, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1,709. 11(tie), Jason Belmonte, Australia, and Jason Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 1,700.

13, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 1,697. 14(tie), Zach Wilkins, Canada, Francois Lavoie, Wichita, Kan., and Kim Bolleby, Sweden, 1,692. 17, Tyrell Ingalls (a), Loganville, Ga., 1,690. 18, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 1,689.

19(tie), Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, and Nathan Ruest-Lajoie (a), Canada, 1,684. 21, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 1,682. 22, Michael Davidson, Versailles, Ohio, 1,679. 23, Dominic Barrett, England, 1,670. 24, Ryan Ciminelli, Lancaster, S.C., 1,668.

25, Chris Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 1,666. 26, Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 1,664. 27, Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, 1,661. 28, Matthew Sanders (a), Evansville, Ind., 1,655. 29(tie), Patrick Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., and DJ Archer, Houston, 1,654.

31(tie), Mitch Hupé, Lockport, Ill., and Wesley Low Jr., Palmdale, Calif., 1,651. 33, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 1,649. 34, Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., 1,648. 35, Martin Larsen, Sweden, 1,645. 36, David Stouffer (a), Lehigh Acres, Fla., 1,643.

37, Richard Teece, England, 1,641. 38(tie), Matthew Zweig, Scottsdale, Ariz., and Perry Crowell IV (a), St. Clair Shores, Mich., 1,636. 40, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 1,635. 41, Arturo Quintero, Mexico, 1,634. 42, Dan Higgins (a), Lewis Center, Ohio, 1,632.

43, Toby Sambueno, Las Vegas, 1,630. 44, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 1,628. 45(tie),



Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., and Cristian Azcona, Clermont, Fla., 1,625. 47, Brandon Caruso (a), Channahon, Ill., 1,623. 48, Nathan Bohr, Round Rock, Texas, 1,620.

49, Richard Allen, Lexington, S.C., 1,619. 50, Spencer Robarge (a), Springfield, Mo., 1,612. 51, Franklin Snodgrass (a), Sterling Heights, Mich., 1,608. 52, Michael Tang, Pickerington, Ohio, 1,603. 53, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 1,602. 54, Matthew Kuba, Tinley Park, Ill., 1,601.

55(tie), Shawn Maldonado, Sugarland, Texas, and Anthony Lavery-Spah, Pasadena, Texas, 1,598. 57, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 1,597. 58, Matt Ogle, Louisville, Ky., 1,596. 59, Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 1,587. 60(tie), AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., Zeke Bayt, Westerville, Ohio, and Thomas Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich., 1,583.

63, Jesper Svensson, Sweden, 1,580. 64(tie), Thomas Larsen, Denmark, and Michael Moore, Orlando, Fla., 1,576. 66, Zac Tackett, Huntington, Ind., 1,575.

67(tie), Bryan Hahlen (a), Greenwood, S.C., Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., and Ryan Mouw (a), Muskegon, Mich., 1,574. 70, Brenden Sramek, Bettendorf, Iowa, 1,573. 71, Stuart Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 1,570. 72, Darren Tang, Las Vegas, 1,566.

73, Michael Martell, West Babylon, N.Y., 1,564. 74, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 1,563. 75, Keven Williams, Battlefield, Mo., 1,559. 76, Christopher Sloan, Ireland, 1,552. 77, Zach Weidman, Indianapolis, 1,545. 78, Timothy Foy Jr., Seaford, Del., 1,543.

79, Charlie Brown Jr., Grandville, Mich., 1,542. 80, Anthony Neuer, Milton, Pa., 1,539. 81, Nolan White (a), Carlisle, Ohio, 1,536. 82(tie), Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., Brian Hall, Macedon, N.Y., and Chris Barnes, Denton, Texas, 1,535.

85(tie), Briley Haugh (a), Faribault, Minn., and Deo Benard, Keller, Texas, 1,533. 87, Solomon Salama (a), Beverly Hills, Calif., 1,331. 88, Trevor Roberts, Tampa, Fla., 1,521. 89, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 1,511. 90, Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., 1,510.

91, Timothy Gruendler, St. Louis, 1,508. 92, Benjamin Sobel (a), Columbus, Ohio, 1,505. 93, Blake Demore, Springfield, Mo., 1,504. 94, Brandon Roscoe, Bradenton, Fla., 1,503. 95, Bailey Mavrick, Peru, Ind., 1,500. 96, Alec Keplinger (a), Coldwater, Mich., 1,495.

97, Graham Fach, Canada, 1,484. 98, Ildemaro Ruiz, Venezuela, 1,480. 99, Tom Hess, Granger, Iowa, 1,479. 100, Matt Russo, Fairview Heights, Ill., 1,476. 101, BJ Moore, Greensburg, Pa., 1,475. 102, Peyton Smith (a), Loganville, Ga., 1,472.

103, Zachary Doty (a), Nassau, N.Y., 1,468. 104, Cerell Cardines (a), Las Vegas, 1,444. 105, AJ Chapman, Lewisville, Texas, 1,443. 106, Tim Stampe (a), Denmark, 1,418. 107, Joey Ocello (a), Neptune, N.J., 1,400. 108, Ryan Stubblefield (a), St. Charles, Mo., 1,399.

## **PATH TO THE PBA PLAYOFFS THROUGH THE PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FEBRUARY 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

On your marks... Get set... Go!

The 2022 PBA Tour season, and the race for a spot in the PBA Playoffs, is officially underway. Each competitor will earn points based on their finishes in national events, with the top 16 players advancing to the PBA Playoffs in April. Throughout the season, I will be providing updates on the top 20 or so athletes in the playoff race. The standings will be compact early on, but will diversify as the season progresses.

This list will also serve as a proxy for a Player of the Year race tracker, as the points leader often aligns with the winner of the award; Kyle Troup accomplished this in 2021. Without further ado, the first PBA event of 2022 has concluded and a familiar face—almost too familiar—sits atop the leaderboard.

### **1. Jason Belmonte - 7,500**

As his gold spare ball cleared the 3-pin from the deck, Belmonte dropped to a knee and delivered a Yahtzee worth of “Yes!” He pounded his chest as he backpedaled off the approach, then proclaimed two of the most iconic words in sports: “I’m back!”

The six-time Player of the Year failed to capture a title in 2021, marking his first winless campaign since 2016, but the 38-year-old ensured 2022 would not be the same. Belmonte defeated his once-fierce rival Sean Rash to claim his 26th career title and 14th major title, extending his PBA record.

His performance in the West Region stepladder was vintage Belmo: He averaged a pinch under 255 across his four clean games, missing the pocket just once and never getting less than nine. Though Belmonte didn't quite replicate his near-flawless execution on the final show, he pounced the instant his opponents opened the door.

Belmonte wished his competitors his best "G'day mate" as he sprinted out to the early lead in 2022.

## 2. Sean Rash - 4,500

Rash outgunned a host of elite talent in the stacked Midwest Region to earn his berth on the main telecast. He shed any doubts following his underwhelming performance and controversial comments in the regional title match by leading the three-game seeding round, striking on his final shot to best Belmonte for the top-seed. But in the title match, Rash wasn't able to replicate his execution from the seeding round and fell 210-201.

Rash's suspension from a national tour stop in Feb. will cost him an opportunity to earn points, but the 2011-12 Player of the Year looks poised to again be a fixture for the award this year.

## 3. Arturo Quintero - 3,450

The 43-year-old Quintero took down Kyle Sherman and Dom Barrett to emerge from the Southwest Region, seeking to become the first Mexican bowler to win a PBA title. After throwing the back five in the seeding round to earn the third seed for the major telecast, Quintero defeated Fach in his first match. He put up a valiant fight against Belmonte, but a 2-8-10 split in the 7th frame doomed his title pursuit.

"During this last year, I decided to really turn into a professional bowler," Quintero said. "I told myself, 'If you're going to do this, you have to do it good.' This is the result of all my work and effort."

It's hard to think of stronger validation for committing to pro bowling full-time than going toe-to-toe with the greatest bowler of this generation.

## 4. Graham Fach - 2,850

Many tabbed Fach, the lone left-hander to make the final show, as a significant threat to climb the ladder. After starting with the front nine against Jones in his first match, Fach appeared to be a Level 1 threat. But the Canadian lost his look on the Chameleon pattern and could not recover as Quintero ran away with the match. Fach will look to parlay his fourth-place finish into the rest of the 2022 season.

5. Tommy Jones - 2,550

To say Jones obliterated his competition in the South Region, especially on the Chameleon pattern, would undersell his dominance. He led the 53-player field by over 350 pins after 14 games and settled for a 293-pin advantage. Jones ended Norm Duke's effort to make the final show, but ran into a freight train on the show's opening match against Fach. The 43-year-old Hall of Famer is showing no signs of slowing down.

T-6. Patrick Dombrowski, Norm Duke, Matt Russo, Dom Barrett, Jakob Butturff - 2,325  
The ageless Norm Duke headlines this bunch, who all finished as the runners-up in the stepladder finals of their respective regions, but Matt Russo's performance stands out. The reigning PBA Rookie of the Year had his match against Rash in the Midwest final all but won—until a 2-4-6-7-10 split in the tenth frame, which followed Rash's infamous outburst, handed the match to Rash.

Barrett and Butturff were the lone top seeds who failed to advance to the final show, but their stellar performances across 28 games of qualifying speak to their talent more so than their shortcomings in a single-game match.

Dombroski has been a figure on the tour here and there since the early 2000s, but has ramped up his competitiveness in recent years. The 43-year-old followed up his slaying the 2021 Player of the Year, Kyle Troup, in his first match of the East Region finals by taking down another major champion in Bill O'Neill. He defeated the first lefty in his path, rookie Brandon Runk, but fell to the second, Fach.

Tom Daugherty broke out as a legitimate force in his 40s last year, though he had found greater success prior to his leap than Dombrowski. Time will tell if Dombroski's opening act of the 2022 season was a flash in the pan or the start of something special.

T-11. Brandon Runk, DJ Archer, AJ Johnson, Kyle Sherman, Jake Peters - 2,235  
The third place finishers feature a pair of one-time PBA champs—although it's been almost a decade since Peters' and Archer's titles—and three mid-late 20-year-olds chasing their first titles. Sherman and Johnson are two of the most prominent players on tour without a national singles title, while Runk, the 2021 East region Rookie of the Year, is new to the national stage.

T-16. Bill O'Neill, David Stouffer, EJ Tackett, François Lavoie, Wesley Low Jr. - 2,145  
The gaudy résumés of O'Neill, Tackett and Lavoie, each multitime major titlists, proved insufficient in their matches. But their histories indicate that these most likely won't be their last television appearances of the year. Stouffer's differing strategy to win ostensibly without a résumé—he has fewer cashes in national events than that trio has combined major titles—also proved futile.

Low Jr. appears to be a fan of the Players Championship's regional format: This tournament was his coming out party as a rookie last year, and he returned to the West Region finals in 2022, though he came up short against Belmonte. (But leaving a pocket

5-pin on national television has to count for something. It might not be good, but it's something.)

T-21. Kyle Troup, Toby Sambueno, Bailey Mavrick, Brad Miller, Cortez Schenck - 2,055  
Normally, this article will only include the top 20 players in the points race, but that would leave out five of the finalists from the regional finals. It would be a wasted opportunity to exclude this cast of characters reminiscent of a teen drama set in a 1980s high school. You know what? This group is exactly like the cast of a teen drama set in a 1980s high school, specifically *The Breakfast Club*.

Troup, the reigning Player of the Year, is John Bender, of course. Miller is the modern version of Claire Standish; she would have been Shermer High School's queen of Instagram in the way Miller thrives on YouTube. Sambueno's part-time status fits the stereotypical social outcast role, so he's Allison Reynolds. Schenck's spectacular youth bowling career compares favorably to Andrew Clark's high school wrestling background. Finally, Mavrick's talent and politeness mimic Brian Johnson's, and both were somewhat unknown figures before their big-screen debuts.

If a Belmonte-Rash match for a major title is a sign of things to come, the 2022 PBA season is poised to be one for the ages. Check back next week to see how the playoff picture looks following the U.S. Open.

## **REFRESHED ANDREW ANDERSON LEADING AT 2022 U.S. OPEN**

**INDIANAPOLIS** - On paper, Andrew Anderson of Holly, Michigan, had a memorable and successful 2021 on the lanes, but a frustrating finish to the year made him realize some changes were needed.

Even though it meant missing one of his favorite events, and ultimately a spot on Team USA for 2022, he feels the decision to take some time away from the lanes has him in a much better mental state this week at the 2022 U.S. Open.

Anderson's physical game appears to be on-point in the new year, too.

Through two days of competition at Woodland Bowl, the 26-year-old right-hander is the overall leader at the second major of the 2022 Professional Bowlers Association Tour season.

He left the venue Wednesday afternoon proud of the progress he has made, both with his mental game and in conquering a lane condition that has challenged him in the past.

Anderson entered Wednesday's second round third in the 108-player standings, and though he averaged 10 pins less on the day's 37-foot oil pattern, his 1,682 eight-game total was a victory in itself. His 16-game total is 3,443, a 215.19 average.

"We expect the U.S. Open to be a grind, and it's living up to that," said Anderson, who posted a 1,761 total on Tuesday's 45-foot lane condition. "I'm really happy with my bowling so far. I've bowled on the U.S. Open patterns for a few years now, and ones like today's flat pattern have beaten me up. I came in aggressive today because I wasn't going to let it get me this year, and it didn't. I'm really proud of that, and I'm looking forward to the rest of the event."

EJ Tackett of nearby Bluffton, Indiana, is second with a 3,434 total and followed by left-hander Wesley Low Jr. of Palmdale, California (3,415), Australia's Jason Belmonte (3,413) and Ronnie Russell of Marion, Indiana (3,404).

Defending champion Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, finished the second day of qualifying in 38th place with a 3,202 total, a 200.13 average.

Even when compared to 2018, when he won two PBA Tour titles and was named PBA Player of the Year, Anderson's 2021 was a very well-rounded effort.

The year included a doubles title on the PBA Tour, a victory at the 2021 PBA Strike Derby presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon, a Regular Singles title at the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships and a pair of gold medals in international competition with Team USA.

However, trying to ride the wave of success had Anderson on the lanes almost every weekend. Not only was he trying to maintain his momentum, he also was trying to be the bowler he was three seasons earlier, and it led to him getting burned out.

"It's easy to get burned out when you're competing every weekend," Anderson said. "People are used to the PBA Tour schedule, but when that's not going on, most of us are competing in other events or practicing. I don't take many weekends off, and I felt like I was working so hard to get back to what I was in 2018 from a physical standpoint, that I didn't take the time I needed mentally to sustain that. Physically, I feel like I'm as good as ever and ready to compete at the highest level, but mentally, I feel like I took a step back."

Anderson closed 2021 with a pair of Team USA events in Colombia and the United Arab Emirates. Once again, he was honored for the opportunity, but he didn't feel his contributions lived up to his capabilities.

He left the PANAM Bowling Elite Championships in Colombia with a team gold medal and was part of a trios win at the 2021 International Bowling Federation Super World Championships in Dubai, but his feelings about the experiences were mixed.

Feeling burned out led to frustration, challenges in being able to attack the lanes and just poor execution at times. Realizing after that he needed some time away was a sign of maturity, even if it meant missing the 2022 USBC Team USA Trials in January.

"I needed a change," Anderson said. "As successful as 2021 was, it wasn't up to my expectations as far as the whole year. I also wish the Team USA events would've gone better. I didn't bowl well and didn't help the team very much, but I'm hoping to get back on track this year in every aspect."

Anderson arrived in Indianapolis this week refreshed, motivated and excited for one of the most prestigious events in bowling. He feels prepared and sharp and is confident in his understanding of the new brand of bowling balls in his bags.

He knows there are things about the 2018 version of himself he'd like to continue doing, but he also knows that being successful will include a balance of strong fundamentals, patience and mental clarity.

In 2018, he felt he was a very aggressive bowler, but in the years since, he'd describe himself as a nervous bowler trying to force results.

"Overall, I had a great 2021, which included the doubles title with Kris (Prather) and the Eagle in Las Vegas," Anderson said. "I was successful. It wasn't from a lack of success that I needed change. It was strictly mental. Professional athletes more and more are coming out about how important mental health is, and bowlers should do the same. Physically, I'm as good as ever and ready to compete, and I think that will show. My main goal for this year is to grow in the other aspects."

Anderson has experienced major success on the PBA Tour, winning the 2018 USBC Masters, and earning a green jacket at the U.S. Open also is something he'd like to accomplish. But, he knows he

can't get too far ahead of himself, with only 16 of the week's 56 games complete, and two of the four oil patterns yet to come.

This week, the competitors will face a variety of conditions ranging from 37 to 45 feet.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com, and the event will conclude with a five-player stepladder live on FS1 on Sunday at 5 p.m. Eastern.

Competition at the 2022 U.S. Open will continue Thursday with the final round of qualifying for the full field, this time on a 41-foot oil pattern.

Bowling originally was scheduled to get underway at 8 a.m. EST, but a delayed start has been planned due to inclement weather in the area. The new start time will be 10 a.m. EST, and any additional changes will be posted on BOWL.com and across USBC's social media channels.

All 108 entrants are bowling 24 games over three days, before the field is cut to the top 36 for the eight-game Cashers' Round on a fourth oil pattern. After 32 games, total pinfall will determine the 24 bowlers for round-robin match play, and 56-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will determine Sunday's finalists.

This year's champion will take home a \$100,000 top prize, the custom U.S. Open trophy and the green jacket. The last time the event awarded a six-figure prize to the champion was 2009.

The field this week in Indianapolis is made up of the sport's top performers in recent seasons. It includes the leaders on the PBA Tour points list, Team USA and Junior Team members, top performers at USBC events and PBA majors, and those who advanced from an on-site pre-tournament qualifier earlier Sunday.

The 2022 U.S. Open is a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. The total prize fund for the event will be \$282,000.

For more information about the U.S. Open, visit [BOWL.com/USOpen](http://BOWL.com/USOpen).

## **2022 U.S. Open At Woodland Bowl Indianapolis**

### **Wednesday's results**

#### **ROUND 2 QUALIFYING (16 games)**

1, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 3,443. 2, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 3,434. 3, Wesley Low Jr., Palmdale, Calif., 3,415. 4, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 3,413. 5, Ronnie Russell, Marion, Ind., 3,404. 6, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 3,402.

7, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,375. 8, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 3,351. 9, Francois Lavoie, Wichita, Kan., 3,349. 10, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 3,333. 11, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 3,330. 12(tie), Zach Wilkins, Canada, and Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 3,316.

14, Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 3,299. 15, Patrick Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 3,293. 16, Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., 3,288. 17, Sam Cooley, Australia, 3,284. 18, Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 3,273.

19, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 3,270. 20(tie), Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., and Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, 3,257. 22, Daniel Farish, Louisville, Ky., 3,255. 23, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 3,248. 24, Trevor Roberts, Tampa, Fla., 3,246.

25, DJ Archer, Houston, 3,243. 26(tie), Toby Sambueno, Las Vegas, and David Stouffer (a), Lehigh Acres, Fla., 3,237. 28, Kim Bolleby, Sweden, 3,236. 29, Franklin Snodgrass (a), Sterling Heights, Mich., 3,234. 30, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 3,230.

31, Spencer Robarge (a), Springfield, Mo., 3,227. 32, Matt Ogle, Louisville, Ky., 3,224. 33, Bryan Hahlen (a), Greenwood, S.C., 3,223. 34, Matthew Kuba, Tinley Park, Ill., 3,220. 35, Dan Higgins (a), Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,218. 36, Nathan Bohr, Round Rock, Texas, 3,211.

37, Martin Larsen, Sweden, 3,209. 38, Chris Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 3,202. 39, Tyrell Ingalls (a), Loganville, Ga., 3,200. 40, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 3,198. 41, Jason Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 3,197. 42, Brent Boho, Indianapolis, 3,192.

43, Shawn Maldonado, Sugarland, Texas, 3,190. 44(tie), Thomas Larsen, Denmark, Ryan Ciminelli, Lancaster, S.C., and Nathan Ruest-Lajoie (a), Canada, 3,185. 47, Thomas Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich., 3,174. 48(tie), Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., and Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 3,171.

50, Mitch Hupé, Lockport, Ill., 3,168. 51, Matthew Sanders (a), Evansville, Ind., 3,164. 52, Michael Davidson, Versailles, Ohio, 3,162. 53(tie), Zeke Bayt, Westerville, Ohio, and Dominic Barrett, England, 3,161.

55, Brandon Caruso (a), Channahon, Ill., 3,154. 56, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,146. 57, Charlie Brown Jr., Grandville, Mich., 3,137. 58, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 3,134. 59, Richard Allen, Lexington, S.C., 3,129. 60, Chris Barnes, Denton, Texas, 3,124.

61, AJ Chapman, Lewisville, Texas, 3,120. 62, Richard Teece, England, 3,117. 63, Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 3,111. 64, Arturo Quintero, Mexico, 3,110. 65, Michael Tang, Pickerington, Ohio, 3,109. 66, Benjamin Sobel (a), Columbus, Ohio, 3,103.

67(tie), Deo Benard, Keller, Texas, Darren Tang, Las Vegas, and Jesper Svensson, Sweden, 3,102. 70, Stuart Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 3,097. 71, Brenden Sramek, Bettendorf, Iowa, 3,093. 72, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 3,091.

73, Solomon Salama (a), Beverly Hills, Calif., 3,088. 74, Cristian Azcona, Clermont, Fla., 3,081. 75, Ildemaro Ruiz, Venezuela, 3,079. 76, Graham Fach, Canada, 3,071. 77, Zach Weidman, Indianapolis, 3,065. 78, Joey Ocello (a), Neptune, N.J., 3,057.

79, Michael Martell, West Babylon, N.Y., 3,055. 80, Perry Crowell IV (a), St. Clair Shores, Mich., 3,049. 81, Nolan White (a), Carlisle, Ohio, 3,041. 82, Brandon Roscoe, Bradenton, Fla., 3,038. 83, Briley Haugh (a), Faribault, Minn., 3,031. 84(tie), Blake Demore, Springfield, Mo., and Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 3,030.

86(tie), Alec Keplinger (a), Coldwater, Mich., and Michael Moore, Orlando, Fla., 3,029. 88, Timothy Foy Jr., Seaford, Del., 3,023. 89, Matthew Zweig, Scottsdale, Ariz., 3,022. 90, William Moore, Greensburg, Pa., 3,021.

91, Timothy Gruendler, St. Louis, 3,009. 92, Keven Williams, Battlefield, Mo., 2,989. 93, Peyton Smith (a), Loganville, Ga., 2,987. 94, Brian Hall, Macedon, N.Y., 2,964. 95, Anthony Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,958. 96(tie), Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., and Anthony Lavery-Spahr, Pasadena, Texas, 2,957.

98, Christopher Sloan, Ireland, 2,949. 99, Bailey Mavrick, Peru, Ind., 2,938. 100, Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., 2,937. 101, Zac Tackett, Huntington, Ind., 2,916. 102, Zachary Doty (a), Nassau, N.Y., 2,909.

103, Tom Hess, Granger, Iowa, 2,888. 104, Ryan Stubblefield (a), St. Charles, Mo., 2,884. 105, Ryan Mouw (a), Muskegon, Mich., 2,867. 106, Matt Russo, Fairview Heights, Ill., 2,866. 107, Tim Stampe (a), Denmark, 2,801. 108, Cerell Cardines (a), Las Vegas, 2,761.

## **TACKETT LEADS, FIELD NARROWS TO TOP 36 AT 2022 U.S. OPEN**

**INDIANAPOLIS** - A winter storm may have delayed the start of the final round of qualifying at 2022 U.S. Open, but the competitors at Woodland Bowl wasted no time delivering the flurry of strikes that were forecasted for the day's 41-foot lane condition.

Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas, an eight-time Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion and the runner-up at the U.S. Open in 2020, was the day's top performer, averaging more than 239 over eight games Thursday to lock up his spot in Friday's Cashers' Round, where the week's best over three rounds will continue to fight for a shot at the \$100,000 top prize, custom trophy and iconic green jacket.

The overall leader for the 24 games was EJ Tackett of nearby Bluffton, Indiana, who finally was able to take the top spot in the standings. He was second after each of the first two rounds this week, and his 1,804 block Thursday landed him in the lead with a 5,238 total, a 218.25 average.

The 29-year-old right-hander was followed by Simonsen (5,232), Australia's Jason Belmonte (5,161), AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois (5,151), and Tom Daugherty of Riverview, Florida (5,141).

"I bowled 40 over yesterday, which I felt was above average for how difficult the pattern was, and I was able to follow that up with a great day today to get the lead back," said Tackett, who owns two major titles and a best finish at the U.S. Open of fourth (2018). "I've just been trying to knock down as many pins as possible and keep myself in good position moving forward."

Kyle Sherman of O'Fallon, Missouri, made the biggest move of the day, surging from 84th place after two rounds into the top 25. His 1,883 effort helped him to a 4,913 total and 23rd place.

Chad Roberts of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, claimed the final spot in the Cashers' Round with a 4,850 total, a 202.8 average.

Defending champion Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, just missed the cut, finishing in 44th place with 4,820.

This week, the competitors are facing a variety of conditions ranging from 37 to 45 feet. They know going in that they may not be comfortable on all of them, so how they handle the frustrating moments sometimes can be as important as taking advantage of any momentum as it comes.

For Tackett, a real mental test came Wednesday on the flat 37-foot oil pattern everyone expected to be incredibly challenging.

He managed to shoot the day's highest game, 299, in Game 6, before tossing one of the day's lowest games, 137, immediately after. His response was far different than it would've been during his rookie campaign a decade ago, and he was able to close the block with 222.

"I knew the pattern yesterday was going to be hard, and it would be tough not to bowl 150 at some point," Tackett said. "Sometimes, you catch a pair where the ball does the exact opposite of what it did on the pair before. Before you know it, you're in the ninth frame, which is what happened to me, and I didn't throw my first strike until the fill ball. I stayed calm and got all I could, and I walked away hoping the next pair would be better. Fortunately, it was, and I was able to finish strong, which always helps going into the next day. I definitely was able to handle the situation much better than I might've in the past."

All rounds of qualifying and match play this week are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com, and the event will conclude with a five-player stepladder live on FS1 on Sunday at 5 p.m. Eastern.

Competition at the 2022 U.S. Open will resume Friday at 11 a.m. Eastern, and the tournament's remaining 32 games all will be contested on a fourth oil pattern, which will be 40 feet in length.

As one of the longest and most prestigious events in bowling, players expect the U.S. Open to be both mentally trying and physically demanding, and navigating the challenges begins on practice day.

During practice, they have 90 minutes to find a feel for each pattern, including Pattern 4, which they may not even get a chance to see, unless they perform well over the event's first three days.

Tackett typically chooses to skip the fourth session, knowing that if he advances to the Cashers' Round, he'll have another opportunity to see what the final pattern is all about. Sometimes, that may require new equipment, which can be determined during a late-night practice session that falls after the third round of qualifying.

Because the weather pushed Thursday's squads back two hours, the practice session now will take place Friday morning before the Cashers' Round, and there won't be time to select and drill balls before competition begins.

"I haven't actually bowled on the fourth pattern yet, but I drilled a couple balls I'm hoping will help me the rest of the way," Tackett said. "I never have bowled on the last pattern during the main practice



session because so much time will pass before we see it. I don't want to get a preconceived notion, so I wait. This time, because of the weather and schedule change, it was a blind guess for the new balls. Usually, we practice, then drill, but this year is a little different. They may make the bag, they may not. I just want to be prepared."

All 108 entrants bowled 24 games over three days this week, before the field was cut to the top 36 for the eight-game Cashers' Round. After 32 games, total pinfall will determine the 24 bowlers for round-robin match play, and 56-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will determine Sunday's finalists.

The first eight games of match play will get underway Friday at 6 p.m. EST, and there will be eight-games blocks Saturday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. EST.

The field this week in Indianapolis was made of up the sport's top performers in recent seasons. It included the leaders on the PBA Tour points list, Team USA and Junior Team members, top performers at USBC events and PBA majors, and those who advanced from an on-site pre-tournament qualifier last weekend.

The 2022 U.S. Open is a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. The total prize fund for the event will be \$282,000.

The last time the event awarded a six-figure prize to the champion was 2009.

For more information about the U.S. Open, visit [BOWL.com/USOpen](http://BOWL.com/USOpen).

## **2022 U.S. Open At Woodland Bowl Indianapolis**

### **Thursday's results**

#### **ROUND 3 QUALIFYING (24 games)**

1, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 5,238. 2, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 5,232. 3, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 5,161. 4, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 5,151. 5, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 5,141. 6, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 5,125.

7, Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, 5,056. 8, Francois Lavoie, Wichita, Kan., 5,032. 9, Matthew Kuba, Tinley Park, Ill., 5,016. 10, Sam Cooley, Australia, 4,994. 11(tie), Wesley Low, Palmdale, Calif., and Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 4,989.

13, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 4,981. 14, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 4,964. 15(tie), Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., and Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 4,955. 17, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 4,938. 18, Ronnie Russell, Marion, Ind., 4,937.

19(tie), Nathan Bohr, Round Rock, Texas, and Kim Bolleby, Sweden, 4,931. 21, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 4,923. 22, Bryan Hahlen (a), Greenwood, S.C., 4,919. 23, Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 4,913. 24, Zach Wilkins, Canada, 4,907.

25, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 4,904. 26, Ryan Ciminelli, Lancaster, S.C., 4,900. 27, Frank Snodgrass (a), Sterling Heights, Mich., 4,898. 28, Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., 4,886. 29, Spencer Robarge (a), Springfield, Mo., 4,885. 30, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 4,884.

31, Matt Ogle, Louisville, Ky., 4,864. 32(tie), Mitch Hupé, Lockport, Ill., and Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., 4,860. 34, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 4,859. 35, Toby Sambueno, Las Vegas, 4,852. 36, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 4,850.

#### **DID NOT ADVANCE:**

37, Thomas Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich., 4,840. 38, Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 4,839. 39, David Stouffer (a), Lehigh Acres, Fla., 4,833. 40(tie), DJ Archer, Houston, and Daniel Farish, Louisville, Ky., 4,830. 42, Dan Higgins (a), Lewis Center, Ohio, 4,824.

43, Charlie Brown Jr., Grandville, Mich., 4,821. 44, Chris Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 4,820. 45, Michael Tang, Pickerington, Ohio, 4,818. 46(tie), Dominic Barrett, England, Shawn Maldonado, Sugarland, Texas, and Jason Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 4,811.

49(tie), Michael Davidson, Versailles, Ohio, and Patrick Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 4,810. 51, Blake Demore, Springfield, Mo., 4,802. 52, Martin Larsen, Sweden, 4,797. 53(tie), Graham Fach, Canada, and Brandon Caruso (a), Channahon, Ill., 4,796.

55, Thomas Larsen, Denmark, 4,781. 56, Brent Boho, Indianapolis, 4,779. 57, Stuart Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 4,778. 58, Ildemaro Ruiz, Venezuela, 4,775. 59, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 4,774. 60, Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo., 4,773.

61, Nathan Ruest-Lajoie (a), Canada, 4,758. 62, Arturo Quintero, Mexico, 4,756. 63, Matthew Sanders (a), Evansville, Ind., 4,754. 64, Darren Tang, Las Vegas, 4,753. 65, Trevor Roberts, Tampa, Fla., 4,747. 66, Chris Barnes, Denton, Texas, 4,746.

67(tie), Perry Crowell IV (a), St. Clair Shores, Mich., and Benjamin Sobel (a), Columbus, Ohio, 4,739. 69, Richard Teece, England, 4,735. 70, Tyrell Ingalls (a), Loganville, Ga., 4,730. 71, Nolan White (a), Carlisle, Ohio, 4,728. 72, Peyton Smith (a), Loganville, Ga., 4,720.

73, Zach Weidman, Indianapolis, 4,718. 74, Richard Allen, Lexington, S.C., 4,709. 75(tie), Anthony Neuer, Milton, Pa., and Briley Haugh (a), Faribault, Minn., 4,695. 77, Zeke Bayt, Westerville, Ohio, 4,674. 78, AJ Chapman, Lewisville, Texas, 4,667.

79, Anthony Lavery-Spahr, Pasadena, Texas, 4,663. 80, Timothy Foy Jr., Seaford, Del., 4,659. 81, Jesper Svensson, Sweden, 4,654. 82, Deo Benard, Keller, Texas, 4,652. 83, Michael Martell, West Babylon, N.Y., 4,647. 84, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 4,641.

85, Michael Moore, Orlando, Fla., 4,638. 86, Bailey Mavrick, Peru, Ind., 4,635. 87(tie), Zac Tackett, Huntington, Ind., and William Moore, Greensburg, Pa., 4,618. 89, Brenden Sramek, Bettendorf, Iowa, 4,612. 90, Timothy Gruendler, St. Louis, 4,596.

91, Joey Ocello (a), Neptune, N.J., 4,584. 92, Cristian Azcona, Clermont, Fla., 4,562. 93, Matthew Zweig, Scottsdale, Ariz., 4,558. 94, Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., 4,537. 95, Alec Keplinger (a), Coldwater, Mich., 4,533. 96, Solomon Salama (a), Beverly Hills, Calif., 4,532.

97, Christopher Sloan, Ireland, 4,526. 98, Brian Hall, Macedon, N.Y., 4,515. 99, Ryan Stubblefield (a), St. Charles, Mo., 4,499. 100, Ryan Mouw (a), Muskegon, Mich., 4,493. 101, Brandon Roscoe, Bradenton, Fla., 4,468. 102, Matt Russo, Fairview Heights, Ill., 4,448.

103, Zachary Doty (a), Nassau, N.Y., 4,444. 104, Tom Hess, Granger, Iowa, 4,394. 105, Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., 4,379. 106, Tim Stampe (a), Denmark, 4,296. 107, Cerell Cardines (a), Las Vegas, 4,083. 108, Keven Williams, Battlefield, Mo., 2,989 (WD).

## **MATCH PLAY UNDERWAY, TACKETT MAINTAINS LEAD AT 2022 U.S. OPEN**

**INDIANAPOLIS** - EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana, may not have been formally introduced to the final oil pattern for the 2022 U.S. Open until just before Friday's Cashers' Round, but it seemed to be love at first sight for the 29-year-old right-hander.

Tackett entered the Cashers' Round at Woodland Bowl six pins ahead of the talented field, but he averaged more than 246 over eight games to extend his lead to 271 pins heading into the first round of round-robin match play.

His relationship with the 40-foot lane condition was a little more love-hate as he compiled a 5-3 record Friday night, but he's still the front-runner through 40 games by 213 pins. He has not been below second place all week.

Tackett finished the event's fourth day with a 9,115 total, which includes 30 bonus pins for each win in match play.

He is followed in the standings by Jake Peters of Henderson, Nevada (8,902), Tom Daugherty of Riverview, Florida (8,874), Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas (8,818) and AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois (8,808).

"I was able to see the lane really well this morning, but when we bowled tonight, I felt like everything was backward, and I ended up with no hook to the right and no hold on almost every pair," Tackett said. "I don't know if that's because of the number of bowlers or the percentage of urethane balls going down the lane, but we're going to talk about it and try to figure it out. We might make some surface changes or bring in some balls I haven't used so much and take it from there."

Peters posted the highest block (1,904) and turned in the best record in the first round of matches, a 7-1 mark that allowed him to move up four spots.

The biggest mover of the evening was Australia's Sam Cooley, who earned the final spot in match play, despite six games under 200 in the Cashers' Round, but found his stride in the head-to-head format. He opened with games of 246 and 258, won six matches and catapulted into 13th place.

Tackett and his fellow finalists will have 16 more games Saturday to get acquainted with the week's fourth oil pattern, which will be used for the duration of the 2022 U.S. Open, including the TV show.

Competition at Woodland Bowl will resume Saturday morning at 11 a.m. Eastern with the first of two eight-game rounds of match play.

The second block will get underway at 6 p.m. EST, after which, the players' 56-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will determine the five bowlers for the televised stepladder.

All rounds of qualifying and match play this week are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com, and the tournament will conclude live on FS1 on Sunday as part of the 2022 Professional Bowlers Association Tour television schedule, beginning at 5 p.m. Eastern.

Tackett said that despite the limited time to get familiar with the final oil pattern prior to competition starting, he was able to stay ahead of the curve by watching the bowlers he was paired with in the Cashers' Round - Simonsen and Ohio's Chad Roberts.

"A lot of my success this morning had to do with who I was bowling with," Tackett said. "I've bowled a lot of stuff with and against Chad over the years, and just watching his ball was very helpful for me. He bowled first every game, so I got to see him throw a shot on each pair before I bowled. His ball roll is so stable, that if it didn't hook, or hooked too much, it gave me a really good idea about what the pair was doing. I feel like I've been in tune with making the right moves lately, and that helped make it even better."

Since the return of the U.S. Open in 2015 after a one-year hiatus, the top seed for the championship round has led by more than 270 pins, and by as many as 617 pins, after 56 games on five occasions.

Only once in those five opportunities, and twice overall, has the No. 1 seed won the event.

Ryan Ciminelli of Lancaster, South Carolina, was the only left-hander among the top 24 in 2015 when he led by 461 pins and went on the claim the coveted green jacket, while 2021 winner, Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, grabbed the top spot by just 11 pins with a Game-56 victory and went on to hoist the trophy.

A decade into his professional career and already a two-time major champion on the PBA Tour, Tackett is far from ready to start planning what he's going to wear on Sunday's TV show.

With 16 games to go, and nearly 500 bonus pins up for grabs, he knows the focus must be on each game and not letting his thoughts drift too far ahead. If all continues to go well, there will be a time to think about his third major and 15th title overall, but 40 games into a 56-game event is not it.

"At this point, it's about focusing on what's in front of you and the things you can control," Tackett said. "You can't start worrying about what you're going to do on the TV show because as soon as that thought enters your mind, it's all negative from there. From here, I have to bowl a little better. I didn't bowl as well tonight physically as I did earlier, and the lanes felt backward, so it was a double-whammy for me. I didn't bowl poorly, I just didn't bowl as well as I thought I should have. So, I'll get

some rest and come back focused on being better."

All 108 entrants this week bowled 24 games over three days and three oil patterns, before the field was cut to the top 36 for the eight-game Cashers' Round on Pattern 4. After 32 games, total pinfall determined the 24 bowlers for round-robin match play.

The field at Woodland Bowl was made up of the sport's top performers in recent seasons. It included the leaders on the PBA Tour points list, Team USA and Junior Team members, top performers at USBC events and PBA majors, and those who advanced from an on-site pre-tournament qualifier last weekend.

The 2022 U.S. Open is a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. The total prize fund for the event will be \$282,000.

The last time the event awarded a six-figure prize to the champion was 2009. This year's winner will take home \$100,000.

For more information about the U.S. Open, visit [BOWL.com/USOpen](http://BOWL.com/USOpen).

## **2022 U.S. Open At Woodland Bowl Indianapolis**

### **Friday's results**

#### **MATCH PLAY**

**(40 games - 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)**

1, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 5-3-0, 9,115. 2, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 7-1-0, 8,902. 3, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 6-2-0, 8,874. 4, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 5-3-0, 8,818. 5, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 6-2-0, 8,808. 6, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 4-4-0, 8,713.

7, Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, 5-3-0, 8,687. 8, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 3-5-0, 8,661. 9, Francois Lavoie, Wichita, Kan., 5-3-0, 8,621. 10, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 4-4-0, 8,585. 11, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 4-4-0, 8,555. 12, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 3-5-0, 8,529.

13, Sam Cooley, Australia, 6-2-0, 8,509. 14, Matthew Kuba, Tinley Park, Ill., 3-5-0, 8,507. 15, Wesley Low Jr., Palmdale, Calif., 4-4-0, 8,451. 16, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 5-3-0, 8,444. 17, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 4-4-0, 8,416. 18, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 1-7-0, 8,400.

19, Matt Ogle, Louisville, Ky., 4-4-0, 8,388. 20, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 2-6-0, 8,352. 21, Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 3-5-0, 8,299. 22, Bryan Hahlen, Greenwood, S.C., 2-6-0, 8,296. 23, Zach Wilkins, Canada, 3-5-0, 8,273. 24, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 2-6-0, 8,170.

#### **CASHERS' ROUND (32 games)**

1, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 7,208. 2, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 6,937. 3, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 6,877. 4, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 6,874. 5, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 6,805. 6, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 6,788.

7, Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, 6,757. 8, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 6,755. 9, Francois Lavoie, Wichita, Kan., 6,730. 10, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 6,721. 11, Matthew Kuba, Tinley Park, Ill., 6,717. 12, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 6,685.

13, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 6,675. 14, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 6,669. 15, Wesley Low Jr., Palmdale, Calif., 6,661. 16, Bryan Hahlen, Greenwood, S.C., 6,654. 17, Zach Wilkins, Canada, 6,624. 18, Matt Ogle, Louisville, Ky., 6,620.

19, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 6,612. 20, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 6,611. 21, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 6,608. 22, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 6,588. 23, Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 6,586. 24, Sam Cooley, Australia, 6,580.

#### **DID NOT ADVANCE:**

25, Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., 6,567, \$1,400. 26, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 6,552, \$1,400. 27, Kim Bolleby, Sweden, 6,539, \$1,400. 28(tie), Frank Snodgrass (a), Sterling Heights, Mich., and Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 6,534, \$1,400. 30, Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., 6,524, \$1,400. 31, Ronnie Russell, Marion, Ind., 6,521, \$1,400. 32, Spencer Robarge (a), Springfield, Mo., 6,514, \$1,400. 33, Ryan Ciminelli, Lancaster, S.C., 6,502, \$1,400. 34, Toby Sambueno, Las Vegas, 6,473, \$1,400. 35, Nathan Bohr, Round Rock, Texas, 6,466, \$1,400. 36, Mitch Hupé, Lockport, Ill., 6,397, \$1,400.

## **TACKETT EARNS TOP SEED FOR FINALS AT 2022 U.S. OPEN**

**INDIANAPOLIS** - EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana, hasn't been any lower than second in the standings this week at the 2022 U.S. Open, and his consistency will be rewarded Sunday with a chance to bowl for \$100,000, the event's iconic green jacket and a major title on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour.

The 29-year-old right-hander moved into the lead during the third round of qualifying and held off some of the world's best bowlers for another 32 games to lock up the top seed for the TV finals, which will air live on Fox Sports' FS1 at 5 p.m. Eastern as part of the 2022 PBA Tour television schedule.

Tackett is a 14-time PBA Tour champion, including a pair of majors - the 2016 PBA World Championship and 2017 PBA Tournament of Champions. A win Sunday at Woodland Bowl would make him the eighth player in history to complete the PBA Triple Crown.

On the way to the No. 1 spot for the show, Tackett patiently navigated four oil patterns, ranging from 37-45 feet, over five days and 56 games. He averaged 227 and posted a 19-5 record in 24 head-to-head matches on the way to a 13,282 pinfall total, which included 30 bonus pins for each win in match play.

He'll be joined in the championship round by No. 2 Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas (12,780), No. 3 AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois (12,749), No. 4 Jake Peters of Henderson, Nevada (12,654), and Australia's Jason Belmonte (12,569) in the No. 5 spot.

"I just wanted to get out to a good start this last round, and I didn't, but I was able to come back with some good games and close out a few close matches, which really got the momentum going," Tackett said. "I threw some great shots when I needed them and managed to pick up seven more wins. The last couple of games, I was able to relax a little bit, my swing was loose and it was a lot of fun."

Peters and Belmonte will bowl in the opening match, with the winner advancing to meet Johnson in the traditional stepladder format. Simonsen will take on the winner of Match 2, and the last man standing will face Tackett in the final.

Tackett is looking to become the third top seed since 2015, and second consecutive, to claim the U.S. Open title.

He has a split record in a handful of opportunities as the top qualifier in PBA Tour majors, but he has learned a lot in his decade among the sport's elite about how to handle the moment. He's familiar with how his body reacts when he's under the TV lights and what his tendencies might be in certain situations.

Winning this week would be even more special because the tournament is being held in his home state and in a bowling center that has been part of the PBA's storied history for decades.

"I just need to get focused right from practice and block out everything outside of what I need to do to be successful for one more game," said Tackett, whose best finish at the U.S. Open was a fourth-

place effort in 2018. "I have a job to do, so I have to go out there and try to do the best I can, one shot at a time. I want to bowl a good game and hopefully have an opportunity to win. Nothing about winning is ever easy, and I expect to have to work very hard. All I ask for at the end is an opportunity to win this championship."

While Tackett was on cruise control during match play Friday and Saturday, leading by more than 200 pins, the rest of the stepladder hopefuls were involved in a continuous game of leapfrog.

Heading into the final round of match play Saturday night, it looked like it would be a five-player race for the four remaining spots on TV, with Johnson as the outlier by just 16 pins.

By the time the position round rolled around seven games later, PBA Hall of Famer and past U.S. Open champion Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina, and Australia's Sam Cooley had rallied from 245 and 300 pins back, respectively, which was eighth and 11th after 48 games.

Jones entered the final game of the event in seventh place, 30 pins out of the show, and Cooley was a distant, but reachable, 100 pins back. Tom Daugherty of Riverview, Florida, had dropped from fourth place to sixth during the last block and was 14 pins behind fifth place.

The fifth spot for the championship round was determined in the final frame, with Belmonte delivering a mark in his win over Daugherty to hold off Jones, who ended up 33 pins back and sixth overall.

Along with Tackett looking to add his name to the list of Triple Crown winners, the storylines among the five remaining players are plentiful.

Simonsen, the runner-up to Belmonte at the 2020 U.S. Open, is looking to become the youngest bowler in history with three major titles. He won the 2016 United States Bowling Congress Masters at Woodland Bowl and won the 2019 PBA Players Championship. He will be 25 years and 31 days old on Sunday.

Johnson is searching for his first PBA Tour title. He has been the runner-up on the PBA Tour on multiple occasions, including at the 2015 USBC Masters, where he lost to Belmonte.

Peters, who won the PBA Badger Open in 2013 for his lone PBA Tour title, has made an inspired return to full-time competition, following the death of his wife, Melissa, in May 2021. Her 35th birthday would've been Saturday.

Peters recently made adult Team USA for the first time and started the season with a TV appearance in the PBA Players Championship West Region Finals, where he finished third.

Belmonte won the West Region Finals, defeating Peters along the way, and went on to win the whole event for his record-extending 14th major victory. If Belmonte can win the 2022 U.S. Open on Sunday, he'll be the first player in history to complete the PBA Super Slam twice.

His U.S. Open win in 2020 helped him join PBA and USBC Hall of Famer Mike Aulby as the only two players to complete the feat once. It includes the U.S. Open, PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship, PBA Players Championship and USBC Masters. Belmonte has 26 PBA Tour titles overall.

All rounds of qualifying and match play this week were broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

All 108 entrants bowled 24 games over three days and three oil patterns, before the field was cut to the top 36 for the eight-game Cashers' Round on a fourth oil pattern. After 32 games, total pinfall determined the 24 bowlers for round-robin match play, and total pinfall for 56 games, including bonus pins for each match won, decided the five players for the stepladder.

The field at Woodland Bowl was made up of the sport's top performers in recent seasons. It included the leaders on the PBA Tour points list, Team USA and Junior Team members, top performers at USBC events and PBA majors, and those who advanced from an on-site pre-tournament qualifier last

weekend.

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The last time the event awarded a six-figure prize to the champion was 2009.

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## **2022 U.S. Open At Woodland Bowl Indianapolis**

### **Saturday's results**

#### **MATCH PLAY**

**(56 games - 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)**

1, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 19-5-0, 13,282. 2, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 14-10-0, 12,780. 3, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 18-6-0, 12,749. 4, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 15-9-0, 12,654. 5, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 12-12-0, 12,569.

#### **DID NOT ADVANCE:**

6, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 16-8-0, 12,536, \$5,300. 7, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 13-10-1, 12,487, \$4,800. 8, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 12-11-1, 12,429, \$4,600. 9, Sam Cooley, Australia, 17-6-1, 12,405, \$4,400. 10, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 11-12-1, 12,381, \$4,200. 11, Francois Lavoie, Wichita, Kan., 12-12-0, 12,366, \$4,000. 12, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 12-11-1, 12,332, \$3,900.

13, Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio, 12-12-0, 12,315, \$3,800. 14, Wesley Low Jr., Palmdale, Calif., 13-11-0, 12,210, \$3,700. 15, Matthew Kuba, Tinley Park, Ill., 11-13-0, 12,186, \$3,600. 16, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 6-16-2, 12,127, \$3,500. 17, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 11-13-0, 12,058, \$3,400. 18, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 7-17-0, 12,047, \$3,300.

19, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 10-13-1, 12,044, \$3,200. 20, Matt Ogle, Louisville, Ky., 10-14-0, 11,929, \$3,100. 21, Bryan Hahlen, Greenwood, S.C., 8-14-2, 11,901, \$3,000. 22, Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 8-16-0, 11,871, \$2,900. 23, Zach Wilkins, Canada, 8-16-0, 11,750, \$2,800. 24, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 8-16-0, 11,743, \$2,700.

### **SIMONSEN WINS 2022 U.S. OPEN FOR THIRD MAJOR TITLE**

**INDIANAPOLIS** - Almost six years after making history at Woodland Bowl, Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas was back to claim another spot in the bowling record book, this time by winning the 2022 U.S. Open for his third major title on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour.

Simonsen defeated top seed EJ Tackett of nearby Bluffton, Indiana, 232-165, to become the youngest bowler in history to win three majors. It marked Simonsen's ninth PBA Tour win overall.

The victory came live on Fox Sports' FS1 as part of the 2022 PBA Tour television schedule and also earned Simonsen a \$100,000 top prize and the event's iconic green jacket. Tackett earned \$50,000 as the runner-up.

At 25 years and 31 days old, Simonsen bested the previous mark of 25 years and 43 days, set by United States Bowling Congress and PBA Hall of Famer Dave Davis more than five decades ago.

Simonsen had the opportunity to break the record on the U.S. Open stage in 2020, where he was the top seed for the TV show, but he fell to Australia's Jason Belmonte.

Including Simonsen's win over Tackett on Sunday, the top qualifier at the U.S. Open has been defeated six times since 2015.

"It was a long two years to wait after losing the title match in 2020 and then not bowling last year, so there certainly was some redemption in being able to win this time," Simonsen said. "It also is big because of how the season started at this year's (PBA) Players Championship. I didn't feel like I bowled all that great, but I didn't bowl terribly, either. It's good to be moving in the right direction as the season gets going."

On the way to the win over Tackett, Simonsen struck six times in his first seven frames to put the game out of reach. Tackett, a 29-year-old right-hander and 14-time PBA Tour champion, opened four times in the first eight frames.

Tackett's resume includes two majors - the 2016 PBA World Championship and 2017 PBA Tournament of Champions - and he was looking to become the eighth bowler in history to complete the PBA Triple Crown.

"I had a couple different ball choices, and I went with the one that got me there," Tackett said. "This particular time, on that particular pair, it wasn't the right one. I think the ball I threw was just a little bit too early, which forced me to throw it too far to the right. I just made the wrong ball choice, and that happens."

In 2016, a month past his 19th birthday, Simonsen won the USBC Masters to become the PBA Tour's youngest major champion. That win came shortly after the death of his mother, so it carried a little extra meaning for the young two-hander, who grew up in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

This time, Simonsen again arrived at Woodland Bowl with a heavy heart, following the recent loss of his father, and it's something he did think about once he was on-site.

"My mom passed a couple months prior to us bowling the Masters here, and I came away with the win, and my dad passed away a couple of months ago, so coming back, I had a weird feeling this week in regards to that," Simonsen said. "And, it's a center I'm comfortable in, with some past success, so that always plays into it. That comfort definitely was a key to my success this week."

Simonsen, whose second major title was the 2019 PBA Players Championship, entered Sunday's stepladder as the No. 2 seed, 502 pins behind Tackett after 56 games of qualifying and match play across four oil patterns. It marked the fifth time since the U.S. Open's 2015 return from a one-year hiatus, that the top seed led by more than 270 pins and did not win. In 2020, Simonsen finished 362 pins ahead of the field.

"Yes, leading by 500 is all grand, but it doesn't matter," Tackett said. "It doesn't mean anything. This is what means something. I didn't do it. The positive is, I led by 500 over the best bowlers in the world. I know I'm bowling well, but I have to figure out what to do to win."

To earn the meeting with Tackett, Simonsen survived a rematch with Belmonte, who won the season-opening PBA Players Championship for his record-extending 14th PBA major win and 26th title overall.

In the low-scoring semifinal, Simonsen outlasted the Australian two-hander, 180-168, with a ninth-frame ball change sparking his run to the title. The two combined for five open frames, which included two washouts, two splits and a chopped 6-10 combination from Simonsen early in the match.

Simonsen and Belmonte were separated by one pin after nine frames. Simonsen finished first and delivered three strikes in his final frame to force Belmonte to do the same for a one-pin victory. The 38-year-old missed the headpin to the right on his first offering and left the 1-2-4 combination to fall short.



A win Sunday for Belmonte would've made him the first player in history to complete the PBA Super Slam twice. His win over Simonsen at the 2020 U.S. Open allowed him to achieve the feat for the first time, matching USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Mike Aulby.

The Super Slam includes the U.S. Open, PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship, PBA Players Championship and Masters.

Belmonte entered the championship round Sunday as the fifth seed and defeated No. 4 Jake Peters of Henderson, Nevada, and No. 3 AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois, to set up the meeting with Simonsen.

Against Johnson, Belmonte needed to spare a 10 pin in his final frame and get one pin on the fill ball to advance to the semifinal. He was successful and moved on, 221-212.

Johnson is a six-time runner-up in PBA Tour competition, the first of which came against Belmonte at the 2015 Masters. He did later pick up a win against the world's best at the 2019 Korea PBA SamHo Cup, but that was a non-title event.

In the opening match Sunday, Belmonte struck three times in the first four frames, and seven times overall, to cruise to a 246-198 victory over Peters.

Peters won his lone PBA Tour title in 2013 and was in search of his first major victory. He was not able to record a strike in the second half of the game and was slowed by a washout in the seventh frame that he was unable to convert.

All rounds of qualifying and match play this week were broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

The 108 U.S. Open entrants bowled 24 games over three days and three oil patterns, before the field was cut to the top 36 for the eight-game Cashers' Round on a fourth oil pattern.

After 32 games, total pinfall determined the 24 bowlers for round-robin match play, and total pinfall for 56 games, including bonus pins for each match won, decided the five players for the stepladder.

The fourth oil pattern was used for the Cashers' Round, match play and the TV show.

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The 2022 U.S. Open was a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. The total prize fund for the event was \$282,000.

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## **2022 U.S. Open At Woodland Bowl Indianapolis**

### **Sunday's results**

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 412 (two games), \$100,000.
- 2, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 165 (one game), \$50,000.
- 3, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 635 (three games), \$25,000.
- 4, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 212 (one game), \$12,500.
- 5, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 198 (one game), \$7,500.

## **STEPLADDER RESULTS**

Match No. 1 - Belmonte def. Peters, 246-198.

Match No. 2 - Belmonte def. Johnson, 221-212.

Semifinal - Simonsen def. Belmonte, 180-168.

Championship - Simonsen def. Tackett, 232-165.

## **PBA AND LANETALK ANNOUNCE 2022 SHOWDOWN TOUR**

### **FEBRUARY 7, 2022 JLAUFER**

*Bowlers of all skill levels around the world can participate in new monthly Showdown competitions beginning with the PBA World Series of Bowling Showdown on February 14*

**New York, NY** – After the success of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) and Lanetalk's first-ever Global Showdown in 2021, the two are excited to introduce a newly expanded tournament format and announce the 2022 Showdown Tour powered by Lanetalk.

The 2022 Showdown Tour will feature nine tournaments held throughout the calendar year at hundreds of United States and International participating host centers enabled with Lanetalk. Bowlers of all skill levels are encouraged to join for free for a chance to win a piece of the \$125,000 total prize fund.

"The PBA is thrilled to introduce the 2022 Showdown Tour and host events nearly every month in partnership with Lanetalk this year," said, Lev Ekster, Chief Strategy Officer of Bowlero Corp and Chief Operating Officer of the PBA. "In 2021, we saw tremendous success with more than 13,500 participants bowling in over 27 countries. We had an opportunity to create more events for bowlers around the world and look forward to seeing who will compete this year."

Kicking off the official 2022 Showdown Tour on February 14 is the PBA World Series of Bowling Showdown powered by Lanetalk. The tournament, hosted around the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling, will also feature an exciting new format with the winner being determined by the final score of the PBA World Championship title match.

How to win – bowlers will submit a two consecutive game score that will need to be as close as possible, without going over, to the combined score of the two finalists in the PBA World Championship title. The Championship finals will air live on Fox Sports' FS1 Sunday, March 13 and 1 p.m. ET.

The qualifying period will take place from February 14 – March 12, and during those 27 days, bowlers will have an unlimited number of attempts to bowl and submit their two consecutive game score to win the first-place prize of \$2,000. The tournament is open to bowlers of all skill levels, ages 18+ at over 500 registered host centers in the United States and internationally.

A list of local registered host centers is available at [pba.com/showdown](https://pba.com/showdown) and will be updated as new centers join the Showdown.

Details on the upcoming 2022 Showdown Tour events will be rolled out in the upcoming months and will take place as follows:

### **PBA World Series of Bowling Showdown**

February 14-March 12

### **Bowlero League Bowler Showdown**

April 1-30

### **Senior Bowler Showdown**

May 1-31

### **PBA Jr. Showdown**

June 1-30

### **PBA Certified League Bowler Showdown**

June 1-30

### **Women's Bowler Showdown**

July 1-31

### **Bowlero League Bowler Showdown**

August 1-31

### **PBA Global Showdown II**

September 19-November 13

### **PBACLB Premium**

Dates TBD

For more information on the 2022 Showdown Tour, please visit [pba.com/showdown](https://pba.com/showdown) and like the official Facebook page - [@ShowdownTourBowling](https://www.facebook.com/ShowdownTourBowling) to follow the competition.

## **THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S BEST OF THE BEST CHAMPIONSHIP BEGINS TODAY**

### **FEBRUARY 8, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The first of four THE STORM CUP events takes place at JAX60*

**Jackson, Mich.**—Two days after Anthony Simonsen claimed the U.S. Open championship, the 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season moves to JAX60 for THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship. The two-day event will be live streamed exclusively on FloBowling, beginning today at 11 a.m. ET and culminating with the stepladder finals tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m. ET.

Here are some of the storylines coming out of the U.S. Open and heading into THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship:

## **THE STORM CUP**

THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship is the first of four events making up the 2022 THE STORM CUP. Following competition in Jackson, Kokomo, Ind., Lubbock, Texas and Colorado Springs, Colo., the player with the most THE STORM CUP points will earn a \$10,000 bonus. Second place will receive \$5,000, third place \$4,000 and fourth and fifth place \$3,000 each.

Each THE STORM CUP event will feature 12 games of full-field qualifying, with the top 24 players bowling four more games to determine the top 16, who bowl two more games to cut to eight. After two more games, the top four players advance to the stepladder finals.

Darren Tang won last year's version of THE STORM CUP, leading all players in PBA Summer Tour points.

## **SIMONSEN GOING FOR BACK-TO-BACK WINS**

Qualifying second for the U.S. Open stepladder finals, Anthony Simonsen defeated Jason Belmonte in the semifinal match and tournament leader EJ Tackett in the championship match to claim the trophy. It was Simonsen's ninth PBA Tour title and third major, making him the youngest player ever to win three majors (he was already the youngest player to win one and two majors). He's second to Belmonte in PBA Playoffs points through two events and could potentially take the lead in Jackson.

## **TACKETT WON'T RELENT**

Although he finished second in the U.S. Open, Tackett led all qualifiers into the stepladder, besting eventual winner Simonsen by 502 pins throughout qualifying and match play. Tackett will look to get back to striking today in Jackson in an effort to win his 15th PBA Tour title. Tackett has had a lot of success in THE STORM CUP events in the past few years, including winning THE STORM CUP in 2017.

## **BELMONTE MAKING STEPLADDERS**

Two events into the season, Jason Belmonte is the only player to have qualified for both top fives. He qualified second and won the PBA Players Championship, then qualified fifth and advanced to the semifinals before finishing third in the U.S. Open. There are only four spots available in Jackson and Belmonte will do whatever he can to get one of them.

## **THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S BEST OF THE BEST SCHEDULE**

JAX60 – Jackson, Mich.  
All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

### **Tuesday, February 8**

11 a.m. ET – Qualifying Round 1 (6 games)  
5 p.m. ET – Qualifying Round 2 (6 games)

### **Wednesday, February 9**

10 a.m. ET – Round of 24 (4 games)  
1:30 p.m. ET – Round of 16 (2 games)  
3:30 p.m. ET – Round of 8 (2 games)  
6:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

**SVENSSON LEADS THROUGH FIRST DAY OF THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S BEST OF THE BEST CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**FEBRUARY 8, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Averages 254 to outpace his closest competitor by 90 pins*

**Jackson, Mich.**—Through 12 games of qualifying of THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship, 10-time PBA Tour champion Jesper Svensson holds a 90-pin lead over second-place Packy Hanrahan entering Round of 24 qualifying. Kyle Troup is third, five pins behind Hanrahan. Nick Pate and Brad Miller round out the top five.

EJ Tackett, two days after finishing second in the U.S. Open, qualified 10th with the help of a 300 game in the penultimate game of qualifying. Jake Peters, who finished fifth in the U.S. Open, rolled 235 in the final game of qualifying to claim the 24th spot.

The other three players who made it to the U.S. Open stepladder finals missed the cut. Anthony Simonsen finished 29th, Jason Belmonte was 33rd and AJ Johnson finished 44th.

The top 24 players advanced to Round of 24 qualifying and will bowl four games beginning Wednesday at 10 a.m. ET before a cut to the top 16. Those players will bowl two more games and cut to the top eight, who will bowl two final games of qualifying to determine the four players competing in the stepladder finals.

**TOP 10 THROUGH 12 GAMES**

1. Jesper Svensson +659
2. Packy Hanrahan +569
3. Kyle Troup +564
4. Nick Pate +527
5. Brad Miller +515
6. DJ Archer +511
7. Tom Smallwood +496
8. Dom Barrett +485
9. Anthony Neuer +478
10. EJ Tackett +475

[View the full THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best standings](#)

**THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Remaining Schedule**

JAX60 – Jackson, Mich.

All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

**Wednesday, February 9**

10 a.m. ET – Round of 24 (4 games)

1:30 p.m. ET – Round of 16 (2 games)

3:30 p.m. ET – Round of 8 (2 games)

6:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

**JESPER SVENSSON WINS THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S BEST OF THE BEST CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**FEBRUARY 9, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Leads throughout the entire tournament and claims his 11th PBA Tour title*

**Jackson, Mich.**—Jesper Svensson won his 11th PBA Tour title by defeating Packy Hanrahan in the championship match of THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship at JAX60. Svensson was the tournament leader after every round of competition, ultimately rolling 248 in the championship match to claim the title.

"I managed to play to my strengths and do what I like to do," said Svensson. "I was able to play my A game, was lined up, had a good process and threw a lot of good shots. I was comfortable."

Hanrahan, the third seed, advanced to the title match with wins over Dom Barrett and Nick Pate before falling to Svensson.

"After my opening spare, I was able to put the pressure on Packy," said Svensson. "I had the left lane hooking a little bit more and it seemed like we tried to attack it two different ways. This time, my way was more beneficial."

Svensson now owns 11 PBA Tour titles including the 2016 PBA Tournament of Champions, during which he set the record as the youngest player ever to win that event.

**FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Jesper Svensson, earns \$20,000
2. Packy Hanrahan, \$12,000
3. Nick Pate, \$7,000
4. Dom Barrett, \$5,500

[View the full standings](#)

**MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – No. 3 Hanrahan def. No. 4 Barrett, 236-211

Match 2 – No. 3 Hanrahan def. No. 2 Pate, 241-201

Match 3 – No. 1 Svensson def. No. 3 Hanrahan, 248-216

**PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP – FEBRUARY 10, 2022**  
**FEBRUARY 10, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

As the PBA National Tour kicks off, the PBA and PBA50 Regional Tours kick off as well. Not only that, but back by popular demand, the Regional Players Invitational (RPI) returns with it. Throughout 2022, players competing on the PBA and PBA50 Regional Tours have the opportunity to earn points by competing in events to qualify for the end-of-the-year tournament to earn more cash and a chance at earning another title. During the season, be sure to check in right here on pba.com for updates regarding regional results as well as the RPI leaders in each region. Nine regional events wrapped up over the last few weeks, which includes six in the West, two in the Southwest, and one in the Central, so let's recap them right now.

**SOUTHWEST REGION**

PBA50 Odessa Southwest Winter Open - January 21-23

Starting in the Lone Star State, making the trip from Double Oak to Odessa, Chris Barnes emerged triumphant in the first regional event of the season. Barnes earned his second PBA50 regional title at the PBA50 Odessa Southwest Winter Open and his 31st regional title overall. Shooting 1,756 for eight games of qualifying, Barnes advanced to the cashers round in 3rd place and never looked back. With a 1,233 for his next five games, Barnes jumped to first and eventually completed the job in match play, finishing almost 250 pins ahead of second-place Tony Lanning of Yukon, Oklahoma. Barnes earns 2,500 points for his performance and takes the early lead in the PBA50 Southwest Region.

#### PBA50 Odessa Southwest Winter Open Final Standings

Chris Barnes, 2,500 points, \$2,600

Tony Lanning, 1,500, \$1,600

Steve Fields, 1,150, \$1,050

Chris Warren, 950, \$900

Lee White, 850, \$850

PBA Odessa Southwest Winter Open - January 21-23

Simultaneously, the PBA Odessa Southwest Winter Open took place in Texas as well. Jon DeLaney, who also competed in the PBA50 event, saved his big games for competing against the young'uns. DeLaney of McKinney, Texas missed the PBA50 cut by just 20 pins but made up for it by averaging 233 for 8 games in this event. An 1,121 for five games in the cashers round kept him in contention as they headed into match play where he'd eventually bolt back up to first. In match play, DeLaney never had a game below 212 and his 258 in the position round would be more than enough. The Texan clinched his first PBA title of any kind and took home a \$2,800 check and 2,500 regional points to go with it.

#### PBA Odessa Southwest Winter Open Final Standings

Jon DeLaney, 2,500, \$2,800

Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., 1,500, \$1,800

Anthony Lavery-Spahr, 1,150, \$1,350

Joseph Grondin, 950, \$1,000

Andy Patterson, 850, \$900

[View the Southwest Region points standings](#)

[View the Southwest Region PBA50 points standings](#)

#### WEST REGION

##### PBA Glendale Open – January 21-23

Moving about 700 miles west, both the PBA and PBA50 Glendale Open took place. In the PBA Glendale Open, it came down to a battle of the Kyles. Kyle Duster out of Scottsdale, Ariz. took on Kyle King of Glendale, Ariz. in a three-game series where Duster won the battle shooting a 638 to King's 569. Duster, now the back-to-back champion of this event, grabbed \$2,000 and 2,500 points toward the West Region rankings along with the third regional title of his career.

#### PBA Glendale Open Final Standings

Kyle Duster, 2,500, \$2,000

Kyle King, 1,500, \$1,300

Jim Pratt, 950, \$900

Andrew Cain, 850, \$750

Chad Lusche, 775, \$750

PBA50 Glendale Open – January 21-23

Hailing from Las Vegas, Nev., a familiar face stood atop the metaphorical podium at the PBA50 Glendale Open. Grabbing his 23rd PBA50 Regional title, Ron Mohr defeated Jimmy Montgomery in the final. Montgomery, who was looking for his first-ever PBA title, fell to Mohr in a three-game series format, 643-545. This marks back-to-back wins for Mohr at the PBA50 Glendale Open and gives him 2,500 points in the West Region as he begins his quest to become the West Region PBA50 Bowler of the Year for the second year in a row.

#### PBA50 Glendale Open Final Standings

Ron Mohr, 2,500, \$1,800  
Jimmy Montgomery, 0, \$1,000  
Warren Eales, 1,150, \$800  
Tony Rodriguez, 950, \$800  
Ron Schloss, 0, \$650  
PBA50 Tracy Open – January 28-30

The West's circuit continued the following weekend with the PBA50 Tracy Open in Tracy, California. After a 22-year layover, Rick Meneley of Santa Maria, CA, finally reached the winner's circle once again. From 1994 to 2000, Meneley crossed "win a regional title" off his bucket list by winning five standard PBA regional titles in the mountain and pacific time zones. Now, Meneley can cross "win a PBA50 regional title" off his list as well. Following eight games of qualifying and 12 games of match play, Meneley had assembled nearly a 200-pin lead over second place to win the title and \$2,100. Rick is currently tied for the lead in the West Region with Ron Mohr at 2,500 points apiece.

#### PBA50 Tracy Open Final Standings

Rick Meneley, 2,500, \$2,100  
Steve Fields, 1,500, \$1,300  
Warren Eales, 1,150, \$1,100  
Troy Silfies, 0, \$900  
Joe Petrovich, 850, \$800  
PBA60 Super Senior Tracy Open – January 28-30

Staying in the same city, but to the super seniors, it came down to Ty Dawson and Don Sutherland for the title. Following 15 games of bowling with one to go, 55 pins separated Sutherland and Dawson for the PBA60 title. Dawson was the veteran in this scenario, amassing five PBA50 Regional titles since 2006 with his latest coming in Modesto just three years ago, while Sutherland went into the final game titleless. History mattered not though, as Sutherland delivered a nine-bagger to shoot 270 in the final game of the day and take his first career title back home to San Jose. Sutherland received \$1,800 for his efforts and, more important, a banner.

#### PBA60 Super Senior Tracy Open Final Standings

Don Sutherland, \$1,800  
Ty Dawson, \$1,000  
Mitchell Vernon, \$800  
Marty Deh, \$750  
Mike Webb, \$600  
PBA West Non-Champions presented by South Point – February 4

Just this past weekend, three more events took place, starting with the PBA West Non-Champions presented by South Point. Joe Gerenscer of Henderson, Nevada will no longer be eligible for this event, but for good reason. After numerous attempts, Gerenscer finally broke through to grab title number one. Joe just barely made it into bracket play by qualifying 15th, but he would take full advantage from there on out. Beginning his run with an upset of the two seed, Gerenscer continued the journey by sweeping his opponent in every round up to the finals. Chase Nadeau, a former Arizona State collegiate bowler, remained as his last challenger in the deciding match. It was a tight match in which both amateurs struggled to find a good look, but a turkey midway through led Gerenscer to the win 195-179.

#### PBA West Non-Champions presented by South Point Final Standings



Joe Gerencser, \$2,450  
Chase Nadeau, \$1,500  
Ramsey Basurto, \$1,150  
Chris Klerk, \$1,150  
Hunter Mayes, \$850.00

#### PBA Member/Non-Member Doubles presented by South Point – February 4-6

For a change of pace, the West held the always-entertaining member/non-member doubles tournament in Las Vegas. Each bowler rolled eight games apiece and the top 16 teams moved onto brackets. The cut line sat at +220 requiring teams to average a shade over 213 to continue. In the finals, the team of Chad Lusche and JJ Phillips who ran through the bracket as the 12-seed encountered the pro-am six-seeded duo of Nolan Baker and Nicholas Wilson. Lusche and Phillips' Cinderella story ended at the hands of Baker and Wilson as the lefties got off to a hot start and never looked back. With their families in attendance, the southpaws came through in an emotional victory, winning 451-388.

#### PBA Member/Non Member Doubles presented by South Point Final Standings

Nolan Baker, 2,500, \$2,100  
Nicholas Wilson, 0, \$2,100  
Chad Lusche, 1,500, \$1,400  
Justin Phillips, 0, \$1,400  
Chris Klerk, 0, \$1,000  
Kevin Jenkins, 0, \$1,000  
Kendle Miles, 0, \$1,000  
Clay Rees, 0, \$1,000  
Andrew Cain, 715, \$725  
Ed Smaglik, 0, \$725.00

[View the West Region points standings](#)

[View the West Region PBA50 points standings](#)

#### CENTRAL AND MIDWEST REGIONS

##### PBA50 Plaza Lanes Central/Midwest Open – February 4-6

Now we travel over to the east of the Mississippi for the PBA50 Plaza Lanes Central/Midwest Open. This event opened its doors to many big names given that the U.S. Open transpired just under an hour away. After eight games of qualifying, big names littered the leaderboard, as the top 16 bowlers held 194 combined regional titles of any kind. Twelve more round-robin games would then eliminate 11 of the 16 bowlers, but the five stepladder bowlers still combined for an astounding 129 combined regional titles. After the five-seed Eugene McCune defeated the four-seed Dave Wodka in match one 247-224, the chalk held in every match from there on out. McCune would fall to Chris Barnes 235-193 in match two, then Barnes dropped a close one to Tom Hess 259-246, but Parker Bohn III prevailed in the final match 256-215. Bohn nailed regional title number 35 into his résumé and snagged first-place points for the Central and Midwest Regions.

#### PBA50 Plaza Lanes Central/Midwest Open Final Standings

Parker Bohn III, 2,500, \$1,500

Tom Hess, 1,500.00, \$1,000

Chris Barnes, 1,150, \$900

Eugene McCune, 950, \$850

Dave Wodka, 850, \$800

In the upcoming weeks, points aplenty will be available in the South and Central regions, particularly for the PBA50 Regional Tours. States such as Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Florida, and North and South Carolina reside on the schedule of events in February and March. The full lineup can be found [here](#).

## **PATH TO THE PBA PLAYOFFS THROUGH THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S BEST OF THE BEST CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **FEBRUARY 11, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The third event of the 2022 PBA season took place in Jackson, Michigan at the THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best Of The Best Championship. The scoring pace ping-ponged in the positive direction as the season briefly winds down following back-to-back majors.

#### **1. Jason Belmonte - 11,370**

Belmonte came back down to earth following a pair of top-three performances in the season-opening majors. He sat 67th of 72 entrants after the first six games of qualifying and 167 pins out of the cut, almost inconceivable for the 26-time titleist. He returned to form in the second block, but ultimately came up 44 pins shy of the cut. He would be the Player of the Year favorite as retains his early lead in the points race.

#### **2. Anthony Simonsen - 9,480**

The three-time major champ picked up right where he left off at the U.S. Open, averaging almost 250 to trail only Jesper Svensson after six games. But then it was almost as if someone channeled their inner Monstar to sap Simonsen's superpowers, as Simonsen mustered just +61 over his final six games to miss the cut by 10 pins. He'll need that green jacket to keep warm as the PBA continues its parade across the Midwest.

#### **3. EJ Tackett - 7,955**

Tackett showed no signs of a hangover following his disappointing loss in the US Open title match. He averaged over 236 across 18 games to finish 10th. As the only player to post consecutive top-10 finishes, he made up some ground on Belmonte and Simonsen in the points race.

#### **4. Sean Rash - 6,285**

Rash did not bowl in Jackson, serving his suspension.

#### **5. Jake Peters - 5,595**

Peters' splendid 2022 season keeps on marching. He averaged over 230 to make the cut in Jackson before settling in 19th place and a third straight finish inside the cash. The 32-year-old moves into the top five of the points race.

#### **6. AJ Johnson - 5,385**

There are two ways to look at Johnson's finish in Jackson. Both of these statements are true.

Glass half empty: Johnson followed up a pair of brilliant performances in the season-opening major events, posting a 44th place finish.

Glass half full: Johnson followed up a pair of brilliant performances in the season-opening major events, averaging 226 across his 12 games of qualifying.

7. Jesper Svensson - 5,135

They say winning cures all ailments, and that would be true in the case of the Svensson. He did not compete in the Players Championship and finished 81st at the US Open, but a sensational, wire-to-wire victory in Jackson elevates him all the way into seventh place in the points race.

8. Tommy Jones - 5,110

It's a testament to Jones' performance in the two majors that a 50th place finish hardly affects his standing in the points race. It's also a testament to the lofty scoring pace in Jackson that he finished 50th after averaging 222.83 for 12 games.

9. Packy Hanrahan - 4,857.5

Hanrahan broke through in Jackson after finishing seventh at the Players Championship Southwest regional qualifier, missing the show by 50 pins, then shooting 152 in his final game at the U.S. Open to flag the cut by 40 pins.

He sat inside the top-four from beginning to end, earning the third seed for the stepladder. Hanrahan took down Dom Barrett and Nick Pate before falling to Svensson in the title match. The 26-year-old looks to be knocking on the door of his first career PBA title.

10. Dom Barrett - 4,630

The Barrett who showed up to Jackson resembled the Barrett who led the Players Championship Southwest regional qualifier, not the one who missed the cut at the U.S. Open. A fourth-place finish propelled him from 23rd into the top 10 of the points race.

11. Bill O'Neill - 4,520

A sixth-place finish at the JAX60 stop moved O'Neill into the top 16 through three events, but he might be happier about his beloved 76ers' acquisition of James Harden.

On that note, Harden would fit seamlessly in the bowling world: He's left-handed; relies primarily on skill; complains about bad calls/carry; and doesn't like to stay in one city too long. Put a urethane ball in his hands and he just might make a show.

12. Brad Miller - 4,460

Miller dominated in the initial 12 games of qualifying, sitting fifth through 12 games. Though he missed the cut following the second advancers round, finishing in 13th place overall, he continues to climb the PBA Playoffs standings.

13. François Lavoie - 4,290

A 47th-place finish wasn't what the Canadian hoped for in Jackson, but he remains within the current PBA Playoffs cut.

14. Kyle Troup - 4,280

An eighth-place finish in Jackson powers Troup into the top 16 of the points race. He may not be content with that finish after sitting third through 12 games, but he should be satisfied with moving in the right direction. The 2021 Player of the Year sat 21st in the points race after the U.S. Open.

15. Wesley Low Jr. - 4,110

Low couldn't replicate the success of fellow two-handed lefties Svensson and Hanrahan on the 37-foot Viper pattern. However, the sophomore continues what looks to be the makings of a breakout season on the PBA Tour.

16. DJ Archer - 4,107.5

Archer pops into the top 16 after a ninth place finish in Jackson. He trailed Mykel Holliman by just a single pin for the final spot in the round of eight.

17. Sam Cooley - 4,075

If the season ended today, Cooley would be the first player out of the PBA Playoffs cut. Good news: the season does not end today. Plus, Cooley bested Belmonte by a whopping four pins to seize the Aussie belt for the week.

18. Patrick Dombrowski - 4,020

Dombrowski did not compete in Jackson, but remains well within PBA Playoffs contention.

19. Brandon Novak - 3,965

Novak ends the week exactly where he began. A solid 15th-place finish in Jackson followed an eighth-place finish at the U.S. Open, which launched Novak from 91st into PBA Playoffs contention.

20. Tom Daugherty - 3,795

Daugherty plummets from 12th to 20th in the points race after a 55th-place finish in Jackson. Over the course of the entire season, this disappointing performance could be just a minor blip on the radar.

PBA action resumes at the THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship next Monday, Feb. 14.

### **THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP BEGINS TOMORROW FEBRUARY 14, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

The second of four THE STORM CUP events is hosted by Heritage Lanes

Kokomo, Ind.—Heritage Lanes hosts THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship, the second event of THE STORM CUP and fourth of the Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season. The two-day event will be live streamed exclusively on FloBowling, beginning tomorrow at 11 a.m. ET and culminating with the stepladder finals Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. ET.

#### **SVENSSON HOLDS EARLY LEAD IN THE STORM CUP**

With his win in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship in Jackson, Mich., Jesper Svensson has the early lead in the chase for THE STORM CUP and the \$10,000 bonus for the player with the most competition points over the course of the four events. Svensson led from beginning to end in Jackson and claimed 5,000 points.

The top five players after all four events will receive a bonus, with second place pocketing \$5,000, third place \$4,000 and fourth and fifth place \$3,000 each.

Each THE STORM CUP event begins with 12 games of full-field qualifying, after which the top 24 players bowl four more games to determine the top 16, who bowl two more games to cut to eight. After two more games, the top four players advance to the stepladder finals.

#### **THE STORM CUP Points Leaders Through One Event**

Jesper Svensson, 5,000

Packy Hanrahan, 3,000

Nick Pate, 2,300

Dom Barrett, 1,900  
Bill O'Neill, 1,550  
Kyle Troup, 1,430  
DJ Archer, 1,370  
EJ Tackett, 1,310  
Tom Smallwood, 1,250  
Brad Miller, 1,130

#### PBA PLAYOFFS CHASE CONTINUES

Points earned during THE STORM CUP events also count toward the PBA Playoffs, so there's a lot at stake for the players trying to get into the top 16. For example, Svensson jumped all the way to seventh in the PBA Playoffs race despite not competing in the Players Championship and finishing 81st in the U.S. Open. The 16 players with the most competition points after the USBC Masters in early April will earn berths into the PBA Playoffs.

#### PLAYERS LOOKING FOR FIRST PBA TOUR TITLES

Multiple prominent players have won their first PBA Tour titles in live-stream exclusives, including EJ Tackett (2015), Jakob Butturff (2016) and both Matthew Russo and Darren Tang last summer. Two would-have-been-first-time-champions, Packy Hanrahan and Nick Pate, finished second and third, respectively, last week.

#### THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

Heritage Lanes – Kokomo, Ind.

All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

Tuesday, February 15

11 a.m. ET – Qualifying Round 1 (6 games)

5 p.m. ET – Qualifying Round 2 (6 games)

Wednesday, February 16

10 a.m. ET – Round of 24 (4 games)

1:30 p.m. ET – Round of 16 (2 games)

3:30 p.m. ET – Round of 8 (2 games)

6:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

#### **BELMONTE LEADS TOP 24 INTO DAY TWO OF THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP FEBRUARY 15, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*26-time PBA Tour champion holds 131-pin lead entering the second and final day of competition*

**Kokomo, Ind.**—Jason Belmonte averaged 235 to lead all players through 12 games of qualifying in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship. Belmonte, who won his 14th Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour major championship in the season opening PBA Players Championship and finished third in the U.S. Open but missed the cut to the top 24 in last week's THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship, is 131 pins ahead of second-place EJ Tackett.

Tackett converted the 7-10 split in his final game of qualifying, in which he bowled by far his lowest game of the day, 153, but still found himself in second place with a 224 average.

Trailing Tackett and rounding out the top five are Richie Teece (+260), Anthony Simonsen (+255) and Arturo Quintero (+243). Kris Prather claimed the last spot in the top 24, bowling a 211 in his final game to finish at +103, three pins ahead of first man out Matt Ogle.

The top 24 players advance to Round of 24 qualifying and will bowl four games beginning Wednesday at 10 a.m. ET before a cut to the top 16. Those players will bowl two more games and cut to the top eight, who will bowl two final games of qualifying to determine the four players competing in the stepladder finals.

#### **TOP 10 THROUGH 12 GAMES**

1. Jason Belmonte +421
2. EJ Tackett +290
3. Richie Teece +260
4. Anthony Simonsen +255
5. Arturo Quintero +243
6. Chris Via +219
7. Dick Allen +200
8. Tom Daugherty +193
9. Nick Pate +188
10. Andres Gomez +187

[View the full standings](#)

#### **THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP REMAINING SCHEDULE**

Heritage Lanes – Kokomo, Ind.

All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

#### **Wednesday, February 16**

10 a.m. ET – Round of 24 (4 games)

1:30 p.m. ET – Round of 16 (2 games)

3:30 p.m. ET – Round of 8 (2 games)

6:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

#### **JASON BELMONTE WINS THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP FEBRUARY 16, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*His 27th PBA Tour title is his second of the season*

**Kokomo, Ind.**—Jason Belmonte won his second Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title of the season and 27th of his career, leading every round of THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship and ultimately defeating Nick Pate in the championship match.

After Belmonte failed to double in the 10th frame, leaving a 10 pin on his second shot, Pate had a chance to win, needing two strikes and count in the final frame to win. Like Belmonte, Pate got the first strike but left a 10 pin on his second shot.

"I was really nervous," Belmonte said of watching Pate. "All you can do is throw the ball where you're looking and we both did that. We both left a 10 pin, but he could've easily struck on that shot. If it were to be, he would be fully deserving."

Pate qualified third for the stepladder finals and advanced to the title match with wins over Anthony Simonsen and EJ Tackett. Pate put up the front seven against Belmonte's front six in the championship match, but a split in the eighth frame and the stubborn 10 pin cost Pate the chance at his first career title.

Belmonte, who is the all-time record holder with 14 major championships, is now ninth all-time in total PBA Tour titles, passing Don Johnson, who won 26 times in his career. Belmonte has competed in all four events so far this season, winning two and finishing third in the U.S. Open.

The win also moved Belmonte into first place in THE STORM CUP standings, giving him a 110-point lead over second place Pate, who is the only player to have qualified for the stepladder finals in both THE STORM CUP events this season. Belmonte also increased his lead in the PBA Playoffs race, now holding a nearly 5,000-point advantage over Anthony Simonsen.

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Jason Belmonte, earns \$20,000
2. Nick Pate, \$12,000
3. EJ Tackett, \$7,000
4. Anthony Simonsen, \$5,500

[View the full standings](#)

### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – No. 3 Pate def. No. 4 Simonsen, 237-226

Match 2 – No. 3 Pate def. No. 2 Tackett, 237-186

Match 3 – No. 1 Belmonte def. No. 3 Pate, 249-243

## **PATH TO THE PBA PLAYOFFS THROUGH THE STORM CUP: DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP FEBRUARY 18, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Through about one-third of the PBA season, the PBA Playoffs race is starting to take shape. Three of the brightest stars hold the early podium positions, while a host of fresh faces find themselves within contention.

The top 16 players will advance to the PBA Playoffs in April.

### **1. Jason Belmonte - 16,370**

With two titles, including a major, and an additional top-three performance at the U.S. Open, Belmonte has a stranglehold on the 2022 Player of the Year race. Should he take home the award in 2022, he'll tie Walter Ray Williams Jr. with seven career POY awards. Williams won his seven POY awards over a 24-year period, spanning four different decades.

As if you needed another ridiculous Belmo stat: Belmonte could notch his seventh within a single decade. The merits of those accomplishments can be debated another time, perhaps when Belmonte actually wins his seventh, but it's impressive to note nonetheless.

Next up: the Tournament of Champions, where no player has found more success than Belmonte.

### **2. Anthony Simonsen - 11,380**

Before Belmonte can start making room on his trophy shelf, he'll have to stave off a host of hungry adversaries, starting with Simonsen. The 25-year-old has a major title in 2022—while defeating Belmonte in memorable fashion—and racked up another championship-round appearance in Kokomo. A second major title would almost assuredly elevate Simonsen into the pole position of the Player of the Year race.

### **3. EJ Tackett - 10,255**

On top of his third-place performance this week, Tackett ran laps around the U.S. Open field before falling in the title match. The gap between Tackett and the next player on the list is remarkable considering Tackett has yet to win a title in 2022. He's made all four cuts—one of four players to do so—and his fourth-place finish in the Midwest Region of the Players Championship has been his lowest finish of the season so far.

The moment he overcomes whatever has afflicted his ability to win in championship rounds in recent years—whether it's a mental block, bad luck or some combination—he'll morph into a player nobody wants to match up against. (Not that anyone wants to face him now.)

### **4. Sean Rash - 7,445**

Rash, returning from his suspension, earned a T-12th place finish in Kokomo. He sits in a tier of his own, behind the big three but ahead of the rest.

### **5. Dom Barrett - 6,060**

After leading qualifying at the Southwest Region of the Players Championship, he posted consecutive top-six performances in the Storm Cup events, including a championship-round appearance in Jackson. The U.S. Open has been the lone hiccup in Barrett's stellar 2022 campaign.

### **6. Jake Peters - 6,005**

Peters finished with four consecutive games under 200 to miss his first cut of the season in Kokomo by

just 40 pins. While he has been one of the best stories on Tour this season, he's been one of the best players, full stop.

**7. Nicholas/Nick Pate - 5,750**

Tom Clark said during the Kokomo Championship telecast that there may not be a hotter player on tour than Pate, who has finished third and second in the past two events. The 28-year-old Pate has come into his own in 2022, and would likely sit inside the top five of the points race if he competed at the U.S. Open.

**8. AJ Johnson - 5,670**

Johnson's season has gone in the opposite direction of Pate's, missing consecutive cuts in the Storm Cup events. But there's no need to send the panic alarm; Johnson sits comfortably in the Playoffs race through four events.

**9. Bill O'Neill - 5,530**

O'Neill finds himself right in the middle of a tightly contested Playoffs field through four tournaments. He's been one of the most consistent players on Tour this season, making all four cuts.

**10. Tommy Jones - 5,510**

Jones hasn't exactly bowled poorly the past two weeks, but he has missed each of the last two cuts following a sensational start to the season. He'll look to make another deep run at the Tournament of Champions next week.

**11. Jesper Svensson - 5,375**

Svensson followed up his dominant win in Jackson with a 50th-place finish in Kokomo. Even though the 27-year-old has disappointed in two of his three tournaments this season, he's liable to strike lightning in a bottle at any moment—and when he finds it, he's all but unbeatable.

**12. Arturo Quintero - 5,330**

Quintero had been a bit of a ghost since storming onto the scene at the Players Championship, struggling at the U.S. Open and not competing in Jackson. But he returned to action in Kokomo and came within 26 pins of making another championship-round appearance. A fifth-place finish puts Quintero right back into Playoffs contention.

**13. Brad Miller - 5,250**

The 31-year-old is still chasing his first career national PBA title, but seems to have found his footing on the tour as he has made all four cuts this season. However, he'll have to survive the PTQ to compete in the Tournament of Champions next week.

**14. Patrick/Packy Hanrahan - 5,117.5**

Hanrahan couldn't replicate his second place finish in Jackson, posting a 48th place performance in Kokomo, but he remains inside the top-16 through four events in 2022. He'll join Miller in a heavily contested PTQ field.

**15. Tom Daugherty - 5,075 and 16. Kyle Troup - 4,890**

Troup and Daugherty—the only players to win two titles including a major last season—sit just inside the Playoffs cut through four events in 2022. They both performed well at the Players Championship, but have alternated finding success in the three tournaments since.

It's a testament to their abilities that they are still within the playoffs after disappointing starts to their season, relatively speaking. The two only trail Barrett, who sits in fifth place, by about 1,000 points.

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**17. DJ Archer - 4,487.5**

Archer's up-and-down season continued in Kokomo, as he missed the cut with a 36th-place finish. He is the first player outside the playoff cut through four tournaments.

**18. François Lavoie - 4,450**

Lavoie has struggled mightily over the past two weeks, posting finishes of 47th and 58th in Jackson and Kokomo, respectively. He'll look to get back on track and defend his Tournament of Champions title next week, one of last season's most impressive victories.

**19. Sam Cooley - 4,445**

Belmonte must not have been too happy about ceding the Aussie belt to Cooley last week. Cooley has missed the cut in two consecutive events after strong performances at the majors, but has not lost much ground in the Playoffs race.



## **20. Brandon Novak - 4,415**

Novak clings onto the last spot after dangling in 19th the past two weeks. He's been consistent all season, but will need more performances like his top-10 showing at the U.S. Open to ascend into the playoffs.

*Dropped outside the top 20: Wesley Low Jr., Patrick Dombrowsk*

## **BELMONTE'S 2022 WINNING PERCENTAGE: .500**

Through four events this season, Jason Belmonte has two titles (PBA Players Championship and THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship) and a third-place finish in the U.S. Open. He finished 33rd in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship as his only finish lower than third in four events. He leads all players in Kia PBA Playoffs points and THE STORM CUP points and has to be considered the favorite entering the Tournament of Champions, which he's already won three times.

## **KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS BEGINS TOMORROW FEBRUARY 21, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The third major of the 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season will pay  
\$100,000 to the winner*

**Fairlawn, Ohio**—The 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season continues tomorrow with the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions at AMF Riviera Lanes. The qualifying and match play rounds of the third major championship of the season will be streamed live on FloBowling, Feb. 22-25, and the stepladder finals will air live Sunday, Feb. 27 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX Broadcast Channel.

## **THREE JASONS, TWO OF WHOM LOOK FOR RECORD-BREAKING FOURTH WIN**

The first player to win three PBA Tournament of Champions titles was Mike Durbin (1972, 1982, 1984). The next was Jason Couch, who won three straight times (1999, 2000, 2002—the event wasn't held in 2001). Belmonte joined Durbin and Couch with a win in 2019 to go with previous wins in 2014 and 2015. If Couch or Belmonte can win this year, he'll become the first player ever to win the Tournament of Champions four times. A third Jason, three-time PBA Tour champion and reigning King of the Lanes Sterner, is also entered in the event and seeking his first major championship.

### **LAVOIE ENTERS AS DEFENDING CHAMPION**

François Lavoie won his fifth PBA Tour title and third major last season in the Tournament of Champions, climbing the stepladder from the No. 5 spot and taking out Sean Rash, Jesper Svensson, Belmonte and Anthony Simonsen to earn the title.

### **SIMONSEN AND SVENSSON**

The two non-Belmontes to win so far this season—Simonsen in the U.S. Open and Jesper Svensson in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship—will seek their second titles of the year in the Tournament of Champions. Svensson is the youngest player ever to win the T of C, doing so in 2016 at 20 years, 357 days old. Simonsen finished second as the top seed in the 2021 Tournament of Champions and would become the youngest player to win four majors (he's already the youngest to win one, two and three) if he can win this year.

### **TACKETT IS READY TO WIN**

In four events this season, EJ Tackett owns three top-10 finishes, including second in the U.S. Open after leading by 502 pins and third in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship. Tackett is looking to make the Tournament of Champions, which he won in 2017, the breakthrough he needs—and probably deserves—as he seeks his first singles title since 2019.

The qualifying and match play rounds of the PBA Tournament of Champions will be streamed live on FloBowling beginning Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 5:30 p.m. ET from AMF Riviera Lanes in Fairlawn, Ohio. To subscribe, visit [FloBowling.com](https://www.flobowling.com).

### **PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS WINNERS SINCE 2011**

2011 – Mika Koivuniemi  
2012 – Sean Rash  
2013 – Pete Weber  
2014 – Jason Belmonte  
2015 – Jason Belmonte  
2016 – Jesper Svensson  
2017 – EJ Tackett  
2018 – Matt O'Grady  
2019 – Jason Belmonte

2020 – Kris Prather  
2021 – François Lavoie

**DICK ALLEN LEADS AFTER FIRST ROUND OF QUALIFYING AT 2022 KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS**  
**FEBRUARY 22, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.**

*The seven-time PBA Tour champion holds 51-pin lead after six games*

**FAIRLAWN, Ohio** — Dick Allen of Lexington, South Carolina, fired a six-game block of 1,477 to take the opening-round lead at the 2022 KIA Professional Bowlers Association Tournament of Champions, the third major of the season.

Allen, who is looking for his first major title, opened qualifying at AMF Riviera Lanes with games of 236, 289 and 278 for an 803 series and followed with 222, 239 and 213 to average 246 on the PBA Don Johnson 40 lane condition.

Houston's Shawn Maldonado was second with a six-game total of 1,426 and was followed by EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana, (1,392), Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina, (1,385) and Australia's Jason Belmonte (1,383).

Canada's François Lavoie is the defending champion and sits in 12th place with a 1,343 six-game total, an average of 223.83.

After 18 games of qualifying over three days, the top 24 players will advance to match play, where an additional 24 games will help determine the five finalists who will compete for the \$100,000 top prize on Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern, live on FOX.

All rounds of qualifying and match play leading up to Sunday's televised finals are being broadcast live on FloBowling.

This year's event began with a pre-tournament qualifier, which was held on Monday to determine the eight additional players who would advance to the main field.

Zach Weidman of Indianapolis earned the top spot and was joined by Kyle Duster of Scottsdale, Arizona, AJ Chapman of Manchester, Iowa, Patrick Dombrowski of Parma, Ohio, Brandon Runk of Milton, Pennsylvania, Sean Lavery-Spahr of Pasadena, Texas, Nate Garcia of Port St. Lucie, Florida, and Matt Zweig of Tempe, Arizona.

The PTQ was contested on the PBA Harry Smith 41 oil pattern.

The KIA PBA Tournament of Champions is the fourth event of the 2022 PBA Tour season, which began in late January with the PBA Players Championship.

Belmonte kicked off the year in memorable fashion with his record 14th major victory, while Anthony Simonsen captured the U.S. Open earlier this month to become the youngest player in history to win three majors titles.

Competition at the 2022 PBA Tournament of Champions will continue Wednesday with the second of three qualifying rounds. The action will get underway at 5:30 p.m. EST, live on FloBowling.

**TOP 10 THROUGH SIX GAMES**

1. Dick Allen, Lexington, S.C., 1,477
2. Shawn Maldonado, Houston, 1,426
3. EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 1,392
4. Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 1,385
5. Jason Belmonte, Australia, 1,383
6. Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 1,374
7. BJ Moore, Greensburg, Pa., 1,368
8. Osku Palermaa, Finland, 1,358
9. Tom Hess, Granger, Iowa, 1,356
10. Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 1,345

**SHAWN MALDONADO LEADS AFTER ROUND 2 OF QUALIFYING AT 2022 KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS  
FEBRUARY 23, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.**

*Maldonado was the only player to reach the 1,400 mark for the second consecutive round*

**FAIRLAWN, Ohio** — After two days and 12 qualifying games at AMF Riviera Lanes, Houston's Shawn Maldonado took the overall lead on Wednesday at the 2022 KIA Professional Bowlers Association Tournament of Champions, the third major of the season.

Maldonado, who began the day 51 pins behind Round 1 leader Dick Allen, tossed games of 221, 280, 209, 236, 258 and 214 for a six-game block of 1,418. His 12-game total sits at 2,844, an average of 237. Maldonado had a 1,426 block in Tuesday's opening round and is the only player to surpass the 1,400 mark both days.

Allen, of Lexington, South Carolina, now is second with 2,799. He is followed in the standings by Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona, (2,785), Bill O'Neill of Langhorne, Pennsylvania, (2,767), and defending champion Francois Lavoie of Canada (2,717).

After 18 games of qualifying over three days, the top 24 players will advance to round robin match play, where an additional 24 games will help determine the five finalists who will compete for the \$100,000 top prize on Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern, live on FOX.

O'Neill and Butturff made major moves Wednesday on the Don Johnson 40 lane condition to enter the top five.

O'Neill used a six-game block of 1,515 to vault up the standings from 37th place. He posted games of 229, 268, 242, 259, 268 and 249.

Butturff moved up from 17th place behind games of 279, 224, 246, 253, 226 and 237 for a 1,465 six-game block.

Lavoie, who is looking to become the first player since Australia's Jason Belmonte in 2015 to successfully defend the PBA Tournament of Champions title, used a 1,394 block to land among the leaders. He began the day in 12th place.

After two days of competition, PBA Hall of Famer and 20-time PBA champion Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina, is 24th with a 12-game total of 2,621.

All rounds of qualifying and match play leading up to Sunday's televised finals are being broadcast live on FloBowling.

The KIA PBA Tournament of Champions is the fourth event of the 2022 PBA Tour season, which began in late January with the PBA Players Championship.

Belmonte kicked off the year in memorable fashion with his record 14th major victory, while Anthony Simonsen captured the U.S. Open earlier this month to become the youngest player in history to win three majors titles.

Competition at the 2022 PBA Tournament of Champions will continue Thursday with the second of three qualifying rounds. The action will get underway at 5:30 p.m. ET, live on FloBowling.

**TOP 10 THROUGH 12 GAMES**

1. Shawn Maldonado, Houston, 2,844
2. Dick Allen, Lexington, S.C., 2,799
3. Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., 2,785
4. Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., 2,767
5. François Lavoie, Canada, 2,717
6. Dom Barrett, Great Bentley, England, 2,714
7. Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 2,702
8. Tom Hess, Granger, Iowa, 2,699
9. Osku Palermaa, Finland, 2,697
10. Jason Belmonte, Australia, 2,690

[View the full standings](#)

**KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS SCHEDULE**

AMF Riviera Lanes – Fairlawn, Ohio  
All rounds streamed live on FloBowling  
All times Eastern

**Thursday, Feb. 24**

Qualifying Round 3: Noon  
Match Play Round 1: 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

**Friday, Feb. 25**

Match Play Round 2: Noon  
Match Play Round 3: 5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 26**

PBA Hall of Fame Inductions & 2021 Awards: 6 p.m.

**Sunday, Feb. 27**

Stepladder Finals on FOX (LIVE): 1 p.m.

**PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP – FACH/HAGGITT COME THROUGH IN CUYAHOGA FALLS,  
PAINTER SUCCEEDS IN SPARTANBURG  
FEBRUARY 24, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

Two more events hit the books last weekend as the South Region hosted the PBA50 Paradise Lanes Spartanburg Open and the Central Region held the PBA/PBA50 Doubles/Clutch Lanes Central Open. Both events awarded points toward the regional standings as players attempted to climb the leaderboard to qualify for the end-of-the-year Regional Players Invitational.

**CENTRAL REGION**

**PBA/PBA50 Doubles/Clutch Lanes Central Open**

Starting in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, the Central sector hosted 48 hopeful pairs of athletes vying for 2,500 points toward the Central standings and a 2022 doubles title on their résumé. Each bowler rolled eight individual games for a 16-game qualifying total as a team.

Ronnie Russell and Dave Wodka led the way, out-averaging 2nd place by over seven pins. A shade over a 227 average was the mark to land in the top quarter of the field and advance to single-elimination bracket play. As bracket play began, the first two rounds pitted teams against each other in a best-of-seven baker series until the semifinals and finals where a best-of-five format took over.

After Graham Fach and Michael Haggitt took out one-seeded Russell and Wodka, Fach and Haggitt faced the Midwestern partners of Sean Rash from Illinois and Tom Hess of Iowa. Fach and Haggitt snagged the victory, 3-1, and moved through to the finals. In the other semifinal matchup, Kerry Smith and Ryan Shafer battled Thomas Larsen and Brad Angelo where it was Larsen and Angelo who grabbed the win, 3-1, thanks to a baker 300 in game four. In the finals, Fach and Haggitt continued their run as the eighth seed winning once again by a total of three games to one. Fach claimed his first regional doubles title and 7th regional title overall, while Haggitt put his third PBA50 title in his pocket.

Fach now leads the PBA Central Region with 2,500 points and Haggitt finds himself just under 400 points behind PBA50 Central Region leader Parker Bohn III.

**PBA/PBA50 Doubles/Clutch Lanes Central Open Final Results**

1. Graham Fach/Michael Haggitt 2,500 points, \$2,000 each
2. Thomas Larsen/Brad Angelo 1,500, \$1,000
3. Sean Rash/Tom Hess 1,150, \$800
4. Kerry Smith/Ryan Shafer 950, \$800

**PBA Central Region Points Leaders**

1. Graham Fach, 1,500
2. Thomas Larsen, 1,500
3. Sean Rash, 1,150
4. Kerry Smith, 950

5. Matthew Ogle, 850

[View the full PBA Central Region leaderboard](#)

#### **PBA50 Central Region Points Leaders**

1. Parker Bohn III, 3,065
2. Michael Haggitt, 2,695
3. Tom Hess, 2,650
4. Chris Barnes, 1,685
5. Dave Wodka, 1,625

[View the full PBA50 Central Region leaderboard](#)

### **SOUTH REGION**

#### **PBA50 Paradise Lanes Spartanburg Open**

Now we move down about 500 miles to check in on the South Region's first event this year. 120 bowlers entered Paradise Lanes for eight games of qualifying hoping to get into the top 40 to continue onto the advancers round. Mac Sanders cruised through the eight games, averaging 233 and topping second place by 68 pins. Scott Thomsen just squeaked in at -4 in 40th place while six bowlers missed the cut by single digits.

Four games later, the field cut to 16 bowlers for a single-elimination bracket where Mac Sanders stayed in the lead to grab the No. 1 seed. Michael Painter snuck into the final spot by four pins after 12 games, but he must have left his glass slipper at the bowling alley because in bracket play he ran through the field for a Cinderella story indeed.

Painter's run started with the ousting of one-seeded Sanders followed by Andrew Farrow Jr., and Terry Wiley. Hailing from Emerald Isle, North Carolina, the No. 2 seed Chris Johnson was Painter's final opponent. Painter dropped the first game 204-189 but came back to win the next two games 205-194 and 177-166 and rode back home in a pumpkin carriage with a giant check in his hands. The win marks Painter's first PBA50 title and the second regional title of his career.

#### **PBA50 Paradise Lanes Spartanburg Open Final Standings**

1. Michael Painter 7,500 points, \$2,500
2. Chris Johnson 4,500, \$1,300
3. James Winterfeld 3,450, \$1,200
4. Terry Wiley 2,850, \$1,100
5. Bill Vannoy 2,550, \$875

[View the full PBA50 South Region leaderboard](#)

The Central and South will be the next regions back in action at the beginning of March with the PBA50 Strike Zone Lanes Central Classic in Canton, Ohio for the Central Region and the PBA and PBA50 Lightning Strikes Challenge in Fort Myers, Florida for the South Region. Later in the month, the Northwest will start their Regional Tour as will the Midwest. The full schedule of events can be [found right here at pba.com](#).

### **DOM BARRETT TAKES LEAD IN 2022 KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS FEBRUARY 24, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Averages 229.19 over 26 games to lead the field going into the final 16 games of match play*

**FAIRLAWN, Ohio**—Eight-time Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour champion Dom Barrett entered the first round of Kia PBA Tournament of Champions match play in ninth place, then posted a score of +312 over eight games of match play to take the top spot at +894 going into tomorrow's final 16 games at AMF Riviera Lanes. Over 26 total games bowled so far in the tournament, Barrett is averaging 229.19, nearly two full pins better than anyone else in the field.

Barrett fronts a closely bunched group at the top of the leaderboard, with second-place Kyle Sherman just six pins behind at +888. 2020 Tournament of Champions winner Kris Prather is third, a mere two

pins behind Sherman. Three pins back of Prather is three-time Tournament of Champions winner Jason Belmonte, who has already won twice in four events this season. Sean Rash, the winner of the 2012 Tournament of Champions, is fifth, trailing Belmonte by only 24 pins.

Among Barrett's eight titles are two majors: the 2013 PBA World Championship and 2018 U.S. Open. If Barrett can win the Tournament of Champions, he'll become just the eighth player in PBA Tour history to win the Triple Crown, which consists of the original three majors.

Competition will continue Friday with the final two rounds of match play beginning at noon ET on FloBowling. Following match play, the top five players will advance to the stepladder finals airing Sunday at 1 p.m. ET on FOX Broadcast Channel.

#### **TOP 10 THROUGH 26 GAMES**

1. Dom Barrett +894
2. Kyle Sherman +888
3. Kris Prather +886
4. Jason Belmonte +883
5. Sean Rash +859
6. Shawn Maldonado +824
7. EJ Tackett +812
8. Tommy Jones +777
9. Carsten Hansen +762
10. Dick Allen +748

[View the complete standings](#)

#### **STRIKEFORCE BOWLING, LLC. ANNOUNCES PBA PICK 'EM FEBRUARY 25, 2022 DDZIOMBA**

Melrose Park, I.L.- Strikeforce Bowling, LLC. launches PBA Pick 'Em, a new, free-to-play predictive game in partnership with the Professional Bowlers Association.

The new website, [pbapickem.com](http://pbapickem.com), will offer different contests for each 2022 PBA Tour event where participants will attempt to predict the outcome of upcoming PBA events. Each PBA Pick 'Em contest will feature a jackpot prize of up to \$10,000 along with additional prizes from KR Strikeforce and Bowlero.

"We are very excited to execute this new project with the PBA" says Matthew Farber, Strikeforce Bowling's Director of Business Development. "We hope this project will not only provide existing PBA fans with a new and exciting avenue to engage with the PBA, but also provide a platform for bowling fans to become familiar with the exciting tour, it's events, and it's players."

Each contest will feature a series of questions relating to an upcoming PBA Tour event, and to be eligible to win, participants must submit picks within the specified timeframe for that event. At the end of each contest, any participant who answers all questions correctly will win the \$10,000 prize. Should multiple people answer every question correctly, the \$10,000 will be split evenly amongst those participants. In addition, the top 10 finishers will win prizes that will be determined prior to the start of a contest.

PBA Pick 'Em will also feature a season leaderboard where participants can accumulate points from all contests throughout the season and win additional prizes.

"Pick 'em contests are very popular among other professional sports leagues, and we are very excited to work with Strikeforce to bring this to professional bowling," said Carissa Del Bene, Vice President of Media at Bowlero Corp & PBA. Participants must be physically residing in the Continental United States and over the age of 18 to be eligible to play. Submission windows may vary depending on event formats and details. All ties for finishers in the top 10 will be broken by the final question in the contest. Bowling equipment awarded to the top 10 finishers each contest may vary.

Head to [pbapickem.com](http://pbapickem.com) to make your account! Stay up-to-date on new contests and for information on all official rules and privacy policies.

## **KRISTOPHER PRATHER EARNS TOP SEED AT 2022 KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS FEBRUARY 25, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.**

Prather can win the KIA PBA Tournament of Champions for the second time in three years

FAIRLAWN, Ohio — Kristopher Prather of Plainfield, Illinois, will bowl for his second KIA Professional Bowlers Association Tournament of Champions title and the \$100,000 top prize on Sunday after capturing the top seed at AMF Riviera Lanes on Friday night.

The four-time PBA Tour champion moved into the lead following the second round of match play and proceeded to win six of eight matches in the final round to separate himself from the field and lock up the top seed for the televised finals, which will air live on FOX at 1 p.m. Eastern. In all, the 30-year-old right-hander averaged more than 233 and posted a 17-6-1 record in 24 head-to-head matches on the way to a 10,320 total, which included 30 bonus pins for each win in match play.

With a win on Sunday, Prather would join Earl Anthony, Jason Belmonte, Jason Couch, Dave Davis, Mike Durbin, Jim Godman, Marshall Holman, Pete Weber and Mark Williams and become the 10th player in PBA history to win the Tournament of Champions more than once. Durbin, Couch and Belmonte have each won the event three times.

"I love winning," said Prather, who also is a two-time PBA Elias Cup champion with the Portland Lumberjacks. "I don't really care that much about the money. Obviously, money makes the world go round, but for me, I love being able to call my dad and tell him, 'Pop, I got another trophy for you.' To add a second TOC to that trophy case would be a dream come true. For me, any trophy is awesome, but in a place that's historic like Riviera (Lanes) would be just icing on the cake."

In his first victory at historic AMF Riviera Lanes in 2020, Prather ran the ladder as the No. 4 seed and defeated Bill O'Neill of Langhorne, Pennsylvania, in the title match, 280-205, to win his first major title.

On Sunday, Prather will be the top seed in a TV final for the first time in his career. It's going to be a different way of going about business, but there's no place he'd rather be.

"It's going to be different," Prather said. "I've always been the third seed, the fourth seed, the fifth seed, and I've always had to run the ladder to bowl for the title. Normally when you're in the first match, you can dictate how they're going to play or at least break down in some shape or form. Now, I'll be dependent on what they do and how they play them, and that's the game plan I'm preparing myself for. I'll be watching them and trying to make an educated guess and game plan on the fly."

Prather will be joined on the show by No. 2 Dom Barrett of Great Bentley, England (10,103), No. 3 Sean Rash of Montgomery, Illinois (10,087), No. 4 Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina (10,049), and Houston's Shawn Maldonado (10,046) in the No. 5 spot.

Jones and Maldonado will square off in the opening match, with the winner advancing to face Rash in Match 2 in the traditional stepladder format. Barrett will take on the winner of Match 2, with Prather awaiting his opponent in the final.

Barrett, who owns eight PBA Tour titles and two majors, has a chance to make some history of his own Sunday. If he claims the title, he'll become just the eighth player in PBA Tour history to win the Triple Crown, which consists of the original three majors. Barrett won the 2013 PBA World Championship and 2018 U.S. Open.



With one Tournament of Champions crown already on his résumé, Rash can enter the same company of multi-time TOC winners with a win. The 17-time PBA Tour champion owns two majors, the other being the 2007 United States Bowling Congress Masters. Rash's first TOC victory came in Las Vegas in 2012, and now the 39-year-old right-hander will have the chance to win inside the historic Ohio venue. He finished fifth at last season's event which was held in Jupiter, Florida.

Jones, a 20-time titlist, two-time major champion and PBA Hall of Famer, is seeking his second career TOC crown. He won the event in 2007 and is making his third TOC telecast overall. Jones' impressive run in majors continues in 2022 as he's guaranteed another top-five finish. He finished fifth at the PBA Players Championship presented by Snickers and just missed making the TV show at the U.S. Open, finishing sixth.

Maldonado will look to take the next step in his career Sunday by claiming his first career major. The 35-year-old two-hander, who attacks the lanes from the right side, broke out in 2021 by winning two titles – the PBA WSOB XII PBA Chameleon Championship and PBA Lubbock Sports Open.

The KIA PBA Tournament of Champions is the fifth event of the 2022 PBA Tour season, which began in late January with the PBA Players Championship.

#### STEPLADDER FINALS

Match No. 1 - No. 4 Tommy Jones vs. No. 5 Shawn Maldonado

Match No. 2 - No. 3 Sean Rash vs. Match 1 winner

Semifinal - No. 2 Dom Barrett vs. Match 2 winner

Championship - No. 1 Kristopher Prather vs. Semifinal winner

### **AN ILLUSTRIOUS DECADE AT THE TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS FEBRUARY 26, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

It's no secret that the Tournament of Champions, the PBA's signature event, has precipitated many of the most iconic moments in the history of bowling.

From Kelly Kulick's momentous victory in 2010—when she became the first woman to win a PBA title—to Mika Koivuniemi's unforgettable 299-100 shellacking of Tom Daugherty in 2011, to Don Johnson's near-perfect 299 way back in 1970, the TOC has seen it all.

And no tournament is more indicative of Jason Belmonte's dominance than the Tournament of Champions.

Belmonte boasts three TOC titles, tied for the most in history. But more than that: Belmonte has made nine of the last ten shows at the TOC—he finished seventh in 2017, missing the telecast by just 25 pins—and is the only player to have earned the top seed multiple times during that span. But he's not the only player who has found consistent success over the past decade. Sean Rash has reached the championship round six times, including this year, and shot a televised 300 in 2015; Jesper Svensson, EJ Tackett and Pete Weber have each reached the show on three occasions since 2012.

Here's a recap of the past 10 Tournament of Champions:

2012: Persistence pays off for Rash

Title match: Sean Rash defeated Ryan Ciminelli 239-205

Context: Rash capped off his 2011-12 Player of the Year campaign with the second major title of his career.

In the last event of the 2011-12 season, the three leading candidates for Player of the Year all earned berths on the TOC show. Rash earned the top seed for the tournament's final four-person stepladder, with Belmonte, Mike Fagan and Ryan Ciminelli vying behind him. A win for Belmonte or Fagan, who had each won two titles that season, would essentially lock up the Player of the Year award. Though Rash had no titles, he made all five shows at the World Series of Bowling and led the Tour in average.

The King of Swing opened the show facing Ciminelli. He opted to play straight up the lane between the first and second arrow, lofting the ball just shy of the arrows. Ciminelli won a low-scoring affair, ending Fagan's POY dreams.

Ciminelli then took down Belmonte in the semifinal, paving the way for Rash to potentially steal the award with a win. After coming up short in his first six championship-round appearances in 2011-12, Rash struck in the 10th to lock up the major title, unleashing a season's worth of frustrations in a cathartic roar.

Rash ultimately won the 2011-12 Player of the Year, with his 29% share of the votes narrowly eclipsing Belmonte 26.6%. Had Ciminelli not given an Oscar-worthy performance in his role as spoiler, we could have seen a Belmo-Rash matchup, during the peak of Bottlegate drama, that directly decided a major title and the Player of the Year award.

2013: PDW's crowning moment

Winner: Pete Weber defeated Jason Belmonte 224-179

Context: Weber earned his 10th major title, tying Earl Anthony's longstanding record. He also became the oldest TOC champion at 50 years old.

The title match of the 2013 Tournament of Champions is perhaps the most consequential bowling moment of the past decade.

It was the coronation of Weber, perhaps bowling's most iconic figure. A year after his legendary "Who do you think you are? I am!" celebration, he captured his tenth career major to tie Earl Anthony's all-time record while becoming the oldest TOC champion.

Everything about Weber's performance is superbly and undeniably PDW: the sunglasses, the glove, the gold IQ Tour Pearl rolling over the fifth arrow before splitting the 8-9.

Though Weber would never win again on the national tour, his victory at the 2013 Tournament of Champions set the stage for the next decade of professional bowling.

The notion that Belmonte—then a one-time major titleist, though the 2011-12 Players Championship would be added retroactively—could catch Weber, let alone surpass him in major titles, was inconceivable. Weber and Anthony's record felt sacred, perhaps untouchable.

Belmonte burned it to ash within six years.

Imagine if Kobe Bryant's Lakers lost the 1998 NBA Finals to Michael Jordan's Bulls, and then Kobe won six titles by 2004. Or if Patrick Mahomes someday matches Tom Brady's seven Super Bowl rings after losing to him in Feb. 2021.

But this was Weber's time to bask in glory, a perfect snapshot of bowling history preserved in amber, with its significance only growing with age.

2014: Belmo snags his first TOC win

Winner: Jason Belmonte defeated Wes Malott 219-218

Context: Belmonte won his then-second career major, igniting his run of dominance.

One year after losing in the title match to Weber, Belmonte obliterated the field to earn the top seed in 2014.

Wes Malott, who will be inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame tonight, defeated Dan MacLelland and Dom Barrett to reach the title match. The two exchanged blows, entering the 10th frame deadlocked.

Belmonte struck on his fill shot after escaping a near-chop of the 6-10, forcing Malott to strike for the win. The Texas native balked at the foul line, reminding himself to commit. But his self-talk proved futile; he missed wide right, handing a second major title to Belmonte. This victory sparked a run in which Belmonte won four of six majors from 2014-15.

2015: Belmo goes back-to-back

Winner: Jason Belmonte defeated Rhino Page 232-214

Context: Belmonte won his second straight TOC and sixth career major title.

While it feels like Belmonte's peak has encompassed the entirety of the past decade, his absolute apex may have been in the mid-2010s. From 2011-2015, Belmonte recorded top-five finishes in 14 of 17 majors, winning six titles. In the four-season stretch, he won as many titles as Don Carter won in his career, and more than Jason Couch, Marshall Holman and Dick Weber, who each won four.

But Belmonte wasn't the only player to make history on this show. In the second match, Rash shot the 25th televised 300 game and the second of his career, becoming the first player with multiple televised perfect games. Ciminelli once again suffered the wrath of Rash in that match.

In the semifinal, Rash had the upper hand on Belmonte until the ninth frame, when he left a 2-8-10. Belmonte's six-bagger starting in the 6th frame proved to be the difference.

Making his fourth consecutive TOC show, Belmonte defeated top-seeded Page one week after winning his fifth career major at the 2015 Masters. Belmonte ran away with the title, clinching the match by the 8th frame. Page notched his second career runner-up finish at the TOC.

2016: No champagne for Svensson

Winner: Jesper Svensson defeated Mitch Beasley 226-177

Context: Twenty-year-old Svensson became the youngest TOC champion.

While Firelake Arena did not exude the historical significance of AMF Riviera Lanes, the breathtaking scene did make for a spectacular, if not a bit eerie, viewing experience.

Svensson earned the second seed as the lone lefty on the 2016 telecast. In his first match, he defeated Tom Daugherty, who made his daring return to the TOC telecast for the first time since his infamous 100 game in 2011. Though Daugherty more than doubled his score this time around, it was no match for Svensson's 245.

The baby-faced, tatted southpaw dispatched top-seeded Mitch Beasley to claim his first career major title. He became the youngest TOC champion ever, surpassing the then-21-year-old, 1976 champion Marshall Holman.

2017: EJ finally catches a break

Winner: EJ Tackett defeated Tommy Jones 208-203

Context: Tackett claimed his second career major title in dramatic fashion.

The lone year Belmonte failed to reach the TOC show coincidentally was the year Pete Weber made his final appearance. The higher seed won every match in 2017, setting up a final match between Tackett and Jones.

Tackett spared the 6-10 in the 9th frame, and struck on his first ball of the 10th, but failed to double. All Jones needed was a mark to win his first major since the 2006-07 TOC.

Tackett walked off the approach frustrated in his shot-making and disheartened by the result -- a feeling he's become all too familiar with over the years. He has made 12 major championship rounds in his career, earning the top-seed six times, but has only come away with two titles.

On this occasion, Tackett remembered to pack his rabbit's foot. Jones moved left after his urethane ball checked early in the 8th frame—but the ball never hooked. He washed out, and then missed the head-pin entirely on the spare attempt.

Tackett has made seven major shows since the 2017, including the 2019 TOC, but has yet to claim his third major title.

2018: OG Shocks the World

Winner: Matt O'Grady defeated Jesper Svensson 207-193

Context: O'Grady earned his first career PBA title from the fifth seed.

The first match of the 2018 TOC pitted two non-champs in O'Grady and BJ Moore; the latter of whom never recovered after a slow start. O'Grady moved on to face—you guessed it—Belmonte, who catapulted onto the show after entering match play in 24th place.

Belmonte needed a double in the 10th to win the match, but a messenger flew in front of the 10-pin, halting his bid for a 10th career major title. That's right—five years after falling to Weber as a two-time major champion, Belmonte sought to tie the record.

O'Grady's semifinal victory over Andrew Anderon, the 2018 Player of the Year, looks even more impressive in hindsight. The New Jersey native then shut down Svensson's run at a second TOC title in three years.

The enduring moment came after O'Grady's title-clinching strike. After standing in awe for a few seconds, he turned to the raucous crowd and said, "Hard work beats talent, every time."

2019: Belmonte etches place in history

Winner: Jason Belmonte defeated EJ Tackett 225-196

Context: Belmonte won his 10th major to tie Weber and Anthony. He also tied the record for most TOC titles with three.

Six years after losing the 2013 TOC title match—SIX YEARS!—Belmonte joined Weber and Anthony atop the summit of professional bowling after just a dozen years on tour. It took Weber 35 years, while Anthony accomplished the feat in 16.

Tackett, the three-seed, shot games of 264 and 238 in his previous matches, but his carry vanished when he needed it most. He didn't let his own disappointment allow him to lose sight of the moment.

"You are one of the best I've ever seen, man," Tackett told Belmonte, with genuine admiration. "You're incredible. You're incredible. Absolutely incredible."

No setting could have been more apropos of the moment than the TOC at AMF Riviera Lanes.

2020: Clark Kent channels inner Superman

Winner: Kris Prather defeated Bill O'Neill 280-205

Context: Prather won four straight matches to secure his first career major title.

Fourth-seeded Prather squeaked past Rash in the first match, then reigned fire upon the stepladder.

He shot games of 252, 226 and 280 to take down Belmonte, Anthony Simonsen and Bill O'Neill, respectively. Prather shot 758 over his final three matches; his quartet of opponents, including Rash, combined for 751.

Prather's unparalleled touch allowed him to slide in the left gutter, floating the ball across the fifth arrow out to the fourth board. The ball danced on his command, akin to Kyrie Irving's mystifying precision while weaving through the defense.

2021: Lavoie climbs the ladder

Winner: François Lavoie defeated Anthony Simonsen 233-187

Context: Lavoie took down four major titleists to earn his third career major title.

For the third time in four years, a player won four consecutive matches to win the Tournament of Champions. This time, two-time major champion Lavoie ascended the gauntlet of future Hall of Famers in his path.

Lavoie took down Rash in his first match, the only other player at the time with two televised 300 games. Then Lavoie struck on eight of his last nine shots to eliminate Svensson, the lone lefty on the show. In fact, no other left-hander has made the show since 2015, Svensson has done it three times.

To complete his title pursuit, Lavoie overcame a severe rev-deficiency to slay Belmonte and Simonsen. To win a major in this era, those are the two players you're inevitably going to have to beat. The younger two-hander initially tried to throw urethane up the second arrow, a disastrous decision that ultimately cost him the title.

With his victory, Lavoie became the second player in the Belmonte-era to win three major titles. Simonsen joined him a few weeks ago with his US Open title.

The bar could not be higher for 2022. Three former TOC champions, Prather, Rash and Jones, will aim to don the champion among champions crown once again.

Prather utilized a similar, slow-arcing motion to lead the 2022 TOC field and earn the top seed for Sunday's show. Despite his success in 2020 while operating from the four-seed, he opted to forgo the extended drama and skip straight to the championship match this time around.

Rash and Jones will aim for their third career major title. Neither player has won a major title since their TOC titles in 2012 and 2007, respectively.

Barrett, the two-seed, will also seek a third career major win, though this would represent his first TOC victory. Shawn Maldonado, a two-time titleist in 2021, will pursue his first career major victory.

History tends to repeat itself. If that rings true, sparks will be flying beginning at 1 p.m. EST on FOX.

**PBA HALL OF FAME ADDS FOUR NEW MEMBERS AS THE 2021 AND 2022 CLASSES EARN INDUCTION  
FEBRUARY 27, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.**

*Kirk and Mary von Krueger, Gary Mage and Wes Malott were inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame*  
**FAIRLAWN, Ohio** — After a one-year hiatus, the Guaranteed Rate Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Fame returned Saturday night and formally inducted four new members from two separate classes into its sacred fraternity.

The induction ceremony was held in conjunction with the 2022 KIA PBA Tournament of Champions, the third major of the PBA Tour season. FloBowling.com provided live coverage of the ceremony held at The Hilton Akron/Fairlawn.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 induction ceremony was postponed until this year. The 2021 PBA Hall of Fame class of Gary Mage of Vancouver, Washington, and the duo of Kirk and Mary von Krueger of Pensacola, Florida, were inducted for their meritorious service.

The 2022 PBA Hall of Fame class featured only Wes Malott of Fort Wayne, Indiana, who was selected based on performance. All four members were unanimous selections into the hall of fame.

Kirk and Mary von Krueger, who met while both were air traffic controllers in the U.S. Navy, are the first married couple to be inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame.

Kirk took the reins as PBA national tournament director in 1996 following the tenure of Johnny Campos. He was the fourth tournament director in PBA history and served in that role until his retirement in 2020. Kirk added Deputy Commissioner to his list of responsibilities in 2011 and again remained in that role until his retirement in 2020. Only the late Harry Golden, who served as national tournament director for 29 years, held the position longer.

"I never expected to be here," said Kirk von Krueger, during his speech. "I never thought this would happen. I want to thank everyone who was involved. I want to thank my family who stuck with me through thick and thin. I want to thank my sons, my daughter and my wife, Mary. Mary, I love you baby. If it wasn't for her, I'd be nothing. She's responsible for me joining the PBA Tour. She was responsible for me having this job. Everything is due to my wife." Mary, who served alongside her husband as his clerical right hand, became the Membership and Statistics Manager.

"This is beyond my wildest dreams," Mary von Krueger said. "I don't know if you can imagine how overwhelming this is. To stand where so many legends have stood before – Earl Anthony, Dick Weber, Johnny Petraglia, our dear friend Walter Ray (Williams Jr.), Mark Roth, Marshall Holman and the list goes on and on. Think about it, guys. Did you ever picture yourself in that group? I sure didn't. I was just coming along with Kirk. I was just here with him, and I loved bowling.

"I also want to say thank you to all of my bowlers, all of my guys. I was there for 25 years and all the years before that watching on TV, and I'm still amazed at what you can do on those lanes. Someone who doesn't know about bowling, they don't understand the nuances of what you do. You're amazing. You're absolutely amazing."

Mage, who won his only PBA national title at the 1972 Seattle Open, founded the PBA Northwest region in 1979 and added PBA West Regional Director to his resume in 2004. When he retired in 2020, Mage had served for more than 40 years and hosted more tournaments than any other regional director in the history of the PBA Tour. His wife, Toni, was along for the ride with him.

"I was a bowler like all of you guys," said Mage, with a smile. "The only difference is instead of complaining about my cross, who I was following or who was throwing all the bowling balls, I made the mistake of complaining that there weren't any tournaments to bowl in the Northwest. Next thing I knew, I was the regional manager for the Northwest.

"I joined the PBA in 1965. I was able to go out on tour, and I got to bowl with all the greats. I had the privilege of being 'that guy.' When Dick Weber won his last title, he beat 'that guy.' That was me. When Earl Anthony won his last title, he beat 'that guy.' He was me. That was my story."

Malott has captured 10 PBA titles, including the Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles Championship twice with Norm Duke, and the 2013 U.S. Open, his lone major. He also owns 18 PBA regional titles.

Affectionately known as the "Big Nasty," Malott exceeded \$100,000 in earnings in five seasons, including four consecutive years from 2005-2008. He was named the 2008-2009 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year and tossed multiple 300 games on television as part of his undisputed, dominant run as the "King of Bowling."

In PBA League competition, he has been named the Mark Roth Most Valuable Player twice while leading the Portland Lumberjacks to back-to-back PBA Elias Cup titles in 2019 and 2020.

"When the PBA began tracking stats, I was about 15 or 16, and two of the people I followed the most were Parker Bohn III and Jason Couch. Why? I don't know," said Malott, with a laugh as he began. "Clearly, I don't know much about the sport or the game because they're left-handed. With Jason being a power player, I remember him crossing the house with 289, 289... and it was incredible. It was very inspirational to me.

"And, Parker, being one of the guys who is considered textbook. If any of you know me, you know I'm very meticulous and critical of a lot of things that I do, including my game. Parker was one of the ones I followed." But, as Malott would state as he closed, it's all about belief.

"If any of you happened to see the video when Tom (Clark) interviewed me to let me know I had been voted into the hall of fame, you might have heard me talk about how I was a latecomer to the PBA Tour," Malott said. "It was because I didn't believe in myself. I didn't think I could beat these guys out on tour. I went on and won my first regional, then I won the RPC (Regional Players Championship), which got me into the TOC (Tournament of Champions).

"People started asking me if I'm going out on tour. I initially said I don't know, but then we all talked about it, put some money together and put me out on tour, and here we are. With the help and support of family and friends, they pushed me and things continued to fall into place. If there is one thing I can get people to do in life, you got to believe."

Since the 2021 induction ceremony was postponed, the 2020 PBA award winners also were recognized Saturday along with the 2021 winners. The 2020 award winners are as follows: 2020 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year Jason Belmonte, Australia; PBA Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award winner Brad Miller of Lee's Summit, Missouri; and PBA Tony Reyes Memorial Community Service Award recipient Danny Wiseman of Baltimore.

The 2021 award winners were: Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, North Carolina; Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year Matt Russo, Fairview Heights, Illinois; PBA Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award winner Jake Peters of Henderson, Nevada; and PBA Tony Reyes Memorial Community Service Award recipient Warren Eales of Chandler, Arizona.

**DOM BARRETT WINS THIRD MAJOR TITLE AND EARNS TRIPLE CROWN STATUS AT KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS  
FEBRUARY 27, 2022 EMIL WILLIAMS JR.**

FAIRLAWN, Ohio — Dom Barrett of Great Bentley, England, became the eighth player in Professional Bowlers Association history to win the Triple Crown after defeating top seed Kristopher Prather of Plainfield, Illinois, 210-189, to win the 2022 KIA PBA Tournament of Champions on Sunday.

The victory came live on FOX as part of the 2022 PBA Tour television schedule and earned Barrett a \$100,000 top prize. Prather earned \$55,000 as the runner-up.

With the win, the 36-year-old right-hander now joins Mike Aulby, Chris Barnes, Jason Belmonte, Norm Duke, Billy Hardwick, Johnny Petraglia and Pete Weber as players who've won the PBA World Championship, U.S. Open and Tournament of Champions, the original three majors.

"Not in my wildest dreams did I think I could ever do that," said Barrett, after the match. "I've won a lot around the world, but not as much in the USA as I'd hoped. But, I have three majors, a Triple Crown and that puts me alongside Chris Barnes, my good friend. He's been talking me into this a little bit this week along with Jason Couch. It's unbelievable."

In the championship match, Barrett opened with four out of the first five and held a 27-pin advantage after Prather failed to convert the 3-6-10 in the sixth frame.

But, on a day where the best players in the world were uncharacteristically missing spares, it was Barrett who provided the spare of the match.

In the sixth frame, Barrett missed the headpin right and left the 1-2-4-8-10. In a situation which could've derailed his title hopes, he calmly spared the washout conversion and used a generous break to help convert the 3-6-10 in the seventh frame.

Prather, who was looking to win his second Tournament of Champions title in three years, still had life, but a solid 9 pin in the eighth frame and an open in the ninth ended his chances.

"It's just things coming together," said Barrett, referring to the sixth and seventh frames. "The right lane started to hook early and it was already tight, so I had to make sure to get it around the carrydown and urethane, and I just missed it slightly. (On the left lane) I think I over adjusted and my hand got really behind the ball, which I didn't need to do, and it hooked, and I was very fortunate to make the spare."

Like many international players, Barrett balances life on the PBA Tour with his family life in England. During the live FOX broadcast, his wife, Cassie, was seen on FaceTime via Dom's phone as he celebrated his triumph. His 3-year-old son, Colby, had just gone to bed. The sacrifices only added to the importance of his victory.

"My little boy Colby had just gone to bed and just missed his bedtime," Barrett said. "I want to share this with them. Obviously, it's a long flight, but they're a really big part of the sacrifices we have to make for me to be here. Sometimes, it's worthwhile like this."

To get to the title match, Barrett ousted Houston's Shawn Maldonado, 279-201. He began the match with seven consecutive strikes before a 10 pin derailed his opportunity at perfection.

In Match No. 2, Maldonado advanced by defeating Sean Rash of Montgomery, Illinois, 212-187.

Maldonado made a ball change to begin the match, which proved to be successful as Rash scattered



three open frames. Rash was looking for his second career Tournament of Champions title and his third career major victory.

The opening match arguably was the day's best as Maldonado and PBA Hall of Famer Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina, needed extra frames to decide a winner.

With the match coming down to the final frames, Maldonado missed a 10 pin in the ninth frame to put Jones in a closeout position. Jones struck in the ninth and could've shut out Maldonado in the final frame.

Instead, Jones missed a 7 pin in the 10th frame, which allowed Maldonado the opportunity to advance with a mark in his 10th frame. Unfortunately, Maldonado left the 2-4-10 and only covered two pins to tie at 216.

In the roll-off, Jones went first and also left a 2-4-10 for a seven count. Needing just eight to advance, Maldonado left a 2-10 on his attempt to win and move on to face Rash.

Jones also was looking for his second career Tournament of Champions title.

All rounds of qualifying and match play leading up to Sunday's televised finals were broadcast live on FloBowling.

The KIA PBA Tournament of Champions is the fifth event of the 2022 PBA Tour season, which began in late January with the PBA Players Championship.

2022 PBA Tournament of Champions

At AMF Riviera Lanes

Fairlawn, Ohio

Sunday's Results

Final Standings

1, Dom Barrett, Great Bentley, England, 489 (two games), \$100,000.

2, Kristopher Prather, Plainfield, Ill., 189 (one game), \$55,000.

3, Shawn Maldonado, Houston, 629 (three games), \$30,000.

4, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 187 (one game), \$20,000.

5, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 216 (one game), \$15,000.

Stepladder Results

Match No. 1 - Maldonado def. Jones, 216-216 (Roll-off: 8-7)

Match No. 2 - Maldonado def. Rash, 212-187

Semifinal - Barrett def. Maldonado, 279-201

Championship - Barrett def. Prather, 210-189

## **GUARANTEED RATE PBA WORLD SERIES OF BOWLING XIII STARTS FRIDAY WITH ROTH/HOLMAN DOUBLES MARCH 1, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Five titles, plus the inaugural PBA Collegiate Invitational presented by Storm, to be decided*

Wauwatosa, Wis.—The Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII begins this weekend at Bowlero Wauwatosa. Five PBA Tour titles—the PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman PBA Doubles Championship, PBA Cheetah Championship, PBA Scorpion Championship, PBA Shark Championship and PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon—will be earned over the course of 13 days.

Qualifying and match play will be streamed live on FloBowling and the stepladder finals will air Mar. 13-16, live on FOX Broadcast Channel (World Championship) and Fox Sports' FS1 (all other events). In addition, the inaugural PBA Collegiate Invitational presented by Storm, which features the top four USBC-ranked collegiate teams, will air on FS1 Mar. 20.

### **PBA ROTH/HOLMAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP OPENS WSOB XIII**

For the second straight year and third time ever, the PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles Championship will be part of the World Series of Bowling. This year, the doubles event is the first to be contested, with qualifying beginning Friday, Mar. 4 at noon ET. Kris Prather and Andrew Anderson will attempt to defend their title against a formidable field that includes two-time winners Jesper Svensson and Kyle Troup as well as Norm Duke and Wes Malott.

### **TWO MORE PLAYERS SEEK THE TRIPLE CROWN**

Dom Barrett became the eighth player in PBA history to complete the Triple Crown (U.S. Open, World Championship, Tournament of Champions) when he won the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions Sunday. At the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling, two players will have a chance to join Barrett as Triple Crown winners: Tommy Jones, who won the U.S. Open in 2006 and the Tournament of Champions in 2007, and François Lavoie, who won the 2021 Tournament of Champions to go with U.S. Open wins in 2016 and 2019.

### **MULTI-TIME MAJOR WINNERS IN 2022**

During the 2021 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season, four of the five majors were won by first-time major champions. So far in 2022, all three majors have been won by previous major winners (Jason Belmonte in the PBA Players Championship, Anthony Simonsen in the U.S. Open and Dom Barrett in the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions). The main event of the WSOB, the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon, was won by Tom Daugherty last season for his first major title. Daugherty also won the Scorpion Championship as the only player to win two titles at last season's WSOB.

Belmonte already has two titles this season and has won the PBA World Championship three times in his career. Simonsen is the youngest player ever to win three majors but has yet to win the World Championship. Barrett is looking to win his second World Championship title. All three of them finished in the top 10 in four of the five events in which they've competed so far this season. The only player yet to win this season who has also finished in the top 10 in four of five events is EJ Tackett, who is attempting to win the World Championship for the second time.

### **CHEETAH, SCORPION, SHARK CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Ten games of qualifying on each of three animal patterns—Cheetah, Scorpion and Shark—will determine the 16 finalists for each animal-pattern event as well as the 30 players who will advance to PBA World Championship cashers round.

The Shark Championship returns for the first time since 2017, replacing the Chameleon Championship, which was won last year by Shawn Maldonado.

Sam Cooley (Cheetah), Daugherty (Scorpion) and Richie Teece (Shark, won in 2017) enter as the defending champions.

### **PBA COLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY STORM**

The first ever PBA Collegiate Invitational presented by Storm pits the top four collegiate teams, based on USBC rankings, against each other in baker action to air Mar. 20 at 2:30 p.m. ET on FS1. Competing for the championship are Wichita State University, St. Ambrose University, Savannah College of Art and Design—Savannah and Webber International University. Check out the [full USBC rankings here](#).

### **MORE TICKETS RELEASED - WITNESS WSOB XIII LIVE IN WAUWATOSA**

More tickets were just released for all WSOB XIII telecasts. Get yours today at the following links:

[PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles Championship](#)

[Guaranteed Rate PBA World Championship](#)

[PBA Cheetah Championship](#)

[PBA Scorpion Championship](#)

[PBA Shark Championship](#)

[PBA Collegiate Invitational presented by Storm](#)

## **GUARANTEED RATE PBA WORLD SERIES OF BOWLING XIII STREAMING AND TV SCHEDULE**

Qualifying and match play – Mar. 4-5, 7-11, on FloBowling

PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles Championship – Mar. 6, noon ET on FS1

PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon – Mar. 13, 1 p.m. ET on FOX

PBA Cheetah Championship – Mar. 14, 8 p.m. ET on FS1

PBA Scorpion Championship – Mar. 15, 8 p.m. ET on FS1

PBA Shark Championship – Mar. 16, 8 p.m. ET on FS1

PBA Collegiate Invitational presented by Storm – Mar. 20, 2:30 p.m. ET on FS1

[View the full Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII schedule](#)

### **PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS SINCE WSOB I**

2009-10 – Tom Smallwood

2010-11 – Chris Barnes

2011-12 – Osku Palermaa

2012-13 (WSOB IV)\* – Parker Bohn III

2012-13 (WSOB V)\* – Dom Barrett

2014 – Mike Fagan

2015 – Gary Faulkner Jr.

2016 – EJ Tackett

2017 – Jason Belmonte

2018 – event not held\*\*

2019 – Jason Belmonte

2020 – Jason Belmonte

2021 – Tom Daugherty

### **PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONS SINCE WSOB I**

2009-10 – Norm Duke

2010-11 – Eugene McCune

2011-12 – Eugene McCune (not a WSOB event)\*\*\*

2012-13 (WSOB IV)\* – Bill O'Neill

2012-13 (WSOB V)\* – Wes Malott

2014 – Anthony Pepe

2015 – Parker Bohn III

2016 – Mike Wolfe

2017 – Jesper Svensson

2018 – event not held\*\*

2019 – Dick Allen

2020 – Sean Rash

2021 – Sam Cooley

### **PBA SCORPION CHAMPIONS SINCE WSOB I**

2009-10 – Mike DeVaney

2010-11 – Yong-Jin Gu

2011-12 – Dom Barrett

2012-13 (WSOB IV)\* – Tom Daugherty

2012-13 (WSOB V)\* – Tom Smallwood

2014 – Michael Haugen Jr.

2015 – Jon Van Hees

2016 – Tommy Jones

2017 – EJ Tackett

2018 – event not held\*\*

2019 – Kris Prather

2020 – Carsten Hansen

2021 – Tom Daugherty

### **PBA SHARK CHAMPIONS SINCE WSOB I**

2009-10 – Jack Jurek

2010-11 – Osku Palermaa

2011-12 – Jason Belmonte  
2012-13 (WSOB IV)\* – event not held  
2012-13 (WSOB V)\* – event not held  
2014 – event not held  
2015 – event not held  
2016 – François Lavoie  
2017 – Richie Teece  
2018 – event not held\*\*  
2019 – event not held  
2020 – event not held  
2021 – event not held

The Shark Championship was held outside the WSOB once, with Rhino Page winning in 2008

#### **PBA CHAMELEON CHAMPIONS SINCE WSOB I**

(The PBA Chameleon Championship is not being held this season)

2009-10 – Bill O'Neill  
2010-11 – Scott Norton  
2011-12 – Jason Belmonte  
2012-13 (WSOB IV)\* – Scott Norton  
2012-13 (WSOB V)\* – Ryan Ciminelli  
2014 – DJ Archer  
2015 – Jesper Svensson  
2016 – Mitch Beasley  
2017 – Liz Johnson  
2018 – event not held\*\*  
2019 – Jason Belmonte  
2020 – Jason Belmonte  
2021 – Shawn Maldonado

\*As the PBA transitioned into a calendar-year season, two World Series of Bowling events were held in 2012-2013.

\*\*World Series of Bowling X was moved to spring of 2019 as the PBA began its partnership with FOX.

\*\*\*The 2011-2012 Cheetah Open took place at Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley, Calif. and was streamed live on PBA Xtra Frame.

#### **MARK ROTH MARSHALL HOLMAN PBA DOUBLES CHAMPIONS SINCE 2011**

2011-12 – Norm Duke and Wes Malott  
2012-13 – not held  
2014 – not held  
2015 – Norm Duke and Wes Malott  
2016 – Connor Pickford and Anthony Simonsen  
2017 – Jesper Svensson and Kyle Troup  
2018 – Jason Belmonte and Bill O'Neill  
2019 – Matt Ogle and Sean Rash  
2020 – Jesper Svensson and Kyle Troup  
2021 – Kris Prather and Andrew Anderson

#### **PATH TO THE PBA PLAYOFFS THROUGH THE KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS MARCH 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Following the PBA's signature event, the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions, at the most historic lanes in bowling, AMF Riviera Lanes, much has changed in the points race. But the more things change, the more they stay the same—at least at the top of the list.

### **1. Jason Belmonte - 18,325**

Belmonte continues to lead the pack in the points race by a considerable margin. Belmonte aimed to make his fifth consecutive TOC show, and 10th in 11 seasons, but came up short. He entered the final round of match play trailing the fifth seed, Shawn Maldonado, by just 34 pins, but couldn't string consistent high scores to make up the ground. However, Belmonte did post his 11th consecutive top-10 finish at the TOC.

### **2. Anthony Simonsen - 13,705**

Already the youngest player to win three major titles at just 25 years old, Simonsen looked to extend his record with a fourth major title at the TOC. After earning the top seed in 2021 and the two-seed in 2020, falling to the eventual champions, he had redemption on his mind as well. Ultimately, he missed the show by 109 pins and collected a sixth-place finish, trimming his deficit behind Belmonte ever so slightly.

### **3. Dom Barrett - 13,560**

A strong 2022 season quickly turned into a historic one for Barrett. With his TOC victory, he became the eighth player in PBA history to win the Triple Crown, and the first European. He attributed his success to not thinking ahead; that's when bad things happen, he said. Since COVID, Barrett has experienced what he calls an "unforced break." Mired in an 18-month slump, he has been unable to develop a consistent practice schedule back home in England. As he struggled to get his swing into place, he developed nagging injuries in places where he hadn't before. Before the TOC, he had not won a PBA title since 2019. A major title moved Barrett into third in the 2022 points list, but he was already inside the top five. It's safe to say his slump is officially over.

### **4. EJ Tackett - 12,310**

A ninth-place finish at the TOC secured Tackett's fourth consecutive top-10 finish of 2022. His steadiness has enabled him to sit within striking distance of the points lead, even without a title.

Ben Glascock, who runs the Ten Pin Life YouTube channel, [mic'd up Tackett during the second round of qualifying at the TOC.](#)

### **5. Sean Rash - 10,295**

Rash earned his third consecutive TOC telcast appearance last weekend, the longest active streak on tour, while in pursuit of his first major title since the 2012 TOC. His six TOC championship rounds since 2012 are the second most of any player—you'll never guess who he trails—and twice more than a quintet of players with three.

### **6. Kris Prather - 8,515**

Prather has developed an unparalleled comfort at AMF Riviera Lanes. He won the event in 2020, the last time it was held at the iconic venue, and led qualifying this year. But he wasn't able to replicate the magic he produced on the 2020 show, falling to Barrett in the title match as repeated nine-counts plagued his bid for a second TOC title in three years.

Single-game matches are a fickle beast. Prather bowled a "physically and mentally great game," as he described it, but the bowling gods just weren't on his side Sunday afternoon.

### **7. Tommy Jones - 8,060**

PBA Hall of Fame induction weekends bring out the best in Jones. Two years ago, the day after his own induction, he bowled a 300 in the title match of the Hall of Fame Classic. The perfect game secured his 20th career title, and a bear hug from Wes Malott, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame himself this year, prophetically captured the moment.

Jones has been lights out in majors this season, finishing in the top six in all three majors and making two championship-round appearances. He'll aim to carry that success into the World Series of Bowling, where a World Championship title would complete the Triple Crown for Jones.

### **8. Kyle Troup - 7,125**

Troup cut his rank in half with a seventh-place TOC finish, climbing from the playoff bubble to the top 10. He made the show three times at last year's World Series of Bowling (Doubles, Scorpion and World Championship), but will look to take home a trophy this year. His next PBA title will be his ninth, breaking the tie with his father, Guppy.

### **9. Bill O'Neill - 6,745**

O'Neill has been—wait for it—keep waiting—one more second—the Real Deal this season. Much like

many players in this region, he has found consistent success, but O'Neill hasn't been able to break through with a championship round appearance since the East Region finals of the Players Championship.

**10. Jake Peters - 6,710**

Peters slipped from sixth to 10th overall after missing the match play cut at the TOC by 55 pins. But the weekend wasn't a total loss for the 32-year-old, as he accepted the 2021 Steve Nagy Sportsmanship award to a standing ovation.

**11. Tom Daugherty - 6,680**

Other than an off performance in Jackson, Daugherty has been remarkably consistent this season. He's earned at least 1,280 points in the other four events, but has yet to break through with a championship-round appearance.

**12. Shawn Maldonado - 6,230**

Maldonado snagged the fifth seed for the TOC show, then survived perhaps the most perplexing conclusion to a match we'll see all year against Jones. Barrett cut the 36-year-old's bid for a first career major title short, but a third-place finish boosts Maldonado inside the current PBA Playoffs cut.

**13. Jesper Svensson - 5,885**

Svensson has been the top left-hander on tour this season by a significant margin; the next-highest lefty, Jakob Butturff, ranks 30th with 4,240 points. Although, outside of his title in Jackson, Svensson has collected just 885 points.

**14. Kyle Sherman - 5,755**

Sherman flirted with making the show at the TOC, but ultimately took home a 13th-place finish. His solid performance catapulted him up the rankings, from 25th to inside the current Playoffs cut.

**15. Nick Pate - 5,750**

Pate sits inside the current PBA Playoffs cut despite missing two of the season's three majors to date. If he had competed and made the first cut in each, he'd sit ahead of Troup in eighth place on the season; if he had done anything close to his top-four performances in the Storm Cup events, he could be well inside the top five.

But those points—like the ones on “Whose Line Is It Anyway?”—are made up and the points don't matter. The Minnesota native will invade enemy territory at the World Series of Bowling, which begins this week in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

**16. AJ Johnson - 5,670**

Like Pate, Johnson was not able to escape the PTQ round of the Tournament of Champions. But holding onto the last PBA Playoffs spot without the benefit of a major's weighted points is a testament to Johnson's achievements earlier this season.

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**17. Matt Ogle - 5,650**

His 16th place at the TOC elevated Ogle into the thick of the playoff race. He had been on the fringes of the race since his 14th-place finish in Jackson. The 2019 Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles champion will look to add a second doubles title to his résumé this weekend.

**18. François Lavoie - 5,425**

His strong start to the 2022 season buoyed his dismal performances in the Storm Cup events. A 23rd-place finish at the TOC allowed him to maintain his rank in 18th, but he'll need more performances like his 13th-place showing at the U.S. Open to get back into the Playoffs cut.

**19. Wes Malott - 5,390**

The newest member of the Hall of Fame hoped to make a Jones-esque run at the TOC, but Malott settled for a 12th-place finish. He jumped 10 spots in the points rankings and will look to continue his ascent at the World Series of Bowling.

**20. Arturo Quintero - 5,330**

Quintero did not compete at the TOC, and subsequently fell eight spots in the rankings.

*Dropped outside the top-20: Brad Miller, Packy Hanrahan, DJ Archer, Sam Cooley, Brandon Novak*

## **PALERMAA AND BUTTURFF LEAD PBA ROTH/HOLMAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP INTO MATCH PLAY**

**MARCH 4, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

**Wauwatosa, Wis.—**Osku Palermmaa and Jakob Butturff paced the field during the opening event of the 2022 World Series of Bowling: the PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles. This marked the first Roth/Holman Doubles tournament since Roth's passing in November 2021.

Each duo bowled six games apiece on Friday morning, before a re-oil and another six games in the evening. The competitors bowled on the 42' Mark Roth pattern on the left lanes, and the 38' Marshall Holman pattern on the right lanes.

Butturff and Palermmaa combined to shoot +693 for their 24 games. They finished 10th and 11th, respectively, in the individual standings, each averaging a hair under 229 for their 12 games. While Palermmaa and Butturff lead, a host of teams are hot on their heels entering Saturday's round-robin match play.

Matthew Ogle and Sean Rash, the 2019 champions, sit in second place at +677. Ogle finished second among all individuals, averaging almost 235. Marshall Kent and EJ Tackett sit in third place—the exact position they finished a year ago—as Tackett led the field individually at +475 for his 12 games.

While Kent and Tackett recreated their chemistry from a year ago, the top two teams from 2021 failed to advance to Saturday's match play round.

BJ Moore and Tom Daugherty, who earned the top seed for last year's show before falling in the title match, finished in 20th place. They missed the cut by 22 pins. The defending champion duo of Kris Prather and Andrew Anderson struggled to find any success; they finished in 37th place at +315.

Among the advancers is 2021 Rookie of the Year Matt Russo, who teamed up with his mentor, Parker Bohn III.

In the return of the mack—*somebody had to say it*—longtime Storm tour rep Tim Mack and AJ Johnson snuck into the final cut in 14th place at +501.

### **TOP 16 THROUGH 24 GAMES**

1. Osku Palermmaa / Jakob Butturff +693
2. Sean Rash / Matthew Ogle +677
3. Marshall Kent / EJ Tackett +675
4. Tom Smallwood / Jason Sterner +673

5. Brian Robinson / Santtu Tahvanainen +618
6. DJ Archer / Shawn Maldonado +608
7. Bill O'Neill / Jason Belmonte +586
8. Parker Bohn III / Matt Russo +553
9. Mitch Hupe / Patrick Hanrahan +541
10. Anthony Lavery-Spahr / AJ Chapman +540
11. Brad Miller / Kyle Sherman +522
12. Michael Martell / Kurt Pilon +509
13. Darren Tang / Michael Tang +503
14. Tim Mack / AJ Johnson +501
15. Ronnie Russell / Chris Via +498
16. Frank Snodgrass / Jean Perez +477

**SHAWN MALDONADO AND DJ ARCHER LEAD FIVE TEAMS INTO PBA ROTH/HOLMAN  
DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP STEPLADDER FINALS  
MARCH 5, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Shawn Maldonado carried over his stellar performance at the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions to the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling. Maldonado and teammate Tom Smallwood secured the top seed for the PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles Championship stepladder finals on Sunday.

The duo averaged more than 232 across 40 games to lead the talented field, rising from sixth to first during 16 games of round robin match play today.

Yesterday's leaders, Osku Palermaa and Jakob Butturff, earned the two-seed for the show at +1,522. The 2019 champions, Sean Rash and Matthew Ogle, took the third seed.

The powerful one-handed team of Marshall Kent and EJ Tackett will look for redemption after last year's third-place finish, earning the fourth seed. Tom Smallwood, who has a CBS television series based on his life and legendary 2009 breakthrough WSOB performance airing later this month, and Jason Sterner round out the finalists for Sunday's show.

Smallwood and Sterner will face Kent and Tackett in the first match of Sunday's telecast, airing at noon p.m. ET on Fox Sports' FS1.

Everybody's favorite YouTubers, Brad Miller and Kyle Sherman, finished in sixth place at +1,340. They missed the show by 44 pins.

Tim Mack and AJ Johnson began the day with back-to-back 300 games, but settled for a 14th place finish.



## **ROTH/HOLMAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP STEPLADDER FINALISTS**

1. DJ Archer / Shawn Maldonado +1,582
2. Osku Palermaa / Jakob Butturff +1,522
3. Sean Rash / Matthew Ogle +1,482
4. Marshall Kent / EJ Tackett +1,419
5. Tom Smallwood / Jason Sterner +1,384

### **EJ TACKETT AND MARSHALL KENT WIN PBA ROTH/HOLMAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP MARCH 6, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The emotions poured out of Marshall Kent and EJ Tackett as they capped off a moment six years in the making. Making their fifth appearance in six years on the PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles stepladder, the teammates completed their ascent to emerge with the title.

"Winning with Marshall is so cool because we've been so close for so long," Tackett said. "(Marshall) was in my wedding two years ago, and it's just really cool to have that friendship with somebody and to share a moment like that."

"It's hard to describe without being in the situation," he added. "It's a feeling that you really can't describe to anybody."

Kent echoed Tackett's tongue-tied sentiment. "I can't even put in words honestly," said Kent, who claimed his first PBA title since 2017. "We kind of joked last year, 'All we've got to do is not qualify second because the last four times we made the show, we qualified second and lost. 'We qualified fourth, and here we are.'"

This Roth/Holman Doubles event marked the first without Roth, who passed away in Nov. 2021. However, his presence was omnipresent across Bowlero Wauwatosa. Kent and Tackett, perhaps the most powerful one-handed righties in bowling, are the living embodiment of Roth, the man who revolutionized bowling in the 1970s and 80s.

The duo dominated all afternoon, winning four straight matches as their opponents failed to muster a valiant counterpunch. As the show progressed, a sense of inevitability grew.

Tackett said he has focused on keeping his upper body from getting too forward at the line, which has proven integral to his success thus far in 2022. But he realized following his loss at the US Open, which he led by over 500 pins, that his feet tend to go into "hyperdrive" when he bowls on TV.

"Today I really focused on staying slow," he said. "I think that helped me be able to throw good shots, but also repeat shots. Because you get so amped up on TV with the adrenaline going, that when you feel slow, you're actually going at a normal pace."

If there were any lingering doubts about Tackett's ability to succeed on television, he put them to bed once and for all: He struck on 16 of 24 shots, did not miss the pocket and painted lines like Picasso.

"My ball reaction on this pattern had been really good the whole time," said Tackett, who led the field in the individual portion of qualifying. "Honestly, this is one of my best performances on TV that I've ever had. I felt like I threw really good shots all day."

Kent managed to tame a left lane that gave everyone, with the exception of Sean Rash, fits. He struck on 13 of 20 shots, and ensured his misses left makeable spares.

"I kept telling my ball rep, 'if I can find some to the right, then we're in play,'" said Kent, who only moved two boards all afternoon. "Obviously EJ's look was really good, so all I had to do was try to figure something out, and I found a little something in the track."

Kent and Tackett defeated Tom Smallwood and Jason Sterner in the opening match 247-173. After exchanging spares to begin the second match, the duo fired the back-10 strikes to defeat the 2019 champions, Rash and Matt Ogle, 279-244.

Neither the semifinal against Osku Palermaa and Jakob Butturff, nor the final against Shawn Maldonado and DJ Archer were particularly close. Kent and Tackett dispatched the righty/lefty duo 225-187, then the tournament leaders 245-192. In the title match, they had nine strikes in a row before Kent opened in the tenth frame to expedite the coronation.

Kent and Tackett claimed their fifth and 15th career PBA titles, respectively. After finishing second or third in four of the past five years, this title doesn't absolve previous shortcomings, but Kent said it "absolutely" feels like redemption.

Throughout their long-awaited celebration, the duo kept repeating the same three words: "We got one!"

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Marshall Kent / EJ Tackett \$25,000
2. Shawn Maldonado / DJ Archer \$15,000
3. Osku Palermaa / Jakob Butturff \$12,000
4. Sean Rash / Matt Ogle \$9,000
5. Tom Smallwood / Jason Sterner \$7,000

#### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1: No. 4 Kent / Tackett def. No. 5 Smallwood / Sterner, 247-173

Match 2: No. 4 Kent / Tackett def. No. 3 Ogle / Rash, 279-244

Match 3: No. 4 Kent / Tackett def. No. 2 Butturff / Palermaa, 225-187

Match 4: No. 4 Kent / Tackett def. No. 1 Archer / Maldonado, 245-192

#### **SWEDES STEAL THE SHOW IN PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING MARCH 7, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Approximately one in 96 Swedes bear the surname Svensson. Exactly two in three of the leaders at the PBA Cheetah Championship rep the name on the back of their jerseys.

William Svensson led the 10-game qualifying round at +473, while Jesper Svensson, no relation, averaged over 235 to finish third. Fellow Swede Martin Larsen finished 10th.

Andrew Anderson—a native of Holly, Michigan and honorary native of the Scandinavian bowling powerhouse, as Andersson is the second-most popular surname—snuck in as the cut number. The

pseudo-Swede, if you will, started the day with games of 197, 179 and 199. He then averaged more than 242 across his final seven games to climb inside the cut.

Anderson's final game of 259 slammed the door on a pair of Hall of Famers. Norm Duke came up four pins shy of the cut at +269. Wes Malott fired 300 and 821 over his final three games to sneak into contention, but finished 13 pins shy of Anderson.

AJ Johnson's perfection in Game 10 helped him ascend from 18th, and outside of the cut, into fourth place. EJ Tackett's dominance from the PBA Roth/Holman Doubles Championship stepladder finals yesterday carried into today, as Tackett finished fifth at +325.

Kyle Sherman said on the FloBowling live stream that he threw the wrong Pitch Black for almost seven frames of Game 4. He said the expectedly poor ball reaction led to his switch from urethane to reactive, which set up his 300 in the subsequent game. Sherman finished 14th, just 20 pins inside the cut, perhaps thanks to a serendipitous moment of obliviousness.

#### **PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH PLAY QUALIFIERS**

1. William Svensson +473
2. Tommy Jones +362
3. Jesper Svensson +351
4. AJ Johnson +334
5. EJ Tackett +325
6. Jakob Butturff +318
7. Sean Rash +311
8. Ronnie Russell +309
9. Kristopher Prather +307
10. Martin Larsen +296
11. Patrick Hanrahan +295
12. Cristian Azcona +291
12. Stuart Williams +291
14. Kyle Sherman +289
15. Kris Koeltzow +283
16. Andrew Anderson +273

#### **TROUP AND SVENSSON LEAD PBA SCORPION CHAMPIONSHIP MARCH 8, 2022 NOLAN HUGHE**

Kyle Troup and Jesper Svensson rekindled the magic that helped them capture the 2017 and 2020 Roth/Holman Doubles Championships at the PBA Scorpion Championship. The top 16 players advance to match play, which will be held March 15.

Troup led the field at +337, while Svensson wasn't far behind at +319. This marks consecutive top-three performances for Svensson at the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII; he leads the field in the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon through 20 games at +670. Jakob Butturff qualified third on the Scorpion pattern and trails only Svensson in the World Championship standings.

Players who advanced to match play on Cheetah and Scorpion include Svensson, Butturff, EJ Tackett, Kristopher Prather, Patrick Hanrahan and Tommy Jones.

AJ Johnson, who qualified fourth on the Cheetah pattern, missed the Scorpion cut by seven pins; he was the first player outside the cut.

Notable advancers who bounced back after missing the Cheetah cut include Chris Via, Anthony Neuer, Michael Tang, Matt Sanders and Jason Belmonte, who snuck in as the cut number at +194. Belmonte will face Troup in the opening round of match play.

Troup, Prather and Tang each made the stepladder finals on this pattern in 2021. Last year's champion, Tom Daugherty, finished 95th of 96 players.

Qualifying for the PBA Shark Championship, which also counts as the final 10 games of full-field qualifying in the PBA World Championship, begins Wednesday, March 9 at 1 p.m. ET.

#### **PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH PLAY QUALIFIERS**

1. Kyle Troup +337
2. Jesper Svensson +319
3. Jakob Butturff +296
4. David Krol +290
5. Brandon Runk +278
6. Anthony Simonsen +267
7. EJ Tackett +259
8. Kristopher Prather +256\*
9. Chris Via +256\*
10. Anthony Neuer +246
11. Michael Tang +237
12. Patrick Hanrahan +230
13. Matt Sanders +225
14. Rasmus Edvall +216
15. Tommy Jones +214
16. Jason Belmonte +194

\*Ties are broken by the higher final block, which was bowled by Prather.

[View the full PBA Scorpion Championship standings](#)

#### **PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON TOP 10 THROUGH 20 GAMES**

1. Jesper Svensson +670
2. Jakob Butturff +614
3. EJ Tackett +584
4. Tommy Jones +576
5. Kyle Troup +568
6. Kristopher Prather +563
7. Patrick Hanrahan +525
8. AJ Johnson +521
9. William Svensson +520
10. Ronnie Russell +476

#### **SWEDEN'S PONTUS ANDERSSON DOMINATES PBA SHARK CHAMPIONSHIP MARCH 9, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

A banner week for Sweden at the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII continued as Pontus Andersson dominated qualifying at the PBA Shark Championship. He is the second Swedish player to lead a qualifying round, joining William Svensson (Cheetah). Nine of the 26-year-old Andersson's 10 games on the 48-foot Shark pattern topped 235.

Keven Williams, Cristian Azcona, AJ Chapman and Jason Sterner round out the top five. Among the notable advancers are 14-time major titleist Jason Belmonte, 2022 Kia PBA Tournament of Champions winner Dom Barrett and last year's World Championship winner Tom Daugherty.

Jakob Butturff and Patrick Hanrahan, both left-handers, were the only players to advance to match play on all three patterns. They sit first and second in the World Championship standings. Qualifying seventh on Shark marked Darren Tang's first individual cut of the week and helped him skyrocket up the World Championship leaderboard. He told FloBowling that getting comfortable and seeing the picture early—he rolled the front 10 and 287 in game one—carried over into his best performance of the week. Tang climbed from 64th place after 20 games into 33rd in the World Championship standings. He snuck in as the cut number, besting Brandon Runk by seven pins.

The top 33 players from 30 games of qualifying on Cheetah, Scorpion and Shark advance to the World Championship cashers round, which will begin at 1 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 10. The competition will be streamed live on FloBowling.

Jason Sterner did not practice on the 43-foot Earl Anthony pattern, which will be used for all World Championship competition, but told FloBowling he expects to play near the track area. He has found success in that part of the lane all week and hopes to shut down his angles, which has been a strength of his throughout his career.

Five Swedish players advanced in the World Championship, including Andersson, William Svensson, Jesper Svensson, Rasmus Edvall and Martin Larsen.

#### **PBA SHARK CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH PLAY QUALIFIERS**

1. Pontus Andersson +442
2. Keven Williams +396
3. AJ Chapman +337\*
4. Jason Sterner +337\*
5. Cristian Azcona +334
6. Jason Belmonte +320
7. Darren Tang +316
8. Patrick Hanrahan +306
9. Jakob Butturff +295
10. Dom Barrett +294\*
11. BJ Moore +294\*
12. Tom Daugherty +293
13. Mitch Hupe +292
14. John Furey +257\*
15. Jake Peters +257\*
16. Anthony Simonsen +252

\*Ties are broken by the higher final block, which were bowled by Chapman, Barrett and Furey.

[View the full PBA Shark Championship standings](#)

#### **PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON ADVANCERS**

1. Jakob Butturff +909
2. Patrick Hanrahan +831
3. Kristopher Prather +774
4. EJ Tackett +773
5. Tommy Jones +760
6. Jesper Svensson +742
7. Cristian Azcona +728
8. Jason Sterner +725

9. Pontus Andersson +698
10. Sean Rash +667
11. Kyle Troup +665
12. Jason Belmonte +662
13. Anthony Simonsen +643
14. Norm Duke +579
15. Rasmus Edvall +575
16. Michael Tang +574
16. AJ Johnson +574
18. Martin Larsen +561
19. Dom Barrett +553
20. Matt Russo +551
21. Chris Via +546
22. Tom Smallwood +535
22. Kyle Sherman +535
24. Ryan Ciminelli +528
25. Matt Sanders +520
26. Keven Williams +519
27. William Svensson +510
28. Mitch Hupe +507
29. Ronnie Russell +499
30. Nicholas Pate +498
31. Andrew Anderson +497
32. Zacharay Wilkins +491
33. Darren Tang +478

**PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP – LINT'S LATE PUSH PROPELS HIM TO FIRST IN CANTON, DOUGHTERY III AND FORERO FIND A WAY TO THE FINALS IN FORT MYERS  
MARCH 10, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

As the PBA continues its journey through the heart of the schedule, the Regional Tour rolls right alongside. This past weekend, Fort Myers, Florida, and Canton, Ohio held the Strike Zone Lanes Central Classic and the Lightning Strikes Challenge, respectively. The Fort Myers tournaments opened their doors to non-champions in the PBA and PBA50 events, while the Canton event hosted many familiar PBA50 faces.

**CENTRAL REGION**

**PBA50 Strike Zone Lanes Central Classic**

The Johnny Petraglia pattern hit the lanes where bowlers responded fairly well to the conditions. Eighty-five bowlers took to Strike Zone Lanes where it took a 223 average to advance to match play on Sunday. Dean Billings, who owns one regional title, led the way at +303 for eight games while Jay Davis Jr. followed closely behind at +299, which included a pair of 300 games. Bob Eckenrode barely snuck into the cut at +191, topping three bowlers who finished at +190. The following day, 12 games of match play allowed for plenty of movement where Troy Lint moved from third to first thanks to a 277 in game nine and a 270 in game ten against eventual second-place finisher Rick Graham. Lint, also a Pennsylvania USBC Hall of Famer, notched his 4th PBA50 regional title, all of which have come within the last three seasons.

**PBA50 Strike Zone Lanes Central Classic Final Standings**

1. Troy Lint, 2,500 Points, \$3,000

2. Dave Johnson, 1,500, \$1,700
3. Ray Edwards, 1,150, \$1,300
4. Rick Graham, 950, \$1,100
5. Dean Billings, 850, \$1,000

#### **PBA50 Central Region Points Leaders**

1. Parker Bohn III, 3,065
2. Michael Haggitt, 3,040
3. Tom Hess, 2,650
4. Troy Lint, 2,500
5. Dave Johnson, 1,925

[View the full Central Region points standings](#)

### **SOUTH REGION**

#### **PBA50 Lightning Strikes Challenge (Non-Champions)**

Down in the Sunshine State, owner of Lightning Strikes Bowl Robert Eddy hosted two spectacular events where the Del Ballard pattern wasn't as amicable as the Petraglia pattern was up north in Ohio. Just 10 players finished plus for their seven-game block, while just 16 averaged over 190. A 190 pace turned out to be the goal for many, as Jerry Johnson established himself as the cut line at -55, averaging 192. Others such as Ralph Brunt Jr. made it look effortless, leading the field of 54 on Saturday by going +221, over 100 pins higher than second-place Joe Scarborough.

The top bowlers came back the next day to duke it out in a 16-man bracket decided by best-two-out-of-three-game matches, until the final round where one game determined the champion. After winning his first matchup, David Branch faced the one-seeded Brunt in a close match. Branch dropped game 1, but the Florida native came back to win the next two games, 233-224 and 208-186.

In his semifinal matchup, Branch made it a bit easier on himself, winning 231-180 and 180-156. In the other half of the bracket, John Dougherty III stormed through his matches, dropping just one of his nine games while never shooting a game under 204. When Branch and Dougherty met in the finals, Dougherty continued his torrid pace, shooting a 224 to Branch's 137. Along with the \$1,500 in prize money, Dougherty also claimed his first regional title and a banner to go with it.

#### **PBA50 Lightning Strikes Challenge Final Standings**

1. John Dougherty III, \$1,500
2. David Branch, \$1,000
3. Jonathan Cross, \$875
4. Jon Rakoski, \$875

#### **PBA Lightning Strikes Challenge (Non-Champions)**

Meanwhile, the "kids" event rolled on at the same time. Making the approximately three-hour trek from Port Richey to Fort Myers, Tyler Shingle took full advantage of his weekend vacation, averaging 240 for seven games to top the leaderboard after day one. As expected, places 2-16 were also littered with Floridians as 75% of the top 16 came from the southern state. Malik Grove and Austin Vogt both set the cut number at +113, but in a tiebreaker, Grove ended up taking the final spot.

In bracket play, Grove made good use of that final spot, taking out one-seeded Shingle in the first round. However, in the next round, Grove dropped his match to Evan Baranecky, and in turn, Baranecky fell in the semifinals to Charlie Forero. In the bottom half of the bracket, Chris Felker topped Ethan Fiore to

advance to the finals. Felker went for 211 but Forero outdid him with a 256 game. Of course, it being a non-champions event, Forero earned the first banner of his career, along with a \$1,500 check.

### **PBA Lightning Strikes Challenge Final Standings**

1. Charlie Forero, \$1,500
2. Chris Felker, \$1,200
3. Ethan Fiore, \$1,000
4. Evan Baranecky, \$1,000

The South and the Central run it back this weekend in Indiana and North Carolina with a pair of PBA50 events. The following weekend, Oregon gets in on the action, hosting the PBA Rogue River Open, PBA50 Caveman Bowl Classic, and the PBA Women's Caveman Bowl Open. Moving two thousand miles east, the Show-Me state will host the PBA50 Four Seasons Property Management Midwest Ozark Open.

### **TOMMY JONES SEIZES LEAD OF PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON**

**MARCH 10, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

After two six-game blocks at the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon, Tommy Jones surged into the 42-game lead at +1,288. He parlayed an opening 300, his second perfect game of the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII, into the tournament's top seed. Jason Belmonte, Jason Sterner, Jakob Butturff and Kris Prather round out the top five with 12 games left.

Packy Hanrahan, who is one of two players to reach the top 16 in all four individual events, told FloBowling he "Rode the roller coaster of scores tonight." He currently sits in 10th place, more than 130 pins from fifth, but has lofty ambitions. "I'm not thinking about fifth," he told FloBowling. "I'm thinking about first. I'm only 300 back with 12 games to go. That's 30 pins a game."

Hanrahan has used the same bowling ball, a brand new Purple Hammer, almost exclusively throughout the 42 games of competition thus far. The 12 games bowled today on the Earl Anthony oil pattern were added to 30 games bowled over the previous three days on the Cheetah, Scorpion and Shark patterns. After Ronnie Russell split in the 10th frame of Game 42, the door burst open for Kyle Sherman to sneak into the cut as the 16th seed. But Sherman thought his odds of advancing had already wilted away. "The last game I literally had no idea what anyone else was doing," he told FloBowling. "I didn't feel any nerves—nothing. I was just out there trying to spin (the ball) and float it and see if I get to go through the pins and just kind of messing around."

Sherman struck out in his final frame to shoot 239 and eclipse Russell by two pins to secure the final spot in the Eliminator Round of 16.

Three of Sweden's five players remaining in the World Championship field, Jesper Svensson, Rasmus Edvall and Martin Larsen, moved on to tomorrow's competition.

The top 16 players will bowl six games on Friday, March 11 at 1 p.m. ET, with the top eight players moving on to the final Eliminator Round of 8 Friday evening. All competition will be available to watch on FloBowling.



## **PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON THROUGH 42 GAMES**

1. Tommy Jones +1,288
2. Jason Belmonte +1,261
3. Jason Sterner +1,177
4. Jakob Butturff +1,158
5. Kris Prather +1,130
6. Kyle Troup +1,094
7. EJ Tackett +1,078
8. Anthony Simonsen +1,049
9. Cristian Azcona +1,034
10. Packy Hanrahan +993
11. Chris Via +985
12. AJ Johnson +959
13. Jesper Svensson +952
14. Rasmus Edvall +918
15. Martin Larsen +916
16. Kyle Sherman +871

## **KRIS PRATHER HEADLINES STACKED PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW MARCH 11, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

At the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII, Kris Prather has been a man on a mission. The 30-year-old secured the top seed at the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon. This marks second consecutive one-seed at a major, following his runner-up finish at the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions last February.

Prather entered the Eliminator Round of Eight in fourth place, trailing Tommy Jones by 112 pins. In Games 51-52, Prather struck on 19 straight shots before a stone-9 stifled his bid for consecutive perfect games. But shooting 300-279 still allowed Prather to surge into the lead. Joining Prather on consecutive major shows is Tommy Jones, who finished fifth at the Tournament of Champions. Jones finished just six pins behind Prather at +1,596. He doubled in the tenth frame of Game 54, which forced Prather to secure the top-seed.

The 43-year-old Jones has not won a major since 2007, but keeps knocking on the door in 2022. He has made three of four major shows; the lone major he did not finish inside the top-five was the US Open, in which he finished sixth.

Jason Belmonte earned the third seed, averaging almost 229 across his 54 games. This marks his third major telecast in four events of 2022; he has made 12 of 18 major shows since 2019. After capturing the season-opening PBA Players Championship title, Belmonte will look to extend his PBA record with a 15th career major title.

The opening match on Sunday's telecast will pit Jason Sterner against Jakob Butturff, who earned the fourth and fifth seeds, respectively. The 38-year-old Sterner seeks his fourth career PBA title and first career major, while the seven-time titleist Butturff sits on the brink of Hall of Fame eligibility if he can win a second career major title.

Kyle Troup and Anthony Simonsen finished tied for sixth at +1,426, and EJ Tackett rounded out the top-eight at +1,369.

The PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon will air live on FOX at 1 p.m. ET on Sunday, March 13.

#### **PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON THROUGH 54 GAMES**

1. Kris Prather +1,602
2. Tommy Jones +1,596
3. Jason Belmonte +1,563
4. Jason Sterner +1,486
5. Jakob Butturff +1,484

#### **KRIS PRATHER FINDS MAJOR REDEMPTION AT THE PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MARCH 13, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Two weeks removed from a crushing loss at the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions, Kris Prather would not be denied again. He captured the PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon title, securing his second career major title and a \$100,000 prize.

The match eerily resembled his loss at the Tournament of Champions a fortnight ago. After five straight strikes, he left nine-counts on four of his next five shots. He bore the same look of devastation across his face as he watched Jason Sterner attempt to lock up his first career major title.

But then Sterner, who managed to overcome spikes of adrenaline all afternoon, could not deliver when it mattered most. He's earned the nickname "Flash" because of his tendency to run to the line, which is exactly what happened. He missed the headpin on the first shot of the tenth frame, luckily knocking over the necessary eight pins. Then in the roll-off, he failed to match Prather's strike, leaving a 3-6-9-10.

Prather halted Sterner's climb from the bottom of the stepladder. The 38-year-old defeated Jakob Butturff in the first match 279-244. "It's never easy accepting losses," Butturff said. "But the fact that I felt comfortable on the show with still three tournaments left this week, it's cloud nine."

Sterner threw a Purple Hammer urethane in the first match but knew that look had a short shelf-life. Once Jason Belmonte proved to have a great look early in the second match, Sterner felt he had to make the switch to reactive. He knew he couldn't grind out a 220 and expect to win. "I'd rather fail the other way because I know what happens if I throw this purple and it doesn't strike," he said. Belmonte, who aimed to notch his 15th career major title, left a 10-pin in the tenth frame that opened the door for Sterner. Needing a double in the tenth, Sterner secured the 266-255 victory. In the semifinal, Tommy Jones never got comfortable on the TV pair, as Sterner rolled to a 238-183 victory. Jones amazed the crowd with a pair of difficult split conversions, but spares would not be enough this afternoon.

For Prather, the taste of redemption is oh, so sweet. His stampede to the one-seed began during a three-game stretch during the Round of 8: He struck on 31 of 34 shots, rolling games of 245, 300 and 279.

"I missed a 10 pin in the 10th frame of that 245 game and it pissed me off. I was furious at myself," Prather said. "I just told myself, 'You're going to be perfect from now on.'" He nearly made good on that promise, as a stuffed 9-pin was the only deterrent to consecutive perfect games. He said his goal was merely to make the show; he didn't realize the one-seed was within reach until late in the final game, then he doubled in the tenth to earn the top spot over Jones.

Prather said the loss at the TOC taught him to stay in the moment. He dialed up his level of focus, especially on having a more consistent release. "To be able to perform in the clutch Friday night, and performing in the clutch today is gratifying," he said.

After leading consecutive major tournaments, it's hard to argue anyone on the planet is bowling better than Prather. But he said that's not for him to decide: "I'm just gonna keep throwing the ball and hoping they all fall down."

PBA commissioner Tom Clark described the afternoon as one of the best shows in recent memory, which sets quite the bar for the four remaining shows this week in Wauwatosa. The Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII continues tomorrow with the PBA Cheetah Championship.

#### **PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON THROUGH 54 GAMES**

1. Kristopher Prather \$100,000
2. Jason Sterner \$55,000
3. Tommy Jones \$40,000
4. Jason Belmonte \$30,000
5. Jakob Butturff \$25,000

#### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1: No. 4 Sterner def. No. 5 Butturff, 279-244

Match 2: No. 4 Sterner def. No. 3 Belmonte, 266-255

Match 3: No. 4 Sterner def. No. 2 Jones, 238-183

Match 4: No. 1 Prather def. No. 4 Prather, 237-237 (10-6)

#### **THE STARS ALIGN FOR KYLE SHERMAN AT THE PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP MARCH 14, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

To win on the PBA Tour, everything has to fall into place: You have to match up with the pattern, you have to bowl your absolute best and you have to hope your opponent gives you a chance.

The stars aligned for Kyle Sherman at the PBA Cheetah Championship. He captured his second career PBA title and first singles title. The jokes of his "half-title" will live only in the archives of the Brad and Kyle YouTube channel.

As Sherman paraded around the set, the raucous crowd at Bowlero Wauwatosa poured in support for the co-star of their favorite channel. Though this was Sherman's first singles title, the chants of "Let's go, Kyle!" almost drowned out the post-game interview.

He has earned a passionate fan base by chronically his life as a pro bowler with his best friend, Brad Miller. "When we first came out here, we thought it was the greatest sport in the world," Miller said. "We still think that. All you need to do is have a camera around."

"It's unbelievable," Sherman said. "You work so hard to try to win, and out here people forget there's just so much losing. You've gotta learn to lose first. Winning this doesn't seem real yet."

Sherman joked the title match between himself and Azcona was "The rubber match to decide the best bowler to come out of Lindenwood." The two won the 2014 Intercollegiate Team Championship together, but only Sherman hoisted the trophy this time. Sherman captured the title with a 214-184 victory. Azcona's demise came on the right lane, where he left the 2-10 or 2-4-8 on each of his final four shots. Sherman avoided the carrydown by playing straighter. "I knew my ball was going to hook if I got outside of five quick, and staying up the lane," Sherman said. "I saw that early, made the decision to get away from it and it worked out."

In the semifinal, Sherman defeated Kris Koeltzow 216-212. Koeltzow, chasing his first career PBA title, needed a double in the 10th frame, but could not deliver on the second attempt. Koeltzow escaped from his previous match against Jakob Butturff in a dramatic thriller. After they tied at 183, Koeltzow outlasted the left-hander through three legs of a sudden death roll-off. Butturff looked more comfortable during his 235-200 win over Andrew Anderson in the opening match. This marked his third TV finals appearance in as many events at the World Series of Bowling XIII. Over the next two days of match play, he'll look to match Sean Rash's WSOB III performance by reaching all five telecasts.

#### **PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Kyle Sherman \$20,000
2. Cristian Azcona \$11,000
3. Kris Koeltzow \$9,000
4. Jakob Butturff \$7,000
5. Andrew Anderson \$5,000

#### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1: No. 5 Butturff def. No. 4 Anderson, 235-200  
Match 2: No. 3 Koeltzow def. No. 5 Butturff, 183-183 (30-28)  
Match 3: No. 2. Sherman def. No. 3 Koeltzow, 216-212  
Match 4: No. 2 Sherman def. No. 1 Azcona, 214-184

#### **BELMO WINS PBA SCORPION CHAMPIONSHIP FOR 28TH PBA TOUR TITLE MARCH 16, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Eight months after Jason Belmonte won his first career PBA title at the 2009 Bowling Foundation Long Island Classic, the New York Yankees captured their 27th World Series title in franchise history. Over the next decade-plus, the Yankees sat idle as Belmonte racked up win after win.

At the 2022 PBA Scorpion Championship, 13 years later, Belmonte surpassed the mighty Yankees with his 28th career PBA title. No player has found greater success at the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling than Belmonte, whose victory marked his ninth career WSOB title.

The 38-year-old earned the 16th seed for Tuesday's match play competition, which meant his only path to the title consisted of winning two best-of-five matches, then climbing the stepladder.

"If anything, it was kind of nice to be able to know right from the very beginning of today, 'If you make it through, you're going to be at the bottom of the ladder and you've got to climb it,'" Belmonte said.

"When I saw the guys who made the show, I was like, 'I don't know if it could have been any harder.'" His matches with EJ Tackett and Anthony Simonsen, two of his fiercest foes on the tour, sandwiched his contests with Tommy Jones and Packy Hanrahan.

In the opening match, Belmonte took down Tackett, who leads the tour in average this season, 247-192. A pair of splits from Tackett spelled his downfall as Belmonte fired seven consecutive strikes down the stretch.

Belmonte then took down Jones 211-177 as he battled uninspiring ball reaction all match. He felt the inclination to jump left—and create the shape that made him famous—but wasn't sure if the lanes had developed enough. A 2-8-10 leave in the ninth frame, on a shot he liked out of his hands, solidified his decision to move left.

His estimated move was "a board off" after leaving a pocket 7-10 in the on his first shot against Hanrahan. But Belmonte adjusted and fired the next six strikes; Hanrahan, the sole southpaw on the show, failed to keep pace as Belmonte rolled 242-186.

"Once I made that extra move, I was able to see the ball go through the pins the way that I needed," he said. "And that's all I needed to see. I'm like, 'Yep, that's the right ball. Yep, that's the part of the lane. Now just make you're shots.'"

The championship match pitted Belmonte against Simonsen, who defeated Belmonte at the U.S. Open last month. This marked their fifth championship match-up, and while Belmonte holds the head-to-head advantage, he spoke highly of the younger two-hander.

"He's a rare, rare individual," Belmonte said of Simonsen. "There isn't a part of the lane that he can't play and he can't play well. Every time I win and he congratulates me, I say to him 'I have to do this, because you're going to pass me. I have to keep pushing myself to get more because you're going to get there.' There's no question in my mind that Anthony will be the best player in the world at some point." That point, however, will have to come another time, as Belmonte defeated Simonsen 244-176. Back-to-back splits in the fourth and fifth frames dug Simonsen a hole, then consecutive 7-pins on the right lane doomed any comeback effort.

Despite the prowess of the talented players standing between him and a 28th title, Belmonte displayed the wherewithal that separates him from the pack. While no competitor shot above 200, Belmonte averaged 236 with a low game of 211. His strike percentage of 68%, according to Lanetalk, trounced his opponents' 54%.

"I've bowled enough of these things, it doesn't matter who you're bowling," Belmonte said. "What matters is how the lanes are playing and the shots that you're going to make on that show. Once I saw the ball do the right thing. I knew I could win."

After earning his third title of 2022, Belmonte seized an even tighter grasp of the Player of the Year race. Though he sits on the verge of a seventh Player of the Year award, which would tie him with Walter Ray Williams Jr. for the most in PBA history, he has no interest in discussing the possibility yet.

"Ask me in May," he said. With the potential for a fourth title of 2022 at the Shark Championship, plus the USBC Masters starting at the end of the month, Belmonte is focused on the trophy at-hand.

#### **PBA SCORPION CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Jason Belmonte \$20,000
2. Anthony Simonsen \$11,000
3. Packy Hanrahan \$9,000
4. Tommy Jones \$7,000
5. EJ Tackett \$5,000

#### **MATCH SCORES**

No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 5 Tackett, 247-192  
No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 3 Jones, 211-177  
No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 2 Hanrahan, 242-186  
No. 4 Belmonte def. No. 1 Simonsen, 244-176

#### **KEVEN WILLIAMS FEELIN' GOOD AFTER WINNING FIRST CAREER PBA TITLE MARCH 17, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

In the final professional event of the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII emerged a first-time winner on the PBA Tour. Keven Williams, who earned the top seed for the PBA Shark Championship, delivered three clutch strikes to secure his first career PBA title.

"I've had a couple days of not bowling and rooting on my boys that were in the cuts," Williams said. "All those nights I was envisioning exactly that moment: getting up there, making the shots to strike and holding that trophy."

Williams defeated AJ Chapman 225-223 in the championship match. Chapman, who was also seeking his first career title, could have struck on his fill ball to place more pressure on Williams, but only knocked over eight pins.

"The one thing I would like back is that fill ball," Chapman said. "I was really happy with how I threw it tonight. Kevin just came up clutch."

Chapman halted the run of Jason Belmonte, who sought to climb the ladder for the second time in as many nights. According to Lanetalk, Belmonte struck on 76% of his total shots, but Chapman managed to stay clean to take a 237-225 victory.

Belmonte's defeat of Jason Sterner in the previous match felt inevitable after Sterner left consecutive pocket 7-10s in the second and third frames. Though Sterner nearly converted the first attempt, there was no stopping Belmonte as he cruised to a 236-203 victory.

In the opening match, Belmonte won a rematch of the PBA Scorpion Championship finals from the previous night; he took down Anthony Simonsen in a thrilling 264-250 affair. Belmonte aimed to tie Mike Aulby with a 29th career PBA title, but the night belonged to Williams.

"This is what entertainers and competitors live for," Williams said. "Stepping up, even if I wasn't the way I wanted to, having the opportunity to step up and make it count is what we live for. It's what we do."

"It's nice to get one," Williams added. "I've had a couple breaks go the wrong way.

AJ bowled phenomenal and I don't want to take that away from him at all. It's just good to step up and get one."

One of Williams' closest friends on tour, Packy Hanrahan, who came close to winning a title of his own this week by making all five cuts, stayed in support of his tour roommate. Hanrahan summed up the week of the World Series of Bowling well:

"That's a pretty good way to end it," he said. "Really, really, really cool final frames to the last game of the tournament. It was exciting the whole way through."

#### **PBA SHARK CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Keven Williams \$20,000
2. AJ Chapman \$11,000
3. Jason Belmonte \$9,000
4. Jason Sterner \$7,000
5. Anthony Simonsen \$5,000

#### **MATCH SCORES**

No. 5 Belmonte def. No. 4 Simonsen, 264-250

No. 5 Belmonte def. No. 3 Sterner, 236-203

No. 2 Chapman def. No. 5 Belmonte, 237-225

No. 1 Williams def. No. 2 Chapman, 225-223

**THE STORM CUP: PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS OPEN BEGINS TOMORROW  
MARCH 18, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The third of four THE STORM CUP events begins at South Plains Lanes*

The PBA Tour returns to South Plains Lanes in Lubbock, Texas with THE STORM CUP: PBA Lubbock Sports Open. The third of four THE STORM CUP events begins with full-field qualifying tomorrow at 10 a.m. ET and a champion will be decided in the stepladder finals beginning Sunday at 4:30 p.m. ET.

### **BELMONTE LEADS THE STORM CUP POINTS RACE**

Jason Belmonte's victory in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship put him into the lead as players chase THE STORM CUP and the \$10,000 bonus for the player with the most competition points earned in all four events. The top five players after all four events will receive a bonus check. Second place gets \$5,000, third place \$4,000 and fourth and fifth place \$3,000 each.

Each THE STORM CUP event begins with 12 games of full-field qualifying, after which the top 24 players bowl four more games to determine the top 16, who bowl two more games to cut to eight. After two more games, the top four players advance to the stepladder finals.

### **MAJOR CHAMPIONS HAVING SUCCESS**

While THE STORM CUP has led to multiple first-time PBA Tour champions in the past, only major champions have come away with trophies in two events thus far in 2022. Jesper Svensson won in Jackson, Michigan, then Belmonte triumphed in Kokomo, Indiana.

Nick Pate, who is attempting to win his first PBA Tour title, is the only player to qualify for both THE STORM CUP stepladders so far, finishing third in Jackson and second in Kokomo. Pate currently sits second on THE STORM CUP points list.

### **THE STORM CUP POINTS LEADERS THROUGH TWO EVENTS**

1. Jason Belmonte, 5,410
2. Nick Pate, 5,300
3. Jesper Svensson, 5,240
4. EJ Tackett, 3,610
5. Dom Barrett, 3,330
6. Packy Hanrahan, 3,260
7. Bill O'Neill, 2,560
8. Chris Via, 2,440
9. Anthony Simonsen, 2,390
10. Tom Smallwood, 2,140

### **THE STORM CUP: PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS OPEN SCHEDULE**

South Plains Lanes – Lubbock, Texas  
All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

#### **Saturday, March 19**

10 a.m. ET – Qualifying Round 1 (6 games)  
4 p.m. ET – Qualifying Round 2 (6 games)

#### **Sunday, March 20**

10 a.m. ET – Round of 24 (4 games)  
12:30 p.m. ET – Round of 16 (2 games)  
2:15 p.m. ET – Round of 8 (2 games)  
4:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

## **LONG-TIME BOWLING WRITER, PBA MEDIA CONSULTANT BILL VINT DIES AT 79 MARCH 18, 2022 MARK MILLER**

Within minutes of the news of his passing spreading through the bowling world, friends, former co-workers, athletes and others began sharing stories and prayers with each other.

The East Troy, Wisconsin, resident and Professional Bowlers Association media consultant from 2009-2020 died March 16, three days after suffering a stroke on his 79th birthday. He had attended the PBA World Series of Bowling in nearby Wauwatosa just days earlier where a number of those people had spoken to him directly.

Vint spent more than four decades in a variety of communications roles for the sport. He served as media director for the former Ladies Professional Bowlers Tour (now the Professional Women's Bowling Association) in the 1980s before joining the former American Bowling Congress as editor of Bowling Magazine in 1991. He later edited ABC's American Bowler publication as well as multiple other titles for ABC, the Women's International Bowling Congress, Young American Bowling Alliance, Bowling, Inc. and United States Bowling Congress.

"His dedication to the sport of bowling, and his service to it working for organizations like PWBA, YABA, USBC and through the influential publications he founded, ran, published and contributed, is unmatched," said PBA Commissioner Tom Clark on Facebook.

"I am forever grateful for the role he and his business partner, Jerry Schneider, played, running the PBA media relations and communications from 2009-2020. I am mostly thankful for all of Bill's help and every conversation. He stirred his iced tea, talked, and it was all wisdom, integrity and belief in this game.

"He was a talented man. Loyal, smart, opinionated, fearless. Some saw him as a bit of curmudgeon, but he was one of the funniest guys you'll ever meet."

He co-founded Sleeping Dogs Communications from 1997 focused on the bowling industry, a company he had until retiring in 2020.

A Marshalltown, Iowa, native, Vint earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Iowa State University in 1966 and started his career as a sportswriter with the Orlando (Florida) Sentinel-Star and Rockford (Illinois) Register Star. He worked for a publications firm called Market Communications from 1972-1979 and was executive director of the World Snowmobile Racing Federation in 1979-1980 before joining LPBT as director of marketing in 1981.

He and wife Lisa started Windy City Bowling News, a publication reporting on bowling in the Chicago area and beyond. They continued publishing until 2017. For many years they worked with Mail Pouch Barnstormers including Bill as its executive director.

Among his many honors were the Bowling Writers Association of America (now the International Bowling Media Association) Mort Luby Senior Meritorious Service, National Women Bowling Writers (now part of IBMA) Alberta E. Crowe Crowe and Midwest Bowling Writers Golden Quill Awards. He also won multiple



PBA writing/photography awards, two American Society of Association Executives honors and numerous APEX honors.

No memorial or service will be held following his wishes.

**SVENSSON LEADS TOP 24 INTO FINAL DAY OF THE STORM CUP: PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS OPEN**  
**MARCH 19, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*11-time PBA Tour champion is looking for his second title this season*

Jesper Svensson averaged 236 through 12 games of qualifying to lead the top 24 into the final day of THE STORM CUP: PBA Lubbock Sports Open at South Plains Lanes in Lubbock, Texas. Svensson won his 11th Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title earlier this season in THE STORM CUP: David Small's Best of the Best Championship and sits third in THE STORM CUP points entering the Lubbock Sports Open. At +422, twelve pins behind Svensson, is two-time PBA Tour champion Kyle Sherman, who won his first singles title in the PBA Cheetah Championship on Monday. Reigning PBA Player of the Year Kyle Troup is third at +377 and Jason Belmonte is fourth at +368. Belmonte has already won three titles this season, including THE STORM CUP: David Small's Kokomo Championship, and is on top of THE STORM CUP points list.

Defending champion Shawn Maldonado bowled 300 in game two and qualified eighth at +357. Three other players—Darren Tang, EJ Tackett and Chris Barnes—also bowled a perfect game and all made the cut to the top 24.

Missing the cut was Nick Pate, who had been the only player to qualify for the stepladder finals in each of the previous two THE STORM CUP events. The top five players after all four THE STORM CUP events will receive a bonus, with the overall leader earning \$10,000.

The top 24 players in THE STORM CUP: PBA Lubbock Sports Open advanced to Round of 24 qualifying and will bowl four games beginning Sunday at 10 a.m. ET before a cut to the top 16. Those players will bowl two more games and cut to the top eight, who will bowl two final games of qualifying to determine the four players competing in the stepladder finals, which will begin Sunday at 4:30 p.m. ET.

**TOP 10 THROUGH 12 GAMES**

1. Jesper Svensson +434
2. Kyle Sherman +422
3. Kyle Troup +377
4. Jason Belmonte +368
5. Tommy Jones +367
6. Dom Barrett +364
7. Tom Daugherty +358
8. Shawn Maldonado +357
9. Brad Miller +354
10. Sean Lavery-Spahr +347

**WICHITA STATE WINS INAUGURAL PBA COLLEGIATE INVITATIONAL PRESENTED BY STORM**  
**MARCH 20, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The final event of the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIII pitted the elite of men's collegiate bowling against one another. The top four ranked teams in the USBC collegiate bowling rankings were invited to showcase college bowling under the PBA brand, with Wichita State University prevailing as the first ever PBA Collegiate Invitational presented by Storm champions.

Wichita State, the defending Intercollegiate Team Championships national champions, concluded the regular season as the No. 1 team in the country. They faced off with another college bowling blue blood in Webber International University, who finished the regular season fourth in the rankings.

St. Ambrose University, who lost to Wichita State in last year's ITC finals, earned the No. 2 seed, and squared off with the Savannah College of Art and Design, based in Savannah, Georgia. The first round of the PBA Collegiate Invitational consisted of a single-game Baker match. Then, the winners competed in a Race to Two for the title. Though no national championship was on the line, players and coaches embraced the unique setting and opportunity to display their school on a national stage.

In the opening match, Wichita State's experience proved vital as they adapted to the environment. They defeated Webber International, 221-219, to advance to the finals.

In the battle of the bees, SCAD-Savannah took down St. Ambrose 242-214. Both teams made a point to express their fervent personalities. SCAD-Savannah's hilarious chants, packed with inside jokes, captivated the crowd's attention. Tyrell Ingalls, the anchor bowler for SCAD-Savannah said being themselves and having fun was the key to their success.

"It really improved our comfort because you noticed out the gate, we were all making shots," Ingalls said. "You can't really do that if you're not relaxing and having fun. I think that was the key that we needed going into this."

In the Race to Two finals, Wichita State stormed out of the gates with a 290. After junior TJ Rock converted a spare in the first, the Shockers fired the back 11 strikes to take 1-0 lead. Freshman Spencer Robarge was not a part of the Shockers' title run last year, but he gained TV experience as a high schooler at the USBC Masters and the PBA Junior National Championship.

"It's been a few years since I bowled with fans," Robarge said. "But the crowd was great. We obviously had a pretty fair idea of what we're doing on the lanes and good team chemistry made it a lot easier for us to string some strikes."

The Shockers kept their foot on the gas, winning the second game and the tournament, 231-159. Senior Alec Keplinger says the win, "Shows us that we know we can do it. We already knew it ourselves, but we came out here and proved it again. So many people want to come after us even more but we're ready."

Katie Thornton, SCAD-Savannah head coach and former WIU bowler, said bowling on TV served as a great experience for her team.

"Just being able to throw a shot under the lights and knowing what it feels like. It's a completely different feeling and environment," she said. "It's great exposure for us as a young program. We haven't had the exposure that the other teams have had, so that was kind of our first chance at that as well."

All four of these teams advanced to the ITC national championships next month in Addison, Illinois, where the top 16 men's and women's teams will compete for a national championship.

#### MATCH SCORES

Semifinal: No. 1 Wichita State def. No. 4 Webber, 221-219

Semifinal: No. 3 SCAD-Savannah def. No. 2 St. Ambrose, 242-214

Championship (race to two points): No. 1 Wichita State def. No. 3 SCAD, 290-201, 231-159

**JASON BELMONTE WINS HIS FOURTH TITLE OF THE SEASON  
MARCH 20, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*His win in THE STORM CUP: PBA Lubbock Sports Open is the 29th of his career*

Jason Belmonte won three matches in the stepladder finals of THE STORM CUP: PBA Lubbock Sports Open to claim his fourth title of the 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season and second in three THE STORM CUP events. Belmonte defeated Jesper Svensson, Sean Lavery-Spahr and top seed EJ Tackett to claim the title at South Plains Lanes in Lubbock, Texas.

In the championship match, Belmonte needed two strikes in the 10th after Tackett left a solid 9 pin that gave Belmonte a chance.

"I don't think we will ever see a more solid 9 pin in our lives," said Belmonte of Tackett's bad break. "In these situations, it can be a coin flip. I had just a little bit more luck than he did."

Tackett finished with 245 before Belmonte struck twice, then knocked down nine more pins to win his fourth title of the season. It's the third time in Belmonte's career he's won four times in a single season. The other two times—2017 and 2019—led to two of his six PBA Player of the Year Awards.

To get to Tackett, Belmonte first had to defeat 11-time PBA Tour champion Svensson, who is the only player aside from Belmonte to win a THE STORM CUP event so far. The match was close most of the way until Svensson left and failed to convert a 5-10 late.

In the semifinal match, Belmonte got past Lavery-Spahr, who was attempting to win his first title. A slow start for both players came down to Belmonte needing to fill 29 in the 10th to shut out Lavery-Spahr, which is exactly what Belmonte did, taking a 202-201 victory.

Now with 29 PBA Tour titles, Belmonte is tied with Mike Aulby for eighth all-time, one behind Dick Weber, who won 30 times in his PBA career. Belmonte and Aulby are also the only two players ever to complete the Super Slam of all five major championships.

The win also increases Belmonte's lead in both the PBA Playoffs points race and THE STORM CUP points race, the latter of which pays a \$10,000 bonus to the player with the most points over the course of the four events. THE STORM CUP concludes with THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open beginning Wednesday. Only two players—Svensson and Tackett—are capable of catching Belmonte, but can only do so with a win in Colorado Springs along with a very low finish from Belmonte.

## **FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Jason Belmonte, earns \$20,000
2. EJ Tackett, \$12,000
3. Sean Lavery-Spahr, \$7,000
4. Jesper Svensson, \$5,500

[View the full standings](#)

## **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – No. 3 Belmonte def. No. 4 Svensson, 246-221

Match 2 – No. 3 Belmonte def. No. 2 Lavery-Spahr, 202-201

Match 3 – No. 3 Belmonte def. No. 1 Tackett, 245-253

## **THE STORM CUP: PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN BEGINS TOMORROW MARCH 22, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The last of four THE STORM CUP events is being held at Harmony Bowl*

THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open is the final event of the four-event THE STORM CUP series, with players competing for a PBA Tour title as well as a share of the bonus prize fund for the top five

players over the course of the four events. Qualifying begins tomorrow at noon ET and a champion will be crowned in the stepladder finals Thursday at 7:30 p.m. ET.

### **BELMONTE'S GRASP ON THE STORM CUP**

After his win Sunday in THE STORM CUP: PBA Lubbock Sports Open, Jason Belmonte is in the best position to claim the \$10,000 bonus for winning THE STORM CUP. He's won two of the first three THE STORM CUP events (two of his four titles already this season) and can only be caught by two people: Jesper Svensson, who won the first THE STORM CUP event, and EJ Tackett, who finished second to Belmonte in Lubbock.

Belmonte leads Svensson and Tackett by more than 3,000 points, which is the amount awarded for second place, but both players are within 5,000 points, which goes to the winner of each event. The only way for Svensson or Tackett to claim THE STORM CUP—which Tackett won in 2017—is to win the Colorado Springs Open and have Belmonte finish fifth or lower for Svensson or 13th or lower for Tackett. If Tackett wins in Colorado Springs and Belmonte finishes 12th, they would be tied for THE STORM CUP. All players are vying for one of the top five spots and a share of the bonus prize fund. In addition to \$10,000 for the winner, second place gets \$5,000, third place \$4,000 and fourth and fifth place \$3,000 each. If there are any ties, the money for each position will be split (for example, if Belmonte and Tackett tie, they'll each receive \$7,500).

It's still possible, albeit unlikely, a player who has yet to earn a single point in THE STORM CUP could crack the top five. Doing so would require a win as well as several of the current contenders finishing near the bottom in Colorado Springs.

### **SLIGHT FORMAT CHANGE**

The previous three THE STORM CUP events featured three eliminator rounds on day two, but the Colorado Springs Open will have two. After 12 games of full-field qualifying on Wednesday, the top 24 will bowl six games Thursday to cut to the top 12. Those players will then bowl six more games to decide the four stepladder finalists.

### **THE STORM CUP POINTS LEADERS THROUGH THREE EVENTS**

1. Jason Belmonte, 10,420
2. Jesper Svensson, 7,140
3. EJ Tackett, 6,610
4. Nick Pate, 5,760
5. Dom Barrett, 4,880
6. Packy Hanrahan, 4,390
7. Kyle Troup, 3,740
8. Bill O'Neill, 3,570
9. Brad Miller, 3,290
10. Sean Lavery-Spaher, 2,810

### **THE STORM CUP: PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN SCHEDULE**

Harmony Bowl – Colorado Springs, Colo.  
All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

#### **Wednesday, March 23**

- 1 p.m. ET – Qualifying Round 1 (6 games)
- 7 p.m. ET – Qualifying Round 2 (6 games)

#### **Thursday, March 24**

Noon ET – Round of 24 (6 games)

4:30 p.m. ET – Round of 12 (6 games)  
8:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

## **PATH TO THE KIA PBA PLAYOFFS THROUGH THE STORM CUP: PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS OPEN MARCH 22, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

No player on the tour this season owns multiple titles... except Jason Belmonte, who now owns four in 2022. The 38-year-old Australian's dominant season has him in prime position to secure a record-tying seventh Player of the Year award.

Belmonte said after his victory at the Scorpion Championship—which, for those keeping track at home, is now two wins ago—that he didn't want to discuss the Player of the Year race until May. Barring a near-perfect finish from one of the other candidates, Belmonte is going to win the award. He must have a lavish speech in the works.

As expected, Belmonte leads the points race by a significant margin. However, the grand prize for winning the points race is merely a battle with the 16th place finisher at the Kia PBA Playoffs in April.

### **1. Jason Belmonte - 30,655**

Is the points race over? It might be over.

### **2. EJ Tackett - 21,655**

Tackett led qualifying in Lubbock, and a brutal 9-pin in the 10th frame of the championship match cost him a second title of 2022. Though he may hold just one title thus far in 2022, don't let that overshadow his sensational season. Tackett leads the tour in average this season; his 226.41 average over 295 games exceeds Belmonte's 225.98 average across 315 games.

Tackett also leads the tour in gutters this season, which is mostly a humorous anecdote—but imagine what he'd be averaging without an addiction to cleaning the gray boards!

### **3. Anthony Simonsen - 18,695**

Simonsen lost significant ground on Tackett after withdrawing from the tournament in Lubbock; he is not on the roster for the Colorado Springs Open either. But Simonsen is essentially locked into a playoff spot where seeding is all but irrelevant, so Simonsen will look to rest up for a run at another Masters title.

### **4. Kris Prather - 17,900**

Likewise, Prather did not make the trip to the Lone Star State, nor will venture out to Colorado. Dom Barrett made up ground on Prather in Lubbock, but Prather has almost double the points of Shawn Maldonado, who sits 16th overall.

### **5. Dom Barrett - 17,655**

Barrett found himself in position to make the show in Lubbock with two games to go—then Sean Lavery-Spahr went nuclear. Barrett could not outduel Lavery-Spahr, who fired 269 and 300 down the stretch, and slipped into sixth place, missing the show by 21 pins. He did, however, create further separation between himself and the field in the playoff standings.

### **6. Tommy Jones - 15,040**

Another week, another top-10 performance for Jones. He took eighth place in Lubbock to continue a spectacular, albeit winless, 2022 campaign. The fact that he sits within striking distance of a pair of major champions without a single title exemplifies his prowess this season.

### **7. Sean Rash 13,610**

Instead of lacing up a pair of cowboy boots, Rash opted to rest up an ailing back. Based on the posted roster, he'll pass on the Colorado excursion as well.

**8. Kyle Troup 12,283**

After being the first man off the show twice in Milwaukee, Troup found himself in familiar territory in Lubbock, finishing in fifth place and missing the show by seven pins. He may not be replicating his Player of the Year campaign, but he still sits ahead of a pair of 2022 titleists in the points race.

**9. Kyle Sherman - 12,140**

Sherman led the opening six-game block in Lubbock and sat in second after 12 games. But a dismal block in the first advancers round dropped Sherman into 17th place and below the cut. The distance between himself and the playoff cut shrunk a little, but Sherman is in a strong position as the season winds down.

**10. Jesper Svensson - 11,190**

Svensson has found the majority of his success this season in the Storm Cup events. After winning the PBA David Small's Best Of The Best Championship in Jackson, Mich. earlier this season, Svensson earned another top-four finish this past weekend in Lubbock. He fell to Belmonte in the opening match of the stepladder finals, but put some distance between himself and the playoff cut.

**11. Patrick Hanrahan - 11,178**

Hanrahan, the man Svensson defeated for the title in Jackson, continued his stellar play from the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling. Hanrahan earned a 13th-place finish, marking his sixth consecutive top-15 performance. If he keeps up that consistency, he'll cruise into the PBA Playoffs.

**12. Jakob Butturff - 11,120**

Like Hanrahan, Butturff has been riding a hot streak of late, as he logged his seventh straight top-20 performance in Lubbock. Though the seven-time PBA Tour champion has higher aspirations than 14th place at this point in his career, any top-16 finish at this point in the season bolsters his playoff hopes.

**13. Jason Sterner - 10,590**

Sterner could not carry over his Milwaukee success to Texas, missing the cut in 31st place. He slipped from 10th to 13th place in the points rankings, holding onto a playoff spot by about 1,200 points.

**14. AJ Johnson - 10,235**

Johnson rekindled his early season play in Lubbock with a seventh place finish. He remains in 14th place overall, but increased his cushion over the cut by about 200 points. That may not seem like a huge difference, but it could prove pivotal late in the season.

**15. Tom Daugherty - 9,345**

Daugherty found himself outside the playoff cut following the World Series of Bowling, but climbed back into the top 16 with a 10th-place finish in Lubbock. Perhaps the Floridian just needed some warm weather to find his form again.

**16. Shawn Maldonado - 9,333**

Similarly, Maldonado held onto the final playoff spot after returning to his home state. The Texan finished 11th last weekend, and barely staved off Bill O'Neill for the last spot in the current playoff picture.

**17. Bill O'Neill - 9,310**

O'Neill took 15th in Lubbock, four and five spots behind Maldonado and Daugherty, respectively. Had O'Neill finished just one spot higher (or knocked over 37 more pins), he would have surpassed both Maldonado and Daugherty in season points. The race is that close.

**18. Jake Peters - 8,820**

Despite a 19th place performance in Lubbock, Peters' deficit from the playoff cut swelled from 55 points to 513, as he finished behind each of the four players ahead of him in points. That deficit is far from

insurmountable, but he'll have to outbowl some top talents down the stretch. The Masters, near his home city of Henderson, NV, will be his best chance to make a leap.

#### **19. Nick Pate - 7,980**

After a brief hiatus outside this list, in which he sat in 21st place and 40 points behind Tom Smallwood, Pate returned to the top 20. Interestingly, he missed the cut in Lubbock with a 30th-place finish, but that was 25 spots better than Smallwood. Pate would most likely be in the playoff cut had he bowled the U.S. Open, let alone been eligible for the Tournament of Champions, but you can only earn points when you compete.

#### **20. Chris Via - 7,870**

Via finished second with 19,061 points in 2021, but finds himself outside the top 16 late in the 2022 season. He'll need a strong finish, particularly at the Masters, to sneak into the playoffs again.

*Dropped outside the top 20: Tom Smallwood*

### **BARRETT BOWLS 787 IN HIS FINAL THREE GAMES TO LEAD THE STORM CUP: PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN MARCH 23, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The Triple Crown winner is looking for his second title this season*

Dom Barrett rolled 244, 298 and 245 in his final three games to lead all players through 12 games of qualifying in THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open at Harmony Bowl in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The 2022 Kia PBA Tournament of Champions winner averaged 236 and holds a 34-pin lead over second-place Jakob Butturff into tomorrow's competition.

Eight pins behind Butturff is Finland's Santtu Tahvanainen, who is seven pins ahead of 2022 PBA World Championship winner Kris Prather. Brad Miller is in fifth and EJ Tackett, now one of only two players who can win THE STORM CUP, is sixth.

Jason Belmonte, who leads THE STORM CUP chase entering this final event, qualified 13th for tomorrow's Round of 24. If Belmonte finishes 11th or better, he clinches THE STORM CUP. The only way he can fail to win THE STORM CUP is if he finishes 13th or lower and Tackett wins the Colorado Springs Open. If Tackett wins and Belmonte finishes 12th, they tie for THE STORM CUP.

The top 24 players in THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open will bowl six more games beginning tomorrow at noon ET before a cut to the top 12. Those players will bowl six more games to determine the four players advancing to the stepladder finals that begin at 8:30 p.m. ET.

#### **TOP 10 THROUGH 12 GAMES**

1. Dom Barrett +432
2. Jakob Butturff +398
3. Santtu Tahvanainen +390
4. Kris Prather +383
5. Brad Miller +359
6. EJ Tackett +347
7. Richie Teece +344

8. Jake Peters +311
9. Nick Pate +291
10. Matthew Russo +255

[View the full standings](#)

### **THE STORM CUP: PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN REMAINING SCHEDULE**

Harmony Bowl – Colorado Springs, Colo.

All rounds streamed live on FloBowling

#### **Thursday, March 24**

Noon ET – Round of 24 (6 games)

4:30 p.m. ET – Round of 12 (6 games)

8:30 p.m. ET – Stepladder Finals

### **PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP: FLORIE FLOURISHES, BOHN III, BEASLEY, AND WARREN WIN, HAGGERTY AND CRUZ CONQUER MARCH 24, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

North Carolina, Indiana, Missouri, and Oregon were the four states of choice to host PBA regional events over the past couple of weeks as bowlers continued their trek to South Point for the 2022 Regional Players Invitational. Plenty of action transpired at the six events across the U.S. and plenty of points were given out to the top players in each tournament.

#### **SOUTH REGION**

##### **PBA50 Lafayette Lanes Fayetteville Open**

About an hour's drive separates Fayetteville, North Carolina and the South Carolina border, so it made sense for the leaderboard to be littered with Carolinians. Over half the field arose from North or South Carolina, but after eight games of bowling and the field cut to 32, just 13 Carolinians remained and Jeff Bellinger, a Carolinian himself, led the field at +199.

Throughout the rest of the tournament, pins rolled over and the field continued to split in half after each set. After a few games bowled in each round the cut number increased every time. First from -14 to +90 and then to +131 and when the top eight bowlers remained, the number jumped from +131 to just +141. After 17 games of hard-fought bowling, Victor Florie, Jr., Jeff Keller, Peter Dohan Jr., and Greg McMahan became the final four competitors. Each bowled two more games before cutting the field down to two bowlers. In the said round, McMahan made a strong attempt to move onto the finals, but his 472 wasn't enough as Keller held him off with a 423 to move on by just 11 pins. The issue though, is that Florie Jr. had built himself an insurmountable lead. Florie Jr. hit for a huge 506 in round three and a 470 in round four so he now led Keller by 122 pins with just one game to go and unsurprisingly Keller wasn't able to make up the deficit. Florie finished with a 231 to complete his tournament at +379 to Keller's +225. Along with notching his first PBA Regional title, Florie Jr. earned \$2,000 and 2,500 points for his performance and now sits in second place in the PBA50 South Region standings.

##### **PBA50 Lafayette Lanes Fayetteville Open Final Standings**

1. Victor Florie Jr. 2,500 points, \$2,000
2. Jeff Keller, 1,500, \$1,500
3. Greg McMahan, 1,150, \$1,000
4. Peter Dohan Jr. 950, \$1,000

##### **PBA50 South Region Points Leaders**

1. Michael Painter, 2,688
2. Victor Florie Jr., 2,500
3. Greg McMahan, 1,925
4. Terry Wiley, 1,725
5. Chris Johnson, 1,545

[View the PBA50 South Region Points Standings](#)



## **CENTRAL/MIDWEST REGION**

### **PBA50 Greater Jasper Central/Midwest Open**

The Jasper Open held a smaller field than usual, but by no means was the Jasper Open short on familiar names. After eight games of qualifying, the top 12 advanced to match play with Parker Bohn III at the head of the pack.

Bohn averaged 234 for his set to go +277 while Danny Clark emerged at the cut line at +24. Also in the mix to grab a senior title included Tom Adcock in second, John Marsala in third, Eugene McCune in fourth, and Neil Kassel in fifth. With plenty of action to go the next day, it was anyone's tournament to win. But 11 games of match play later, Bohn stayed on top. In fact, he stayed on top without losing a game. His smallest win was by 13 pins and he won eight of his eleven matches by over 30 pins.

Going into position round with a 209-pin lead, the only thing left on the Hall of Famer's mind was to finish out the day undefeated. However, in the position round, Bohn finally fell victim to McCune, 246-238.

Nonetheless, Bohn earned his second PBA50 Regional title of the season, 14th career PBA50 Regional title, and 36th PBA Regional title overall. The lefty maintained his points lead in the Central Region and briefly took the lead in the Midwest Region.

### **PBA50 Greater Jasper Central/Midwest Open Final Standings**

1. Parker Bohn III, 2,500 points, \$1,700
2. Eugene McCune, 1,500, \$1,100
3. Tom Adcock, 1,150, \$925
4. John Marsala, 950, \$775
5. Lennie Boresch, Jr. 850, \$700

### **PBA50 Central Region Points Leaders**

1. Parker Bohn III, 5,565
2. Michael Haggitt, 3,345
3. Tom Adcock, 2,710
4. Tom Hess, 2,650
5. Eugene McCune, 2,640

[View the PBA50 Central Region Points Standings](#)

## **MIDWEST REGION**

### **PBA50 Four Seasons Property Management Midwest Ozark Open**

Just this past weekend, the players hit the lanes bright and early at 9 a.m. in Osage Beach, Missouri for eight games of qualifying on the Johnny Petraglia pattern. The top eight bowlers advanced to match play the next day and while positions 3-8 averaged anywhere from 226-232, it was the top two bowlers who put on a show for the Missourians.

Tom Hess led the field at +404, averaging a shade over 250 for his eight-game block and Tom Adcock sat closely behind finishing at +398. After match play wrapped up on Sunday, Hess and Adcock maintained their first- and second-place positions, but not without a charge from Mitch Beasley who led just before position round. Beasley dropped from first to third, while David Rosenberg grabbed the final spot. After falling two spots in the final game of match play, Beasley was poised to reclaim first place and that's exactly what he did. Thanks to a five-bagger late in the game after a couple of miscues from Rosenberg in the 7th and 8th frame, the Tennessee native advanced to the semifinals, winning 215-193. In match No. 2, Beasley once again struck when he needed it most, grabbing the first strike in the ninth and all three in the 10th to move onto the finals, 217-202. Next up was Tom Hess who went into the match looking for his first ever PBA50 Regional title and 13th overall while Beasley searched for his second PBA50 Regional title and 21st overall.

Both bowlers got off to slow starts when Beasley left back-to-back 3-6-9-10s and missed both while Hess left the Greek church in the second frame. However, both competitors found their stride in frames 4-9

filling all of them with X's. In the 10th frame though, Hess' hopes were drained when he left a 7-10 split. Beasley just needed to mark in the tenth but instead struck out to win the match 256-222.

#### **PBA50 Four Seasons Property Management Midwest Ozark Open Final Standings**

1. Mitch Beasley, 2,500 points, \$2,500
2. Tom Hess, 1,500, \$1,500
3. Tom Adcock 1,150, \$1,000
4. David Rosenburg 950, \$900

#### **PBA50 Midwest Region Points Leaders**

1. Mitch Beasley, 3,275
2. Tom Hess, 3,000
3. Parker Bohn III, 2,500
4. Tom Adcock, 1,865
5. Eugene McCune, 1,285

[View the PBA50 Midwest Region Points Standings](#)

#### **WEST/NORTHWEST REGION**

##### **PBA Women's Caveman Bowl Open**

Running concurrently with the PBA50 Caveman Bowl Classic and the PBA Rogue River Open, the Women's Caveman Bowl Open began at 7 p.m. where competitors bowled six games and the top eight bowlers got to have more fun on Sunday. The only two to go plus for the six games included Valentina Cruz and Jill Creamer who tied for the lead at 1,208.

Bowling in her home city of Grants Pass, Oregon, Debbie Baerman snagged the final spot at -134. All eight ladies came back the next day to bowl round-robin match play with a position round game at the end. Valentina Cruz of Colombia went 4-3 in her matches to stay on top after seven games while Kristen Quah of Singapore stormed from seventh to second by averaging 212 and going 5-1-1. Sitting just seven pins back of first place, Quah just needed a win over Cruz to take the title but in a tight match where both bowlers found a string of strikes, Cruz conquered, winning 236-224.

##### **PBA Women's Caveman Bowl Open Final Standings**

1. Valentina Cruz, \$1,100
2. Kristen Quah, \$600
3. Catherine Rawsthorne, \$550
4. Jill Creamer, \$500

##### **PBA50 Caveman Bowl Classic**

Also on the Earl Anthony pattern, the West Region got back in action at the same house. Hailing from the host city and owner of the house's pro shop, Chris Warren took the lead after eight games of qualifying, shooting 1,782, making him one of eight bowlers to go plus for the day.

The next morning though, Warren's lead over second place shrunk from 67 pins to four after the cashers-round games thanks to Joe Petrovich averaging 239 for the set. In match play, Warren struggled for his first three games, failing to hit 200 in any of them. However, Warren ended up winning his next four games to put himself back into the leader spot going into position round.

Also putting up some impressive scores included David Leverage who found himself in second after the seven games of match play. After just defeating Leverage in game seven, 226-190, Warren faced him once again for the eighth and final game, but this time with a 59-pin lead. The righty triumphed, taking the game 234-219 to earn his 57th regional title and 10th PBA50 Regional title.

##### **PBA50 Caveman Bowl Classic Final Standings**

1. Chris Warren, 2,500 points, \$1,800
2. David Leverage, 1,500, \$1,100
3. Kevin Croucher, 1,150, \$950

4. Mitchell Vernon, 950, \$800
5. Eric Adolphson, 850, \$750

#### **PBA50 West Region Points Leaders**

1. David Leverage, 2,750 points
2. Rick Meneley, 2,500
3. Ron Mohr, 2,500
4. Chris Warren, 2,500
5. Warren Eales, 2,300

[View the PBA50 West Region Points Leaders](#)

#### **PBA Rogue River Open**

At the PBA Rogue River Open, all those who finished plus made the cut, and all those who finished minus did not. A 201 average was the score to beat for extra bowling the next day, set by Timothy Kashmier in 16th place. Only one bowler averaged 230 or higher and that was 14-time regional titlist PJ Haggerty of Roseville, California.

A little over 12 hours later, Haggerty stayed on top after a four-game cashers round set eliminated half of the 16 bowlers while everyone else moved on to bowl an eight-game match play round. Haggerty started the day bowling against Christopher Tuholski where he dropped the first game 268-214 to fall out of first place. That would be short-lived though as Haggerty jumped back on top with a 255 and a win in the next game and never looked back. A top-10 finisher at the 2021 RPI Finals, Haggerty completed his day at +700 overall, 157 pins over 2nd place. The win for Haggerty moves him from 14 to 15 regional titles and leaves him \$2,000 richer.

#### **PBA Rogue River Open Final Standings**

1. PJ Haggerty, 2,500 points, \$2,000
2. Christopher Tuholski, 1,500, \$1,300
3. Ramsey Basurto, 1,150, \$1,100
4. Chad Lusche, 950, \$900
5. Evan Nash, 850, \$850

#### **PBA Northwest Points Leaders**

1. PJ Haggerty, 2,500 points
2. Christopher Tuholski, 1,500
3. Ramsey Basurto, 1,150
4. Chad Lusche, 950
5. Evan Nash, 850

[View the PBA Northwest Region Points Leaders](#)

In the pipeline wait four events in four different regions across the U.S.: The PBA50 Liberty Lanes Midwest/Central Open in Illinois, PBA50 Crystal Lanes Open in New York, PBA50 Sherry Bodkins Memorial Central Open in Ohio, and PBA50 Century Lanes/PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open in Virginia. These tournaments headline a busy April and May where 28 PBA and PBA50 Regional events will occur as bowlers continue racking up points for the 2022 RPI in Las Vegas. You can find the [full slate of events](#) right here.

#### **DOM BARRETT WINS THE STORM CUP:**

**PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN FOR SECOND TITLE OF 2022, 10TH OF CAREER  
MARCH 24, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Defeats Santtu Tahvanainen in the championship match*

Dom Barrett qualified as the top seed for the stepladder finals, then defeated Santtu Tahvanainen to win THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open. It's the second Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title of the season for Barrett, who completed the Triple Crown by winning the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions in February, and the 10th title of his career.

Barrett was in 11th place after the first round of qualifying, then led every round after that, averaging 231 over 24 games to claim the No. 1 seed.

Tahvanainen qualified second and earned his way into the championship match by defeating PBA Tour champion Darren Tang, who qualified fourth and eliminated 19-time winner and PBA Hall of Famer Chris Barnes in the opening match on the stepladder.

In the title match, Barrett needed two strikes and three pins in the 10th frame to shut out Tahvanainen. Barrett doubled and got eight to clinch his 10th PBA Tour championship.

Although the same would be true had Barrett lost, the win also earned him an additional \$5,000 for finishing second in THE STORM CUP race. As the PBA Colorado Springs Open was the last of the four THE STORM CUP events, the top five players through all four events earned a bonus.

Jason Belmonte clinched THE STORM CUP prior to Round of 12 qualifying, earning a \$10,000 bonus. When Barrett qualified as the top seed in Colorado Springs, guaranteeing him a second-or-better finish in the event, he also locked himself into second place in THE STORM CUP. Jesper Svensson, who won the first THE STORM CUP event, placed third for \$4,000. EJ Tackett and Nick Pate landed fourth and fifth, respectively, each receiving \$3,000.

#### **FINAL THE STORM CUP: PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN STANDINGS**

1. Dom Barrett, earns \$20,000
2. Santtu Tahvanainen, \$12,000
3. Darren Tang, \$7,000
4. Chris Barnes, \$5,500

[View the full standings](#)

#### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – No. 4 Tang def. No. 3 Barnes, 237-206

Match 2 – No. 2 Tahvanainen def. No. 4 Tang, 233-213

Match 3 – No. 1 Barrett def. No. 2 Tahvanainen, 244-234

#### **FINAL THE STORM CUP STANDINGS**

1. Jason Belmonte, 11,850 points, earns \$10,000
2. Dom Barrett, 9,880, \$5,000
3. Jesper Svensson, 7,690, \$4,000
4. EJ Tackett, 7,380, \$3,000
5. Nick Pate, 7,310, \$3,000

#### **USBC MASTERS IS LAST CHANCE TO QUALIFY FOR KIA PBA PLAYOFFS MARCH 29, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Qualifying for the final major of the season begins today at 11 a.m. ET*

The USBC Masters begins today at Gold Coast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Qualifying for the final major of the PBA Tour season and last chance for players to qualify for the Kia PBA Playoffs

begins at 11 a.m. ET live on BowlTV and simulcast on FloBowling. The stepladder finals will air live on FOX Broadcast Channel Sunday, April 3 at 1 p.m. ET.

### **PATH TO THE KIA PBA PLAYOFFS**

The USBC Masters is the last chance for players to solidify their spots or get in to the Kia PBA Playoffs. The 16 players with the most competition points following the USBC Masters will be seeded into the Kia PBA Playoffs, which begin April 10 live on FS1.

Jason Belmonte already clinched the top seed and several other players are already locked in, but with 7,500 points available to the winner of the Masters, it's technically possible anyone currently ranked 82nd or higher could qualify for the Playoffs. That 82nd player, Tim Foy Jr., would need an absurd number of bad things to happen to other people, but it is possible.

Take a look at the latest [Path to the Kia PBA Playoffs entering the USBC Masters](#).

### **DEFENDING CHAMPION THOMAS LARSEN**

One of the players hoping to make a huge jump into the Kia PBA Playoffs is defending Masters champion Thomas Larsen, who defeated Svensson in the championship match last season.

Larsen's best finish so far this season was 20th in the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions and, if he can repeat as Masters champion, might be able to sneak into the Playoffs. He's currently 52nd in points.

### **THREE CHASE GRAND SLAM**

Dom Barrett makes a trio of players attempting to complete the Grand Slam (PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship, U.S. Open and USBC Masters) at the Masters. With his win earlier this season in the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions, Barrett joins fellow Triple Crown winners Chris Barnes and Pete Weber in pursuit of the Grand Slam, which has only been completed three times in PBA history. Mike Aulby, Norm Duke and Jason Belmonte have accomplished the feat.

Weber, who retired from full-time competition last season, is competing in an effort to complete the Grand Slam. Barnes has been the No. 1 seed three times in the USBC Masters but finished second each time. Barrett, who already owns two titles this season including the most recent—THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open—is at his best and will bring plenty of confidence into the Masters.

### **BELMONTE HOPES TO SNAP MASTERS DROUGHT**

The USBC Masters—once considered Belmonte's event when he won it three times in a row and four times in five years—has eluded him since his win in 2017. He's won every other major at least once since his last Masters win, making the major in which he's the most prolific double as the major he hasn't won in the longest time. If he can win this year, he'll be the first player ever to win the Masters five times. It would also be the fifth win of the season for Belmonte, a feat the 29-time PBA Tour champion (14 majors) has yet to accomplish in his career.

### **USBC MASTERS WINNERS SINCE 2011**

2011 – Tom Hess  
2012 – Mike Fagan  
2013 – Jason Belmonte  
2014 – Jason Belmonte  
2015 – Jason Belmonte  
2016 – Anthony Simonsen  
2017 – Jason Belmonte  
2018 – Andrew Anderson  
2019 – Jakob Butturff

2020 – not held  
2021 – Thomas Larsen

## **CROWELL OFF TO STRONG START AFTER FIRST ROUND AT 2022 USBC MASTERS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Perry Crowell IV of St. Clair Shores, Michigan, may only bowl a handful of events on the national stage each year, but he tends to make the most of each opportunity.

The 30-year-old right-hander does his best to stay mentally and physically prepared to compete against the best in the world, and his efforts paid off Tuesday with a strong performance during the first round of qualifying at the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Masters.

Crowell sits in second place overall after his first five-game block at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino. He rolled games of 246, 206, 199, 265 and 258 for a 1,174 total, a 234.8 average.

Mykel Holliman of Collierville, Tennessee, led the 414-player field with a 1,200 total, a 240 average. Holliman, the runner-up at the 2019 USBC Masters at Gold Coast, rolled games of 235, 207, 278, 257 and 223.

Cameron Henning of Layton, Utah (1,167), Keven Williams of Battlefield, Missouri (1,163), and 2016 Masters champion Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas (1,142) also finished Tuesday's opening round in the top five.

Crowell usually circles a couple of bigger tournaments on his schedule each year, and he's found success in those appearances. In addition to the Masters, Crowell is a familiar face at the USBC Team USA Trials and U.S. Open, and he's made an impact at both of those events in recent years.

He earned a spot on Team USA in 2019, which led to an appearance at the PANAM Bowling Elite Championships later that year in Lima, Peru. Crowell helped Team USA capture a gold medal in team competition during the event.

At the 2020 U.S. Open, he advanced to the stepladder finals on his way to a fourth-place finish.

Some struggles at those events in 2022, however, inspired some changes and a chance at a mental reset for Crowell.

"I take advantage of every opportunity I possibly can, and a lot of it is mental preparation and confidence that at some point, I'm going to find a way, and that's the biggest thing," Crowell said. "Team USA Trials and the U.S. Open didn't go very well for me this year, and I think I didn't really feel confident in my abilities and had some self-doubt at that time. I needed to reset. I dropped down from 16 to 15 pounds after the U.S. Open and changed my fit, and it's been a huge help.

"Mentally, I know I have to be ready to compete against these players and know it's going to be difficult, but to be able to put my best foot forward today is very rewarding right now."

Crowell works in the bowling industry as a global sales representative at Turbo, and he's able to keep his game sharp at their training facility – Turbo Tech. He puts in the time and effort and competes locally when he can, but he also has noticed benefits from giving lessons at the facility.

He noted how helping others has assisted in being able to see ball motion, and he was able to apply that during his opening round on this week's 40-foot oil pattern. Crowell is crossing with Sweden's Martin Larsen during qualifying, and he was able to make some early adjustments based off what he saw from his ball reaction Tuesday.

Larsen finished the first round tied for 21st place with a 1,087 total.

"I felt a little lost at the start, but I was watching what Martin was doing," Crowell said. "I went off the picture he was seeing, and I thought it looked pretty good and was able to make the right adjustments for my game."

All competitors will return to the Gold Coast Bowling Center on Wednesday for the second of three rounds of qualifying. After 15 games, which includes two blocks on the fresh lane condition and one squad on the burn, the top 63 players will join defending champion Thomas Larsen of Denmark in the double-elimination bracket beginning Friday.

Larsen is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, and he can improve his seeding through qualifying. If he happens to finish qualifying outside of the top 63, he'll be the No. 64 seed.

After the first round, Larsen is in 179th place with a 984 total.

Crowell knows anything can happen once competition switches to match play at the Masters, and the first goal looking ahead is to ensure his spot in the bracket.

"I think today gives me a little breathing room," Crowell said. "I don't want to give it all away, but it gives me a little buffer. The biggest thing is making the bracket. Once you get there, it's a whole different tournament. I'm just going to take it one game at a time and try to eliminate some bad games, take advantage of good pairs and hope I'm going onto match play after Day 3."

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder finals will feature a three-game total-pinfall format. The top five players will advance to the stepladder finals, which will air live April 3 at 1 p.m. Eastern on FOX. The winner will take home the \$100,000 top prize and major title on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour.

All rounds of competition prior to the stepladder will be broadcast live by BowlTV and simulcast to FloBowling. Subscribe at [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowlitv.com).

For more information on the USBC Masters, visit [BOWL.com/Masters](https://www.bowl.com/masters).

## **2022 USBC MASTERS** **At Gold Coast Hotel and Casino** **Las Vegas**

### **Tuesday's Results**

#### **QUALIFYING - ROUND 1** **(Five games - top 100)**

1, Mykel Holliman, Collierville, Tenn., 1,200. 2, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich., 1,174. 3, Cameron Henning (a), Layton, Utah, 1,167. 4, Keven Williams, Battlefield, Mo., 1,163. 5, Anthony

Simonsen, Las Vegas, 1,142. 6, Steve Kloempken (a), Pleasant View, Utah, 1,135.

7, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 1,132. 8, Ryan Powers (a), Portage, Mich., 1,117. 9, DJ Archer, Simpsonville, S.C., 1,112. 10, Cerell Cardines (a), Las Vegas, 1,106. 11, Matthew Zweig, Scottsdale, Ariz., 1,105. 12, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 1,104.

13, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 1,102. 14, Chris Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 1,101. 15, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 1,095. 16(tie), Joshua Lewis, Weaverville, N.C., and Petey Vergos, Apopka, Fla., 1,094. 18, David Krol, Nixa, Mo., 1,093.

19, Zac Tackett, Huntington, Ind., 1,090. 20, Nick Kruml, Downers Grove, Ill., 1,089. 21(tie), Martin Larsen, Sweden, and Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 1,087. 23(tie), Kenny Ryan, Maitland, Fla., Dino Castillo, Highland Village, Texas, and Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 1,086.

26(tie), Matthew Anderson (a), Las Vegas, and Joseph Ramsdell, Canaan, Maine, 1,083. 28, Dallas Leong (a), Las Vegas, 1,081. 29, Thomas Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich., 1,080. 30, Brian Kuykendall (a), Covington, Tenn., 1,079.

31(tie), Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., and Steve Novak (a), Louisville, Ky., 1,077. 33, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 1,076. 34, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1,075. 35, Kurtis Stidd, Mt. Joy, Pa., 1,069. 36(tie), Ildemaro Ruiz, Venezuela, and Chad Nelson (a), Owatonna, Minn., 1,067.

38, Jim Thomas (a), Binghamton, N.Y., 1,066. 39, Trevor Roberts, Tampa, Fla., 1,064. 40(tie), Lanndyn Carnate, Modesto, Calif., and Shawn Jones, Faber, Va., 1,062. 42(tie), Nolan White (a), Carlisle, Ohio, and Nicholas Pate, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., 1,061.

44(tie), Brandon Curtis (a), Manson, N.C., and Karl Wahlgren, Sweden, 1,060. 46, Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 1,059. 47, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 1,058. 48(tie), Andrew Hall, Westborough, Mass., and Chris Forry (a), Bridgeport, Conn., 1,057.

50(tie), Richard Allen, Chapin, S.C., and Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., 1,054. 52(tie), Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., Clay Rees, Lehi, Utah, and William Hibbard (a), Indianapolis, 1,053.

55, Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., 1,052. 56(tie), Bryan Bourget (a), Woonsocket, R.I., Mitch Hupé, Canada, and Charles Withers II (a), Grovetown, Ga., 1,051. 59(tie), Cody Shoemaker, Hanover, Pa., and Josh Blanchard (a), Mesa, Ariz., 1,050.

61, Justin O'Shaughnessy, Jackson, Mich., 1,049. 62, Michael Tang, Pickerington, Ohio, 1,048. 63, Steven McCracken, Brighton, Colo., 1,047. 64, Justin Verner (a), Rock Springs, Wyo., 1,046. 65(tie), Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., and Brent Boho, Indianapolis, 1,045.

67(tie), George Gohagan III, Dayton, Ohio, and Christian McConehea, Hillsboro, Ohio, 1,044. 69(tie), Manuel Otalora (a), Davie, Fla., DeeRonn Booker (a), Anaheim, Calif., and Ryan Burks (a), Kansas City, Mo., 1,043. 72, Chris Postell, Clyde, N.C., 1,042.

73, Patrick Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 1,041. 74, Michael Patterson, Canton, Ga., 1,040. 75(tie), Shawn Maldonado, Sugarland, Texas, and David Haynes, Las Vegas, 1,039. 77(tie), David Stouffer, Fort Myers, Fla., Mark Thomas (a), Oviedo, Fla., and Fero Williams, Adelphi, Md., 1,038.

80, Dominic Barrett, England, 1,037. 81(tie), Jason Britain (a), Springfield, Mo., and Anthony Pepe, Long Island City, N.Y., 1,036. 83(tie), Jacob Balser (a), Parkersburg, W.Va., AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., John Verbich III (a), Griffith, Ind., and Angelo Biondo (a), Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 1,035.

87, Anthony Bonnell (a), Baltimore, 1,034. 88, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 1,033. 89, Christopher Ingram, Phoenix, 1,032. 90, Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 1,031.

91(tie), Owen Darby (a), Easton, Pa., Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., Steve Pavlinko Jr., Swedesboro, N.J., and Graham Fach, Canada, 1,030. 95, Bailey Mavrick, Fishers, Ind., 1,029. 96(tie), David Pritchard (a), Thornton, Colo., and Tim Ursillo (a), Lakeside, Calif., 1,028.

98(tie), Sean Lavery-Spahr, Pasadena, Texas, and Vincent Bellar (a), Chagrin, Ohio, 1,027. 100, Joe Paluszek, Bensalem, Pa., 1,025.

## **BRANDON NOVAK PACES FIELD AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2022 USBC MASTERS**

**LAS VEGAS** — It's been a season full of close calls on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour for Brandon Novak of Chillicothe, Ohio, and he's leaving nothing to chance at the 2022 United States Bowling



Congress Masters.

The 33-year-old right-hander is leading the 400-plus player field at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino after two rounds and 10 games with a 2,279 total (227.9 average). He rolled games of 289, 189, 172, 279 and 246 for a 1,175 total Wednesday to move to the top of the standings.

Novak is followed by Mykel Holliman of Collierville, Tennessee (2,271), Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio (2,230), EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana (2,214), and Kevin McCune of Munster, Indiana (2,212).

The final rounds of qualifying at the 2022 USBC Masters get underway Thursday at 11 a.m. Eastern, and after 15 games, the field will be narrowed down to the top 63 players and defending champion Thomas Larsen of Denmark for the double-elimination match-play bracket.

Heading into Thursday's final round, Canada's Christopher Bédard-Chagnon and Tommy Parker of Bowling Green, Ohio, are tied for 63rd place with a 2,048 total, a 204.8 average.

Larsen is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, and he can improve his seeding through qualifying. If he happens to finish qualifying outside of the top 63, he'll be the No. 64 seed.

Through two rounds, Larsen is tied for 130th place with a 1,993 total.

Novak's start at the Gold Coast Bowling Center has put him in great position to advance to the bracket starting Friday, and he's ready to make a run after just missing out on some opportunities this season.

His top finish in 2022 was at the U.S. Open, where he flirted with a trip to the stepladder finals before settling into eighth place after 56 games.

At the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling in March, he missed making the cut by 31 pins or less at three of the events and was 66 pins out of the number at the PBA World Championship after 30 games.

He skipped the next two events in Lubbock, Texas, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, to take a break and prepare for the final major of the 2022 season at the Masters, and it has allowed him to find his rhythm.

"It's been a mediocre season so far," Novak said. "My goal was to make the PBA Playoffs, and I needed to have a good showing at the World Series to do that. I just missed at four of the five events, so mentally, it was kind of frustrating. That was a big reason why I skipped Lubbock and Colorado. The two-week break really has helped me out a lot. This is probably the best I've thrown it in the last couple months."

Novak's run to the lead Wednesday came on the burn squad. He finished the opening round Tuesday on this week's fresh 40-foot oil pattern in 12th place overall with a 1,104 total. All competitors at the 2022 Masters bowl two rounds on the fresh condition and one squad on the burn.

He will get a final look at the fresh Thursday to finish qualifying, and he's going to try a few things and hopes to continue to make good shots to create some momentum heading into match play.

Novak is a fan of the tournament's double-elimination bracket, and he knows from experience that everything can change as soon as the event transitions to three-game total-pinfall matches.

He was the final competitor to make the bracket at the 2017 Masters after earning his spot in a roll-off, and he quickly turned it around the following day to defeat top qualifier Nick Kruml of Downers Grove, Illinois, in his opening match.

"This is my favorite tournament to bowl," Novak said. "Anything can happen in match play, and that's what I like about it."

Bracket matches will take place Friday and Saturday, and the top five players will advance to the stepladder finals. The stepladder will air live Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern on FOX. The winner will take home the \$100,000 top prize.

All rounds of competition prior to the stepladder will be broadcast live by BowlTV and simulcast to FloBowling. Subscribe at [BowlTV.com](http://BowlTV.com).

For more information on the USBC Masters, visit [BOWL.com/Masters](http://BOWL.com/Masters).

## **2022 USBC MASTERS** **At Gold Coast Hotel and Casino** **Las Vegas**

### **Wednesday's Results**

#### **QUALIFYING - ROUND 2** **(10 games - top 100)**

1, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 2,279. 2, Mykel Holliman, Collierville, Tenn., 2,271. 3, Chris Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 2,230. 4, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 2,214. 5, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 2,212. 6, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 2,200.

7, DJ Archer, Simpsonville, S.C., 2,197. 8, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich., 2,182. 9(tie), Matthew Sanders, Evansville, Ind., and Steve Kloempken (a), Pleasant View, Utah, 2,162. 11, Cameron Henning (a), Layton, Utah, 2,155. 12, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,152.

13, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 2,148. 14, Clay Rees, Lehi, Utah, 2,145. 15, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 2,144. 16(tie), David Krol, Nixa, Mo., and Ryan Powers (a), Portage, Mich., 2,140. 18, Karl Wahlgren, Sweden, 2,133.

19, Brent Boho, Indianapolis, 2,128. 20, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 2,122. 21(tie), Cerell Cardines (a), Las Vegas, and Keven Williams, Battlefield, Mo., 2,120. 23(tie), JR Raymond, Clinton Township, Mich., Martin Larsen, Sweden, and Matthew Zweig, Scottsdale, Ariz., 2,114.

26, Bailey Mavrick, Fishers, Ind., 2,110. 27, Kenny Ryan, Maitland, Fla., 2,101. 28, Patrick Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 2,099. 29, Chad Roberts (a), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 2,098. 30, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 2,095.

31, Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., 2,094. 32(tie), Scott Halvarson (a), Bonney Lake, Wash., and Thomas Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich., 2,093. 34, Manuel Otolara (a), Davie, Fla., 2,089. 35, Shawn Horenberger (a), Meridian, Idaho, 2,087. 36, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 2,086.

37, Cody Shoemaker, Hanover, Pa., 2,084. 38, Matthew Anderson (a), Las Vegas, 2,082. 39, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 2,081. 40, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 2,080. 41, Dino Castillo, Highland Village, Texas, 2,076. 42, Carlos Granados (a), Orlando, Fla., 2,075.

43, Andrew Hall, Westborough, Mass., 2,072. 44(tie), Brady Stearns, St. Augusta, Minn., and Joseph Ramsdell, Canaan, Maine, 2,071. 46, Zac Tackett, Huntington, Ind., 2,069. 47, Tom Daugherty,

Riverview, Fla., 2,066. 48, Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 2,064.

49(tie), Dwight Adams, Greensboro, N.C., and Sam Cooley, Australia, 2,063. 51(tie), AJ Chapman, Lewisville, Texas, and Steve Novak (a), Louisville, Ky., 2,062. 53(tie), Vincent Bellar (a), Chagrin, Ohio, Anthony Bonnell (a), Baltimore, and George Gohagan III, Dayton, Ohio, 2,059.

56, Jaime Gonzalez, Colombia, 2,056. 57, Osku Palermaa, Finland, 2,055. 58, Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., 2,053. 59, Nathan Bohr, Round Rock, Texas, 2,052. 60, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 2,051.

61(tie), Paul Smith, Madison, Conn., and Justin O'Shaughnessy, Jackson, Mich., 2,049. 63(tie), Christopher Bédard-Chagnon, Canada, and Tommy Parker, Bowling Green, Ohio, 2,048. 65(tie), Mitch Hupé, Canada, and Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 2,047.

67(tie), Zeke Bayt, Westerville, Ohio, Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., Darren Andretta, New Hyde Park, N.Y., and Bryan Bourget (a), Woonsocket, R.I., 2,044. 71, Nick Borgaro (a), Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 2,043. 72, Eddie Langdon (a), Bonaire, Ga., 2,041.

73, Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 2,037. 74, Nick Kruml, Downers Grove, Ill., 2,036. 75(tie), Chris Barnes, Denton, Texas, and Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., 2,035. 77, Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., 2,034. 78(tie), Steven McCracken, Brighton, Colo., and William Hibbard (a), Indianapolis, 2,031.

80, Richard Teece, England, 2,030. 81(tie), Cameron Foster (a), Eagle Mountain, Utah, and Chad Nelson (a), Owatonna, Minn., 2,028. 83(tie), Chris Forry (a), Bridgeport, Conn., and Shawn Jones, Faber, Va., 2,027.

85, Angelo Biondo (a), Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, 2,026. 86, Stuart Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 2,023. 87(tie), Anthony Lavery-Spahr, Pasadena, Texas, Tyler Cortez Schenck, Phoenix, Jesper Svensson, Sweden, and Dallas Leong (a), Las Vegas, 2,022.

91(tie), Adam Zimmerman (a), Deer Park, N.Y., William Svensson, Sweden, and Ryan Stubblefield (a), St. Charles, Mo., 2,021. 94(tie), Tanner Acosta (a), Lebanon, Ore., and Jeffrey Campbell, Sioux Falls, S.D., 2,020. 96, PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif., 2,018.

97, Christian McConehea, Hillsboro, Ohio, 2,017. 98, Fero Williams, Adelphi, Md., 2,016. 99(tie), Dan Higgins (a), Lewis Center, Ohio, Jacob Balser (a), Parkersburg, W.Va., and Josh Blanchard (a), Mesa, Ariz., 2,015.

## **SIMONSEN LEADS FIELD TO MATCH PLAY AT 2022 USBC MASTERS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Three-time major champion Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas has earned the top seed for the 64-player double-elimination bracket at the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Masters.

The 25-year-old two-hander rolled games of 246, 213, 257, 232 and 213 on Thursday at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino for a 1,161 set to lead qualifying with a 15-game total of 3,309, a 220.6 average.

Simonsen is joined in the top five by EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana (3,288), Mykel Holliman of Collierville, Tennessee (3,285), Brent Boho of Indianapolis (3,243) and four-time USBC Masters champion Jason Belmonte of Australia (3,241).

Competitors in the 414-player field bowled 15 games of qualifying over three days, which included two blocks on the fresh 40-foot lane condition and one squad on the burn.

The top 63 players, based on total pinfall, advanced to match play, while Denmark's Thomas Larsen was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion.

Larsen could have improved his seeding through qualifying, but he finished Thursday's final round in 160th place with a 2,929 total. He will be the No. 64 seed heading in to match play starting Friday at noon Eastern and face Simonsen in the opening round.

The final spot from qualifying went to Dino Castillo of Highland Village, Texas. Castillo finished in 63rd place with a 3,053 total (203.53 average) and will take on Tackett in Friday's opening round.

Simonsen became the youngest major champion when he won the 2016 Masters at 19 years and 39 days old, and he recorded his second major win at the 2019 Professional Bowlers Association Players Championship.

His third major came in February at the U.S. Open, when he defeated Tackett in the title match, 232-165.

The bracket at the 2022 Masters will feature eight past champions, including Simonsen, Belmonte and Larsen.

Andrew Anderson of Holly, Michigan (2018), Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey (2001), Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona (2019), Norm Duke of Clermont, Florida (1993), and Sean Rash of Montgomery, Illinois (2007), all advanced to match play.

Butturff defeated Holliman in the title match of the 2019 Masters for his first major title, which also was held at the Gold Coast Bowling Center.

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder finals will feature a three-game total-pinfall format. Five players will advance from the bracket to the stepladder, which will air live Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern on FOX. The winner will take home the \$100,000 top prize and major title on the PBA Tour.

All rounds of competition prior to the stepladder will be broadcast live by BowlTV and simulcast to FloBowling. Subscribe at [BowlTV.com](http://BowlTV.com).

For more information on the USBC Masters, visit [BOWL.com/Masters](http://BOWL.com/Masters).

## **2022 USBC MASTERS**

### **At Gold Coast Hotel and Casino**

### **Las Vegas**

#### **Thursday's Results**

#### **QUALIFYING - ROUND 3**

#### **(15 games - top 100)**

1, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 3,309. 2, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 3,288. 3, Mykel Holliman, Collierville, Tenn., 3,285. 4, Brent Boho, Indianapolis, 3,243. 5, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 3,241. 6, Kevin McCune, Munster, Ind., 3,238.

7, Brandon Novak, Chillicothe, Ohio, 3,225. 8, Sean Rash, Montgomery, Ill., 3,210. 9, Matthew Zweig, Scottsdale, Ariz., 3,200. 10, Chris Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 3,193. 11, AJ Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 3,188. 12, Martin Larsen, Sweden, 3,173.

13, Clay Rees, Lehi, Utah, 3,167. 14, DJ Archer, Simpsonville, S.C., 3,164. 15, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 3,159. 16, Thomas Smallwood, Saginaw, Mich., 3,155. 17, Perry Crowell IV, St. Clair Shores, Mich., 3,154. 18, Brad Miller, Lee's Summit, Mo., 3,148.

19(tie), Jaime Gonzalez, Colombia, and Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 3,147. 21, JR Raymond, Clinton Township, Mich., 3,135. 22, Scott Halvarson (a), Bonney Lake, Wash., 3,134. 23, Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 3,132. 24, Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., 3,125.

25, Brady Stearns, St. Augusta, Minn., 3,119. 26, Ryan Powers (a), Portage, Mich., 3,116. 27, Benjamin Martinez, Mexico, 3,112. 28, Shawn Maldonado, Sugarland, Texas, 3,110. 29(tie), Richard Teece, England, and Osku Palermaa, Finland, 3,109.

31(tie), Vincent Bellar (a), Chagrin, Ohio, and Cody Shoemaker, Hanover, Pa., 3,108. 33, Tommy Jones, Simpsonville, S.C., 3,107. 34, Matthew Sanders, Evansville, Ind., 3,104. 35, Wes Malott, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,093. 36, Josh Blanchard (a), Mesa, Ariz., 3,092.

37, Steve Novak (a), Louisville, Ky., 3,090. 38, Norm Duke, Clermont, Fla., 3,088. 39, Patrick Hanrahan, Wichita, Kan., 3,087. 40, Anthony Bonnell (a), Baltimore, 3,084. 41, Andrew Hall, Westborough, Mass., 3,083. 42, Matthew Anderson (a), Las Vegas, 3,082.

43, Justin O'Shaughnessy, Jackson, Mich., 3,081. 44, Cameron Foster (a), Eagle Mountain, Utah, 3,080. 45(tie), Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., and David Krol, Nixa, Mo., 3,079. 47, Zulmazran Zulkifli, United Kingdom, 3,078. 48, Sam Cooley, Australia, 3,077.

49(tie), Bill O'Neill, Langhorne, Pa., and AJ Chapman, Lewisville, Texas, 3,075. 51(tie), Kenny Ryan, Maitland, Fla., and Karl Wahlgren, Sweden, 3,072. 53, Michael Patterson, Canton, Ga., 3,071. 54, Jake Peters, Henderson, Nev., 3,067.

55, Joshua McCandless (a), Midlothian, Va., 3,066. 56, Nick Kruml, Downers Grove, Ill., 3,065. 57, Mitch Hupé, Canada, 3,064. 58, Michael Davidson, Versailles, Ohio, 3,063. 59(tie), Joshua Lewis, Weaverville, N.C., and Jesper Svensson, Sweden, 3,060.

61, Manuel Otalora (a), Davie, Fla., 3,059. 62, Bailey Mavrick, Fishers, Ind., 3,055. 63, Dino Castillo, Highland Village, Texas, 3,053. 64, Thomas Larsen, Denmark, 2,929 (defending champion).

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

65, Tom Daugherty, Riverview, Fla., 3,050, \$2,000. 66, Ryan Ciminelli, Monroe, N.C., 3,048, \$2,000. 67, Keven Williams, Battlefield, Mo., 3,043, \$1,730.

68, Bryan Hahlen, Greenwood, S.C., 3,041, \$1,710. 69, Stuart Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 3,040, \$1,690. 70, Nick Borgaro (a), Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 3,038, \$1,670. 71, Paul Smith, Madison, Conn., 3,037, \$1,650. 72(tie), Dominic Barrett, England, Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., and Joseph Ramsdell, Canaan, Maine, 3,035, \$1,610.

75, Fero Williams, Adelphi, Md., 3,033, \$1,570. 76, Nathan Bohr, Round Rock, Texas, 3,031, \$1,550. 77(tie), Jeffrey Campbell, Sioux Falls, S.D., and Shawn Horenberger (a), Meridian, Idaho, 3,026, \$1,535. 79, Steve Kloempken (a), Pleasant View, Utah, 3,024, \$1,520.

80, Kyle Sherman, O'Fallon, Mo., 3,021, \$1,510. 81, Lannodyn Carnate, Modesto, Calif., 3,019, \$1,500. 82, George Gohagan III, Dayton, Ohio, 3,016, \$1,490. 83, Brandon Curtis (a), Manson, N.C., 3,015, \$1,480. 84(tie), Justin Knowles, Okemos, Mich., and Christopher Bédard-Chagnon, Canada, 3,014, \$1,465.

86, Toby Sambueno, Las Vegas, 3,012, \$1,450. 87, Brandon Runk, Milton, Pa., 3,008, \$1,440. 88, Petey Vergos, Apopka, Fla., 3,007, \$1,430. 89, Cameron Henning (a), Layton, Utah, 3,005, \$1,420. 90(tie), Andrew Cannuli (a), Moorestown, N.J., Alec Keplinger (a), Coldwater, Mich., Anthony Lavery-Spah, Pasadena, Texas, and Chad Nelson (a), Owatonna, Minn., 3,004, \$1,395.

94, William Svensson, Sweden, 3,003, \$1,370. 95, Marshall Kent, Yakima, Wash., 3,002, \$1,360. 96(tie), Joseph Lipan, Crooked River Ranch, Ore., and Sean Lavery-Spah, Pasadena, Texas, 3,001, \$1,345.

98, Richard Allen, Chapin, S.C., 3,000, \$1,330. 99(tie), Nicholas Pate, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and Darren Andretta, New Hyde Park, N.Y., 2,998, \$1,315.

## **BOHN AMONG UNDEFEATED PLAYERS AT 2022 USBC MASTERS APRIL 2, 2022 GUEST**

### **By Aaron Smith, USBC Communications**

**LAS VEGAS** - Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey, has enjoyed watching the passion his children have developed for the sport of bowling while finding success on some of the biggest stages for young competitors.

While Justin, Brandon and Sydney Bohn all have grabbed the spotlight at national events in the past year, they also help to push their father to continue to compete at the level that has earned him induction to the United States Bowling Congress and Professional Bowlers Association Halls of Fame.

This week at the USBC Masters, the 58-year-old left-hander has put together a memorable run at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino and is one of eight players left in the Winners Bracket at the 2022 event. Bohn, the 2001 Masters champion, collected three wins Friday and will return to the 70-lane venue Saturday at noon Eastern to face Brad Miller of Lee's Summit, Missouri.

A total of 16 players remain in the double-elimination bracket at the 2022 event, including five past champions. Bohn is joined in the Winners Bracket by Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona (2019), USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Norm Duke of Clermont, Florida (1993), and Anthony Simonson of Las Vegas (2016), while four-time champion Jason Belmonte of Australia is in the Elimination Bracket.

Competition in the three-game total-pinfall matches will continue Saturday until the five players are determined for the stepladder finals. The stepladder will take place Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern and air live on FOX. The champion will earn a \$100,000 top prize and major title on the PBA Tour.

Bohn recorded wins Friday against Matthew Anderson of Las Vegas (629-567), Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio (624-572), and Brandon Novak of Chillicothe, Ohio (689-545).

"I'll say it's all going really well right now," said Bohn, a 35-time PBA Tour champion. "The knee doesn't hurt at all, the wrist doesn't hurt at all and fortunately, I have somewhat of a vision of the lane. The lanes are very demanding, but it appears I have control of a lot of things.

"I'm going to rest and relax tonight, and I'm going to come back early in the morning and try to take off right where I left off. Hopefully, I can put a couple more matches under my belt."

If Bohn is able to win his first two matches Saturday, he'll be returning to the stepladder at the Masters for the first time since 2013. He has made five championship-round appearances at the event in his career.

Bohn is no stranger to the bright lights of television, but he recently was spotted off the approach and in the stands at a made-for-TV broadcast for some of the top USBC Collegiate programs, as Justin made his TV debut competing for top-ranked Wichita State.

Bohn also was able to cheer on Brandon and Sydney in the stepladder finals at the 2021 Junior Gold Championships. Brandon won his second Junior Gold title after collecting his first win in 2017, and Sydney placed third in her division.

"Their passion is overwhelming," Bohn said. "Live it, eat it, breathe it was my motto when I grew up, and they certainly have not fallen far from that tree along the way. It's just overwhelming when I look at the passion and drive all three of them have to try and become the best they can possibly be."

The 2022 Masters kicked off Tuesday with more than 410 competitors bowling 15 games of qualifying over three days to determine the advancers to match play. The top 63 bowlers, based on total pinfall, joined defending champion Thomas Larsen of Denmark in the bracket.

Larsen lost his first two matches Friday and was eliminated in a tie for 49th place.

All rounds of qualifying and match play at the 2022 Masters are being broadcast by BowlTV and simulcast to FloBowling.

[Brackets](#)

## **NORM DUKE IS TOP SEED FOR STEPLADDER AT 2022 USBC MASTERS APRIL 3, 2022 GUEST**

**By Aaron Smith, USBC Communications**

**LAS VEGAS** - United States Bowling Congress and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Norm Duke of Clermont, Florida, can see his legendary career come full circle after earning the top seed for the stepladder finals at the 2022 USBC Masters.

The 58-year-old right-hander went undefeated in match play at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino and secured his spot in the title match with a 666-644 victory Saturday over 2016 Masters champion Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas. Simonsen, a three-time major winner, will be the No. 2 seed for the stepladder. Duke and Simonsen will be joined on Sunday's live FOX broadcast by No. 3 Brad Miller of Lee's Summit, Missouri, No. 4 AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois, and No. 5 Shawn Maldonado of Sugarland, Texas. The broadcast will be at 1 p.m. Eastern, and the winner will earn a \$100,000 top prize and major title on the PBA Tour.

Duke averaged more than 224 in his six bracket victories on the way to the top seed. He is one win away from his 41st PBA Tour title, eighth major and second win at the Masters. He captured the title at the 1993 event.

In 1983, Duke became the youngest bowler ever to win a PBA Tour title at the age of 18. If he wins Sunday, he'll become the oldest player to win a national tour title, major and the Masters.

USBC and PBA Hall of Famer John Handegard won the 1995 PBA Northwest Classic at the age of 57, and fellow hall of famer Ernie Schlegel captured the 1996 Masters title at 53 years old.

Duke has hinted that he may be coming toward the end of a career that has spanned nearly 40 years at the professional level, but he will be ready for the challenge of 10 more frames for the title Sunday.

"The fact that I think I have one more game for the rest of my life," said Duke in an interview with BowlTV after earning the top seed. "Maybe I bowl more, you know, I'm not retiring. Maybe I decide to bowl more, but right now, I would very much like just to bowl one more game and to do myself proud, and then to thank the world of bowling."

Simonsen became the youngest bowler to win a major when he captured his win at the 2016 Masters at 19 years and 39 days old. The 25-year-old two-hander also won majors at the 2019 PBA Players Championship and 2022 U.S. Open, and a victory Sunday would be his 10th career PBA Tour title. Simonsen was the top qualifier for the double-elimination bracket at the 2022 Masters, averaging 220.6 for 15 games on the event's 40-foot oil pattern.

Miller, Johnson and Maldonado earned their spots in the stepladder through the Elimination Bracket, advancing from the four-player shootout that determined the last three seeds.

Miller rolled a 676 series to lead the way, while Johnson and Maldonado advanced with sets of 597 and 591, respectively, and will meet in Sunday's opening match. Brent Boho of Indianapolis finished with a 561 series and was eliminated, finishing in sixth place.

Miller and Johnson both are looking for their first PBA Tour titles.

Johnson is making his second championship-round appearance at the Masters after finishing as the runner-up at the 2015 event. He was the top seed as a senior at McKendree University during the appearance and lost to Australia's Jason Belmonte in the title match, 202-157.

Maldonado is a two-time PBA Tour champion in search of his first major championship.

The 2022 Masters started Tuesday with the first of three qualifying rounds for the 414-player field. After 15 games over three days, the top 63 athletes, based on total pinfall, joined defending champion Thomas Larsen of Denmark in match play.

Larsen lost his first two matches in the bracket and finished tied for 49th place.

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder were three-game total-pinfall contests. All matches on Sunday's show will be one game.

## **ANTHONY SIMONSEN WINS SECOND USBC MASTERS TITLE AT 2022 EVENT APRIL 4, 2022 GUEST**

**By Aaron Smith, USBC Communications**

**LAS VEGAS** - Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas continues to rewrite the bowling record book, and he added another chapter Sunday as he claimed his fourth major championship and second win at the United States Bowling Congress Masters.

The 25-year-old two-hander recorded the win at the 2022 event with a strike and eight pins in his final frame. He defeated USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Norm Duke of Clermont, Florida, 219-216.

The win Sunday at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino netted Simonsen his second \$100,000 top prize in less than two months. He won the U.S. Open in February. Duke collected \$50,000 for the runner-up finish.

The championship round of the 2022 USBC Masters was broadcast live on FOX.

Simonsen's first win at the Masters came in 2016 and helped him become the youngest bowler in history to win a major at 19 years and 39 days old.

His wins at the 2019 PBA Players Championship and 2022 U.S. Open also set the mark for youngest to win two and three majors, respectively, and he added another record Sunday as the youngest to four at 25 years and 87 days old.

He's now just one of nine players to win the Masters twice, and the victory marked his 10th PBA Tour title. He's also the first player to win both the Masters and U.S. Open during the same season since USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Mike Aulby accomplished the feat in 1989.

"It's one of those things where I just like going out and bowling," Simonsen said. "I didn't have any expectations for the career. It was just something I wanted to do for a long time, because I grew up watching them. It's kind of wild how quickly it all has happened. Someone mentioned that it was six years ago when I won this event, and it doesn't seem like it's been that long. It's been one heck of a ride, and I'm just trying to enjoy it."

The title match Sunday saw Simonsen start with four consecutive strikes, before a 4-9 split in the fifth frame slowed him down. The open frame allowed Duke to sneak into the lead after he delivered a double in the fifth and sixth frames.

After converting a 4 pin in the ninth frame, Duke lost the chance to shut out Simonsen, who had rolled a strike in his foundation frame.

Duke spared a 10 pin and toppled nine pins on his fill ball in the 10th frame, giving Simonsen the opportunity to win if he was able to strike on his first delivery. He made the right adjustment after leaving a 4 pin on the right lane in the eighth frame and rolled the strike he needed. He secured the title with eight pins on his next shot.



"I made a pretty good shot on the right lane and left a 4 pin," Simonsen said. "I was a little hesitant, because there were a couple lanes throughout the week that would get through the spot but wouldn't come off it very well when you tried to throw it a little harder. Also this week, sometimes when you moved left, the ball hooked earlier, so I was on a real fine line. I decided to go ahead and just move one and made sure I used my legs."

Duke, who earned the top seed for the stepladder after going undefeated in the event's double-elimination bracket, also was looking to add another record to his legendary career on the lanes.

He was in search of his 41st PBA Tour title, eighth major and second win at the Masters after claiming the title in 1993.

The 58-year-old right-hander is the youngest bowler ever to win a PBA Tour title at the age of 18, and he would have become the oldest player to win a national tour title, major and the Masters with a victory Sunday.

USBC and PBA Hall of Famer John Handegard won the 1995 PBA Northwest Classic at the age of 57, and fellow hall of famer Ernie Schlegel captured the 1996 Masters title at 53 years old.

Simonsen and Duke have shared some parallels in their careers, even with the difference in ages. Both originally hailed from Texas and found early success on the PBA Tour at a young age. As Duke looks toward the end of his professional career, Simonsen has appreciated the mentorship provided by the hall of famer.

"Norm always has been respectful to me, and my mom and him were friends for a long time," Simonsen said. "I think that's where part of my love and appreciation stands with Norm. It's been an absolute privilege to share the lanes with him. Norm's a special one, and I don't think there will be anybody who does it like him ever again."

Simonsen started Sunday with a win in the semifinal against Brad Miller of Lee's Summit, Missouri, 189-185, which included a clutch conversion of the 2-4-8-10 from Simonsen in the eighth frame. Miller could have doubled in the 10th frame to force Simonsen to match him to advance, but he left a 2-8 combination on his second delivery. Simonsen rolled a strike and knocked over eight pins to move to the championship round.

Miller's first match Sunday was not settled in 10 frames, as he and AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois, finished tied at 224.

Miller left a 4-10 split in his final frame and was unable to convert, giving Johnson the chance to record three strikes in the 10th frame to win by a single pin. Johnson rolled two strikes but left a 4 pin on his final shot.

They matched each other with eight pins on the first shot of the roll-off, and Miller posted a nine count after leaving a 2 pin on his second attempt. Johnson's second shot missed the headpin to the right, leaving the 1-2-7 to end the roll-off.

Miller and Johnson both were searching for their first PBA Tour titles.

Johnson made his second championship-round appearance at the Masters after finishing as the runner-up at the 2015 event. He was the top seed as a senior at McKendree University during the appearance and lost to Australia's Jason Belmonte in the title match.

Johnson won the opening match of the stepladder against Shawn Maldonado of Sugarland, Texas, 189-143. Both players struggled to find the pocket early, but Johnson jumped ahead with three consecutive strikes, starting in the seventh frame.

Maldonado is a two-time PBA Tour champion and was looking for his first major Sunday. The 2022 Masters started Tuesday with the first of three qualifying rounds for the 414-player field. After 15 games over three days, the top 63 athletes, based on total pinfall, joined defending champion Thomas Larsen of Denmark in match play.

Simonsen was the qualifying leader after 15 games on the event's 40-foot oil pattern. Larsen lost his first two matches in the bracket and finished tied for 49th place.

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder were three-game total-pinfall contests.

## **2022 PBA TOUR FINALS TO BE HELD JUNE 4-5 IN ARLINGTON, WASHINGTON APRIL 4, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Eight elite players compete for a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title on CBS Sports Network*

The top eight Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour professionals as determined by competition points earned over the past two seasons will visit Strikerz Bowling in the Angels of the Wind Casino in Arlington, Wash. for the 2022 PBA Tour Finals, which will feature nine hours of live bowling on CBS Sports Network June 4 and 5.

The eight players—Jason Belmonte, Anthony Simonsen, EJ Tackett, Kyle Troup, Kris Prather, Jakob Butturff, Dom Barrett and Tom Daugherty—will be divided into two groups for qualifying rounds on June 4. The stepladder finals and championship match will air June 5.

This is the sixth iteration of the PBA Tour Finals, which rewards the best bowlers over a two-year period with a chance to compete head to head in the quest to earn a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title. PBA fans can watch the PBA Tour Finals live in person by purchasing tickets that will be available on PBA.com in the next few weeks. Fans can also live-stream the PBA Tour Finals on CBS Sports Network. Select highlights will be available on @PBATour social handles across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

### **PBA Tour Finals CBSSN Schedule**

June 4 – 12-4 p.m. ET (qualifying)

June 5 – 12-5 p.m. ET (group stepladders and championship match)

### **PBA Tour Finals Winners Since 2017**

2017 – EJ Tackett

2018 – Jason Belmonte

2019 – EJ Tackett

2020 – Kyle Troup

2021 – Anthony Simonsen

## **2022 KIA PBA PLAYOFFS BEGIN SUNDAY ON FS1**

## **APRIL 5, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The Round of 16 begins Sunday with players vying for the \$100,000 top prize*

The 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs get underway this weekend with back-to-back live Round of 16 telecasts on FOX Sports' FS1 beginning Sunday at noon ET. All three previous Kia PBA Playoffs champions—Kris Prather, Bill O'Neill and Kyle Troup—will appear during Sunday's action. In the first telecast, Jason Belmonte faces O'Neill and Sean Rash takes on Troup. Immediately following, at 2 p.m. ET, Dom Barrett battles Packy Hanrahan and Prather faces Brad Miller.

All Round of 16 matches will be contested in the Race to 2 Points format, with one point going to the winner of each game. If the players are tied at one point apiece, the deciding point will be awarded to the winner of a 9th/10th-frame roll-off.

Round of 16 action will resume the following weekend, April 16 and 17, also on FS1, with subsequent rounds airing every Sunday through May 15, when the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs champion will be decided on FOX Broadcast Channel.

### **No. 1 Jason Belmonte vs. No. 16 Bill O'Neill**

Long-time doubles partners (and 2018 Roth/Holman Doubles champions) Belmonte and O'Neill will battle in the opening round of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs. Belmonte clinched the top seed before the season's final event that counted toward playoffs points, the USBC Masters, even began. With four titles including the PBA Players Championship to extend his record to 14 majors, Belmonte will be trying to win five titles in a single season for the first time in his career (he's won four titles three times). O'Neill, the 2020 PBA Playoffs champion and 2019 runner-up, is looking for his first title since his Playoffs win in 2020. He has two top-10 finishes in 2022 that helped him snag the final berth in the Playoffs.

### **No. 8 Sean Rash vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup**

Two former PBA Players of the Year drew each other in the opening round. Rash, the 2011-2012 Player of the Year, has two top-four finishes in majors this season, including a second-place performance in the PBA Players Championship. He has three top-fours on the season and has only finished outside the top 20 twice. Troup, the defending Player of the Year and defending Kia PBA Playoffs champion, is looking to get his first win since the 2021 season in which he broke the all-time PBA Tour earnings record last season with \$496,900. He's been close, finishing one position off the stepladder finals three times this season, but hasn't been able to make it to a telecast aside from the Players Championship East Region Finals.

### **No. 4 Dom Barrett vs. No. 13 Packy Hanrahan**

Barrett became the eighth Triple Crown winner in PBA history when he won the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions in February. He also won THE STORM CUP: PBA Colorado Springs Open for his 10th career title and finds himself seeded fourth for the Kia PBA Playoffs. Hanrahan will be making his Playoffs debut on the strength of four top-10 finishes in 2022.

### **No. 5 Kris Prather vs. No. 12 Brad Miller**

Prather, the inaugural PBA Playoffs champion, has won three more titles—two of which were majors—since his 2019 victory in the Playoffs. This season, Prather won the PBA World Championship and finished second as the top seed in the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions. Miller earned his way into the playoffs by finishing third in the USBC Masters to jump from 20th in points to 12th. He's finished in the top 10 four times this season.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs, which conclude May 15 on FOX Broadcast Channel, will earn \$100,000, a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title and a custom WWE championship title belt.

## **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS TELEVISION SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, Apr. 10 at noon ET on FS1– Round of 16**

No. 1 Jason Belmonte vs. No. 16 Bill O'Neill

No. 8 Sean Rash vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup

**Sunday, Apr. 10 at 2 p.m. ET on FS1– Round of 16**

No. 4 Dom Barrett vs. No. 13 Packy Hanrahan

No. 5 Kris Prather vs. No. 12 Brad Miller

**Saturday, Apr. 16 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1– Round of 16**

No. 2 Anthony Simonsen vs. No. 15 Shawn Maldonado

No. 7 Jakob Butturff vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson

**Sunday, Apr. 17 at 6 p.m. ET on FS1– Round of 16**

No. 3 EJ Tackett vs. No. 14 Jesper Svensson

No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 11 Kyle Sherman

**Sunday, Apr. 24 at noon ET on FS1– Quarterfinals**

Winner of Belmonte/O'Neill vs. winner of Rash/Troup

Winner of Barrett/Hanrahan vs. winner of Prather/Miller

**Sunday, May 1 at noon ET on FS1– Quarterfinals**

Winner of Simonsen/Maldonado vs. winner of Butturff/Johnson

Winner of Tackett/Svensson vs. winner of Jones/Sherman

**Sunday, May 8 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX – Semifinals**

Remaining four bowlers

**Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. ET on FOX – Championship**

Remaining two bowlers

**KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONS SINCE 2019**

2019 – Kris Prather

2020 – Bill O'Neill

2021 – Kyle Troup

**PATH TO THE KIA PBA PLAYOFFS THROUGH THE USBC MASTERS**

**APRIL 6, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Bill O'Neill lingered around the Kia PBA Playoffs cut all season. The signature performance that would lock up a berth eluded him; he needed consistency to survive. Entering the Masters, the last tournament of the season, he knew he needed to make a run.

With so many points up for grabs and a bracket format that breeds chaos, anyone within the vicinity of the cut could charge into the playoffs. O'Neill, and presumably most players, don't track points while they compete, but they are aware of the stakes.

"After I had lost to AJ (Johnson), I knew a number of things needed to happen for me to miss the playoffs," said O'Neill, who finished in a tie for 13th place. "Match by match, they all slowly started to happen."

Brad Miller and Shawn Maldonado overtook Jake Peters and Jason Sterner by making the Masters show. Then, the immortal Norm Duke earned the top seed for the stepladder, which meant the final playoff spot would be decided in the title match: If Duke won, he'd usurp O'Neill; anything less and O'Neill would hold on to the last spot.

O'Neill couldn't bear to watch the Masters show. Instead, he spent his Sunday afternoon playing with his kids, waiting for the onslaught of texts to notify him of the results.

"I love Norm, and I didn't want to have to sit there and root against him," O'Neill said. "It's not something that I really wanted to be doing."

The 40-year-old made the right call, not only because three months on the road merited long-overdue family time, but no one deserves the anxiety associated with watching their season come down to literally one shot.

When Anthony Simonsen, a player more than double Duke's junior, struck in the 10th frame, he secured his second career Masters title, a fourth career major title and extended O'Neill's season.

Of course, O'Neill won't be the lone player traveling to Lake Wales, Florida this weekend. He'll be joined by 15 of the game's brightest stars, ascending talents and beloved vloggers. The [full standings are available on PBA.com](#).

Here's how the each of the 16 players advanced to the Kia PBA Playoffs:

### **1. Jason Belmonte - 34,230**

Though Belmonte had already clinched the top seed for the Kia PBA Playoffs, he entered the Masters as a man on a mission. But like Kentucky a few weeks ago, he succumbed to an early-round upset. Belmonte rallied and fought off opponents like a Roman soldier in the Colosseum, churning out a tied-seventh-place finish.

Belmonte may have a record 14 major titles under his belt, but he's never won the Kia PBA Playoffs, and has only advanced to the final four once.

### **2. Anthony Simonsen - 26,195**

Well, well, well. Just when we thought the Player of the Year race was over, Simonsen went out and won the dang Masters. The significant point differential between Belmonte and Simonsen still indicates a sizable lead for the elder statesman. But with two major titles in 2022, Simonsen could make a serious bid for the award if he can win the playoffs as well.

### **3. EJ Tackett - 24,660**

Tackett might be third in points with one doubles title, but he closed the regular season leading the tour in average. He averaged 224.41 across 349 games, while Belmonte averaged 224.28 for 378 games. If Tackett's total had been just 46 pins less — that's .13 pins per game — Belmonte would have eclipsed him in average.

However, the playoffs and [PBA Tour Finals](#) will count towards the players' season stats, so the race isn't over yet. Even in 10th frames with a match already decided, Belmonte or Tackett need to knock over every possible pin.

### **4. Dom Barrett - 22,790**

After his second win of the season in Colorado Springs, the Dominator's dominant run came to a halt at the Masters. (My apologies for that wretched sentence.) While he missed the cut by just 18 pins, he still holds onto a top-four spot in the points race. He'll remain on this side of the pond for a few more weeks, but a potential \$100,000 prize makes the extended business trip worthwhile.

### **5. Kris Prather - 19,155**

Earlier this season, Prather led back-to-back majors at the Tournament of Champions and World Championship, winning the latter. Those two performances alone would have been enough to secure a playoff berth, but he tacked on a few thousand more points for good measure. The 2019 PBA Playoffs champion will look for another championship belt in 2022.

### **6. Tommy Jones - 16,735**

*Tommy Jones finished outside the top-six in a 2022 major.*

Alert the authorities! Cast the Bat Signal! Call the press! (Wait, that's me.)

Ah, well it was a splendid run while it lasted for the 43-year-old. Father Time comes for us all, I suppose—well, except for Duke. Hyperbole aside, Jones closes the regular season sixth in points and will comfortably move onto the Kia PBA Playoffs this weekend.

### **7. Jakob Butturff - 14,396**

Butturff began his season riding the struggle bus. Through four events, he sat 36th in points—and that was before they banned the purples. (Relax, I'm kidding! Put down your pitchforks.) But much like the Tar Heels, he turned his season around in late February, except his version of embarrassing the Blue Devils was AMF Riviera Lanes. He took 17th place on brutal left-handed conditions, as the next-highest lefty was Jesper Svensson in 40th. Then he racked up top-15 finishes in each of the final nine events of the season, including five top-10 finishes in five events at the World Series of Bowling.

### **8. Sean Rash - 14,210**

Rash, on the other hand, came out firing in 2022. He earned the top-seed at the Players Championship, then turned in a 12th place finish at the US Open and made the TOC show for the sixth time in 11 years. He experienced a midseason lull precipitated by a back injury, but regained his form at the Masters. His playoff matchup with the next player on this list will be must-watch TV.

### **9. Kyle Troup - 13,392.5**

\*Insert obligatory note about how Troup hasn't been as good as his 2021 Player of the Year campaign but has still been really freakin' good\*

Troup vs. Rash. April 10. 12 p.m. ET. Tune in.

### **10. AJ Johnson - 13,375**

In some ways, Johnson's TV record echoes Gonzaga's NCAA Tournament showings this century—but don't let the lack of a ring collection overshadow his stellar season. He made the U.S. Open and Masters shows, and nearly made a third major telecast at the Players Championship.

The 29-year-old is growing more and more comfortable on TV. Could he break through in the Kia PBA Playoffs?

### **11. Kyle Sherman - 12,745**

Let's face the facts: Kyle has one title this season; Brad has zero. Kyle finished 11th in points; Brad finished 12th. Kyle beat Brad in the Southwest Region Finals at the Players Championship.

It's time to rebrand the Brad and Kyle channel—it's now "Kyle and Brad."

### **12. Brad Miller - 12,535**

But let's not overlook Miller's accomplishments. He needed a massive performance at the Masters to leapfrog four players and stave off all other competitors. He delivered his own "One Shining Moment" with a third place finish, highlighted by an unforgettable roll-off with Johnson. If not for an errant shot late in the semifinal against Simonsen, he likely would have bowled for the title.

The Bald Eagle will face the Shark in the first round of the playoffs. Not even the Discovery Channel can deliver a thrilling clash like that.

### **13. Packy Hanrahan - 12,392.5**

The 26-year-old has enjoyed a breakout season in his fourth year on tour, doubling his career championship round appearances in 2022. Back in early February, he nearly climbed the ladder and came away with the win in Jackson. Then he racked up five top-15 showings at the Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling, including a third-place finish at the Scorpion Championship.

### **14. Jesper Svensson - 12,385**

Svensson snuck into the bracket by ten sticks and ultimately wound up with a tied-25th-place finish. He took down Belmonte in the first round at the Masters, and he'll draw another tough opponent with Tackett on deck in the playoffs.

### **15. Shawn Maldonado - 11,882.5**

Entering the Masters, Maldonado sat in 19th place and 465 points out of the playoffs. With more than a

dozen players behind him also vying for a playoff berth, he needed a big-time performance in Vegas—and he delivered.

Maldonado qualified in 28th, won a pair of matches in the winner's bracket then clawed his way to the show. He didn't find much of anything against Johnson, but he secured just enough points to clinch a playoff spot.

#### **16. Bill O'Neill - 11,625**

"The Masters was the best that I bowled all season physically," O'Neill said. "It finally felt like things were coming together."

His confidence is the highest it's been all year, which he'll need facing the world's best bowler and his best mate, Belmonte, in the first round. Fortunately for Belmonte, he arranged his travel plans long ago. Otherwise, O'Neill, who sometimes plans his tour roommate's itinerary, might have booked Belmo an early flight back to Australia.

### **PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP: ANGELO, CLARK, BEASLEY, ROBERTS BRING BACK TITLES BEFORE PBA50 NATIONAL TOUR BEGINS APRIL 7, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

Over the past two weeks, many PBA50 bowlers got in their last taste of regional competition before the PBA50 National Tour commences in Fort Myers. Four events recently occurred east of the Mississippi River which included plenty of recognizable names that will undoubtedly be seen on the main senior slate this summer.

#### **EAST REGION**

##### **PBA50 Crystal Lanes Open**

The entry list hit triple digits for the Crystal Lanes Open offering a tough task to anyone looking to bring home a title. Just the top 16 bowlers advanced to match play on Sunday after bowling eight games on Saturday. It was a battle of A-squad bowlers battling for the final spot, but recent champion Victor Florie Jr. advanced in a roll-off over Michael Houtz when both players went +157.

Neighbor to the north, Bill Rowe, topped the field going +314 for his eight-game set. However, Sunday was Brad Angelo's day, as he cruised through the first eleven games of match play without dropping a single meeting. A 277 against Brian LeClair and a 250 against Tim DeGraw virtually clinched the title for Angelo as he accumulated a 152-pin lead with just the position round to go. Angelo's victory lap would be spoiled by Dave Wodka, with Angelo losing 231-208 but still taking the title by 99 pins. The New York native grabbed his 4th career PBA50 regional title with the win and heads into the national 50 Tour on a good note.

##### **PBA50 Crystal Lanes Open Final Standings**

1. Brad Angelo, 2,500 points, \$3,500
2. Dave Wodka, 1,500, \$2,100
3. Bill Rowe, 1,150, \$1,600
4. Brian LeClair, 950, \$1,400
5. Doug Kent, 850, \$1,300

##### **PBA50 East Region Points Leaders**

1. Brad Angelo, 2,500 points
2. Dave Wodka, 1,500
3. Bill Rowe, 1,150

4. Brian LeClair, 950
5. Doug Kent, 850

[View the complete East Region standings](#)

## **MIDWEST/CENTRAL REGION**

### **PBA50 Liberty Lanes Midwest/Central Open**

Just a short drive from downtown Chicago, Liberty Lanes hosted the Liberty Lanes Open, which gathered some names we'll be seeing over the summer. All 33 contestants threw seven games on Saturday but only eight advanced to match play the next day.

Once again, Tom Adcock found himself in contention after qualifying first at +326 for seven games while Lennie Boresch Jr, Eugene McCune, and Mark Sullivan followed right behind. After eight head-to-head matches, the top four moved to the stepladder finals and included Boresch, Adcock, Lyle Kuhlmann, and Danny Clark.

Clark and Kuhlmann started the stepladder, and it was tight throughout until Kuhlmann missed a 10-pin in the 6th frame. Another open in the eighth from Kuhlmann left the door open for Clark who converted on all three single pins left in the 7th-9th frames and would eventually advance, 200-191.

Match number two was a doozy as both bowlers went into the 9th frame without an open or a double. After Clark struck in the 9th, Adcock stepped up with the match all tied up and the six-time regional champion split in both frames, essentially giving Clark the win, 196-170.

There was a bit of a title gap between the two as Boresch owned 33 regional titles and Clark just one, but that mattered none as Clark began with the front four in the final match. Boresch got back into the match with a turkey in the 6th-8th frames, but a 7-pin in the ninth and a 10-pin on the 2nd shot in the 10th drained his chances. The lefty needed just six pins on two balls in the 10th and got it done. Clark snagged regional title number two and 2,500 points toward the Central Region standings.

### **PBA50 Liberty Lanes Midwest/Central Open Final Standings**

1. Danny Clark, 2,500 points, \$2,000
2. Lennie Boresch Jr., 1,500, \$1,100
3. Tom Adcock, 1,150, \$800
4. Lyle Kuhlmann, 950, \$650
5. Mitch Beasley, 850, \$575

### **PBA50 Sherry Bodkins Memorial Central Open**

A handful of PBA50 bowlers continued their journey through the Central Region as they traveled to Galion, Ohio, to compete in the Sherry Bodkins Memorial Open, and it paid off for some.

The 51 entrants were divided into two squads to shoot eight games apiece and after qualifying, 2022 Cuyahoga Falls Doubles winner Michael Haggitt peered down toward the field. Haggitt averaged 221 for the day, while 16th-place Mike Webb, just crept into the plus, averaging 200.25.

On Sunday, players entered the doors for a 12-game head-to-head slate where for the first time in a while, nobody cruised through the field as no bowler exceeded an 8-3 record. But even then, with just the position round to go, another familiar name, Mitch Beasley, sat atop the leaderboard with a 60-pin advantage. He faced Lennie Boresch Jr. in the last match, while Haggitt still loomed closely behind, also just 60 pins behind the Tennessee native.

The final pair proved to be a tough one for the leaders, as Beasley just squeaked by Boresch, 192-183. Haggitt on the other hand defeated Larry Verble 235-221 to snag 30 bonus pins, but it wasn't enough as



Beasley grabbed 30 extra pins for his win also. In the end, Haggitt finished just 17 pins behind first, unable to capture his second title of the season. After winning in Missouri earlier this year, Beasley did indeed take home his second regional title over the weekend and jumped to third in the Central points standings for his efforts.

#### **PBA50 Sherry Bodkins Memorial Central Open Final Standings**

1. Mitch Beasley, 2,500 Points, \$1,500
2. Michael Haggitt, 1,500, \$1,000
3. Lennie Boresch Jr., 1,150, \$850
4. Bill Watson, 950, \$750
5. Larry Verble, 850, \$700

#### **PBA50 Central Region Points Leaders**

1. Parker Bohn III, 5,565
2. Michael Haggitt, 5,530
3. Mitch Beasley, 4,615
4. Lennie Boresch Jr., 4,560
5. Danny Clark, 4,130

[View the complete Central Region standings](#)

#### **PBA SOUTH REGION**

##### **PBA50 Century Lanes/PBA Booster Club of Hampton Rds Open**

Out in Hampton, Virginia, high scores popped up all around in the South Region event, beginning with 300s shot by Lee Robison and past champion Victor Florie Jr. Plus-140 marked the cut line for the day which both bowlers surpassed, but it was Jay Davis Jr. creating the headline, going +377 for his eight games.

The top 22 bowlers set their alarms for Sunday morning to bowl another four games before cutting to the top eight for single elimination bracket play. Kip Roberts and Walter Ray Williams Jr. made their way from outside the top eight into the next round, while Jay Davis Jr. remained in first.

The first round paid homage to the ongoing Masters with head-to-head three-game series deciding the final four bowlers. In the semifinals, the five-seeded Kip Roberts took out tournament leader Jay Davis Jr. 245-210, while in the other half of the bracket after upsetting Walter Ray in the first round, Chuck Richey Jr. did it again, upsetting Victor Florie Jr. 257-225. In the finals though, Richey Jr. couldn't complete the trifecta, dropping his match to Kip Roberts, 237-225. Roberts gained his 17th career regional title and second PBA50 regional title, both of which came from the city of Hampton.

#### **PBA50 Century Lanes/PBA Booster Club of Hampton Rds Open Final Standings**

1. Kip Roberts, 2,500 Points, \$2,500
2. Chuck Richey Jr., 1,500, \$1,500
3. Victor Florie Jr., 1,150, \$1,000
4. Jay Davis Jr., 950, \$1,000
5. James Winterfield, 850, \$650

#### **PBA50 South Region Points Leaders**

1. Victor Florie Jr., 3,650
2. Chuck Richey Jr., 3,810
3. Michael Painter, 2,688
4. Kip Roberts, 2,500
5. James Winterfield, 2,255

[View the complete South Region standings](#)

Every region has next weekend off, but following the short break, the action ramps right back up. Tons of events transpire over the next couple of months all over the US, including a pair of West Region events in

Hawaii. As the PBA Tour finishes up the heart of its season, expect to see some familiar names on the leaderboards in many regions. As always, you can find the entire itinerary [right here](#).

## **BARRETT, O'NEILL, PRATHER & TROUP ADVANCE AT KIA PBA PLAYOFFS APRIL 10, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

**Lake Wales, Florida** - The first day of the round of 16 at the Kia PBA Playoffs saw No. 1 seed Jason Belmonte fall to No. 16 Bill O'Neill, and two former PBA Playoff champions advancing.

Belmonte and O'Neill both started with urethane inside the Kegel Training Center. Belmonte struggled to carry the 7-pin throughout the two-game match leaving five of them. O'Neill led the first game to earn the 247-227 win in the race to two points format. Belmonte jumped out to a commanding lead in match two throwing the first five-in-a-row to gain a 54-pin advantage and never looked back. The 2022 PBA Player of the Year frontrunner took the second game, 258-213 to force a 9th and 10th frame roll-off. Belmonte doubled and got 8-spares to finish with 48. O'Neill anticipated having to strike every shot and finished nearly perfect with a 59 to advance.

"The first strike on the left lane is really important because you can't give him an opportunity to just close it out without you ever having a 10th frame," O'Neill said. "I probably threw the best shot of the whole match the first one in the 9th frame. Sometimes it works out."

"I got sympathy cheers because I was there," O'Neill said about feeling like a crowd underdog against Belmonte. "He is the most popular figure in our sport, and he deserves that. I believe in myself, and I always think I can win."

Match two featured No. 8 Sean Rash against No. 9 Kyle Troup. Troup, who is the defending champion, dominated Rash. In game one, Troup was perfect through seven frames before leaving a 10-pin. He took game one 266-218, as Rash left five 10-pins. Game two was more of the same as Troup had the front six. He finished with 11-strikes in the match for a 266-195 victory.

Troup relied on a Storm Phaze 4 that was drilled before the show to give him a strong ball reaction following Belmonte and O'Neill's use of urethane on the TV pair. Troup felt that stretched out the Don Carter 39-foot oil pattern for him creating more hold and kept his angles in front of him.

"I was dancing, giving it to the crowd," Troup said. "That was probably one of the more fun shows I have had in a long time. Knowing that they want to see me strike and succeed."

"I figured, put on a show for the people here because we love to have people in the stands and put on a show for people back home that way we get more and more people watching the sport and enjoying it," Troup said.

No. 4 Dom Barrett came out swinging in his match against the only left on the show, No. 13 Patrick Hanrahan. Barrett threw 11 strikes to earn the 280-226 win. Barrett's worst shot of the day came in the second frame of game two, leaving the big four giving Hanrahan an opening. The southpaw played both lanes slightly different and was able to post eight strikes in the match to fend off Barrett's attempt for a sweep. In the sixth frame, Barrett switch to his Columbia 300 Speed bowling ball, which was the same ball and layout he used to win the Kia PBA Tournament of Champions in February.

"I have got a little trust in that ball, and it worked out perfectly," Barrett said, about making the ball change.

Barrett threw the last seven straight strikes to lose 255-233, forcing a 9th and 10th frame roll-off. Hanrahan threw a stone 9 and failed to strike in his 10th frame for a 38. Barrett's ball kept striking three more times as he rolled a 59 to advance. Despite Hanrahan clearly having the crowd behind him, Barrett

put his head down and made good shots when he needed them. That is all thanks to extra work he has put in this season.

"I am creating a little bit more power in a different way without rev rate," he said. "I think my ball reaction this year has proven to be really good."

In the final match on Sunday, No. 5 seed Kris Prather took on No. 12 Brad Miller. Prather, who won the inaugural PBA Playoffs, felt both he and Miller were nervous at the beginning. Prather started strong with five-in-a-row before a pocket 4-9 split, which he failed to convert. Miller was down by 20-pins in the fifth frame before he rolled a pocket 7-10 split. Both bowlers battled to the end with Prather taking match one, 210-205.

"I just had to focus on making sure that my hand was soft at the bottom and wasn't trying to make the ball hook," Prather said. "I feel like I kind of stole game one because Brad made a late charge there and he never really gave up."

In game two, Prather struck in four out of his first five frames, while Miller was a little between balls. The match was tied at 139 in the sixth frame before Prather finished with five out of six strikes for the 258-212 win to advance to face Barrett.

"I knew that if I kept putting pressure on him, I had a chance coming down the stretch," Prather said. Prather's wife, Ashley was his "good luck charm" in the stands.

The quarterfinals featuring O'Neill versus Troup and Barrett against Prather will air at noon ET April 24 on FS1. Three out of these four are previous PBA Playoff winners.

The round of 16 will continue at 1 p.m. ET Saturday with No. 2 Anthony Simonsen vs. No. 15 Shawn Maldonado, and No. 7 Jakob Butturff vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson.

### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – O'Neill def. Belmonte 247-227, 213-258, 59-48 in roll-off

Match 2 – Troup def. Rash 266-218, 266-195

Match 3 – Barrett def. Hanrahan 280-226, 233-255, 59-38 in roll-off

Match 4 – Prather def. Miller 210-205, 258-212

### **2022 KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CONTINUE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY ON FS1 APRIL 12, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

The 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs resume this weekend on Fox Sports' FS1 with four remaining Round of 16 matches determining who will join Bill O'Neill, Kyle Troup, Dom Barrett and Kris Prather in the quarterfinals. Saturday at 1 p.m. ET, Anthony Simonsen faces Shawn Maldonado and Jakob Butturff takes on AJ Johnson. Sunday at 6 p.m. ET, EJ Tackett battles Jesper Svensson and Tommy Jones goes against Kyle Sherman.

All Round of 16 matches will be contested in the Race to 2 Points format, with one point going to the winner of each game. If the players are tied at one point apiece, the deciding point will be awarded to the winner of a 9th/10th-frame roll-off.

The quarterfinals will air the following two weekends, April 24 and May 1, also on FS1, with the semifinals and finals moving to FOX Broadcast Channel on May 8 and 15.

**No. 2 Anthony Simonsen vs. No. 15 Shawn Maldonado**

On April 3, Anthony Simonsen won the USBC Masters for his second major of the season and fourth of his career. Now, he enters the Kia PBA Playoffs, in which he's finished in the top four twice in the three years the event has been running, including a second-place finish in 2020. Shawn Maldonado is making his second Playoffs appearance and first since 2019, when he was eliminated in the first round. By finishing fifth in the USBC Masters for his third top-five of the season, Maldonado jumped into the top 16 and will now try to get past a Player of the Year contender.

**No. 7 Jakob Butturff vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson**

The seventh seed, Jakob Butturff, has yet to make it past the Round of 16 in the three years of PBA Playoffs competition, but has qualified for the elite event each time it's been held. He has six top-10 finishes in 2022 and will need to defeat AJ Johnson to earn a seventh. Johnson is making his second career Playoffs appearance, previously losing to eventual champion Bill O'Neill in the 2020 edition. Johnson earned the No. 10 seed with four top-10 finishes this season, including taking fourth place in two majors, the U.S. Open and USBC Masters. He's looking to make the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs his first PBA Tour title.

**No. 3 EJ Tackett vs. No. 14 Jesper Svensson**

Two future Hall of Famers will begin the telecast on Easter Sunday, with third seed EJ Tackett facing 14th-seeded Jesper Svensson. Both players have a title this season and double-digit title counts in their careers (Tackett 15, Svensson 11). Both are major champions (Tackett twice, Svensson once). Both players have qualified for the Playoffs every year the event has been held, but neither player has advanced into the semifinals. Tackett made it to the quarterfinals last season and Svensson has yet to make it past the Round of 16. Tackett has an astounding 10 top-10 finishes this season in 12 events bowled, claiming the No. 3 seed. In addition to Svensson's win, he has four more top 10s in 2022.

**No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 11 Kyle Sherman**

2022 PBA Cheetah Champion Kyle Sherman is making his third PBA Playoffs appearance while Hall of Famer Tommy Jones is making his second. Sherman's win earlier this season was the second of his career and one of a pair of top 10s (extend it to top 13 and he has two more, with both of the additions being majors). Jones earned the No. 6 seed with a strong performance in just about every event, particularly majors. Jones qualified for three of the five major telecasts, finished one spot off the show in the U.S. Open and, in his lowest major finish, 14th in the USBC Masters. His best finish this season is third in the PBA World Championship as he looks to make the PBA Playoffs his 21st career title. The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs, which conclude May 15 on FOX Broadcast Channel, will earn \$100,000 and a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title.

**KIA PBA PLAYOFFS REMAINING TELEVISION SCHEDULE****Saturday, Apr. 16 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1— Round of 16**

No. 2 Anthony Simonsen vs. No. 15 Shawn Maldonado

No. 7 Jakob Butturff vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson

**Sunday, Apr. 17 at 6 p.m. ET on FS1— Round of 16**

No. 3 EJ Tackett vs. No. 14 Jesper Svensson

No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 11 Kyle Sherman

**Sunday, Apr. 24 at noon ET on FS1— Quarterfinals**

No. 16 Bill O'Neill vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup

No. 4 Dom Barrett vs. No. 5 Kris Prather

**Sunday, May 1 at noon ET on FS1– Quarterfinals**

Winner of Simonsen/Maldonado vs. winner of Butturff/Johnson  
Winner of Tackett/Svensson vs. winner of Jones/Sherman

**Sunday, May 8 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX – Semifinals**

Remaining four bowlers

**Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. ET on FOX – Championship**

Remaining two bowlers

**PBA50 TOUR COVERAGE MOVES TO BOWLTV FOR 2022 SEASON**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – The Professional Bowlers Association and United States Bowling Congress have agreed on terms to offer exclusive livestreaming coverage of the 2022 PBA50 Tour season on BowlTV.

The agreement will include coverage of every PBA50 event of the season, starting with the PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open, which gets underway Tuesday, April 19, and concluding at the PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial on Aug. 22.

"We're glad PBA50 Tour fans will be able to watch live coverage of the full 2022 season on BowlTV. The action and level of competition on the PBA50 Tour is compelling and features some of the greatest players of all time." PBA Tour Commissioner Tom Clark said.

The 17-event schedule will include over 500 hours of livestream coverage on BowlTV, starting with the qualifying rounds and concluding with the stepladder finals for each event.

BowlTV offers monthly subscriptions for \$9.95 and an annual subscription for \$79.95, plus transaction fees. Current subscribers will receive the PBA50 coverage at no additional cost. Event tickets also will be available for each PBA50 event on BowlTV for \$12.95, plus transaction fees.

Coverage will include multiple channels at each event, so fans can follow their favorite PBA50 competitors. The broadcasts also will include professional commentary, interviews and analysis featuring top bowling experts.

**MALDONADO, JOHNSON ADVANCE AT KIA PBA PLAYOFFS  
APRIL 16, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Lake Wales, Florida - With the top overall seed Jason Belmonte already knocked out of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs, No. 2 Anthony Simonsen took to the lanes inside the Kegel Training Center against No. 15 Maldonado.

Simonsen had a three-pin advantage through three frames in game one but then in the fourth frame Maldonado experienced a medical scare after delivering his first shot.

"Right as I was about to release it something locked up on my right lower back, which is why it didn't hook at all," Maldonado said about leaving the 1-2-4. "My mobility was limited. I felt like if I did move, I had to go slow."

The two-hander had felt this pain before dealing with back issues over the years, but this time the discomfort didn't dissipate quickly and it lingered, leaving him concerned his back was going to go out and he wouldn't be able to finish the match.

During the commercial break he got advice from tour roommate Tom Daugherty who was on-site and has experienced similar back issues. Daugherty encouraged him to sit differently in the chair or to stand up and tried to reassure Maldonado his back wouldn't give out.

"It shut my ball speed down a lot, and I think it benefitted me," he said. "To hurt my back on TV and have to pull out on TV, that would have been terrible for me. I would have been devastated."

Maldonado took game one, 204-192, and dominated game two starting out with nine straight strikes before leaving a 2-pin. If Maldonado had shot 300, he would have earned \$10,000 from the PBA. He swept Simonsen, 267-174.

"I was still going for the \$10,000 saying, 'Come on, old man,'" Maldonado told himself. "The fact that I was able to finish and perform was pretty incredible for me."

After upsetting Simonsen, Maldonado said his plan is to visit a sports doctor when he returns home to Texas to find out what is really going on with his back, so he doesn't have to "keep going on this rollercoaster of pain and emotion." For now as he advances to the quarterfinals, he is going to use muscle relaxers and try to visit a chiropractor for a temporary fix to get him through the tournament. The second match of the day featured No. 7 Jakob Butturff against No. 10 AJ Johnson. Butturff started with a four-bagger to take an early lead before his Team USA teammate closed out the game with nine consecutive strikes as Johnson earned the win, 270-232.

Johnson decided to switch to a Motiv Venom Shock in the first frame of game two, leaving a 3-pin and quickly changed back to the Motiv Jackal Ghost he used in game one. Johnson had a few double dribbles on the left lane holding a two-pin lead through four frames. The righty then rolled a five-bagger for the 245-224 win.

"On the left lane I had to make sure my speed was a little softer and that I got it going to the right so I would get around the urethane traffic from the match before," Johnson said about dealing with the lane transition. "When you are bowling on something like this you want to be aggressive and play as close to your 'A' game as possible."

This was Johnson's first time bowling at the Kegel Training Center, which is home to Webber International. Johnson thrived on the energy from the contingent of collegiate bowlers in the crowd. "The college kids love to bring energy and I love to bring it when I am on TV," the former McKendree University bowler said. "It makes me feel more comfortable out there and allowed me to throw some really great shots."

Johnson, who is seeking his first career PBA Tour title, will face Maldonado at noon ET May 1 on Fox Sports' FS1 in the quarterfinals.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs will earn \$100,000 and a PBA Tour title. Follow the tournament bracket and live scoring [here](#)

**MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – Maldonado def. Simonsen 204-192, 267-174

Match 2 – Johnson def. Butturff 270-232, 245-224

## **SVENSSON, JONES MOVE FORWARD AT KIA PBA PLAYOFFS APRIL 17, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Lake Wales, Florida - Another top-seeded player falls in the first round of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs.

Two powerful players seeking to advance into the quarterfinals were No. 3 EJ Tackett against No. Jesper Svensson.

This match was filled with new bowling pins being demolished inside the Kegel Training Center. Svensson never missed the pocket throwing nine strikes in the opening showdown against Tackett's eight strikes, as the lefty earned the 258-223 win.

"The way the pins fall in this place helped me out that first game on some of my off hits," Svensson said about his pin reaction in game one.

Tackett knew he needed to strike more in game two, so he relied on his Motiv Ripcord, while Svensson stayed with his Storm Pitch Black urethane. Svensson led by 17 halfway through the match before Tackett finished with seven straight strikes for the 242-227 win to force extra frames.

In the 9th and 10th frame roll-off, Svensson struggled to carry, leaving three single-pins for a score of 38. Tackett rolled a strike and needed a mark to advance, but instead left the 2-4-6-10 split, which he failed to convert.

"I am still glad I won but it is a little rough when you win by somebody else's mistake," Svensson said. "You would love to just go up there and throw the shots you need to win. You know that is bowling and I will take it. I was on the right side this time."

The final match of the Round of 16 on the right side of the tournament bracket featured No. 6 Tommy Jones against No. 11 Kyle Sherman.

Over the first four frames in game one, Sherman had two opens while Jones had one. Both players then seemed to settle in as Jones went on to win 237-198.

"Not bowling on the fresh (oil) it seemed safer to play to the right with urethane as opposed to getting into the middle where there was a little bit a traffic from EJ," Jones said about the lane conditions following Tackett. "I got away with a couple of shots. He (Sherman) didn't have a great reaction the first game."

Jones kept using his reliable Brunswick Purple Hammer to start out with a four-bagger in game two holding a 19-pin lead halfway through. Sherman trimmed his deficit to three pins heading into the foundation frame.

Sherman's shot went wide right leaving the 1-2-4, which he chopped. Jones posted a double and 8-spare over the final two frames for 233-221 to earn the sweep.

"I just got fortunate that he made a bad one in the ninth and I was able to get away with the win," Jones said.

With a loud and supportive crowd inside the Kegel Training Center filled with bowlers from Webber International, Jones said they are the future of the game.

"We want to keep them passionate about the sport of bowling," Jones said about the collegiate players in the audience. "Anything we can do to pay it forward to keep them engaged and want to continue this and maybe do this one day and get the chance to bowl on TV and see how much fun that is."

Svensson will face Jones at noon ET May 1 on Fox Sports' FS1 in the quarterfinals.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs will earn \$100,000 and a PBA Tour title.

Follow the tournament bracket and live scoring [here](#)

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 - Svensson def. Tackett 258-223, 227-242, roll-off 38-24

Match 2 – Jones def. Sherman 237-198, 233-221

### **THIS WEEKEND ON FS1: KIA PBA PLAYOFFS QUARTERFINALS BEGIN APRIL 19, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Bill O'Neill, Kyle Troup, Dom Barrett and Kris Prather attempt to advance to the semifinals*

The quarterfinals of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs begin Sunday at noon ET on Fox Sports' FS1. All three previous PBA Playoffs champions will compete, with 2021 champion Kyle Troup facing 2020 winner Bill O'Neill and 2019 champion Kris Prather taking on Dom Barrett.

All quarterfinals matches will be contested in the Race to 2 Points format, with one point going to the winner of each game. If the players are tied at one point apiece, the deciding point will be awarded to the winner of a 9th/10th-frame roll-off.

The quarterfinals conclude next Sunday, May 1, also on FS1, with the semifinals and finals moving to FOX Broadcast Channel on May 8 and 15.

#### **No. 9 Kyle Troup vs. No. 16 Bill O'Neill**

Two former champions open the Kia PBA Playoffs quarterfinals with defending champion Troup taking on O'Neill, the man who won the event the year before. Troup advanced to the quarterfinals by bowling a pair of 266 games to sweep Sean Rash, 2-0, in the Round of 16. O'Neill took out No. 1 seed Jason Belmonte in a roll-off after the two split the first two games.

#### **No. 4 Dom Barrett vs. No. 5 Kris Prather**

With so many lower seeds winning matches in the Round of 16, this is the only one of the four quarterfinals matches to feature the two higher seeds advancing to face each other. Two-time 2022 champion Dom Barrett goes against 2019 PBA Playoffs winner Kris Prather. Fourth-seeded Barrett eliminated Packy Hanrahan in a roll-off in the opening round and No. 5 seed Prather swept Brad Miller. The winners of these two matches will meet May 8 in the semifinals, live on FOX Broadcast Channel. The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs, which conclude May 15 on FOX Broadcast Channel, will earn \$100,000 and a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title.

### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS REMAINING TELEVISION SCHEDULE**



**Sunday, Apr. 24 at noon ET on FS1 – Quarterfinals**

No. 16 Bill O'Neill vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup  
No. 4 Dom Barrett vs. No. 5 Kris Prather

**Sunday, May 1 at noon ET on FS1 – Quarterfinals**

No. 15 Shawn Maldonado vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson  
No. 14 Jesper Svensson vs. No. 6 Tommy Jones

**Sunday, May 8 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX – Semifinals**

Remaining four bowlers

**Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. ET on FOX – Championship**

Remaining two bowlers

**KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONS SINCE 2019**

2019 – Kris Prather  
2020 – Bill O'Neill  
2021 – Kyle Troup

**HESS HAS EARLY LEAD AT PBA50 LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN  
APRIL 19, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

**Fort Myers, Florida** – Tom Hess had an unforgettable first season on the PBA50 last year being named PBA50 Bowler of the Year and PBA50 Rookie of the Year. Already he has rolled that success over into the first event on the schedule.

During day one of qualifying at the PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open, Hess shot 227, 258, 279, 279, 227, 279 and 247 for 1,796. The Iowa native averaged a blistering 256.57 over seven games on Tuesday.

"I was trying too hard in the beginning," Hess said as he left several 10-pins in game one. "I decided to relax my hand and just let it go. From there the ball started going through the pins and it started striking."

Hess did a lot of striking first with his Storm Proton PhysiX then with his Global 900 Altered Reality from game five through seven.

At this tournament last year, Hess made the cut but lost early, so he is looking for a better outcome. He has a 44-pin lead over Tom Adcock who is averaging 250.29.

Hess doesn't see the scores coming down much over the next couple of days. The top-eight bowlers on the leaderboard are averaging 240 or higher and 57 bowlers are averaging at least 220.

"Guys are going to have to keep striking to make it," Hess predicts.

Leading the way for the A squad was Mike Preston who averaged 249.14. The Gainesville, Florida resident competes only in the Florida tournaments each year on the PBA50, and he was thrilled with his opening scores.

"I just got locked in, never really had to move and never changed bowling balls for the entire time," he said of the reaction from his Hammer Obsession Tour. "Lightning Strikes hosts a bunch of tournaments, and I am just comfortable in this house."

The right-hander hopes to see a similar look on the lanes Wednesday so he can get locked in again, and if he can, he likes his chances of competing for his first-ever PBA50 title.

Qualifying rounds continue with seven more games Wednesday starting with the B squad at 8 a.m. Eastern. After the A squad finishes, one-third of the field will move on to the advancers round with all pins carrying over to Thursday.

You can watch the PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open | PBA](#)

### **Top 10 PBA50 LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN**

1. Tom Hess 1,796
2. Tom Adcock 1,752
3. Mike Preston 1,744
4. Parker Bohn III 1,712
5. Brad Angelo 1,704
6. Jon Rakoski 1,704
7. Jeff Johnson 1,695
8. Dino Castillo 1,680
9. David Covington 1,679
10. Michael Haugen Jr. 1,665

### **TOM ADCOCK TAKES THE LEAD AT PBA50 LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN APRIL 20, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

**Fort Myers, Florida** – A new Super Senior has found his way to the top of the leaderboard at the PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open.

After the completion of 14 games of qualifying, Tom Adcock shot 1,709 on Wednesday for a combined two-day score of 3,459.

Adcock credits his early success to crossing with day-one qualifying leader Tom Hess on Tuesday, "So it was easy to line up off of him," Adcock said. "Today, I decided to go a little bit farther right and a little bit firmer instead of softer and around it."

Adcock used his 900 Global Zen Master for five games before it ran out of gas. He then started to move left using his 900 Global Altered Reality to give him a consistent look. Adcock still works full-time, so as long as he has his computer with him on the road, he will be working and bowling as many tournaments as he can in what is now his rookie season as a super senior.

"The competition is second to none," he said. "I hope I can make it to the top and take home a trophy." While the high scoring pace continued on Wednesday, Brad Angelo felt like his fellow players in the A squad at least broke down the lanes differently.

"They certainly didn't develop like they did yesterday," he said after moving up to second place. "Yesterday I was able to use a different part of the lane with a different ball and a different thought process. Two of the balls that I thought looked really good yesterday I couldn't use today."

He started with his 900 Global Altered Reality and switched to the Roto Grip RST X-1 for the last game and "made a good little run with that ball."

Angelo's late run included games of 268, 276, 257 and 246.

All pins carry forward into the advancers round as the top 43 players will bowl five games starting at 8 a.m. ET Thursday. The field will then be cut to the top 24 who will compete in bracket match play rounds of three-game sets with all pins being dropped.

"When you get to match play because of this format being three-games it is a whole different ballgame," Angelo said. "The lanes won't develop the same way because you don't have everybody creating all of the traffic. You've got to adapt to what your opponent is doing and there is a whole lot more strategy then in our tradition round-robin format."

It will all come down to the top five advancing to the stepladder finals starting at 7 p.m. ET Thursday live exclusively on BowITV.

Follow PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open | PBA](#)  
**PBA50 LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN TOP 10 THROUGH 14 GAMES**

1. Tom Adcock 3,459
2. Brad Angelo 3,432
3. Mike Preston 3,375
4. Tom Hess 3,371
5. Dino Castillo 3,352
6. Jon Rakoski 3,352
7. Walter Ray Williams Jr. 3,328
8. David Covington 3,323
9. Pete Weber 3,316
10. Chris Barnes 3,314

## **2022 PBA LEAGUE PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON DRAFT TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY MAY 18 APRIL 21, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*Ten PBA League teams will fill out their rosters on Facebook Live*

The 2022 PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon Draft will take place virtually on May 18 at 1 p.m. ET and will be streamed live to the PBA Facebook page. Hosted by PBA Tour commissioner Tom Clark and featuring all 10 PBA League managers, each team will fill out its roster from a pool of eligible players to compete for the Elias Cup in July in Portland, Maine.

A total of 29 players are currently on PBA League rosters as announced during the PBA League Manager Saves live stream held in January. Nine of the 10 teams protected three players and will have two draft picks. The Motown Muscle protected two players and will receive three draft picks.

### **Draft Eligibility**

There are a total of 54 players eligible to be drafted, from which 21 players will be selected. This includes:

- Forty-eight players who were in the top 75 in PBA Tour competition points in 2022 but who are not currently on a PBA League roster.
- Six players who were outside the top 75 but who were on a PBA League roster in 2020 (Brad Angelo, Rhino Page, Patrick Girard, Matt McNiel, Christopher Sloan, Zeke Bayt). Josh Blanchard, who was with the Motown Muscle in 2020 but is now the PBA League tournament director, is not eligible to be drafted.

## **Players Eligible to be Drafted**

*Players within the top 75, listed in order of competition points:*

Kyle Sherman, Brad Miller, Packy Hanrahan, Jason Sterner, Jake Peters, Nick Pate, DJ Archer, AJ Chapman, Matt Russo, Brandon Novak, Cristian Azcona, Richie Teece, Arturo Quintero, Matt Ogle, Sam Cooley, Ronnie Russell, Martin Larsen, Keven Williams, Michael Tang, Brandon Runk, Santtu Tahvanainen, Anthony Lavery-Spahr, Mitch Hupé, Wesley Low Jr., Chris Barnes, Kevin McCune, Sean Lavery-Spahr, Patrick Dombrowski, Tom Hess, Graham Fach, Parker Bohn III, Matt Sanders, Nathan Bohr, Anthony Neuer, Zach Wilkins, Brent Boho, Frank Snodgrass, Ildemaro Ruiz, Trevor Roberts, Andres Gomez, Zach Weidman, Toby Sambueno, Bryan Hahlen, Osku Palermaa, Michael Martell, Matt Zweig, Matt Kuba, Kim Bolleby.

*Players outside the top 75 but who competed in the 2020 PBA League, listed alphabetically:*

Brad Angelo, Zeke Bayt, Patrick Girard, Matt McNiell, Rhino Page, Christopher Sloan.

## **Draft Order**

Selections will be made via a snake draft beginning in reverse order of each team's finish in 2020 PBA League competition. The third round will belong exclusively to Motown to fill out their five-person roster.

### **First Round**

1. New York City KingPins
2. Snickers Waco Wonders (formerly Brooklyn Styles)
3. Silver Lake Atom Splitters
4. L.A. X
5. Motown Muscle
6. Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen (formerly Philadelphia Hitmen)
7. Pabst Blue Ribbon Milwaukee Pounders (formerly Brew City Ballers)
8. Dallas Strikers
9. Las Vegas High Rollers
10. Portland Lumberjacks

### **Second Round**

11. Portland Lumberjacks
12. Las Vegas High Rollers
13. Dallas Strikers
14. Milwaukee PBR Pounders
15. Chicago Hitmen
16. Motown Muscle
17. L.A. X
18. Silver Lake Atom Splitters
19. Snickers Waco Wonders
20. New York City KingPins

### **Third Round**

21. Motown Muscle

## **Current PBA League Rosters**

### **New York City KingPins (manager Carolyn Dorin-Ballard)**

Saved: Pete Weber, Darren Tang, Marshall Kent

*Dropped: Kyle Sherman, Osku Palermaa*

### **Snickers Waco Wonders (Johnny Petraglia)**

Saved: Walter Ray Williams Jr., BJ Moore, Thomas Larsen

*Dropped: Brad Angelo, Rhino Page*

**Silver Lake Atom Splitters (Mark Baker)**

Saved: Jesper Svensson, Tom Daugherty, Chris Via

*Dropped: Chris Barnes, AJ Chapman*

**L.A. X (Andrew Cain)**

Saved: Jason Belmonte, Jakob Butturff, Stu Williams

*Dropped: Patrick Girard, Anthony Lavery-Spahr*

**Motown Muscle (Del Ballard)**

Saved: EJ Tackett, Anthony Simonsen

*Dropped: Josh Blanchard, Mitch Hupe, Matt McNiel*

**Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen (Jason Couch)**

Saved: Dom Barrett, Tom Smallwood, Shawn Maldonado

*Dropped: Jason Sterner, Matt Ogle*

**Pabst Blue Ribbon Milwaukee Pounders (Marshall Holman)**

Saved: Sean Rash, Ryan Ciminelli, Dick Allen

*Dropped: Christopher Sloan, Zeke Bayt*

**Dallas Strikers (Norm Duke)**

Saved: Norm Duke, Tommy Jones, Bill O'Neill

*Dropped: Brad Miller, Nick Pate*

**Las Vegas High Rollers (Amleto Monacelli)**

Saved: Francois Lavoie, Andrew Anderson, AJ Johnson

*Dropped: Richie Teece, Ildemaro Ruiz*

**Portland Lumberjacks (Tim Mack)**

Saved: Wes Malott, Kyle Troup, Kris Prather

*Dropped: Martin Larsen, Packy Hanrahan*

**PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP: CHRIS WARREN WINS REGIONAL TITLE NO. 58, ONE BEHIND THE ALL-TIME LEADER  
APRIL 21, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

The Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour and the PBA50 Tour flip-flopped this month as the PBA wrapped up the national circuit while the Senior Tour maneuvered into their national tour. Over the past few days, the PBA hosted five regional events all over the U.S. and not just the continental 48. Florida, Indiana, Texas, Maryland, and Hawaii opened their doors to many bowlers looking to make a run to the Regional Players Invitational later this year.

**SOUTH REGION****PBA50 LEHIGH LANES OPEN**

The PBA50 Lehigh Lanes Open in Lehigh Acres, Florida, set itself up as the perfect tune-up event for the first PBA50 National Tour stop of 2022 due to Lehigh Acres' proximity to Fort Myers. Sixty-seven bowlers entered the field, many of whom were ready to make a big run during the PBA50 Tour this summer. After being split into three different squads and bowling six games apiece, the top 22 bowlers moved on to bowl another four games in the Advancers Round on Saturday morning. After that, the top eight bowlers rolled eight more games of round-robin match play to cut the field in half for a stepladder.

When the dust settled, it wasn't particularly close for the final spot as Jeff Johnson finished in 5th at +299 and Gary Faulkner in 4th at +513. Faulkner dropped the first match to the three-seed Chris Warren

237-222, but the real fireworks came a bit later as the 57-time regional champ delivered a 300 in the semifinal match against Amleto Monacelli, who shot a 199. Warren couldn't launch back-to-back perfect games in the finals, but he did grab title 58 with a win over Paul Fleming, 211-185. Chris Warren now finds himself just one title behind the all-time lead of 59, held by Walter Ray Williams Jr.

#### **PBA50 LEHIGH LANES OPEN FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Chris Warren, 2,500 points, \$2,500
2. Paul Fleming, 1,500, \$1,500
3. Amleto Monacelli, 1,150, \$1,000
4. Gary Faulkner, 950, \$830
5. Jeff Johnson, 850, \$675

#### **PBA50 South Region Points Leaders**

1. Victor Florie Jr., 3,650
2. Chuck Richey Jr., 2,810
3. Michael Painter, 2,688
4. Chris Warren, 2,500
4. Kip Roberts, 2,500

You can check out the South Region points leaders [here](#).

#### **SOUTHWEST REGION**

##### **PBA HOUSTON COPPERFIELD SOUTHWEST CHALLENGE**

A non-champions event began the Southwest Region's slate at Copperfield Bowl in Houston, where Eric Jones of Edmond, Oklahoma, headlined the tournament with a wire-to-wire victory. During qualifying, he started with a 769 for his first three games and eventually went +313 for the set, 95 pins higher than second place. After five advancers round games, the lead for Jones ballooned from 95 pins to a whopping 228. In match play, no doubts arose as the margin sat at 332 pins with just the position round to go. Jones rolled a 204 in his victory lap game to claim his first-ever regional title, \$2,300, and most importantly, the banner.

##### **PBA HOUSTON COPPERFIELD SOUTHWEST CHALLENGE FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Eric Jones, \$2,400
2. Tyler Wright, \$1,850
3. Garrett Andrus, \$1,440
4. Allen Smith, \$1,250
5. Michael Rachal, \$1,100

#### **WEST REGION**

##### **PBA LEEWARD OPEN**

The first of two Hawaiian events wrapped up on Tuesday in Pearl City, and 70 bowlers gathered to compete at Leeward Bowl. Bowlers began early Tuesday morning for seven games, attempting to secure a spot in the top 16 for single-elimination match play later that day. Keith Odette led the way on the Billy Hardwick Pattern, going +159 with Wesley Low Jr. not far behind at +156. Odette won his first match over Shane Dagdag while Low Jr. drew a worthy opponent in Anthony Simonsen, who made the trip out to The Aloha State for the pair of events. Low ended up taking the match, winning two games to one, but the lefty lost in the next round while Odette lost in the quarterfinals also. In the semifinal matches, Jake Peters defeated Adam Ishman 205-174, while Tim Cagle II moved past Joe Lipan 219-171. Following an open in the first frame, Cagle II dominated the match, throwing the next eleven strikes to take home the win 279-219.

### **PBA LEEWARD OPEN FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Tim Cagle II, 2,500 points, \$2,700
2. Jake Peters, 1,500, \$1,700
3. Adam Ishman, \$1,200
4. Joe Lipan, 1,150, \$1,150

You can check out the West Region points leaders [here](#).

### **CENTRAL REGION**

#### **PBA BOWLERO/EVANSVILLE CENTRAL/MIDWEST OPEN**

Players did not have much time to get acclimated in Indiana because of the one-day format, but they needed to figure something out quickly when they hit the lanes. The 41-foot Smith pattern pushed the field of 72 to their limits as the cut line for the top 16 ran at just a 205 average, while Jonathan Schalow qualified first with a 225 pace.

After a lunch break, those 16 bowlers came back for another eight games in a round-robin format. Seven matches later and just the position round to go, two bowlers emerged miles ahead of the field, with Tom Hess at +582 and Graham Fach at +532. Fach already held a title in his back pocket from the Clutch Lanes Central Open Doubles tournament earlier this year, while Hess fought for career regional title number 13. Fach, who ran the table in his first seven games of the day, needed to win the eighth and final game by at least 21 pins to bring home his second regional title and eighth overall. Hess never had a sub-200 during match play until the finale, where Fach got the best of him, 234-193.

Along with grabbing his second title of the season, the undefeated Fach added regional title number eight to his resume and 2,500 points to his Central standings placement.

#### **PBA BOWLERO/EVANSVILLE CENTRAL/MIDWEST OPEN FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Graham Fach, 2,500 points, \$2,300
2. Tom Hess, 1,500, \$1,325
3. Patrick Dombrowski, 1,150, \$1,100
4. Jonathan Schalow, 950, \$950
5. Ryan Liederbach, 850, \$850

#### **PBA Central Points Leaders**

1. Graham Fach, 5,000 points
2. Patrick Dombrowski, 1,515
3. Tom Hess, 1,500
4. Thomas Larsen, 1,500
5. Ryan Liederbach, 1,235

You can check out the Central Region points leaders [here](#).

### **EAST REGION**

#### **PBA BOWLERS DISCOUNT PRO SHOP OPEN**

In Towson, Maryland, over 100 entrants made their way to AMF Towson Lanes for an entertaining two-day format where the double-bye was in effect. After eight games to start, the top 16 came back on Sunday for single-elimination bracket play. The top four qualifiers received a double-bye, the 5th-8th qualifiers earned a regular bye, and the 9th-16th positions started the day with best 2 out of 3 matches. The Marshall Holman pattern seemed to be a bit nicer to the players than the 41-foot Smith pattern in Indiana, as it took a 214 average here to advance to bracket play. Michael Sanghi, Paul Smith, John Furey, and Tim Foy Jr. all grabbed ahold of the four double-bye positions, but only Foy Jr. and Furey advanced to the semis when they stepped to the plate. In the semifinals, Foy Jr. lost a close battle to eight-seeded Cody Shoemaker 208-205, while Furey took down Louis Gaudio 250-211. In the winner-

take-all finals, the Pennsylvania native Shoemaker clinched his first career title over Furey 195-179 and moved to the top of the East Region leaderboard.

### **PBA BOWLERS DISCOUNT PRO SHOP OPEN FINAL STANDINGS**

1. Cody Shoemaker, 2,500 points, \$3,000
2. John Furey, 1,500, \$1,600
3. Tim Foy Jr. 1,150, \$1,150
4. Louis Gaudio, 950, \$1,150

You can check out the East Region points leaders [here](#).

When the next edition of the Regional Recap comes out, eight more events taking place all over the country will be in the books giving players more chances to move up their respective leaderboards. Plenty of events flood the schedule <https://www.pba.com/pba-tour/pba-regional-tour> before the Regional Players Invitational commences at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas, so check for nearby tournaments to watch some of your favorite bowlers in action as they compete for a share of \$114,000.

### **BRAD ANGELO WINS FIRST PBA50 TITLE AT LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN**

APRIL 21, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Fort Myers, Florida – After putting himself in eight match play appearances in 2021, Brad Angelo is now a champion on the PBA50.

The New York native is quickly following up his successful rookie season by defeating current PBA50 rookie Dino Castillo Thursday at the PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open.

Both players started out with doubles and 9-spares. Castillo put together a three-bagger to take the lead before leaving the 3-4-6-7 split on the left lane.

“That was the turning point in the match,” Angelo said of Castillo’s split. “It hit that friction spot that had developed in the previous game and took-off. That is why I was playing the left lane quite a bit deeper and I had to be slower to get the ball in the pocket to where it would not flat 10.”

Angelo initially thought Castillo was going to convert the split when the ball left his hand, but Castillo only got one-pin to open up the match.

After leaving a weak 10-pin and a ringing 10-pin on the right lane, which Angelo felt like “the rack was a little off,” he decided to make a subtle move with his feet and his eyes, while also changing his hand a little bit to get better deflection through the pins to carry the 10-pin. Those moves resulted in six straight strikes and nine on his final ball to win, 258-203.

“For me, my bread and butter is to be able to roll it really slow and when I can do that I feel most comfortable,” Angelo said. “It’s great to be called a PBA50 champion.”



Castillo, who was especially animated in his first match against Barnes, was a familiar sight to Angelo.

"I have bowled against Dino Castillo now for over 30 years and that is Dino Castillo's MO," Angelo said about his friend. "He throws his hands all over the place and looks like there is an earthquake every time he throws the ball, so I was fully prepared for all of that stuff. He bowled great."

In the first match, Walter Ray Williams Jr. defeated Jon Rakoski 269-267. Williams Jr. struggled to carry in match two as Chris Barnes started with eight-in-a-row for the 279-188 win.

Match three between fellow Texans Barnes and Castillo, included nine strikes by Castillo as he won, 279-245.

View the full PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open standings: [PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open](#) | PBA

#### PBA50 LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Brad Angelo \$7,500
2. Dino Castillo \$4,000
3. Chris Barnes \$3,000
4. Walter Ray Williams Jr. \$2,500
5. Jon Rakoski \$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Williams Jr. def. Rakoski 269-267

Match 2 – Barnes def. Williams Jr. 279-188

Match 3 – Castillo def. Barnes 279-245

Championship match – Angelo def. Castillo 258-203

#### **TROUP AND PRATHER IN KIA PBA PLAYOFFS FINAL FOUR**

APRIL 24, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Lake Wales, Florida - Bowlers on the left side of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoff quarterfinals bracket provided a strike fest inside the Kegel Training Center.

The first match was a showdown against the past two PBA Playoff champions, No. 16 Bill O'Neill and No. 9 Kyle Troup.

Both players started out using urethane and each posting 9-spares in their first two frames. "My first two shots, I was playing a little hesitant like I was afraid to get after it and hit it," Troup said about his opening two spares.

Troup followed that up with nine straight strikes, while O'Neill rolled a turkey and three single-pin spares.

O'Neill made the switch to reactive resin in the 9th frame and struck out. Troup also took a look at reactive in the 10th frame as he won game one in the race to 2, 278-236.

The left lane continued to hook earlier than the right lane, as they combined for just three strikes on that lane.

O'Neill chose his DV8 Damn Good Verge Pearl to start with four out of five strikes to earn a one-pin lead halfway through. After Troup failed to convert the 3-10 split in the eighth frame, O'Neill had the opportunity to even the match and force a 9th and 10th frame roll-off. But O'Neill left back-to-back 10-pins then saw his first delivery in the 10th frame—on the dreaded left lane—slide to the right of the head pin leaving the 1-2-4-8. He chopped it.

Troup stepped up on the right lane and struck on his first ball. The defending champion yelled, "Bang, bang come after my belt," as he escaped to advance, 205-202.

"Unfortunately for the rest of the guys, I am building confidence probably for the first-time this year," Troup said after the win. "I found a little something in my physical game before the round of 16. Physically I feel like I am putting the pieces together quickly and I am ready to go defend my title."

As for that hiccup in his physical game, it was noticed in Troup's set-up he was rolling his shoulders over too early which "set me south from there forward," he said.

"I thought I was doing things right all year long working with my timing," he said. "Apparently, I was, it was just this shoulder thing. Now I can feel my bad shots versus before I was trying to feel my good ones."

In the second match, the inaugural winner of the PBA Playoffs, No. 5 Kris Prather took on No. 4 Dom Barrett, who was looking to make a push for consideration in the 2022 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year conversation.

This was a rematch of the 2022 PBA Tournament of Champions where Barrett defeat No. 1 seed Prather to become one of just eight players to win the Triple Crown. But it also was a bit reminiscent of the 2022 PBA World Championship that Prather won last month.

Prather switched balls a couple of times on the tricky left lane searching for the right look, while he stuck with the Storm Dark Code on the right lane striking every time in game one, as he smoothly mastered the TV pair.

"I made ball changes on multiple strikes in a row," Prather said about the left lane. "I just didn't really like what I saw at the beginning. I was seeing my ball hook earlier than what I wanted. Basically what you saw at the World Championship is what I was doing here. I have been seeing the ball well pretty much the last month in a half."

Prather began with the front seven, while Barrett threw the last six strikes to lose, 279-248. They combined to throw 19 strikes.

"For me, it (Dark Code) is smooth enough where I can really use my hand and be aggressive with my moves and angle changes," he said. "I have a lot of trust in that ball, and I feel like I can pretty much throw it on anything and do anything with the Dark Code."

It was more of the same for game two, as they again combined to strike 19 times.

Barrett started 9-spare followed by seven straight strikes. Prather doubled, picked up a 10-pin and continued to strike.

They were tied at 219 in the eight frame. Barrett picked up a 10-pin in the ninth and finished first with a double and nine for 268.

Needing a strike and nine spare to win, Prather doubled and got nine for an impressive 278. "Whenever I get left like that, my shot repetition goes up as far as frequency of well executed shots and my speed control and hand at the bottom is very consistent," Prather said about his game. "If I can throw it as slow as I want and hit it as hard as I want at the bottom then more than likely I am going to be bowling pretty well. Just fortunate to walk out on top after 270, 270 and barely winning the second game."

Prather, who has won three tournaments each with a \$100,000 purse, threw 20 out of 24 strikes during the two-game match.

He will now face another \$100,000 man, Troup, in the semifinals at 1 p.m. ET Sun., May 8 on FOX Broadcast Channel.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs will earn \$100,000, a PBA Tour title, and a WWE championship belt.

Follow the tournament bracket here.

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Troup def. O'Neill 278-236, 205-202

Match 2 – Prather def. Barrett 279-248, 278-268

### **RICHEY JR. IN THE LEAD AT PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

APRIL 25, 2022 JILL WINTERS

The Villages, Florida - With just two minutes left in his practice session, Chuck Richey Jr. found something that would work.

The 53-year-old discovered the right look and line to play inside Spanish Springs Lanes, and he was ready to roll. He shot 279, 247, 195, 238, 214 and 233 for 1,406 to jump into the lead after the first six games of qualifying Monday at the 2022 Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship.

"I started on the lanes Rory Peterson (A squad leader) finished on," the Concord, N.C. resident said. "There was a lot of hold in the middle and that got me started."

The right-hander relied on three balls, his Brunswick Quantum Evo Pearl, the DV8 Damn Good Verge and then his Hammer Obsession Tour for the last two games for a nine-pin lead over fellow B squad bowler, Brian Brazeau of Ocala, Florida.

With the B squad on the lanes first Tuesday, Richey Jr. plans to rely on the same ball motion using his Evo Pearl moving farther right then probably having to chase left later in the block.

Richey Jr. finished in 22nd place at last year's PBA50 National Championship in The Villages and he is happy to be back in front of a supportive crowd.

"The fact that people are excited to watch us bowl here is incredible," he said. "This place is packed, and I enjoy the friendly banter with those who are watching."

Rory Peterson's strategy on the lanes was straighter is greater. He shot 222, 237, 256, 211, 266 and 199 for 1,392 to lead the A squad.

"I threw my MOTIV Sniper plastic," the Jacksonville, FL resident said. "It allowed me to play straighter."

Peterson, who is eight months removed from surgery on his back, finished in the top 20 at this tournament three years ago.

"I still have aways to go, but if I can keep bowling this well, I like my chances," he said.

Tom Hess is currently in 4th place followed by Parker Bohn III in 5th place.

Qualifying rounds continue with six more games Tuesday starting with the B squad at 9 a.m. ET, followed by the C squad at 1 p.m. and the A squad will begin at 5 p.m.

You can watch the PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship scoring at Standings - Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship ([r2sports.com](https://r2sports.com))

#### FLORIDA BLUE MEDICARE PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOP 10 THROUGH 6 GAMES

Chuck Richey Jr.	1,406
Brian Brazeau	1,397
Rory Peterson	1,392
Tom Hess	1,378
Parker Bohn III	1,372
Eddie Graham	1,345
Brian LeClair	1,344
John Dougherty III	1,329
Steve Gagnon	1,327
Chris Johnson	1,326

#### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS QUARTERFINALS CONTINUE SUNDAY ON FS1**

APRIL 26, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Four players look to join Kyle Troup and Kris Prather in the semifinals

The last two spots in the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs semifinals will be determined Sunday at noon ET on Fox Sports' FS1 when AJ Johnson takes on Shawn Maldonado and Tommy Jones faces Jesper Svensson. All four players are looking to make their first appearances in the Kia PBA Playoffs semifinals, while the two players already there—Kyle Troup and Kris Prather—are both past champions of the event.

All quarterfinals matches will be contested in the Race to 2 Points format, with one point going to the winner of each game. If the players are tied at one point apiece, the deciding point will be awarded to the winner of a 9th/10th-frame roll-off.

No. 10 AJ Johnson vs. No. 15 Shawn Maldonado

Two players who upset (and swept) their higher-seeded opponents in the Round of 16 will duel in the quarterfinals. Johnson, the No. 10 seed, took both games from seventh-seeded Jakob Butturff and No. 15 seed Maldonado dispatched the No. 2 seed, Anthony Simonsen. Johnson is looking for his first PBA Tour title and Maldonado is seeking his third.

No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 14 Jesper Svensson

Tommy Jones made it to the Kia PBA Playoffs quarterfinals for the first time in his career by defeating Kyle Sherman in a two-game sweep in the Round of 16. The 20-time PBA Tour champion will face 11-time champion Jesper Svensson, who took out the third seed, EJ Tackett, in a roll-off in the Round of 16.

The winners of these two matches will meet May 8 in the semifinals, live on FOX Broadcast Channel.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs, which conclude May 15 on FOX Broadcast Channel, will earn \$100,000 and a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title.

#### KIA PBA PLAYOFFS REMAINING TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 1 at noon ET on FS1 – Quarterfinals

No. 15 Shawn Maldonado vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson

No. 14 Jesper Svensson vs. No. 6 Tommy Jones

Sunday, May 8 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX – Semifinals

No. 5 Kris Prather vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup

Winner of Maldonado/Johnson vs. winner of Svensson/Jones

Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. ET on FOX – Championship

Remaining two bowlers

#### KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONS SINCE 2019

2019 – Kris Prather

2020 – Bill O'Neill

2021 – Kyle Troup

### **BOHN III FULL STEAM AHEAD AT PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

APRIL 26, 2022 JILL WINTERS

The Villages, Florida – Parker Bohn III loves to perform and as he sees it, he is in full control.

He put on a show during the second day of qualifying at the 2022 Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship. The lefty averaged 233.5 for the day, finishing with a 288 game as he moved into the lead with a total of 2,773.

In the final game, he headed into the 10th frame having gone light on his previous three shots on the left lane. He again went light and carried, so he decided to move just a smidge.

"I threw it really good but a solid 8," Bohn III said. "It's part of the brakes of the game. You give one, you get one and it goes back-and-forth. I take my chances on that shot every time."

The crowd moaned as everyone was waiting to see the first 300 game of the tournament to no avail. Bohn III just shrugged his shoulders and smirked.

He was part of the B squad that took to the lanes first.

"It seemed like my ball was going and reading the lane like I wanted it to so let's just say, full steam ahead," he said.

He started out with his DV8 Damn Good Verge Pearl and about two-thirds of the way through the six-game block, he turned to his DV8 Collision that he had success with on Monday.

"It seems to me when the oil gets down the lane a little bit more that the Collision is my ball of choice," the PBA Hall of Famer said. "My ball is hitting the pocket a lot and if you are going to bowl good, especially amongst the greatest bowlers in the world - regardless of whether we are the regular tour or the PBA50 Tour - you have to figure out how to get your ball to the 1-2 or 1-3 pocket, respectfully."

When Bohn III "gave the pocket away a little bit" all of a sudden, his ball saw the lane perfectly and started going through the pins the way he wanted.

Troy Lint started out on the C squad with 258, 278 and 280 for 816 and followed that with 232, 200 and 204. He is just seven-pins off the lead. Tom Hess is currently in third, followed by Michael Haugen Jr. and Warren Eales to round out the top five.

Qualifying rounds continue with six more games Wednesday starting with the C squad at 9 a.m. ET, followed by the A squad at 1 p.m. and the B squad will begin around 5 p.m. The field will then be cut to the top 63 bowlers.

You can watch the PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship scoring at [Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 FLORIDA BLUE MEDICARE PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Parker Bohn III	2,773
Troy Lint	2,766
Tom Hess	2,674
Michael Haugen Jr.	2,667
Warren Eales	2,644
Chuck Richey Jr.	2,640
Brad Angelo	2,635
Todd Agee	2,625
Chris Johnson	2,620
Jason Couch	2,617

**PBA KING OF THE LANES RETURNS IN JUNE AND INTRODUCES KOTL: ROYAL FAMILY EDITION**

APRIL 27, 2022 JEF GOODGER

The 2022 PBA King of the Lanes will air in prime time on Fox Sports' FS1 over five consecutive weeknights, June 6-10. The first three nights will feature the new PBA King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition in which prominent PBA stars team with their talented children in the quest to become bowling's royal family. The final two nights will showcase four contenders challenging to take down reigning King of the Lanes Jason Sterner.

Guppy and Kyle Troup, who own the most PBA Tour titles (eight apiece for a total of 16) among any living father-son combination, will be the inaugural Royal Family. Contenders who will challenge for familial superiority include Chris and Ryan Barnes, Wes and Jordan Malott, Tom and Brady Smallwood, Ronnie and Cayden Russell, Parker and Brandon Bohn, and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Alyssa Ballard. Aside from the Troups, the criteria for contending teams was professional bowlers with teenage kids, highlighting an incredible time for second- and third-generation bowlers.

Jason Sterner earned the King of the Lanes crown last season, first defeating Tim Mack in the contenders match and then taking the throne from Parker Bohn III. Sterner then successfully defended his position against Tom Daugherty, earning a return trip to the King of the Lanes in 2022.

The first challenge for Sterner will either come from PBA Hall of Famer Norm Duke, whose stirring run at the USBC Masters, in which he finished second, may have been his final PBA Tour event as a competitor, or Carlos Granados, who earned his way into the King of the Lanes by winning the 2021 PBA Regional Players Invitational.

On the final telecast of the series, the contenders will be the two players who make it to the championship match of the Kia PBA Playoffs, which will be determined in the semifinals airing Sunday, May 8 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX Broadcast Channel.

PBA King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition  
Bowlero Jupiter – Jupiter, Florida

Monday, June 6 at 9 p.m. ET  
Chris and Ryan Barnes vs. Wes and Jordan Malott  
Winners vs. Guppy and Kyle Troup

Tuesday, June 7 at 9 p.m. ET  
Tom and Brady Smallwood vs. Ronnie and Cayden Russell  
Winners vs. Reigning Royal Family

Wednesday, June 8 at 9 p.m. ET  
Parker and Brandon Bohn vs. Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Alyssa Ballard  
Winners vs. Reigning Royal Family

PBA King of the Lanes

Thursday, June 9 at 9 p.m. ET  
Norm Duke vs. Carlos Granados  
Winner vs. Jason Sterner

Friday, June 10 at 9 p.m. ET  
Playoffs Finalist 1 vs. Playoffs Finalist 2  
Winner vs. Reigning King

## **BOHN III MAINTAINS LEAD AT PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

APRIL 27, 2022 JILL WINTERS

The Villages, Florida – Parker Bohn III started out the final qualifying block on Wednesday similar to how he ended on Tuesday. He had the first 10 strikes, and this time rolled a 287 to begin his block strong.

He added games of 182, 217, 247, 215 and 221 for a three-day total of 4,142 to remain in the lead at the 2022 Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship.

The lefty continued to rely on the same arsenal using a DV8 Damn Good Verge Pearl and his DV8 Collision.

"Solid block about 170 over," he said. "It helped propel me to where I am still in the lead for the tournament. So, it will be more full steam ahead."

Bohn III feels like he thrives in this tournament format where all of the pins carryover and he is proud of his performance so far.

"It tells me a lot of the things that I was doing were matched up right or close to being perfect," he said about his scores. "I am just going to work really hard to be that No. 1 seed going into the telecast."

Bohn III has a 40-pin lead over 2021 PBA50 Player of the Year and PBA50 Rookie of the Year Tom Hess. Hess carried forward his strong finish in his final two games on Tuesday and ended qualifying with a 279 game. He is looking for some redemption against his friend, Bohn III.

"I lost to him three times in a stepladder, and he has already beat me in a regional, so I am due," Hess said. "Coming off the year I had last year out here and staying sharp bowling on the kids tour has just propelled me."

Hess used a 900 Global Wolverine for the first three games and a Storm Phaze 4 for the final three games. He also enjoyed bowling next to local bowler, Mike Zawacki feeding off of his crowd support.

"This crowd is unbelievable," Hess said about the constant cheering inside Spanish Springs Lanes. "I think of myself as an entertainer, and I love to put on a show. It is extra special for me this week because my wife is with me, too. And it is just fun bowling in front of a crowd full of people."

Just behind Hess is lefty Troy Lint who is also having a great time bowling in The Villages. He is currently in third.

"I am having a blast," the Pennsylvania resident said. "I have got Hall of Famers around me everywhere and it is fun to bowl with them."

The top 63 will bowl five games in the advancers round starting at 11 a.m. ET Thursday. The field will then be cut to the top 24. They will bowl eight games of match play in round one beginning at 4 p.m. ET.

You can watch the PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.



Follow Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship scoring at Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship | PBA

#### Top 10 FLORIDA BLUE MEDICARE PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Parker Bohn III	4,142
Tom Hess	4,102
Troy Lint	4,046
Michael Haugen Jr.	4,040
Brad Angelo	4,012
Rick Graham	3,996
Paul Koehler	3,961
Jason Couch	3,956
Walt Blackston	3,955
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	3,921

#### **BOHN III BATTLES BACK TO LEAD AT PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

APRIL 28, 2022 JILL WINTERS

The Villages, Florida – Parker Bohn III doesn't rattle easily. He battled through the five-game advancers round to start off his Thursday dropping from first to fourth place at the 2022 Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship.

He went with his DV8 Collision that had been one of his go-to balls during qualifying rounds, but he couldn't get it to see the lanes the right way.

"I was a little bit perplexed by it because I knew how good the ball worked the first couple of days," he said. "I just didn't understand why I couldn't quite figure out what I needed to."

It was a different story for fellow left-hander Troy Lint who was on the pair with Bohn III. He averaged 251.2 during the round with his trusty Brunswick Purple Hammer.

"I had a really good look in the morning when nobody else had it," the Pennsylvania resident said. "I could shape my ball where I wanted to where most guys couldn't. I had a little more ball reaction and really took advantage of it."

Lint and Rick Graham, who bowl in league together back home, each posted big five-game blocks to move up. Lint took over first and Graham jumped into third place.

The field was cut to the top 24 with Lennie Boresch Jr. being the last to make it in with 4,898 total pins.

The first round of match play flipped the script on the top two lefties in the field. Bohn III shot 258, 235, 258, 223, 235, 257, 275 and 215 for a scratch total of 7,155. He was 6-2 in match play which gave him an additional 180-pins to put him back in the lead at 7,335. He chose a Purple Hammer for the first four games and went back to his DV8 Collision for the last four games.

"I am going to go out there with a very similar game plan," Bohn III said about his strategy going into Friday's final day. "It takes tweaks from day-to-day, and you have got to be willing to do those changes,

because if you don't you find yourself sucked up into the rest of the field and then it is not very productive."

As for Lint, he shot 7,125 scratch. However, his match play record was 4-4, so he is now 90-pins behind Bohn III.

"They seemed tighter where I had to use a different wrist position to try and manipulate the fronts with the urethane more," Lint said. "That kind of minimized the window I was playing in. These guys are phenomenal, and they execute no matter what."

"I love competing against them because it brings the best out of me," Lint said. "I know I can do this, and I want to prove that I can do this."

Pete Weber, who is the defending champion, started his Thursday in 27th, moved up to 9th after the advancers round, and then had the best record at 7-1 to move into sixth place. He also picked up the dreaded 7-10 split in match play.

Sixteen more games of match play are left to determine the top five who will be bowling for a major title. The second round of match play begins at 9 a.m. followed by round three starting at 2 p.m. ET Friday. The stepladder finals is schedule to get underway at 7 p.m. ET Friday and you can see it all exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship scoring at [Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 FLORIDA BLUE MEDICARE PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Parker Bohn III	7,335
Troy Lint	7,245
Tom Hess	7,193
Rick Graham	7,180
Jason Couch	7,162
Pete Weber	7,131
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	7,085
Brad Angelo	7,027
Dan Knowlton	7,018
Michael Haugen Jr.	6,997

### **BOHN III EARNS A MAJOR VICTORY AT PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

APRIL 29, 2022 JILL WINTERS

The Villages, Florida – All week long it was full steam ahead for Parker Bohn III at the 2022 Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship.

In the title match, Brad Angelo was looking to start the season off with back-to-back wins. As for Bohn III, he relied on the ball that had got him to this point, his DV8 Collision.

The lefty started with 9-spare and rolled off five straight strikes to take control of the match. But after back-to-back 7-pins failed to be taken out by messengers, Angelo then put together his own string of five strikes. So, it all came down to the 10th frame.

"After he struck in the 9th frame, it didn't matter what I did in the 9th and 10th," Bohn said. "It was going to be ball in his hand when he would get back up."

Bohn III struck in the 9th and 10th before picking up a 6-pin to finish with 247.

"By making a spare that ultimately forces him to throw the first strike," he said. "Sitting on the bench, I did not expect Brad to 2-10 there like he did."

Angelo failed to convert the split, as Bohn III won the match, 247-233. He also won a check for \$15,000, another major title, and a coveted green jacket.

"Winning never gets old," he said. "To win this early in the season, hopefully it will propel me to go on and win two or three more times before the season is done."

Bohn III got emotional after the win having lost his mother at this time about a year ago due to COVID-19.

"I think that she was looking down on me today," he said. "She is very much a part of that trophy just as much as my bowling ability was fortunate enough out here on the lanes."

Angelo got to the championship match after a strike fest against lefty Jason Couch. Couch, who had won a national title at The Villages in 2001, doubled and got two spares before closing out his game with 7-in-a-row, for 267. Angelo started off with a strike and back-to-back 9-spares before finishing with 9 strikes for 269.

In match one, Couch defeated defending champion Pete Weber, 244-216. Match two featured three open frames between Couch and lefty Troy Lint through the first three frames. But then Couch settled in to earn the win, 223-184.

View the full Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship standings: [Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 FLORIDA BLUE MEDICARE PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL STANDINGS:

- |                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1. Parker Bohn III | \$15,000 |
| 2. Brad Angelo     | \$7,500  |
| 3. Jason Couch     | \$4,000  |
| 4. Troy Lint       | \$3,000  |
| 5. Pete Weber      | \$2,500  |

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Couch def. Weber 244-216

Match 2 – Couch def. Lint 223-184

Match 3 – Angelo def. Couch 269-267

Championship match – Bohn III def. Angelo 247-223

## **JOHNSON AND JONES EARN WAY INTO KIA PBA PLAYOFFS FINAL FOUR**

MAY 1, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Lake Wales, Florida - Shawn Maldonado's back issues persisted at the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs, but the Texan continued to power through the pain.

In a battle of two lower-seeded players, No. 15 Maldonado faced No. 10 AJ Johnson. Maldonado relied on his Purple Hammer urethane for four out of five strikes early as Johnson had five single-pin spares over the first six frames. Johnson changed from a Motiv Blue Tank to the Jackal Ghost he had success with in his round of 16 match against Jakob Butturff.

Johnson put together a four-bagger and nine-spare to finish with a 226. Needing a double to win, Maldonado stepped up on the right lane where he had only struck once. He got the first one and left the 2-8 sleeper, losing by one-pin with a 225.

Maldonado jumped out to a 27-pin lead in game two throwing the front four. After two single-pin spares, another four-bagger led to his 257-225 win in the race to 2 to force a 9th and 10th frame roll-off.

As the higher seed, Johnson chose to start. He struck, while Maldonado converted the 7-pin, struck and picked up the 10-pin for a score of 40.

Johnson's confidence in his game this season continued as he doubled and got nine for a total of 59 to earn his spot in the final four.

"It feels good to show up when you need it," Johnson said. "Bowling in the Masters in the roll-off, I let one get away from me. My foot slipped out and I lost it. I told myself I was not going to let that define anything. I learned from it, and I said, 'Just commit to it and give it your best.'"

"I want to bowl everyone at their best and what Shawn did out there was amazing," Johnson said about Maldonado battling through an injury.

"I gave it my all," Maldonado said after the loss. "AJ bowled incredible. But I've got to get my back fixed because I can't keep dealing with this."

The last quarterfinals match featured No. 14 Jesper Svensson against No. 6 Tommy Jones. Once again both players decided to use urethane. Svensson with the Storm Pitch Black and Jones with the Brunswick Purple Hammer.

Svensson, the only lefty remaining in the tournament, began with four out of six strikes for a 10-pin advantage. Jones stayed clean and buried his final six shots to take game one, 249-218. "We decided to make a little adjustment halfway through the first game," Jones said about his strategy. "We went with a different release, and I got the breaks when I needed them."

The southpaw stormed back in game two throwing the front nine before a 10-pin ended his chance for a perfect game. Svensson got the win, 279-236 to force another 9th and 10th frame roll-off. Jones got the

messengers, and the pin carry, posting a perfect 60, while Svensson struck then left a solid-10 pin, which ended his run with a score of 19.

"I was fortunate there as that is the way we were playing the splash zone and ride or die with it," Jones said. "It is just the nature of the business. The scores are high so whoever gets the carry is probably going to come out on top."

"I hadn't bowled very good on TV this year, so it is good to get a few good games under my belt," he said. "We will try to use that momentum and keep it going."

PBA Hall of Famer Jones will take on Johnson, who is seeking his first PBA Tour title, at 1 p.m. ET Sun., May 8 on FOX.

The winner of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs will earn \$100,000, a PBA Tour title, and the coveted WWE championship belt.

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Johnson def. Maldonado 226-225, 225-257, roll-off 59-40

Match 2 – Jones def. Svensson 249-218, 236-279, roll-off 60-19

### **WEBER LEADS AT PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN**

MAY 2, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Aberdeen, North Carolina – Pete Weber is easing into the 2022 PBA50 season nicely. After finishing 14th and fifth, the righty powered his way to the top position Monday at the PBA50 Granville Financial Open.

The defending champion started and finished strong. He shot 257, 246, 268, 216, 220, 236, 268 and 257 for a total of 1,968, an average of 246. He received great equipment advice from new PBA50 Tour Manager Kelly Kulick.

She gave Weber a 900 Global Reality first thing in the morning to try and then in the fourth game suggested he go to a 900 Global Altered Reality.

"I only used two balls today and I saw everybody else use about 12," Weber said. "The lanes were changing fast, but these just gave me a really good look."

Weber feels like his ball roll seems to match-up well with any oil pattern put out at Sandhills Bowling Center and he is looking for that to continue with the guidance he receives from Kulick.

"Last week she made a few suggestions to me, maybe I didn't like them right away, but they sure did work," he admitted. "I have a whole lot of trust in her."

Behind Weber by 47-pins is John Burkett who also had a huge block. He shot 236, 237, 279, 236, 247, 255, 216 and 215 for 1,921, averaging 240.13. Walter Ray Williams Jr. is in third followed by Steve Gagnon and Tom Adcock in fourth and fifth. The high bowlers on the B squad were Ryan Shafer and Chris Barnes tied at 1,821.

Freeport, Illinois native Jeff Johnson, who was in the A squad, rolled a 300 game to end day one.

The field will bowl eight more games of qualifying starting at 9 a.m. ET Tuesday for the B squad and 3:30 p.m. for the A squad, before the field is cut to the top 36. You can watch all PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow the PBA50 Granville Financial Open scoring at [PBA50 Granville Financial Open | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN

Pete Weber	1,968
John Burkett	1,921
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	1,829
Steve Gagnon	1,827
Tom Adcock	1,823
Ryan Shafer	1,821
Chris Barnes	1,821
Tom Hess	1,820
Michael Haugen Jr.	1,815
George Szczublewski	1,803

#### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS SEMIFINALS AIR SUNDAY AT 1 P.M. ET LIVE ON FOX MAY 3, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

*The four remaining players battle for a spot in the championship match to take place May 15*

The 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs are down to the last four players—two former Playoffs champions, one Hall of Famer and one man looking to win his first ever Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title—and air live on FOX Broadcast Channel Sunday at 1 p.m. ET.

The semifinals matches will be contested in the Race to 2 Points format, with one point going to the winner of each game. If the players are tied at one point apiece, the deciding point will be awarded to the winner of a 9th/10th-frame roll-off.

#### **No. 5 Kris Prather vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup**

There will be a former champion in the title match of the Kia PBA Playoffs. The inaugural PBA Playoffs Champion (Prather) and the defending champion (Troup) will compete for that opportunity on Sunday. Prather made it to the semifinals with two sweeps, taking out Brad Miller in two games and then eliminating Dom Barrett in a high-scoring quarterfinals match, with Prather winning 279-248 and 278-268.

Troup took out Sean Rash in the Round of 16, two games to none, then swept the other player to win this event in its three-year history, 2020 champion Bill O'Neill.

Prather is looking to win his sixth PBA Tour title and second of the season while Troup is attempting to win title number nine, which would break the tie at eight he currently holds with his father, Guppy.

### **No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson**

The first semifinal match features two players who have not gone to a roll-off yet in the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs, but this one is a duel between two players who both won a roll-off in the quarterfinals to advance. After eliminating Kyle Sherman in the opening round, 2-0, Tommy Jones needed a roll-off—and rolled a perfect score of 60—to get past Jesper Svensson in the quarterfinals.

AJ Johnson was almost perfect in his roll-off win over Shawn Maldonado in the quarterfinals, with Johnson posting 59 to Maldonado's 40. In the opening round, Johnson swept Jakob Butturff in two games.

Johnson hopes to make the Kia PBA Playoffs his first PBA Tour title while Jones is hoping to add number 21 to his Hall of Fame career.

The winners of these two matches will meet May 15 in the championship match, live at 2 p.m. ET on FOX Broadcast Channel. The championship match will be a Race to 3 Points contest. If the players are tied at two apiece after four games, a 9th/10th-frame roll-off will decide the champion.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs will earn \$100,000, a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title and a custom WWE championship title belt.

### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS REMAINING TELEVISION SCHEDULE**

#### **Sunday, May 8 at 1 p.m. ET on FOX – Semifinals**

No. 5 Kris Prather vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup

No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 10 AJ Johnson

#### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONS SINCE 2019**

2019 – Kris Prather

2020 – Bill O'Neill

2021 – Kyle Troup

### **HAGGITT TAKES OVER THE LEAD AT PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN**

MAY 3, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Aberdeen, North Carolina – Last year when it came to match play day at the PBA50 Granville Financial Open, Michael Haggitt was playing golf. This time around he is glad he will be on the lanes inside Sandhills Bowling Center.

The tall left-hander posted scores of 228, 249, 230, 256, 235, 257, 235 and 279 for a two-day total pinfall of 3,748 to take over the lead at the 2022 PBA50 Granville Financial Open, averaging 234.25.

The Springfield, Ohio native was looking for a ball that would get through the fronts and read the backends, so he relied on a Hammer Web Pearl and Columbia 300 Speed.

"I was hoping the lanes would stay the same as yesterday and they did," he said after averaging 246 on the day. "The more the pattern is laid out the flatter they get. As long as I can still control the backend with the fronts, I should be good."

His best finish in a PBA50 tournament came at the 2021 Johnny Petraglia BVL Open in Clearwater, Florida. He finished in fifth place.

There were two perfect games on Tuesday. Walla Walla, Washington resident Russ Hunt rolled a 300 in the first game of the day and Tom Hess shot one in game six.

Hess had a memorable final six games to end qualifying. He had 235, 279, 247, 300, 247 and 247.

"The first game I don't think it was the ball it was more me pressing," Hess said. "I switched to a (Roto Grip) Gem game two, which I should have started with today. Then I switched to an (900 Global) Altered Reality. That is when the strikes just started piling on."

Hess went +355 over six games, averaging 259.16, to move into second place.

He admits his "achilles heel" has been trying to get comfortable but if he can do that early on Wednesday, he likes his ability to repeat shots and put up more big scores.

Hess also credits PBA50 Tour Manager Kelly Kulick with being a huge asset to him over the first three events on the schedule.

"Having a Hall of Fame set of eyes behind you, talking you off the ledge when you need talked off the ledge, and working you through what is going on pair-to-pair is absolutely unmeasurable," he said. "Kelly has been unbelievable."

The final bowler to make the cut is new USBC Hall of Fame inductee Bob Learn Jr. with 3,418.

The top 36 will bowl five-games in the advancers round starting at 8 a.m. ET Wednesday. The top 24 will then advance to three-game total pins bracket match play rounds until the top five are determined. The stepladder finals will start at 7 p.m. and you can watch it all exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow the PBA50 Granville Financial Open scoring at [PBA50 Granville Financial Open | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN

Michael Haggitt	3,748
Tom Hess	3,745
Pete Weber	3,741
Parker Bohn III	3,722
Dino Castillo	3,690
Chris Barnes	3,654
Steve Gagnon	3,628
Christopher Keane	3,613
Jeff Johnson	3,580
Tom Adcock	3,575

#### **BARNES WINS PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN**

MAY 4, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Aberdeen, North Carolina – In the championship match at the 2022 PBA50 Granville Financial Open, Chris Barnes once again found himself going head-to-head with Tom Hess.

As the top seed, Hess elected to finish on the left lane, which seemed to be the trickier of the two lanes, while having Barnes finish on the right lane where he had only failed to strike twice in his previous match.



Hess, who had led after qualifying rounds and was undefeated in bracket match play on Wednesday, started out with a strike followed by back-to-back 10-pins. He left the 2-4-8-10 split in the fourth frame, just getting two to put himself in an early hole against Barnes, who started with five out of six strikes.

Barnes chose to play further left than anyone else on the TV pair and used his rev rate to his advantage.

"That's bowling 101," Barnes said about his strategy to play left. "It is more fun when you have oil left and hook right. The problem for everyone was there was a lot of friction in the front. I threw it about as slow as I could throw it and got a little left with a ball that was a little bit cleaner that didn't want to change directions as much in the front."

After his split in the fourth, Hess put together five straight strikes before leaving the 3-6-9-10, also on the left lane, in the 10th frame. He picked it up and got nine to finish with 218.

Using his Roto Grip UFO Alert, Barnes threw one strike over the last three frames, but needed just six pins to win in the 10th frame.

"I thought I got one really good to the right and it was a 9-pin," the 52-year-old said. "Adrenaline might have carried it through."

Barnes finished with 238 to win his second PBA50 title. This was a big victory on several levels for Barnes against another strong field of bowlers.

"Hess has bowled great out here," Barnes said. "He is one of the top players and it doesn't seem like that is going to change anytime soon. So, if you are going to win some titles you are going to have to beat guys like him, Angelo, Parker, Couch, Pete and Tom Adcock now too."

Coming into this week, Barnes felt like he has struggled with how to get his ball through the pins, but he has been working around with some strategy. Thanks to help from PBA50 Tour Manager Kelly Kulick, he feels like the pieces are coming together.

"We are closer than we have been in a long time," he said about his game. "Feeling like my spare game is sharp which is always a tale of where you are at. I am getting closer to where I would really like to play all the time."

Barnes got to the title match after defeating Adcock 258-214 in match three. Barnes rolled 10 strikes, while Adcock struggled to carry. In Adcock's previous match against defending champion Pete Weber, Adcock had four single-pin spares and five strikes, while Weber picked up six single-pin spares. Adcock won 212-204.

In the opening match, Adcock and Chris Warren each started with four straight strikes. Warren left a pocket 7-10 in the fifth and a 4-9 split in the ninth. Warren needed to double in the 10th, and he left a stone-9 on his first shot to lose, 225-217. This is Adcock's third top-10 finish this season.

View the full PBA50 Granville Financial Open standings at: [PBA50 Granville Financial Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| 1. Chris Barnes | \$7,500 |
| 2. Tom Hess     | \$4,000 |

- |                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| 3. Tom Adcock   | \$3,000 |
| 4. Pete Weber   | \$2,500 |
| 5. Chris Warren | \$2,000 |

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Adcock def. Warren 225-217

Match 2 – Adcock def. Weber 212-204

Match 3 – Barnes def. Adcock 258-214

Championship match – Barnes def. Hess 238-218

#### **PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP: DARREN TANG TAKES HOME TWO REGIONAL TITLES, MALDONADO FIGHTS TO THE FINISH AT FIRELAKE**

MAY 5, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN

Nine events have yet to be covered, and this is just the start of a busy regional summer all across the United States. The mini Hawaii slate wrapped up early last week before continuing onto California, while the Central, South, Midwest, and Southwest all handed out banners and points as well.

#### WEST REGION

##### PBA Schofield Barracks Open

After completing the first event in Pearl City, bowlers moved 11 miles northwest for the Schofield Barracks Open. The scorpion pattern tested the bowlers all weekend as Keith Odette found the 12th and final spot at -54. The 28-year-old Darren Tang took the lead into match play at +110, but from there, the tides seemed to turn Odette's way as he launched into first without a demerit on his scorecard. Odette went 8-0 and took the one seed, Darren Tang dropped to the two spot, and Nick Borgaro booked the three seed for the mini stepladder.

Looking for regional title number 10 to add to his one national title, Tang took down Borgaro 196-172. After falling to Odette twice in match play, Tang got his revenge when it mattered most. Tang took the title 202-161 and \$2,500 and vaulted up the West Region standings.

##### PBA Schofield Barracks Open Final Standings

Darren Tang, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Keith Odette, \$1,600  
Nick Borgaro, \$1,250

##### PBA West Double Decker Lanes/Classic Sports Open

After a couple of events in Hawaii, West Region competitors crossed back over the Pacific to Rohnert Park, California, about 50 miles north of San Francisco.

Looking to capitalize on his recent win at the Schofield Barracks Open, Darren Tang qualified second at +242, only to be outdone by Michael Fitzgerald at +305. The lead moved back and forth between the two bowlers all day long until they met for position round for game number 12. Bringing a 64-pin deficit into the last game, Fitzgerald needed a 35-pin victory to take the title. The Arizonian attained a 48-pin lead through eight frames and was on his way to taking the title until a split in the ninth dashed his hopes. Tang struck on his first shot in the 10th to clinch his 11th regional title and deepen his points lead in the West.

#### PBA West Double Decker Lanes/Classic Sports Open Final Standings

Darren Tang, 2,500 Points, \$2,300

Michael Fitzgerald, 1,500, \$1,300

Curtis Woods Jr., 0, \$1,100

Matt Zweig, 950, \$950

Jim Pratt, 850, \$900

You can check out the West points leaders [here](#).

#### CENTRAL REGION

##### PBA ChampionsEdge Bowling Matthews Open (Non-Champions Event)

In North Carolina, plenty of players came into Bowlero Matthews looking for their first PBA title. Connor Breaman made the first attempt at taking first place with a 1,502 after seven games to take the early lead. However, that lead got thrown out the window as the single-elimination bracket got underway. The top four qualifiers got double byes, the next four got single byes, and the rest duked it out starting from round one.

Breaman still made the final four and defeated Josh Lewis in the semifinal match 213-202. James Magennis squeaked by Colin Champion in the lower half semifinal 257-253 and promptly went to the finals and defeated Breaman 221-152. Magennis claimed his first regional title and \$1,500.

#### PBA ChampionsEdge Bowling Matthews Open Final Standings

James Magennis, \$1,500

Connor Breaman, \$1,100

Colin Champion, \$950

Josh Lewis, \$950

#### PBA50 ChampionsEdge Bowling Matthews Open

Simultaneously, Bowlero Matthews held the PBA50 version of this tournament as the top 16 advanced to the brackets. The top four got a double bye, and the next four got a single bye. Adam Monks, Dwayne Watkins, James Winterfield, and Jeff Himes all grabbed a double bye, but only Himes ended up winning his match in the round of eight. Himes won again in the semifinals over Richard Beeson 226-224, while Jan Brown II took down Dennis Carlin in the other semifinal, 224-217. In the final bout, Brown II shot a 190 to Himes' 158 to take home \$1,500 and his first PBA banner.

#### PBA50 ChampionsEdge Bowling Matthews Open Final Standings

Jan Brown II, \$1,500

Jeff Himes, \$1,100

Richard Beeson, \$950

Dennis Carlin, \$950

## PBA Bowlero/Findlay Central Open

It wasn't a sprint at AMF Sportsman Lanes in Ohio on the 24th, but the one-day event didn't allow the bowlers much time to collect their thoughts with 16 games to shoot on the day.

Killian Kirkpatrick cruised on the Viper pattern going +139, 68 pins ahead of second-place Jean Perez. After a short lunch break, the bowlers had eight games of match play to go. Seven games later, Justin Knowles held the lead, but Perez sat within striking distance. Knowles only held a 12-pin lead, so Perez just needed to win the match to pass Knowles. Perez did just that, defeating Knowles 233-223. Neither third nor fourth place passed Perez, so the Puerto Rico native grabbed the first regional title of his career.

## PBA Bowlero/Findlay Central Open Final Standings

Jean Perez, 5,000 points, \$2,700

Justin Knowles, 3,000, \$1,425

Michael Jachcinski, 2,300, \$1,150

Graham Fach, 1,900, \$1,000

David Northouse, 1,700, \$950

You can check out the Central points leaders [here](#).

## MIDWEST REGION

### PBA Petersen Classic Midwest Championship

The home of this year's World Series of Bowling, Bowlero Wauwatosa hosted the Petersen Classic Midwest Championship to 27 participants looking to add 2,000 points to their RPI hopes and \$2,500 to their wallets.

Local Nathan Michalowski led qualifying at -55, while Mitchell Shumway took the final spot at -161, displaying the difficulty of the pattern put out over the weekend. On Sunday, the top eight came back for another eight games, this time head to head.

Benjamin Martinez and Kevin McCune held the top two spots with just one game of position round to go, but Michalowski and David Beres weren't out of the picture either. Martinez needed seven pins on the fill ball to take the title and he did just that, leaving the 1-2-4. Martinez got the better of McCune in the final game 182-181, and Michalowski nor Beres passed Martinez, giving him the title by 68 pins.

## PBA Petersen Classic Midwest Championship Final Standings

Benjamin Martinez, 2,500 Points, \$2,000

Kevin McCune, 1,500, \$1,400

David Beres, 1,150, \$1,100

Nathan Michalowski, 950, \$900

Nate Purches, \$800

## SOUTH REGION

### PBA Lee-Hi Lanes Salem Open

Only two games in the entire house surpassed the 270 mark on Saturday during qualifying, and both came at the hands of qualifying leader Matt Taylor. A 286 in game four and a 279 in game eight helped propel Taylor up the leaderboard to the lead at +275, almost 100 pins higher than second place. Taylor continued his pursuit of the title the following day, staying atop the standings with just one game under

200. With just the position round to go, Taylor built himself a lead of over 150 pins and increased it to 225 after the final match. Being the first event to accumulate points in the South Region, Taylor's performance put him in first place through one stop.

#### PBA Lee-Hi Lanes Salem Open Final Standings

Matt Taylor, 2,500 Points, \$3,500

Colin Champion, 1,500, \$1,800

Bryan Hahlen, 1,150, \$735

Ryan Ciminelli, 950, \$725

Kennon McFalls, 850, \$715

You can check out the South points leaders [here](#).

#### SOUTHWEST REGION

##### PBA FireLake Shawnee Southwest Region Open

Along with hitting the slots and tables, plenty of recognizable names also competed at the FireLake Shawnee Open this past weekend. Thanks to a 300 in game number five, Stu 'Beef' Williams led the field of 120 during qualifying with a 1955 for his eight games. Players that followed Williams in the standings did not lack popularity either, as Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., Shawn Maldonado, Packy Hanrahan, Mykel Holliman, and Anthony Simonsen snagged the 2-6 spots. Maldonado gained traction during the advancers round and slid up to the top spot. He stayed in cruise control through match play, taking the title by 152 pins to earn a cool \$6,000.

#### PBA FireLake Shawnee Southwest Region Open Final Standings

Shawn Maldonado, 2,500 Points, \$6,000

Arturo Quintero, 1,500, \$3,750

Ildemaro Ruiz Jr. 1,150, \$2,300

Sean Lavery Spahr 950, \$1,500

François Lavoie 850, \$1,250

You can check out the Southwest points leaders [here](#).

Once again, plenty of events wait in the wings as bowlers continue racking up points to move on to the Regional Players Invitational at South Point Bowling Plaza. To check out the rest of the schedule, click [here](#).

### **PBA JR. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGIONAL QUALIFYING DATES ANNOUNCED FOR 2022 MAY 6, 2022 MIKE SLEDZ**

PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarship returns for second year

New York, NY – The PBA is excited to release dates for the 2022 Regional Qualifying tournaments for the PBA Jr. National Championship, allowing youth bowlers to compete and earn SMART scholarships. Additionally, the PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarship will award 20 entries into the regional qualifiers.

The PBA Jr. National Championship will once again be a two-fold competition starting with direct entry into one of the five regional tournaments being held around the country on two weekends in August:

August 12 – 14, 2022, and August 19 – 21, 2022. Junior bowlers who have not yet reached the age of 18 by August 1, 2022 are eligible to compete.

Each PBA Jr. Regional Qualifying tournament will guarantee a first place \$2,000 SMART Scholarship. SMART scholarships will also be awarded to one out of every six (1:6) entries in each division.

Like last year, the PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarship will award 20 BIPOC youth bowlers guaranteed entry into the PBA Jr. National Championship Regional Qualifier events. The scholarship's mission is to create opportunities for youth bowlers of color & foster an inclusive community at bowling's most elite level.

Gazmine "GG" Mason is a full-time competitor on the PWBA Tour and was the first African American to win a singles and all-American events gold medal for Team USA.

Applications for the 20 PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarships are open through July 5 at this link: [Apply here](#).

Regional Qualifying tournaments for the PBA Jr. National Championship will take place at the following locations:

South Region (August 12-14, 2022)  
Bowlero Austell  
2750 Austell Road SW, Marietta, GA 30008

Southwest Region (August 12-14, 2022)  
Bowlero Eules  
1901 W Airport Fwy, Eules, TX 76040

East Region (August 19-21, 2022)  
AMF Strathmore Lanes  
1061-G NJ-34, Aberdeen Township, NJ 07747

Midwest Region (August 19-21, 2022)  
AMF West Lanes  
7505 West Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53219

West Region (August 19-21, 2022)  
Forest Lanes  
22771 Centre Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630

There will also be a few format changes for the 2022 Regional Qualifying events. Junior bowlers will now bowl 10 games of qualifying in two five-game blocks on Saturday, with the top 16 bowlers in each division advancing to an Elimination Bracket on Sunday. During the elimination bracket, junior bowlers will compete in "race-to-two-wins" matches to advance to the top four bowlers for the stepladder round. A fifth Stepladder bowler will be determined by a wild card selection, which will be the highest-seeded bowler not advancing from the round of 8.

The top two girl and boy finishers in each regional will advance to the National Championship to compete for a \$10,000 first place SMART Scholarship. The National Championship date will be held in conjunction with a 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour stop, to be named at a later date.

Another change will be the addition of a consolation round. Junior bowlers who do not make the top 16 cut for the elimination bracket will be invited back to bowl three games on Sunday morning with the top two bowlers in each division claiming SMART awards.

"We are really excited about our format changes for 2022," said Mike Sledz, director of membership for the PBA & PBA Jr. "Part of the mission of PBA Jr. is to replicate PBA events for junior bowlers, and the addition of the elimination bracket round adds a new and different level of competition that many juniors do not get to experience. Plus with the addition of the consolation round, bowlers who do not make the cut still have an opportunity to take home a SMART award."

Registration for the Regional Qualifying tournaments for the PBA Jr. National Championship is open now. The entry fee for PBA Jr. Club members is \$119, while the non-member entry fee is \$169.

PBA Jr. also offers several PBA Jr. Regional tournaments that will take place across the country with competition on the weekends to allow many youth bowlers to participate. Youth bowlers, girls and boys, ages 18 and under are eligible to compete, with PBA Jr. Club members receiving a discounted entry.

### **BARNES LEADING AT PBA50 MOORESVILLE OPEN MAY 8, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Mooresville, North Carolina – Last week after winning the PBA50 Granville Financial Open, Chris Barnes felt like his game was really coming together. That momentum has already carried over into the PBA50 Mooresville Open.

He got his eight-game block going right away with a 300 followed by 237, 207, 268, 238, 237, 196 and 280 to lead the day with 1,963.

In Saturday's practice session, Barnes felt the lanes were tricky and pretty flat. He thought if he could get to +120 Sunday, he would be pretty happy. He decided to reevaluate what he was seeing and admits he definitely didn't see himself putting up a 300 in the first game.

"Once I saw the picture then things really got rolling," he said. "The execution is really close to where I would like it to be. When there are a lot of shots online that certainly makes things comfortable and you feel like you can put up a big score at any point."

Inside Victory Lanes Family Entertainment Center, Greg McMahan, of Dandridge, Tennessee, posted the highest score for the B squad with 1,928 to move into second place.

Three more perfect games were shot on day one of qualifying. John DiSantis and Dino Castillo in the A squad, while Parker Bohn III rolled a 300 in game one on the B squad.

The B squad will begin the final eight games of qualifying starting at 9 a.m. ET Monday, while the A squad will get underway at 3:30 p.m. The top 38 will advance and all pins will carry forward into Tuesday. Catch all PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow the PBA50 Mooresville Open scoring at [PBA50 Mooresville Open | PBA](#)

#### **Top 10 PBA50 MOORESVILLE OPEN**

Chris Barnes	1,963
Greg McMahan	1,928
John DiSantis	1,863
Steve Gagnon	1,842

Dino Castillo	1,828
Jason Couch	1,814
John Marsala	1,797
Joel Carlson	1,794
Greg Wilson	1,793
Parker Bohn III	1,792

## **TROUP AND JONES SET FOR 2022 KIA PBA PLAYOFFS FINAL**

MAY 8, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jupiter, Florida - Kyle Troup has remained perfect through the first three rounds of the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs.

As the tournament moved from the Kegel Training Center to Bowlero Jupiter, Troup relied on his experience inside the bowling center having won in this building last year. It would be a battle of PBA Playoff champions in his match against No. 5 seed Kris Prather.

"We both have won this tournament and know what it takes," Troup said. "Confidence plays a big role in the game right now. I think it all add ups."

Troup started with three solid strikes, while Prather's second strike on the right lane went way right and the headpin was the last to fall. Despite it being the same oil pattern as they bowled on at Kegel the look seemed completely different in this venue. Troup relied on urethane.

"It was kind of a safe play a little bit because I knew my opponent was going to be fishing a little bit," Troup said. "It was all about who could combat the right lane."

They each converted two spares before Prather doubled in the sixth and seventh to take the lead. However, Prather's shot in eighth frame again headed to the right on his trouble lane leaving the 1-2, which he converted. Troup then responded with a double in the eighth and ninth frame.

Prather, who was confused by his ball reaction throughout the match, stepped up in the 10th frame missing the headpin for a fourth time leaving the 1-2-8. In frustration he said, 'how does it not pick-up? That doesn't make any sense whatsoever.'

Prather chopped it posting a 212 game. As for Troup, he got a spare and then switched to a Storm Trend 2 reactive ball for his final shot, yelling out 'I like that,' for 227.

In the Race to 2, Prather switched to his Dark Code on the right lane which had worked for him in his previous two match wins. He started with a four bagger to take a 19-pin lead. But Troup kept the pressure on his opponent answering with three strikes. Troup went with reactive on the left lane and urethane on the right.

Troup took his first lead in the seventh frame when Prather's shot on the right lane sailed away from the headpin leaving the 1-2-4, which he chopped for an open frame.

Troup doubled in the eighth and ninth frame to increase his lead. Needing nine to win, Troup flushed a strike. Just before his ball hit the pins Troup said, 'I love you, mom' followed by 'that's for you, mom' as he pointed toward his dad, Guppy in the audience, then came the tears. He won, 233-215.



"I told myself, 'make a good one for mom,'" he said, as a tribute to his late mom on Mother's Day. "That was probably the best one of the game on that right lane, because it was pretty tricky."

If Troup goes on to win the 2022 PBA Playoffs he will pass his dad, Guppy with nine career titles. Plus, Troup agreed they would each get their own WWE championship belt.

"We'll be tag team champs," Troup said after his win. "That will be a special moment. He will be here, and I am going to come home with the title belt."

The second match featured No. 6 Tommy Jones against No. 10 AJ Johnson. Jones come in with experience at Bowlero Jupiter having won the 2019 Bowlero Elite Series.

The lanes continued to confuse each bowler. Jones went with a Hammer Black Widow Ghost which was solid on the right lane as he struck every time but once. The left lane would present the biggest challenge for Jones who missed two spares during match one but won 215-193.

In game two, Johnson used a Motiv Jackal Ghost on the right lane and a Venom Shock on the left lane. Johnson started with a double before missing a 2-pin. Jones also missed a 2-pin on the left lane in the fourth frame.

"The left lane seemed to break down even more and I started five left on the left lane," Jones said. "I didn't think it was that bad the first game."

Jones was between balls on the left lane. He tried the Track Kinetic Black Ice and the DV8 Collision.

"Both balls that I tried were wrong, so we ended up back in the same ball that I used in the first game," Jones said. "It is just one of those things."

Johnson continued to lead until the ninth frame when he left the 3-6-10 and chopped it, however Jones had to finish on the left lane. He left the 2-4-8-10 split for a 172 game. Johnson stepped up in the 10th frame needing a mark to force a roll-off and delivered. He finished with 181.

As the higher seed, Jones chose to finish on the right lane. He delivered a clutch strike for the first time since game one on the left lane and sat down to let Johnson respond.

Johnson struck then left the 3-6-7-10 split on the left lane, which he missed to finish with 28. Jones struck and got nine to finish with 48 for the win. There were no emotions for Jones, just a sigh of relief the match was over, and he had advanced.

He was thankful it was just a two-game match and roll-off because "it was going south quickly. I was fortunate and I will have to be better next week."

Jones will now face Troup for the chance at winning another major title and the \$100,000 top prize, in a Race to 3 points format.

"He (Troup) is always a bulldog when you give him a chance, so I have to get on him early and stay on him early," Jones said. "He likes this format and has proven he can win."

The 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs championship match will be at 2 p.m. ET Sunday live on FOX from Bowlero Jupiter.

## **BARNES STILL IN THE LEAD AT PBA50 MOORESVILLE OPEN**

MAY 9, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Mooresville, North Carolina – Chris Barnes is another step closer to winning back-to-back events on the PBA50 Tour.

During his final eight-game qualifying block, he averaged 230.63 for a two-day total of 3,808 at the PBA50 Mooresville Open.

Barnes felt like there was a little more friction on the pairs in the Monday afternoon squad at Victory Lanes Family Entertainment Center compared to what he bowled on Sunday morning. Just behind him is Jason Couch who jumped from sixth place into second. The lefty rolled 1,964 over eight-games, averaging 245.5.

"Couch has been bowling well," Barnes said. "It will be tough to hold him off but that will be the goal. I have five games to try to be the top seed."

Barnes plans to come into Tuesday with a couple of different plans of attack in the morning and hopes his strategies will also carry forward into an afternoon of matches.

Brian LeClair rolled a 300 in game 15 to get to third place. He is followed by Tom Hess and Bill Rowe to round out the top-five.

Hess ended his qualifying round on Monday with 279, 238, 237 and 256.

"I came into today feeling like I knew what to do on the fresh and then I couldn't do it," Hess said, after starting with 213, 219 and 213. "I just kept working and all of a sudden I bowled 279."

Hess wasn't happy with his execution on the day but was able to string some strikes together during the final four games with his Zen Master. He aims to come in Tuesday and keep himself in the top eight to earn a first-round bye.

The final player to make the cut was John Burkett at 3,405. The 38-players will bowl five games in the advancers round starting at 9 am. ET Tuesday.

The top 24 will move on to three-game total pins bracket match play rounds with all pins being dropped. The cuts will continue until five remaining players are determined for the stepladders finals, which is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. ET Tuesday live on BowlTV.

Follow the PBA50 Mooresville Open scoring at [PBA50 Mooresville Open | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA50 MOORESVILLE OPEN

Chris Barnes	3,808
Jason Couch	3,778
Brian LeClair	3,703
Tom Hess	3,659
Bill Rowe	3,650
Steve Gagnon	3,644
Greg McMahan	3,638
Parker Bohn III	3,626
Lennie Boresch Jr.	3,623
Brad Angelo	3,613

## **JONES AND TROUP CONTEND FOR KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY AT 2 P.M. ET LIVE ON FOX**

MAY 10, 2022 JEF GOODGER

A Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title, \$100,000 and a custom WWE championship title belt await the winner

After three rounds of bracket competition, the last two players will battle for the Kia PBA Playoffs championship Sunday at 2 p.m. ET, live on FOX broadcast channel. Defending champion Kyle Troup emerged from the left side of the bracket with a semifinal victory over Kris Prather on Sunday and will meet Tommy Jones, who conquered the right side of the bracket after eliminating AJ Johnson in the semifinals.

The championship match will be a Race to 3 Points contest. If the players are tied at two apiece after four games, a 9th/10th-frame roll-off will determine the final point and decide the champion.

No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup

PBA Hall of Famer Tommy Jones will be the higher seed for the championship match after eliminating AJ Johnson in a roll-off in the semifinals. It was the second straight roll-off win for Jones, who defeated Jesper Svensson in the quarterfinals after a sweep of Kyle Sherman in the opening round.

The Playoffs are the eighth top-10 finish—four of those were majors—for Jones in 2022. A win would be his 21st PBA Tour title and first since the 2020 PBA Hall of Fame Classic.

Jones faces ninth-seeded Kyle Troup, who has a lot going for him: he's the defending champion, he's eliminated two former champions (Bill O'Neill in the quarterfinals and Kris Prather in the semifinals) and he's yet to lose a game. Troup hasn't needed a roll-off yet, winning all six games he's bowled on his way to the championship match.

Troup defeated Sam Cooley, 3-1, in last year's Race to 3 and hopes to claim back-to-back Playoffs championships and his ninth career title, which would put him one ahead of the total his father, Guppy, amassed during his career.

The winner of the Kia PBA Playoffs will earn \$100,000, a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title and a custom WWE championship title belt.

Purchase tickets to attend the Kia PBA Playoffs championship in person.

### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS REMAINING TELEVISION SCHEDULE**

Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. ET on FOX – Championship

No. 6 Tommy Jones vs. No. 9 Kyle Troup

### **KIA PBA PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONS SINCE 2019**

2019 – Kris Prather

2020 – Bill O'Neill

2021 – Kyle Troup

## **BOHN III WINS EIGHTH PBA50 TOUR TITLE AT MOORESVILLE OPEN**

MAY 10, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Mooresville, North Carolina – In the great sport of bowling, lefties are the minority, and they definitely share a special bond. On Tuesday, one of the most decorated left-handed bowlers, Parker Bohn III tied one of his bowling idols, Johnny Petraglia with eight PBA50 Tour titles after winning the 2022 PBA50 Mooresville Open.

Bohn III credits Petraglia, Mark Roth and Dave Davis for all helping him achieve the Hall of Fame career he continues to build on today.

"(Petraglia) has meant the world to me," Bohn III said. "As a young man growing up these three people gave me the opportunity of a lifetime to try to become a great bowler."

In the title match, top-seeded Bohn III went head-to-head with his good friend and fellow lefty, Jason Couch. They each had two spares and a strike through the first three frames, before Bohn III reeled off a five-bagger using his Hammer Black Widow 2.0.

"I made sure it was firm going up lane and that was my plan of attack because I didn't want to give anything away," Bohn III said. "There is a characteristic about this place that my ball definitely reads the lane, and it suits me really well."

Both players took their allotted two re-racks on the left lane between the third and seventh frames, which Bohn III said was "more subconscious on the rack" which "plays a little mind game on you."

Couch had three single-pin spares on the left lane striking five times, while Bohn picked up three spares and had two strikes on the left lane. After Bohn III went through the nose in the ninth frame leaving a 2-pin again on the tricky left lane, Couch was begging for a break.

"When I hit it, it hooked dead early and I thought, 'uh oh, this isn't good,'" Bohn III admitted. "I deserved what he said, 'does the guy ever leave a split?' As happy as I feel for me, I feel deeply hurt for my friend, because he is bowling really well right now."

Bohn III won 239-226 to earn his second PBA50 title of the season to put himself in the forefront of the PBA50 Bowler of the Year conversation. He also has a seventh and 10th place finish through four tournaments.

"If you would have told me when I left my house a couple of weeks ago that I was going to have two titles in the first four tournaments that we bowled, I would have looked at you and laughed," he said about his early success. "There are 10 or 15 guys at any given time that can be the guy in that winner's circle. The fact that I am standing victorious twice is really special. I feel like I am bowling really well, and lady luck has certainly been on my side."

Couch, whose lowest finish so far this year is 22nd place, was the No. 5 seed in the stepladder finals. He defeated Stoney Baker 235-217 in match one, Amleto Monacelli 265-234 in match two, and then got past Brad Angelo 210-199.

Next stop for the PBA50 Tour is the Bud Moore Classic beginning at 9 a.m. ET Saturday in Sterling, VA. Bohn III won't be there as he will be teaming up with his son, Brandon in the new PBA King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition, featuring prominent professional stars bowling with their children. Chris Barnes and his son, Ryan will also be competing.

"As a bowler and a fan of bowling, I am happy for all of the other families that are involved," Bohn III said. "Each kid, they have been away from their parent for an endless amount of time because their parent is supporting them by traveling around the world throwing a bowling ball. Now they are going to

have an opportunity to bowl with their mom or dads and hopefully live that life of glory under the big lights and the cameras.”

View the full PBA50 Mooresville Open standings at [PBA50 Mooresville Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 MOORESVILLE OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Parker Bohn III      \$7,500
2. Jason Couch          \$4,500
3. Brad Angelo          \$3,000
4. Amleto Monacelli    \$2,500
5. Stoney Baker        \$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Couch def. Baker 235-217

Match 2 – Couch def. Monacelli 265-234

Match 3 – Couch def. Angelo 210-199

Championship match – Bohn III def. Couch 239-226

### **WILLIAMS JR. LEADS DAY ONE QUALIFYING AT PBA50 BUD MOORE CLASSIC**

MAY 14, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Sterling, Virginia – Walter Ray Williams Jr. almost had a perfect start to his Saturday.

The righty had the first 11 strikes before his final shot in game one came up a bit high resulting in a 4-pin for a 299 game. From that point on, he continued to use his Brunswick Defender Solid for the remaining seven games posting 1,995, an average of 249.38.

“I could throw the ball almost anywhere and it was high flush,” the PBA50 Bud Moore Classic leader said. “I throw the ball straighter than most guys, even on the Senior Tour, and it worked out great for me.”

Williams Jr. also had 255, 258, 223, 243, 255, 224 and 238. He didn’t have to make any big moves on the lanes, it was more about adjusting his eyes and watching the pins fall for him.

He has a 27-pin lead over Dave Johnson. Michael Haugen Jr, Jason Couch and Bobby Hall II round out the top five.

After Williams Jr. finished his first eight-game qualifying block inside Bowl America Dranesville, he drove over an hour away to practice horseshoe pitching. A few weeks ago, he won the Florida State Men's Championship and within the next couple of days he needs to decide if he will give up bowling an upcoming PBA50 tournament to compete in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

The B squad will begin the final eight games of qualifying starting at 9 a.m. ET Sunday, while the A squad will get underway at 3:30 p.m. The top 33 will advance and all pins will carry forward into Monday. Catch all PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.

Follow the PBA50 Bud Moore scoring at PBA50 Bud Moore Classic | PBA

#### Top 10 PBA50 Bud Moore Classic

Walter Ray Williams Jr.	1,995
Dave Johnson	1,968
Michael Haugen Jr.	1,963
Jason Couch	1,891
Bobby Hall II	1,882
Pete Weber	1,881
Mike Dias	1,858
Tom Hess	1,840
Ricky Schissler	1,837
Dino Castillo	1,836

### **TROUP WINS BACK-TO-BACK KIA PBA PLAYOFFS, ANOTHER \$100,000 PRIZE**

MAY 15, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jupiter, Florida – Kyle Troup just added another notch to his belt while earning back-to-back WWE championship belts after defeating Tommy Jones Sunday at the Kia PBA Playoffs.

Since noticing he was rolling his shoulders over too early just before the Playoffs began last month, Troup's confidence in his game quickly returned to 2021 form.

Game one was a battle of the urethane. Troup went with a Storm Pitch Black on the left lane and a Fast Pitch on the right lane, while Jones went with a Purple Hammer.

The right lane proved to give both players issues. Troup started off with three single-pin spares before he struck for the first time on the left lane. Jones started on the left lane striking twice through three frames before leaving the 3-6-9-10, which he failed to convert.

"I played pretty close to the same part of the lane just able to throw a different ball, so I didn't see a lane differential too much," Troup said. "I figured Tommy would be in-between which is how it ended up being, so game plan was just to go over top of him. Opened the lane up and the urethane created a lot of hold that really helped me out."

After doubling in the sixth and seventh, Jones was down by just 2-pins before Troup put together three strikes-in-a-row and took game one, 217-184.

Troup started game two with 7 straight strikes, while Jones put together a six-bagger between the fifth frame and his first shot in the 10th. With his second shot in the 10th frame, Troup turned to a Storm

Altered Reality needing 6-pins for the win and struck out to take game two, 276-257, in the Race to 3 format.

"I figured I needed to be 1-1 after two games because he had a pretty good ball reaction on the fresh," Jones said. "I made a bad choice on the right lane and then changed balls on the right lane the second game. I stuck myself behind the 8-ball."

With his back against the wall, Jones came out firing in game three. While sticking with a Purple Hammer on the left lane and a Redemption Solid on the right lane, the PBA Hall of Famer had the front five to take a 43-pin lead. Jones picked up a 2-pin in the sixth and followed that with six more strikes for the 279-201 victory.

With both players battling for the \$100,000 first-place prize and another major title, they definitely put on a show. In game four, Troup chose to use the Altered Reality he had switched to in the 7th frame the previous game. Jones struck in seven out of his first eight shots, but Troup came out with 10-in-a-row on his way to a decisive 288-222 victory, to win his ninth career PBA title, passing his dad, Guppy.

"It just shows, keep fighting and keep willing your way through because good things will happen," Troup said after the win. "It's been a rough year physically and mentally a little bit, but I never gave up."

"I am the man of the household now," Troup said in reference to having more titles than his dad. "If he wants another belt, he can have it. We will have some fun with the tag team belts come Thursday night league back home."

The connection between Jones, who babysat Troup at times during his career, was on display throughout the four-game show as they enjoyed the moment on the lanes together.

"Tommy is one of the toughest head-to-head opponents ever," Troup said. "I have lost a lot of matches heads up to him, but that wasn't the case today. I think I have kind of gotten over that hump."

"We put on a show, and it feels amazing," Troup said.

For his second-place finish, Jones earned \$50,000.

"He has made a lot of money in this bowling center, and we always use the same pair of lanes," Jones said. "You get a little confident on a pair of lanes, you can do some damage and he did. He is a great champion and a good friend of mine, so I couldn't be happier for him."

Troup also credited Storm PBA Tour Manager Jim Callahan with keeping him focused on his process, his dad for giving him strength while being in the audience, and his mom for cheering him on in heaven.

## **WILLIAMS JR. MAINTAINS LEAD AT PBA50 BUD MOORE CLASSIC MAY 15, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

**Sterling, Virginia** – Walter Ray Williams Jr. is the all-time leader with 15 PBA50 Tour titles and he is looking to increase that number.

During his second eight-game qualifying block on Sunday, he bowled 214, 246, 246, 239, 259, 201, 182 and 255 for a two-day total of 3,837 to maintain his lead at the PBA50 Bud Moore Classic.

For the second day in a row, he committed to using his Brunswick Defender Solid.

"Today, they seemed tighter and more wet-dry," Williams Jr. said. "My carry wasn't quite as good. Fortunately, the last game I managed a seven-bagger to sneak into the lead."

The B squad took to the lanes first and Michael Haggitt had the hot hand rolling two 300's during the final eight-games of qualifying. The tall lefty shot 205, 248, 265, 300, 226, 232, 257 and 300 for 2,033. He relied on two Track Paragon's one drilled pin-up and one pin-down. "I found a ball that matched up, stayed soft with it at the bottom and got it to the right part of the lane," Haggitt said. "I've rushed through games before and that has been my downfall. I am focused on staying slow and with the shots." For Haggitt, he noticed earlier in the season he started throwing shots instead of making shots. He admits he learned a lot from his defeats in bracket match play at the PBA50 Granville Financial Open and he is now taking more time between shots to stick to his process. He felt the lanes during the first part of the day Sunday forced the field to play about a zone further right and play deeper.

Jeff Johnson rolled the third 300 on the day in game 15. Tony Franklin was the last player to make the cut at 3,489. The top 33 now move on to the five-game advancers round, starting at 9 a.m. ET Monday, with all pins carrying forward. The field will then be cut to the top-24 for bracket match play with all pins being dropped. The final five players will compete in the stepladder finals, being held at 8:30 p.m. ET inside Bill Moore's home. Watch all of the action on BowlTV.

Follow the PBA50 Bud Moore scoring at [PBA50 Bud Moore Classic](#) | [PBA](#)

#### **Top 10 PBA50 Bud Moore Classic**

1. <b>Walter Ray Williams Jr.</b>	<b>3,837</b>
2. <b>Michael Haggitt</b>	<b>3,820</b>
3. <b>Bobby Hall II</b>	<b>3,795</b>
4. <b>Michael Haugen Jr.</b>	<b>3,787</b>
5. <b>Dave Johnson</b>	<b>3,782</b>
6. <b>Mike Dias</b>	<b>3,739</b>
7. <b>Dino Castillo</b>	<b>3,715</b>
8. <b>Adam Monks</b>	<b>3,693</b>
9. <b>Warren Eales</b>	<b>3,671</b>
10. <b>Bob Learn Jr.</b>	<b>3,665</b>

#### **DAVE JOHNSON FULFILLS DREAM WITH 1ST PBA50 TITLE AT BUD MOORE CLASSIC MAY 16, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Clifton, Virginia – Four decades ago, Dave Johnson won a regional title. After the stepladder finals Monday at the PBA50 Bud Moore Classic, he was "on cloud 15" when he earned his first PBA50 Tour title.

Life got in the way of pursuing a professional bowling career in his younger days, but after retiring in Dec. 2020, he decided to cross something off his bucket list.

"I wanted to go back on tour," the Ohio native said.

He made his first-ever stepladder finals appearance as the No. 1 seed drawing a championship match-up with 2021 PBA Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year Tom Hess. For the second straight year the finals were held inside the home of tournament sponsor, Bill Moore.

Hess, who had won his first two matches with scores of 268 and 245, started off with three single-pin spares. Johnson looked slightly nervous on his first shot but covered the 7-pin. He then doubled for the early lead.

Hess changed to a Zen Soul in the fourth frame putting together a double. In the sixth frame, Hess converted the 3-6-9-10 but was still down by 25-pins. Johnson looked confident and comfortable in the intimate setting as he responded with a four-bagger between the fifth and eighth frame.



In the ninth, Johnson eased up on his shot and watched his 900 Global Reality go through the nose leaving the 3-6-10, which he had seen too much of the past couple of days.

"On this shot, I have chopped it probably five times in this tournament," he said, after again missing the spare. "It's been horrendous shooting at that spare and I thought it was over."

Johnson had 204 with his open in the foundation frame with Hess down by just 2-pins. Johnson struck on his first shot in the 10th then missed another 7-count combination for 223.

"I figured for sure he was going to throw the first one," Johnson said. "No doubt in my mind the way he has been bowling."

Hess pulled his shot leaving the 3-6, picked it up and struck to lose by one-pin, 223-222.

"It was a moment of realization that I had won it," Johnson said after his initial shock. "This has been my life's dream to be out here and to be a champion."

Johnson who was noticeably cheering for his opponents throughout the week is enjoying the experience.

"I root for everybody because I feel in my heart, I have a job to do when I am bowling and that is to knock 10-pins down," the 60-year-old said. "I want my opponent to bowl the best he can bowl because if I do my job then I've bowled better than him."

He feels like everyone on the PBA50 Tour is part of a family and credits Storm staffer Mitch Beasley for offering to surface his ball three times on Monday, even though Johnson isn't on a professional staff.

In the opening match, Michael Haugen Jr. started with the front-five against Pete Weber. Weber missed the 4-9 split in the first frame and followed that up with nine out of 11 strikes for a 246. Haugen Jr. left back-to-back 10-pins and closed the match out with a five-bagger for 268.

Haugen Jr.'s carry went away in match two while Hess started hot with the front-7 as he cruised to a 268-208 win. The third match featured Hess against Stoney Baker, who was making his second straight top-five appearance. Hess had seven out of eight strikes to start, and Baker had five out of eight strikes. Hess finished with back-to-back single-pin spares and 8 for 245. Baker got a spare in the ninth and a double and nine for 236.

View the full PBA50 Bud Moore Classic final standings at [PBA50 Bud Moore Classic | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 BUD MOORE CLASSIC FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Dave Johnson	\$7,500
2. Tom Hess	\$4,000
3. Stoney Baker	\$3,000
4. Michael Haugen Jr.	\$2,500
5. Pete Weber	\$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Haugen Jr. def. Weber 268-246

Match 2 – Hess def. Haugen Jr. 268-208

Match 3 – Hess def. Baker 245-236

Championship match – Johnson def. Hess 223-222

## **PBA SUPER REGIONALS HIGHLIGHT SUMMER OF PBA TOUR ACTION MAY 17, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

PBA Tour competition continues throughout the summer, highlighted by four PBA Super Regionals that will give top national and regional PBA Tour players a chance to compete for a guaranteed \$10,000 minimum first-place check in each of the events. The PBA added \$32,000 to be dispersed among the prize funds and each Super Regional will be worth double points toward qualification for the season-ending Regional Players Invitational.

Fans will be able to watch the stepladder finals of each Super Regional live on the PBA Facebook page.

Beginning with the Lubbock Sports Open in Lubbock, Texas July 22-24, the Super Regionals will be held in multiple markets across the United States: the PBA Jonesboro Open in Jonesboro, Ark. August 5-7, PBA Bowlerstore.com Central Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair in Coldwater, Ohio August 12-14 and the PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open in Chesapeake, Va. August 19-21.

Between the first and second Super Regional events, a PBA Tour national title is up for grabs in the Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles, being held in Houston July 28-31 and live-streamed on BowITV. The SABCMD has awarded a PBA and PWBA Tour title since 2015 and will feature defending champions EJ Tackett and Danielle McEwan.

Additionally, players will have an opportunity to compete in two PBA Regional events surrounding the Super Regional Summer Tour, August 9-11 in Minister, Ohio and August 16-18 in Hampton, Va.

All PBA Super Regionals and PBA Regional events count toward the 2022 PBA Regional points standings, with the top players at the end of the season advancing to the 2022 PBA Regional Players Invitational. Fans can follow all the PBA action this summer on pba.com and @PBA Tour's social media handles across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

### **PBA ACTION THIS SUMMER**

PBA Lubbock Sports Open, Lubbock, Texas – July 22-24

Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles, Houston – July 28-31

PBA Jonesboro Open, Jonesboro, Ark. – August 5-7

PBA Ernst Apparel Central Classic, Minister, Ohio – August 9-11

PBA Bowlerstore.com presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair, Coldwater, Ohio – August 12-14

PBA Clean Air Solutions LLC Biz Hampton Open, Hampton, Va. – August 16-18

PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open, Chesapeake, Va. – August 19-21

## **KYLE SHERMAN IS FIRST PICK OF 2022 PBA LEAGUE DRAFT**

MAY 18, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Kyle Sherman, who won his first Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour singles title earlier this season in the PBA Cheetah Championship, was chosen by the NYC KingPins as the first overall selection in the 2022 PBA

League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon draft, which was streamed live to the PBA's Facebook page. Manager Carolyn Dorin-Ballard was able to bring back Sherman, whom she left unprotected in January's Manager Saves event, for his third season with the KingPins.

Jason Sterner went second to the Snickers Waco Wonders (formerly Brooklyn Styles). Silver Lake Atom Splitters manager Mark Baker traded his third and 18th overall picks to the two-time defending champion Portland Lumberjacks for their 10th and 11th overall picks. Lumberjacks manager Tim Mack selected Packy Hanrahan, who also bowled with the Lumberjacks last season, third.

Andrew Cain chose Chris Barnes with the fourth overall pick, moving Barnes to the L.A. X. It will be the first time in the history of the PBA League that Barnes has not competed for the Atom Splitters, with whom he'd bowled since 2013 and won the Mark Roth PBA League MVP Award twice.

Brad Miller (Motown), Nick Pate (Chicago), AJ Chapman (Milwaukee), Santtu Tahvanainen (Dallas), Matthew Russo (Las Vegas) and DJ Archer (Silver Lake) filled out the first round.

In the snake draft, the second-round selections were Brandon Novak (Silver Lake), Ildemaro Ruiz (Las Vegas), Matt Ogle (Dallas), Anthony Lavery-Spahr (Milwaukee), Jake Peters (Chicago), Mitch Hupé (Motown), Martin Larsen (L.A.), Arturo Quintero (Portland), Parker Bohn III (Waco) and Michael Tang (NYC).

The lone selection in the third round was made by manager Del Ballard for the Motown Muscle, selecting Keven Williams.

Williams is one of six players who will make their PBA League debuts along with Tahvanainen, Russo, Novak, Quintero and Michael Tang.

The 2022 PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon will be held July 6-10 at Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine.

#### PBA LEAGUE PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON TV SCHEDULE Bayside Bowl – Portland, Maine

July 6 at 8 p.m. ET on FS1 – Anthony Division Finals  
July 7 at 8 p.m. ET on FS1 – Carter Division Finals  
July 10 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1 – Elias Cup Finals

#### PBA LEAGUE DRAFT SUMMARY

NYC - Kyle Sherman  
Waco - Jason Sterner  
Portland (from Silver Lake) - Packy Hanrahan  
L.A. - Chris Barnes  
Motown - Brad Miller  
Chicago - Nick Pate  
Milwaukee - AJ Chapman  
Dallas - Santtu Tahvanainen  
Las Vegas - Matthew Russo  
Silver Lake (from Portland) - DJ Archer  
Silver Lake (from Portland) - Brandon Novak  
Las Vegas - Ildemaro Ruiz  
Dallas - Matt Ogle  
Milwaukee - Anthony Lavery-Spahr  
Chicago - Jake Peters

Motown - Mitch Hupé  
L.A. - Martin Larsen  
Portland (from Silver Lake) - Arturo Quintero  
Waco - Parker Bohn III  
NYC - Michael Tang  
Motown - Keven Williams

## **PBA REGIONAL TOUR RECAP: TOM DAUGHTERY WINS TITLE #20 IN MYRTLE BEACH, TACKETT TRIUMPHS IN WASHINGTON**

MAY 19, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN

As more events wrap up, the regional standings start to take shape with plenty of big names atop the leaderboard. Eighty-four PBA bowlers and 48 PBA50 players qualify for the Regional Players Invitational at the end of the year to compete for a prize pool of \$115,000. Six of the seven regions held at least one event over the past couple of weeks, so let's run through them now.

### **NORTHWEST REGION**

PBA Fix Auto Open @ Daffodil Bowl

The 16-lane house hit capacity with four on a pair in Puyallup, Washington, making for a smaller field, but the tournament still pulled in some big names. One of those big names included Darren Tang, who averaged a whopping 258.2 for his eight qualifying games.

Typically going +466 for eight will put you in first by a wide margin, but EJ Tackett also slaughtered qualifying, shooting 2,092 to put him in the early lead. The top eight bowlers came back for match play the next day attempting to get into the top three for the mini stepladder, but Tackett and Tang continued to pace the field, taking the one and two seeds, respectively, leaving just one spot left.

The reigning champion of this event, Jakob Butturff found that final spot and took advantage of it, defeating Tang in the first match, 268-235. However in the final bout, Tackett continued his torrid run, taking down Butturff 282-228 for his 9th career regional title.

PBA Fix Auto Open @ Daffodil Bowl Final Standings

EJ Tackett, 2,500 points, \$2,100

Jakob Butturff, 1,500, \$1,250

Darren Tang, 1,150, \$1,000

Payden Stumpf, 950, \$900

PBA50 Fix Auto Open @ Daffodil Bowl

Same place, different time for the senior tour as they also tested the waters in Washington. Eight of the 33 bowlers advanced into match play, led by Darron Peters, one of three contestants to average over 230, but a tough day two dropped him to 4th place, right outside the stepladder.

Greg Thomas took hold of the one seed, while Rich Corwin and Robert Reed Sr. battled it out in the first match as the two and three seeds. Corwin narrowly slid by Reed 198-189 to advance to the finals, and there, a five-bagger by Corwin combined with the tough start from Thomas totaled for Corwin's first career regional title. Corwin took the win 223-175, 2,500 points and \$1,600.

PBA Fix Auto Open @ Daffodil Bowl Final Standings

Rich Corwin, 2,500 points, \$1,600

Greg Thomas, 1,500, \$1,100

Robert Reed Sr. 1,150, \$800

Darron Peters, 950, \$700

PBA Women's Fix Auto Open @ Daffodil Bowl

Completing the trifecta, 19 participants competed in the women's regional held on the same weekend.

Kristin Quah placed herself in perfect position for day two after going +190 for six games, 111 pins ahead of second place. Quah of Singapore maintained that lead through match play to put herself on the top rung of the stepladder and faced the winner of the Valentina Cruz/Kathy Ledford matchup. Cruz took the win by a couple of marks and moved on to face Quah for the title.

Back in Grants Pass, Oregon, these two were separated by just six pins and battled it out in position round, where Cruz eventually emerged triumphantly. Here in Washington, Cruz once again got the best of Quah, winning 212-180. And to make a good weekend great, not only did Cruz win her second title of the season, but on Friday, she received her ID card as an official U.S. citizen.

PBA Women's Fix Auto Open @ Daffodil Bowl Final Standings

Valentina Cruz, \$1,200

Kristin Quah, \$750

Kathy Ledford, \$600

Adrianne Schock, \$500

You can view the Northwest Region points leaders [here](#).

#### SOUTH REGION

PBA Brighton Construction Myrtle Beach Open

Three-thousand miles southwest of Puyallup, Washington, 149 bowlers gathered at Myrtle Beach Bowl for a two-squad regional event in South Carolina. One in every three bowlers moved onto the advancers round for another four games to attempt to move into match play. After 12 games, the cut line sat at just +95 for a 207 average. After seven games of match play and with just position round to go, Ryan Ciminelli built a 17-pin lead over second-place Sean Connolly and a 36-pin lead over 3rd place Tom Daugherty. In the 1-2 matchup, Connolly won with a 199 over Ciminelli's 171, but in the 3-4 matchup, Daugherty bested both Connolly and Ciminelli's sub-200 games with a 236 and a win over Colin Champion. Daugherty vaulted to first place to take home his 20th career regional title.

PBA Brighton Construction Myrtle Beach Open Final Standings

Tom Daugherty, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Sean Connolly, 1,500, \$1,800

Ryan Ciminelli, 1,150, \$1,400

Kristijonas Sergejevas, 950, \$1,200

Colin Champion, 850, \$1,000

You can view the South Region points leaders [here](#).

#### SOUTHWEST REGION

PBA San Antonio Southwest Open

On a warm Saturday morning, the Lone Star State hosted a Southwest Region event to just under 120 bowlers split into two squads, with the top 39 moving onto the advancers round. Five more games and the best 16 headed into match play for eight more games. Through said thirteen games, Sean Lavery-Spahr, Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., and Jonathan Norman all found themselves above +300, with everyone else in the rearview mirror under the +200 mark. Of the three, Ildemaro Ruiz was the one to break through during match play. After delivering a 276 in his final game before the position round, Ruiz virtually ended the tournament with a game left. Ruiz grabbed regional title number two along with \$3,500.

PBA San Antonio Southwest Open Final Standings

Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., 2,500 points, \$3,500  
Sean Lavery-Spahr, 1,500, \$2,500  
Nathan Bohr, 1,150, \$1,900  
Shawn Maldonado, 950, \$1,450  
Jonathan Norman, 850, \$1,225  
You can view the Southwest Region points leaders [here](#).

#### WEST REGION

##### PBA Earl Anthony Open

After three events in the Northwest, the West region followed suit and held a standard, 50, and women's event in California as well. Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl hosted all three tournaments over the weekend, a popular stop for regional and national contests for the past 30 years. In the under-50 event, PJ Haggerty led qualifying at +282, a bowler with numerous second-place finishes at the host center. This time however, second place was not an option. Even after a subpar advancer's round, Haggerty's experience prevailed as the 2021 RPI quarterfinalist remained on top. A 5-3 match play record kept Haggerty in the driver's seat to the finish line, giving him his second regional title of the season, and his 16th overall.

##### PBA Earl Anthony Open Final Standings

PJ Haggerty, 2,500 points, \$2,700  
Tyler Betz, \$1,800  
Jim Pratt, 1,150, \$1,400  
Travis Hewitt, \$1,250  
Anthony Schanen, 850, \$1,150  
PBA Women's Earl Anthony Open

After an extended period, the women's event finally reappeared at this historic center, much to the delight of the wives of Earl Anthony and Ted Hoffman. Fifteen bowlers came to compete and after 15 games, a champion had yet to be determined. 16-year-old Ashtyn Woods, 14-year-old Avery Domaguin, and Karen Rosprim all sat within 35 pins of one another, a minuscule amount when factoring in a possible 30 bonus pins. Domaguin, a PBA Junior National finalist from last season, won her final match with a 227 against Woods who delivered a 200. Rosprim couldn't find enough pins in her game, leaving Domaguin on top, who earned a \$900 scholarship.

##### PBA Women's Earl Anthony Open Final Standings

Avery Domaguin, \$900 scholarship  
Ashtyn Woods, \$700  
Karen Rosprim, \$600  
Kimberly Power-Defer, \$500  
Brittany Hillman, \$400

##### PBA50 Earl Anthony Open

Fifty-seven bowlers contributed to an exciting 50 event, simultaneous with the standard and women's divisions. Of course, the Earl Anthony pattern hit the lanes, where bowlers responded fairly well. The top eight players in the cut after twelve games all sat within 103 pins of each other and gave way for an intriguing round-robin match play. With just one game remaining, Troy Kendrick jumped from eighth to first, but the tournament was nowhere near over. Seventh place remained just 110 pins behind first place, giving a chance to anyone in between. In the end, Rick Meneley settled into first place, thanks to a 237 in his final match. Meneley snagged his second regional title of the season and 7th of his career.

##### PBA50 Earl Anthony Open Final Standings

Rick Meneley, 2,500 points, \$2,100

Troy Kendrick, 1,500, \$1,400  
Darren Wong, 1,150, \$1,100  
Mike Cyphers, \$1,000  
Steven Smith, 850, \$900

You can view the West Region points leaders [here](#).

#### CENTRAL REGION

PBA Mahoning County Convention & Visitors Bureau/Boardman Printing Central Open

Graham Fach leads the Central in points this year with two titles in his first three events, but after Fach missed the cut in Canfield, bowlers had a chance to shorten the deficit behind first place.

Chris Colella led qualifying at +280, but only 95 pins separated him and the cut line, making for an exciting Sunday finish with the title still up for grabs. Plenty of movement transpired through seven games of match play as Tim Pfeifer moved from eighth place to first, 68 pins ahead of second-place Zac Tackett with just a game to go. Tackett needed a 39-pin victory to snag the title, but Pfeifer's foot never hit the brakes. He seized his first career title with a 254 game over Tackett's 178.

PBA Mahoning County Convention & Visitors Bureau/Boardman Printing Central Open Final Standings

Tim Pfeifer, 2,500 points, \$2,800  
Chandler Stevens, 1,500, \$1,650  
Zac Tackett, 1,150, \$1,375  
Kyle Cook, 950, \$1,125  
Bailey Mavrick, 850, \$1,050

You can view the Central Region points leaders [here](#).

PBA Illinois Valley Super Bowl Midwest/Central Open

For the final event of the weekend, the Bear pattern tested the 59 players to the max, but David Northouse was able to tame the bear during qualifying. Northouse led at +171 with a 289 in game two. After winning in a one-game rolloff, Nick Pate grabbed the final spot at +39 and made impressive use of it from there on out. Thanks to a pair of 260 games, Pate jumped to the one-seed for the stepladder finals.

In the opening match, Nathan Michalowski struggled to get anything going on the left lane, while Nick Kruml, opened with a three-bagger and a split, but promptly came back with a four-bagger to win 230-183. The qualifying leader Northouse came up next as the two-seed, but it was a different bowler, same story. Like Michalowski, the left lane troubled the Michigan native, while Kruml seemed to have figured it out quite easily, striking four of five times on the left lane for a dominating victory 236-152.

For the final match, the tides seemed to turn. Pate voyaged through the left lane cleanly while Kruml struggled to put together a double, sparing in his first three frames on the left lane. Kruml eventually figured out the left side, but it was too late. Pate clinched his second career regional title, taking home the win, 255-226.

PBA Illinois Valley Super Bowl Midwest/Central Open

Nicholas Pate, 2,500 points, \$2,400  
Nick Kruml, 1,500, \$1,600  
David Northouse, 1,150, \$1,200  
Nathan Michalowski, 950, \$1,000  
Benjamin Martinez, 850, \$900

## **2022 PBA REGIONAL PLAYERS INVITATIONAL RETURNS TO SOUTH POINT BOWLING PLAZA**

MAY 20, 2022 JEF GOODGER

The 2022 PBA Regional Players Invitational, featuring 132 of the best PBA Regional Tour players over the course of the 2022 season, will be held January 2-5, 2023 at South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas. The RPI will pay a total of \$115,000 to PBA and PBA50 Regional players who earn their way into the field through the season-long points race or RPI qualifier events.

Eighty-four players will make up the standard division, with the top eight in points from each of the seven regions earning a berth into the RPI. Four more spots from each region will be earned through RPI qualifier events to be held later this year. The PBA50 division will include 48 players: the top four in points from each region as well as three RPI qualifiers per region, with the exception of the Northwest region, which will hold two RPI qualifier events.

The winner of the standard division will earn \$16,000 and the winner of the PBA50 division will receive \$10,000.

In order to reward the players who reliably compete on the PBA Regional Tour throughout the year, the top 50 players from the PBA Tour national points list and the top 10 players from the PBA50 Tour national points list will be excluded from inclusion in the RPI (although a top-10 PBA50 player who is outside the top 50 on the national tour will be eligible to compete in the standard RPI division).

The PBA50 competition will take place January 2-3, immediately followed by PBA competition January 3-5. Eight games of qualifying will cut the PBA50 field to 16 for bracket match play, and then 14 games of qualifying will cut the PBA field to 32 for bracket match play.

Fans will be able to watch a livestream of the 2022 PBA Regional Players Invitational with more details to be announced.

Find the complete schedule, prize fund and details on how to qualify for the RPI [here](#).

### **2022 PBA RPI SCHEDULE** South Point Bowling Plaza – Las Vegas

Monday, January 2, 2023  
2 p.m. ET – PBA50 Qualifying (eight games)

Tuesday, January 3, 2023  
11 a.m. ET – PBA50 Round of 16 (best of five)  
1:15 p.m. ET – PBA50 Round of 8 (best of three)  
2:45 p.m. ET – PBA50 Semifinals (single game)  
3:30 p.m. ET – PBA50 Championship Match (single game)  
6 p.m. ET – PBA Qualifying Round 1 (seven games)

Wednesday, January 4, 2023  
Noon ET – PBA Qualifying Round 2 (seven games)  
7 p.m. ET – PBA Round of 32 (positions 16-32, best of five)  
9:30 p.m. ET – PBA Round of 24 (Round of 32 winners plus positions 9-16, best of five)

Thursday, January 5, 2023  
11 a.m. ET – PBA Round of 16 (Round of 24 winners plus positions 1-8, best of three)  
12:30 p.m. ET – PBA Round of 8 (best of three)



2 p.m. ET – PBA Semifinals (single game)  
2:45 p.m. ET – PBA Championship Match (single game)

**2022 PBA TOUR FINALS AIR LIVE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY ON CBS SPORTS NETWORK**  
MAY 31, 2022 JEF GOODGER

The top eight PBA Tour players based on competition points earned over the past two seasons will compete in the PBA Tour Finals with nine hours of live coverage this weekend on CBS Sports Network. Held for the first time at Strikerz Bowling at Angel of the Winds Casino, PBA Tour Finals qualifying rounds begin Saturday at 3 p.m. ET and the group stepladder finals and championship match air Sunday at 3 p.m. ET on CBSSN.

**PBA Tour Finals Field**

Seeding for the PBA Tour Finals is determined by combined 2021 and 2022 PBA Tour points.

Jason Belmonte  
Anthony Simonsen  
EJ Tackett  
Kyle Troup  
Kris Prather  
Jakob Butturff  
Dom Barrett  
Tom Daugherty

The players are divided into two groups for the qualifying and stepladder rounds. Belmonte, Troup, Prather and Daugherty make up Group 1. Simonsen, Tackett, Butturff and Barrett form Group 2.

**Simonsen vs. Troup**

For the past two seasons, the championship match has been the same: Anthony Simonsen vs. Kyle Troup. Simonsen is the defending champion, getting revenge on Troup who won the title in 2020. The winners of each group stepladder advance to the championship match, and with Simonsen and Troup in different groups, it's possible we could see a rubber match. The championship match is contested in a Race to 2 Points format, with a 9th/10th-frame roll-off breaking a 1-1 tie if necessary.

Troup is coming off his second consecutive PBA Playoffs championship and a win in the Tour Finals would make it three straight seasons in which Troup claimed multiple PBA Tour titles.

**Belmonte, Simonsen and Tackett Qualify Again**

Only two players have competed in all five PBA Tour Finals events since its inception in 2017: EJ Tackett and Simonsen. Jason Belmonte has qualified for all five, but didn't participate in 2020 or 2021. All three players are former champions (Tackett is the only player to have won the event twice) and all three are in the field this year, with Belmonte the No. 1 seed, Simonsen second and Tackett third.

Belmonte is looking to win his fifth title of the season, which would be the first time he's ever won five titles in a single season (he won four in 2017 as well as so far in 2022). Simonsen already owns two majors this year (U.S. Open and USBC Masters) and would win three titles in a season for the first time in his career if he can successfully defend his Tour Finals title. Tackett has a win among 10 top-10 finishes this season and leads the PBA Tour in average.

**Daugherty Debuts**

Tom Daugherty, the eighth seed, is the only player in the field making his PBA Tour Finals debut. The 2021 PBA World Champion will be looking for his fifth career title against seven players who have bowled in this unique format before. As noted, Simonsen and Tackett have competed all five years of the event's existence. Prather is making his fourth straight appearance and all other players are competing for the third time. Barrett is making his return after two years outside the top eight and Butturff re-enters after missing the top eight last year.

PBA Fans will be able to live-stream the PBA Tour Finals on CBS Sports Network. Select highlights will be available on @PBATour social handles across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

#### PBA TOUR FINALS TELEVISION SCHEDULE

Strikerz Bowling in Angel of the Winds Casino – Arlington, Wash.

Saturday, June 4

3-5 p.m. ET – Group 1 Positioning Round

5-7 p.m. ET – Group 2 Positioning Round

Sunday, June 5

3-5 p.m. ET – Group 1 Stepladder Finals

5-7 p.m. ET – Group 2 Stepladder Finals

7-8 p.m. ET – Championship

#### PBA TOUR FINALS WINNERS SINCE 2017

2017 – EJ Tackett

2018 – Jason Belmonte

2019 – EJ Tackett

2020 – Kyle Troup

2021 – Anthony Simonse

#### **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: AJ JOHNSON TOPS BUTTURFF, EARNS TITLE NO. 10**

JUNE 2, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN

With eyes on a \$16,000 and \$10,000 prize, bowlers again traveled to the nearest regional event for some more action as they attempted to get into their respective top eights. Currently playing host to the Open Championships, South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas will also hold the Regional Players Invitational at the beginning of 2023.

#### PBA Ohio Lottery/Bowler X/Baldo Campana Memorial Central Open

After qualifying fifth the weekend prior in Peru, Illinois, Mike Eaton Jr. changed it up this time and qualified first in Lorain, Ohio. In Illinois, Eaton couldn't get anything going in the round-robin format, but it was a different story in Ohio. After snagging the one-seed for bracket play at +183, Eaton bent, but never broke. In a best-of-three format, Eaton lost the first game but came back and won the next two games in both the first and second rounds. In the single-game semi and final matches, Eaton delivered once again. The West Michigan native defeated Kyle Cook 216-206 in the semifinals and moved on to face Chandler Stevens. In a tight match, it came down to the end where Eaton threw all three in the tenth frame edging out Chandler Stevens 213-210 to claim his first-ever PBA Regional title.

#### PBA Ohio Lottery/Bowler X/Baldo Campana Memorial Central Open Final Standings

Mike Eaton Jr. 2,500 points, \$2,200

Chandler Stevens, 1,500, \$1,375

Michael Davidson, 1,150, \$1,000  
Kyle Cook, 950, \$1,000

#### PBA50 Ohio Lottery/Bowler X/Baldo Campana Memorial Central Open

Fifty-one seniors also hit the same lanes, but they took the match-play route rather than the bracket-play route. Larry Verble led the group at +264, the only bowler to average above 230, while Bill Watson snuck into the cut at +102. Watson snuck into the cut and made good use of it: he came back the next day and worked his way up the leaderboard to land in the top spot with just the position round to go. Watson led by over 100 pins before the last game, so his 228 in the final match would be plenty to leave him in first. Watson earned \$1,700 and a banner for his efforts.

#### PBA50 Ohio Lottery/Bowler X/Baldo Campana Memorial Central Open Final Standings

Bill Watson, 2,500 points, \$1,700  
John Kertis, 1,500, \$1,100  
Brian Kretzer, 1,150, \$875  
Dean Billings, 950, \$775  
You can view the Central Points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA Waxahachie Southwest Open

Plenty of big names filed into the members-only tourney at Hilltop Lanes in the Lone Star State, and plenty of big names filled the leaderboard after round one. Even after the advancers round, familiar faces continued filling in the top 16 spots. On top just before match play included Quintero, Holliman, and Simonsen, with guys like Lavoie, Maldonado and Barnes waiting in the wings. Anthony Simonsen found himself with the lead with a 61-pin lead and just one game left. He'd face Arturo Quintero for the title, but in the end, it wasn't close. Simonsen started with a four-bagger while Quintero guttered on a spare twice in the first four frames, ultimately ending it then and there. Simonsen ran away with his sixth regional title, which bumped him up to fourth in the Southwest Region standings.

#### PBA Waxahachie Southwest Open Final Standings

Anthony Simonsen, 2,500 points, \$3,100  
Arturo Quintero, 1,500, \$2,180  
Francois Lavoie, 1,150, \$1,560  
Mykel Holliman, 950, \$1,350  
You can view the Southwest Points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA Greater Buffalo Open

Nobody ran away with qualifying at the 2022 Greater Buffalo Open on the 40-foot Don Johnson pattern, but plenty of contestants went plus. Chad Mee led at +148, but 16th place and the final spot to qualify for match play went to Jordan Klassen at +54. Even though less than 100 pins separated first and 16th place, Mee wouldn't have any of it, maintaining his first-place position with just one game remaining. With a considerable lead in hand, it was essentially over before it started. Even with a 211-181 loss, Mee still took home the win and \$2,800.

#### PBA Greater Buffalo Open Final Standings

Chad Mee, 0, \$2,800

Paul Smith, 1,500 points, \$1,500  
Ryan Galli, 1,150, \$1,200  
Michael Ruben, 950, \$1,100  
You can view the East Points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA Drake Mechanical Open

For the third time in a row in a region out west, a PBA50 event and a women's event simultaneously transpired with the standard event, this time in Garden City, Idaho. Taming the notorious Bear pattern, fifteen bowlers moved on to the first advancers round to bowl four more games, and eight moved on from there. A few advancers rounds later, and Giorgio Clinaz Jr. stood tall for a spot in the championship match. Zack Stone narrowly slid past Payden Stumpf by one pin for the opportunity to duke it out with Clinaz in a one-game winner-take-all. Clinaz had led all tournament long, and that headline wouldn't change in the end either, as he defeated Stone 210-175 for title number two.

#### PBA Drake Mechanical Open Final Standings

Giorgio Clinaz Jr., 2,500 points, \$2,200  
Zack Stone, 1,500, \$1,400  
Payden Stumpf, 1,150, \$1,200  
Craig Tuholski, 950, \$1,000

#### PBA Women's Drake Mechanical Open

Westy's Garden Lanes also played host to nine women attempting to make a run at the title, the most notable being Valentina Cruz of Colombia. This season, Cruz put two titles in her back pocket and tried for the three-peat in Idaho. After the first round, Cruz sat nicely in second place, but Catherine Rawsthorne had built a 93-pin lead. Three games later, Rawsthorne still led, followed by another two games where she still held the lead. However, Cruz managed to grab the second spot in the final match and even with all previous games thrown out the window, Rawsthorne still finished on top, taking down the most recent champion, 174-158.

#### PBA Women's Drake Mechanical Open Final Standings

Catherine Rawsthorne, \$800  
Valentina Cruz, \$550  
Katelyn Simpson, \$450  
Sabrina Groves, \$350

#### PBA50 Drake Mechanical Open

Meanwhile, reigning PBA50 West Player of the Year Ron Mohr cruised through qualifying. Mohr averaged higher than anyone else in the building for his first eight games averaging 226, and continued at that pace to the final match. The battle for the second spot in the finals became the only thing to watch for as Mohr locked up the one-seed with ease. Sticking in second for most of the day, David Leverage became Mohr's opponent after knocking off Greg Thomas by just 14 pins. In the final match, Mohr came out on top 214-191 to claim his 24th regional title and second this year. Clinaz Jr, Rawsthorne, and Mohr all won their respective tournaments in wire-to-wire performances, giving any spectators a show of dominance.

#### PBA50 Drake Mechanical Open Final Standings

Ron Mohr, 2,500 points, \$1,800  
David Leverage, 1,500, \$1,000

Greg Thomas, 1,150, \$850  
Michael Kennedy, 950, \$750  
You can view the Southwest Points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA Colony Park Lanes Challenge

Colony Park Lanes North held a one-day event over the weekend where players needed to quickly figure things out if they wanted a shot at their first title. Bowlers who happened to hop into the top 16 were back at full strength as bracket play immediately began right after. Brian Hall was the top qualifier and showed why during match play as he cruised to the finals without dropping a game. His opponent in the finals appeared strong as Ryan Galli hadn't shot below a 233 in his last five games. Galli's run continued in the final match as he delivered a 288 to Hall's 215 for his first regional title.

#### PBA Colony Park Lanes Challenge Final Standings

Ryan Galli, \$1,600  
Brian Hall, \$900  
Paul Smith, \$800  
Brian Elder, \$800  
PBA Celeste Walker Midwest/Central Open

As usual, an event in the Midwest gained traction as 87 bowlers showed up for their chance at adding a regional title to their résumé. Approximately one in five moved onto match play with a pair of big names in AJ Johnson and Jakob Butturff sitting at the top. After seven match play games, that pair still barely hung onto the one-two spots, while three and four were still left for the taking to become the first match of the stepladder. When the position round was all said and done, Johnson snagged the one seed, Butturff grabbed the two, Kevin McCune won with a 208 to take the three seed, while Zach Wilkins stayed in the top four to capture the final spot.

In the opening match, both players struggled to get much going, but the turning point in the contest came when McCune doubled in the 8th frame while Wilkins chopped the 3-6-9-10 for an open. McCune eventually struck on his first ball in the tenth to close out the win 183-179. Butturff stepped up next as the two seed, and this one seemingly ended within the first four frames. Butturff started with the first three strikes, followed by a spare, while McCune spared in the first frame and opened the next three. Butturff later had a four-bagger and would win 246-179. In the Butturff-Johnson matchup, Johnson began with an early double while Butturff left the 3-6-7-9 split in the first frame. The lefty played catch-up from there, but by the time he finally doubled in the 10th frame, time had run out. Johnson already had built a multi-mark lead and delivered a 209-173 victory to claim his tenth regional title.

#### PBA Celeste Walker Midwest/Central Open Final Standings

AJ Johnson, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Jakob Butturff, 1,500, \$1,800  
Kevin McCune, 1,150, \$1,300  
Zach Wilkins, 950, \$1,100  
Eric Jones, 850, \$1,000

**JASON BELMONTE AND ANTHONY SIMONSEN EARN TOP SEEDS AT PBA TOUR FINALS**  
**JUNE 4, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

It felt like Jason Belmonte clinched the PBA Player of the Year award after winning his fourth title of the season in mid-March. Then Anthony Simonsen reinserted himself into the conversation after winning the USBC Masters, his second major title of the season.

After qualifying at the PBA Tour Finals, the race has never been closer.

Belmonte and Simonsen earned the top seeds in their groups during qualifying. Now, a potential Player of the Year-deciding match between the generational superstars now sits one game away. The two-handed stars bested a field of the world's best talents at Strikerz Bowling at Angel of the Winds Casino in Arlington, WA.

A few weeks back home in Australia helped Be recharge his batteries.

"It was exactly what I needed after nearly four months in the U.S. at the beginning of the year," Belmonte said. A fresh set of batteries aided Belmonte as he battled footing issues and a trio of former major champions in Kyle Troup, Tom Daugherty and Kris Prather.

Troup said he had a great game plan for the 38' Marshall Holman pattern, which was used for the first two games, and always feels confident with urethane. He backed up his confidence with a blistering 269-278 start to take the early lead. Belmonte, who started with games of 257 and 268, trailed by 22 pins.

"It was important for me on that shorter oil pattern to not give up too much of a lead," Belmonte said. "I was thinking to myself if I can just get between 20 to 40 behind the leaders, I'll have a good crack at the longer oil pattern."

That plan came to fruition, though not as Belmonte, or anyone, expected. On the 46' Johnny Petraglia pattern, Troup limped to a 145 in Game 3. He said he used balls that were too strong, and played too far right initially. While Troup struggled, Belmonte said he wanted to build up as large a lead as possible because he knew he'd have to bowl on Troup's pair the next game.

The reigning Player of the Year rebounded in Game 4. After Belmonte opened in the seventh frame, the top seed suddenly appeared within Troup's grasp. As quickly as the door opened, Belmonte slammed it shut. He made a ball change and slight move to the right, then delivered a hambone to lock up the top seed.

Daugherty and Prather weren't able to string more than a handful of strikes—neither put up a score over 250—and took third and fourth, respectively. They will kick off Sunday's Group 1 stepladder finals at 3 p.m. ET.

In Group 2, the lead exchanged hands after each game as no player was able to separate themselves. Simonsen, who bookended his block with 279 and 277, snagged the top seed.

Barrett's consistency on the 38' pattern gave him the lead after two games, but the 46' pattern got the best of him and he dropped to fourth place. Butturff conquered the long pattern early and surged into the lead after Game 3, but faltered down the stretch to finish third.

Tackett, the 2017 and 2019 Tour Finals champion, was the lone player to not lead at any point, though he nearly emerged as the top seed. He left a pair of brutal 10-pins during Game 4 that allowed Simonsen to stave him off. Tackett will await the winner of Barrett and Butturff's match in the Group 2 stepladder, which begins at 5 p.m. ET on Sunday.

With four players across four lanes and a lively, jovial atmosphere, the Tour Finals is unlike anything else on the PBA's schedule. Troup said he had to adjust his process to keep up with the rapid pace. The showman said he focused on having fun and putting on a show for the Pacific Northwest crowd.

"The crowd time gets to kind of view a little bit more of how it is to change pairs and transition," Belmonte said. "The atmosphere was fantastic and the crowd was electric."

### **Group 1 Scores**

Jason Belmonte 955 (257, 268, 201, 229)

Kyle Troup 930 (269, 278, 145, 238)

Tom Daugherty 864 (218, 196, 248, 202)

Kris Prather 863 (228, 237, 193, 205)

### **Group 2 Scores**

Anthony Simonsen 977 (279, 184, 234, 277)

EJ Tackett 937 (257, 207, 215, 258)

Jakob Butturff 893 (207, 248, 259, 179)

Dom Barrett 860 (248, 224, 174, 214)

## **RON MOHR WINS SECOND SUPER SENIOR CLASSIC TITLE AT 2022 EVENT**

**LAS VEGAS** – Ron Mohr delivered a clutch double in the 10th frame of the title match at the 2022 Super Senior Classic to become the first player to win the event for United States Bowling Congress members age 60 and over multiple times Sunday.

Mohr needed two strikes and one pin in the final frame to claim the title over USBC Hall of Famer Lennie Boresch Jr. of Kenosha, Wisconsin, at the Sam's Town Bowling Center. Mohr rolled the necessary double and knocked over nine pins on his fill ball for a 222-213 victory and the \$7,500 top prize.

The 66-year-old right-hander from Las Vegas has been a staple in the stepladder at the Super Senior Classic since becoming age-eligible for the event in 2016. To go along with his win in 2017, he has collected a pair of runner-up finishes (2016, 2021) and finished tied for fifth place in 2018 and 2019.

The tournament, which made its debut in 2013, had seen a new winner in each edition prior to Mohr's win Sunday.

"I know time wins," said Mohr, a member of the USBC Board of Directors. "That's the one thing that's a given. I'm 66 years old now. How long can I compete at this level? I don't know, but every time you do, it's encouraging.

"What concerned me before – did I still have the fire and passion? The analogy is when you're at the top of the hill, the view is really good. When you come down a level or two, it's still pretty good, but do you want to work that hard again to get back to the top or are you pretty happy with your resume? Watching Walter (Ray Williams Jr.) and Parker (Bohn III) and those guys and seeing how much they still want to win and what it means to them, it was great for me to feel that passion and fire again. More than that, I just want to have fun. I really enjoyed the stepladder today. Just to have the opportunity is as good as it gets."

Mohr found himself down early in the final against Boresch, who had earned the top seed Saturday. Mohr left a 4-6-10 split in the second frame he was unable to convert, and Boresch started with a double and strikes in five of his first seven frames.

"I think naturally my ball speed is too high for my rev rate, so it's a conscious battle for me to keep my speed down so it will match up better," Mohr said. "It surprised me how much it hooked. I didn't feel like I was that slow, so maybe it broke down a little bit since Lennie was closer to me than the other guys. I made a two-and-zero left and was able to refine it after that, settle down and get the ball speed back down."

The match tightened up in the eighth frame, when Boresch opened after leaving a 3-4-6-10 split. Mohr, who had left three consecutive 10 pins, starting in the sixth frame, rolled a strike in the ninth frame to set up the dramatic finish.

Boresch left and converted a 10 pin in the ninth frame, but he was able to roll three strikes in the final frame to put Mohr in a position to double to win.

"In the ninth, I just wanted to give myself a chance," Mohr said. "If I strike there, I couldn't be shut out, so it's in my hands. I was fortunate for a trip 4 (pin) to start the 10th, and I was really pleased with the way I threw the one in the 11th. I was on the tighter lane, so I wanted to make sure I just got it and threw it right. I threw it really well and liked it at 45 feet, and fortunately it rolled up and struck."

Mohr, the No. 2 seed, earned his spot in the championship match with a 259-192 victory over Pete McCordic of Katy, Texas, in the semifinal. Mohr rolled seven consecutive strikes, starting in the fourth frame, on his way to the win.

McCordic managed a 216-168 win in the opening match of the stepladder against Mitch



Vernon of Olympia, Washington. McCordic built an early lead and never looked back as Vernon had back-to-back splits in the second and third frames.

Before the stepladder got underway Sunday, the final two spots were determined through simultaneous group stepladders, with McCordic and Vernon each winning a pair of matches to advance to the finals.

McCordic averaged more than 265 to advance out of Group A, starting with eight consecutive strikes in his first match against Eric Forkel of Henderson, Nevada, on the way to a 267-175 victory.

He started with seven consecutive strikes against Tom Adcock of Forsyth, Illinois, in the Group A final and rolled a strike on his first delivery in the 10th frame, followed by a nine count on his second shot, to lock up a 268-266 win to move to the main stepladder.

Vernon started his path to the main stepladder with a 236-215 win over Jon DeLaney of McKinney, Texas.

He bounced back from back-to-back opens to start the Group B final against defending champion and USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Amleto Monacelli of Venezuela to advance with a 195-181 win.

The 173-player field at the 2022 Super Senior Classic bowled 12 games over two days to determine the 44 bowlers advancing to the Cashers' Round, based on total pinfall. The Cashers' Round consisted of six additional games, with the top 12 advancing to the match-play portion of the event.

The match-play finalists were split into two groups for six games of round-robin competition, with the top finisher in each group earning an automatic spot in the stepladder based on 24-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each victory in match play. Boresch earned the top seed by having the highest overall total.

The second, third and fourth seeds from each group advanced to Sunday's group stepladders.

The USBC Senior Masters is next on the schedule at Sam's Town and gets underway Monday with the official practice session for more than 265 competitors age 50 and older. The first of three rounds of qualifying starts Tuesday at 11 a.m. Eastern.

Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa, returns as the defending champion at the Senior Masters in 2022. The win helped propel him to PBA50 Player and Rookie of the Year honors during the 2021 season, and he's now one of four players to win both the USBC Masters and Senior Masters.

Hess won his lone PBA Tour title at the 2011 Masters in Reno, and he is a two-time PBA50 champion.

All competitors at the 2022 Senior Masters will bowl three five-game blocks of

qualifying over three days, and the top 63 will join Hess in the tournament's double-elimination bracket after 15 games.

Hess is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion and can improve his seeding through qualifying. If he qualifies outside of the top 63, he will enter the bracket as the No. 64 seed.

Bracket matches will be contested in a three-game total-pinfall format, until the field is cut to the top five for the stepladder finals June 12 at 1 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV.

Since the stepladder will be broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format. The winner of the 2022 Senior Masters will take home a major championship on the PBA50 schedule and first-place prize of \$20,000.

For more information on the Super Senior Classic, visit [BOWL.com/SuperSenior](https://BOWL.com/SuperSenior). To learn more about the USBC Senior Masters, visit [BOWL.com/SeniorMasters](https://BOWL.com/SeniorMasters).

## **2022 SUPER SENIOR CLASSIC At Sam's Town Bowling Center Las Vegas**

### **Sunday's results**

#### **Final standings**

- 1, Ron Mohr, Las Vegas, 481 (two games), \$7,500.
- 2, Lennie Boresch Jr., Kenosha, Wis., 213 (one game), \$6,250.
- 3, Pete McCordic, Katy, Texas, 408 (two games), \$5,000.
- 4, Mitch Vernon, Olympia, Wash., 168 (one game), \$3,900.

#### **Stepladder results**

**Match No. 1:** McCordic def. Vernon, 216-168.

**Semifinal:** Mohr def. McCordic, 259-192.

**Final:** Mohr def. Boresch, 222-213.

#### **Group A Stepladder**

**Semifinal:** Pete McCordic, Katy, Texas, def. Eric Forkel, Henderson, Nev., 267-175 (Forkel finishes tied for seventh, earns \$2,400).

**Final:** McCordic def. Tom Adcock, Forsyth, Ill., 268-266 (Adcock finishes tied for fifth, earns \$2,900).

#### **Group B Stepladder**

**Semifinal:** Mitch Vernon, Olympia, Wash., def. Jon DeLaney, McKinney, Texas, 236-215 (DeLaney finishes tied for seventh, earns \$2,400).

**Final:** Vernon def. Amleto Monacelli, Venezuela, 195-181 (Monacelli finishes tied for fifth, earns \$2,900).

## **BELMONTE CONCLUDES HISTORIC SEASON WITH TOUR FINALS VICTORY JUNE 5, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

When Jason Belmonte declared "I'm back!" after his January PBA Players Championship victory, he meant it. He racked up four more titles in 2022, culminating his historic campaign with a PBA Tour Finals victory at Strikerz Bowling at Angel of the Winds Casino in Arlington, Wash.

The 38-year-old Australian capped off one of his finest seasons in style, rolling the second televised 300 game of his career in the championship match. Belmonte defeated Dom Barrett 2-0, earning \$30,000 and a \$10,000 perfect game bonus. This win marks his 30th career title, making him the eighth player in PBA history to eclipse that threshold.

"To have 30 titles, 14 majors, maybe seven Player of the Years," Belmonte said to Randy Pederson, "Mate, there's no way as a kid you ever thought this was gonna happen. There's no way!"

With five titles in 2022, Belmonte will almost assuredly earn his seventh PBA Player of the Year award. That would tie the all-time record set by Walter Ray Williams Jr., whose seven honors spanned from 1986 to 2010. Belmonte needed just 10 years to match Deadeye's career mark.

"Walter Ray, the man is a living legend and someone who I see as the best player that I've ever seen," Belmonte said. "To equal him is a huge accomplishment and something I'm very, very proud of. But it also motivates me to get just one more, just one more and have that title all to myself."

Belmonte stands among those names as one of the greatest athletes in recent memory. His dominance rivals that of Tiger Woods and Serena Williams. While Belmonte doesn't compare himself to anyone else, he understands the work ethic required to be successful at the highest level.

Of the preeminent American professional sports, only Wayne Gretzky, Barry Bonds, Novak Djokovic, Woods, Williams and Williams Jr. have won at least seven equivalent honors in the respective sports.

However, the Player of the Year race was far from over entering the Tour Finals. With two majors and five championship round appearances, Anthony Simonsen needed one more title to put the cherry on top of a potential first career Player of the Year campaign. Barrett, who had two titles to his name, could have snuck into the conversation himself with a win.

In the Group 2 stepladder finals, Barrett emerged victorious over Simonsen. Both players struck a ton in their two-game match, but the rabbit's foot in Barrett's backpack appeared to be the difference. He tripped roughly a half dozen 4-pins en route to a sweep of the 25-year-old two-hander.

After Barrett fired 279 in Game 1, he opened the door for Simonsen in Game 2. Simonsen squandered his early lead by missing a 7-pin in the 7th frame, then could only watch as Barrett snow-plowed a match-clinching strike in the 9th frame.

Barrett's brilliant decision to start with reactive on the 46' Johnny Petraglia, learning from his ill-fated use of urethane during qualifying, paid off handsomely as he defeated Jakob Butturff and EJ Tackett to set up a match between the two Player of the Year hopefuls.

Earlier in the afternoon, top-seeded Belmonte took on the Group 1 stepladder finalists. In the first match, Kris Prather overcame a last-minute impairment to his urethane ball to defeat Tom Daugherty. Prather's craftiness proved futile in the next match, as Kyle Troup mounted strike after strike after strike.

In fact, Troup struck on all 12 of his shots to achieve the 33rd televised perfect game in PBA history. Belmonte's 300 in the championship match later made this the first televised event in PBA history with two perfect games.

Though Troup earned a \$10,000 bonus in return for perfection, he may have traded a few hits against Prather for a couple against Belmonte in the Group 1 final match. A flurry of 9-pins cost Troup in the opening game of the Race to Two.

Belmonte said he knew defeating Troup would not be easy, considering his tremendous ball motion and familiarity with the event's format. He refused to allow Troup any breathing room, completing the sweep to advance to the Tour Finals championship match.

After watching Barrett stampede through Group 2, Belmonte knew the championship match wouldn't be any easier.

"Watching Dom play against Anthony, I actually really liked Dom's ball motion," Belmonte said. "I thought this could be a pretty high scoring match, too, if we both like what we see."

After shooting 300 in the first game, Belmonte didn't allow himself to celebrate the moment too much. He wanted to keep his focus sharp and avoid the roll-off at all costs. The lanes transitioned quicker for Barrett than Belmonte, and the Australian's strike in the 10th frame locked up his 30th career title, and fifth of the season.

While he appreciates the privilege of competing on tour, Belmonte doesn't allow contentment to drift into his consciousness, even as the accolades continue to mount.

"I've never been complacent with where I am in the game," he said. "I'm always pushing to get more to learn more, to practice more. Plus, my just absolute hunger to be one of the greatest to ever throw a ball down the lane. It definitely motivates and pushes me to wake up early, or to stay up late and get those extra games in."

As Belmonte chases the ghosts of PBA lore on the career titles list, he must stave off the game's rising stars. He wants to raise the bar to new heights, and leave behind an indelible legacy as one of the game's greatest athletes.

#### PBA TOUR FINALS SCORES

Strikerz Bowling at Angel of the Winds Casino Resort  
Arlington, Washington

##### Group 1 Stepladder

Kris Prather def. Tom Daugherty, 201-194

Kyle Troup def. Kris Prather, 300-176

Jason Belmonte def. Kyle Troup, 2-0 (Race to 2 Points)

Game 1: Belmonte def. Troup, 221-205

Game 2: Belmonte def. Troup, 242-187

##### Group 2 Stepladder

Dom Barrett def. Jakob Butturff, 234-225

Dom Barrett def. EJ Tackett, 235-199

Dom Barrett def. Anthony Simonsen, 2-0 (Race to 2 Points)

Game 1: Barrett def. Simonsen, 279-247

Game 2: Barrett def. Simonsen, 246-205

Championship

Jason Belmonte def. Dom Barrett, 2-0 (Race to 2 Points)

Game 1: Belmonte def. Barrett, 300-238

Game 2: Belmonte def. Barrett, 235-202

## **THE MCCUNE FAMILY: THREE GENERATIONS OF PBA CHAMPIONS JUNE 6, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Bowling history is littered with successful families. The gold standard, of course, is Dick and Pete Weber, who rank seventh and fourth all-time in PBA titles. Kyle Troup just surpassed his father, Guppy, with his ninth PBA title.

There are plenty more on the horizon, with Parker Bohn III and his trifecta of talented kids, Justin, Brandon and Sydney; Wes and Jordan Malott; Ronnie and Cayden Russell; and Chris, Lynda and Ryan Barnes among others.

But there's only one family with three generations of PBA champions. You can't tell the story of the PBA without the McCunes. "We've been around forever," Eugene McCune said.

Don McCune began bowling while in the army. He quickly transformed the hobby into a prosperous career, one that would change the sport forever.

The PBA and USBC Hall of Famer's career took off in 1968, when he won his first Eagle and PBA title. He added a second Eagle in 1969 and a second PBA title in 1970. Don wasn't satisfied, though.

Hardened lane surfaces in the early 1970s made hooking the ball, an already difficult task, even more challenging. It wasn't just the lanes. Don told Sports Illustrated's Dan Levin that "he could not even scratch the ball with a knife."

Don thought outside the box, soaking one of his balls in a chemical solvent that made the ball's cover softer. He found one solution that worked, commencing the "Year of the Soaker." He won six PBA titles in 1973, earning \$69,000 (almost \$450,000 today) and Player of the Year honors. Soon everyone was soaking.

While a slew of rule changes later that year would render soaking illegal, Don's ingenuity revolutionized the sport. It commenced the arms race between bowling ball manufacturers, where each new ball must hook more than its predecessor.

Ball hardness has been perhaps bowling's defining storyline in 2022. The debate dates back to the soaker's shrewdness almost half a century ago.

Don passed on his resourcefulness to his son, Eugene, the human rocket-launcher. In his junior days, Eugene said he bowled almost exclusively on leftover league patterns. "I had to play with a Blue Dot at 100 miles an hour if I wanted to get the ball down the lane," he said.

Eugene has more tricks up his sleeve than most, once winning a PBA regional doubles title after taking his grips out of the ball. "My dad would tell me I couldn't do something," Eugene said. "So I did it."

He began competing as an adult at 14, joining his dad's classic league teams. Those patterns forced him deep inside. "I never got to play shot around 10 my whole life," he said. Without a refined ability to play the track, wins on the pro tour didn't come as often as he wanted. But when he could play his A-game, those 22-plus mile-an-hour heaters up the gutter, nobody could beat him.

He boasts two PBA scoring records, both on Cheetah. He fired 3,647 during a 14-game block in 2005 and 2,468 in a nine-game block in 2010. During that nine-game block, where he averaged over 274 with two perfect games, his low game of 236 actually came on the TV pair. He struggled again, by his absurd standards, on the Cheetah Championship show, but a strike on his final shot was enough to defeat Norm Duke.

Eugene defended his title on Cheetah in 2011-12, taking down Pete Weber for his third career PBA title. His first title in 2002 came against Walter Ray Williams Jr. Not many, if any, players have title match victories over three of the four winningest players in PBA history.

At 53 years old, Eugene is still going strong, especially on the PBA50 Tour. Last year, he took home the Senior of the Year award in the Midwest and Central region. He wasn't the only McCune earning honors in 2020, though. His son, Kevin, won the Midwest Rookie of the Year award.

Kevin, 23, has already made a name for himself on the PBA Tour. He finished 50th on the PBA's point list this season, one spot behind Chris Barnes. In his first U.S. Open, Kevin finished 16th and closed out match play with a 300 game. Then in his Masters debut, he took home a T-25th-place finish.

With Kevin's victory last fall at the PBA The Plaza Bowl Midwest Open RPI tournament, the McCunes became the first family with three generations of PBA champions. While Kevin's win was only a regional, Eugene is confident Kevin will win a national event once his confidence develops. Eugene believes he maintains his upper hand up the lane and in front of the ball return, but concedes the middle part of the lane to Kevin. He raves about his son's ball roll and mental game, which stems from Kevin's baseball career.

Kevin primarily played catcher, but took his coach-on-the-field mentality across the diamond. When he moved to pitcher, third base or first base, he viewed the game like a catcher. "That's how it is in bowling, too," Kevin said. "You're always the catcher because you're making each call. You have to know what you're gonna do before you're gonna do it."

He played baseball collegiately, first at Purdue Northwest. After tearing his labrum as a freshman, he said he began to focus more on bowling. He transferred to Calumet College Of St. Joseph, where he also bowled.

Kris, Eugene's sister, made the 1994 LPBT Hammer Eastern Open telecast. His wife, Chris, became the first woman to shoot 300 at the Indiana state tournament, which she accomplished while Eugene was bowling on TV. "Everybody's got 300 in the family," Eugene said.

When Eugene and Kevin matched up in the Times Masters Bowling Classic title match last spring, it may have been a passing of the torch. Kevin got the win, but Eugene hasn't forgotten the three 9-pins he left, nor the 4-pins Kevin tripped. "I let him have the big trophy," Eugene joked. "You know how kids are today."

From Don's revolutionary soaking, to Eugene's legendary fireball, to Kevin's promising future, the McCunes have etched their name throughout PBA history.

## **RYAN AND CHRIS BARNES NEW ROYAL FAMILY AT PBA KING OF THE LANES JUNE 6, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Jupiter, Florida – Bowling reigns supreme in the households of players on the PBA and PWBA Tours. Inside Bowlero Jupiter, parent-kid duos teamed up for the inaugural PBA King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition.

After seeing his basketball career come to an end, Ryan Barnes has only recently turned his full attention to bowling. He is now following his father, Chris's path bowling collegiately at Wichita State University. Their initial postures on the lanes are similar, each with a slight shifting of their shoulders to the right. But then Ryan delivers his powerful two-handed style.

Twenty-year-old Ryan, who bowled with one hand until about the age of 13, is part of the growing number of two-handers destroying pins on lanes across the world. In the opening match, they faced Jordan and Wes Malott.

Both Jordan and Ryan, who are members of the 2022 Junior Team USA, started off with single-pin spares and the Barneses threw the first double of the match in the third and fourth frames. The Malotts put together a six-bagger heading to the 10th frame. Wes, who was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame in February, picked up a 10-pin and struck for 237.

"I have always wanted to bowl with my dad," 18-year-old Jordan said. "Especially on TV, which is a dream come true. It is pretty cool to be under the lights instead of in the bleachers. To enjoy that experience with my dad is another level of joy."

Jordan is leaning more toward a baseball career but likes the fact that bowling is an option too. He will be a freshman with the bowling program at Huntington University in Indiana.

Chris, who had struck two out of four times on the right lane, rolled a double and 7 for 243.

"That was the most nervous I have been in a long time," Chris said on his 10th frame performance. "There is something different about bowling with your family. To be here is a little surreal and it was an experience I didn't think was going to happen."

"I was pretty nervous at first but it kind of felt like a basketball game," Ryan said. "After the first couple of shots, I settled in. It was really awesome."

Chris and Ryan then moved on to face two of the biggest names and most colorful personalities in bowling, Guppy and Kyle Troup were dubbed the reigning Royal Family with their combined 17 PBA Tour titles. To nobody's surprise, the Troups showed up in style. Their jersey and pants combination were inspired by a similar look Guppy sported while bowling on the PBA Tour in the '80s.

Back then Guppy had a seamstress sew together two separate pairs of pants, one yellow and one green, to create the look he sported on TV multiple times.

"He wore them when he won the 1985 Austin Open," Kyle said. "That was the only show that I was alive for that he made, so I thought it was only fitting for him to wear that outfit again. Pay tribute to Guppy."

Guppy pumped up the crowd after converting a 4-pin in his first frame, but the Troups found themselves behind quickly as the Barneses started off with four straight strikes. Despite two missed single-pin spares in back-to-back frames by the Barnes clan, they refocused and stayed clean over the final four frames for 223.

Kyle got his team's first strike in the sixth frame followed by 72-year-old Guppy converting the 3-10 split in the seventh frame. Kyle enjoyed one final moment as he threw his dad's ball on the final shot with his thumb in the ball for a strike and a 169 game.

"That was a dream come true," Kyle said about the experience. "We got to compete together when I was younger in the PBA regional level, but just knowing where our careers are at in bowling now, I never would have thought I would get to bowl with my father on television."

"He bowled great, and he put on a show," Kyle added. "That was the thing that I enjoyed watching more than anything because as a kid that is what I watched. That is where I learned my flair and style from."

"Just a chance to bowl with him on national TV, you can't ask for anything better," Guppy said. "It was just unbelievable."

Ryan, who bowled on the left lane against the Malotts, struck four out of five times on the right lane in the match against the Troups.

Chris and Ryan now hold the title of PBA Kings of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition. Next up, Cayden and Ronnie Russell will face Brady and Tom Smallwood at 9 p.m. ET Tuesday on FS1. The winner will aim to dethrone Chris and Ryan.

"Bowling is a big family and now everyone gets to see that," Kyle said about this inaugural event. "I think a lot more people are going to be able to relate and we get more people interested in bowling."

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Ryan and Chris Barnes def. Jordan and Wes Malott 243-237

Match 2 – Ryan and Chris Barnes def. Guppy and Kyle Troup 223-169

### **RYAN AND CHRIS BARNES MAINTAIN THE THRONE AT PBA KING OF THE LANES: ROYAL FAMILY EDITION**

JUNE 7, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jupiter, Florida – The two-handed revolution of the sport of bowling was once again on display during the PBA King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition.

Ronnie Russell's son, Cayden displayed his 500-plus rev rates against family friends, Brady and Tom Smallwood inside Bowlero Jupiter.

It was nothing short of impressive as the 17-year-old was a perfect five-for-five in his attempts throwing a Radical Conspiracy Scheme.

Ronnie picked up three straight 7-pins before Team Russell was able to put together a late five-bagger, as they cruised to a 238-160 victory.



"It was a little nerve racking my first time under the lights," Cayden said. "I threw one shot at a time, didn't overthink any shots, and let the ball do the work."

"It was amazing just watching him perform under that environment," Ronnie said about bowling with his son. "He posted almost every shot. And watching the two boys interact was pretty cool."

Ten-year-old Brady had the crowd on his side. He got three marks which included the conversion of the 1-2-10 in the fifth frame. Tom and Brady bowl together as much as they can, and they were thrilled to participate.

"My first shot was nerve racking but the rest of them I felt pretty good," Brady said. "I'm only 10 years old, and I am hoping I can get a little bit better, if they have this again."

"I've been fortunate to do a lot of stuff in bowling, but this is the pinnacle of it," Tom said. "It is a dream come true to bowl with my son especially on TV. I hope it happens again, and we are invited back, because this is the most fun I have ever had on TV."

The Russells next challenge was a match against Chris and Ryan Barnes. The two-handed youth bowlers were both nearly perfect.

Cayden managed the left lane rolling four out of five strikes while Ryan once again controlled the right lane with four out of five strikes. The Russells held a 11-pin lead through four frames when the Barneses reeled off eight consecutives strikes for 267. The Russells finished strong with 242.

After experiencing his first televised tournament, Cayden can't wait to do it again.

"It is something I definitely want to do in the future," he said. "Hopefully, I'll be out here one day competing for a title. Bowling the Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles maybe one day in the future with my dad."

Chris and Ryan maintained their seats on the throne.

"His level of talent has exploded, and he looks like the better bowler of the two of us out here right now," Chris said about Ryan.

"Great experience," Ryan said. "On the right lane, I played tighter and slowed down my speed. Trying to keep throwing strikes, keep dialing it in and do what we do."

Up next, Brandon and Parker Bohn III will bowl Alyssa Ballard and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard at 8 p.m. ET Thursday on FS1. The winning team will again take on Team Barnes.

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Cayden and Ronnie Russell def. Brady and Tom Smallwood 238-160

Match 2 – Ryan and Chris Barnes def. Cayden and Ronnie Russell 267-242

### **BENARD PACES OPENING ROUND AT 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

**LAS VEGAS** - Richard Benard of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, sits at the top of the leaderboard after the first day of competition at the 2022 **United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters**.

Benard averaged 247 for his first five-game block at the Sam's Town Bowling Center to lead the 261-player field Tuesday, firing games of 246, 257, 224, 242 and 266 for a 1,235 total.

He was followed in the standings by USBC Hall of Famer Lennie Boresch Jr. of Kenosha, Wisconsin, who was the runner-up at last week's Super Senior Classic at Sam's Town. Boresch finished Tuesday's round with 1,231.

USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey, is third with 1,187, while Derek Gregory of North Las Vegas, Nevada, and Tom Adcock of Forsyth, Illinois, rounded out the top five with 1,179 and 1,155, respectively.

After the first round on this week's 40-foot oil pattern, Lewis Elting of Carlsbad, California, sits in 63rd place with a 1,046 total, a 209.2 average.

Defending champion Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa, is in 101st after Round 1 with a 1,006 total.

All competitors at the 2022 Senior Masters will bowl three five-game blocks over three days, and the top 63 will join Hess in the tournament's double-elimination bracket after 15 games.

Hess is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion and can improve his seeding through qualifying. If he qualifies outside of the top 63, he will enter the bracket as the No. 64 seed.

Bracket matches will be contested in a three-game total-pinfal format, until the field is cut to the top five for the stepladder finals June 12 at 1 p.m. Eastern on **BowlTV**.

Since the stepladder will be broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format. The winner of the 2022 Senior Masters will take home a major championship on the PBA50 schedule and first-place prize of \$20,000.

## **CASTILLO TAKES LEAD AFTER ROUND 2 AT 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

**LAS VEGAS** - Dino Castillo of Highland Village, Texas, started his second round at the 2022 **United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters** with a 300 game and 801 series to vault to the top of the standings Wednesday at the Sam's Town Bowling Center.

After rolling a 1,108 five-game block Tuesday, Castillo put together games of 300, 249, 252, 224 and 258 for a 1,283 set to bring his 10-game total to 2,391, a 239.1 average. The 50-year-old right-hander is the only competitor at the 2022 USBC Senior Masters to connect for a perfect game through two rounds on the 40-foot oil pattern.

USBC Hall of Famer Lennie Boresch Jr. of Kenosha, Wisconsin, remains in second place with a 2,357 total, and USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey, maintained his position in third with 2,350.

Brad Angelo of Lockport, New York, is fourth with 2,331, and opening-round leader Richard Benard of Rio Rancho, New Mexico, is fifth with 2,323.

Defending champion Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa, moved into the top 64 after a 1,158 block Wednesday and now is in 23rd place with a 2,164 total.

With one round of qualifying left to go, Brian LeClair of Delmar, New York, sits in 64th place with a 2,059 total, a 205.9 average.

All competitors at the 2022 Senior Masters will bowl three five-game blocks over three days, with the final round starting Thursday at 11 a.m. Eastern. The top 63 bowlers will join Hess in the tournament's double-elimination bracket after 15 games.

Hess is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion and can improve his seeding through qualifying. If he qualifies outside of the top 63, he will enter the bracket as the No. 64 seed.

Bracket matches will be contested in a three-game total-pinfall format, until the field is cut to the top five for the stepladder finals Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern on **BowlTV**.

Since the stepladder will be broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format. The winner of the 2022 Senior Masters will take home a major championship on the PBA50 schedule and first-place prize of \$20,000.

## **RYAN AND CHRIS BARNES MAINTAIN THE THRONE AT PBA KING OF THE LANES: ROYAL FAMILY EDITION**

JUNE 7, 2022 JILL WINTERS

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"Great experience," Ryan said. "On the right lane, I played tighter and slowed down my speed. Trying to keep throwing strikes, keep dialing it in and do what we do."

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#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Cayden and Ronnie Russell def. Brady and Tom Smallwood 238-160

Match 2 – Ryan and Chris Barnes def. Cayden and Ronnie Russell 267-242

### **CAROLYN-DORIN BALLARD AND ALYSSA BALLARD CROWNED CHAMPIONS AT PBA KING OF THE LANES: ROYAL FAMILY EDITION**

JUNE 9, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jupiter, Florida – An event to crown two kings was won by two queens.

The only mother-daughter team in the inaugural PBA King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition Alyssa Ballard and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard felt somewhat like they were underdogs coming into this event, but they were far from intimidated.

"I actually like competing against the guys," Alyssa said. "With the sport evolving, there is more two-handers and higher rev rates. We as women can't really create that as easily, so it makes me work a lot harder."

Alyssa was making her first TV show appearance and after a nervous first frame resulted in a split and open frame, she was able to settle in and read what the lanes were giving her against fellow Junior Team USA 2022 teammate Brandon Bohn and Parker Bohn III.

"She has had some awesome mental and physical coaches and they prepared her," Carolyn said about her daughter's ability to quickly adjust. "When you get good coaching and your foundation is so solid, you can do anything."

The lefty Bohn duo came out swinging with a five-bagger as they held a 31-pin lead through five frames. The ladies responded with four straight strikes to cut into their opponents lead. Brandon struck every time on the right lane heading into the foundation frame but left a pocket 6-8 split for an open frame and a score of 215.

Needing a double to shut out the Ballards, Parker struck on his first shot then left a solid 7-pin, which he picked up.

"We set ourselves up perfectly," Brandon said. "There is nothing that we would have changed. Carolyn stepped up in the 10th and made it happen."

Prior to Carolyn needing a double and 9 to win, her daughter gave her some words of advice.

"I just told her you have done this before, so you've got this," Alyssa said.

Just like she did so often in her career, Carolyn delivered in the clutch throwing three straight strikes to earn the 237-235 win.

"The Hall of Fame parents and these kids are so good," Carolyn said after the win. "It's about filling frames and keep repeating, so you can strike."

"There is nothing more rewarding as a parent than to get to do something with your kids," Parker said. "I wanted to win to give him (Brandon) more airtime."

"My father is my role model," Brandon said. "This was a wonderful opportunity and a special moment for me to bowl with him for sure."

In match two, the Ballards had their eyes on the crown as they took on the Royal Family of Chris and Ryan Barnes. Both teams lived in the 1-3 pocket, and it came down to who had the better carry. Each parent and kid had a spare and a strike to start as the Ballards held a 10-pin lead through four frames.

Alyssa, who has committed to attend and bowl at Vanderbilt University, and Carolyn maintained a 10-pin lead through six frames before they put together a five-bagger for a 248 game. The Barneses left five 10-pins and posted their first string of strikes at the end of the match to lose with a 217.

The ladies hugged Chris and Ryan, put on their new crowns and showed on the final day of this family event they are now the Queens of the Lanes.

"We are very much alike, and we clash a lot," Alyssa said about she and her mom's personalities on the lanes. "So going in, I really didn't know how it was going to go. But we both stayed pretty calm, and everything turned out our way. It feels unreal, like it was all a dream."

"Special events like this one game baker match, anything can happen," Carolyn said. "I hope this sets precedents for years to come."

"This was really about the kids and showcasing the talent that bowling has," Carolyn said about this event. "The great thing about this sport is my daughter, (Ryan) Barnes and (Brandon) Bohn all of them bowl, and I hope they have such a great experience that when they grow up and have children it will just continue to flourish."

"In the end, we are all a giant family," Parker said. "We have watched all of these kids grow up and to see what they have become is incredible."

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Alyssa Ballard and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard def. Brandon Bohn and Parker Bohn III 237-235

Match 2 – Alyssa Ballard and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard def. Ryan and Chris Barnes 248-217

### **JASON STERNER KEEPS HIS TITLE AS PBA KING OF THE LANES**

JUNE 9, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jupiter, Florida – During the 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season, Jason Sterner made his presence known.

The New York native has earned \$73,085 while cashing in seven out of 13 tournaments. He feels confident in his game, and it showed as the reigning champion of the PBA King of the Lanes inside Bowlero Jupiter.

In the opening match, Sterner sat comfortably on his throne as he watched PBA Hall of Famer Norm Duke go head-to-head with Carlos Granados, the 2021 PBA Regional Players Invitational winner. Duke, who was making his first return to the lanes since the 2022 USBC Masters in April, rolled four straight strikes while Granados was perfect through five.

Granados's sixth shot came in a bit high leaving a 4-pin, which he converted for a 13-pin lead.

Duke left a washout in the seventh frame that led to an open frame and his Venezuelan opponent took advantage. Granados, the 2021 PBA South Region Rookie of the Year, closed out the match with six strikes-in-a-row for a 279 game to Duke's 232.

"That was a dream come true and an honor to be here," the 24-year-old Granados said.

In match two, Sterner took off his crown and knew he had to get lined up quickly against Granados who seemed dialed in. Sterner decided to throw a different ball on each lane. A Brunswick Quantum EVO Pearl on the left and a Brunswick Defender on the right.

He was perfect through six to earn a 32-pin advantage.

"I was happy that I committed to that and got out to a good start," Sterner said.

He then made the match a little interesting, picking up the headpin and then missing the 4-pin to give Granados an opening. Granados continued to impress with a 234 game. Sterner needed two strikes and 1-pin in the 10th. He struck out for 257 to keep his crown and royal title.

"This was awesome," the 38-year-old Sterner said after the win. "It's becoming more comfortable to be in that atmosphere where before I was kind of scared of that moment. Now, I am just embracing it and enjoying it while you can."

The next PBA King of the Lanes show will air at 9 p.m. ET Friday on FS1 with a rematch of the finals of the 2022 PBA Playoffs between Kyle Troup and Tommy Jones. The winner will look to take Sterner's title and throne.

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Granados def. Duke 279-232

Match 2 – Sterner def. Granados 257-234

### **PETE WEBER FINISHES AS TOP QUALIFIER AT 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

**LAS VEGAS** - United States Bowling Congress and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Pete Weber of St. Ann, Missouri, averaged more than 263 during his final round of qualifying Thursday at the 2022 **USBC Senior Masters** to lead the top 64 players into the double-elimination bracket starting Friday at the Sam's Town Bowling Center.

The 2013 and 2016 USBC Senior Masters champion rolled games of 300, 215, 299, 255 and 249 for a 1,318 total Thursday to finish his 15 games of qualifying with a 3,524 total, a 234.9 average.

Weber will be the No. 1 seed for the bracket starting Friday at noon Eastern and face Jon DeLaney of McKinney, Texas, in the first round. DeLaney earned the final spot in the bracket after finishing in 64th place with a 3,080 total, a 205.3 average.

USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas, finished qualifying in second with 3,491. Barnes finished as the runner-up at the 2021 Senior Masters.

USBC Hall of Famer Lennie Boresch Jr. of Kenosha, Wisconsin, continued the momentum from this runner-up finish last weekend at Sam's Town during the Super Senior Classic and finished in third with 3,484.

Opening-round leader Richard Benard of Roanoke, Texas, was fourth with 3,450, and USBC and

PBA Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey, finished fifth with 3,449.

Defending champion Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa, finished in 21st place with a 3,257 total and will face No. 44 Mike Keough of Stockton, California, in the opening round.

All competitors at the 2022 Senior Masters bowled three five-game blocks over three days on the 40-foot oil pattern being used this week. Each squad bowled one block on the fresh, one round on the burn and five games on the double-burn.

The top 63 bowlers advanced to join Hess in the bracket. Hess was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion and could improve his seeding through qualifying. If he finished outside of the top 63, he would have entered match play as the No. 64 seed.

The left side of the bracket will start the action Friday at Sam's Town at noon Eastern, with the right side of the bracket beginning at 2:30 p.m. Eastern.

All bracket matches leading up to Sunday's stepladder finals will feature a three-game total-pinfall format. The top five players will advance to the stepladder, which will begin at 1 p.m. Eastern on **BowlTV**.

Since the stepladder will be broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format. The winner of the 2022 Senior Masters will take home a major championship on the PBA50 schedule and first-place prize of \$20,000.

## **32 PLAYERS REMAIN IN BRACKET AT 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

LAS VEGAS - There were plenty of strikes to be had for big names on Day 1 of match play at the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters from Sam's Town Bowling Center at Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall.

Chris Barnes, the No. 2 overall qualifier entering the day, shot 299, but Parker Bohn III, the tournament's No. 5 overall qualifier, did him one pin better, shooting 300 during the morning bracket round, en route to an 824 series. Jack Jurek also shot 300 during that round, en route to an 811 series.

Bohn III said that he has been trying to keep his angles in front of him and play straight most of the week.

"I might be a little farther out near the gutter or stay up four-five-six range, depending on what I feel like the lane is giving me at the time, seemed to be a little more advantageous especially as I was crossing the center," Bohn said.

Bohn was using the Quantum Evo Pearl for most of the day.



"That is the ball that has been doing most of the work this week, but I did throw my GB4 Pearl, and it seemed like it matched up well. It goes a little bit longer and snaps a bit more on the backend and well, I am not crazy on the snap, especially when I am bowling on a sport pattern," he said.

Bohn III said that while he has been throwing a ball for a long time, bowling with his son, Brandon Bohn, on the King of the Lanes show, does not compare.

"When I can take one of my children, and it's not just my son, but my daughter as well, there's nothing more rewarding than doing it with your children."

Not everybody was striking a ton, but those that were, often did it in bunches.

There were more strikes to be had once the Elimination Bracket matches took shape, but Walter Ray Williams Jr. was the one that shot 300, en route to a 771-533 win over Doug Ingalsbe. The win kept the legend alive in the Elimination Bracket.

"Even though it's a 40-foot pattern, it feels like a 45-foot pattern for me," Williams said. "It hooks a little bit in the middle of the lane. The outside of the lane was a little tiny bit of hook and I tried to play off of that."

In his second match of the day, Williams said he had a little too much hook because he bowled after the burn squad. But in his last match, hoping to stay alive in the tournament, he carried everything.

"I carried everything except for one shot," Williams said. "It's the first time I have ever had a pin come out of the gutter and stand up," he laughed.

He said he just wanted to keep the ball in play in his last match.

"That pair was really tight," Williams said. "I hit the pocket in all the right spots. It wasn't high flush every shot, but it was enough to get the pins to fall down."

Williams Jr. will bowl Gary Alstott, with both players hoping to stay alive in the tournament and work their way to the stepladder finals, the harder way that is.

Other players, including some of the biggest names in the sport, have a much easier road to the BowlTV show. Chris Barnes, Chris Warren, Tom Hess, Bohn III, Lennie Boresch and Amleto Monacelli are some of the players that stayed in the Winners Bracket.

Barnes will match up against Monacelli in what will be, at least on paper, one of the highest profile matches entering Saturday's final match-play round.

By the end of Saturday, the field will be cut to the top five for the stepladder finals, which will take place on Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern.

## **KYLE TROUP WINS THE CROWN AT PBA KING OF THE LANES**

JUNE 10, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jupiter, Florida – Kyle Troup is always ready to put on a show especially inside Bowlero Jupiter.

In a showdown for the throne at the final day of the PBA King of the Lanes, Troup executed at a high level as he again proved his dominance inside the bowling center.

The North Carolina native opened with three strikes and picked up back-to-back 10-pins. His opponent, reigning King of the Lanes Jason Sterner started off with a double before leaving the dreaded 7-10 split. Troup held a 12-pin lead in the fifth followed by six strikes.

He finished off with a 266 game which was just too much for Sterner who rolled 225. Troup proudly grabbed his crown and scepter, donned his new robe, and even added one of his Afro pick combs to the outside of his new headpiece in true Troup fashion.

"I have won a quarter of a million dollars in this building, so a lot of great memories here and we get to add another one to it," he said. "King of the Lanes is something I have always wanted to win, especially watching Wes Malott be a dominant figure in this tournament for a long time."

"Who knows where the next King of the Lanes will be, maybe Portland, Maine," Troup guessed. "That would be awesome. I get to hold this title for awhile, so I am going to wear the crown well."

Troup now adds his King of the Lanes attire to his two WWE championship belts. He earned that second belt just last month by defeating Tommy Jones 3-1 at the 2022 Kia PBA Playoffs, earning his ninth career PBA Tour title along with a cool \$100,000.

Troup, who has been nearly unbeatable at Bowlero Jupiter, was impressive against Jones once again. Having won his first major title at the 2021 PBA Players Championship for \$250,00 inside this exact bowling center, Troup relied on his past experience. He was perfect on the left lane and one stubborn 10-pin in the second frame cost him a perfect game against Jones.

The charismatic two-hander won 280-207.

"Once I found a ball that controlled the pocket on both lanes then it came down to me," Troup said about his game plan. "If I made the right shot with my speed control then it was going to strike. I just chose to go with that, and we definitely executed a few shots there."

Next season, Troup has his eyes on winning another title to become Hall of Fame eligible.

### **MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – Troup def. Jones 280-207

Match 2 – Troup def. Sterner 266-225

## **FINALISTS DETERMINED FOR STEPLADDER AT 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

LAS VEGAS - If there is one thing that is guaranteed about Parker Bohn III and all other professional bowlers, they will give it 110 percent on every shot and then some.

Sometimes the pins fall.

Sometimes they do not.

But the effort will always be there.

"I want to make every shot I roll, the best I possibly can," Bohn said. "When you watch Parker Bohn bowl, he is trying to give you 100 percent on every single shot."

In addition, believe it or not, the pros are not always trying to shoot 280 or 300. Bohn said it all comes down to scoring pace.

"You got to take a step back and try to find something," Bohn said. "Now, tomorrow is going to be different. We are going to bowl one-game matches. You have to at least do what your opponent is doing, and when I say that, make sure you are one pin better than them."

Bohn qualified as the No. 2 seed for Sunday's stepladder finals of the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters at Sam's Town Bowling Center from Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall in Las Vegas.

Bohn said the score is irrelevant in the sense that a win is a win.

"I was close (to scoring big), but when you start fighting that, you try to make it strike and then you start losing control of the pocket," Bohn said. "I can tell you right now, you can't do that, especially when you are bowling on a sport pattern."

The USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer said there are too many factors to consider to only focus on the score, including speed of the ball, what ball you are throwing, what ball your opponent is throwing, what surface they are using, if any, and of course, how the pair plays.

In addition to all those factors, the professionals have a different mindset during qualifying compared to match play.

"If your opponent looks like they are struggling a little bit, then you take the fact that you are close to the pocket, filling the frames," Bohn said. "Filling frames, 190 or 200 can win."

"But if your opponent is really rallying and hitting the pocket strong, before you know it, they come out of the gate with the front two or three, well you better bring your 'A' game to the table."

Qualifying is a completely different story.

"When you are bowling the field in qualifying, I don't care what the leader is doing," Bohn said. "In qualifying, all I am trying to do is keep up with the vast majority of guys that are near the top," Bohn said.

Bohn said that when he throws a good shot and the ball doesn't strike, it's not that he caught a "bad break," it's that the ball did not do the right thing.

"That's just being realistic with yourself," Bohn said. "If you know you threw a crisp shot off your hand, and it went exactly where you are looking for and the ball doesn't do what you think it's going to do, well then, you've got to make a maneuver off of that.

"More than likely it's back to the operator."

Bohn eventually found something that other left-handers struggled to find.

"Chris had a great vision of the lane," Bohn said. "Fortunately for me, I had a really good look on most of them (the pairs) I was on.

"Whatever I found, I am going to say it bluntly, a lot of the lefties were trying to figure out and do whatever it was that Parker was doing," he said. "I was playing the extreme outside part of the lane with my target in front of me."

This allowed him to make the show as the only left-hander, along with top qualifier and 2018 Senior Masters champion Chris Warren, who had the best look in the bowling center all day, No. 3 seed Jack Jurek, No. 4 seed Chris Barnes and No. 5 seed Dino Castillo.

The stepladder finals will take place Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern live at BowlTV.com, and by the end, a new USBC Senior Masters champion will be crowned.

## **DINO CASTILLO WINS 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

**By Joe Jacquez**  
**Bowlers Journal International**

**LAS VEGAS** – When it is your day, it is your day.

It certainly was Dino Castillo's day.

As the No. 5 seed at the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters, Castillo, of Highland Village, Texas, ran the ladder to win his first career Professional Bowlers Association 50 Tour title at Sam Town's Bowling Center inside Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall on Sunday live on BowlTV.com.

A die-hard Cowboys fan who is always representing his favorite team, even with his sock choices, shot games of 300, 257, 255 for 812 in his three games against No. 4 seed Chris Barnes (300-222), No. 3 seed Jack Jurek (257-196) and No. 2 seed Parker Bohn III (255-219) to reach the championship.

In the USBC Senior Masters format, No. 1 seed Chris Warren, who came into the stepladder undefeated in the tournament, had to be beaten twice to lose the tournament.

Warren had the best look all week, but Castillo had just come off averaging nearly 271 with his Black Widow Ghost, a ball that he switched to late in the day to get to the show, because he needed a different shape and more importantly, needed to start striking in bunches.

That he did. To do it against some of the best players in the world, including hall of famers, Castillo said was a dream.

"It almost feels like a blur, because I had five matches to bowl," Castillo said. "Someone was having trouble coughing and so that kind of took the pressure off, because it became a joke to me."

At that point, knowing he was lined up, Castillo was loose and just needed to repeat shots. Having a bunch of miss room helped, too.

"The only way I could beat Chris and Jack was to get them off their spot," Castillo said. "My look was not very good on the fresh, so I talked to Shawn Maldonado last night, and he said that is what I need to do."

Castillo took his Black Widow Ghost, sanded it up at 360 and 240 and took the approach of trying not to bowl bad and getting his opponents off of their line.

He did that.

"What I didn't know was that I was going to be able to create an unbelievable reaction for myself," Castillo said.

Castillo defeated Warren, the 2018 Senior Masters champion, by scores of 253-201 and 216-169 to win the 2022 event. He finished with 1,281 pins knocked down in the stepladder.

Castillo stopped trying to win on the regular tour after making some shows in his first five years, but as a rookie on the PBA50 Tour this year, he has been as motivated and as focused as ever to win.

Ball rep Jeff Johnson said entering Sunday's stepladder finals, he could tell Castillo was there to win.

"I am a good reader of body language, and I knew it was a Dino day," Johnson said.

It certainly was a Dino day.

Castillo was not only able to get his opponents off their spot, but besides avoiding trouble, he was able to create so much miss room that even on shots that he missed right, the ball got back to the pocket, because of the ball he was using, his hand, the

tricks he has and his rev rate, which is higher compared to most players on the senior tour.

He said he wasn't really thinking about what his score was for a set of games, but after the fact, that was a different story.

"But now that I know, holy crap I shot 812, that's amazing," he said.

Castillo said he could have never dreamed of winning the Senior Masters because of the format and how tough it is.

"I knew it was going to come, but this is the last tournament I would have expected to get," Castillo said. "It's just a dream I never thought I would have."

Now it's a reality.

Castillo collected the top prize of \$20,000 with the win, while Warren took home \$12,000 for the runner-up finish.

The 2022 Senior Masters started with 261 players age 50 and older competing in three five-game qualifying blocks to determine the top 63 joining defending champion Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa, in the double-elimination bracket.

Hess was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion and finished the 2022 event tied for ninth place.

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder featured a three-game total-pinfall format.

For more information on the USBC Senior Masters, visit [BOWL.com/SeniorMasters](https://www.usbc.com/SeniorMasters).

## **2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS At Sam's Town Bowling Center Las Vegas**

### **Sunday's Results**

#### **Final standings**

- 1, Dino Castillo, Highland Village, Texas, 1,281 (five games), \$20,000.
- 2, Chris Warren, Grants Pass, Ore., 370 (two games), \$12,000.
- 3, Parker Bohn III, Jackson, N.J., 219 (one game), \$9,000.
- 4, Jack Jurek, Lackawanna, N.Y., 196 (one game), \$7,000.
- 5, Chris Barnes, Denton, Texas, 222 (one game), \$5,500.

#### **Stepladder results**

**Match 1** – Castillo def. Barnes, 300-222.

**Match 2** – Castillo def. Jurek, 257-196.

**Semifinal** – Castillo def. Bohn, 255-219.

**Championship** – Castillo def. Warren, 253-201 and 216-169.

## **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: POLIZZI, SCHENCK, CRUZ, ANGELO EARN TITLES IN EARLY JUNE**

### **JUNE 16, 2022, CHASE KAUFMAN**

Another two weeks have passed, and another four events are in the books. Florida, California, Oregon, and New Mexico became the latest states to award points to competitors, each vying for a cash prize at their respective tournaments and a spot in the RPI for more cash at the end of the year.

#### **PBA Bowlero Jacksonville Open**

At the only regional during the early June Weekend, Kristijonas Sergejevas of Lithuania led qualifying in Jacksonville, going +155, almost 60 pins higher than second place. Bowlers competed on the Wayne Webb 38-foot pattern, which proved to play more demanding than usual at Bowl America Southside, given that the cut ended up at -72 for eight games. From there, players continued bowling advancer rounds while the field split in half until just two players remained. One competitor left was Sergejevas, who never dropped below third throughout the tournament, and the other was Chris Polizzi of Spring Hill, Florida, who never fell below sixth place after any round. In the final round, all pins dropped as Polizzi and Sergejevas came together to bowl one head-to-head game. Both bowlers started with a strike in the first and a spare in the second, but Polizzi followed it up with a turkey in frames 3-5 while Sergejevas went spare, spare, open. The deficit Sergejevas faced halfway through proved too much to overcome as Polizzi went on to win his second career PBA title.

#### **PBA Bowlero Jacksonville Open Final Results**

Chris Polizzi, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Kristijonas Sergejevas, 1,500, \$1,900

Nick Christy, 1,150, \$1,225

Zachary Seals, 950, \$1,225

#### **PBA Casino Morongo Open**

The following weekend, the Casino Morongo Open took place in Cabazon, California, at Canyon Lanes, hosting 72 bowlers in search of a regional title and 2,500 points toward the RPI standings. The pincers of the Scorpion pattern didn't sting Jakob Butturff as he cruised to the top of the leaderboard, going +376 for eight games. After another four games in the advancers round, Butturff still led the field, but it didn't matter as those top eight bowlers now moved onto a single-elimination bracket. Butturff defeated Chad Lusche in the first round, while Cortez Schenck, Michael Fitzgerald, and Darren Tang also moved on. In the semifinals, Butturff comfortably took down Schenck in game number one, but Schenck found something in games two and three, winning 268-210 and 253-204 to move onto the finals. He moved on to face Darren Tang, who also defeated Fitzgerald in a tight best-of-three match.

In the one-game final, both players started with early opens but found their groove after the third frame. Tang and Schenck continued to strike until the ninth frame, where Tang missed one in and left the 3-10. Tang converted the baby split, but the next shot hung where he left a 2-10 and missed it. Needing just a mark and good count, Schenck stepped up and delivered three strikes in the tenth to cap off a 254-224 victory. The Casino Morongo Open was Schenck's first event since the passing of his father, and in honor of him, Schenck earned his first PBA regional title as a member and second title overall.

#### **PBA Casino Morongo Open Final Standings**

Cortez Schenck, 2,500 points, \$2,200  
Darren Tang, 1,500, \$1,450  
Jakob Butturff, 1,150, \$1,075  
Michael Fitzgerald, 1,150, \$1,075

Simultaneously taking place about 1,000 miles north, 36 bowlers brought their talents into Linn Lanes to compete for \$2,000 and possibly a championship banner. The top twelve bowlers moved on after 10 games of qualifying on a dual pattern event, with the top four receiving byes into the quarterfinals. The first two rounds were best three-of-five formats, and after the rounds finished, Zack Stone, Tyler Cruz, Jordan Yoke, and Craig Tuholski remained. Now moving to a best two-of-three match, both matches still went the distance. Stone won his first game over Cruz 214-202 but couldn't get anything rolling in the next two games, dropping both 244-194 and 237-164. In the bottom half of the bracket, Yoke dropped his first game to Tuholski but bounced back with a pair of victories in games two and three. Both bowlers searched for their first PBA Regional Title as they started strong through five frames, each with four strikes and a spare, but Yoke held an eleven-pin lead. However, Yoke split in the 6th and opened in the 7th frame, leaving the door wide open for Cruz, who entered without knocking. Cruz knocked down a vital double, giving him a 24-pin lead. Yoke followed it up with a strike but left the Big Four in the ninth frame, which essentially sealed the deal for Cruz. Cruz took home a \$2,000 check, 2,500 points, and will soon see his name etched on a banner hanging up over the pins.

#### PBA Primasing Motors Open Final Standings

Tyler Cruz, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Jordan Yoke, \$1,250  
Zack Stone, 1,150, \$950  
Craig Tuholski, 950, \$950

#### PBA50 Skidmore's Holiday Bowl Southwest Open

Following the USBC Senior Masters, a handful of bowlers decided to make the trek down from Las Vegas to Albuquerque. Brad Angelo, who qualified 12th at the Masters, qualified first at Skidmore's Holiday Bowl, going +277 for eight games. Tom Hess and Walter Ray Williams Jr. followed closely behind in the standings finishing +226 and +180, respectively.

Hess apparently had an extra scoop of Wheaties for breakfast on Wednesday as he immediately fired off a 300 in game one against Angelo. The battle stayed fierce between the two until Brad Angelo finished his round-robin match play with a 279 and a 269 in games six and seven. With just the position round remaining, Angelo held a 69-pin lead, meaning Hess needed a 40-pin victory to move up in the standings. Hess fought, delivering a 258, but Angelo stayed within the 40-pin margin, leaving the New Yorker atop the leaderboard.

#### PBA50 Skidmore's Holiday Bowl Southwest Open Final Standings

Brad Angelo, 2,000 points, \$2,500  
Tom Hess, 1,500, \$1,200  
Walter Ray Williams Jr. 1,150, \$850  
Martin Bedford, 950, \$750  
You can view the Southwest Region standings [here](#).

### **LECLAIR DOMINATES DAY ONE AT PBA SENIOR U.S. OPEN**

JUNE 19, 2022, JILL WINTERS



Lubbock, Texas – Brian LeClair posted a seven-game opening qualifying block at the 2022 PBA Senior U.S. Open that bowlers fantasize about.

The 2017 PBA50 Player of the Year began with 261, 290 and 236 for 787. He finished the block even better than he started with 279, 300 and 268 for 847. His lowest score was 206 in game four. LeClair stormed his way to the top of the leaderboard with 1,840, an impressive 262.86 average.

"That is one of those blocks that you dream about," the five-time PBA50 winner said. "I'm guessing I threw about 65 strikes in seven games. It's the U.S. Open, the pins carryover, so that feels better to have a 164-pin lead after seven games."

The Carmen Salvino 44-foot oil pattern allowed LeClair to play fairly straight "using my 'A' game roll and it just seemed to work all day." He admits he made some really bad mistakes early in game four, so he changed balls to a 900 Global Zen Master and the strikes just kept coming.

"I got my head back on my shoulders because it wasn't there for the first few frames (in game four)," he said. "When you match up the right way and your ball is going through the pins the right way good things happen."

Pete Weber got the B squad off to a strong start rolling 11-straight strikes before leaving a 7-10 split for a 298. He led the squad with 1,640 which puts him in third place followed by Amleto Monacelli at 1,632. Tom Adcock and Mark Sullivan are tied for fifth at 1,629.

There is still a long way to go in this tournament. The field will bowl seven more games of qualifying starting with the B squad at 9 a.m. ET Monday and the A squad at 2 p.m. at South Plains Lanes.

Twenty-seven cashers will advance, and pins carry forward on Tuesday during the advancers round and round one of match play. Two more match play rounds will play out on Wednesday before the stepladder finals begins at 7:30 p.m. ET Wednesday. Watch all of the action on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA Senior U.S. Open scoring at [PBA Senior U.S. Open | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA Senior U.S. Open

Brian LeClair	1,840
James Campbell	1,676
Pete Weber	1,640
Amleto Monacelli	1,632
Tom Adcock	1,629
Mark Sullivan	1,629
Dino Castillo	1,617
Jack Jurek	1,610
Warren Eales	1,607
Parker Bohn III	1,579

### **LECLAIR LEADS AFTER QUALIFYING AT PBA SENIOR U.S. OPEN JUNE 20, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Lubbock, Texas – Brian LeClair was able to play his 'A' game during his dream block on Sunday at the 2022 PBA Senior U.S. Open but on Monday "I played maybe my d, e or f game."

Prior to his A squad competing inside South Plains Lanes, LeClair watched the B squad and noticed the front part of the lanes seemed to hook a lot more and the back part of the lanes were tighter. That is a condition he typically struggles with because of his ball roll and that showed in his first two games, 191 and 172. Luckily, he had a 164-pin cushion from the previous block, and he needed all of that.

"I didn't expect them to be that much different than they were Sunday," LeClair said. "My ball didn't pick-up, but I survived."

He went through the entire 900 Global Zen family line of balls before "the Zen Soul saved me. It rolled good at the end." That ball helped him shoot 236, 257, 202, 257 and 245 for 1,560 on the day, which was 280 pins lower than his first seven-game block. His two-day total of 3,400 keeps him in the lead over Pete Weber with 3,358 in second place.

"My last five games I averaged almost 240," he said. "I didn't have the magical look that I had yesterday, but I hung in there pretty good after I figured it out."

Thinking ahead to Tuesday and Wednesday, if LeClair is faced with the same conditions he saw early on Monday, he will be ready to adjust quicker.

"I am going to have my guard up to be wary of what it was like this morning," he said. "If that is the case then I will have a different game plan to manipulate the front part of the lane because that is where the big sand trap was today."

As for Weber, his biggest battle came at the start of the block with three splits, but he quickly found the reaction he was looking for and it was on from there. He shot 215, 279, 245, 279, 236, 205 and 259 for 1,718. He went with a brand-new Storm Infinite Physix for his first six games and then turned to the Storm Phaze II for his final game.

"I had the right ball and the right motion," he said. "There is something about this house that fits my roll."

The 2021 PBA50 Cup held at South Plains Lanes was Weber's first-time bowling at the Texas bowling center and he finished second to Chris Barnes.

"When you don't have to move your feet and you are comfortable, you just get into a relaxed zone," he said. "When I am relaxed, I am a lot better bowler."

With another major title up for grabs, Weber is feeling at ease. He knows what he needs to do to keep himself in contention.

"All I want to do is be on the TV show to give myself a chance to win," the 13-time PBA50 titlist said.

Parker Bohn III at 3,008 was the final player to make the cut. The top 27 players move on to the advancers round bowling five games starting at 9 a.m. ET Tuesday. The top 24 will then advance to match play round one with all pins carrying over.

They will bowl eight games starting at 2 p.m. Tuesday with the final two rounds of match play scheduled for Wednesday. The stepladder finals will start at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. You can watch it all on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA Senior U.S. Open scoring at [PBA Senior U.S. Open](#) | [PBA](#)

[Top 10 PBA Senior U.S. Open](#)

Brian LeClair	3,400
Pete Weber	3,358
Amleto Monacelli	3,318
Tom Adcock	3,188
Tom Hess	3,186
Dino Castillo	3,183
Lennie Boresch Jr.	3,175
Jack Jurek	3,169
James Campbell	3,160
Mark Sullivan	3,142

## **BRIAN LECLAIR MAINTAINS TOP SPOT AT PBA SENIOR U.S. OPEN JUNE 21, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Lubbock, Texas – For the third straight day, Brian LeClair has seen his name at the top of the leaderboard at the 2022 PBA Senior U.S. Open and he is hopeful it stays that way for one more day.

It was another challenging day at South Plains Lanes for the 27 bowlers who made it to the advancers round Tuesday morning. LeClair averaged 219 to hold a 57-pin lead over Pete Weber who remained in second place after the first part of the day.

It was even more grueling for the 24 bowlers that then moved on to eight games of match play in round one. LeClair averaged 212 for his eight-game block posting a 5-3 record. He felt like again his heavy ball roll was not the right combination for posting high scores, but he was able to stay on top.

"It was a struggle all day for me," he said. "The front part of the lanes, that sand trap from yesterday, is getting bigger and the front is a disaster. It is really hard to get to your spot and still have energy left down lane."

After losing to Chris Barnes 207-203 in the fourth game of match play, LeClair changed his strategy and aimed to play it safe the rest of the way. He moved back to the right and tried to control the pocket. He knew he probably wouldn't strike much but he wanted to avoid splits and felt scores in the low 200s would work. He did just that winning three out of his last four matches with games of 205, 202, 246 and 194.

"The lanes were so scorable the first day and even a little bit the second day that you were used to striking," he said. "Now you are throwing good shots that are splitting and that is going to mess with you mentally. Mentally and physically, it is going to get harder too."

Looking ahead to Wednesday's final day, LeClair planned to talk with Storm Tour Ball Rep Del Ballard Jr. about drilling a Roto Grip Rubicon UC2 that might clear the front of the lane and be a bit stronger down lane to help him earn a major title and lead the PBA Senior U.S. Open wire-to-wire.

"It's going to be hard for me to hold-off the guys who have been gaining on me the last two days," the New York native said. "I hope that I can find enough to at least make the top five and then anything can happen in a one-game match."

Two players made the biggest move up the standings. Jack Jurek shot 1,140 in the advancers round and a blistering 1,900 in match play. He started Tuesday in eighth place and now sits in second. He did shoot the fourth 300 game of this tournament in the seventh game of match play. Chris Barnes also had

himself a big day. He went from 12th place through qualifying into eighth after the advancers to third place. He averaged 229.2 in the advancers round and 232.88 during eight-games of match play.

Amleto Monacelli and Chris Warren had the best match play records on Tuesday, both going 7-1 to add 210 bonus pins to their grand totals. They round out the top five.

The remaining 24 players will bowl eight games of match play starting at 9 a.m. ET Wednesday followed by the final eight games of match play starting at 2:30 p.m. ET. The top five bowlers remaining will advance to the stepladder finals set to begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. You can watch it all on BowlTV.com.

The winner will earn a major PBA50 title along with a check for \$12,500.

Follow PBA Senior U.S. Open scoring at PBA Senior U.S. Open | PBA

Top 10 PBA Senior U.S. Open

Brian LeClair	6,341
Jack Jurek	6,329
Chris Barnes	6,297
Amleto Monacelli	6,279
Chris Warren	6,248
Pete Weber	6,202
Dino Castillo	6,175
Tom Adcock	6,173
Tom Hess	6,147
Lennie Boresch Jr.	6,137

## **LENNIE BORESCH JR. GETS A MAJOR WIN AT 2022 PBA SENIOR U.S. OPEN JUNE 22, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Lubbock, Texas – Lennie Boresch Jr. had himself a day on Wednesday at the 2022 PBA Senior U.S. Open. He went 12-4 during two match play rounds, including winning his final six matches.

He started the day in 10th place and climbed into seventh after the second round of match play. He then defeated Jack Jurek in the position round 257-213 to earn the top spot in the stepladder finals. He credits his success to changing to a Roto Grip RST X-1 before the last game of match play round two and it worked out well. It's a ball he has had a lot of success with, plus it allowed him to play direct lines, which he admits he is pretty good at doing.

"I overtook him (Jurek) to get that top seed and that was huge," Boresch Jr. said. "I figured he would be there at the end, and he was."

As Boresch expected he would once again face Jurek but this time in the championship match inside South Plains Lanes for the chance to win a major title.

Jurek, who finished fourth at last's weeks USBC Senior Masters, started out nine-spares strike to Boresch's double. In the third frame, Jurek went through the nose leaving the 3-4-6-7-10 split getting just the 6-10 for an open frame. Boresch stayed clean until the fifth frame when he left a pocket 7-10 split.

"When I left it (7-10), I said I am not going to let it get me down," the Wisconsin native admits.

He responded with three-in-a-row. Jurek was clean until the ninth frame when he tugged his shot leaving the 4-7-10, which he failed to convert posting a score of 168 in the foundation frame. Boresch stepped up on the right lane and struck then struck again on his first ball in the 10th which resulted in a fist pump. He got the win 233-197.

"It was nerve racking as hell and pretty emotional because I didn't know if it would ever happen again, let alone a major," he said, especially after at least half a dozen runner-up finishes. "I made some pretty good shots down the stretch. I was fortunate enough to carry them out of there to become the Senior U.S. Open champion."

His last title was at the 2018 PBA50 National Championship in The Villages, also a major. He now has five PBA50 titles with two being majors. And he earned the \$12,500 first-place prize.

"Now I am Hall of Fame eligible," the 60-year-old said. "It's a goal that was in the back of my mind."

Boresch was originally planning to cut back on bowling tournament this season, but he will continue to ride his current hot hand that has carried over between the USBC, the Masters and the Super Senior Classics he bowled in Las Vegas.

"One of my better days ever," he said. "It's an unbelievable feeling. I'm beat up right now, but as long as I am bowling good, I'm going to keep going."

In the opening match, Amleto Monacelli defeated 2022 USBC Senior Masters champion Dino Castillo. They combined for five open frames, and it was a six-bagger by Monacelli that helped him earn the 211-204 win. Monacelli was able to stay clean in match two against Chris Barnes. Barnes struggled to carry the 10-pin leaving the corner pin six-times. Monacelli threw the last four strikes for the 239-202 win.

Monacelli then took on Jurek. Jurek opened in the first frame followed by nine strikes over his final 11 frames. Monacelli was in the match until he left a 2-10 split in the ninth frame for an open frame. Jurek went on to win 236-212.

Get final standings for the 2022 PBA Senior U.S. Open at [PBA Senior U.S. Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA SENIOR U.S. OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

- |                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. Lennie Boresch Jr. | \$12,500 |
| 2. Jack Jurek         | \$6,500  |
| 3. Amleto Monacelli   | \$4,000  |
| 4. Chris Barnes       | \$3,000  |
| 5. Dino Castillo      | \$2,500  |

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Monacelli def. Castillo 211-204

Match 2 – Monacelli def. Barnes 239-202

Match 3 – Jurek def. Monacelli 236-212

Championship match – Boresch Jr. def. Jurek 233-197

## **Professional Bowlers Association To Launch League Bowler Certification Program**

A new era in league bowling is coming.

Richmond, VA – The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) will be launching its League Bowler Certification program this fall across more than 300 bowling centers in the United States with over 180,000 league bowlers enrolled. This will be a new national membership program offering a multitude of exciting benefits for league bowlers. The program will start with Bowlero Corp.'s footprint, and soon after the PBA will work to expand to all U.S. bowling centers.

The PBA, which has featured the greatest bowlers in the world since 1958 coupled with the sport's largest media reach, and parent company Bowlero Corp., owners of the biggest chain of bowling centers in the world, are combining their resources and expertise to create the PBA League Bowler Certification program in order to enhance the league bowler experience.

"It's exciting that league bowlers of all skill levels will be able to gain real value from this new PBA-certified membership program," said Tom Clark, PBA Commissioner. "The competition and camaraderie of league bowling creates a strong community and the fresh opportunities ahead will make it even stronger."

As the program rolls out for the 2022 fall league season, there will be new benefits under four key pillars that bowlers will have access to, in addition to their current league benefits.

Starting with statistics: League bowlers will have access to official averages, full league standings, leaderboards, and special accomplishments. These statistics will be accessible in real-time through PBA LeaguePals, a robust technology platform.

The second pillar will include exclusive new tournaments for all skill levels. The tournaments included in the PBA League Bowler Certification program will be highlighted by a new national tournament that will feature unprecedented prize money, national TV exposure and digital coverage.

The third pillar will be awards. League bowlers of all skill levels will be recognized for their accomplishments, stamped with PBA approval, through a creative and engaging digital awards program.

Finally, there will be new rules and an equipment specifications department, led by a world-renowned expert Neil Stremmel, former Vice President of Rules and Equipment Specifications at the United States Bowling Congress and for World Bowling. The regulations in PBA League Bowler Certification program and tournament competition will be supremely transparent and work toward the betterment of the game and its bowlers.

"I am truly honored to work with the PBA," said Neil Stremmel, incoming PBA Rules and Equipment Director. "In this new role I am looking forward to launching such an incredible program to support the bowling community starting this fall."

Stay informed about the PBA League Bowler Certification by visiting [pba.com](http://pba.com) or following @PBAtour for more updates.

## **BRAD ANGELO HAS A SLIGHT LEAD AT PBA50 ODESSA OPEN JUNE 24, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Odessa, Texas – This is Brad Angelo's second year on the PBA50 and once again he is putting himself in position to make another stepladder.

During the first day of qualifying at the PBA50 Odessa Open on Friday, Angelo shot 276, 215, 268, 235, 249, 234, 200 and 203 for 1,880, which puts him three-pins ahead of Chris Barnes, who is in second.

"It was a hard fight today," Angelo said after his eight-game block. "Midway through the block the fronts started to hook but that is what you would expect on a pattern this short. You are forced to play somewhere like 7, 8, 9, so that gets burned."

With everyone migrating left as the block went on, Angelo used his Roto Grip Gem for the first seven games, which allowed him to "play further right and use a lot more speed more than most of the people, so that helped crossing pairs."

He was able to execute shots and control the pocket really well to earn the top spot. Now his game plan is to stay in the top eight after Saturday's final eight games of qualifying to earn a first-round bye in match play.

"It would be fantastic to lead because this format, the seeds are so important," the right-hander said. "If you get a bye and you are the highest seed, then you have only got to win one match to guarantee the show."

Angelo has three or four ball options to choose from to attack the Del Ballard 34-foot oil pattern. He is confident in what he has to do at Diamond Lanes for the chance to make his fourth show of the season. He won his first PBA50 title at the Lightning Strikes Lanes Open in April, the first PBA50 tournament of 2022.

The 72-player field will begin bowling at 11 a.m. ET Saturday, before the top 24 advance to match play. You can see it all on [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

Follow PBA50 Odessa Open scoring at [PBA50 Odessa Open | PBA](#)

### Top 10 PBA50 Odessa Open

Brad Angelo	1,880
Chris Barnes	1,877
Mark Sullivan	1,854
Bryan Goebel	1,824
Ricky Schissler	1,812
Dino Castillo	1,779
Tom Adcock	1,776
Lennie Boresch Jr.	1,775

Walter Ray Williams Jr. 1,747  
Joel Carlson 1,744

## **CHRIS BARNES TAKES OVER THE LEAD AT PBA50 ODESSA OPEN JUNE 25, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Odessa, Texas – When Chris Barnes won his first PBA50 Title last year in Lubbock, Texas it was his son, Ryan that “had a little impact on the outcome” at the 2021 PBA50 Cup.

Ryan noticed his dad was getting a little bit forward in his second step, relayed that valuable information to his dad, and Chris went on to beat Pete Weber in the championship match. Once again, Ryan is helping his dad out on the lanes.

Heading into his final game of qualifying on Saturday, Barnes was just two pins behind Walter Ray Williams Jr. for the top spot. Barnes decided to change balls from a Storm Phaze III to a Storm IQ Emerald to take a “home run swing” at the lead. It’s a ball he had yet to use, but he really likes to go to it when the lanes hook. This ball however, used to belong to Ryan.

“I stole it from him about three weeks ago,” Barnes admitted, after seeing it sitting in the garage. “I went, ‘Hey, do you throw this? Well, you are not throwing it anymore.’”

Barnes plugged and redrilled the ball for himself. After a first frame spare, Barnes and his new IQ put together a bunch of strikes for a 269 game to move into first place. He started the block with 244 to take the lead over Brad Angelo, then shot 187, 248, 236, 186, 225 and 196.

“I enjoyed yesterday way more than today,” Barnes said after shooting 1,877 on Friday compared to 1,791 on Saturday. “The middle of the house today Tom (Hess), Brad (Angelo), Walter and I struggled in the same section. There were definitely some tricky pairs.”

There are a lot of poles between lanes inside Diamond Lanes and for Barnes, he thought that on the pairs directly next to the poles the lanes tend to slant towards the poles causing some confusion.

“You just have a lot of pairs where you have a couple of boards difference between the two lanes,” the Texas native said. “It was not always the right lane or the left lane, it goes back-and-forth. That keeps all of us off balance and it is just how fast can you adjust to it.”

At the end of 16-games of qualifying, the field was cut to the top 24 with Michael Haugen Jr. being the last player in at 3,312, a 207 average. Barnes and the rest of the top-eight earn first-round byes as the tournament now moves into match play Sunday, starting at 11 a.m. ET. All matches will be three-games total pinfall with the winners advancing.

Match play will continue until the top four winners are determined based on their bracket seed number. The highest seed losing in the round of eight will be the fifth seed in the stepladder finals, set to begin at 6 p.m. ET Sunday, all exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Amleto Monacelli, who is currently in ninth place, is the defending champion.

Follow PBA50 Odessa Open scoring at [PBA50 Odessa Open | PBA](#)

Top 10 PBA50 Odessa Open standings:



Chris Barnes	3,668
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	3,616
Dino Castillo	3,575
Brad Angelo	3,543
Tom Adcock	3,500
Tom Hess	3,498
Tony Lanning	3,493
Dan Knowlton	3,490
Amleto Monacelli	3,486
Bryan Goebel	3,474

## **WALTER RAY WILLIAMS JR. WINS 16TH PBA50 TITLE AT ODESSA OPEN JUNE 26, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Odessa, Texas – On Saturday during day two of qualifying at the 2022 PBA50 Odessa Open, Walter Ray Williams Jr. climbed from ninth place to second. During match play on Sunday, the winningest professional bowler ever shot a 750 series followed by a 771 series to earn the No. 1 seed in the stepladder finals.

However, heading into the championship match inside Diamond Lanes Williams Jr. was completely confused.

During his initial practice time on the TV pair, he noticed the left lane had a hang spot where he was trying to play and it was a pinch tighter, so he thought he would have to hook the ball. But then he wasn't seeing the results he wanted from that game plan either. After watching Lennie Boresch Jr., who was the No. 16 seed heading into match play, be able to manipulate his wrist and roll to power his way through the rest of the stepladder field, Williams Jr. was even more uncomfortable.

Boresch Jr. started first on the left lane with a strike. Williams Jr. left two weak 10-pins back-to-back using the Hammer Black Widow Pink urethane and made the switch to a Brunswick Quantum EVO in the third frame. The ball didn't hook as much as he thought it would, leaving the 2-4-5. He picked up the bucket then left the 7-10 split.

"After I left the 7-10 in the fourth, I thought this is not good at all," Williams Jr. said. "Lennie was lined up and I figured he was going to do a lot of striking."

The right lane would end up being the key lane in the match, which seemed to favor Boresch Jr. who had thrown at least four strikes on that lane in each of his previous three matches, but in the fourth frame Boresch Jr. left a pocket 4-10 for his first open frame.

Williams Jr. followed up his open frame with a double, while Boresch Jr. left a pocket 7-10 on the dreaded right lane in the sixth frame for his second open frame of the title match.

"Lennie had two really bad breaks that gave me the lead," Williams Jr. said. "In the ninth frame, I tugged it a little too much and it dead hooked."

Williams Jr. left the 4-6-7-10 in the ninth also on the right lane. But he was able to throw a double in the 10th frame to earn the hard fought 187-172 victory for his 16th PBA50 Tour title.

"Fortunately, in the 10th frame, I managed to do what I needed," the USBC and PBA Hall of Famer said. "I was not very comfortable and in fact, I am still not comfortable, and I just won the tournament."

He admits it was not an “overly impressive match on my part, but I was very fortunate.”

Coming into the title match, Boresch Jr. was in complete control of the lanes. In the opening match, Dan Knowlton, who finished second at this tournament last year, jumped out to a 20-pin lead through five frames over Boresch Jr. Boresch had the better carry of the two players down the stretch. He stepped up in the 10th frame and doubled for the 248-238 win.

Boresch’s hot hand continued in match two against Tom Hess. Through the first four frames, Hess had three spares and one strike, while Boresch had one strike and three single-pin spares as they were tied. Boresch then reeled off eight straight strikes for 258 over Hess’s 182.

In the third match, Boresch again had the better look on the TV pair over Brad Angelo, despite both players opening in the first frame. Boresch went on to win 216-165.

View the full PBA50 Odessa Open results at [PBA50 Odessa Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 ODESSA OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Walter Ray Williams Jr. \$7,500
2. Lennie Boresch Jr. \$4,500
3. Brad Angelo \$3,000
4. Tom Hess \$2,500
5. Dan Knowlton \$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 –Boresch Jr. def Knowlton 248-238

Match 2 – Boresch Jr. def Hess 258-182

-Match 3 – Boresch Jr. def Angelo 216-165

Championship match – Williams Jr. def. Boresch Jr. 187-172

### **Bowlero Corp Rejoins the BPAA**

*Bowlers to Gain Access to Benefits Offered by the BPAA*

**RICHMOND, VA** - Bowlero Corp. (“Bowlero” or the “Company”), the world’s largest owner and operator of bowling centers, as well as the owner of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA), announced today they will rejoin the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America (BPAA). By rejoining the BPAA, Bowlero Corp bowlers will regain access to key benefits that are designed to enhance their overall development, including access to tournaments and industry networking events.

“An industry that stays together will grow together,” said Jim Decker, President of the BPAA, “and we are pleased to have Bowlero in membership and looking forward to working together to continue to grow the sport of bowling.”

The BPAA is an organization that serves the specific, yet diverse interests of bowling center owners. Using their expertise, the BPAA has developed a list of membership services and privileges designed to give businesses the tools they need to be successful.

“As a company, we are excited to be working alongside the BPAA and all the great centers in the organization to strengthen the reach of the PBA Tour and support independent bowling centers,” said Michelle Terrell, Senior Director of Bowlero Corp League Development, PBA Regional and PBA50 Tours.

“So many of our valued bowling center partners and hosts are members of the BPAA,” said Tom Clark, PBA Commissioner. “This last week of announcements reinforces both Bowlero and the PBA’s commitment to the industry and growth of bowling.”

## **2022 PBA LEAGUE PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON RETURNS NEXT WEEK TO FS1**

JUNE 28, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Prior to the televised stepladders, seeding rounds will be streamed for free on the PBA YouTube channel

The PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon returns to Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine, to compete for the 2022 PBA League Elias Cup Championship. The teams in the Anthony and Carter divisions will each bowl six games of qualifying to determine seeding for the stepladder finals, which will air at 8 p.m. ET on Fox Sports’ FS1 on July 6 (Anthony) and July 7 (Carter). The division champions will then meet in the Elias Cup Finals Sunday, July 10 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1.

In a change from previous years, each player during the qualifying rounds will bowl full games rather than team baker games. The cumulative totals for each team will seed teams into the stepladders and the individual scores will qualify players for the Strike Derby and PBA League All-Star Clash competitions. The qualifying rounds will be held July 6 (Anthony) and July 7 (Carter) beginning at 10 a.m. ET, streamed for free on the PBA YouTube channel.

### **Lumberjacks Seek Third Straight Elias Cup Victory**

The last time the PBA League was held in Portland, the hometown Lumberjacks won the 2019 Elias Cup. The following year, the PBA League competed at Bowlero Centreville in Centreville, Virginia with no fans in the building due to the pandemic. The Lumberjacks won again. After a year off in 2021, the Lumberjacks will return to Portland as two-time defending champions looking to become the first team in PBA League history to win three consecutive Elias Cups.

### **New Team Names**

Three familiar PBA League teams return to competition under different names this season: the Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen (formerly Philadelphia Hitmen), Snickers Waco Wonders (formerly Brooklyn Styles) and Pabst Blue Ribbon Milwaukee Pounders (formerly Brew City Ballers).

### **PBA League Debuts**

Six players are making their first ever appearances in PBA League competition: Santtu Tahvanainen (Dallas), 2021 PBA Rookie of the Year Matthew Russo (Las Vegas), Brandon Novak (Silver Lake), Arturo Quintero (Portland) and Michael Tang (NYC).

### **Barnes’s New Home**

After eight seasons with the Silver Lake Atom Splitters, during which he won the Elias Cup three times and the Mark Roth PBA League MVP twice, Chris Barnes was left unprotected in the draft by Atom Splitters manager Mark Baker. During the draft, Baker swapped his picks with Lumberjacks manager Tim Mack, after which Andrew Cain selected Barnes to join the L.A. X.

With Barnes, who was the original franchise player of the Atom Splitters during the League's inaugural 2013 season, leaving the team, only three players remain with their original teams from 2013: Pete Weber (NYC), Norm Duke (Dallas) and Jason Belmonte, who will be Barnes's new teammate with L.A. X.

Check out the full 2022 PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon draft recap

View the complete 2022 PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon rosters

#### PBA LEAGUE PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON SCHEDULE

Bayside Bowl – Portland, Maine

July 6 at 10 a.m. ET on PBA YouTube – Anthony Division Qualifying

July 6 at 8 p.m. ET on FS1 – Anthony Division Finals

July 7 at 10 a.m. ET on PBA YouTube – Carter Division Qualifying

July 7 at 8 p.m. ET on FS1 – Carter Division Finals

July 10 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1 – Elias Cup Finals

#### PBA LEAGUE ELIAS CUP CHAMPIONS

2013 – NYC WTT KingPins

2014 – Silver Lake Atom Splitters

2015 – Silver Lake Atom Splitters

2016 – Dallas Strikers

2017 – Dallas Strikers

2018 – Silver Lake Atom Splitters

2019 – Portland Lumberjacks

2020 – Portland Lumberjacks

2021 – event not held

#### MARK ROTH PBA LEAGUE MVPS

2013 – not awarded

2014 – Chris Barnes

2015 – Dick Allen

2016 – Tommy Jones

2017 – Norm Duke

2018 – Chris Barnes

2019 – Wes Malott

2020 – Wes Malott

2021 – event not held

### **BOWLERO CORP REJOINS THE BPAA**

JUNE 28, 2022 PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION

Bowlers to Gain Access to Benefits Offered by the BPAA

Richmond, VA - Bowlero Corp. ("Bowlero" or the "Company"), the world's largest owner and operator of bowling centers, as well as the owner of the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA), announced today

they will rejoin the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA). By rejoining the BPAA, Bowlero Corp bowlers will regain access to key benefits that are designed to enhance their overall development, including access to tournaments and industry networking events.

"An industry that stays together will grow together," said Jim Decker, President of the BPAA, "and we are pleased to have Bowlero in membership and looking forward to working together to continue to grow the sport of bowling."

The BPAA is an organization that serves the specific, yet diverse interests of bowling center owners. Using their expertise, the BPAA has developed a list of membership services and privileges designed to give businesses the tools they need to be successful.

"As a company, we are excited to be working alongside the BPAA and all the great centers in the organization to strengthen the reach of the PBA Tour and support independent bowling centers," said Michelle Terrell, Senior Director of Bowlero Corp League Development, PBA Regional and PBA50 Tours.

"So many of our valued bowling center partners and hosts are members of the BPAA," said Tom Clark, PBA Commissioner. "This last week of announcements reinforces both Bowlero and the PBA's commitment to the industry and growth of bowling."

## **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: GRAHAM FACH WINS 3RD REGIONAL TITLE IN 2022, TAKES COMMANDING POINTS LEAD IN CENTRAL REGION**

JUNE 30, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN

We are about halfway through 2022, many events have come and gone, but plenty of regional action remains before the RPI kicks off in about six months. More opportunities to gain points in their respective standings passed over the last two weeks, so let's run through our latest champions.

### **PBA Pro Bowl West Central/Midwest Challenge**

A non-champions, one-day event in Fort Wayne, Indiana eventually made someone a champion after seven games of qualifying and bracket play. The cut sat at +83 on the Dragon pattern, giving anyone who reached that mark a fresh start as they entered the next round. Plenty of close matches took place in the first two rounds, but in the end, Scott Matthies, Brent Boho, Alex Acosta, and Corey Kistner remained. In the one-game semifinals, Boho breezed past Matthies as the two-hander from Wisconsin delivered a 277 to move onto the finals. Meanwhile, Acosta and Kistner were grinding in the other semifinal, but Acosta got it done, 188-164. In the two-handed finals, Acosta got the win over Boho 215-189 to take the Pro Bowl West title.

### **PBA Pro Bowl West Central/Midwest Challenge Final Standings**

Alex Acosta, \$1,500  
Brent Boho, \$1,100  
Scott Matthies, \$875  
Corey Kistner, \$875

### **PBA Victory Lanes Mooresville Open**

Victory Lanes in Mooresville, North Carolina, took in over 100 entries for the East Regional in mid-June, and bowlers worked a bit to sneak into that cut line. With 107 players in the field, the top 35 moved onto the first advancers round at -40. Kyle Troup caught the lead early on and held it when going into the second advancers round. However, a 567 three-game series in said round dropped him to second place

thanks to Eric Jones, who delivered a 738 to pass Troup by 61 pins in the overall standings. The lead flipped again and again, but in the end, the pair faced each other in the finals.

Troup grabbed the early lead with a four-bagger, but after Jones started with two spares, he delivered a four-bagger of his own. Troup's run of four strikes ended with a spare in the fifth frame, but Troup came back with yet another string, this time of five. Jones couldn't match Troup any longer as Troup walked away with the victory 266-220.

#### PBA Victory Lanes Mooresville Open Final Standings

Kyle Troup, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Eric Jones, 1,500, \$1,500  
Colin Champion, 1,150, \$1,220  
Cristian Azcona, 950, \$1,220

#### PBA Norfolk PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open

The following weekend, many of the same bowlers headed to Norfolk for yet another South Region battle, this time on the Chameleon pattern. Dick Allen led qualifying at +122 but didn't run away with the tournament, as 16th place finished at -15. Everyone bowled everyone during match play the following day, along with position round for a total of 16 games. Since everybody sat at least 137 pins behind the leader, it was no surprise to see some big moves on Sunday.

Trevor Roberts made the most significant move, cruising through match play with just three games under 200. Two of those sub-200 games came later in the day, putting a bit of a halt to his run to the podium, but Roberts fought back and won his final three games before the position round, going 232, 243, and 211 for a solid 686. Trevor took a victory lap during the final game, holding a 150-pin lead with just one match remaining. He didn't need the win in the last game, but he got it anyway to win by over 200 pins. This title marks Roberts' second regional title of his career.

#### PBA Norfolk PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open Final Standings

Trevor Roberts, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Matthew Woodall, 1,500, \$1,500  
Ryan Lane, 1,150, \$1,000  
Ryan Lopano, 950, \$814  
Dwight Adams, 850, \$804

You can view the South points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA Park Lanes Central Open

Seventy bowlers came out to Park Lanes for another Central Region event for a classic qualifying, match play, and stepladder format. Tim Pfeifer found the lead after eight games of qualifying at +199, but plenty of big names followed behind him, such as Graham Fach, Mike Eaton Jr, Patrick Dombrowski, and many more. Of course, what's a match play round without some movement before the top five sets? Fach moved up to grab the one-seed, Brandon Novak moved up to snag the two, followed by Chris Via, Dombrowski, and Cory Hersha.

In a battle of the two-handers, Via and Hersha kicked off the stepladder where Via shot a 286 to Hersha's 215. Seven-time titlist Dombrowski stepped up next and fought hard to take down Via 224-211. In another close match, Dombrowski faced Novak and took the win 225-221. But when the finals rolled around, Dombrowski couldn't finish the job, dropping the final match to Fach 222-203. Fach picked up his ninth career regional title, all in the Central Region, and took home an extra \$2,600 for his work. Fach also maintains a solid 2,600-point lead in the Central Region.

### PBA Park Lanes Central Open Final Standings

Graham Fach, 2,500 points, \$2,600  
Patrick Dombrowski, 1,500, \$1,400  
Brandon Novak, 1,150, \$1,250  
Chris Via, 950, \$1,100  
Cory Hersha, 850, \$1,000

You can view the Central points leaders [here](#).

### PBA Beehive Open

Jack and Jill jumped over the hill to fetch a regional title at Jack and Jill Lanes in Lehi, Utah. Darren Tang, a familiar regional name over the past couple of months, did what he does best once again and led qualifying. The West Region points leader averaged 221 for his eight games, with the next highest averaging 209. Tang maintained his lead after the first advancers round, but Jake Peters was hot on his trail, just 15 pins behind Tang. Three more games, and Peters closed the gap some more, cutting it to a three-pin deficit.

The battle between Peters and Tang continued with just two games to go in the final advancer's round. Peters began with a solid 236, but Tang still narrowly held onto his lead by shooting a 234. With just one pin separating the two after a full day of the two duking it out, the center sat in anticipation for one last match. Both began with a spare and a double, but after Tang left a flat 10 in the 4th frame, Peters pounced. The now five-time regional champ extended his string to six, while Tang couldn't find another double throughout the match.

### PBA Beehive Open Final Standings

Jake Peters, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Darren Tang, 1,500, \$1,700  
Cameron Henning, \$1,400  
Chad Lusche, 950, \$1,200  
David Woods, \$1,100

You can view the West points leaders [here](#).

### PBA50 Loveland Southwest Open

Just 20 miles from the next PBA50 National Tour stop, the PBA50 Loveland Open gave a handful of bowlers a perfect "bullpen session" before the Highland Park Open. Chris Barnes was one of two players to go plus, leading the way at +145, while Kristofer Woolsey followed at +45. The top eight moved onto the single-elimination bracket to determine who would add a regional title to their stats. The one-seed Barnes moved on, along with Glenn Smith, Kenneth Harlan, and Brad Angelo. In the top half of the bracket, Smith upset Barnes two games to none, while Angelo defeated Harlan two games to none also. In the final match, Smith shot a 255 to Angelo's 234 to pick up his second regional title and \$2,000.

### PBA50 Loveland Southwest Open Final Standings

Glenn Smith, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Brad Angelo, 1,500, \$1,200  
Chris Barnes, 1,150, \$900  
Kenneth Harlan, 950, \$900

You can view the Southwest points leaders [here](#).

With the 4th of July Weekend coming up, all bowlers will get a break from regional action until July 8. You can check out the rest of the regional schedule [here](#). You can also check out all the regional standings [here](#).

## **GLENN SMITH LEADING AT PBA50 HIGHLAND PARK LANES OPEN JULY 1, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

**Greeley, Colorado** – Glenn Smith is loving his time bowling in Colorado.

On Tuesday, the New York native won his second PBA50 regional title at the PBA50 Loveland Southwest Open. He followed that up by shooting a 300 game to start his seven-game qualifying block Friday at the PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open.

“Coming off my regional win and throwing 300 in my next game in competition was quite a thrill,” he said. “In that game, I had a lot of forgiveness. A couple of shots I pitched a little bit left and got a nice carry. I tripped 4-pins and carried some 10-pins, so forgiveness.”

The right-hander averaged 238 for the day to claim the top spot on the leaderboard. He added scores of 205, 278, 256, 214, before grinding out a 206 and 207 for 1,666.

He used a 900 Global Zen Master with a little bit of surface on it from a few tournaments ago to roll the only perfect game on the day. He also used a Roto Grip Gem and ended his day with a Storm Phaze II. He thought the lanes played very consistent throughout the house and he was shocked he didn’t have to change balls or his line. This is his third time bowling on the 45-foot Dick Weber oil pattern, which he has had previous success on, but he also recalls that after the lanes are reoiled, the look for some of the high rev rate players tends to be better than his look. So, he knows it comes down to making smart choices.

Smith retired in Feb. 2020, and he is focused on trying to make better ball choices and hand position choices while competing on the PBA50 full-time. He has gained a lot of knowledge from fellow New Yorker Brad Angelo while also getting help with his mental game from Amleto Monacelli.

“It’s a process every single tour stop, and every single regional stop,” he said. “I’m feeling confident and relaxed. I’ve just got to get the ball on the spot and let the ball do the work.”

Smith was disappointed he missed out on getting a super senior check by one spot last week at the PBA50 Odessa Open. He knows that sometimes things don’t roll your way, so then it’s time to refocus for the next time you get that opportunity.



“This is one heck of a 180-degrees on that note,” he said. “To come in and lead the squad today is a dream come true. I beat Chris Barnes and Brad Angelo in the regional Tuesday. You can’t make this stuff up.”

Tom Hess, Chris Barnes, Tom Adcock, and Brad Angelo round out the top five.

The 46-player field will bowl seven more games of qualifying Saturday beginning at noon ET, before all cashers move on to the advancers round on Sunday. All pins will carry forward. You can see it all on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open](#) | [PBA](#)

### Top 10 PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open

- |     |   |              |
|-----|---|--------------|
| 1.  | <b>Glenn Smith</b>                        | <b>1,666</b> |
| 2.  | <b>Tom Hess</b>                           | <b>1,635</b> |
| 3.  | <b>Chris Barnes</b>                       | <b>1,613</b> |
| 4.  | <b>Tom Adcock</b>                         | <b>1,607</b> |
| 5.  | <b>Brad Angelo</b>                        | <b>1,597</b> |
| 6.  | <b>Michael Haugen Jr.</b>                 | <b>1,574</b> |
| 7.  | <b>Bobby Robinson Jr.</b>                 | <b>1,522</b> |
| 8.  | <b>Carlos Denot</b>                       | <b>1,517</b> |
| 9.  | <b>Dennis Brown</b>                       | <b>1,517</b> |
| 10. | <b>Don Herrington and Parker Bohn III</b> | <b>1,510</b> |

### **TOM HESS LEADS QUALIFYING AT PBA50 HIGHLAND PARK LANES OPEN JULY 2, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Greeley, Colorado – During the second day of qualifying at the PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open, Tom Hess took over the lead and never relinquished it.

Hess stormed out of the gates with 257, 278 and 222 for 757 to pass day one leader Glenn Smith. Hess added games of 194, 238, 257 and 199 to end the day averaging 235, while holding a 114-pin advantage over Tom Adcock in second place.

The Iowa native used his 900 Global Zen to start out his seven-game block on Saturday followed by his 900 Global Altered Reality.

“It was carrying phenomenal, and it made the pocket big,” Hess said about his Zen. “I was playing a part of the lane that I was comfortable with, so I was able to relax and make some good shots.”

The past week has been a bit of a whirlwind for Hess. After a fourth-place finish at the PBA50 Odessa Open, he drove all night to Denver then flew out to Las Vegas to watch his wife and daughter bowl, followed by his attendance at International Bowl Expo 2022 also in Las Vegas. He missed the practice session on Thursday and admits he was tired during Friday’s first round of qualifying.

“I got lined up at the end of Friday and bowled a big game, so I came in with a much better mindset today,” he said.

Looking ahead to Sunday's five-game advancers round Hess has his game plan ready to go.

"It is huge this week to lead after those five games," he said. "I'll use the Zen and play a little bit straighter. Just stay in the moment and take it one shot at a time."

Adcock, Smith, Brad Angelo and James Campbell round out the top five.

The top 15 will bowl five games in the advancers round starting at 11 a.m. ET Sunday. The field will then be cut to the top 12 who will bowl bracket match play beginning at 2 p.m. ET, consisting of three-game total pins matches. The top four players will get a first-round bye. The stepladder finals are scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m. ET. Watch the final day all on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open | PBA](#)

Top 10 PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open

Tom Hess	3,280
Tom Adcock	3,166
Glenn Smith	3,120
Brad Angelo	3,118
James Campbell	3,115
Chris Barnes	3,078
Carlos Denot	3,077
Parker Bohn III	3,043
Dennis Brown	3,028
Tom Carter	3,027

## **TOM HESS WINS PBA50 HIGHLAND PARK LANES OPEN JULY 3, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

**Greeley, Colorado** – Tom Hess found himself in a familiar place on Sunday at the PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open. After earning the top seed, Hess was one match away from winning his third PBA50 title and he was beyond motivated to finish the job.

"I have a bunch of second place finishes in regionals and twice out here already this year," the 2021 PBA50 Player of the Year said.

This was the fourth show Hess has made in 2022. He finished second twice and fourth at the PBA50 Odessa Open just a couple of days ago. This time he would face good friend Tom Adcock in the title match.

Seeing how the lanes had broken down from the previous match between Adcock and Michael Haugen Jr., Hess knew he would be able to hook the ball and play further left than Adcock, which he felt was an advantage.

"I felt pretty confident going into the match," Hess said. "Trusted myself and my shot-making ability that it was going to work."

Adcock started with a strike, while Hess slammed the pocket leaving a 7-pin which he converted. Hess then put together three strikes-in-a-row and was fired up. He held a 10-pin lead through four frames. Both players converted single-pin spares in the fifth before Adcock answered with three straight strikes. In the eighth frame, Hess left a solid 10-pin and got the spare, holding a one-pin lead heading into the always important foundation frame.

Adcock struck for the fourth straight time on the right lane before going light and leaving the 2-8 sleeper in ninth frame. He picked it up.

"Tom gave me the chance there to step up and close him out," Hess said. Finishing first, Hess struck in the ninth followed by his first shot in the 10<sup>th</sup>. He got really excited and then immediately asked for a rerack.

"I had to bring it all back in and just regroup," he admitted. After multiple deep breaths, Hess calmed himself down and delivered two more strikes for the 248-237 win.

"It feels amazing to end this swing on a high note," he said. "Put myself right back into the Player of the Year race, I believe."

With five more PBA50 Tour stops on the schedule, and all of them being in the Midwest, the Iowa native is optimistic about the rest of the season.

"Going back to centers I had good success at last year, so let's just see what we can do," the three-title PBA50 winner said. "It is not easy to win out here. You are bowling Hall of Famers every week. If I keep doing my job, hopefully I will be one of those Hall of Famers one day."

The opening match featured Carlos Denot of Mexico against Haugen Jr. There were three splits in the first two frames before each player settled in. After Haugen Jr.'s back-to-back open frames he remained clean. Denot led going into the ninth frame but missed a 10-pin to open the door for his opponent. Haugen Jr. capitalized with four straight strikes for 204. Denot still had a chance to get the win. He doubled and then left the 3-4-6-7 to lose 204-201.

Haugen Jr. continued to strike in match two against Chris Barnes. He started with four-in-a-row before failing to convert the 1-2-4-10 washout. Barnes, who missed a 10-pin in the fourth frame, followed that up with a turkey to cut into Haugen Jr.'s lead. Barnes finished first with a 216. Needing a mark to win, Haugen Jr. picked up a 4-pin and struck for 222.

In the semifinal match, Haugen Jr. took on Adcock. They each had just one strike through five frames. Adcock was then able to put together two doubles over the final five frames for the 216-201 win. The next tournament on the schedule is the PBA50 Cup in Westland, Michigan July 18-20, seen only on BowlTV.

View the full PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open results at [PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open | PBA](#)

**2022 PBA50 HIGHLAND PARK LANES OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:**

1. Tom Hess	\$7,500
2. Tom Adcock	\$4,500
3. Michael Haugen Jr.	\$3,000
4. Chris Barnes	\$2,500
5. Carlos Denot	\$2,000

**MATCH SCORES**

Match 1 – Haugen Jr. def Denot 204-201

Match 2 – Haugen Jr. def Barnes 222-216

Match 3 – Adcock def Haugen Jr. 216-201

Championship match – Hess def. Adcock 248-237

## **2022 PBA LEAGUE PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON RETURNS THIS WEEK TO FS1**

JULY 5, 2022 JEF GOODGER

Prior to the televised stepladders, seeding rounds will be streamed for free on the PBA YouTube channel

The PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon returns to Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine, to compete for the 2022 PBA League Elias Cup Championship. The teams in the Anthony and Carter divisions will each bowl six games of qualifying to determine seeding for the stepladder finals, which will air at 8 p.m. ET on Fox Sports' FS1 on July 6 (Anthony) and July 7 (Carter). The division champions will then meet in the Elias Cup Finals Sunday, July 10 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1.

In a change from previous years, each player during the qualifying rounds will bowl full games rather than team baker games. The cumulative totals for each team will seed teams into the stepladders and the individual scores will qualify players for the Strike Derby and PBA League All-Star Clash competitions. The qualifying rounds will be held July 6 (Anthony) and July 7 (Carter) beginning at 10 a.m. ET, streamed for free on the PBA YouTube channel.

### **Lumberjacks Seek Third Straight Elias Cup Victory**

The last time the PBA League was held in Portland, the hometown Lumberjacks won the 2019 Elias Cup. The following year, the PBA League competed at Bowlero Centreville in Centreville, Virginia with no fans in the building due to the pandemic. The Lumberjacks won again. After a year off in 2021, the Lumberjacks will return to Portland as two-time defending champions looking to become the first team in PBA League history to win three consecutive Elias Cups.

### **New Team Names**

Three familiar PBA League teams return to competition under different names this season: the Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen (formerly Philadelphia Hitmen), Snickers Waco Wonders (formerly Brooklyn Styles) and Pabst Blue Ribbon Milwaukee Pounders (formerly Brew City Ballers).

### **PBA League Debuts**

Six players are making their first ever appearances in PBA League competition: Santtu Tahvanainen (Dallas), 2021 PBA Rookie of the Year Matthew Russo (Las Vegas), Brandon Novak (Silver Lake), Arturo Quintero (Portland) and Michael Tang (NYC).

### **Barnes's New Home**

After eight seasons with the Silver Lake Atom Splitters, during which he won the Elias Cup three times and the Mark Roth PBA League MVP twice, Chris Barnes was left unprotected in the draft by Atom Splitters manager Mark Baker. During the draft, Baker swapped his picks with Lumberjacks manager Tim Mack, after which Andrew Cain selected Barnes to join the L.A. X.

With Barnes, who was the original franchise player of the Atom Splitters during the League's inaugural 2013 season, leaving the team, only three players remain with their original teams from 2013: Pete Weber (NYC), Norm Duke (Dallas) and Jason Belmonte, who will be Barnes's new teammate with L.A. X.

Check out the full 2022 PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon draft recap

View the complete 2022 PBA League presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon rosters

### **PBA LEAGUE PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON SCHEDULE**

Bayside Bowl – Portland, Maine

July 6 at 10 a.m. ET on PBA YouTube – Anthony Division Qualifying  
July 6 at 8 p.m. ET on FS1 – Anthony Division Finals  
July 7 at 10 a.m. ET on PBA YouTube – Carter Division Qualifying  
July 7 at 8 p.m. ET on FS1 – Carter Division Finals  
July 10 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1 – Elias Cup Finals

#### **PBA LEAGUE ELIAS CUP CHAMPIONS**

2013 – NYC WTT KingPins  
2014 – Silver Lake Atom Splitters  
2015 – Silver Lake Atom Splitters  
2016 – Dallas Strikers  
2017 – Dallas Strikers  
2018 – Silver Lake Atom Splitters  
2019 – Portland Lumberjacks  
2020 – Portland Lumberjacks  
2021 – event not held

#### **MARK ROTH PBA LEAGUE MVPS**

2013 – not awarded  
2014 – Chris Barnes  
2015 – Dick Allen  
2016 – Tommy Jones  
2017 – Norm Duke  
2018 – Chris Barnes  
2019 – Wes Malott  
2020 – Wes Malott  
2021 – event not held

### **PBA LEAGUE POWER RANKINGS: ANTHONY DIVISION**

JULY 5, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

The PBA League kicks off today at Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine.

Nine of the top-13 players during the 2022 season, including Jason Belmonte, Anthony Simonsen and EJ Tackett, will be in action as the Anthony Division takes center stage. The Carter Division gets going Thursday, July 7.

You can stream the qualifying round on the PBA's YouTube channel at 10 a.m. ET. The stepladder finals will begin at 8 p.m. on FS1.

Before the Anthony Division begins qualifying, I wanted to address one seemingly simple question: Which team should be the favorite?

It has to be the two-time defending champion Portland Lumberjacks, right? What about Belmonte's L.A. X or the Simonsen and Tackett-led Motown Muscle?

These power rankings are an attempt to answer those very questions.

The rankings reflect the average of each team's cumulative points rank, total points and top-five finishes during the 2022 season.

Cumulative points rank underscores the depth of each team, as one low ranking can drag a team's total down. Conversely, each team's total points can be bolstered by one player's dominant season.

Top-five finishes better reflect how well a player bowled throughout the duration of a tournament, as opposed to focusing on wins and championship round results. However, any ties were decided by each team's total number of wins.

Take a look at how the Anthony Division shakes out:

### 1. MOTOWN MUSCLE

Roster: Anthony Simonsen, EJ Tackett, Brad Miller, Keven Williams, Mitch Hupé, Del Ballard (manager)

Stats: Points rank: 3rd (overall) | Total points: 1st | Top-5 finishes: 1st

With Tackett and Simonsen, arguably two of the world's three best players, Motown features the PBA's equivalent of the 2017-2019 Golden State Warriors.

The Muscle are the only team with three champions this season (Simonsen, Tackett, Williams), and one of just two teams with three PBA Playoff finalists (Simonsen, Tackett, Miller).

Leading the PBA League in total points and top-five finishes, it's not hard to see why Motown tops the power rankings.

### 2. L.A. X

Roster: Jason Belmonte, Jakob Butturff, Stu Williams, Chris Barnes, Martin Larsen, Andrew Cain (manager)

Stats: Points rank: 6th | Total points: 2nd | Top-5 finishes: 2nd

Any conversation about L.A. X starts with the one-two punch of Belmonte and Jakob Butturff. Belmonte's five titles this season are more than any team's total, breaking L.A.'s tie with Portland.

L.A.'s acquisition of Chris Barnes, a two-time Mark Roth MVP, not only unites the "Beef and Barnzy" tandem but brings needed depth to the team. As long as Martin Larsen can stay upright, this team should be a strong contender for the Elias Cup.

### 3. PORTLAND LUMBERJACKS

Roster: Kris Prather, Kyle Troup, Patrick Hanrahan, Wes Malott, Arturo Quintero, Tim Mack (manager)

Stats: Points rank: 2nd | Total points: 4th | Top-5 finishes: 4th

Portland is the only team featuring four players that earned multiple top-five finishes this season. The lone player without a top-five finish is Malott, who was the Mark Roth PBA League MVP in 2019 and 2020.

So how on Earth do they rank third in their own division?

Outside of their top-five finishes, neither Prather nor Quintero racked up a top-10 finish during the regular season. Similarly, Troup's terrific postseason isn't reflected in his regular season points.

Regardless of these rankings, the two-time reigning champs will walk into Bayside Bowl as the team to beat.

#### 4. PBR MILWAUKEE POUNDERS

Roster: Sean Rash, AJ Chapman, Dick Allen, Anthony Lavery-Spah, Ryan Ciminelli, Marshall Holman (manager)

Stats: Points rank: 8th | Total points: 8th | Top-5 finishes: 6th

The Pounders kept Ryan Ciminelli and Dick Allen, who saves his best for the PBA League. AJ Chapman and Anthony Lavery-Spahy's fiery attitudes should thrive at Bayside Bowl.

If Rash can channel his inner Jimmy Butler, there may be no stopping this team of bulldogs.

#### 5. NYC KINGPINS

Roster: Darren Tang, Marshall Kent, Michael Tang, Matt Sanders, Pete Weber, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard (manager)

Stats: Points rank: 9th | Total points: 9th | Top-5 finishes: 9th

Without Kyle Sherman, who had to withdraw with an injury, the KingPins don't have a player who qualified for the PBA Playoffs, nor a player with a singles title in 2022. Perhaps Roth/Holman doubles champion Marshall Kent can carry over his cohesion with Tackett to NYC.

What the KingPins lack on paper this season, they make up for with charisma. Chemistry matters in team bowling, and NYC has it.

### **PORTLAND LUMBERJACKS ADVANCE TO ELIAS CUP FINALS**

JULY 6, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

The Portland Lumberjacks will bowl for their third straight Elias Cup title on Sunday afternoon.

The Portland Lumberjacks returned to Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine aiming for a PBA League three-peat. After defeating the PBR Milwaukee Pounders in the Anthony Division Finals, they will have that opportunity on Sunday afternoon.

Portland earned the top-seed for the Anthony Division Finals after leading qualifying on Wednesday afternoon.

In the opening match, Motown rode a hot start to the win. NYC came back to force Motown to mark in the tenth frame, but Anthony Simonsen's strike sealed the victory.

In the next match, L.A. X sliced a 41-pin deficit to just one entering the tenth frame. L.A.'s Jason Belmonte struck on his first shot, then missed outside and left the 1-2-4-8. Needing just a mark, Simonsen shredded the rack to put Motown in the semifinals.

Transition caught up to Motown in the semifinal. A pair of early opens handed the Muscle their first deficit of the night. A slew of nine-spares brought the match close, but Ryan Ciminelli avenged his earlier mistake and sent the Pounders to the Anthony Division Finals.

The top-seeded Portland Lumberjacks, looking to earn their third consecutive Elias Cup title, awaited in the championship match.

A lineup change did not pay off for the Pounders, as a pair of open frames put them in a hole. Portland almost squandered the early lead with Wes Malott's 2-4-10 leave in the fifth frame. But the two-time Mark Roth MVP's conversion nearly brought the house down.

A trifecta of corner pin from the Lumberjacks gave the Pounders an opportunity. A devastating stone-8 leave from AJ Chapman in the eighth frame stalled their momentum.

Kris Prather's strike in the ninth frame ensured Malott only needed a strike for the win. The Hall of Famer delivered two, and Portland advanced to the Elias Cup Finals on Sunday.

#### MATCH SCORES:

Match 1: Motown defeated NYC, 247-235

Match 2: Motown defeated L.A., 239-224

Match 3: PBR Milwaukee defeated Motown, 189-185

Match 4: Portland defeated PBR Milwaukee, 223-172

### **"THE FRANCHISE" SENDS PORTLAND TO THE PBA LEAGUE ELIAS CUP FINALS JULY 7, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

As Wes Malott stepped on the approach, the Bayside Bowl crowd roared with anticipation. A strike would send the Portland Lumberjacks to a fourth Elias Cup Finals in five seasons, and one step closer to a three-peat.

Earlier in the match, Malott had a message for his team: "Set me up, and I'll bring us home."

Malott held true to his word, just as he's done time and time again at the PBA League. The hometown crowd erupted into a frenzy as the Lumberjacks secured a 223-172 victory over the PBR Milwaukee Pounders in the Anthony Division Finals.

"In this environment, this place, this building, this crowd, it takes a special human to be there," Lumberjacks manager Tim Mack said. "That's why we call them 'The Franchise.'"

The two-time defending champions brought back the reigning PBA Player of the Year in Kyle Troup and the World Championship winner in Kris Prather. In the PBA League Draft, Mack traded up to ensure rising star Packy Hanrahan would return to Portland as well. Arturo Quintero, the Mexican star rocking an emerald faux hawk, is the Lumberjacks' lone newcomer.

But when a match is on the line, the Lumberjacks place their trust in Malott, the two-time Mark Roth PBA League MVP and latest inductee to the PBA Hall of Fame.

"I'm very humbled to hear stuff like that," Malott said. "I've had a lot of success here in this league. For me, I'm a team player. I want to do it for everybody else. I don't know if it causes me to focus a little bit more and really try and make a better shot, but I thrive in these events and this environment."

The deafening crowd at Bayside Bowl certainly helped propel the Lumberjacks to victory. Malott said winning the 2019 Elias Cup in Portland is a moment he'll never forget. Defending their title, now titles, in



Portland has been on his mind for two years. On Sunday afternoon, the Lumberjacks will get that opportunity in front of who Malott called "the greatest fans in bowling."

Their opponent will be the winner of the Carter Division Finals, which will be decided later this evening.

Regardless of who the Lumberjacks face, Mack knows PBA history will be at stake. A third Elias Cup victory would tie Portland with Silver Lake for the most in PBA League history. A three-peat has never been done before.

"I used to say there's no nothing more important than winning — except breathing, because if you don't breathe, you can't win," Mack said. "I'm hoping we can take a couple more breaths and get a chance to win on Sunday."

## **DALLAS STRIKERS WIN PBA LEAGUE CARTER DIVISION FINALS JULY 7, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The Dallas Strikers won the Carter Division Finals on Thursday evening, defeating the Las Vegas High Rollers 256-214. In reality, they won the division back in May during the PBA League Draft.

Player/manager Norm Duke's brilliant strategy netted the Strikers Santtu Tahvanainen in the first round. Duke had never met the 25-year-old Finnish player, but Bill O'Neill and Tommy Jones convinced Duke to take him.

Tahvanainen's immense talent caught the eyes of everyone at Bayside Bowl as he aced all four of his shots on the show.

In the second round, Duke selected Matt Ogle, the 2019 Roth/Holman doubles champion. Ogle said being drafted by Duke was unexpected but gave him a lot of confidence.

When Duke tabbed Ogle to anchor his squad, Ogle's confidence grew even more. He led the qualifying field by nearly 100 pins and mowed down the pins all evening.

"I would never chance that would be in the spot to anchor on TV," Ogle said. "They put a lot on my shoulders and I'm glad that I could come through."

The night began with some leftover holiday fireworks, as the Wonder fired off nine straight strikes. Parker Bohn III's 7-pin leave ended Waco's bid at a brick and Bayside Bowl immortality. Silver Lake's comeback attempt proved futile as the Wonder poured on the strikes.

Chicago brought midwestern, Big Ten style football to the lanes. The Hitmen and Wonder combined for just three strikes in a grueling first half. A Chicago hambone gave them a 4-pin lead entering the ninth frame, but back-to-back splits from Nick Pate and Dom Barrett handed the match to Waco.

In the semifinal, Thomas Larsen's massive 6-7-10 conversion kept Waco in the match with Dallas. The Strikers held a nine-pin lead entering the tenth frame, where Ogle needed a double to shut out Waco. A 10-pin leave on his second shot gave Bohn III a chance to steal the match.

The left-hander made a gutsy ball change before the frame, just as did BJ Moore in the ninth frame. The decision paid off but an errant shot left ended the Wonder's run.

In the final match, Las Vegas fell behind early after Ildemaro Ruiz Jr.'s pocket 7-10 and Matt Russo's missed single-pin spare. The High Rollers started to sneak back into the match, but Jones' strike in the ninth frame of the final match proved to be the dagger.

While Duke himself didn't strike on the show, his teammates had his back.

"It was a tough day and I played poorly," Duke said. "But I had the draft magic, and I've got Tommy Jones and Bill O'Neill."

The Strikers return to the Elias Cup Finals for the first time since 2017, when they won their second of back-to-back titles.

"It would mean a hell of a lot for me to get my third (Elias Cup) as a player, but it would mean more to me for Tommy Jones to get his fifth," Duke said. "He is one of the greatest team players of all time. He proves it every time we get on the floor, and I have a special place in my heart for him."

The Strikers will square off against the Portland Lumberjacks in the PBA League Elias Cup Finals at 1 p.m. ET on Sunday afternoon on FS1.

#### MATCH SCORES:

Match 1: Snickers Waco defeated Silver Lake, 279-232

Match 2: Snickers Waco defeated Chicago, 177-169

Match 3: Dallas defeated Snicker Waco, 225-216

Match 4: Dallas defeated Las Vegas, 256-214

### **PORTLAND LUMBERJACKS WIN THIRD STRAIGHT ELIAS CUP JULY 10, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

In stunning fashion, the Portland Lumberjacks came back from a 2-0 deficit to win their third consecutive PBA League Elias Cup title.

Kyle Troup, Kris Prather, Wes Malott and manager Tim Mack have been a part of all three Lumberjack titles. Packy Hanrahan won his second straight title with Portland, while Arturo Quintero raised the Elias Cup in his PBA League debut. Troup earned Mark Roth MVP honors.

Portland and Dallas exchanged single-pin leaves throughout a nauseating, back-and-forth opening game. Hanrahan's strike in the third frame unleashed the Bayside Bowl crowd and gave Portland a slim lead.

The Lumberjacks clung on to a two-pin lead entering the ninth frame. Tommy Jones' strike and Prather's 10-pin leave put the game in Strikers' anchor Matt Ogle's hands.

Ogle needed a strike and seven pins to secure the win. His Brooklyn strike didn't impress Jones or Bill O'Neill, but it did the job, and the Strikers seized a 1-0 lead.

Early in Game 2, Norm Duke followed Ogle's Brooklyn strike with one of his own, marking his first televised strike of the PBA League. The two teams sat tied through five frames.

Following a 10-pin conversion from Troup, Duke missed a 2-10 split to open the door for Portland. Quintero stormed through that door. Hanrahan and Kris Prather followed to give Portland a 15-pin lead entering the 10th frame.

Malott needed a strike and eight pins to shut out Dallas. His 7-pin leave once again turned the game over to Ogle, who needed a double to steal the win.

This time, Ogle punished the pocket and buried all three strikes. The Strikers took a commanding 2-0 advantage.

Duke and O'Neill knew the Lumberjacks wouldn't go away quietly and opened Game with with an all-business double. After Santtu Tahvanainen spared a 9-pin, Jones and Ogle doubled to give Dallas the early lead.

The Lumberjacks moved in front after Duke's crafty 3-10 conversion. Dallas briefly retook the lead after a devastating 7-pin leave from Hanrahan, but Jones' errant shot in the ninth frame, a super-washout, handed it right back to Portland. Malott matched Ogle with a spare in the tenth to secure the Game 3 win.

The Lumberjacks rode their momentum into an opening triple before Prather and Malott spared back-to-back single pins. After Ogle's 10-pin conversion, Dallas held a one-pin lead through five frames.

Quintero, Hanrahan and Prather delivered a massive three-bagger, then Jones' open frame in the ninth magnified the Lumberjacks' lead. Malott spared a 10-pin to send the Elias Cup Finals to a decisive Game 5.

The second half of the game turned into chaos. Three consecutive splits from Quintero, Tahvanainen and Hanrahan

After Prather missed a nine-pin in the ninth frame, Ogle had the opportunity to double for the win. He left a seven-pin and missed it.

Malott only needed six pins to secure the win, but he wanted more. He converted a single pin, then paved the way for Duke to throw the final shot.

Of course, Duke aced a perfect strike to end his PBA League career in storybook fashion.

#### MATCH SCORES

Game 1: Dallas wins 226-195

Game 2: Dallas wins 243-237

Game 3: Portland wins 223-209

Game 4: Portland wins 235-214

Game 5: Portland wins 185-180

## **HOW THE LUMBERJACKS BUILT A DYNASTY**

JULY 11, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

The Lumberjacks had their backs against the wall. Down 2-0 to the Dallas Strikers, Portland's aspirations of winning a third straight Elias Cup appeared bleak.

"We've been here before. We've faced adversity," manager Tim Mack said. "I don't think we've faced adversity quite like this though."

Mack built this Lumberjack squad for these moments. Wes Malott was the first piece of the puzzle, joining the Lumberjacks in 2016. Malott is the King of Bowling and a Hall of Famer; he is "The Franchise."

He may not be the impervious force he once was, but he still has plenty of nastiness in him. The guys alongside him today are even nastier.

Kyle Troup followed Malott to Portland one year later. While the Troup that Mack selected in 2017 rocked his signature afro and radiant style, he wasn't quite the all-world, major champion, Player-of-the-Year caliber Kyle Troup of today.

"If you look at his growth as a bowler from the last five years, it's been exponential," Mack said. "He's grown as a bowler and as a human over these last five years, and it shows in the growth of our team."

Since Troup's joined the team, Portland has been to four of five Elias Cup Finals; since Kris Prather joined in 2019, they have won it every year.

Coming off his breakout season, Prather was the top overall selection in the 2019 PBA League Draft. That year, Prather won his first two career PBA titles, including the PBA Playoffs at Bayside Bowl. He has since added three titles, two of which were majors, and has developed into one of the world's finest talents.

"The fact that we got there four of the last five years is a testament to the guys," Mack said. "We've got three of the best bowlers on the planet, three guys that know how to win and know how to get done here."

The Lumberjack's core four met over Zoom several times to prepare for this year's draft. Mack said having a lefty would be "vitally important," and they had their eye on one southpaw in particular: Packy Hanrahan, who helped the Lumberjacks win the 2020 Elias Cup.

Getting Hanrahan back was Portland's first order of business. After Hanrahan's own breakout season, where he finished 13th in the tour's points list and racked up five top-15 finishes at the World Series of Bowling, Mack knew the native New Englander wouldn't be available for long.

Mack had been in contact with Mark Baker, the manager of the Silver Lake Atom Splitters. Baker owned the third overall pick, but felt his top target would be available later in the draft. While on the clock, the two agreed to swap first and second round picks.

Ultimately, the trade backfired on Baker as L.A. X swiped Chris Barnes one pick later. Mack, on the other hand, got his man.

Entering the second round, the Lumberjacks had three names on their draft board: Mitch Hupé, Martin Larsen and Arturo Quintero. Hupé helped Portland win the Elias Cup in 2019, and Larsen did the same in 2020.

Three picks before Portland's 18th overall selection, all three players were available. A potentially tough decision never arose for Portland, as Motown scooped up Hupé and L.A. sniped Larsen with the next two picks.

Quintero, who rededicated himself to the PBA before the season, would be the newest addition to the Lumberjacks' storied franchise.

"I know Arturo a little bit better than most people," Mack said. "He's thrown some big shots in his life. He's been in the big moment. He knows how to throw it when he needs to."

Winning has become the standard in Portland. The two-time reigning champs and hometown team walked into Bayside Bowl this year with a target on their backs.

"It's hard to come in here with no expectations of winning when it's kind of been our thing the last few years," Prather said.

Facing a 2-0 deficit, the Lumberjacks began to show vulnerability for the first time in three years.

"I felt the montra the team was a little down," Troup said of the team's mood after Game 2. "We took a little blow losing the first game to a Brooklyn (strike) and then losing the second game on what we felt like were some good shots."

"I told them, 'Hey, when we walk back over there, we need to walk in head up, chest out, like we're up 2-0. We're against the wall. This is all we got.'"

Troup thrives bearing the responsibility of bowling leadoff. He said it's his job to set the tone for his team and get the crowd going.

Through two games, Troup hadn't been able to do much of the latter. He couldn't strike early; starting with urethane was a poor gameplan, he said. While he figured the lanes out, Quintero and Hanrahan helped carry the striking burden.

After sparing twice in the opening game, Quintero struck on six of his next seven shots. "El Niño," as the Bayside Bowl crowd dubbed him, provided Portland bounds of energy, flexing his neon green faux hawk and mimicking Cristiano Ronaldo's "Siu" celebration.

Quintero said he was nervous during qualifying and the Anthony Division Finals. He wasn't confident in his physical game, so he practiced for two hours during each off-day to prepare for the Elias Cup Finals.

"This is what I want to be," Quintero said. "This is what I belong to, this is what I was working for all my life."

Hanrahan, with the crowd emphatically chanting "Packy! Packy!" during each of his shots, exhibited the left-handed prowess that Portland coveted. He struck on seven of his first nine shots, only leaving a 4-pin and 7-pin.

Uncharacteristically poor ninth and tenth frames from Dallas' Tommy Jones and Matt Ogle, respectively, helped the Lumberjacks win Game 3.

Quintero's strike in the seventh frame, where he spun around on the approach after falling down celebrating, sparked another Lumberjack rally in Game 4. Malott's 10-pin conversion in the tenth frame preserved Portland's plans for a three-peat.

"If we win one, then all of a sudden the pressure meter goes up," Mack said. "Win two and now it's anybody's game."

Troup's strike to start Game 5 amped the Portland faithful. His Lumberjack teammates followed suit. Quintero and Hanrahan struck, then Prather knew he had the fourth strike before the ball left his hand.

Riding an opening hambone, Malott spared another 10-pin to give Portland the lead through five frames.

Norm Duke, in what appeared to be his final shot of his PBA League career, kicked off the second half. The bowling gods reached down and ensured all 10 pins fell, even as Duke's shot went through the face.

"I love you, Norm. But not today," said Troup, after answering with a flush strike of his own.

The Lumberjacks had all the momentum. With a lead, plus Quintero and Hanrahan due up, Portland could almost taste the title.

"You never count your chickens until they hatch," Troup said.

Quintero's shot in the seventh came in light, and left a swisher 4-10 split. After going for pin count instead of a potential spare, Dallas briefly seized the lead.

Santtu Tahvanainen, a rookie who flashed immense potential in his PBA League debut, left a 2-10 and handed the lead back to Portland.

"That is why we chose the right lane," Mack said. "When you have to get really far in on that left lane and throw it firm, it can fly through (the breakpoint) and that's what happened."

Looking to capitalize on Dallas' mistake, Hanrahan packed the pocket. A demoralizing 7-10 split remained. He felt flashbacks to the beginning of the match, where seemingly every break fell Dallas' way.

After open frames for Portland and Dallas, the Lumberjacks led 166-152 through the eighth frame. Jones struck in the ninth, shifting the onus back on Portland.

Prather zeroed in on making a quality shot. In pressure situations, he said he moves a little to the left as a precaution. His adjustment likely prevented a split, but not the 9-pin.

"As long as we have ball in hand, I'm good," said Mack, knowing the Lumberjacks could not be shut out with a spare conversion. "Then he missed it."

Portland had managed the onslaught of chaos well, but the whiffed single-pin took the wind out of their sails. If Ogle doubled in his tenth frame, the match was over. Dreams of a historic three-peat evaporated in an instant.

"It was an ultimate low for me," Prather said. "I felt like I just let everyone down, the whole city of Portland."

Ogle led qualifying by nearly 100 pins, then came up clutch to win Games 1 and 2. Now with a chance to win Game 5, Mack said he knew Ogle would make a good shot. And he did.

However, fortune was on Portland's side. The 7-pin outlasted Ogle's marksmanship, perhaps as karmic revenge for his Brooklyn game-winner.

Before Malott even had time to prepare himself for a double-or-nothing tenth frame, Ogle missed the spare.

After two and a half hours of their championship hopes flickering on and off like a hallway light in a horror film, the Lumberjacks, for all intents and purposes, had won the Elias Cup.

Not a soul inside Bayside Bowl could believe their eyes. Few could articulate the emotions of those chaotic final frames.

"If you only showed me the back half of the scoreboard I would have never thought we won," Hanrahan said.

The first player who seemed to comprehend the situation was Quintero, who leapt into Malott's burly arms after his first shot in the tenth. The first-time Elias Cup champion relished the moment decades in the making.

Dozens of other PBA stars stuck around to watch the match. Many stayed to witness the farewell of Duke; others stayed "because they want a taste of that," said Mack, describing the championship-winning scene.

"That is something that you can't bottle and give — you gotta go earn it. That's what makes it special to be able to do it."

## **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: MCCUNE, JONES EARN CAREER REGIONAL TITLE #2, VAULT UP REGIONAL STANDINGS JULY 14, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

After the regional bowling population took Independence Day week off, the tournaments rolled right on the next week. A PBA50 regional transpired in Washington, a PBA regional happened in Florida, and a PBA50 and PBA regional took place in Missouri. The standings seem to take shape each weekend, until someone always comes along and wins their first title of the season during the following week to shake everything up.

## **PBA BOWLERO SPRING HILL OPEN**

Beginning in the Sunshine State, 124 bowlers rolled their equipment into Spring Hill Lanes for a two-squad, two-day event. Squad B proved to be a bit stronger, as the top six came from said squad, along with 21 of the top 41 moving onto the first advancers round.

Even after sleeping on the lead, Eric Jones walked in on Sunday morning, unfazed. After five more games, Jones maintained the lead with Sean Connolly and Patrick Dombrowski close behind. Three

games later, Jones remained on top, with Connolly and Dombrowski still hot on his trail. Those three stayed in the top four to advance to the stepladder, while Tom Hankey Jr. snagged the 4-seed.

Hankey and Connolly led off the stepladder with a tight match through most of the battle. Hankey was the first to double in the match, but through eight frames Connolly stayed clean and found himself down just single digits. However, Connolly split in the ninth and after striking in the tenth, he split again, handing Hankey the win 203-184.

Hankey faced seven-time titleist Dombrowski in the semi-final. Both bowlers opened in the first frame, but Dombrowski doubled shortly after while Hankey struggled to strike in the middle of the game. Hankey finally doubled in the 9th frame, but it was too late. Dombrowski would move on to face Jones after winning 214-176.

In the finals, Jones took an early two-mark lead, which turned out to be all he needed. After Jones picked up his second double in the fifth frame, all Dombrowski could do was match him the rest of the way. Jones claimed his second career title, 2,500 points and \$2,500.

PBA Bowlero Spring Hill Open Final Standings:

Eric Jones, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Patrick Dombrowski, 1,500, \$1,800  
Tom Hankey Jr, 0, \$1,500  
Sean Connolly, 950, \$1,200  
[View the South Region standings here.](#)

PBA50 ST. CHARLES LANES MIDWEST DUAL DYNAMITE OPEN

Moving over to the Midwest region, 20 bowlers competed for a PBA50 title in St. Charles, MO. The top six bowlers moved onto bracket play, with the top two grabbing a bye, while the remaining four duked it out in a best-of-five match.

In the quarterfinals, Eugene McCune dropped the first game to Jeff Johnson but promptly took the next three games to move on. The other matchup had the same story as Paul LeMond won the first game, but Terry Jones fought back to secure the next three games to move on.

Bye recipients Gary Alstott and Randy Robertson now stepped to the plate and delivered. Although both semifinal matches went the distance, Alstott and Robertson grabbed the rubber game as the one and two-seeds moved to the finals.

Unfortunately, fans didn't get as tight of a match in the finals as Alstott made it as easy as one, two, three. The No. 1 seed Alstott swept Robertson in three games, 195-172, 196-165 and 210-174. This title marked Alstott's second PBA50 title, and his first since 2019.

PBA50 St. Charles Lanes Midwest Dual Dynamite Open Final Standings:

Gary Alstott, 2500 points, \$1,800  
Randy Robertson, 1,500, \$1,000  
Terry Jones, 0, \$700  
Eugene McCune, 950, \$700  
PBA ST. CHARLES LANES MIDWEST DUAL DYNAMITE OPEN



St. Charles Lanes hosted not only a PBA50 regional but a PBA regional as well. Forty entrants pursued a regional title in Missouri, but only eight had a chance after Saturday.

Zach Wilkins led the field on the 38' Marshall Holman pattern at +158, but Kevin McCune hung in there, just one pin back. In the round-robin match play, Wilkins struggled out of the gate, shooting just one game above 200 in his first four matches, handing the lead over to McCune. Wilkins fought back to give himself a chance in the position round, but when Wilkins delivered a 232 in game six, McCune did him one better, launching a 246. Brenden Sramek snuck into the cut at +24 and made a spectacular run but just fell short.

McCune eventually accumulated over a 100-pin lead with just one match left and held on to win regional title number two, just 26 titles behind his father.

PBA St. Charles Lanes Midwest Dual Dynamite Open Final Standings:

Kevin McCune, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Brenden Sramek, 1,500, \$1,700

Zachary Wilkins 1,150, \$1,250

Tom Hess 950, \$1,000

[View the Midwest Region standings here.](#)

### **PBA50 TOWER LANES DOUBLES**

The weekend's final event transpired on the West coast, utilizing a doubles format for players 50 and older. Nineteen teams filled the alley, but only eight teams shot high enough to come back the next day.

Rich Corwin, who won his first regional title earlier this year, qualified first with his partner Blaine Weninger at +179, followed closely by Darron Peters and teammate Ron Mohr at +166. Those top eight teams came back on Sunday for round-robin match play, each hoping to fill a spot in the top three for a mini stepladder.

The Peters/Mohr duo earned the No. 1 seed, Corwin and Weninger dropped to the No. 2 seed, while Michael Kennedy and Lance Lorfield secured the final spot. The first match went to Corwin and Weninger as they narrowly defeated Washington natives Kennedy and Lorfield, 200-191.

The Corwin/Weninger duo met the Mohr/Peters duo in the finals, where all four bowlers looked to add another title to their resums. Although Mohr dominated the lanes all weekend, he left some pins on the deck in the final match as he and Peters dropped the closing game to Corwin and Weninger 181-171.

Corwin picked up his second title of this season and his career, while Weninger snagged his fourth career title and his first in over a decade.

### **PBA50 Tower Lanes Doubles Final Standings:**

Rich Corwin/Blaine Weninger, 2,500 Points, \$2,200

Darron Peters/Ron Mohr, 1,500, \$1,500

Michael Kennedy/Lance Lorfeld, 1,150, \$1,200

Kevin Croucher/Hugh Miller, 950, \$900

[View the Northwest Region standings here.](#)

If four events didn't hit your bowling quota, have no fear. Over the next two weeks, 10 more regional events will hit the books all across the United States.

To check out where those events will take place, head over to PBA.com. For regional standings in both the PBA and PBA50 divisions, you can go to r2sports.com.

## **PBA LEAGUE ALL-STAR WEEKEND PREVIEW JULY 15, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The PBA's All-Star Weekend will hit the lanes from Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine this Saturday and Sunday. The top performers from the PBA League will compete in a pair of thrilling events in front of bowling's most passionate fans.

The roster features a host of major champions, two PBA League rookies and a pair of Hall of Famers — plus several more players destined for future enshrinement.

The Strike Derby will air on July 16 at 1 p.m. ET, while the All-Star Clash will broadcast on July 17 at 1:30 p.m. ET. Each winner will receive \$25,000.

During last week's PBA League action, the Portland Lumberjacks won the Anthony Division Finals, led by the Hall of Famer Wes Malott, a.k.a. "The Franchise."

In the Carter Division Finals, the Dallas Strikers emerged victorious to extend Norm Duke's final PBA League competition.

Last Sunday, the hometown Lumberjacks captured their third straight Elias Cup title in an exhilarating 2-0 comeback against the Strikers.

Portland's recent dominance is unprecedented in the PBA League's nine-season history.

### **STRIKE DERBY PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON**

Players will have two minutes to throw as many strikes as possible across two lanes. If there are any ties, the player with the longest string of strikes will advance.

The 12 players who rolled the most strikes from the PBA League's Anthony Division and Carter Division qualifying advanced to the Strike Derby. The winners of each division's bracket will meet in the finals to determine the champion.

The six players representing the Anthony Division are Packy Hanrahan, Mitch Hupé, Wes Malott, Martin Larsen, Darren Tang and Kyle Troup. Hupé rolled the lone perfect game during qualifying, notching 300 in the very first game.

From the Carter Division will be Matt Ogle, Santtu Tahvanainen, Andrew Anderson, Matt Russo, Tommy Jones and François Lavoie. Tahvanainen and Russo made their PBA League debuts this season.

Anderson, the defending champion and 2018 PBA Player of the Year, will look to reclaim his title.

### **ALL-STAR CLASH PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON**

The highest scoring player from each team during PBA League qualifying advanced to the All-Star Clash, which will feature the riveting one-ball eliminator format. All players will throw a single ball and the player with the lowest pin count will be eliminated. Any ties will be decided by a roll-off.

Motown's Mitch Hupé, Portland's Packy Hanrahan, L.A. X's Jakob Butturff, NYC's Darren Tang, and Milwaukee's Ryan Ciminelli advanced from the Anthony Division. Butturff will replace an injured Martin Larsen.

From the Carter Division will be Dallas' Matt Ogle, Las Vegas' Matt Russo, Chicago's Jake Peters, Silver Lake's Jesper Svensson and Waco's Jason Sterner.

Ogle led all players with a score of 1,500, an average of 250 for six games. Hupé led the Anthony Division with a 1,380 series.

Portland's Malott won the event in 2020.

#### ALL-STAR WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Strike Derby — 1 p.m. ET on Saturday, July 16 on FS1

All-Star Clash — 1:30 p.m. ET on Sunday, July 17 on FS1

### **KYLE TROUP THRILLS CROWD TO WIN PBA STRIKE DERBY JULY 16, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Kyle Troup captured the PBA Strike Derby presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon crown and the \$25,000 prize with a dazzling performance against Matt Ogle.

The greatest showman in bowling put on yet another magnificent performance in front of the exhilarated Portland, Maine crowd at Bayside Bowl. The Portland Lumberjack's twelfth and final strike sent the crowd into a euphoric frenzy.

"These are the moments that we bowl for and live for," Troup said. "To throw a strike there at the end and just yell at the crowd, I've got goosebumps thinking about it."

The six players who threw the most strikes during the Anthony Division and Carter Division qualifying, respectively, advanced to the Strike Derby. Ogle led the Carter Division with 49 strikes, while Packy Hanrahan paced the Anthony Division with 45.

Troup escaped the opening round against fellow Lumberjack, Wes Malott, on a tiebreaker. He defeated Motown's Mitch Hupé in the second round, then another Lumberjack in Packy Hanrahan in the semifinal.

#### KYLE TROUP CELEBRATES AFTER TALLYING 12 STRIKES IN HIS FINAL ROUND

With this being Troup's third appearance in the Strike Derby, he said he's gained valuable experience that helped him win the matches. He rotated through an assortment of four balls per lane, while other competitors deployed more limited arsenals. Some of the players who use their thumb, including Matt Russo and Darren Tang, were limited to three balls.

A one-hander without such restrictions was defending champion Andrew Anderson, who made a valiant effort to reclaim his title. He defeated High Roller teammate François Lavoie in the first round and Dallas' Santtu Tahvanainen in the second round.

In the Carter Division Final, dreadful pin carry plagued his two-minute binge against Ogle. Anderson said there isn't time to watch pin action in this format, but could tell from the crowd's reactions that his hits weren't pretty.

He knew his eight-strike performance stood little chance, especially after Ogle delivered back-to-back messengers on his first two shots.

Ogle earned a first-round bye, then defeated Las Vegas' Russo before taking down Anderson to reach the finals.

In the championship round, top-seeded Ogle opted to bowl second. He faced a tall order after an early six-bagger propelled Troup to a dozen strikes, but his confidence never wavered.

"I knew he was gonna have at least 10, 11 strikes — 12 was a lot," Ogle said. "I knew I was gonna get more shots off than him. He takes a little bit more time on the approach. He slides; I plant. I can get off and go on the next one."

Ogle rallied to reach 11 strikes with 20 seconds to go, but a miss right and a pesky 10-pin stifled his furious comeback attempt. Though he tied Troup with a twelfth strike on his final shot, he couldn't match Troup's longest string and lost via tiebreaker.

Troup said the win served as redemption following his three-strike, second-round exit in 2021.

He paraded around with the trophy as the Portland crowd put an eponymous spin on Tag Team's iconic single "Whoomp! (There It Is)."

"I love this environment," Troup said. "I thrive off of it. As soon as I hear those fans cheer for the first time in Bayside, I've gotta do my job and that's to get the win for Portland."

#### PBA STRIKE DERBY PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON RESULTS Round 1

Darren Tang def. Martin Larsen, 10-7

Kyle Troup def. Wes Malott, 9-9 (5-3)

Matt Russo def. Tommy Jones, 8-7

Andrew Anderson def. François Lavoie, 10-10 (6-5)

#### Round 2

Packy Hanrahan def. Darren Tang, 9-7

Kyle Troup def. Mitch Hupé, 8-6

Matt Ogle def. Matt Russo, 8-5

Andrew Anderson def. Santtu Tahvanainen, 9-5

### Round 3 — Division Finals

Kyle Troup def. Packy Hanrahan, 9-5

Matt Ogle def. Andrew Anderson, 10-8

### Round 4 — Championship

Kyle Troup def. Matt Ogle, 12-12 (6-5)

### FINAL STANDINGS

Kyle Troup, \$25,000

Matt Ogle, \$14,000

Andrew Anderson, \$10,000

Packy Hanrahan, \$10,000

Sanntu Tahvanainen, \$4,000

Mitch Hupé, \$4,000

Matt Russo, \$4,000

Darren Tang, \$4,000

Martin Larsen, \$3,000

François Lavoie, \$3,000

Wes Malott, \$3,000

Tommy Jones \$3,000

### **JAKE PETERS OUTLASTS STACKED FIELD TO WIN ALL-STAR CLASH JULY 17, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Jake Peters of the Chicago Hitmen captured the PBA League All-Star Clash presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon title. He survived the 10-player eliminator format, where the player who rolled the lowest count was sent packing each round.

Peters defeated Packy Hanrahan of the Portland Lumberjacks in the final round. Hanrahan's six-count gifted Peters a grand opportunity. He took full advantage to snag the win and \$15,000 prize. His Chicago teammates each received \$3,000.

The top-scoring player from each team during qualifying advanced to the All-Star Clash. Peters said succeeding against "50 of the best players in the world" to make the All-Star Clash was an honor.

Though Peters used reactive equipment during qualifying, he opted to use a Purple Hammer urethane for the All-Star Clash. His ball reaction faded as the rounds progressed, but he said changing balls wasn't really an option.

"Urethane is not going to strike as much but it'll put up a high number and give it a chance," Peters said. "My plan was to hit the pocket and try to stay alive. You hope that you can get through a few rounds trying to get your feet under you."

While the raucous BoPo crowd energized the players, they made it difficult for Peters to keep his ball speed down.

"You love to get pumped up with them," he said. "At the same time, it's hard to slow down. Slow on that show is still fast."

## **Jake Peters Wins All-Star Clash**

### **JAKE PETERS CELEBRATES A STRIKE DURING THE ALL-STAR CLASH**

With five left-handers on the show, the southpaws saw as much transition as the right-handers. One of those left-handers was Jakob Butturff, who finished fourth.

Butturff replaced his L.A. X teammate Martin Larsen, who suffered a neck injury just before the PBA League. Larsen persevered through the Anthony Division Finals and Strike Derby, but said the pain was worse than ever on the morning of the All-Star Clash.

"I know how hard it is to beat those guys when you're totally okay," Larsen said. "To do it injured is just really hard. I wanted to have somebody from my team that is feeling okay to bowl for us."

Hanrahan, the crowd favorite who had over a dozen family members and friends in attendance, observed the lanes transitioning a few rounds before the finals. He noted how Matt Russo and Jesper Svensson missed left and paid the price with splits.

"I did the same thing," Hanrahan said of his final shot. "I made the bad miss of left and getting around (the ball) instead of missing in. If I miss in, I probably still hit the pocket, maybe I flat-7 or 7-10 but at least I would have hit the pocket."

### **PACKY HANRAHAN REACTS TO HIS 6-COUNT IN THE FINAL ROUND**

After Hanrahan's 2-4-7-8 leave, Peters only needed seven pins to lock up the win. His ball almost skidded through the breakpoint, but managed to knock over eight pins and claim the victory.

The 33-year old Peters was selected 15th overall in the PBA League Draft. Peters subbed for the Hitmen in 2019, but this marked his first selection to the PBA League since 2014. He took the responsibility of representing the Hitmen in the All-Star Clash to heart.

"Jason Couch took a chance on me," Peters said. "I had a chance to sub a couple years ago and it just didn't go well. I really wanted to do well and put on a show for the team. Going into today, I really wanted to win for the Hitmen more than anything."

#### **PBA LEAGUE ALL-STAR CLASH PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON RESULTS**

Round 1 — Ryan Ciminelli X, Mitch Hupé X, Packy Hanrahan X, Jason Sterner X, Matt Russo X, Matt Ogle 9, Jakob Butturff X, Darren Tang 9, Jake Peters X, Jesper Svensson X

Ogle defeated Tang in roll-off, X-X, X-9 — Tang eliminated

Round 2 — Ciminelli X, Hupé X, Hanrahan X, Sterner 9, Russo 9, Ogle X, Butturff X, Peters X, Svensson X

Russo defeated Sterner in roll-off, X-9 — Sterner eliminated

Round 3 — Ciminelli 6, Hupé X, Hanrahan 9, Russo 5, Ogle 9, Butturff 8, Peters X, Svensson 9

Russo eliminated

Round 4 — Ciminelli X, Hupé 6, Hanrahan X, Ogle 9, Butturff X, Peters 7, Svensson X

Hupé eliminated

Round 5 — Ciminelli 9, Hanrahan X, Ogle 9, Butturff X, Peters X, Svensson X

Ogle defeated Ciminelli in roll-off, 9-9, X-8 — Ciminelli eliminated

Round 6 — Hanrahan X, Ogle 9, Butturff X, Peters X, Svensson X

Ogle eliminated

Round 7 — Hanrahan X, Butturff 9, Peters 9, Svensson X

Peters defeated Butturff in roll-off, 8-8, X-9 — Butturff eliminated

Round 8 — Hanrahan X, Peters 9, Svensson 7

Svensson eliminated

Round 9 (Finals) — Hanrahan 6, Peters 8

Hanrahan eliminated

#### FINAL STANDINGS

Jake Peters, \$15,000 (\$3,000 to each teammate and manager)

Packy Hanrahan, \$8,000 (\$2,000)

Jesper Svensson, \$1,500 (\$1,500)

Jakob Butturff, \$1,250 (\$1,250)

Matt Ogle, \$1,000 (\$1,000)

Ryan Ciminelli, \$750 (\$750)

Mitch Hupé, \$500 (\$500)

Matt Russo, \$500 (\$500)

Jason Sterner, \$500 (\$500)

Darren Tang, \$500 (\$500)

### **THE EFFORTLESS POWER OF MITCH HUPÉ JULY 19, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

During Anthony Division qualifying, bowling balls destroyed pins like wildebeests in a stampede. The decimated racks at Bayside Bowl could be heard miles off the Portland, Maine coast.

This was the PBA League's strongest division, featuring Jason Belmonte, EJ Tackett, Anthony Simonsen, Kyle Troup, Kris Prather and Sean Rash, among other PBA stars – balls wrecking pins was not surprising.

What may be surprising, perhaps, was the player who delivered the most thunderous blasts was not among that list of PBA luminaries. In fact, he doesn't even have a PBA title.

Mitch Hupé, a 27-year-old native of Winnipeg, Canada, led the Motown Muscle and all of Anthony Division qualifying with 1,380 for six games. The only person capable of out-banging Hupé's strikes was Mike Breen during the NBA Finals.

Hupé made his presence felt right away, firing a perfect 300 in the first game. Dominance on fresh oil is typical for Hupé; he has very low tilt, which creates heavy ball roll; prefers throwing stronger equipment and likes to play straighter angles.

"His super heavy ball roll controls most patterns really well," said François Lavoie, a teammate of Hupé's at Wichita State and on the Canadian national team. "A lot of times people struggle if their ball shape is too smooth, but he's got that big hand, revs it up and it goes through the pins just fine."

Given Hupé's immense power, his effortless release is hard to fathom, even in slow motion. He applies so much torque to the ball, you can hear it hiss as it rolls down the lane. His rev rate compares favorably to the tour's most powerful players, including Muscle teammates Tackett and Simonsen.

While Hupé believes he has one of the best physical games on tour, he said that doesn't always equate to winning.

"I definitely don't throw it like many other people, which can be good or bad," Hupé said. "I don't know if my game and what I do unique to a ball is as beneficial in today's current game."

He often finds himself atop the standings early in tournaments, then falls as expert boomerang throwers wrap around him. While his A-game often matches up on fresh oil, he hasn't been able to parlay that roll into success on transition.

The right-hander knows what to do in those situations — play left with steeper angles — and how to do it, but he struggles to replicate the consistency of craftsmen like Prather and Tackett.

"A guy like Simo or EJ or Prather, they feel like they can probably bowl mediocre and still make a top-10," he said. "Those guys can get so many pins later on in the day, where what I do naturally doesn't match up and what they do naturally does. I feel like it's a lot easier to stay safe on the fresh and then gain a lot of pins, versus the other way around."

The main flaw that has prevented Hupé from entering the tour's upper echelon isn't fatal. He said he would need to learn to raise his axis tilt from about five degrees to 15 degrees. That would help him match up better later in blocks, when he needs the ball to skid further downlane and create more angle.

## **HUPÉ STRUCK ON FOUR OF SIX SHOTS DURING THE ANTHONY DIVISION FINALS**

That's easier said than done, of course. Altering tilt is among the most difficult physical changes in bowling. It would require Hupé to take a few steps back to take more steps forward.

"It's hard for a professional especially to make adjustments to their game," he said. "For us to take steps back, we have to sacrifice potential income, potential results, potential sponsorships. It's not like we're on like an NBA team or MLB team where you can make adjustments and maybe you just don't play for a few games."

Hupé is unsure if he's willing to make that sacrifice. While he wants to win a title and believes he's good enough to win on tour, he's also happy with his relationship with bowling.



"You're out here for so long and if you don't win, that can weigh down a lot of people," Hupé said. "I don't want to reach that point where it's like, 'is this fun anymore?' It gets frustrating, don't get me wrong, but it's not frustrating to the point where I'm questioning why I'm still here."

Even though he hasn't broken through into the PBA's elite class, Hupé has earned his share of accolades on the lanes.

He particularly thrives in team competition. At Wichita State University, he won the Intercollegiate Team Championships title in 2015. During his PBA League debut in 2019, he helped Portland capture their first of three straight Elias Cups. Manager Tim Mack wanted to bring him back this year, too.

Individually, Hupé won the men's master's gold medal at the 2018 World Championships, defeating Troup in the gold medal match. He also made the USBC Masters show in 2019, finishing fifth.

But you don't need to look at a résumé to discover Hupé's talent. All you have to do is watch him throw a ball.

## **DINO CASTILLO DAY ONE LEADER AT PBA50 CUP JULY 19, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Westland, Michigan – After a two-week break in the schedule for the PBA50 Tour, Rookie of the Year front-runner Dino Castillo came out firing at the PBA50 Cup on Tuesday.

"I shot 300 out of the gate," Castillo said of his perfect start. "I just wanted to get out of the gate with a good score because usually the fresh has been my nemesis."

After enjoying a birthday weekend with his kids followed by seven days in Cancun, Mexico with his wife and friends doing "literally nothing," Castillo is at the top of the standings after posting 300, 215, 245, 268, 265, 246, 213 and 216 for 1,968, a 246 average.

"The two-week break was absolutely wonderful and a hard reset," he said. "I was on a really good run and now I am ready for the last half of the season."

Castillo used his Hammer Obsession Tour for his eight-game qualifying block and only had to make minor adjustments the last couple of games. He was able to throw the ball pretty firm earning himself a 26-pin lead over Tom Hess who was also on the B squad inside Vision Lanes.

Just behind Hess is local bowler Jeff Austreng, who never imagined himself bowling side-by-side with the likes of PBA50 players Tom Baker, Lennie Boresch Jr. and Jack Jurek. But after winning a recent tournament, he earned an entry into the PBA50 Cup, about 30-miles from his hometown.

"I don't think I slept one wink last night," the 51-year-old said. "Honestly, I was watching bowling at 3:30 in the morning. I was super excited about it, and I couldn't wait to get here."

And the right-hander couldn't be happier with his results after completing his first-ever qualifying block at a PBA50 tournament. After a great practice session Monday, he drilled a Hammer Ocean Vibe, which he admits was the right piece of equipment for him.

He had the best block on the A squad with 290, 193, 207, 214, 266, 279, 289 and 201 for 1,939, a 242.38 average. He is used to bowling on house shots like at his family's bowling center, 300 Bowl in

Waterford Township. So, he quickly learned the PBA50 Don Carter 39-foot oil pattern is “way more difficult than what I am used to bowling on,” which left him even more impressed by his competitors.

“This is like being at a fantasy camp watching all of these guys,” the Waterford, Michigan native said. “It seems like when you are with better bowlers you just bowl better. You just want to compete.”

All 95 players will bowl eight more games of qualifying Wednesday, starting with the B squad at 9 a.m. and the A squad at 3:30 p.m. ET before cutting to the top 32. All pins will carry over to Thursday. You can watch all of the action on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 Cup scoring at [PBA50 Cup](#) | [PBA](#)

Top 10 PBA50 Cup:

Dino Castillo	1,968
Tom Hess	1,942
Jeff Austreng	1,939
Jason Couch	1,898
Brad Angelo	1,874
Eugene McCune	1,847
Larry Verble	1,823
Donald Hogue	1,812
Kevin Anderson	1,811
Parker Bohn III	1,807
Tony Johnson	1,807

## **SANTTU TAHVANAINEN HAS ARRIVED JULY 20, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

While bowling fans around the world bid farewell to Norm Duke at the PBA League, they were introduced to perhaps the PBA’s next star: Santtu Tahvanainen.

The Dallas Strikers’ first-round selection established himself as one of bowling’s rising talents. During PBA League qualifying, he yielded the second-highest score and strike total. Only Matt Ogle, his teammate, bested him.

That night, Tahvanainen made his TV debut at the Carter Division Finals. Though he said he was “afraid of even making it to the foul line,” the 25-year-old blasted four strikes in four shots.

Bill O’Neill, who along with Tommy Jones encouraged Duke to draft Tahvanainen, was quite impressed.

“He threw it perfect, split the 8-9 like it was nothing,” said O’Neill of Tahvanainen’s first shot. “He comes back and goes, ‘whew, first shot on TV.’”

Powered by Jones and Ogle’s clutch shot-making and Tahvanainen’s perfect premiere, the Strikers advanced to the Elias Cup Finals. On the telecast, Randy Pederson called Tahvanainen a future superstar on the tour. Carolyn Dorin-Ballard went a step further.

“Is this the second coming of Jason Belmonte?” she asked herself.

Tahvanainen describes himself as “too humble,” which, admittedly, is a bit oxymoronic. He knows he’s good — he just hasn’t grasped how good.

He left Finland to join the PBA midway through the 2022 season. He had no expectations; his lone goal was to bowl a 300 game. Instead, the kid became a Harry Golden Rookie of the Year front-runner.

Tahvanainen earned a top-10 finish in his PBA debut, finishing ninth at the Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles with Brian Robinson. With a 12-game score of 2,804, Tahvanainen ranked fourth among individuals behind only EJ Tackett, Ogle and Belmonte.

When he and Robinson qualified for match-play in fifth place, his phone blew up with messages from friends and family. The gravitas of competing in the PBA began to register.

“Hold up, this isn’t a regular tournament anymore,” Tahvanainen said to himself. “Oh, man. I’m actually here, and striking.”

A few weeks later, Tahvanainen achieved his goal of earning a 300 ring at The Storm Cup: PBA Colorado Springs Open. His perfect game quickly became a footnote.

He battled for the lead throughout the tournament, notching the No. 2 seed for the stepladder behind Dom Barrett. He beat Darren Tang in the semifinal 233-213, then gave Barrett everything he could handle in the title match.

Though Tahvanainen ultimately fell 244-234, his undeniable talent left a grand impression.

The rookie became eligible for the PBA League Draft after finishing the regular season 46th in points. He watched the draft with friends and Finnish bowling fans in a discord channel, but did not anticipate being selected.

About 30 minutes into the draft, a sprightly Duke popped onto the livestream to make the eighth overall selection. PBA commissioner Tom Clark congratulated Duke on his still-unbelievable second place finish at the USBC Masters, then asked for his pick.

“Well, I was hoping that you would tell the crowd so I wouldn’t mispronounce the kid’s name,” Duke said.

Tahvanainen said he fell out of his chair. He didn’t need to hear another word.

O’Neill said he noticed Tahvanainen’s immense power at the World Series of Bowling. With Duke’s pending retirement, they wanted to find a potential replacement as well as someone who could play the extreme left part of the lane.

Between Tahvanainen’s breakout and Ogle’s sensational performance, they found two worthy candidates. O’Neill said he’s heard all the jokes — “first and foremost from Tommy” — about how he’s the one on the chopping block.

After being drafted by Duke and hearing the same encouragement from esteemed bowling figures while at the PBA League, Tahvanainen said he's starting to believe he might have what it takes.

"If this is my TV performance, you never know what's gonna happen in a few years," he texted a few friends after his dominant showing at the Carter Division Finals.

Tahvanainen said he will arrange his schedule to compete full-time next season. He doesn't set expectations for himself, but he does have something to prove.

"My plan is to keep my feet on the ground as much as possible," he said. "It's only three months. What I want to prove next season for everyone is that I wasn't just a shooting star, that I actually can be consistent."

His first name may translate to "defender of mankind" in English, but Tahvanainen still sees himself as an ordinary Joe.

The night before leaving for the World Series of Bowling, he said he got cold feet. He didn't want to get on the plane, until one of his friends set him straight.

If he had succumbed to his inner doubts, he would not have realized his true talent. The world wouldn't know his name.

"The thing I wish to say is that I really hope there's more people that have the courage to try out the PBA," Tahvanainen said. "Because you never know."

You just might be the PBA's next superstar.

## **DINO CASTILLO LEADS AFTER QUALIFYING AT PBA50 CUP JULY 20, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Westland, Michigan – For the second straight day, Dino Castillo posted a big first game to start off his final qualifying block strong at the PBA50 Cup.

The Texas native rolled a 268 before hitting a tough pair and shooting 164. He recovered from there with 222, 212, before he made a ball change. He went from the Hammer Obsession Tour that he used all day Tuesday to an Ebonite Game Breaker 4 Pearl, which led him to 228, 237, 255 and 263 for a 16-game total of 3,817.

"They double stripped the lanes in the morning, so I knew they were going to be a little bit flatter," the 51-year-old said. "Most of the guys were moving to the left quicker, so I went to a cleaner ball to get through. That made the difference, and I held the lead."

Castillo, who is also a ball rep on the PBA national tour, knows his equipment so well which helps him when it comes to game planning a strategy for how to attack each lane condition and the transition.

"Doing the double-duty for me, I think is an advantage because I can see a clear picture of the ball motion," he said.

After 16 games of qualifying, the field was cut to the top 24. The final player in was Billy Froberg at 3,307.

"I will be bowling with Tom Hess, (Brad) Angelo and (Chris) Barnes and they move the oil differently," Castillo said about his thoughts on advancing. "I have just got to make sure I keep track of what those guys are doing to the lanes. I just have to make sure I see it."

All pins carry over into the five-game advancers round starting at 9 a.m. ET Thursday. The field will then be cut to the top 24. All pins will be dropped as they move on to three-game total pinfall bracket match play starting at 12:30 p.m. Once the final five players are determined the stepladder finals will begin at 7 p.m. Watch every frame on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 Cup scoring at [PBA50 Cup](#) | [PBA](#).

Top 10 PBA50 Cup:

Dino Castillo	3,817
Brad Angelo	3,713
Tom Hess	3,678
Parker Bohn III	3,671
Jason Couch	3,657
Jeff Austreng	3,641
Eugene McCune	3,629
Chris Barnes	3,619
Jack Jurek	3,607
Dan Knowlton	3,586

### **PARKER BOHN III GETS ANOTHER MAJOR WIN AT PBA50 CUP JULY 21, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Westland, Michigan – Last Friday, Parker Bohn III watched his oldest son, Justin, win three stepladder finals matches at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships to win the boys 20-and-under division title over Ryan Barnes. On Thursday, Bohn III won three matches to win his third PBA50 title this year, two being majors.

In match play, Bohn III averaged 257.16 to earn the top seed in the stepladder finals at the PBA50 Cup. In the championship match, he would face PBA50 Cup defending champion Chris Barnes.

Bohn III doesn't use urethane very often, but he chose to throw a 2020 Purple Hammer made by Brunswick. He buried his first shot leaving a solid 8-pin followed by a lazy 7-pin, converting both. Barnes started off with three straight strikes as Bohn III responded with a double.

"You have got to stay patient with that ball," Bohn III said. "You have got to roll it and give it as heavy of a roll as you possibly can."

The lefty would leave one more 7-pin in the fifth frame and from that point on he was nothing but perfect.

"In the 9th, probably a pinch firm and gave it the loft again," he said. "It was the weak-7 but the 4-pin nudged up enough to knock over the 7. I have touch on the left side of the lane and when you are throwing urethane, you better have touch if you are going to get it to shape right and go through the pins."

Heading into the 10th frame, Bohn III thought about what he and his wife, Leslie had told Justin just last week during his run at Junior Gold, "stay in the moment, be patient and go through your process."

Finishing first, Bohn III admits his adrenaline was flying but "all of those things certainly came into play bowling that match against Chris."

"If I don't throw the first strike in the 10th, I know Chris can get up and strike out and shut me out or beat me," he said. "I threw it good; it ripped the rack and at that point, how can anybody not be excited."

Bohn III earned the major victory as he ended the match with a seven-bagger for the 258-226 victory.

After the match was over, Bohn III packed up his car and hit the road for about a couple hour drive to Grand Rapids to watch his daughter, Sydney and other son, Brandon, who are currently competing at Junior Gold. Brandon won Junior Gold titles in 2017 and 2021.

"I tried to squeeze this tournament in and being in the hunt for Player of the Year, I wanted to at least give myself a chance," Bohn III said. "I would like to hope that I can't make the next PBA50 tournament because both or one of my kids are in the stepladder finals at Junior Gold."

Barnes earned his way to the title match after throwing eight straight strikes to beat Jason Couch 255-204. Couch stayed clean against Tom Hess for the 227-220 win. In the opening match, Hess defeated John Marsala 245-201.

View the full PBA50 Cup results at [PBA50 Cup | PBA](#).

#### 2022 PBA50 Cup FINAL STANDINGS:

Parker Bohn III	\$10,000
Chris Barnes	\$5,500
Jason Couch	\$3,500
Tom Hess	\$3,000
John Marsala	\$2,500

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Hess def. Marsala 245-201

Match 2 – Couch def. Hess 227-220

Match 3 – Barnes def. Couch 255-204

Championship match – Bohn III def. Barnes 258-226

## **LUBBOCK SUPER REGIONAL PREVIEW: TACKETT, MALDONADO HEADLINE ROSTER JULY 22, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

When EJ Tackett returns to South Plains Lanes in Lubbock, Texas this weekend, his first course of action will be to walk down lane 19 and dismantle the 9-pin with a sledgehammer.

Earlier this season, Tackett finished as the runner-up to Jason Belmonte at The Storm Cup: Lubbock Sports Open. He needed a double and nine pins to shut out Belmonte but left an agonizing stone-9 instead.

Tackett, who won his first career PBA title in Lubbock many moons ago, will seek vengeance this weekend at the PBA Lubbock Sports Shootout Presented by South Plains Lanes and Storm 2022.

On Saturday, players will bowl eight games of qualifying before cutting to the top one-third of the field. A-squad will bowl at 10 a.m. ET and B-squad hits the lanes at 3:30 p.m. ET.

On Sunday, pinfall will carry over from qualifying as advancers bowl four more games at 8:30 a.m. in the cashers round. The top 12 players will advance to round robin match play at 1 p.m. ET.

After match play, total pinfall will determine all final standings. The champion will receive \$10,000.

While a national PBA title won't be at stake this year, Shawn Maldonado will look to follow up on his win in Lubbock last summer. Jakob Butturff, a 2016 and 2019 champion in the northwestern Texas city, will also be in action.

Additional PBA stars competing in Lubbock: Anthony Simonsen, Dom Barrett, François Lavoie and Jake Peters, who finished as runner-up to Maldonado last summer.

Alex George, fresh of his singles win at the USBC Open Championships, will look to parlay his success in one sweltering American city to another.

View the full PBA Lubbock Sports Shootout Presented by South Plains Lanes and Storm 2022 roster [here](#).

More information on the tournament is available [here](#).

### **SCHEDULE**

Saturday, July 23

10 a.m ET — A-squad qualifying, 8 games

3:30 p.m ET — B-squad qualifying, 8 games (cut to top 1/3)

Sunday, July 24

9:30 a.m. ET — Cashers round, 4 games (cut to top-12)

1 p.m. ET — Round robin match play, 12 games

**NATHAN BOHR LEADS LUBBOCK SPORTS SHOOTOUT THROUGH EIGHT GAMES OF QUALIFYING**  
**JULY 23, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

After eight games of full-field qualifying in the PBA Lubbock Sports Shootout presented by South Plains Lanes and Storm, Nathan Bohr holds a one-pin advantage over David Krol entering tomorrow's cashers qualifying round in Lubbock, Texas.

Thirty-one players advanced to the four-game cashers round, after which the top 12 will advance to round-robin match play to determine the champion of the first PBA Super Regional of the summer. The championship will be decided live on the PBA YouTube channel with match play beginning at 1 p.m. ET.

**TOP 12 AFTER EIGHT GAMES**

Nathan Bohr +264

David Krol +263

Anthony Simonsen +211

Ildemaro Ruiz +206

Johnathan Norman +204

Joshua Imhoff +165

Shawn Maldonado +153

Jake Peters +151

Dom Barrett +147

Eric Jones +141

Brent Boho +134

Zach Wilkins +128

[View the complete standings](#)

**ILDEMARO RUIZ SNAGS COMEBACK WIN AT LUBBOCK SUPER REGIONAL**  
**JULY 24, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

In the final game of the PBA Lubbock Sports Shootout presented by South Plains Lanes and Storm 2022, Ildemaro Ruiz seized the lead and the title.

Ruiz entered the position round trailing Anthony Simonsen by 46 pins, which meant he needed to win the final game by at least 16 pins to secure the title. His 242 bested Simonsen's 211 and was enough for the comeback victory.

Ruiz netted \$10,000 for his super regional win.

**FINAL STANDINGS**

Ildemaro Ruiz, 5,750, \$10,000

Anthony Simonsen, 5,735, \$5,500

David Krol, 5,628, \$3,000

Nathan Bohr, 5,574, \$2,000

Dom Barrett, 5,555, \$1,600

AJ Chapman, 5,520, \$1,400

Jakob Butturff, 5,432, \$1,250

Shawn Maldonado, 5,358, \$1,125

Jake Peters, 5,323, \$1,025

Eric Jones, 5,317, \$950



Deo Benard, 5,166, \$925  
Johnathan Norman, 5,080, \$900

## **BIG BLOCK EARNS BILL ROWE THE LEAD AT THE PBA50 SOUTH SHORE OPEN JULY 26, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Hammond, Indiana – Despite nursing a bad back, the pain Bill Rowe feels is a lot less after averaging 252.43 for his first seven games of qualifying Tuesday at the PBA50 South Shore Open.

The decorated Canadian shot 278, 241, 226, 279, 237, 269 and 237 for 1,767 to lead the field inside Olympia Lanes.

"It might have been one of the best blocks I have ever bowled," the 57-year-old said.

The right-hander exclusively used his Track Paragon Solid for the entire block. He felt it read the 44-foot Billy Hardwick oil pattern well and it was just one of those days when everything seemed to work. He admits he was able to stay loose while crossing with longtime friend Michael Haugen Jr. and Peter Knopp, who he had bowled against several times in international competition.

Rowe has bowled in three previous PBA50 tournaments this season cashing in all. His best finish was 17th at the PBA50 Granville Financial Open, also bowling on the same oil pattern.

"I came in with a little bit of confidence," he said. "It has been a pretty successful year. I have been in the hunt but never a big overall finish. Definitely knocking on the door though."

He holds a 163-pin lead over Tom Carter. In third is Lennie Boresch Jr. followed by Tom Adcock. John Burkett and Brian LeClair are tied at 1,570 in fifth place. Defending champion Eugene McCune is one pin behind them. Christopher Keane of Cape Coral, Florida rolled a 300 in game six as he sits in ninth place.

The entire field will bowl seven more games of qualifying starting with the B-squad at 10 a.m. ET Wednesday followed by the A-squad at 3 p.m. ET. The top 30 bowlers will advance after that with all pins carrying forward into Thursday's final day. Watch all of the PBA50 action exclusively on BowITV.com.

Follow PBA50 South Shore Open scoring at [PBA50 South Shore Open | PBA](#)

### Top 10 PBA50 South Shore Open

Bill Rowe	1,767
Tom Carter	1,604
Lennie Boresch Jr.	1,600
Tom Adcock	1,580
John Burkett	1,570
Brian LeClair	1,570
Eugene McCune	1,569
Chris Barnes	1,567
Christopher Keane	1,561
Jeff Snuffer	1,556

## **PBA JUNIOR TO SPONSOR TEEN MASTERS TWILIGHT ZONE JULY 26, 2022 PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION**

PBA Junior partners with one of the nation's most prestigious youth bowling tournaments.

Richmond, VA - The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) and PBA Junior announced today a partnership with Teen Masters, a national youth bowling tournament renowned for its signature low-volume oil patterns and one-ball limit.

The \$5,000 PBA Jr. Teen Masters Twilight Zone will take place on Friday, Aug. 5 at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Mich. The first squad will begin at 9 a.m. ET squad and will be free. The 10 a.m. squad will cost \$20 per bowler.

"We are thrilled to partner with Teen Masters on this event," said Mike Sledz, director of membership for the PBA and PBA Jr. "Teen Masters has long been known as an event for elite youth bowlers, which aligns perfectly with our vision for PBA Jr."

The Twilight Zone event is only open to players who finish outside the match play cut in the Teen Masters tournament. It will utilize the PBA SKILL 3.02 bowling ball and a low-volume oil pattern, but will foster an "out of this world" scoring pace, said tournament director Gary Beck.

Registration for the 9 a.m. squad will occur onsite, while registration for the 10 a.m. squad is available here. Players who advance from the 9 a.m. squad but paid for a 10 a.m. spot will be issued a cash refund.

Learn more at [TeenMasters2022.com](https://TeenMasters2022.com).

## **STRIKING AGAINST BREAST CANCER MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT PREVIEW JULY 27, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The PBA heads to Copperfield Bowl in Houston to award the final national title of the 2022 season. This weekend, PBA and PWBA stars as well as top amateurs will team up in the 22nd Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles Tournament.

The tournament benefits the X Out Breast Cancer Foundation. It is often referred to as "The Luci," after long-time PWBA player Luci Bonneau, whose life was cut short by breast cancer.

Tournament founder Donna Connors founded the tournament in honor of her late friend.

Last year's champions, EJ Tackett and Danielle McEwan, will not be defending their title.

Tackett, looking for his third SABC Mixed Doubles title with a third partner, will be competing with Diandra Asbaty. McEwan is competing in Australia.

Four-time champions Shannon Pluhowsky and Tommy Jones will look to extend their record with a fifth title. Shannon O'Keefe will look to claim her fifth title, and fourth with Bill O'Neill.

Amanda Greene and Kyle Sherman, who won in 2019, will aim for their second title.

Jason Sterner and Birgit Noreiks won in 2017, but have since switched partners. Sterner will bowl with Heather D'Errico, while Noreiks will team up with Stu Williams.

The entirety of the tournament will be livestreamed on BowlTV, beginning with a Beauties vs. Beasts match at 5 p.m. ET on Thursday, July 28. The match will feature Brandi Kordelewski, Hayley Veitch, Bryanna Coté, Cassandra Leuthold and Kerry Smith against Jakob Butturff, François Lavoie, AJ Chapman, Chris Via and Julian Salinas.

Each team will bowl seven games of qualifying; A- and B-squads will bowl Friday, while C- and D-squads will compete Saturday. The top 40 teams will advance to the semifinals on Sunday morning, before cutting to the top eight teams for round robin match play.

The team with the highest pinfall after match play will be crowned the 2022 champions.

The full roster is available on SABC's website. Here are five pairings to watch in each squad:

#### A-Squad

Jordan Richard and Andrew Anderson  
Diana Zavjalova and Dom Barrett  
Bryanna Coté and Chris Via  
Erin McCarthy and AJ Johnson  
Shannon Pluhowsky and Tommy Jones

#### B-Squad

Birgit Noreiks and Stu Williams  
Madison Janack and Packy Hanrahan  
Breanna Clemmer and AJ Chapman  
Stefanie Johnson and Jakob Butturff  
Caitlyn Johnson and Ildemaro Ruiz Jr.

#### C-Squad

Stephanie Zavala and Sean Rash  
Amanda Greene and Kyle Sherman  
Hope Gramly and Kris Prather  
Liz Johnson and Anthony Simonsen  
Julia Bond and Wesley Low

#### D-Squad

Lara Kurt and Julian Salinas  
Shannon O'Keefe and Bill O'Neill  
Diandra Asbaty and EJ Tackett  
Dasha Kovalova and Ryan Ciminelli  
Josie Barnes and Chris Barnes  
2022 SABC MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE  
Friday, July 29

9 a.m. ET | 8 a.m. local — A-squad qualifying (7 games)

3 p.m. ET | 2 p.m. local — B-squad qualifying (7 games)

Saturday, July 30

9 a.m. ET | 8 a.m. local — C-squad qualifying (7 games)

3 p.m. ET | 2 p.m. local — D-squad qualifying (7 games)

Sunday, July 31

9:30 a.m. ET | 8:30 a.m. local — Semifinals for advancers (5 games)

1:30 p.m. ET | 12:30 p.m. local — Finals (8 games, round robin match play)

Watch all rounds of the 2022 SABC Mixed Doubles Tournament on BowlTV.

#### PAST WINNERS

2021 — Danielle McEwan and EJ Tackett

2019 — Amanda Greene and Kyle Sherman

2018 — Liz Johnson and EJ Tackett

2017 — Birgit Poppler and Jason Sterner

2016 — Shannon O'Keefe and Bill O'Neill

2015 — Shannon O'Keefe and Bill O'Neill

2014 — Missy Parkin and Scott Norton

2013 — Shannon O'Keefe and Bill O'Neill

2012 — Shannon O'Keefe and Bryan O'Keefe

2011 — Shannon Pluhowsky and Tommy Jones

2010 — Shannon Pluhowsky and Tommy Jones

2009 — Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Parker Bohn III

2008 — Shannon Pluhowsky and Tommy Jones

2007 — Shannon Pluhowsky and Tommy Jones

2006 — Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Marc Laracuente

2005 — Rachel Perez and Paul Fleming

2004 — Kristal Scott and Russell Wilson

2003 — Genie Franklin and Wes Malott

2002 — Diandra Hyman and Dino Castillo

2001 — Amy Dillon and Chris Barnes

2000 — Donna Conners and Mark Scroggins

## **BILL ROWE MAINTAINS LEAD AT PBA50 SOUTH SHORE OPEN**

JULY 27, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Hammond, Indiana – After some much needed TLC on his back, Bill Rowe got just the relief he needed to hold onto the lead after 14-games of qualifying at the PBA50 South Shore Open.

The righty shot 202, 265, 194, 237, 220, 214 and 213 for a two-day total of 3,312. He holds a 41-pin lead over Chris Barnes who sits in second.

"The scoring pace was lower today," he said. "The conditions were not as forgiving as they were yesterday."

He tried using the Track Paragon Solid from day one but that was not an option, so instead he went with a Brunswick Quantum EVO Pearl almost the whole day.

The B-squad took the lanes first on Wednesday and 2021 PBA50 South Shore Open champion Eugene McCune took over the lead. He posted scores of 263, 197, 234, 255, 269, 230 and 230, averaging 239.71 on the day. He is currently in third place.

"I think I must have got the good pairs," he said. "I tend to drift more in at this house and just try to stay soft and play inside."

His game plan and knowledge of Olympia Lanes having won twice in this bowling center is paying off. His arsenal included the 900 Global Wolverine Dark Moss and a Storm Nova with a little more surface on it to get the ball to pick up better.

John Marsala was the last player to make the cut at 2,940.

They will bowl five games in the advancers round starting at 10 a.m. ET Thursday before the top 24 move on to three-game total pinfall match play starting at 1:30 p.m. ET.

The stepladder finals are scheduled to begin at 8:30 p.m. ET all exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 South Shore Open scoring at [PBA50 South Shore Open | PBA](#)

### Top 10 PBA50 South Shore Open

Bill Rowe	3,312
Chris Barnes	3,271
Eugene McCune	3,247
Brad Angelo	3,186
Lance Lorfeld	3,136
Tom Hess	3,102
Lennie Boresch Jr.	3,095
Christopher Keane	3,086
Michael Haugen Jr.	3,068
Chris Gibbons	3,042

**PBA REGIONAL RECAP: FACH FINDS TITLE NO.4 THIS SEASON IN ONE OF TEN EVENTS OVER PAST TWO WEEKS**  
**JULY 28, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

It is no secret that the objective of every regional competitor is to win a regional title. These past two weeks gave bowlers the best chance because the PBA held 10 regional events. Six of the seven regions hosted at least one tournament, and it is time to run through them all right here on this week's Regional Recap.

**PBA50 RITA JUSTICE CLASSIC, PRESENTED BY ANCHOR BUICK/GMC**

Out in Delaware, anybody who delivered a +52 set or higher for eight games moved onto bracket play on Sunday. The top four bowlers earned a double bye, the next highest four earned a single bye, while the rest duked it out in the first round. Ryan Shafer, David Handlowich Jr., Rick Graham, and Steve Weber eventually found themselves inside the final four for a one-game matchup.

In the top half of the bracket, four-seed Handlowich Jr. upset the one-seed Shafer, 212-184, while Weber earned the other final spot after handily dispatching Graham, 236-166. In the championship match, Weber continued his run and took down Handlowich Jr., 220-176.

**PBA50 Rita Justice Classic, presented by Anchor Buick/GMC Final Standings**

Steve Weber, \$1,800

David Handlowich Jr., 1,500 points, \$975

Rick Graham, 1,150, \$850

Ryan Shafer, 950, \$850

**PBA RITA JUSTICE CLASSIC, PRESENTED BY ANCHOR BUICK/GMC**

Subsequently, bowlers under age 50 competed over the weekend, along with some seniors who opted to bowl in both Middleton events. Using the same format, 16 bowlers qualified for bracket play, with some getting a double-bye and some a single-bye.

However, the double-bye recipients did not fare well, as all four dropped their first match in the quarterfinals. Todd Sigeti moved past CJ Petrin in the first round 212-203, while Ryan Lane defeated Darren Andretta 188-165. Both finalists looked for their first career regional title, but Sigeti got the best of Lane for title No. 1, 235-159.

**PBA Rita Justice Classic, presented by Anchor Buick/GMC Final Standings**

Todd Sigeti, 2,500 points, \$3,100

Ryan Lane, 1,500, \$1,750

Darren Andretta, 1,150, \$1,300

CJ Petrin, \$1,300

You can view the East point leaders [here](#).

**PBA PLEASANT DAY SCHOOLS/SUBURBAN LANES CENTRAL OPEN**

At Suburban Lanes in West Virginia, 69 bowlers rolled eight games attempting to get into the top 16 for match play. After qualifying in 9th, Sam Cooley moved to first with just the position round remaining. Justin Knowles, who squeaked into the 16th and final spot by a roll-off, catapulted to second place with one game left.

Then there was Graham Fach, who began his day in 12th place, but finished near the top. Knowles needed to win his match by at least 28 pins to pass Cooley in the standings, which he did, winning 201-163. However, Graham Fach entered position round with the same score as Knowles and won his matchup 246-204, which was enough to pass both Cooley and Knowles.

After earning title No.4 this season, and the tenth of his career, Fach takes a monstrous 5,100-point lead in the Central region.

#### PBA Pleasant Day Schools/Suburban Lanes Central Open Final Standings

Graham Fach, 2,500 points, \$2,600  
Justin Knowles, 1,500, \$1,350  
Sam Cooley, 1,150, \$1,200  
Tim Pfeifer, 950, \$1,100  
Daniel Farish, 850, \$1,000  
You can view the Central points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA FORT SILL SOUTHWEST OPEN

Just over an hour outside of Oklahoma City, the Fort Sill Southwest Open brought in 75 competitors for a chance at a Southwest Regional title. Trey Ford III charged through the gates first, going +124 for qualifying and continued the charge after the advancers round, leading at +157.

Ford III lost a bit of his luster the following day during match play as Deo Benard jumped to first at +222 with former Shocker Nathan Bohr 60 pins behind. Bohr needed a 31-pin victory against Benard to snag the win, and Bohr delivered. The former Team USA member produced a 258-209 win for his 24th regional title and first since 2017.

#### PBA Fort Sill Southwest Open Final Standings

Nathan Bohr, 2,500 Points, \$2,600  
Deo Benard, 1,500, \$1,700  
Ildemaro Ruiz, Jr, 1,150, \$1,450  
Deeronn Booker, 950, \$1,250  
Trey Ford III, 850, \$1,125  
You can view the Southwest points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA NW MEMBER/NON-MEMBER DOUBLES @ HAZEL DELL LANES

Doubles tournaments are always a good time, but they're a better time when you make a run at a title. Thirty-one teams consisting of a member and non-member entered for a chance at a couple thousand dollars a piece and a win for their resumes. Seven of the eight teams qualifying for bracket play hailed from Oregon, but the top duo of Jacob Dobkins and Shawn Horenberger came from Boise, Idaho.

However, the Idahoans were bounced in the first round, opening the door for anyone else. Jake Klemsen and Joe Lipan took that opportunity and defeated Eryk Jensen and Craig Tuholski in the finals, two games to none, for the first career title for each bowler.

#### PBA NW Member/Non-Member Doubles @ Hazel Dell Lanes Final Standings

Jake Klemsen/Joe Lipan, 2,500 points, \$4,200  
Eryk Jensen/Craig Tuholski, 1,500, \$2,600  
Johnny Leggett/Christopher Tuholski, 1,150, \$1,800  
Tyler Cruz/Ian Willard, 950, \$1,800  
You can view the Northwest points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA50 SPARETIMES ED TENAN MEMORIAL OPEN

Now onto the weekend of the 23rd, 52 seniors fought in Hampton, Virginia, using the Del Ballard pattern. Just five bowlers went plus for qualifying, led by Kip Roberts at +178. Nonetheless, 16 bowlers bowled well enough to get into the bracket, some earning a bye and some earning a double-bye.

In the finals, a pair of double-bye players appeared in Bobby Hall II and Darryl Bower. After both bowlers delivered multi-mark victories in the semifinals against their respective opponents, it was bound to be an eventful final match. Both bowlers stayed clean through eight frames, with each grabbing a double.

However, in the ninth frame, Hall II missed a single-pin spare to make way for Bower. Bower just needed to stay clean in the tenth with good count, and he did just that, winning 207-200 for his 19th career title.

#### PBA50 Sparetimes Ed Tenan Memorial Open Final Standings

Darryl Bower, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Bobby Hall II, 1,500, \$1,500

James Winterfield, 1,150, \$925

Troy McKinney, 950, \$925

You can view the Senior South points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA VANESSA BROWN HOMES OPEN

Over in California, a PBA and PBA50 regional took place at Yosemite Lanes in Modesto. PJ Haggerty led for eight games, going +324, almost 100 pins over second place. But of course, when the almighty bracket comes into play, anything can happen. Haggerty won the first two games but lost his next three games to lose his first match against the 16-seeded Ivan Miyasato.

Miyasato made a run to the semifinals but fell in that match to Anthony Schanen, who shot a 300 earlier in the day and continued his strong performance. Tyler Cortez Schenck defeated David Haynes in the other semi to move on for a chance at his second regional title of the season.

It was a back and forth battle, but Schenck doubled in the tenth to force Schanen to do the same, but a devastating nine-pin left Schanen just short of his first career regional title. Schenck picked up his second title of the season in just two attempts.

#### PBA Vanessa Brown Homes Open Final Standings

Tyler Cortez Schenck, 2,500 points, \$2,400

Anthony Schanen, 1,500, \$1,550

David Haynes, 1,150, \$1,150

Ivan Miyasato, \$1,150

You can view the West point leaders [here](#).

#### PBA50 VANESSA BROWN HOMES OPEN



Simultaneously, 67 bowlers competed for a PBA50 regional title at the same alley where multiple titleists qualified for bracket play. Matthew Weathers qualified 8th but won his first two matches, one of which was against the one-seed John Gould. He'd continue that run into the semis defeating Marty Deh 159-135 and 219-168. In the other half, legend Ron Mohr faced off against Dan Long, where Mohr eventually moved on.

The finals arrived, and for the second time in the past three weeks, Mohr would lose in the finals. Weathers put together a four-bagger in the middle of the game, which was enough to take home his first career regional title.

#### PBA50 Vanessa Brown Homes Open Final Standings

Matthew Weathers, 2,500 points, \$2,000

Ron Mohr, 1,500, \$1,400

Dan Long, 1,150, \$1,000

Marty Deh, 950, \$1,000

You can view the Senior West points leaders [here](#).

PBA50 25TH ANNUAL PROGRESSIVE/GERDEMAN INSURANCE AGENCY CENTRAL/MIDWEST CLASSIC  
Right between PBA50 national tour stops, many of the best and brightest were sure to take a breather from the tournaments by... bowling a different tournament. \$25,000 extra hit the prize pool for the regional at Al-Mar lanes last weekend, giving bowlers an opportunity to put some extra cash in their pocket before the PBA50 stop in Hammond.

John Burkett definitely threw more than three strikes on day one, taking the lead at +246, followed closely by Bill Watson at +241. But one advancers round later, and Brad Angelo snatched the lead. A couple more advancers rounds, and Angelo would hold onto the one-seed for the stepladder, Bill Watson snagged the two-seed, John Burkett hung onto the three-seed, and Dino Castillo snuck into the last spot.

Castillo used the final seed wisely, defeating Burkett in the first match by single-digits, 178-172, and then taking down Watson 191-159. In the finals though, the 2022 USBC Senior Masters Champion fell to Brad Angelo 257-210. That marks Angelo's 9th career regional title, and his wallet is a little thicker with \$6,000 added.

#### PBA50 25th Annual PROGRESSIVE/Gerdeman Insurance Agency Central/Midwest Classic Final Standings

Brad Angelo, 2,500 points, \$6,000

Dino Castillo, 1,500, \$3,200

Bill Watson, 1,150, \$2,500

John Burkett, 950, \$2,000

Chris Barnes, 850, \$1,450

You can view the Senior Central leaders [here](#).

#### PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS SHOOTOUT PRESENTED BY SOUTH PLAINS LANES

Last but definitely not least, the Super Regional in good old Lubbock ran at South Plains Lanes. Just winning a title the week prior, Nathan followed up his victory with the qualifying lead at +264. After the advancers round, Anthony Simonsen took the lead, but nobody was near out of contention with 12th

place only 102 back of first place with 12 games of match play to go. Through eleven games the two-hander remained on top but had one final bout with Ildemaro Ruiz Jr. for the title.

Down 46 pins, Ruiz, Jr needed a 17-pin victory to jump Simo for the win. To get to this point, Ruiz, Jr went 3-0 in his last three matches, shooting a 771 series. And against Simonsen, his run continued as he went on to defeat his opponent 242-211. Ruiz now owns three regional titles and two this season. He also controls the Southwest Region points lead, over 5000 points ahead of second place Anthony Simonsen.

Read more about Ruiz Jr.'s win [here](#).

PBA Lubbock Sports Shootout Presented by South Plains Lanes Final Standings

Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., 5,000 points, \$10,000

Anthony Simonsen, 3,000, \$5,500

David Krol, 2,300, \$3,000

Nathan Bohr, 1,900, \$2,000

Dom Barrett, 1,700, \$1,600

You can view the Southwest points leaders [here](#).

Phew, that was a lot of bowling. If that was too much competition for you, that's too bad. Over the next two weeks, another nine events will find their way onto the leaderboards and possibly allow others to take a commanding lead, much like Graham Fach and Ildemaro Ruiz Jr. did in these past two weeks.

Check out the upcoming schedule and regional leaders.

## **JOHN BURKETT STRIKES HIS WAY TO FIRST PBA50 TITLE JULY 28, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Hammond, Indiana – John Burkett is a two-time Major League Baseball All-Star and now a PBA50 champion.

On Thursday, the tall righty earned his way into the stepladder finals at the PBA50 South Shore Open after striking out in the 10th frame in the round of 16 match play to defeat No. 1 seed Chris Barnes 738-733. He then beat No. 8 seed Brian LeClair 693-674 to claim the No. 3 seed in his second-ever stepladder finals.

The former MLB pitcher is used to throwing strikes from the pitcher's mound; now, he did that with a 900 Global Reality bowling ball in his hands inside Olympia Lanes. It was a ball he hadn't used all week until his match against Barnes.

"I put 360 on that and tried to break the lane down to give me something to hook off of," he said about the ball of choice. "Nobody else was throwing it that far out. It gave me some room and I was off to the races."

He battled his way past Parker Bohn III in his first TV match. Bohn III needed a mark in the 10th to win and instead left the 4-6-10 split. Burkett won 197-194.

The strikes came in his next match against Lennie Boresch Jr. Burkett had seven strikes in eight frames for the 234-211 victory. In the championship match, he took on defending champion Eugene McCune.

Burkett kept delivering strikes throwing five over his first six frames for an early 43-pin lead, while McCune got his first strike of the match in the seventh frame after making a ball change. Burkett never let up winning his first PBA50 title 223-190.

"It is just unbelievable," the 57-year-old said. "You have this dream of doing it but the more you are out here with the Hall of Famers you have to go through every week, sometimes you wonder if you are ever going to be able to do it. For it to happen now is an amazing feeling."

A few days ago, Burkett's mother-in-law experienced a major medical event. He knew what she was going through is so much tougher than what he was going through, which relaxed him. He hopes to see her on Friday.

"It was amazing how many breaks I got," he said. "It was just an amazing day, and I felt her presence was with me the whole time."

Burkett admits he always felt he was a better bowler than a baseball player, but since he happened to be drafted to play baseball that is the path he took.

"Fortunately, it worked out and now I get the opportunity to come out here and do this," he said. "No matter what happens now, I can say I am a PBA champion. That is what I came out here to do, so to be able to accomplish that is very gratifying."

"This is the number one accomplishment in my sports history."

And when he gets his PBA champion banner, he wants it to be black and gold since he is a Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

In the opening match, Bill Rowe, who led qualifying rounds, lost to Bohn 215-211.

View the full PBA50 South Shore Open results at [PBA50 South Shore Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 SOUTH SHORE OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

- |                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| 1. John Burkett       | \$7,500 |
| 2. Eugene McCune      | \$4,500 |
| 3. Lennie Boresch Jr. | \$3,000 |
| 4. Parker Bohn III    | \$2,500 |
| 5. Bill Rowe          | \$2,000 |

#### Match Scores

Match 1 – Bohn III def Rowe 215-211

Match 2 – Burkett def Bohn III 197-194

Match 3 – Burkett def. Boresch Jr. 234-211

Championship match – Burkett def. McCune 223-190

**SECOND ANNUAL PBA JR. AND GAZMINE MASON FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS  
ANNOUNCED  
JULY 29, 2022 PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION**

Twenty BIPOC youth bowlers represent the second class of scholarship winners.

Richmond, VA - The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) in partnership with Gazmine "GG" Mason are excited to announce the second class of PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarship recipients.

In 2021, the PBA and Gazmine Mason came together to launch the PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarship. The scholarship aims to advocate for more representation in the sport of bowling.

"I sincerely thank everyone who applied for the scholarship this year," Mason said. "I also thank the PBA and the Gazmine Mason Foundation for their efforts to provide an opportunity for kids of color. Growing up as a Black girl in the inner city and winning a free entry into a PBA Jr. event that offers a significant amount of SMART funds, would have meant the world to me when I was a youth bowler. So, I'm a little jealous of everyone who received a scholarship (smiles)."

This year, 20 bowlers representing 14 states are recognized based on their achievements in academics, creativity, and commitment to the sport of bowling.

These recipients have earned an entry into the PBA Jr. National Championship Regional Qualifier event of their choosing. Those tournaments will take place on the weekends of August 12-14 and August 19-21 in five locations across the country.

"To everyone who applied this year, whether you have bowled a PBA Jr. event or not, I wish you much success in the upcoming PBA Jr. National Regional Qualifier events and all of your future tournaments," Mason said. "No matter how your tournament goes, please keep showing up. Don't ever feel rushed by the world around you. You are exactly where you're supposed to be. You are all amazing. I am sending you lots of love and strikes. Good luck!"

**PBA Jr. and Gazmine Mason Foundation Scholarship 2022 Recipients**

Amari Thompson, SC  
Arden Han-Wei, CA  
Ashley Adams, GA  
Braylen Thomas, MO  
Cesar Padilla, AZ  
Clyde Johnson, GA  
Donald Holt III, GA  
Gio Fleurimond, TX  
Guyshon Moore, IL  
Isaiah Armstrong, WI  
Jedric Uganiza, CA  
Jordan Peareara, RI  
Kalee Stockstill, KS  
Larielle Harps, FL  
MaKayla Hampton, IN  
Maia Struble, AK  
Neriah Ali, GA  
Olivia Cameron, IL

Tyler Williams, IL

William Cunningham III, NJ

The PBA Jr. National Championship Regional Qualifiers are the first part in the PBA Jr. National Championship open to youth bowlers, who have not yet reached the age of 18 by August 1, 2021.

Information regarding PBA Jr. National Championship Regional Qualifiers can be found [here](#).

To register for PBA Jr. or learn more about the program, visit [PBA.com/junior](https://pba.com/junior).

**CHRIS VIA, BRYANNA COTÉ LEAD DAY 1 OF PBA/PWBA SABC MIXED DOUBLES  
TOURNAMENT  
JULY 29, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Chris Via and Bryanna Coté led Day 1 of the Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mix Doubles Tournament, shooting 3,245 (+445) for their 14 combined games.

The teammates led A-squad squad by nearly 100 pins. Coté's 1,543 and Via's 1,702 ranked second among women and men in A-squad, respectively.

The key to their success, aside from their matching jerseys, was simple: "striking," Via said.

"She made a lot of spares and when she had the ball reaction to strike, she struck," Via said. "I did the same. I just had a few more games where my ball struck."

Coté said she decided to look for a new partner in 2019. She scanned the 2019 standings for a potential new teammate and reached out to Via.

After both had sensational 2021 campaigns — Coté earned the PWBA Player of the Year award; Via finished third in PBA Player of the Year voting and won the U.S. Open — the two came into this year's event beaming with confidence.

"Whether we bowl good or not, we're gonna be good teammates, really supportive and still be friends at the end," Coté said.

The pairing of Angelica Anthony and Cam Crowe came together just weeks before the event, but instantly clicked to finish second on A-squad with a 3,153 series.

Rounding out the top-five on A-squad were Taylor Bulthuis and Timothy Pfeifer (3,145), Jordan Richard and Andrew Anderson (3,138), and Angie Ramirez Perea and Arturo Quintero (3,108).

Another second-year duo dominated in the afternoon. Jakob Butturff and Stefanie Johnson paced B-squad with a 3,215 series (+415). Butturff averaged 246 to lead all players on Day 1 with a 1,722 block, while Johnson's 1,493 ranked second among women on the squad.

The Team USA teammates' plan to bowl together materialized during the 2019 Pan American Games. Johnson joked she had to convince Butturff, but with both players' illustrious résumés, it likely didn't take much convincing.

Johnson said they each have an easy going nature and rarely talk about bowling while competing, which relieves pressure and bolsters their shot-making. On the lanes, Butturff said keeping the ball in play and finding the balls that matched up were crucial with the higher scoring pace.

"We came here to win," Johnson said. "We're going to bring that type of attitude into the semifinals. I know what we're capable of doing. We just need to hunker down and do it."

Ashly Galante and Matthew Kuba closed strong with a 3,158 series, but Johnson and Butturff staved them off with a 481 seventh game.

Heather D'Errico and Jason Sterner (3,134), Addie Herzberg and Ryan Barnes (3,085), and Chelsey Merklinger and Andy Neuer (3,052) rounded out B-squad's top five.

In the overall standings, Rocio Restrepo and Joe Hostetler sit 20th with a 2,986 series (+186). With two more squads competing on Saturday, +186 could be the number to watch as the cut to the top-40 nears.

Complete standings are available [here](#).

### **WES MALOTT AND SHANNON SELLENS SURGE INTO LEAD AT PBA/PWBA SABC MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT JULY 30, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

While Chris Via and Bryanna Coté's lead survived C-squad without much doubt, it became evident early in D-squad that at least one team would surpass them. In fact, three teams bested their 3,245 series.

The second day of competition at the Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mix Doubles Tournament wrapped up qualifying. Via and Coté held onto fourth place after leading Day 1.

Wes Malott and Shannon Sellens outgunned a high-scoring squad to take the lead, firing a 3,275 (+475) series. Malott's 1,764 block topped the tournament field.

Malott threw a 900Global Altered Reality for almost the entire block. Though he said he considered changing balls a couple of times, he stuck with what was working.

"How do I get out of this ball when it's controlling the pocket and still going through the pins?" he said.

Sellens joked the two have been partners for all of five minutes. For different reasons, they each found themselves in need of a partner a few months ago. But the two were already on the same wavelength as they both contacted Tommy Jones to help find a new partner.

When the option to bowl with Sellens arose, Malott said he was all in. Their easy going nature made developing chemistry seamless. Lots and lots of striking did, too.

Bill O'Neill and Shannon O'Keefe, who have won the event three times since 2013, qualified second. They sit just one pin behind Malott and Sellens.

Matt Russo and Sydney Brummett qualified third with a 3,262 (+462) series. Russo ended his evening with a 300 game, the fourth perfect game of D-squad.

Ryan Ciminelli accounted for half of D-squad's 300 game total. He shot 300s in Game 4 and Game 7 en route to shooting 1,753, the third-highest among all players. He said that was the first time he's shot two perfect games in the same day during his professional career.

"Honestly, I finally got comfortable," Ciminelli said. "It's been a long time since I felt that. I know I can still strike. I know it's in there. But it's been a long time since I've seen ball shape that makes me feel like I can really do it."

Ciminelli and his partner, Dasha Kovalova, qualified in fifth place overall. Five of the top seven teams bowled in D-squad.

Sean Riccardi and Karsyn Lukosius, pictured above, lead C-squad with a 3,162 series (+362).

The native New Jerseyans both work full-time jobs. They said they compete as often as they can, but not as often as they'd like.

Riccardi now lives in Florida and planned to make his Luci debut with his wife. After she decided to not bowl due to a nagging back injury, Riccardi called up his friend from his New Jersey days.

After Lukosius' block of 1,646 bested the women's field, it's safe to say he made the right call.

"I tried to stay as far right as possible," Lukosius said. "I'm not normally comfortable with that. I normally like to jump in, that's my comfort zone. So I'm proud of myself and I stayed with it."

Riccardi said it seemed like many of the men during C-squad jumped left, which only benefited Lukosius. She said she made just a single ball change, from a Storm Physix to an Infinite Physix, during Game 6.

Lukosius and Riccardi sit eighth in the overall standings.

Anthony Simonsen and Liz Johnson were the cut number at 3,010 (+210). The wildly accomplished duo held on to the final spot in Sunday's semifinals by three pins.

The top 40 teams will bowl five games Sunday morning and the top-eight will move on to round robin match play Sunday afternoon.

The top five women and men's qualifying scores earned berths in next year's "Beauties vs. Beasts" competition.

Next year's Beauties will be Lukosius, Juliana Botero (1,626), Stephanie Zavala (1,617), Shannon O'Keefe (1,592) and Felicia Wong (1,581).

Malott, Russo, Ciminelli, Jakob Butturff (1,722) and Justin Veitch (1,705) will represent the Beasts in 2023.

Complete standings are available [here](#). The SABC Tournament Facebook page has provided plenty of coverage as well.

**EJ TACKETT AND DIANDRA ASBATY WIN 2022 PBA/PWBA SABC MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT**  
**JULY 31, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

At Team USA Trials in 2011, a high schooler asked Diandra Asbaty for a picture and an autograph. Asbaty noticed the teenager's dad wearing the logo of an Indiana tournament series that she bowled as a kid, but didn't catch the kid's name.

After the day's qualifying, Asbaty looked at the standings. She didn't recognize the men's leader and asked a friend to point them out. They pointed to the same teenager who she had just taken a photo with.

"Wait, should I be asking you for your autograph?" Asbaty said to the high schooler.

This time, she made sure to learn his name. It was EJ Tackett.

As the final ball of the 2022 Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles Tournament rolled down the lane, Asbaty made sense of the surrounding madness.

"We won?!" Asbaty exclaimed while looking towards her teammate.

"I think we did," said Tackett, grinning from ear to ear while triple-checking the math in his head.

Amid a chaotic finish, Tackett and Asbaty prevailed with a final score of 9,287 (+1,287). Four teams finished within 50 pins of first place.

Entering the position round, each of those teams had an opportunity to win the title. And entering the final frame, three teams still had a chance — none of whom were the preceding leaders.

The win notched back-to-back SABC Mixed Doubles titles for Tackett, who won in 2021 with Danielle McEwan, and three wins in the last four events.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the concurrent Devil's Lair Tasmania tournament in Australia have resulted in a revolving door of teammates for Tackett in recent years. He bowled with Liz Johnson for the 2018 title.

"Who knows what's in store for next year," he said laughing.

Tackett also won the PBA Roth/Holman Doubles title with Marshall Kent earlier this season, marking three consecutive PBA doubles titles for the 29-year-old.

While Tackett has grown accustomed to winning this event, Asbaty broke a pair of title droughts.

The win ended a 20-year hiatus since her last SABC Mixed Doubles title. She also closed the door on a 10-year dry spell between PWBA titles, last winning the 2012 USBC Queens.

"I can die knowing that (my kids) were there for at least one title," she said.

Asbaty said she has come close to winning this tournament several times over the years, finishing as the runner-up three times with Jason Belmonte. She nearly experienced the same heartbreak this year.



Ryan Ciminelli and Dasha Kovalova had the chance to leap from third to first in the position round. Their match against Jakob Butturff and Stefanie Johnson, who ultimately finished in second place, came down to the wire.

Butturff missed a 7-pin in his 10th frame, which gave Ciminelli an opportunity to steal the match with a double. Two strikes would have also forced Tackett, who was bowling against Chris Via and Bryanna Coté, to throw at least two of his own.

Instead, Ciminelli went light and left a 3-5-6. Though he converted the spare, the squandered pin count cost their team the match by a single pin.

Based on his internal calculations, Tackett knew he just needed a clean 10th frame to stave off Butturff and Johnson.

Via and Coté entered the position round with the lead, just as they ended the first half of qualifying and semifinals. The two briefly yielded the lead early in match play, but they vaulted back in front after shooting 504 in Game 5.

Game 6 on lanes 7-8 proved frustrating for Via, who couldn't find any consistent ball motion and shot 151. He returned to form after moving to lanes 5-6 — just in time for Coté to lose her look.

For the position round, the two remained on lanes 5-6. Coté would have been happier if they had been lower in the standings because they would have returned to lanes 7-8, where she just shot 245. Via had zero interest in returning to that pair.

"We almost needed to fall to fifth," he joked.

"I feel like if it was an execution issue, I'd be mad," said Coté, who tried six different balls during the last two games. "But I feel like I executed to the best of my ability with what I was trying to accomplish. The lanes just weren't allowing it for me at the time."

After finishing sixth in 2021, Via and Coté will look to emerge with the win in 2023.

To do so, they'll have to get past Tackett, the PBA's doubles king.

#### 2022 SABC MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT FINAL STANDINGS

EJ Tackett and Diandra Asbaty, 9,287, \$20,000

Jakob Butturff and Stefanie Johnson, 9,271, \$10,000

Chris Via and Bryanna Coté, 9,260, \$6,250

Ryan Ciminelli and Dasha Kovalova, 9,252, \$5,250

Wes Malott and Shannon Sellens, 9,238, \$4,250

Bill O'Neill and Shannon O'Keefe, 9,027, \$3,750

AJ Johnson and Erin McCarthy, 9,003, \$3,500

Andrew Anderson and Jordan Richard, 8,949, \$3,250

Complete standings are available [here](#). The SABC Tournament Facebook page has provided additional photos and coverage as well.

#### **PBA LEAGUE BOWLER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM LAUNCHES STATISTICS FOR BOWLERO CORP FALL LEAGUES**

## **AUGUST 1, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The first phase of the PBA League Bowler Certification Program is now live.

Richmond, VA – The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) is pleased to announce the launch of the PBA League Bowler Certification program's first phase: statistics. Starting this month for Bowlero Corp's fall leagues, the PBA has launched the first pillar of statistics as a beta program with the remaining pillars of the program launching throughout the coming months.

As part of this first phase, active Bowlero Corp fall league bowlers can access scores and statistics from their mobile device at any time. These bowlers will gain access to these statistics and the LeaguePals app when they floor their fall league.

Through the LeaguePals app, active Bowlero Corp league bowlers will have access to robust data including weekly game scores, real time averages, league recaps and weekly matchups. Bowlers can view their individual league and score history as well.

League standings will allow users to view team standings, weekly and season leaderboards, and top bowler scores by league.

To find out where your nearest Bowlero Corp center is located and learn more about the PBA League Bowler Certification program, visit [here](#).

Future phases, including awards, rules and tournaments are coming soon.

Stay informed about the PBA League Bowler Certification by visiting [pba.com](#) or following @PBAtour for more updates.

## **THE LUCI IS MORE THAN A BOWLING TOURNAMENT AUGUST 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The annual Storm PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles Tournament, better known as "The Luci," is always a special event.

It's the only tournament that brings the world's top male and female bowlers together to compete for a PBA and PWBA title. It also draws some of the sports' most compassionate fans.

"This tournament is much bigger than all of us," said Donna Conners, who founded the tournament in 2000. "I think that's what makes it so personal and special."

The event raises money to fund the fight against breast cancer. Conners founded the tournament in honor of her late friend, a long-time PWBA athlete Luci Bonneau.

"The first year we raised \$1,500 in a Folgers coffee can," Conners said. "My mom would go around and collect money, and then each year it kept growing and growing."

The foundation works year-round to promote the tournament, add sponsors and fundraise. To handle the influx of donations, the foundation's team now includes a CPA.

Over two decades worth of tireless effort is evident. Conners said the foundation crossed the million-dollar threshold a few years ago.

"The great thing is people come together in this event," Conners said. "It's like a four day party. And everybody looks forward to it. Everybody comes together and helps each other."

Conners said their goal is to keep growing the tournament for the players.

"If we don't have the players, we don't have a Pro-Am. If we don't have Pro-Am, we don't have the charity," she said.

Kyle Sherman challenged various pros during this year's Pro-Am, donating a total of \$550 for their strikes.

Conners said Shannon O'Keefe and Stefanie Johnson raffled off a #SpareTheGirls spare ball and raised over \$3,000. She said EJ and Natalie Tackett donated \$1,000 as well. Those are just a few examples of the pros' generosity.

"It's incredible just to be here," said EJ Tackett. "The cause that we're here for is way bigger than any of us. We're all just glad to be a part of it."

Proceeds from donated artwork, hand-made crafts and baskets are given back to the foundation. Larger prizes are raffled off during the Pro-Am, including this year's grand prize: a week-long stay at a North Carolina beach house.

SABC is still counting this year's total donations, but they've already surpassed their previous year's total of just under \$100,000.

"The most important thing right now is we need human kindness," Conners said. "And it's here. It's in this building."

## **EUGENE MCCUNE LEADS AT PBA50 SPECTRUM LANES OPEN AUGUST 2, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Wyoming, Michigan – Coming off another PBA50 regional title on Sunday, and a second-place finish at last week's PBA50 South Shore Open, Eugene McCune is in the driver's seat at the PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open.

During day one of qualifying on Tuesday, McCune fired 242, 213, 233, 230, 257, 234 and 261 for 1,670, averaging 238.57 to take a 13-pin lead over Bill Watson, who is in second.

McCune is thrilled that for the third tournament in a row he is bowling at a center he feels extremely comfortable in and another he has had a lot of success at as well.

"I won here 20 years ago, my first national title against Walter (Ray Williams Jr.)," he said. "I made the arena show in 1997 here, and I won my first senior title two years ago here."

Inside Spectrum Entertainment Complex, he played the lanes a little straighter and just started striking. He used his Storm Incite with some shine on it early then to his 900 Global Wolverine Dark Moss the last six games for even higher scores. He feels like the lanes are dry to the right and doesn't expect he will have to move much during Wednesday's final seven-game qualifying block.

The 54-year-old who works two jobs always looks forward to when the PBA50 Tour makes its way closer to his home in Munster, Indiana. He admits he gets more sleep than usual, and he is just ready to compete. He also finds it hard to watch while sitting at home.

"I was dying," he said. "I'm watching people bowl and I was like, I could be winning or at least bowling good enough to cash."

Watson, James Campbell, Bruce Falcon and Gary Schluchter round out the top-five.

McCune and the rest of the field will be back on the lanes starting with the B-squad at 10 a.m. ET Wednesday followed by the A-squad at 3 p.m. ET for seven more games of qualifying before cutting to the top 29. Watch every game of PBA50 action exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open

Eugene McCune	1,670
Bill Watson	1,657
James Campbell	1,647
Bruce Falcon	1,611
Gary Schluchter	1,592
Joe Ciach	1,572
Ryan Shafer	1,564
Larry Verble	1,561
Tom Adcock	1,558
Dave Johnson	1,548

### **CHRIS BARNES LEADS AFTER QUALIFYING AT PBA50 SPECTRUM LANES OPEN**

AUGUST 3, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Wyoming, Michigan – Lots of traffic and built-in friction at the PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open had Chris Barnes puzzled early but he has figured it out.

The A-squad hit the lanes first on Wednesday and two-time PBA50 champion Chris Barnes rolled 258, 276, 242, 227, 258 and 232 for a 14-game total of 3,203. He holds a two-pin lead over James Campbell.

Barnes felt like the friction on the lanes Tuesday night made the lanes tighter down lane. That created a confusing combination that he did not solve for quite a while.

"They got kind of dry-wet from front-to-back and that made it a little tricky to figure out how to strike on that," he said.

On the fresh oil pattern Wednesday, Barnes used his Storm Nova with polish on it to get down the lane and have a little bit of energy at the back of the lanes. He admits he was inspired by watching how Campbell attacked the lanes on day one of qualifying.

"He was throwing a slower ball and he has more axis rotation to hook it and still be able to strike," Barnes said. "I had to really increase my axis rotation to get it through the pins here. We are down the list on the number of tricks we are trying to use to get it to go through them right."

As Barnes looks ahead to another advancers round and match play, he jokes the key to making it to his sixth stepladder of the season is "evidently, be the second seed. Three times I was the top seed, and I lost the first match."

"Stop making mistakes and stop giving them opportunities because this year it seems when they have had opportunities they are walking through the door," he said. "I've got to start closing the door or just not creating any opportunity at all."

Parker Bohn III is the defending champion and he is in seventh place.

The final bowler to make the top-29 was Gary Schluchter at 2,909. They will all roll five games in the advancers round starting at 9 a.m. ET Thursday. The top-24 will move on to match play where all pins are dropped. These are three-game total pinfall matches.

This will continue until the final five players are decided. The stepladders finals will start at 7:30 p.m. ET Thursday. You can enjoy all of the action on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open

Chris Barnes	3,203
James Campbell	3,201
Bill Watson	3,161
Eugene McCune	3,156
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	3,103
Lennie Boresch Jr.	3,102
Parker Bohn III	3,080
Jason Couch	3,077
Ryan Shafer	3,056
Tom Adcock	3,052

## **THE BOHN FAMILY REWRITES HISTORY AUGUST 4, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

For the first time in the history of bowling, three members of the same family won major tournaments in less than 10 days. For Parker Bohn III's family, it was a historic week.

Nearly 3,300 United States Bowling Congress youth members competed at 2022 Junior Gold Championships in Michigan. On July 15, Justin Bohn won three matches in the U20 Boys finals to win the title and earn a spot on 2023 Junior Team USA.

"I think Justin's win fueled the entire 10 days," said Justin's mom, Leslie Bohn.

Six days later, Parker Bohn III, with a big assist from his daughter, Sydney, won his second PBA50 major title of the year at the PBA50 Cup in Westland, Michigan. Sydney encouraged her dad to switch to a Brunswick Purple Hammer in qualifying and his scores soared. The ball change powered him to his third title in 2022, putting him as the frontrunner in the PBA50 Player of the Year conversation.

Two days later, Sydney earned a sixth-place finish in U18 Girls at Junior Gold, which follows up her third-place finish in U15 at last year's Junior Gold.

Then it was Brandon's turn in U18 Boys. The family is used to seeing the tall lefty succeed, having won at Junior Gold in 2017 and 2021, so they were not surprised he became a back-to-back Junior Gold champion. He also earned himself a spot on 2023 Junior Team USA.

"These are dreams come true," Leslie said, "and to have it all happen in one week is beyond believable."

Justin prevails

From beginning with a traditional one-handed style to fully committing to a two-handed delivery in September 2020, Justin has come a long way. In 2017, the righty won the Teen Master JV Division for his first individual win. Two weeks later, Brandon won the U12 Boys division at Junior Gold.

"He was always overshadowed by Brandon because he was the lefty and winning everything left and right," Sydney said about Justin. "To see his finish at Junior Gold, I was like, 'he is finally there. He is number one in the country.' Knowing that he is finally satisfied and having Dad teary-eyed is so fun to see, too."

"I've felt like I have been really close for a long time but never quite there," Justin admitted. "That week though, I had full confidence in myself that I could get it done if I committed to my process and I did. It means everything."

While Justin was competing on the lanes, Brandon was holding a camera, recording almost every single shot for Justin to use in his YouTube vlogs. He was able to see Justin shine on the biggest stage and admitted that did fuel him even more to win, too.

"In the title match, I was more nervous than I have ever been stepping up on the TV show the three times I have been there," Brandon said. "I couldn't wrap my head around everything going on. He proved a lot of people wrong that week and I could not be happier for him."

"That was unbelievable," Parker said. "For anybody you have to be patient and be in the right place at the right time. For Justin that is exactly what it was. Try to capitalize when you see that opportunity and fortunately for him, he was able to do that."

For the title, Justin defeated Ryan Barnes, son of PBA Hall of Famer Chris Barnes, while also using the Purple Hammer. With his win, he made Junior Team USA for 2023.

"There is only a select group of people every year that qualifies for Team USA," he said. "If you make this team, you earn it and I feel like I definitely did that."

Parker's major win

Parker missed the practice squad and pro-am at the PBA50 Cup because he wanted to be there to support his kids at Junior Gold. Prior to his first day of qualifying, he watched Sydney bowl early in the morning. When she was done, they drove less than 100 miles so he could bowl his first day of qualifying.

As it turns out, Sydney was the ticket to her dad's success.

"He had bowled mediocre, and I was like, 'Dad, try your Purple Hammer,'" she recalled. "You always tell Brandon to use it, why aren't you using it?"

"Low-and-behold, I shoot nearly 200-over the last 3 1/2 games," Parker said. "I looked back and go, 'OK, now my daughter is my new ball rep.'"

Parker continued that week to drive back-and-forth between his tournament to whichever location his kids were bowling at.

He went on to earn a first-round bye in match play then shot 771 and 772 against his opponents to earn the top overall seed in the stepladder finals. He stuck with the 2020 Purple Hammer in his title match, which again featured Bohn versus Barnes. This time Chris was on the losing end, and Parker won his ninth PBA50 title.

"Me and Brandon watched the stepladder in the hotel and every shot we are jumping and screaming," Sydney said. "Justin just won, Dad just won, and I was like, 'Brandon, me and you have to do something.'"

Less than an hour after Parker won, he hopped in his car to support Sydney and Brandon back at Junior Gold.

Sydney may have been the lone Bohn sibling not to win Junior Gold, but she still had an excellent week on the lanes. Photo courtesy of Brandon Bohn.

#### Growth by Sydney

Having only been bowling for the past five years, Sydney is already a force to be reckoned with. She said her strong mental game helps her get further than most competitors.

For her first year in a new division, she battled the ups-and-downs bowling on six different lanes patterns before making it to match play. She beat Victoria Varano by one pin, before losing to PWBA champion Jillian Martin and Annalise O'Bryant – who both earned spots on Junior Team USA.

"This year, I saw myself grow as a bowler," she said. "I was on my 'A' game with spare shooting and got up there confidently."

In previous years, all three Bohn kids would be competing at Junior Gold at the same time. With a different schedule this year, they were able to support each other. Justin enjoyed watching the tournament unfold for Sydney and made sure to share what he had experienced on the lanes with her.

"Being able to give her advice and get her mind in the right place," Justin said. "After that, all I did was get her lined up; she was the one that made the shots."

"I got fifth place my first year in U18 at Junior Gold and wow — both of my brothers have to win their divisions and my dad has to go win a tournament," she said laughing. "I jokingly tell them it is so hard for me to get my name out there because I am just overshadowed by the three of them all the time. I am so happy for them. It is honestly just an honor to be a part of this family and know the legacy we have in bowling."

"Sydney making a show would have been the icing on the cake, but we are so proud of how hard she worked through her matches," Leslie said. "She bowled three of the top girls in the country and did everything we have instilled in her."

Brandon goes back-to-back

Once again, one-handed Brandon earned the No. 1 seed. Brandon was beyond confident and motivated to win his third Junior Gold Championship, as a member of Junior Teams USA.

"After Justin won, I told him you have one week of fame because next week it is over," Brandon said. "When I win, that is it for you."

The entire family again sat in the front row again watching Brandon compete using his reliable Purple Hammer.

"He does so well under pressure," Sydney said. "I was so much more nervous watching Justin's match. In this one, I just sat there and watched everything unfold."

In August, Brandon will be attending Mount Mercy University in Iowa while competing on the men's bowling team.

"The feeling is absolutely surreal," Brandon said about his family's incredible run. "The best week of my life."

Leslie, a former collegiate bowler at Wichita State and PWBA Tour player, fondly recalls having incredible experiences bowling with her siblings as a kid and wishes that for her kids.

"I have this hashtag of making memories," Leslie said. "This game has been so good to Parker and myself, my sister and my family. I hope these kids can cherish some of those same things that we have."

"You almost can't write the story any better," Justin said. "I was the first one that walked up to (Brandon) after he won. I looked at him and said, 'Rewriting history, that is what we just did.'"

## **JONESBORO SUPER REGIONAL PREVIEW: RUSSO RETURNS AUGUST 4, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Southpaws devoured the 2021 PBA Jonesboro Open. Four left-handers made the stepladder finals as Matt Russo collected his first career PBA Tour title.

While Russo won't be gunning for No. 2 in his return this weekend, he is super excited returning to Hijinx Entertainment in Jonesboro, Ark. for the PBA Jonesboro Super Southwest Open.

"Jonesboro will forever be on the top of the list of my favorite bowling centers because it has created one of my biggest accomplishments in my bowling career," Russo said. "Regardless of it being a national title or a regional title, I will always be excited heading to Jonesboro."

Russo said while Hijinx Entertainment is infamous for its difficult lanes, he learned which pairs are good enough to score and which pairs are for grinding during his run last year. He said the key to his 2021 win was solving the left lane during the title match.



Perhaps a different oil pattern, with 42' Mark Roth replacing last year's 38' Marshall Holman, could curry favor back to the right-handers this year.

In the PBA Jonesboro Super Southwest Open, Russo will be joined by fellow 2021 finalists Mykel Holliman and Eric Jones, the ubertalented 18-year-old from Oklahoma.

Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., who took home the first super regional of 2021 back in Lubbock, Tex., will look for back-to-back wins in Tornado Alley.

Also in action will be PBA major champions Tom Daugherty, Gary Faulkner Jr., François Lavoie and EJ Tackett.

On Saturday, players will bowl eight games of qualifying. The top third of the field will move on to the cashers round.

Advancers will bowl five more games on Sunday morning before a cut to the top-24. Players will bowl four more games then cut to the top-12. Four more games will determine the five stepladder finalists.

The finals are scheduled for 5 p.m. ET (4 p.m. local time) on Sunday afternoon. Tune in on the PBA's YouTube channel.

View the full PBA Jonesboro Super Southwest Open roster [here](#).

More information on the tournament is available [here](#).

#### SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 23

10 a.m. ET | 9 a.m. local time — A-squad qualifying, 8 games

3:30 p.m. ET | 2:30 p.m. local time — B-squad qualifying, 8 games (cut to top 1/3)

Sunday, July 24

9 a.m. ET | 8 a.m. local time — Cashers round, 5 games (cut to top-24)

Eliminator Finals

12:30 p.m. ET | 11:30 a.m. local time — 4 games (cut to top-12)

20 minutes after previous round — 4 games (cut to top-5)

5 p.m. ET | 4 p.m. local time — Stepladder finals live on the PBA's YouTube channel

#### **PARKER BOHN III EARNS 10TH CAREER PBA50 TITLE AUGUST 4, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Wyoming, Michigan – Absolutely speechless! Parker Bohn III is running out of ways to describe the magical run his family has been on over the past month and his individual success this season.

On Thursday evening, he won his fourth PBA50 title of the year as he successfully defended his title at the PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open with a 265-216 win over James Campbell.

"It's indescribable," he said laughing. "Who knows what it is, but my God, if you want to talk about the stars being aligned, they are lined up throughout the galaxy now.

"The universe right now you can read it, it says Bohn."

Bohn III was dominant in his two matches. During his practice shots he didn't like the look he had with the DV8 Collision and as soon as he saw the results after throwing a Track Stealth there was no doubt in his mind.

"When it went down the lane and it picked up, it went through the pins with authority," he said. "Immediately, I said to my ball rep, Tom Carter, that is my ball of choice. It looked fantastic."

In his first match as the No. 2 seed against Chris Barnes, one of his closest PBA50 Player of the Year competitors, the smooth lefty rolled nine strikes for a 266-213 win. In the championship match against James Campbell, who was seeking his first PBA50 title, Bohn III threw eleven strikes – leaving the 3-7-9 in his other frame – on the way to collecting his 10th career PBA50 title.

"To think about winning 10 times on the Senior Tour, when you look at some of the superstars of our sport and what they have amassed," he reflected, "Now I look at it and I am in double-digits along with some of them. It solidifies that I am still bowling well. Well enough within my age group."

Bohn III has now won a title this year throwing a Track ball, DV8 ball, and of course a Brunswick Hammer.

"I just can't thank Brunswick and all of its employees behind-the-scenes that don't get the glory that I am fortunate to get, for making it all possible," he said. "This is just unbelievable."

In the opening match, Barnes was in control as he defeated Michael Calvin 233-194, then he led the entire way in his match against Ryan Shafer getting the 278-213 win.

View the full PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open results at [PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 SPECTRUM LANES OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Parker Bohn III \$7,500
2. James Campbell \$4,500
3. Chris Barnes \$3,000
4. Ryan Shafer \$2,500
5. Michael Calvin \$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Barnes def Calvin 223-194

Match 2 – Barnes def Shafer 278-213

Match 3 – Bohn III def. Barnes 266-213

Championship match – Bohn III def. Campbell 265-216

## **JONESBORO SUPER REGIONAL QUALIFYING RESULTS: RUSSO LEADS EARLY AUGUST 6, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Matt Russo said he felt super confident returning to Hijinx Entertainment in Jonesboro, Ark. He won his first career PBA Tour title in same building one year ago.

While the PBA Jonesboro Super Southwest Open only awards a region title, the 25-year-old again finds himself atop the standings. He averaged 243 to lead the eight game qualifying block at +344.

Spencer Robarge, another two-handed lefty who is currently staring at Wichita State University, sits in second place at +291. Shawn Maldonado, Zacharay Wilkins and Mike Bailey round out the top-five.

Russo said he knew from last year's experience that some pairs were going to be tough. Once again using a Brunswick Purple Hammer, he said his gameplan was to use the hook in the front of the lane.

"Ultimately, it clicked when I saw my ball slap out the 7-pin a couple times," Russo said. "It was just (about) going up and repeating shots."

A slew of PBA stars sit near the back half of the top-10. AJ Johnson, François Lavoie, EJ Tackett, Tom Daugherty and Nick Pate occupy the 8-12th positions and trail fifth place by less than 50 pins.

Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., who won the first super regional last month in Lubbock, Tex., snuck into the cut at +103. Youth player Eric Jones, who finished fourth last year in Jonesboro, will be the last advancer to Sunday's competition at +73. (A previous version of this story incorrectly said Cody Meiers would be last advancer.)

Advancers will bowl five more games on Sunday morning before a cut to the top-24. Players will bowl four more games then cut to the top-12. Four more games will determine the five stepladder finalists.

The finals are scheduled for 5 p.m. ET (4 p.m. local time) on Sunday afternoon. Tune in for the finals on the PBA's YouTube channel.

More information on the tournament is available [here](#).

### **TOP-10 STANDINGS THROUGH EIGHT GAMES**

Matt Russo +344

Spencer Robarge (n) +291

Shawn Maldonado + 257

Zacharay Wilkins + 244

Mike Bailey (s) +226

Mykel Holliman +207

David Krol +206

AJ Johnson +199

François Lavoie +188

EJ Tackett +180

Full standings are available [here](#).

## TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 7

9 a.m. ET | 8 a.m. local time — Cashers round, 5 games (cut to top-24)

Eliminator Finals

12:30 p.m. ET | 11:30 a.m. local time — 4 games (cut to top-12)

20 minutes after previous round — 4 games (cut to top-5)

5 p.m. ET | 4 p.m. local time — Stepladder finals live on the PBA's YouTube channel

## **CHRIS BARNES LEADS PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S CHAMPIONSHIP LANES OPEN AUGUST 7, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Anderson, Indiana – Chris Barnes nearly accomplished something new in his bowling career. He almost earned three century awards in one seven game block at the PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open.

On Sunday, he shot 279, 156, 257, 201, 279, 257 and 246 for 1,675, an average of 239.29. He went from the high end of Championship Lanes to the low end after game one noticing the lanes hooked a lot more. He admits he "got a little out of whack," which resulted in some bad shots and poor choices.

"Game four, I decided I was going to try to increase my rotation to go through the pins a little better and that worked out horribly," he said. "I couldn't quite get a third century award in the same block, which I am pretty sure would have been the first time I would have ever done that. I am surprised I'm leading."

Barnes, who is currently sitting in second place on the PBA50 points list this year, relied on a 900 Global Zen almost his entire block. He is aiming to keep his angles closer while competing in a bowling center that is new to him.

"I have an idea of what they are going to turn into, so I have a couple of balls in play," Barnes said. "(900 Global) Wolverine Dark Moss, (Roto Grip) RST X-2 and the same Zen I have but just changing speed and matching up to what is going on."

Barnes has a 14-pin lead over Lyle Kuhlmann who sits in second. Warren Eales had a chance to take over the lead from Barnes while bowling on the B-squad. He shot 267, 238, 248, 205, 266, 227 and 178 for 1,629 to move into third place. Lennie Boresch Jr. is in fourth and Christopher Keane is five pins behind him in fifth place.

All 85 players will bowl seven more games of qualifying Monday beginning with the B-squad at 10 a.m. ET followed by the A-squad at 3 p.m. After that the top 28 will move on to the advancers round Tuesday. Watch the action exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open scoring at PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open | PBA

Top 10 PBA50 David Small's Championship Spectrum Lanes Open

Chris Barnes	1,675
Lyle Kuhlmann	1,661
Warren Eales	1,629
Lennie Boresch Jr.	1,617
Christopher Keane	1,612
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	1,604
Amleto Monacelli	1,597
James Campbell	1,565
Dave Johnson	1,555
Parker Bohn III	1,551

## **MATT RUSSO DOMINATES IN WIRE-TO-WIRE JONESBORO SUPER REGIONAL WIN AUGUST 7, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

When Matt Russo won his first PBA Tour title in Jonesboro last summer, he found something nobody else could see. At the PBA Jonesboro Super Southwest Open, he found the same look and rode his secret sauce to a dominant, wire-to-wire victory.

"Of everybody that I watched, nobody was throwing it slow," he said. "Last year at that center, it worked the same way, where nobody was throwing it that slow and I was able just to let my ball do the work."

On top of his slower ball speed, Russo believed his emphasis on rolling the ball was the difference.

"That's something that I've noticed just watching so many other guys is their ball roll is what helps them along the block," he added. "I've had stretches where I felt good for three or four games because my game matches up, but could I do it consistently over X-amount of games? That's really what I focused on from the first game."

Russo led the eight game qualifying round on Saturday by 53 pins. He said he knew the next round would be his best chance to push his lead on the 42' Mark Roth oil pattern.

After five games Sunday morning, he extended his lead to 188 and the gap over sixth place ballooned to 337. Russo ultimately finished at +937 after 21 games, 176 pins ahead of second place and 433 ahead of sixth.

"It definitely helps when you feel like you don't have to worry so much about making the show," Russo said of bowling with a huge lead. "On the flip side, I lead by so many that there's more pressure in the title match.

"You can bowl qualifying, but now can you finish it off when they give it to you?"

Spencer Robarge trailed Russo in second place all weekend, but he put considerable distance between himself and the field as well. After the first advancer round, he bested third place by 114 pins and eventually extended his cushion to 178 pins.

Fresh off his 16th PBA Tour title at the SABC Mixed Double Tournament, EJ Tackett qualified Saturday in 10th place.

After the second advancer round, just 71 pins separated Tackett in fourth from 12th place — but he had his eyes on third place Shawn Maldonado, who sat 89 pins ahead. Tackett climbed within three pins of the Texan with one game to go, and jumped ahead of him in the final game before the stepladder.

Maldonado and Mykel Holliman, who finished runner-up to Russo last summer, rounded out the stepladder finals.

Holliman's quest for redemption started strong as he defeated Maldonado in the opening match of the stepladder 266-226. Then Holliman ran into a runaway freight train.

Celebrating his 30th birthday, Tackett fired a 10-strike 279 to take down the one-handed southpaw. Tackett stayed hot to defeat Robarge in the next match 244-209.

In a winner-take-all title match, Russo's monumental lead meant nothing. After leading the U.S. Open by 505 pins this year and coming up short in the title match, no one understood that better than Tackett. "I'm definitely living proof of that," he said.

Another quick start for Tackett, who began with three of four strikes, quickly dissipated. A pair of nine-count spares preceded a 4-6-7 split in the seventh frame.

"Every time I got into that spot the whole day, I had to do something different," he added. "I tried lofting the ball a little bit, then my ball 10-pin'd twice. I split because I tried to make it strike. I have nothing to complain about or be upset with. I bowled well and hung in there pretty good today."

With Russo riding a four-bagger and striking at-will all weekend, he kept his foot on the gas. He came away with the 244-192 victory, capping off an assertive wire-to-wire win.

"Anytime you get to bowl one of the hottest players on tour, arguably one of the best in the world, is a challenge in itself," Russo said. "I was able to beat EJ on TV at the beginning of the year and to come out on top and beat him again, it just gives me more confidence ultimately, and that's what I've been looking for."

Russo netted \$10,000 for his win. More information on the tournament is available [here](#).

The summer super regional tour continues next weekend in Coldwater, Ohio. The PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic Presented By Moxy's Xtra Pair begins Friday, Aug. 12. More information on that tournament is available [here](#).

#### PBA JONESBORO SUPER SOUTHWEST OPEN FINAL STANDINGS

Matt Russo, \$10,000

EJ Tackett, \$6,000

Spencer Robarge (n), \$4,000

Mykel Holliman, \$3,000

Shawn Maldonado, \$2,500

Deo Benard, \$1,650

Tom Daugherty, \$1,600

Mike Bailey (s), \$1,550

Gary Faulkner Jr., \$1,500

François Lavoie, \$1,450

## **LENNIE BORESCH JR. LEADS PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S CHAMPIONSHIP LANES OPEN AUGUST 8, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Anderson, Indiana – Lennie Boresch Jr. is looking to add to the success he has already had in 2022 at the PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open.

On Monday, the Wisconsin native jumped to the top of the leaderboard. He posted scores of 225, 228, 238, 268, 205, 216 and 232 for a two-day total of 3,229, an average of 230.64, mainly using his Storm Nova, which he refers to as "Old Faithful." He shaped the ball the same way he did on Sunday, but this time he played further right and straighter.

"When the lanes play that way, I tend to have success," he said. "I tried about three or four balls and one seemed to strike (Nova). It's kind of my benchmark ball that I tend to use a lot."

Earlier this season, Boresch Jr. won the PBA Senior U.S. Open, finished fourth in All-Events in the regular division at the USBC Open Championships, and took second place at the USBC Super Senior Classic. He turned 60 in April, he has made three stepladder finals, and continues to put himself in contention.

"It has been a career year," he said. "Normally, I would probably not bowl this many tournaments, but I have been bowling pretty well, so it's been great."

Boresch Jr. is in first by 6-pins over Chris Barnes. Warren Eales is in third followed by Tom Adcock. Defending champion Parker Bohn III moved into fifth place after finishing qualifying with a 299.

The final players to make the cut were Dennis Carlin and Jeff Cyphers tied at 2,960. The top 28 will bowl five games in the advancers round starting at 9 a.m. ET Tuesday. The top 24 will move on to bracket match play three-game sets. Once the final five players are determined they will bowl in the stepladder finals 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. You can watch it all only on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open scoring at [PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open | PBA](#)

### **Top 10 PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open**

Lennie Boresch Jr.	3,229
Chris Barnes	3,223
Warren Eales	3,218
Tom Adcock	3,187
Parker Bohn III	3,135
Lyle Kuhlmann	3,120
Brad Angelo	3,095
Amleto Monacelli	3,075
Bryan Goebel	3,074
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	3,069

## **BARNES BEATS BOHN III AT PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S CHAMPIONSHIP LANES OPEN AUGUST 9, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Anderson, Indiana – Prior to the championship match between Chris Barnes and Parker Bohn III at the PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open, Barnes said he was trying to get a win for his family, and he was able to do just that.

As the top seed, Barnes got another chance to face his main competitor in the PBA50 Player of the Year race, Bohn III. Barnes got off to a shaky start leaving a 4-7-10 split in the first frame for an open followed by a Brooklyn strike using a 900 Global Wolverine Dark Moss.

Bohn III's arsenal was a DV8 Collision on the left lane and a Hammer Dark Web on the right lane. Bohn, the defending champion, started off with a spare and a double before leaving the 2-4-6-7-8 split for an open frame. After that, both players stayed clean for the rest of the game.

Barnes made a key ball change to a 900 Global Zen in the eighth frame.

"I went back to what worked for me most of the week," Barnes said about the decision.

Barnes struck with it in the eighth on the left lane and on the first ball in the tenth before going high and leaving a 4-pin. He got the spare and sat down after posting a 223.

"I got away with a couple of light swishers and Parker left me hanging in there with a chance," Barnes said.

Bohn III needed a double and 2-pins to win, but his first shot in the tenth went high leaving a 6-pin, finishing with 211.

"He is the hottest guy, and he has been bowling the best all year," Barnes said about Bohn III. "To sneak away with one is certainly a gift."

Before starting the final match, Barnes made two important phone calls. One to his son, Ryan and one to his wife, Lynda.

"I always try to talk to her before a TV show," he said. "It's a centering device for me, it is what is really important for me and that is family."

This is the third PBA50 title for Barnes and his second this season.

Bryan Goebel made his return to the PBA50. He threw the last seven strikes to defeat Lennie Boresch Jr. 223-222 in the opening match and rolled nine strikes in match two to beat Brad Angelo 255-213. In his third match, Goebel struck only twice losing to Bohn III, 239-166.

View the full PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open results at [PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S CHAMPIONSHIP LANES OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Chris Barnes, \$7,500
2. Parker Bohn III, \$4,500
3. Bryan Goebel, \$3,000
4. Brad Angelo, \$2,500
5. Lennie Boresch Jr., \$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES



Match 1 – Goebel def. Boresch Jr. 223-222

Match 2 – Goebel def. Angelo 255-213

Match 3 – Bohn III def. Goebel 239-166

Championship match – Barnes def. Bohn III 223-211

## **PBA Announces Advisory Board for the PBA League Bowler Certification Program**

*Meet the four members of the program's Advisory Board.*

**Richmond, VA** — The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) has announced the Advisory Board for the PBA League Bowler Certification program.

The four person board will consist of bowling center proprietor Charlie Mitchell, industry leader and marketing executive Lori Mraz, Kegel president/CEO Chris Chartrand and PBA Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III. They will begin serving in their roles immediately.

“These four appointments make up the PBA League Certified Bowler program’s tremendously diverse, respected, skilled and experienced Advisory Board,” PBA commissioner Tom Clark said.

With their varied backgrounds and distinctive points of view, the Advisory Board members will help guide the PBA in shaping the League Bowler Certification program to reach its fullest potential.

“Featuring a progressive proprietor and league operator, a marketing specialist with vast board experience, a chief executive of one of the industry’s most successful and diversified businesses, and one of the greatest PBA bowlers of all time who is just as impressive in his efforts off the lanes to grow the game, we are adding great minds with passion for the sport to assist the PBA’s efforts,” Clark said.

Meet the four Advisory Board members of the PBA League Bowler Certification program:

### **Charlie Mitchell**

Mitchell owns Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine, home to the BowlPortland bowling league and to many PBA events since 2015, including the PBA League. Charlie built a truly unique bowling community with his BowlPortland league, which began in 2008. He built Bayside Bowl three years later specifically to have a home for the league.

The 20-lane center hosts over 100 league teams (all co-ed) during the winter months, while also hosting 20+ weddings a year and musical acts ranging from Big Daddy Kane and Talib Kweli to Cyril Neville and Jon Fishman.

Mitchell was the BPAA Proprietor of the Year in 2015 and has continued to work closely with the PBA and other stakeholders to grow participation in the sport at all levels.

### **Lori Mraz**

For decades, Mraz has been a leader across the bowling industry. She is the active vice chairman of the International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame Board of Directors. She has been on the board since 2008.

Mraz also served on the Billiard and Bowling Institute of America (BBIA) Board of Directors from 2003-2008, the International Bowling Pro Shop & Instructors Association (IBPSIA) Advisory Board from 2005-2009, and the John P. Gavie Memorial Tournament Committee from 2000-2020.

Mraz guided Turbo 2-N-1 Grips brand through its start-up phase in the early 1990s. She has worked in various roles throughout her time with Turbo, including president through June 2020. Currently, she is the official PBA product registered company's marketing director.

### **Chris Chartrand**

Chartrand joined Kegel in 1999 when the company began its own branded line of lane machines. He was instrumental in building Kegel's worldwide distribution network and formally created the marketing and sales division, launching some of Kegel's most successful products like Prodigy Lane Conditioner and the Kustodian Family of Lane Machines. In October of 2010, Chartrand climbed to the top of the ladder and became president of Kegel; in 2016, he was also named as CEO.

As president/CEO, Chartrand's leadership enhanced Kegel's reputation as the undisputed leader in lane maintenance worldwide with the success of the IKON and FLEX Lane Machines, as well as numerous lane conditioners. He also helped advance the sport of bowling with innovative new products like the Specto Tracking System, a tool being used around the world to help bowlers improve their game and powers StrikeTrack to help create a new dynamic experience for PBA broadcasts.

Chartrand served seven years on the BBIA Board of Directors including one year as BBIA President. He is also a director on the board for the Bowling Hall of Fame. Chartrand has worked in the bowling industry for over 30 years and offers the unique perspective of being an executive, competitive bowler, lane man, and pro-shop operator.

### **Parker Bohn III**

Bohn III has been a member of the PBA since 1984, and is a member of the PBA and USBC Halls of Fame. Bohn III is one of only seven players in PBA history to accumulate at least 30 career PBA Tour titles, ranking fifth all-time with 35 as of 2022.

The left-hander has won 10 more titles on the PBA50 Tour, as well as 27 PBA Regional titles, nine PBA50 Regional titles, and two European Bowling Tour (EBT) titles.

Bohn III is a four-time winner of the PBA's Steve Nagy Sportsmanship award and earned the PBA's very first Tony Reyes Community Service Award for the 2012–13 season. Highly active in promoting youth bowling, Bohn III has established an annual Parker Bohn III Youth Scholarship Tournament in Howell, N.J. The tournament has awarded junior bowlers with college scholarship funding for over 20 years.

In 2011, Bohn III won the Dick Weber Bowling Ambassador Award, an honor given annually by the Bowling Proprietors Association of America (BPAA) to the "bowling athlete who has consistently shown grace on and off the lanes by promoting the sport of bowling in a positive manner."

**BA REGIONAL RECAP: WALTER RAY WILLIAMS JR. EXTENDS RECORD WITH REGIONAL TITLE NO. 60  
AUGUST 11, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

With Walter Ray Williams Jr.'s latest regional title on Aug. 5, he now owns 60 career regional titles and extends his record for the most all-time. The win also marked his 25th PBA50 regional title, which broke the tie with Ron Mohr for the lead. It also makes for his 123rd overall title between his PBA and PBA50 careers.

We had 10 events last time and nine events this go-round, so it's safe to say that the regional tour is at the heart of its schedule, giving players the chance (albeit a small one) to catch up to Mr. Williams Jr. someday.

Some bowlers are starting to take big leads in their respective regions, but the top eight players in each region will advance to the Regional Players Invitational in January 2023. Let's check who's working on a trip to Las Vegas.

**PBA ROCKAWAY LANES OPEN**

You can hitch a ride to Rockaway Lanes along with 94 other bowlers who decided to compete in the Rockaway Lanes Open in Rockaway, New Jersey. Frequent regional athlete Jason Cornog led qualifying on the 44' Billy Hardwick pattern at +381 for eight games and used the No. 1 seed to his advantage. Cornog earned a double-bye along with three others, but he was the only one to win his first match.

In the semifinals, Cornog took down Owen Darby 212-182, while recent regional winner Todd Sigeti defeated Rick Graham in the other semifinal 235-191. In the finals, Cornog won 257-204, becoming one of the few top-seeds this season to move through the bracket for a title.

**PBA Rockaway Lanes Open Final Standings**

Jason Cornog, 2,500 points, \$2,600

Todd Sigeti, 1,500, \$1,375

Rick Graham, 1,150, \$1,100

Owen Darby, 950, \$1,100

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

**PBA50 RUTH FROBERG MEMORIAL/BRUNSWICK CENTRAL/MIDWEST OPEN**

Eugene McCune, Aubrey Froberg and Bill Froberg

With a PBA50 National Tour stop soon taking place just over an hour from St. Joseph, Mich., it was no shock to see some of the big names at Striker's Bowl that you wouldn't typically see for a regional event. Eighteen bowlers qualified to the first advancers round on the Mark Roth

pattern, and five more games left the stepladder with five incredibly accomplished bowlers: Eugene McCune, Bill Watson, Dan Knowlton, Parker Bohn III, and Williams Jr.

In the first match, in which the two bowlers owned a combined 95 regional titles, Williams Jr. defeated Bohn III 244-207. Up next was Dan Knowlton, who seemingly makes every cut on the PBA50 National tour. Williams held on there to win 222-182.

Again, "Deadeye" won the next match — this one much closer over Bill Watson, 255-246. However, his run ended there as Eugene McCune clinched his 29th regional title, winning in the final match 227-216.

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

#### PBA50 Ruth Froberg Memorial/Brunswick Central/Midwest Open Final Standings

Eugene McCune, 2,500 points, \$3,000

Walter Ray Williams Jr. 1,500, \$1,600

Bill Watson, 1,150, \$1,250

Dan Knowlton, 950, \$1,000

Parker Bohn III, 850, \$900

You can view the Central Region point leaders [here](#).

#### PBA50 BOWLERO CHARLOTTE OPEN

Kip Roberts and Shawna Myler

Even with a PBA50 event grabbing many of the top bowlers in St. Joseph the same weekend, the Bowlero Charlotte Open snagged 80 bowlers for a fun late-July weekend. This one was a bracket-play format giving a double-bye to the top four bowlers and a single-bye for the next four.

Three of the four double-bye recipients won their first match to advance to the semifinals, along with Peter Dohan Jr., who knocked off the No. 1 seed Darryl Bower. Dohan Jr. crushed Chris Collins 234-131 in the first semifinal, while Kip Roberts took down Michael Painter in the bottom half of the bracket, 212-188.

The final match was close until Roberts put together a turkey in the 7th-9th frame. Roberts earned his 2nd title this year and 18th of his career after winning 225-208.

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

#### PBA50 Bowlero Charlotte Open Final Standings

Kip Roberts, 2,500 points, \$2,000

Peter Dohan Jr., 1,500, \$1,100

Michael Painter, 1,150, \$925

Chris Collins, 950, \$925

#### PBA50 BEVERLY LANES MIDWEST/CENTRAL OPEN

Lyle Zikes, Walter Ray Williams Jr. and Roxanne Marie

In Arlington Heights, 45 PBA members sprung into action at the one-day event right outside of Chicago. Jeff Johnson led the field, grabbing the top of twelve seeds for bracket play. Unfortunately for Johnson, he ran into Vince Biondo III, who delivered a 298 and a 247 in match play.

Biondo III went on to face Williams Jr. in the semifinals and won the first game, but dropped the next two as Williams Jr moved on. His opponent was Rick Woloszyn, who had just defeated Rolando Sebelen 2-0.

Unsurprisingly, Williams Jr. was on his A-game, as he also was ten years ago when winning here, topping Woloszyn 237-224 and 268-211 for regional title No. 60.

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

#### PBA50 Beverly Lanes Midwest/Central Open Final Standings

Walter Ray Williams Jr. 2,500 points

Rick Woloszyn, 1,500

Rolando Sebelen, 1,150

Vince Biondo III, 950

[You can view the Midwest Region point leaders here.](#)

#### PBA CAPSTONE HEALTH ALLIANCE ASHEVILLE OPEN

Chris Banks, Adam Sprinkle and Trevor Roberts

Stepping away from the bracket format, bowlers stepped into SkyLANES for a regional in North Carolina for the second straight weekend. One-third of the field moved on after the qualifying round, followed by cutting to the top 16, and eventually one final game for the top two bowlers.

Trevor Roberts, Matt Taylor, Ryan Lane, and Josh Lewis remained as the final four, but Roberts and Taylor had over 100 pins extra in their favor and used that lead to move into the finals. All pins now dropped as both finalists fought for the 4th title of their respective careers and second this season. The pair both earned their first title in Virginia this season, but thanks to Robert's eight-bagger in the final round, he took home the win in North Carolina, 269-234.

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

#### PBA Capstone Health Alliance Asheville Open Final Standings

Trevor Roberts, 2,500 Points, \$2,500

Matt Taylor, 1,500, \$1,220

Ryan Lane, 1,150, \$950

Josh Lewis, 950, \$950

[You can view the South Region point leaders here.](#)

#### PBA BOWLERS SUPPLY/STORM OPEN

The entry list hit the triple-digits at Colony Park Lanes North in PA, making for a large advancers round of 35 bowlers. After four more games, the cut was +151. All pins got tossed as the top 16 moved into bracket play.

Mike Ruben, Tom Sorce, Anthony Neuer, and Ryan Galli advanced to the semifinals, ready for one-game matches. Sorce defeated Ruben 235-195, while Galli took down Neuer 222-181.

Galli continued his run, taking the final, 258-223. The win marks the second career title for Galli, who had won his first title back in May at a non-champions event at none other than Colony Park Lanes North.

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

#### PBA Bowlers Supply/Storm Open Final Standings

Ryan Galli, 2,500 Points, \$3,000

Tom Sorce, 1,500, \$1,600

Mike Ruben, 1,150, \$1,150

Anthony Neuer, 950, \$1,150

You can view the East Region point leaders [here](#).

#### PBA STRIKERZ OPEN AT ANGEL OF THE WINDS CASINO

PJ Haggerty and Dustin Russell

Over to the West Coast, 54 bowlers came to play in Arlington, Washington on the Viper oil pattern. Darren Tang led the field at +327, 100 pins higher than Washington native Marshall Kent in second place.

The top 16 headed into match play, and while already holding a sizable lead, Tang smoked the competition by going 8-0 to accumulate a massive 360-pin margin over second place. But unfortunately, Tang still had to get through a stepladder final.

The No. 4 seed PJ Haggerty defeated Trevor Perov 278-211 in the first match, then took down Kent 278-233. Tang couldn't move past the hot hand of Haggerty, losing 233-211. That gives Haggerty three titles on the year, while Tang now holds three second-place finishes this season in addition to his two regional wins.

[Click here for more tournament information and complete standings.](#)

#### PBA Strikerz Open at Angel of the Winds Casino Final Standings

PJ Haggerty, 2,500 points, \$3,000

Darren Tang, 1,500, \$1,850

Marshall Kent, 1,150, \$1,500

Trevor Perov, \$1,200

You can view the Northwest Region point leaders [here](#).

#### PBA FARMERS STATE BANK CENTRAL/MIDWEST OPEN

Patrick Dombrowski and Bill Burke

Angola Bowl in Angola, Ind., hosted our Central and Midwest event for the weekend, attracting 60 bowlers, all of who looked to at least jump into the top 20 for the advancers round. Justin

O'Shaughnessy squeaked into the first cut at -41, and then Zeke Bayt grabbed the 8th and final spot of match play at +21.

However, Patrick Dombrowski cruised through both rounds, finishing at +275 after 13 games. His lead shrunk a tad after match play, but was still plenty big enough for him to comfortably bowl the position round game and clinch his 11th career regional title.

[Click here](#) for more tournament information and complete standings.

#### PBA Farmers State Bank Central/Midwest Open Final Standings

Patrick Dombrowski, 2,500 points, \$2,700

Nick Kruml, 1,500, \$1,400

Graham Fach, 1,150, \$1,200

Zach Weidman, 950, \$1,000

Chandler Stevens, 850, \$950

You can view the Midwest Region point leaders [here](#) and the Central point leaders [here](#).

#### PBA JONESBORO SUPER SOUTHWEST OPEN

Kelly Stevens, Matt Russo and Corrine Bell

With an expanded prize pool, 91 bowlers entered the super regional in Jonesboro, Ark., which included plenty of talent. Matt Russo led qualifying and never looked back.

He cruised through each advancer round to clinch the No. 1 in the stepladder and defeated EJ Tackett in the final match. Read more about Russo's dominant win [here](#).

[Click here](#) for more tournament information and complete standings.

#### PBA Jonesboro Super Southwest Open Final Standings

Matt Russo, 5,000 points, \$10,000

EJ Tackett, 3,000, \$6,000

Spencer Robarge, \$4,000

Mykel Holliman, 1,900, \$3,000

Shawn Maldonado, 1,700, \$2,500

You can view the Southwest Region point leaders [here](#).

Are you still wanting more regional action? Good news! Another nine regional events will hit the books over the next two weeks. There's still time for players to catch up in their regional standings to earn end-of-year awards.

## **COLDWATER SUPER REGIONAL PREVIEW: OH-IO AUGUST 12, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The PBA Tour's summer regional swing changes course from Tornado Alley to the Midwest this weekend. The PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair tournament will take place on August 12-14 in Coldwater, Ohio.

The 96-player field will look different than last year's event, where top-seeded Darren Tang defeated Kyle Troup to win his first career PBA Tour title.

While Tang nor Troup will be in action, an abundance of PBA stars will be competing for the regional title and \$10,000 top prize.

The tournament roster features former PBA Player of the Years Andrew Anderson, Wes Malott and EJ Tackett, as well as PBA major titleists Tom Daugherty, Graham Fach and Tom Smallwood.

Four recent PBA regional champs Jason Cornog, Patrick Dombrowski, Fach and Trevor Roberts will look to stay hot, as will Lubbock super regional winner Ildemaro Ruiz Jr.

Athletes will be competing on the 38' Marshall Holman oil pattern at Pla-Mor Lanes, a center that has given bowlers fits in the past.

On Saturday, players will each bowl eight games of qualifying. The top third will advance to the cashers round.

Advancers will bowl four games on Sunday morning, with the top-16 moving on to the next round. After three more games, the field will be cut to eight players. Finally, two more games will dictate the four stepladder finalists.

The finals, which will be live-streamed on the PBA's YouTube channel, are scheduled for 5 p.m. ET on Sunday afternoon.

View the full PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair roster [here](#).

More information on the tournament is available [here](#).

### **SCHEDULE**

Saturday, August 13

8 a.m. ET — A-squad qualifying, 8 games

1:30 p.m. ET — B-squad qualifying, 8 games

7 p.m. ET — C-squad qualifying, 8 games (cut to top 1/3)

Sunday, August 14

11 a.m. ET — Cashers round, 4 games (cut to top-16)

1:30 p.m. ET — 3 games (cut to top-8)

3 p.m. ET — 2 games (cut to top-4)

5 p.m. ET — Stepladder finals live on the PBA's YouTube channel



## **MICHAEL HAGGITT LEADING PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S JAX 60 OPEN**

### **AUGUST 13, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Jackson, Michigan – Two Brunswick Hammer bowling balls helped one left-hander and one right-hander get to the top of the leaderboard after day one of qualifying Saturday at the PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open.

Lefty Michael Haggitt relied on two Purple Hammer urethane balls, one he drilled just before he took to the lanes, because he feels the ball suits the shorter Del Ballard 34' oil pattern.

"The Purple Hammer is notorious for short patterns," he said. "That was one of the reasons I signed with Brunswick and that is what got this done."

His game plan was to stay as far away from the traffic on the lanes as he could, which meant getting as close to the gutter as possible so he could get the best angle to the pocket.

He accomplished that with 257, 235, 268, 278, 225, 201 and 226 for 1,690, averaging 241.43. Overall, the pairs he bowled on allowed him to play the lanes similar except on lane 49, where he shot 235.

"I thought that it was me getting the ball fast," he said. "I had to move off that spot and slow it down a little bit more to actually get it to turn the corner."

A Hammer Black Widow Pink urethane helped Walter Ray Williams Jr. win his all-time high 16th PBA50 title at the 2022 Odessa Open in June, bowling on this same pattern. On Saturday, the same ball led him to a 237.14 average, sitting 30-pins behind Haggitt in second place.

In the first game, he went with a Hammer 3-D Offset on a tighter lane, the same ball he sanded up and used at last week's PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open, but that didn't last long after posting a 191 game.

"In the fourth frame, I got the ball to the right and it never hooked at all," he said. "I was like this doesn't make any sense at all. I was really frustrated about that, and I had to settle myself down."

In game two, he solely used the Pink urethane for 226 and then he shot 269 in game three. He finished his seven-game block with 227, 226, 290 and 231 for 1,660.

"This Pink Hammer just really matches up well with that (34' oil pattern)," he said. "A little slow of a start but fortunately I was playing the lanes the way I needed to."

Tom Adcock is in third place followed by Brad Angelo and Russell Hunt. Joel Carlson rolled a 300 in his first game on the B-squad.

The final day of qualifying will begin at 9 a.m. ET Sunday with the B-squad followed by the A-squad at 3 p.m. The top 39 will move on to the advancers round Monday. Watch the final PBA50 tournament of the season on BowTV.com.

Follow PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open scoring at [PBA50 David Small's Jax60 Open | PBA](#)

[Top 10 PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open](#)

Michael Haggitt	1,690
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	1,660
Tom Adcock	1,653
Brad Angelo	1,616
Russell Hunt	1,610
Tom Hess	1,608
Jack Jurek	1,574
Tony Johnson	1,572
Dan Schmerbach	1,567
Joe Ciach	1,558

## **COLDWATER SUPER REGIONAL FINAL RESULTS: FACH TAKES DOWN COOLEY**

### **AUGUST 14, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

They may have been competing in Coldwater, Ohio, but Graham Fach and Sam Cooley are on fire. For the second time this week, Fach bowled Cooley for a PBA regional title in the Buckeye State.

Cooley took the first meeting at the PBA Kremer Roofing Central Classic in Minster, Ohio last Thursday.

"Cooley and I have been against each other a lot this last month," Fach said. "In the World Games, he won gold in singles [and Fach won bronze], of course Minster, then here."

This weekend at Pla-Mor Lanes, which players have called one of the hardest centers in the country, Fach's stellar 2022 campaign rolled on. He earned \$10,000 and his fifth victory of the PBA Central Region season.

Fach said the driving force behind his dominance has been "feeling comfortable," which has been aided by a switch from Motiv to Brunswick this season.

"I've just been trying to build on the success that I've been having," he said of his season. "When you're having success, your swing's looser, you're making decisions faster, you're more confident with the decisions you make. When it all comes together, you're able to continue that success."

In the title match, Fach used a Hammer Black Widow Urethane Pink Pearl. He said he hadn't used that ball all weekend until that match.

"Justin (Knowles) and I were discussing how we wanted to break down that TV pair where we could have the most successful on the left side," Fach said. "We tried to break it down a little

easier than what we had in qualifying, and I just thought that the Pink Widow Urethane gave me the best look to the pocket.”

If Fach and Cooley are the hottest players in the Midwest, EJ Tackett isn't far behind.

Tackett earned his second straight top-three finish in a super regional, falling to Cooley in the semifinal, 255-223. A late seven-bagger propelled the Australian to the win, as Tackett missed the head-pin in the seventh and ninth frames.

Tackett defeated Justin Knowles in the opening match 213-211. Knowles had an opportunity to shut out Tackett, but chopped the 4-7 in the 10th frame. Tackett spared a 4-7 of his own, then aced his fill ball to secure the win.

Cooley led Saturday's eight games of qualifying, averaging over 223 to finish +188. Brent Boho, Dick Allen, Arturo Quintero and Knowles rounded out the day's top five.

Those same five remained in front after the four-game first advancer round on Sunday morning, though Knowles surged into second place.

Fach and Tackett moved into the top five during the second advancer round, a three game block.

During the two-game final advancer round, Fach surpassed Cooley for the top seed for the stepladder finals. Fach shot 482 to finish at +291 and make up the 54-pin deficit; Cooley finished second at +273.

Tackett earned the No. 3 seed at +228, while Knowles and Brent Boho tied for the final spot on the stepladder with +212. Knowles won the rolloff 210-184.

Andrew Anderson, who finished sixth on the weekend, shot the tournament's only 300 game during qualifying on Saturday. Allen and Quintero also finished inside the top eight.

Next weekend, the PBA summer regional swing concludes in Chesapeake, V.A. at the PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open. Competition begins Saturday, Aug. 20 at AMF Western Branch Lanes.

More information on the Chesapeake super regional is available [here](#).

## FINAL STANDINGS

Graham Fach, \$10,000

Sam Cooley, \$5,000

EJ Tackett, \$2,500

Justin Knowles, \$2,200

Brent Boho, \$2,000

Andrew Anderson, \$1,800

Dick Allen, \$1,600

Arturo Quintero, \$1,400

Trevor Roberts, \$1,375

Tom Daugherty, \$1,350

## **WILLIAMS JR. HAMMERS THE POCKET AT PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S JAX 60 OPEN**

### **AUGUST 14, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Jackson, Michigan – Walter Ray Williams Jr. dominated the field averaging more than 250 on Sunday to move into first place after two days of qualifying at the PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open.

The legend who has 123 PBA and PBA50 titles combined shot 265, 265, 233, 256, 238, 277 and 229 for 1,763, relying on his Hammer Black Widow Pink urethane. He holds a 137-pin advantage over Jack Jurek, who rolled games of 299 and 300 in his second seven-game block.

"It was one of the best blocks I've had in a while," Williams Jr. said. "My carry just continued from last night the last few games. I didn't get tapped until the 10th frame of the third game today."

He admits he did miss the pocket a few times during his incredible block but once again his Pink Hammer got the job done.

"So far, my ball is working absolutely awesome," he said. "My reaction and my carry are phenomenal, and I hope that continues. I have never averaged over 250 in a PBA tournament in my lifetime ever, but I've had quite a few blocks that I have averaged over 250."

Brad Angelo is looking to bookend his second year on the PBA50 with his second career victory after winning the first tournament of the year at the 2022 PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open.

The New York native was consistent in his 14-games of qualifying. He finished with 1,616 on Saturday and 1,617 on Sunday for 3,233, an average of 230.93.

"I used an old (Roto Grip) Show Off that has been lying next to stale potato chips in my car and my (900 Global) Altered Reality," he said about his arsenal he has used for both days. "One of my strengths is being able to manipulate ball motion off the friction. With this shorter pattern there is quite a lot of friction, so I feel more comfortable bowling on a shorter pattern."

Angelo finished third at the PBA50 Odessa Open in June on the same Del Ballard 34' oil pattern. He hopes to capitalize on his game matching up well with the pattern heading into Monday's final day of the season. Angelo has had five top-five finishes for "another solid season."

After 14-games of qualifying the field was cut to the top 39. The last player in was Joel Carlson at 2,930

They will bowl five games in the advancers round starting at 9 a.m. ET Monday. The top 24 then move on to head-to-head bracket match play consisting of three-games with total pins winning. The field will keep bowling until the top five bowlers qualify for the stepladder finals set to begin at 7:30 p.m. ET. Watch the final PBA50 tournament of the season only on BowITV.com.

Follow PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open scoring at PBA50 David Small's Jax60 Open | PBA

#### Top 10 PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open

Walter Ray Williams Jr. 3,423

Jack Jurek 3,286

Brad Angelo 3,233

Michael Haggitt 3,177

Amleto Monacelli 3,174

Tom Adcock 3,169

Brian LeClair 3,130

Dino Castillo 3,123

Parker Bohn III 3,091

Bryan Goebel 3,088

#### **EIGHT YOUTH BOWLERS PUNCH TICKET TO 2023 PBA JR. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AUGUST 15, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The South and Southwest Regional Qualifiers for the PBA Jr. National Championships were held this weekend. Eight youth bowlers clinched berths in the national championships to be held in early 2023.

Each tournament champion and runner-up in the U18 Boys and U18 Girls divisions earned a spot in the national championships. All four champions earned a \$2,000 scholarship.

Bowlero Austell in Marietta, Ga. hosted the South Region qualifier. Mississippi's Jakob Robertson and Florida's Ridgely Potter earned the U18 Boys spots, while North Carolina's Kaitlyn Stull and Georgia's Erin Klemencic secured the U18 Girls berths.

The Southwest Region qualifier took place at Bowlero Euless in Euless, Texas. A pair of Texans, Zachary Smullen and Tyler Galbreath, advanced to the national championships in the U18 Boys division, while California's Avery Domaguin and Texas's Bella Love Castillo qualified in the U18 Girls division.

## SOUTH REGION

Mississippi's Jakob Robertson and Florida's Ridgely Potter advanced to the PBA Jr. National Championships in the U18 Boys division.

In the South region, Jakob Robertson won the U18 Boys division title. He led the 10-game qualifying round at +301, averaging over 230.

Dylan Chastain, who ultimately finished in sixth place, fired 300 during Game 6 of qualifying.

Robertson earned the top seed for the stepladder finals. He went undefeated in match play, taking down Lucas Ellis and Ridgely Potter.

Joseph De Guzman, Jacob Ballenger and Jonathan Michadick clinched berths in the stepladder finals by winning both of their matches. Potter earned the No. 5 seed as the highest qualifier remaining.

In the stepladder, Potter caught fire. He shot 300 in the opening match against Michadick. He continued his climb with a 248-191 win over Ballenger and a 209-204 victory over De Guzman.

However, Robertson put an end to Potter's South Region title pursuit with a dominant 276-194 win.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Boys South Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

Georgia's Erin Klemencic and North Carolina's Kaitlyn Stull advanced to the PBA Jr. National Championships in the U18 Girls division.

Kaitlyn Stull of Raleigh, N.C. clinched a berth on Junior Team USA's developmental team with her sensational performance at Junior Gold last month. The 15-year-old added to her growing résumé by winning the U18 Girls title in the South region.

Stull qualified in fifth place at +57 before defeating Elizabeth Weeks and Abigail Burke in match play to earn the No. 3 seed for the stepladder.

Erin Klemencic bowled 300 in Game 4 of qualifying to lead the pack at +157. She earned the top seed and clinched a PBA Jr. National Championship berth with wins over Hailey Halcomb and Kara Beissel, who earned the No. 5 seed as the highest remaining qualifier.

Savannah Taillon snagged the No. 4 seed and defeated Beissel in the opening match of the stepladder 203-167. Stull took down her fellow North Carolinian in the next match 221-220.

Stull earned another single-pin victory over No. 2 seed Haley Lindley in the semifinals. That win secured her spot in the PBA Jr. National Championship.

In the title match, Stull's comfort on the lanes paid off as she defeated Klemencic 230-199.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Girls South Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

## SOUTHWEST REGION

Texas's Tyler Galbreath and Zachary Smullen, California's Avery Domaguin and Texas's Bella Love Castillo earned berths in next year's PBA Jr. National Championships.

Zachary Smullen, the defending U18 Boys Southwest Region champion, obliterated the field during qualifying. The native of Frisco, Texas led by over 130 pins at +274.

Smullen then defeated Logan Frishman and Noah Raleigh-Turner to earn the top seed for the stepladder finals. Keegan Alexander, Tyler Galbreath, Emilio Leal and Garrett Andrus rounded out the finalists.

Andrus defeated Leal in the opening match 268-214, but fell to Galbreath 221-216.

Galbreath stayed hot to beat Alexander 233-206 to punch his PBA Jr. National Championship ticket.

But Smullen would not be denied. He won his second consecutive Southwest Region title with a 211-189 win.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Boys Southwest Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

In the U18 Girls division, just one player averaged over 200 during qualifying. Bella Love Castillo ran circles around the other athletes going +132 for her 10 games.

The two-hander from Odessa, Texas continued her excellent shooting during match play, earning the top seed for the stepladder finals. Carli Betz, Avery Domaguin, Charisse Graham and Miya Greene filled out the rest of the stepladder.

Graham won the opening match 198-162 against Greene. Then Domaguin, who won Junior Gold in the U15 Girls division last month, proved why she's one of the best youth bowlers in the country.

The San Diego native won the next three matches to claim the U18 Girls Southwest Region title. She defeated Castillo 211-194 in the title match.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Girls Southwest Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

Robertson, Stull, Smullen and Domaguin each earned \$2,000 in scholarship.

The East, Midwest and West Region qualifiers will take place next weekend Aug. 19-21.

## **BARNES WINS BACK-TO-BACK TITLES TO END IMPRESSIVE PBA50 SEASON AUGUST 15, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Jackson, Michigan – Chris Barnes finished his second PBA50 season making his ninth stepladder finals and winning his third title of the year at the PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open. He described his day as exhilarating, exhausting, and satisfying.

On Monday, he came into match play as the No. 17 qualifier and all he did was win his way to the top. He had to double in his first match against Jeff Johnson to earn the six-pin win in the round of 24. In an epic match against top seed Walter Ray Williams Jr., Barnes got the win 772-747.

From there he beat Brian LeClair to earn the fourth seed and he just continued to dig deep, winning four matches for his fourth career PBA50 title.

"It's been a day," he said after the show. "Realistically, you don't get to end on a win very many times in your career, so I am going to go home and enjoy it."

It was a long and challenging day, and the stepladder finals didn't make things any easier on Barnes. He felt both lanes kept everyone off balance.

In the opening match, Barnes was in control from the start using his Storm Pitch Black urethane until he left the big four in the eighth frame. LeClair made a ball change in the tenth frame and struck out for 198. Barnes left the 3-6-10, converted the spare and got nine for the 209-198 win.

In the second match, Barnes held a slight lead from the beginning against Bryan Goebel, who was making back-to-back stepladder appearances. Barnes went on to throw the last four strikes for a 206-183 victory. For his final shot, he switched to a 900 Global Burner Pearl, moved left and went slower on the right lane to collect some valuable information.

And in that third match, Barnes faced Michael Haggitt, who had the left side of the lanes to himself. Barnes continued to use urethane holding an early lead through three frames, until he left the 2-10 split for an open. Haggitt then took a one-pin lead in the sixth frame before he left a 4-10 split. After almost leaving another 2-10 split, Barnes picked up his Burner Pearl again to give it a look on his spare attempt.

"I wanted to make sure that the lane wasn't significantly different than what I thought," he said. "It kind of did the right thing so I went with that. In the tenth, I threw one like it was on purpose and it did all of the right things."

Barnes struck out on the right lane for his third win, 216-183.

"In the title match, that became the easier lane for me when I switched to the Burner Pearl," he said. "I had a little surface on it. It blended out that urethane carry down and turned out to be the right answer tonight."

Barnes would continue to throw urethane on the left lane and reactive on the right lane for a winning combination in the championship match. His opponent, top seed Jack Jurek went with a 900 Global Reality Check which provided a good look as he matched Barnes with three straight strikes early.

From that point on, Jurek struggled, and Barnes continued to strike starting with the front six to take a 48-pin lead and he never looked back. Barnes saved his best game of the night for the title, earning the victory 257-186.

With the PBA50 season officially over, Barnes feels like he bowled better week-in and week-out all the way through the 13 tournaments he competed in.

"It is the best I've bowled in several years," Barnes said about his successful season. "I have been very fortunate to win as much as I have but it is not very many in the big scheme of things. You get more disappointments than joys at the end, so I'm very pleased to be able to end up this way."

View the full PBA50 David Small's Jax 60 Open results at [PBA50 David Small's Jax60 Open | PBA](#)



## 2022 PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S JAX 60 OPEN FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Chris Barnes \$7,500
2. Jack Jurek \$4,500
3. Michael Haggitt \$3,000
4. Bryan Goebel \$2,500
5. Brian LeClair \$2,000

## MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Barnes def. LeClair 209-198

Match 2 – Barnes def. Goebel 206-183

Match 3 – Barnes def. Haggitt 216-183

Championship match – Barnes def. Jurek 257-186e events can be found [here](#).

## **WALT BLACKSTON IS DAY ONE LEADER AT PBA60 DICK WEBER CLASSIC AUGUST 16, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Jackson, Michigan – During warm-ups at the 2022 PBA60 Dick Weber Classic inside Jax 60 on Tuesday, Walt Blackston couldn't strike. He was worried it was going to be a long day. But then he threw his Motiv Jackal Ghost, watched it go down the lane and immediately had a whole new outlook.

"Once I picked up the Jackal Ghost it was like euphoria," he said. "Everything just opened up. I said, 'Oh, this is great. Trouble for them today.'"

The California native shot 279, 241, 215, 226, 265, 231 and 201 for 1,658, averaging 236.86 to lead the way. His Jackal Ghost "just blended it out and I could miss to the left and to the right." Toward the end of his block, he switched to a Venom Shock. He had great carry all day and picked up the majority of his spares.

"I crossed with Walter Ray (Williams Jr.) in the last tournament, and he couldn't miss," Blackston said, "so I kept telling myself I am going to channel my inner Walter Ray since my name is Walt."

He is loving being able to compete alongside such legendary players as Williams Jr.

"To see them in person and the way they can roll the ball, their attitudes and the way they approach the game, you learn a lot," he said. "That is the biggest thing for me. I am going to stay hungry and not be satisfied."

Blackston holds a 74-pin advantage over Randy Peterson. Tom Adcock is in third place followed by Jerry Sikora and Michael Lucente, who is in fifth place. Amleto Monacelli rolled a 300 in game five.

The 111-player field will bowl seven more games of qualifying starting at 9 a.m. ET on Wednesday. After that the top 37 will move on to the advancers round. They will bowl five games starting at 4 p.m. Wednesday. The top 24 will advance to bracket match play with all pins being dropped heading into Thursday. Watch the action exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA60 Dick Weber Classic scoring at [PBA60 Dick Weber Classic | PBA](#)

#### Top 10 PBA60 Dick Weber Classic

Walt Blackston 1,658  
Randy Peterson 1,584  
Tom Adcock 1,582  
Jerry Sikora 1,577  
Michael Lucente 1,572  
Pete Kaczmarczyk 1,554  
Charlie Tapp 1,527  
Lennie Boresch Jr. 1,525  
John Dudak 1,521  
Rick Francis 1,519

### **LENNIE BORESCH JR. CLIMBS INTO FIRST AT PBA60 DICK WEBER CLASSIC**

AUGUST 17, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Jackson, Michigan – It was moving day up and down the leaderboard Wednesday at the 2022 PBA60 Dick Weber Classic.

After completing 14-games of qualifying inside Jax 60, Walt Blackston was still the tournament leader. He started off firing 258, 256, 226, 155, 279, 185 and 181 for a total of 3,198. Mitchell Vernon and Charlie Tapp were the final bowlers into the top 37 at 2,876.

In the five-game advancers round that followed after a short break, Blackston shot 225, 222, 173, 249 and 170. For the first time all tournament, he dropped out of first down to third place. Lennie Boresch Jr. climbed from 10th place after qualifying to first place with 227, 278, 237, 258 and 226. He is now at 4,275, averaging 225.

After a slow start to his day, Boresch Jr. was frustrated but reminded himself to stay patient. Throughout the 12-games he bowled on Wednesday, he used two 900 Global Realitys, a Storm Nova and a Storm Proton Physix.

In the advancers round, he put more surface on one of his Reality balls which he felt opened up the lanes for him even more. It was a tough day but he grinded it out.

"I tried to throw it slower and loft it," he said. "That seemed to really help my pin carry and I was able to stay clean the last seven or eight games. So that was the difference."

After his final game he headed out the door only to find out he had moved into first place.

"I knew I had climbed to second because I had big games," he said. "I was watching the games were up and down this round. I am surprised because Walt has been bowling so good. But I had a really good block."

Boresch Jr. already feels like this has been a career season for him, but he isn't done yet.

"I want to win," he said. "I want to stay calm and make good shots. Why not me? It felt good today and maybe I found something."

Darryl Bower had a big day. He started Wednesday in 31st place then shot 1,624 for his final qualifying block to move up to third. After the advancers round, he ended his long day 13 pins behind Boresch Jr.

The 2021 PBA60 Dick Weber Classic winner Ron Mohr made some big moves as well. He was in 26th place after qualifying and now sits in ninth place.

All pins have been dropped as the top 24 will now bowl bracket match play three-game sets with the winners moving on. The round of 24 will start at 9 a.m. ET Thursday. The matches will continue until the top five players are named for the stepladder finals set to begin at 4:30 p.m. You can see it all on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA60 Dick Weber Classic scoring at [PBA60 Dick Weber Classic | PBA](#)

Top 10 PBA60 Dick Weber Classic

Lennie Boresch Jr. 4,275  
Darryl Bower 4,262  
Walt Blackston 4,237  
John Kirker Jr. 4,225  
Bob Learn Jr. 4,183  
Christopher Keane 4,182  
Peter Knopp 4,144  
Randy Peterson 4,128  
Ron Mohr 4,123  
Warren Eales 4,104

## **RON MOHR WINS BACK-TO-BACK TITLES AT PBA60 DICK WEBER CLASSIC AUGUST 18, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Jackson, Michigan – John Kirker Jr. might be a bit superstitious because he was trying to find a way to get even with Ron Mohr after losing in the title match to him last year at PBA60 Dick Weber Classic.

"He said last year, I was the No. 1 seed and I made him finish first, so he wanted to reverse it to see if it would reverse the fortune," Mohr said about Kirker Jr.'s strategy to let Mohr start first. "Obviously the right lane was much more playable than the left lane, so it didn't break my heart that he had me start."

Unfortunately for Kirker Jr. the result was almost identical to last year. In 2021, Mohr won 207-162; on Thursday, Mohr won 211-171.

Mohr started with a spare and Kirker Jr. hooked at a 7-pin and missed it. Both players each doubled and then Kirker Jr. missed a 6-pin followed by a 2-8-10 split, finding himself in a 42-pin hole.

"I could see it was mine for the taking," Mohr said of the early openings from his opponent. "The whole day that pair hooked earlier than anything I had seen. But after the advancers round I had the best look in the building. The only person that could beat me in this building was me, so that was my mindset."

Mohr stayed clean using his Storm IQ Tour until his final shot to become the first two-time winner at the PBA60 Dick Weber Classic. The win also was the 40th in Mohr's professional career, since he began bowling in 2008.

"Anytime you can have anything associated with Dick Weber is both humbling and flattering," the 66-year-old said. "I knew I was going to bowl three stops so to win one already, my arm swing is going to be pretty loose for the next one."

Mohr was emotional after his win last year but this time around the feeling was different.

"It was more overwhelming because it was so unexpected since I have only bowled a couple of tournaments," he said. "As long as I feel like I can win you will see me out here."

In the opening match, Boresch Jr. defeated Tom Carter 242-164. In match two, Boresch Jr. jumped out to a 38-pin lead striking on his first four shots using a different ball on each lane, while Warren Eales aimed to get comfortable on the TV pair. Boresch Jr. continued to control the right lane and had to mark in the 10th frame for the win. He struck on his first shot and won 223-205.

In the third match, Mohr put together a key four-bagger from the fifth through the eighth frames while Boresch Jr. had back-to-back splits resulting in open frames in the sixth and seventh. Mohr went on to win the match 223-180.

View the full PBA60 Dick Weber Classic results at [PBA60 Dick Weber Classic | PBA](#)

#### 2022 PBA60 DICK WEBER CLASSIC FINAL STANDINGS:

1. Ron Mohr \$7,500
2. John Kirker Jr. \$4,500
3. Lennie Boresch Jr. \$3,000
4. Warren Eales \$2,500
5. Tom Carter \$2,000

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1 – Boresch Jr. def. Carter 242-164

Match 2 – Boresch Jr. def. Eales 223-205

Match 3 – Mohr def. Boresch Jr. 223-180

Championship match – Mohr def. Kirker Jr. 211-171

## **CHESAPEAKE SUPER REGIONAL PREVIEW: THE SUMMER FINALE AUGUST 19, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The PBA Regional Tour heads to Chesapeake, Va. for the final super regional of the summer. The PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open begins tomorrow morning as the PBA returns to AMF Western Branch.

Sean Rash claimed his 17th career PBA national title at this center one year ago. This year's winner will claim a regional title and \$10,000.

Tom Daugherty paced the field in 2021 with a near-250 average through 17 games of qualifying. Though he came up short against Rash in the title match, Daugherty said that match will have no bearing on this weekend's event.

The four-time PBA national titleist said he's bowled at AMF Western Branch several times throughout his career, and has become comfortable in the center. However, this year could pose a different challenge for the 47-year old and the field.

"In years past, the gutter always hooks here and I tend to do well in bowling centers that the gutter hooks," Daugherty said after Friday's practice session. "This is the first year I can remember coming here where the gutter actually isn't hooking."

With the 37' Viper pattern replacing last year's 32' Wolf, Daugherty said he expects the scoring pace to come way down this year. In 2021, the first cut was +125 for eight games and 19 players averaged over 230. Tommy Jones averaged over 235 for 17 games to earn the No. 4 seed for the stepladder.

Ryan Ciminelli joins Daugherty as returners from last year's stepladder finals. PBA national titleists Dick Allen, Cristian Azcona, Shawn Maldonado and Jason Sterner will also be in the field.

Kyle Troup should be sharp fresh off Team USA camp, and fellow PBA Player of the Year EJ Tackett has been hot all summer coming off consecutive top-three super regional finishes.

Competition begins Saturday morning with eight games of qualifying. The top third of the field will move on to Sunday's advancers round.

Athletes will bowl six more games on Sunday morning before a cut to the top-eight. Players will bowl three more games to determine the four stepladder finalists.

The finals are scheduled for 3 p.m. ET on Sunday afternoon. Tune in on the PBA's YouTube channel.

View the full PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open roster [here](#).

More information on the tournament is available [here](#).

### **SCHEDULE**

Saturday, August 20

9 a.m ET — A-squad qualifying, 8 games

2:30 p.m ET — B-squad qualifying, 8 games (cut to top 1/3)

Sunday, August 21

9 a.m. ET — First advancer round, 6 games (cut to top-8)

1 p.m. ET — Second advancer round, 3 games (cut to top-4)

3 p.m. ET — Stepladder finals live on the PBA's YouTube channel

### **BRYAN GOEBEL LEADS PBA60 TRISTAN'S T.A.P.S. MEMORIAL AUGUST 20, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Columbus, Ohio – Wayne Webb's electric personality and style had nothing to do with a power outage during the eighth game of qualifying at the 2022 PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial on Saturday.

Inside Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl, the field was supposed to complete eight games of qualifying but due to thunderstorms in the area, the bowling center lost power.

Bryan Goebel had just passed John Chapman to move into first place overall. Goebel bowled 235, 267, 196, 214, 257, 256 and 192 for 1,617, an average of 231. He is 16-pins ahead of Chapman.

The field will bowl eight games of qualifying starting at 3 p.m. ET Sunday then they will finish game eight which they had started on Saturday. The top 32 will move on to bracket match play and all pins will be dropped.

On Monday, qualifiers 17-32 will bowl three-game sets starting at 9 a.m. ET. The winners of those matches and qualifiers 9-16 will bowl starting at 11:15 a.m.

Bracket match play will continue until the final five players remain. The last stepladder finals of the year will begin at 6:30 p.m. Monday. Watch every frame exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial scoring at [PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial | PBA](#)

Top 10 PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial (after seven games)

Bryan Goebel	1,617
John Chapman	1,601
John Kirker Jr.	1,584
Bob Rudnick	1,568
Peter Knopp	1,566
Bill Nichols	1,553
Sammy Ventura	1,552
Amleto Monacelli	1,551
Tom Baker	1,549
Ted Hannahs	1,548

## **CHESAPEAKE SUPER REGIONAL QUALIFYING RESULTS: MATT TAYLOR ON TOP AUGUST 20, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Matt Taylor isn't sure if his qualifying block at the PBA Booster Club Of Hampton Roads Open is the best he's bowled score-wise, but he said it's his best mentally and physically. The scores weren't too shabby, though.

After eight games, Taylor leads the 120-player super regional field at +336. The Raleigh, N.C. native threw the last six strikes in his final game to leapfrog 17-year-old Eric Jones for the top spot.

Taylor started with a Pitch Black sanded with a 360-grit pad. He stuck with urethane for two games, but committed to his gameplan and switched to reactive during Game 3.

"You're bowling this to try and win," Taylor said of his mindset. "Be aggressive, go to resin a little quicker than you anticipate, and move left. I kept shooting the bigger games with that (gameplan) and a 900 Global Reality Check was unbelievable in the middle of the block."

Two weeks ago, Taylor finished second at the PBA Capstone Health Alliance Asheville Open to Trevor Roberts. But earlier this week, he averaged less than 190 and missed the cut at the regional in Hampton, Va.

"I felt like I was falling off every other shot," Taylor said of his performance in Hampton. "I went back and kind of mentally regrouped for a day and told myself, 'I'm not wasting this trip. I'm not gonna miss two cuts in a row.' I've been bowling fairly well this year so far and I needed a good bounce back."

Jones surged ahead of A-block leader, and habitual AMF Western Branch leader, Tom Daugherty after just four games. When the two-handed lefty found a pair he liked, he took advantage: Jones shot 278 out of the gates, 299 in Game 4 and 275 in Game 7.

Before his block, the Oklahoma native told a few friends his goal was to reach +400. A 185 in his final game, which he said was his best in terms of execution, left him short of his goal. He sits in second overall at +324.

Similar to Taylor, Jones had a tough week of bowling before this weekend. To reset his mind, the high school star turned to a tactic few teenagers would dare attempt: reading a book.

"I went back and listened to ('The Inner Game of Tennis') that I read a while ago about the mental game," Jones said. "I picked up a couple of things that I used all day. I focused on my breathing. It's the only thing in my head — get my conscious out of the way and then I had some success."

After A-squad, it felt like this year's event would be a similar story to 2021 as Daugherty paced the field at +238. He said slower ball speed with urethane gave him more margin for error and better carry.

As transition hit, Daugherty cycled through a few different balls. He switched from urethane to reactive in Game 5, and got back on track with a 245 in Game 7. In his final game, a 194, he said he didn't get far enough left.

"I probably gave that game away a little bit," Daugherty said. "But tomorrow's a new day."

Taylor, Jones, Daugherty and 37 other athletes will move on to tomorrow's advancers round. James Magennis finished at +23, edging out California's Joseph Grondin by two pins for the final spot in the cut.

Competition resumes Sunday morning at 9 a.m. ET. The top 40 players will bowl six more games in an attempt to move into the top-eight.

Another three-game round will determine the four stepladder finalists competing for the regional title and \$10,000. The finals will air live on the PBA's YouTube channel at 3 p.m. ET.

More information on the PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open is available [here](#).

Full standings are available [here](#).

#### TOP-10 STANDINGS

Matt Taylor +336

Eric Jones +324

Tim Foy Jr. +280

Tom Daugherty +238

Colin Champion +231

Matthew Woodall +213

Ryan Ciminelli +211

EJ Tackett +210

Anthony Neuer +207

Dwight Adams +185

#### REMAINING SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 21

9 a.m. ET — First advancer round, 6 games (cut to top-8)

1 p.m. ET — Second advancer round, 3 games (cut to top-4)

3 p.m. ET — Stepladder finals live on the PBA's YouTube channel

### **CHESAPEAKE SUPER REGIONAL RESULTS: TIM FOY JR. CLAIMS THIRD CAREER PBA REGIONAL TITLE AUGUST 21, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Tim Foy Jr. struggled to find the words. All he could muster was "unreal, surprised and happy."

He said he withdrew from a tournament a couple of weeks ago with pain in his neck, and wasn't sure if he'd be able to bowl this weekend until a chiropractor alleviated the pain in his neck on Friday night.

Foy Jr. had low expectations heading into the PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open, but he walked away with the third PBA regional title of his career and \$10,000.



"It hasn't sank in yet," he said. "It's gonna sink in, but not for a while."

The 35-year-old Delaware native said low expectations loosened up his swing on Saturday. His block of +280 put him in third place after the qualifying round, then he kept that same mentality on Sunday.

He surged into the lead during the morning advancer round. He opened with 782 in his first three games, and held onto the lead through both advancer rounds.

While Foy Jr. lit up the scoreboard, Eric Jones was never far behind. Since the 17-year-old got his PBA card earlier this year, he has tallied two official PBA regional titles and now adds a runner-up to his résumé.

Anthony Neuer earned the No. 3 seed qualified in ninth place on Saturday at +207. He climbed into fourth during the six games on Sunday morning, before settling into third after the second advancer round.

Matt Taylor, who led Saturday's qualifying at +336, grinded to a +23 six game block on Sunday morning and dropped to sixth place.

Entering the 17th and final game, Taylor and Ryan Ciminelli sat just 40 and 50 pins behind Tom Daugherty, who hovered around fourth place the entire weekend. Daugherty couldn't catch Foy Jr. or Jones, but stayed ahead of the remaining competitors.

Neither Taylor nor Ciminelli could put much pressure on Daugherty, who grinded out 201 to hold onto the final spot on the stepladder.

Taylor made an aggressive change from urethane to reactive equipment during the final game, but two errant shots sunk his comeback bid. For Ciminelli, a pair of 6-8 splits served as the nail in his proverbial coffin.

In the stepladder, Neuer built an early lead over Daugherty. Right as Daugherty figured out the pesky left lane, he left a 2-8-10 on the right. Five of six strikes to open the match propelled Neuer to a clean 224-193 win.

The next match pitted the young southpaws against one another, where Neuer found himself in a unique position as the elder statesman.

After an opening three-bagger, Neuer lost the pocket. He switched from urethane to reactive after two spares, but subsequently lost the pocket. While he stayed clean, he couldn't keep up with Jones' strikes.

"I haven't bowled more than one game on one pair all week," Neuer said. "I know my trouble from previous shows is that I get a lot of early friction, so I'm still trying to figure out how to combat that."

Neuer said once the front part of the lane went, he knew he would have to make an aggressive adjustment.

"I knew his look was good enough that I needed a three- or four-bagger," Neuer said. "I think I made the right move, but it didn't help when I made a really bad shot when I made the ball change."

He hoped that Jones would see the same transition, but the two-hander managed to stave off any major adjustments. Jones said his higher tilt and lower ball speed allow him to play farther right and avoid that early hook that Neuer saw.

After Neuer lost to Jones 234-210, he didn't go far. He sat right behind the championship pair to support Foy Jr., one of his closest friends and tour roommate.

"I wouldn't leave him like that, that's just what friends do," Neuer said.

"Our goal every week is to bowl each other in the title match," Foy Jr. said "We tried, it almost happened today."

In the title match, Jones missed a 4-7 spare that quickly put him in a hole. He threw seven of nine strikes to close the game, but Foy Jr. gave him zero opportunity to get back into the match.

"I figured out my ticks basically, how to calm myself down and get myself in the right mental state," said Foy Jr., referencing two key moments from the 2021 Masters. He said he threw three strikes to beat Jason Belmonte, then struck to beat Chris Via in the next round.

After sparing a 10-pin, Foy Jr. threw nine strikes in his next 10 shots to send the high schooler packing. He struck or spared in 69 of 70 frames on the day.

#### MATCH SCORES

Match 1: Neuer defeated Daugherty 224-193

Match 2: Jones defeated Neuer 234-210

Title match: Foy Jr. defeated Jones 266-232

#### FINAL STANDINGS

Tim Foy Jr., \$10,000

Eric Jones, \$5,565

Anthony Neuer \$4,000

Tom Daugherty \$3,000

Matt Taylor, \$2,000

Matthew Woodall, \$1,750

Ryan Ciminelli, \$1,500

Colin Champion, \$1,250

Dwight Adams, \$975

Jason Cornog, \$950

Full standings are available [here](#).

More information on the PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open is available [here](#).

### **HUGE BLOCK SURGES TOM ADCOCK INTO THE LEAD AT PBA60 TRISTAN'S T.A.P.S. MEMORIAL AUGUST 22, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Columbus, Ohio – The bowler many players can't believe is 60 years old powered his way to the top of the leaderboard. Tom Adcock averaged 240.5 during his eight-game qualifying block at the 2022 PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial to move into first place.

With a later than scheduled start due to two separate power outages on Sunday, the entire field battled through eight more games then had to finish up game eight from Saturday to complete their 16-games of qualifying inside Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl.

Adcock surged into the lead after starting his day in 16th place. He opened up with 278, 279 and 247 for 804. That was followed up with 247, 279, 192, 207 and 195 for 1,924.

He said Storm PBA50 Tour Manager Kelly Kulick has been invaluable to him throughout the season but especially on Saturday as she got him to see the lanes differently. She encouraged him to move left and play steeper. He feels that was the key to his big block.

"I took that mindset to start Sunday on the fresh," he said. "It is a bowler's dream when you can match up, have the right ball in your hand and the conditions favor you. You strike almost every shot you throw in the pocket."

"I started at +118, so I told somebody if I could get off to a good start my goal is to get to +400," he said about his original mindset on Sunday. "I got to +400 pretty quick, so it worked out good."

He used his Storm Dark Code for the 804 series. He switched to his 900 Global Zen in game four and stuck with that part way through game eight before switching to a shiny 900 Global Zen Soul to finish strong over his final four frames to salvage a 195.

After the block was completed, all bowlers returned to the pair of lanes they had started their eighth game on Saturday. They all got one shot on each lane then got started.

Adcock had originally doubled, so he used his shiny Zen Soul and missed the head pin in practice. So chose to use his Zen and shoot 241 for an overall total of 3,683.

"It was good relief," he said to be done with qualifying as the top seed. "I am now going to go in there and take care of my own business."

Amleto Monacelli is in second followed by Peter Knopp, John Chapman, and Bryan Goebel round out the top five.

They finished qualifying around 12:15 a.m. The final player to make the cut was Tom Baker at 3,330.

The top eight players earn a two-round bye. Qualifiers 17-32 will bowl three-game sets starting at 10 a.m. ET Monday. The winners of those matches and qualifiers 9-16 will bowl starting at 12:15 p.m.

Matches will continue until the final five players remain. The stepladder finals will begin at 7:30 p.m. Watch every frame exclusively on BowlTV.com.

Follow PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial scoring at [PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial](#) | PBA

Top 10 PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial

Tom Adcock 3,683  
Amleto Monacelli 3,638  
Peter Knopp 3,620  
John Chapman 3,609  
Bryan Goebel 3,589  
Walter Ray Williams Jr. 3,565  
Lennie Boresch Jr. 3,537

Ted Hannahs 3,536  
Gary Reh 3,535  
Christopher Keane 3,453

### **FINAL DOZEN YOUTH BOWLERS CLINCH 2023 PBA JR. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BERTHS AUGUST 22, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The tournament field for the 2023 PBA Jr. National Championship has been set. After eight bowlers punched their tickets to the 2023 PBA Jr. National Championship last weekend, the final 12 spots were decided this weekend.

Each tournament champion and runner-up in the U18 Boys and U18 Girls divisions earned a spot in the national championships. All six champions earned a \$2,000 scholarship.

Vivian Luna and Melia Mitskavich advanced in the East Region's U18 Girls division from AMF Strathmore Lanes in Aberdeen, N.J. Daniel Robertson and Andru Blaney earned the U18 Boys spots.

In the Midwest Region, the advancing girls were Abigail Starkey and Gianna Bandolino. Zach Andersen and Devan Skridla secured the boys spots from AMF West Lanes in Milwaukee.

Forest Lanes in Lake Forest, Calif. hosted the West Region qualifier, where Katelyn Abigania and Saphyre Nofuente earned the girls spots while Brody Chatterton and Dohoon Kwon secured the boys positions.

#### **EAST REGION**

Vivian Luna and Daniel Robertson won the PBA Jr. East Regional Qualifier in their home state of New Jersey.

Vivian Luna, a 17-year-old from Elizabeth, N.J., defeated Pennsylvania's Melia Mitskavich to claim the U18 Girls East Region title.

The stepladder featured the top four qualifiers and Amelia Lemanowicz, who qualified ninth before defeating tournament leader Sydney Bohn in match play.

Bohn got revenge in the first match of the stepladder, but fell to Luna in the next match.

Luna then took down Emma Fetterman 211-208 in the semifinals, then Mitskavich 233-193 in the championship.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Girls East Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

Top qualifiers found similar success in the U18 Boys division, where five of the top six qualifiers advanced to the stepladder finals.

Daniel Robertson from Jackson, N.J. earned the top seed in qualifying, and never looked back. He took down Maxwell Benware and Kai Strothers in match play, then No. 2 seed Andru Blaney in the title match.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Boys East Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

#### **MIDWEST REGION**

Devan Skridla, Daniel Robertson, Abigail Starkey and Gianna Bandolino earned berths in next year's PBA Jr. National Championships.

Abigail Starkey captured the U18 Girls division title, defeating top-seeded Gianna Bandolino in the title match.

The Schaumburg, Ill. native qualified in fourth on Saturday. After winning two matches in the single-elimination bracket, she earned the No. 2 seed for the stepladder finals.

Malaya Chavez defeated Morgan Brunner and Lani Breedlove before falling to Starkey in the semifinals.

Bandolino earned the No. 1 seed after leading qualifying, then winning both of her matches. She was the only player to average over 200 during qualifying.

Low scores did not continue into the title match as Starkey took down Bandolino 240-229 to claim the title.

Kayla Starr, who finished as the national runner-up earlier in 2022, finished in 14th place.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Girls Midwest Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

In the U18 Boys division, Minnesota's Zach Andersen defeated Illinois native Devan Skridla in a dominant performance.

Qualifying in third place appeared to be the key in the Midwest. Andersen averaged over 220, then won both of his matches to earn the top seed for the stepladder.

Skridla, the No. 2 seed, defeated No. 4 seed Braden Mallasch in the semifinals. But Skridla stood little chance in the title match, as Andersen cruised to a 279-192 win.

The 2022 PBA Jr. National Champion, Landin Jordan, finished in seventh place.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Boys Midwest Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

## WEST REGION

Saphyre Nofuente, Katelyn Abigania, Brody Chatterton and Dohoon Kwon secured the final four PBA Jr. National Championship berths.

A familiar name rose to the top in the wild, wild West Region.

Katelyn Abigania will be returning to the PBA Jr. National Championship as a two-time West Region titleist. The 15-year-old defeated fellow Californian Saphyre Nofuente in the title match.

Nofuente averaged 220 and went undefeated in match play to earn the No. 1 seed.

Abigania, who qualified in sixth place, earned the No. 3 seed for the stepladder. She defeated Reagan Clifton, Ashtyn Woods, then Nofuente to successfully defend her title.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Girls West Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

In the U18 Boys division, Idaho's Brody Chatterton defeated 12-year-old Dohoon Kwon from Vancouver, Wash.

Chatterton earned the No. 1 seed after finishing second in qualifying and going undefeated in match play.

Kwon snuck into match play as the 13th qualifier, then took down Gregorio Sicard and Luke Brown to make the stepladder as the No. 4 seed.

He stayed hot in the finals, earning a national championship berth with wins over Elias O'Hollaren, Manny Ferrell and Joshua Oliver Abigania.

Chatterton ended Kwon's meteoric ascent in the championship match with a 222-183 victory.

Full standings and more information on the U18 Boys West Region qualifier can be found [here](#).

Last weekend, Kaitlyn Stull and Jakob Robertson won the South Region divisions. Ridgely Potter and Erin Klemencic also advanced to the PBA Jr. National Championship.

Avery Domaguin and Zachary Smullen captured the Southwest Region titles, while runners-up Bella Love Castillo and Tyler Galbreath also clinched berths in the PBA Jr. National Championship.

Read more on advancers from the South and Southwest Regions [here](#).

#### PBA JR. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALISTS

U18 Girls: Kaitlyn Stull, Erin Klemencic, Avery Domaguin, Bella Love Castillo, Abigail Starkey, Gianna Bandolino, Vivian Luna, Melia Mitskavich, Katelyn Abigania and Saphyre Nofuente

U18 Boys: Jakob Robertson, Ridgely Potter, Zachary Smullen, Tyler Galbreath, Zach Andersen, Devan Skridla, Daniel Robertson, Andru Blaney, Brody Chatterton and Dohoon Kwon

### **MONACELLI NEVER GIVES UP, WINS PBA60 TRISTAN'S T.A.P.S. MEMORIAL AUGUST 22, 2022 JILL WINTERS**

Columbus, Ohio – After some long and crazy days that included multiple power outages at the 2022 PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial, it was really no surprise that the stepladder finals was a wild ride.

And on top of that it makes sense that a bowler who many believe is the most focused and mentally strong on the lanes would end up holding the trophy.

USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Amleto Monacelli dominated early in match play on Monday shooting 804 and then an 802 series using his Hammer 3-D Offset to earn the top seed in the stepladder finals.

However, during his practice shots before the championship match, that ball was hooking too early with little reaction on the backend, so he decided to use a different Track Stealth on each lane in his match against Canadian John Chapman, who was looking to win his first title.

"The first frame, I don't know where that shot even came from," Monacelli said about leaving the 1-2-4. "I was so shocked. But with my experience as bad as it can be sometimes, just tried to let go as soon as you can and fix what needs to be fixed."

He picked up his spare then left a pocket 4-10 in the second frame for an early open. Chapman went with a Roto Grip Gem and took advantage with three strikes in his first four frames.

Monacelli threw four straight strikes to take his first lead in the sixth frame. Then came a pocket 4-9 on a shot he really liked resulting in another open frame in the seventh.

Chapman remained calm and clean. Monacelli finished first. He got a Brooklyn strike in the ninth then missed the head pin for a second time on his first shot in the tenth. He converted the 1-3-6 and struck for 208.

Chapman needed a mark and good count for the win. His shot went through the nose leaving the 4-6-7-10. Monacelli got the stunning 208-200 victory, his second PBA60 title.

"That was something that I never expected," Monacelli said about his opponents shot. "If you look at the whole game, I think I deserved it because I really bowled well."

Monacelli's 'A' game has always been his ability to hook the whole lane, and for the past two years he has been working really hard to add another facet to his game.

"This week what I call my 'C' game, I was doing it as good as my 'A' game," he said. "I was keeping it a lot straighter through the front with a really good forward roll. It felt so good throwing the ball and I just want to keep bowling."

He is so pleased with how he managed his performance during a difficult week feeling like he is 20 years old again throwing the ball. He will turn 61 on Saturday.

"A lot of people give up on their dreams because they don't believe they can do it," he said. "Mine came true because I never gave up."

The rollercoaster stepladder finals began with the first three matches resulting in three different winners. Ron Mohr was trying to win his third straight PBA60 tournament and he faced Germany's Peter Knopp who was seeking his first title.

Mohr had a six-pin lead over Knopp through five frames then Knopp struck on his next six shots to earn the 242-228 win.

Unfortunately for Knopp, the strikes were harder to come by in match two as it seemed like he and Gary Reh, who was also trying to win his first title, had some butterflies. Knopp had back-to-back opens in the fifth and sixth and had just three strikes overall. The lefty Reh picked up six single-pin spares and had a late four-bagger to earn the 226-171 victory.

In the semifinal match, Reh faced Chapman. Reh kept throwing his Brunswick Attitude Control urethane starting with three strikes for an early lead. Then both players had open frames in the fourth.

Chapman switched from a Storm Dark Code to a 900 Global Gem and was able to stay clean heading to the tenth frame. Reh needed a double and five pins to win. He got seven spare and a strike for 187. Chapman then got his chance. Needing a double to advance, he struck out for 194.

View the full PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial results at [PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial](#) | PBA

2022 PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial Final Standings

Amleto Monacelli, \$7,500  
John Chapman, \$4,500  
Gary Reh, \$3,000  
Peter Knopp, \$2,500

Ron Mohr, \$2,000  
Match Scores

Match 1 – Knopp def. Mohr 242-228

Match 2 – Reh def. Knopp 226-171

Match 3 – Chapman def. Reh 194-187

Championship match – Monacelli def. Chapman 208-200

## **FOUR TITLES POWER BOHN III TO PBA50 PLAYER OF THE YEAR; CASTILLO NABS ROOKIE OF THE YEAR HONORS**

AUGUST 24, 2022 JILL WINTERS

Major championship wins and unforgettable performances earned Parker Bohn III and Dino Castillo the biggest awards of the 2022 PBA50 Tour season. Each player constantly bowled their way to top 10 finishes, resulting in Bohn III being named PBA50 Player of the Year and Castillo the PBA50 Rookie of the Year.

Both came out of the gate swinging. Castillo made the title match at his first PBA50 tournament, while Bohn III won two out of the first four. They each bowled in 12 events and finished in the top-10 nine times.

After winning a major title at the 2022 Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship in April, Bohn III said “to win this early in the season, hopefully it will propel me to go on and win two or three more times before the season is done.”

Looking back now, it’s as if he saw into the future. He won again less than two weeks later at the PBA50 Mooresville Open — tying his bowling idol Johnny Petraglia with eight PBA50 titles — and just kept winning.

The second major of the year, the PBA50 Cup, coincided with the 2022 Junior Gold Championships, where all three of Bohn III’s kids were competing. Between his own tournament schedule, Bohn III would drive over an hour to watch Justin, Brandon and Sydney bowl.

After watching Justin win the U20 Boys division title, the dedicated dad was motivated to win his second major and third overall title of the year. That was followed up by Brandon winning the Boys U18 division championship in back-to-back years.

While driving to his tournament, Bohn III would think about what he needed to do to overcome any potential challenges and if all of his equipment was ready to go. As soon as he was done bowling, he’d flip the switch back to dad mode.

“As much as this is the PBA50 Player of the Year, a big part of me has to say this is a family Player of the Year after what has gone on with our entire family this year,” Bohn III said about the overwhelming honor. “Our kids have pushed me into trying to become better than I was. It’s really heartwarming knowing how much my wife and kids stand behind me.”



In just over a week's time, Parker, Justin and Brandon each won national titles.

During his victory over Chris Barnes in the PBA50 Cup championship match, Bohn III knew Player of the Year implications were on the line.

"That match that we bowled very possibly was a one game match for PBA50 Player of the Year," he said after the win. "If I lose that game, he wins and becomes victorious, I get third place points and he gets first place points. The fact that I won that game and then walked away with the crown, I felt pretty good about the fact PBA50 Player of the Year was almost secure."

Two weeks after that win, he won for the fourth time of 2022 at the PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open, earning his 10th career PBA50 title. That was the icing on the cake for the lefty who admits, "this is the best I have physically felt in quite a while."

Barnes went on to win the final two tournaments of the season and came in second in the Player of the Year race.

Bohn III cashed in every tournament he entered. Over the course of 361 games, he averaged 225.06 and won \$62,435. He was named PBA Player of the Year in 1999 and the 2001-02 season on the national tour.

"My phone has blown up," Bohn III said about the Player of the Year announcement. "It's really cool how many people actually pay attention and appreciate what you have accomplished. Our company is allowing me to get better and that is a tough one to say when I am 59."

#### DINO CASTILLO WINS 2022 USBC SENIOR MASTERS

Dino Castillo fired 300 en route to climbing the ladder and winning the 2022 Senior Masters.

Castillo's own remarkable season got off to a quick start at the 2022 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open. He made his presence felt immediately and his love of bowling returned. He earned the No. 2 seed to make his first stepladder finals. He defeated fellow Texan Barnes 279-245 then held an early lead over Brad Angelo in the championship match.

Castillo struck on his first three shots before leaving the 3-4-6-7, which Angelo admitted was "the turning point in the match" after Castillo hit a friction spot that developed in the previous match, in Angelo's opinion. Angelo went on to win his first PBA50 title 258-203.

"That one still really sinks deep in me because of the loss," Castillo said. "That one shot, I had no idea what happened. But for me I was feeling really good to start the season off that way."

Two months later, Castillo had one of the most dominant performances of the season at the USBC Senior Masters in Las Vegas. He fought his way from the elimination bracket back to make his second stepladder appearance.

In the opening match, Castillo shot 300 against Barnes' 222. From there, he defeated Jack Jurek 257-196, Bohn III 255-219 and then took down Chris Warren, who pushed Castillo into the elimination bracket.

Castillo defeated his bowling idol 253-201 and 216-169. His first PBA50 Tour victory was a major championship completed in incredible fashion.

He followed that up with a fifth-place finish at the Senior U.S. Open. But it was the next tournament, a 10th place finish at the Odessa Open, that he felt was a key moment in his season.

"I struggled for many years in that building and I made to the top 10," he said. "That was a big leap forward in my progress in bowling well."

Castillo finished the year fifth in points, averaged 223.86 across 318 games and earned \$37,250. He cashed in 10 out of his 12 tournaments on his way to being named 2022 PBA50 Rookie of the Year.

"The guys out there are who I thank the most because they welcomed me with open arms," he said. "Jeff Johnson and Tom Carter, my two ball reps, are ultimately the main reason for my success this year. My love for bowling is on full resurgence not because of the success but because the experience of the PBA50 Tour is much more enjoyable."

Castillo guesses that he received about 100 congratulatory text messages when the bowling world learned he was named PBA50 Rookie of the Year. He hasn't had much time to let that sink in as he is in the process of building his sixth pro shop in Texas. But on August 19, he and his wife, Stacy, went out to dinner to celebrate their seventh wedding anniversary and his latest achievement.

He said the defining moment of his season was winning the Senior Masters because his wife and his best friends were there. The only thing that would have made it better, he said was if his five kids were there too.

"I am still on cloud nine with winning the Senior Masters, and now I add this," he said about the surreal feeling. "Now PBA50 Player of the Year I feel is within my sights, which never was a thought in my head bowling on the regular tour. But now, I am going to try to make it a reality."

#### 2022 PBA50 POINTS LEADERS

Parker Bohn III — 39,745 | \$62,435

Chris Barnes — 37,385 | \$49,400

Brad Angelo — 28,465 | \$35,300

Tom Hess — 25,995 | \$31,675

Dino Castillo — 24,250 | \$37,250

### **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: COOLEY CLAIMS TWO TITLES, FACH FINDS FIFTH TITLE OF 2022 AUGUST 25, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

Once again, the cream rose to the top over the past two weeks. Graham Fach found his fifth title this year to take a monstrous lead in the Central Region. Sam Cooley earned two titles and runner-up in another. You can read more on how it all broke down right here.

#### PBA KREMER ROOFING CENTRAL CLASSIC

With back-to-back events in Ohio, a handful of touring pros tested their luck at the pair of Central Region tournaments in mid-August. Shawn Maldonado led the field after qualifying, but Fach overtook the lead following Advancer Round 1.

Cooley jumped them and eight other bowlers to claim the No. 1 seed after posting a blistering 989 block during Advancer Round 2. Zac Tackett moved past Patrick Dombrowski in the first match 235-210, squeaked by Shawn Maldonado 235-232, but then fell to Graham Fach, 224-203.

Title No. 5 of the season for Fach would have to wait, as Cooley picked up his first title this season, winning 222-202.

#### PBA Kremer Roofing Central Classic Final Standings

Sam Cooley, 5,000 points, \$4,000  
Graham Fach, 3,000, \$2,200  
Zac Tackett, 2,300, \$1,500  
Shawn Maldonado, 1,900, \$1,200  
Patrick Dombrowski, 1,700, \$1,000  
Full standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA BOWLERSTORE.COM CLASSIC PRESENTED BY MOXY'S XTRA PAIR

Ninety-four bowlers came to Pla-Mor Lanes in Coldwater, Ohio to compete for an increased prize pool. The super regional field split in half after each of three advancer rounds, as four bowlers aimed for a spot in the stepladder finals.

After nabbing three strikes in the tenth, Justin Knowles moved into a roll-off against Brent Boho, where he would snag the No. 4 seed.

In what turned out to be a tight battle, Knowles fell to EJ Tackett, 213-211. Tackett then lost to Sam Cooley in the second match, 255-223, earning Cooley a rematch with Fach.

Fach continued his torrid season and avenged his first loss by taking down Cooley 234-219 for his fifth regional title this season.

You can read more on the Coldwater super regional [here](#).

#### PBA Bowlerstore.com Classic presented by Moxy's Xtra Pair Final Standings

Graham Fach, 5,000 points, \$10,000  
Sam Cooley, 3,000, \$5,000  
EJ Tackett, 2,300, \$2,500  
Justin Knowles, 1,900, \$2,200  
Full standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA CHANNEL LUMBER OPEN

Chad Lusche was the only one of 44 players to average over 230 (and 220) in Windsor, Calif. He and three others earned a bye in a 12-man bracket, but Lusche dropped his first match to Scott Boyle 2-0. Boyle later fell in his semifinal matchup to Tyler Cortez Schenck, while PJ Haggerty took down Treico Holland to grab the other spot in the finals.

The final game came down to the 10th frame, when Schenck needed the first hit in the tenth. Instead, he sent one wide and split. Haggerty earned his fourth title this year, winning 214-194.

#### PBA Channel Lumber Open Final Standings

PJ Haggerty, 2,500 points, \$2,600  
Tyler Cortez Schenck, 1,500, \$1,700  
Scott Boyle- 1,150, \$1,100

Treico Holland- \$1,100  
Full standings are available [here](#).

You can view the West Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA CENTURY LANES/CLEAN AIR SOLUTIONS/GILBERT'S SERVICE CO & CRAWLSPACE SOLUTIONS OPEN

Right before a super regional in the South Region, 74 bowlers hit the lanes to attack the Scorpion pattern in a midweek battle. Thanks to a 300 in Game 5, Arturo Quintero led the way after qualifying but still had work to do as the field split in half for three advancers rounds.

After said rounds, Quintero qualified for the four-person stepladder but dropped to the No. 4 seed. Sam Cooley grabbed the No. 3 seed, Tom Daugherty took the second, and Jason Sterner clinched the top position.

Cooley knocked off Quintero 187-175, Daugherty 245-237, and finished with a win over Sterner, 228-222, to run the table and earn his second title in less than a week and fifth title overall.

#### PBA Century Lanes/Clean Air Solutions/Gilbert's Service Co & Crawlspace Solutions Open Final Standings

Sam Cooley, 2,500 points, \$5,000  
Jason Sterner, 1,500, \$3,000  
Tom Daugherty, 1,150, \$1,140  
Arturo Quintero, 950, \$915  
Full standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA BOOSTER CLUB OF HAMPTON ROADS OPEN

Two days and 20 miles later, the Viper pattern treated competitors much nicer than Scorpion. Matt Taylor led after qualifying, but was eliminated after the second advancer round, narrowly missing out on the stepladder.

In the end, Tim Foy Jr. picked up his third career PBA regional title. For more on this tournament, you can read [here](#).

#### PBA Booster Club of Hampton Roads Open Final Standings

Tim Foy Jr., 5,000 points, \$10,000  
Eric Jones, 3,000, \$5,565  
Anthony Neuer, 2,300, \$4,000  
Tom Daugherty, 1,900, \$3,000  
Full standings are available [here](#).

You can view the South Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA BOWLERO/GROVE CITY CENTRAL OPEN

Almost 60 bowlers appeared at the third Central Region event in the past half-month, and 12 emerged after qualifying. It took a 213.38 average on the Billy Hardwick pattern to move into single-elimination bracket play and a 223 pace to earn a bye.

Top-seeded Brandon Kennard won his first two matches to earn a battle with Graham Fach in the semifinals, and it was a battle of the "Bach's" with Ryan Liederbach and Michael Schlabach in the other semifinal matchup. Kennard ousted Fach while Schlabach moved on as well.

Schlabach earned his second PBA regional title after knocking off Kennard 235-212.

#### PBA Bowlero/Grove City Central Open Final Standings

Michael Schlabach, 2,500 Points, \$2,200  
Brandon Kennard, 1,500, \$1,450  
Ryan Liederbach, 1,150, \$1,050  
Graham Fach, 950, \$1,050  
Full standings are available [here](#).

You can view the Central Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA DAVE HUSTED OPEN

In the Northwest, an exclusive members-only event transpired at Milwaukie Bowl in Oregon. Senior Michael Kennedy led the way at +270 for eight games, earning the No. 1 seed and a bye.

Kennedy utilized the bye well, winning his first match 3-0 to advance to the semifinals. Unfortunately for Kennedy, he ran into a buzzsaw in Darren Tang, who was on a mission to end his streak of runner-up finishes.

After qualifying fourth, Tang waltzed through match play without dropping a single game. Tang, who has three runner-up finishes since his last title in early May, finally got back on the board by defeating Payden Stumpf 237-220.

#### PBA Dave Husted Open Final Standings

Darren Tang, 5,000 points, \$3,000  
Payden Stumpf, 3,000, \$1,800  
Michael Kennedy, 2,300, \$1,200  
Giorgio Clinaz, Jr., 1,900, \$1,200  
Full standings are available [here](#).

You can view the Northwest Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA HOUSTON EMERALD SOUTHWEST CHALLENGE

Now to an exclusive non-champions event, 81 bowlers tested their wits against the Scorpion pattern, and the arachnid did not go down without a fight. Just 11 players went plus for eight games. After five more games, eight bowlers remained plus, and just six bowlers after four more games.

From there, the remaining bowlers smushed the Scorpion pattern as T.J. Rock, Joshua Sorola, Brent Boho and Garrett Andrus remained well above the even line. Rock and Sorola eventually moved on to the final round, and Rock had a plenty-enough lead to cruise into his first career regional title.

#### PBA Houston Emerald Southwest Challenge Final Standings

T.J. Rock, \$2,500

Joshua Sorola, \$1,700

Garrett Andrus, \$1,300

Brent Boho, \$1,300

Full standings are available [here](#).

You can view the Southwest Region points leaders [here](#).

Although the events have racked up over the past couple of months, there are still over 50 events remaining, including a handful of Regional Players Invitational Qualifiers. The rest of the 2022 schedule is available [here](#).

### **HOW ONE SHOT HELPED GET THE RYAN EXPRESS BACK ON TRACK**

AUGUST 30, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

You might remember when Ryan Ciminelli left the 7-10 in the 10th frame to lose the 2013 PBA Viper Championship. You probably remember his cathartic roar, "Redemption, baby!" after he climbed the ladder to win the 2013 PBA Chameleon Championship.

Though the latter aired a week later, the real time between Ciminelli leaving (and almost making) the 7-10 and starting his first match on the Chameleon show was about 45 minutes. In fact, he wore the same gray pants on both telecasts. He said he had a different pair; he just didn't bother to change.

"I was still bitter, and I was still angry," Ciminelli said. "To be able to run that ladder after handing a title away and not being able to go through all the emotional processes that need to be done... you give yourself a chance to redeem yourself.

"It's more for you than anybody else. When you're in that moment, you're not proving it to nobody. You just want to prove it to yourself."

A few weeks ago at the PBA League, Ciminelli found himself in an eerily similar position. All he needed was a mark in his final frame of qualifying, and his PBR Milwaukee Pounders would be the No. 1 seed for the Anthony Division Finals.

Instead, he missed a 6-9 spare.

The errant shot didn't give away a title, but it awarded the top seed to the Portland Lumberjacks and doubled his team's workload. They now had to win an extra match before taking on the two-time reigning Elias Cup champions.

Ciminelli said missing that spare bothered the hell out of him. This time, he had more time to process the mistake.

Later that afternoon, the team had a short practice session on the TV pair. These lanes, located on the opposite end of Portland, Maine's Bayside Bowl, played completely different.

Ciminelli, who led the Pounders in scoring, couldn't find anything. He expected the lanes to play different, but perhaps not to this degree; he said he didn't have time to run to the ball truck and get different equipment, either.

"We had our 20 minutes of practice and my look was terrible," Ciminelli said. "All the balls that looked good in the other bay, they all looked terrible."

Before the Pounders first match, players received two shots on each lane. Ciminelli opted to throw one with urethane and one with reactive, which he found time to grab off the truck after the initial practice session.

Then, he said, the team asked him if he felt confident.

"I mean, not really," he responded. "I've seen the ball that I think I'm gonna throw one shot on each lane."

Milwaukee's belief in Ciminelli never wavered. During pre-show interviews, Sean Rash and manager Marshall Holman emphasized how many big shots Ciminelli had thrown in the building.

Despite Ciminelli's lack of confidence, they tasked him with anchoring the team.

On Ciminelli's shot in the fifth frame, he spared a 10-pin. That conversion put the Pounders up 25 pins over the Motown Muscle. A win would put them in the Anthony Division Finals — where they would have been if Ciminelli had converted that 6-9 earlier in the day.

The Muscle wouldn't go away easily. After winning their first two matches, they climbed out of an early hole against Milwaukee. Anthony Simonsen struck and spared in Motown's 10th frame, giving them a final score of 185.

Ciminelli needed a mark to clinch the win and, perhaps more importantly, avenge his earlier mistake. He would need to do so on the left lane, which he said was the tighter lane, and where he had thrown just a single shot with his desired ball.

You probably remember what happened next.

Video file

Watch the full Anthony Division Finals telecast.

"Redemption!" yelled Ciminelli, turning back the clock almost a decade. "That's why! That's why! That's why!"

In 2013, Ciminelli's PBA Chameleon Championship win marked his second career title, proving to himself that he belonged among the tour's best.

This strike proved to Ciminelli, now 36, he still belonged.

"That reminded me that I'm still me," Ciminelli said. "(When) you lose that confidence and that belief, it's hard to get it back. A shot like that, in a moment like that, under those circumstances, that can spark it back real fast.

"That's why they put you there. Because they know. Remind yourself that you know, too. That's you. That's what you do. You're one of the guys that can throw the shot in the clutch."

The Pounders ultimately fell to the Lumberjacks in the next match. Certain moments, even in a loss, can rejuvenate a career.

"I needed that," he said. "I needed that for me more than anybody."

Ciminelli's visceral reaction embodied his journey back to PBA stardom.

Ryan Ciminelli was so close to the PBA Hall of Fame. He could almost taste it.

With eight PBA titles and a US Open green jacket to his name, two more titles or one more major victory would secure his eligibility for enshrinement in bowling immortality.

Chasing that dream fueled a life on the road. But over time, the stresses of bowling full-time on tour became overwhelming.

A string of missed cuts is one thing when you're on your own; it's another when you've got a family back home missing you and counting on you to help pay the bills.

Ciminelli couldn't take the physical and mental strain any longer. He stepped away from full-time competition on the PBA Tour in July 2020, derailing his pursuit of the Hall of Fame.

When he announced his retirement, he didn't know if he'd ever return. He said he would be content either way: "If that happens, if it doesn't happen, so be it."

It's never quite that simple. Athletes are wired to reach the finish line. They keep pushing until they can't push anymore, rarely walking away from the game until they're truly satisfied or the game forces them to.

Ciminelli, at the time, felt like the latter drove him away. If an opportunity arose that would allow him to return solely out of love for the game, he'd do it in a heartbeat.

"I didn't really want to retire," Ciminelli said. "That was never my intention. I'm too close to the Hall of Fame to just let it go."

In the meantime, he took a job with Exterior Expressions, a family-owned construction management company based near his home in North Carolina. His role allowed him to stay close to home and earn a steady income. He still bowled the occasional PBA tournament, now on his own terms.

Before Ciminelli could find a birdwatching club to join, his wife, Chelsie, made a career move of her own. Chelsie works as a psychotherapist and switched practices not long after his retirement. That transition reopened a door that had never really closed for Ciminelli.

"It couldn't have been six-eight weeks after that her career blew up," Ciminelli said. "Frankly, I could have come back then."



Instead of pulling a Tom Brady — though I suppose we would have called it a Brett Favre back then — he chose to fulfill his commitments to his new job. Once those work obligations were taken care of, however, Ciminelli knew he would be back on the PBA Tour.

"This is all I've ever known," Ciminelli said. "Until I can't do it anymore, I like to think that I'm just gonna keep plugging along."

Ciminelli returned from what he now calls his hiatus for the 2021 PBA Summer Tour. He eked out a pair of top-50 finishes in Lubbock and Jonesboro, where all four finalists were left-handed.

In Coldwater, he climbed into the top 15. He returned to the show in Chesapeake, finishing in fourth place and setting up a massive 2022 campaign.

Well, that was the plan.

The lefty logged just one top-20 finish during the regular season and finished 65th on the tour in points.

With three southpaws in the PBA Playoffs (Jakob Butturff, Packy Hanrahan and Jesper Svensson) and another winning a title (Keven Williams), Ciminelli's struggles can't be attributed to his left-handedness.

It can be explained, in part, by the difference in ball roll between Ciminelli and the aforementioned lefties.

"I struggle to see what these other lefties see with urethane," Ciminelli said. "They can get steep enough to where they can create shim, but they have high enough rev rates and throw it slow enough, with the right ball roll so it doesn't hook early, and then they can get it back from the left."

The Ryan Express isn't just a nickname; he enjoys throwing fastballs almost as much as Nolan Ryan himself. If you're thinking that's part of the problem, you wouldn't be the first.

"Everyone's like, 'You just throw it too hard. You can't shape urethane like those guys because your ball speed is too high.' Well, that's all fine and dandy, but when I throw it 14 miles an hour, it hooks at the dots," he said.

"I've always been able to throw it relatively slow," he added. "It's just trying to figure out how I can throw it slow and not have the ball early has been the real problem."

A few weeks following his resurgent moment at the PBA League, Ciminelli found the answer. By lofting his ball, he created the coveted ball motion and discovered a comfort on the lanes he hadn't felt in a long time.

At the Luci, he fired two 300 games in the same block for the first time in his professional career. Ciminelli's seven-game total of 1,753 tied for second among all players.

"I saw what they saw for once," Ciminelli said. "I could get (the ball) left and as long as it was over the front, it retained enough to come off of it. And then I could get far enough away from (the friction) to create hold."

His confidence had returned, and the results followed. He and partner Dasha Kovalova finished in fourth place, just 35 pins behind the champions.

Of course, what worked on one weekend in Houston won't work everywhere else. Ciminelli said he has been working on replicating that ball motion without lofting, but isn't going to sacrifice his strengths to resolve a weakness.

"The bottom line is I'm unique," he said. "I don't want to lose my uniqueness. Because when it does work, I don't have to beat many people."

Ciminelli may not be able to replicate the ball roll of Butturff or Svensson, but he feels unbeatable when his A-game is in play.

That's exactly what happened at the 2015 US Open. After 32 games, Ciminelli sat in third place; the next-highest lefty, Patrick Allen, sat in 59th place.

After match play, Ciminelli led all competitors by 461 pins. He went on to win the lone major title of his career thus far, defeating Dom Barrett in the title match.

No southpaw finished within 500 pins of Ciminelli at the 2015 US Open.

Ciminelli said he's never been in the spotlight, nor one of the tour's golden boys, but has "made a pretty damn good career" for himself.

His peak from 2015-16, where he captured five titles and narrowly finished behind Jason Belmonte as the runner-up for 2015 Player of the Year, briefly put him among the tour's best.

He likened his career to that of a journeyman, fighting every week for a shot at the prize, and compared himself to Tom Smallwood.

"We're just pit bulls," he said. "We grind and we grind and we grind. When we get our chance, we take advantage of it, but our chances don't seem to come around as often as some of these guys."

"It's more about patience, waiting and being able to mentally get through all of the downs and being sharp enough and still have enough fire inside that when it is there, that you can sack up, more or less, and perform."

The exterior looks a tad rusty and the wheels could use some grease, but the engine is stronger than ever. The Ryan Express is back, and it's not stopping until it reaches its final destination: the PBA Hall of Fame.

"I know I can still strike," he said. "I know it's in there."

## **2022 GUARANTEED RATE PBA TOUR SEASON IN REVIEW**

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022 JEF GOODGER

The 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season was big on established stars extending and breaking records and joining exclusive clubs.

Jason Belmonte won his 14th major title, Anthony Simonsen made himself the youngest player to win three and four majors and Dom Barrett completed the Triple Crown. Simonsen and Barrett both joined the 10-title club while Belmonte won his 30th.

Kyle Troup repeated as PBA Playoffs champion and EJ Tackett picked up a pair of titles to join Belmonte, Simonsen and Barrett as multi-time winners.

Keven Williams was the only first-time champion in 2022, winning the PBA Shark Championship.

#### PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP

Bowlero Eules

Eules, Texas

Winner: Jason Belmonte (26th career title)

For the second straight year, the Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour began with the PBA Players Championship, the first of five majors on the season. Also for the second straight year, the PBA Players Championship featured its unique format in which players compete in five regional qualifiers in an effort to reach the regional stepladder finals, then must win the region to advance to the overall stepladder finals.

After a winless 2021, Jason Belmonte returned to competition by extending his all-time majors record to 14 with his win in the Players Championship. As he celebrated his third Players Championship win, he—we can now say retroactively—foreshadowed what was to come throughout the season with an emphatic, “I’m back.”

[Read more](#)

#### U.S. OPEN

Woodland Bowl

Indianapolis, Indiana

Winner: Anthony Simonsen (9)

The “Anthony Simonsen is the youngest player to win x titles” narrative continued in Indianapolis, with Simonsen claiming his third major and asserting himself as the youngest to win one, two and three majors. Simonsen struck in six of the first seven frames to build an insurmountable lead over EJ Tackett.

Tackett was the story of qualifying and match play, leading the field by 502 pins into the stepladder finals, but like so many U.S. Open top seeds, Tackett ultimately finished second. (Simonsen himself finished second as the top seed in this event in 2020, losing to Belmonte, whom Simonsen defeated in this season’s semifinal.)

[Read more](#)

#### DAVID SMALL’S BEST OF THE BEST CHAMPIONSHIP

JAX60

Jackson, Michigan

Winner: Jesper Svensson (11)

After missing the PBA Players Championship and, in his words, underperforming in the U.S. Open, Jesper Svensson attacked JAX60 in Jackson, Michigan, leaving little doubt who was going to emerge victorious.

Svensson led the entire tournament on the way to his 11th PBA Tour title, eventually defeating Packy Hanrahan in the championship match.

[Read more](#)

#### DAVID SMALL'S KOKOMO CHAMPIONSHIP

Heritage Lanes

Kokomo, Indiana

Winner: Jason Belmonte (27)

No. 1 seed Belmonte faced Nick Pate, who eliminated Simonsen and Tackett on the way to the title match, and both Belmonte and Pate began with the front six. Pate extended his streak to seven and had a chance to win in the 10th frame, but when he left a 10-pin on his second shot, the title was Belmonte's.

"He could've easily struck on that shot," said Belmonte, "and if it were to be, he would be fully deserving."

Belmonte's 27th title moved him to ninth in PBA history, breaking the tie he shared with "Kokomo Kid" Don Johnson.

[Read more](#)

#### KIA PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

AMF Riviera Lanes

Fairlawn, Ohio

Winner: Dom Barrett (9)

Dom Barrett's third career major championship was especially important as he became just the eighth player (and first European) in PBA Tour history to complete the Triple Crown (U.S. Open, PBA World Championship, PBA Tournament of Champions).

Barrett rolled 279 in the semifinal match over Shawn Maldonado before besting top seed Kris Prather in the championship match.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA ROTH/HOLMAN DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Bowlero Wauwatosa

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Winners: EJ Tackett (15) and Marshall Kent (5)

For the fifth time in six years, EJ Tackett and Marshall Kent qualified for the stepladder finals of the PBA Roth/Holman Doubles Championship. Finally, despite qualifying fourth and thus needing to win four matches to climb the stepladder and win the title, the duo claimed the trophies.

It was Tackett's 15th PBA Tour title and Kent's fifth.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON

Bowlero Wauwatosa

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Winner: Kris Prather (5)

Two weeks after finishing second in the Tournament of Champions as the top seed, Kris Prather was again the top seed in a major, this time prevailing to win his second career major championship.

Prather needed a roll-off to do it, striking to beat No. 4 seed Jason Sterner's six count, enough to claim the third six-figure check of Prather's PBA Tour career.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA CHEETAH CHAMPIONSHIP

Bowlero Wauwatosa

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Winner: Kyle Sherman (2)

Kyle Sherman's second PBA Tour title was his first singles title, winning two matches as the No. 2 seed in the stepladder finals to claim the PBA Cheetah Championship. A four-pin victory over Kris Koeltzow earned Sherman a spot in the championship match, in which he defeated Cristian Azcona for the title.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA SCORPION CHAMPIONSHIP

Bowlero Wauwatosa

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Winner: Jason Belmonte (28)

As the No. 4 seed, Jason Belmonte had to win four matches to win his first Scorpion Championship and record ninth World Series of Bowling title. Those four matches required wins over EJ Tackett, Tommy Jones, Packy Hanrahan and Anthony Simonsen.

Formidable for sure, but none of the matches were close. Belmonte blew the field away and won his third title of the season.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA SHARK CHAMPIONSHIP

Bowlero Wauwatosa

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

Winner: Keven Williams (1)

During the title match of the PBA Shark Championship, we were guaranteed a first-time champion as second-seeded AJ Chapman advanced past Belmonte to earn a match with top seed Keven Williams. What no one could know at the time was the winner of the match would be the only first-time champion of the entire 2022 PBA Tour season.

It came down to the 10th frame and Williams needing a double and nine to win. He struck all three times and can now call himself a PBA Tour champion.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS OPEN

South Plains Lanes

Lubbock, Texas

Winner: Jason Belmonte (29)

For the second time in Jason Belmonte's career, he captured four titles in a single season (he first did so in 2017). This time, his fourth title was the 29th of his career, tying him with Hall of Famer Mike Aulby on the all-time titles list.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA COLORADO SPRINGS OPEN

Harmony Bowl

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Winner: Dom Barrett (10)

Barrett winning the Triple Crown earlier in 2022 seemed like enough of a career milestone for the season, but then Barrett went to Colorado and won his 10th PBA Tour title, a total most professional bowlers can only dream of reaching. Although he was already eligible for Hall of Fame consideration entering the season, now owning double-digit titles and three majors among them should make Barrett a first-ballot selection.

[Read more](#)

#### USBC MASTERS

Gold Coast Hotel and Casino

Las Vegas, Nevada

Winner: Anthony Simonsen (10)

Writing of 10 titles, Anthony Simonsen soon joined the double-digit club with Barrett, taking down Norm Duke in the championship match of the USBC Masters. Simonsen's second major championship of the season was the fourth of his career and he now holds the PBA record as the youngest to win one, two, three and four majors.

[Read more](#)

#### KIA PBA PLAYOFFS

Bowlero Jupiter

Jupiter, Florida

Winner: Kyle Troup (9)

Kyle Troup was the only player to successfully defend a title during the 2022 season, winning the PBA Playoffs for the second straight year. It was Troup's only title in the season following his 2021 Player of the Year campaign and also moved him past his father, Guppy, with nine career titles to Guppy's eight.

[Read more](#)

#### KING OF THE LANES: ROYAL FAMILY EDITION

Bowlero Jupiter

Jupiter, Florida

Reigning Royal Family: Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Alyssa Ballard

In the inaugural King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition, incoming royalty Guppy and Kyle Troup dropped the crowns to Chris and Ryan Barnes, who reigned as royalty for two nights before falling to Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Alyssa Ballard.

[Read more](#)

#### KING OF THE LANES

Bowlero Jupiter

Jupiter, Florida

Reigning King: Kyle Troup

Kyle Troup, by virtue of qualifying for the PBA Playoffs championship match, earned a berth in the King of the Lanes, taking out his Playoffs championship opponent, Tommy Jones, and then dethroning long-reigning Jason Sterner to claim the crown.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA TOUR FINALS

Strikerz at Angel of the Winds Casino

Arlington, Washington

Winner: Jason Belmonte (30)

In the first game of the race-to-two-points championship match with Dom Barrett, Jason Belmonte bowled 300. It was the second televised 300 of his career, making him the fourth player ever to achieve that feat in title events. A 235 in the next game was enough to sweep Barrett, earning Belmonte his fifth title of the season (the first time he's won five times in a single season) and 30th of his career, tying Dick Weber on the all-time titles list and joining an elite group of eight players to have won at least 30 times.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA LEAGUE ELIAS CUP FINALS

Bayside Bowl

Portland, Maine

Winners: Portland Lumberjacks (3rd Elias Cup championship)

The PBA League returned to Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine and the Portland team hoisted the Elias Cup for the third straight season. Four players—Wes Malott, Kris Prather, Kyle Troup and Packy Hanrahan—returned from their prior championship team, joined this season by Arturo Quintero, to defeat the Dallas Strikers, three games to two, in the best-of-five Elias Cup Championship.

With the win, Malott is now tied with Tommy Jones for most career Elias Cup wins at four. Malott and Jones won once together as members of the Silver Lake Atom Splitters in 2014.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA STRIKE DERBY

Bayside Bowl

Portland, Maine

Winner: Kyle Troup

Kyle Troup continued his run of success that began in the PBA Playoffs, winning the PBA Strike Derby for his third exhibition win of the season. Troup finished the 2022 season as a two-time PBA Playoffs

champion, reigning King of the Lanes, Mark Roth MVP of the PBA League (although he passed it to Arturo Quintero) and Strike Derby champion.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA LEAGUE ALL-STAR CLASH

Bayside Bowl

Portland, Maine

Winner: Jake Peters

In the single-shot, low-man-out PBA League All-Star Clash competition, Jake Peters held on against the other nine top performers from PBA League qualifying competition, ultimately defeating Packy Hanrahan in the final round to close the PBA Tour All-Star Weekend with a victory for himself and his Guaranteed Rate Chicago Hitmen teammates.

[Read more](#)

#### PBA/PWBA STRIKING AGAINST BREAST CANCER MIXED DOUBLES

Copperfield Bowl

Houston, Texas

Winners: EJ Tackett (16) and Diandra Asbaty (2nd PWBA Tour title)

Once again, the scores were so close at the end of SABCMD match play that even the players weren't sure who won. For the second straight year and third time in the last four editions of the event, EJ Tackett was on the winning team. Diandra Asbaty became the third person to win the SABCMD with EJ Tackett, joining Danielle McEwan (2021) and Liz Johnson (2018).

[Read more](#)

#### FINAL 2022 PBA TOUR POINTS STANDINGS

Jason Belmonte, 34,230

Anthony Simonsen, 26,195

EJ Tackett, 24,660

Dom Barrett, 22,790

Kris Prather, 19,155

Tommy Jones, 16,735

Jakob Butturff, 14,395

Sean Rash, 14,210

Kyle Troup, 13,392.5

AJ Johnson, 13,375

#### FINAL 2022 PBA TOUR EARNINGS LIST

Jason Belmonte, \$302,525

Anthony Simonsen, \$274,975

Kris Prather, \$222,750

Kyle Troup, \$213,950

Dom Barrett, \$201,595

Tommy Jones, \$170,475

EJ Tackett, \$160,675

Sean Rash, \$114,140

AJ Johnson, \$92,700

Jakob Butturff, \$91,575

#### 2022 GUARANTEED RATE PBA TOUR CHAMPIONS

Majors in bold



Non-title events in italics

PBA Players Championship: Jason Belmonte (26th career title)  
U.S. Open: Anthony Simonsen (9)  
David Small's Best of the Best Championship: Jesper Svensson (11)  
David Small's Kokomo Championship: Jason Belmonte (27)  
Kia PBA Tournament of Champions: Dom Barrett (9)  
PBA Roth/Holman Doubles Championship: EJ Tackett (15) and Marshall Kent (5)  
PBA World Championship presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon: Kris Prather (5)  
PBA Cheetah Championship: Kyle Sherman (2)  
PBA Scorpion Championship: Jason Belmonte (28)  
PBA Shark Championship: Keven Williams (1)  
PBA Lubbock Sports Open: Jason Belmonte (29)  
PBA Colorado Springs Open: Dom Barrett (10)  
USBC Masters: Anthony Simonsen (10)  
Kia PBA Playoffs: Kyle Troup (9)  
King of the Lanes: Royal Family Edition: Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Alyssa Ballard  
King of the Lanes: Kyle Troup  
PBA Tour Finals: Jason Belmonte (30)  
PBA League Elias Cup: Portland Lumberjacks  
PBA Strike Derby: Kyle Troup  
PBA League All-Star Clash: Jake Peters  
PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles: EJ Tackett (16) and Diandra Asbaty (2nd PWBA Tour title)

## **2022 PBA SUPER REGIONAL RECAP**

SEPTEMBER 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

Four cities. Four PBA super regionals. Four champions. Four \$10,000 checks. Sounds like a pretty good summer to me.

The super regional circuit bestowed titles to an assortment of athletes: a PBA major titleist, a one-time PBA champ and former Rookie of the Year, and two high caliber regional players who have tasted national tour success.

Now, you're probably wondering, who are these guys? How did they do it? Well then, let me tell ya about the super regional summer of '22.

PBA LUBBOCK SPORTS SHOOTOUT PRESENTED BY SOUTH PLAINS LANES AND STORM 2022

South Plains Lanes  
Lubbock, Texas  
Winner: Ildemaro Ruiz Jr.

The summer swing began in the world famous birthplace of Buddy Holly. For those unaware of the rock 'n' roll icon — like me until I Googled the city — that's Lubbock, Texas.

Nathan Bohr paced the field in qualifying before another native Texan usurped him in the advancer round. Once four-time PBA major champion Anthony Simonsen took control, it looked like he would cruise along to the title.

That is until Ildemaro Ruiz Jr. caught fire down the stretch. The Venezuelan trimmed a 200-pin deficit to less than 50 entering the final game.

Powered by his "lady lucky," Ruiz Jr. raced past Simonsen to claim the title and \$10,000.

Full story: Ildemaro Ruiz Jr. Snags Comeback Win at Lubbock Super Regional

PBA JONESBORO SUPER SOUTHWEST OPEN

Hijinx Entertainment  
Jonesboro, Ark.  
Winner: Matt Russo

Returning to the building where you won your first career PBA Tour national title must be a surreal feeling. While the rush of nostalgia serves as a massive confidence boost, so does the target on your back.

The latter didn't faze Matt Russo, who walked into Hijinx Entertainment riding a tsunami of conviction. He rode that wave all the way to the title, never relinquishing the lead once.

His lead grew so large that boredom almost set in: "At one point, I was just like, are we done? Can we just go to the stepladder?"

Full story: Matt Russo Dominates in Wire-To-Wire Jonesboro Super Regional Win

PBA BOWLERSTORE.COM CLASSIC PRESENTED BY MOXY'S XTRA PAIR

Pla-Mor Lanes  
Coldwater, Ohio  
Winner: Graham Fach

A P.S.A. to the bowling community: Do not enter a western Ohio tournament with Graham Fach or Sam Cooley in the field. Unless your goal is to finish third, you do not stand a chance.

Cooley defeated Fach in the PBA Kremer Roofing Central Classic, the midweek appetizer to the Coldwater super regional. Zac Tackett took third.

At the super regional, Cooley led for the first few rounds before Fach caught him to earn the No. 1 seed for the stepladder. After Cooley dispatched EJ Tackett in the semifinals, the rematch was set.

(So even if you're only aiming for a bronze medal, you'll have to get past the Tackett family. Good luck with that.)

Fach and Cooley started striking early, then exchanged opens in the fifth frame. Cooley held a slight lead, but Fach's double in the 10th frame forced Cooley to throw a strike of his own. The Australian's ball blew past the fiction spot and left the bucket, handing the title to Fach.

As of now, there are no available details regarding a potential rubber match.

I guess you can say: Revenge is a dish best served... Cooley? Cold-water? Why are there many terrible puns to choose from?

Full story: Coldwater Super Regional Final Results: Fach Takes Down Cooley

PBA BOOSTER CLUB OF HAMPTON ROADS OPEN

AMF Western Branch  
Chesapeake, Va.  
Winner: Tim Foy Jr.

The grand finale to the summer of super regionals transpired just south of eastern Virginia's spectacular bays.

In the house that TD built, or at least where he led the PBA Tour stop last summer, Tom Daugherty took the early lead during A-squad qualifying. A trio surged past Daugherty during B-squad, and he never figured out how to get around them again.

Tim Foy Jr. tailed that group of three on Saturday. It turns out he was drafting behind them, plotting his trajectory to the No. 1 seed.

Anthony Neuer defeated Daugherty in the opening match, but Eric Jones slayed the Ginger Assassin in the semifinals.

Foy Jr. avenged his fictitious son's demise with a dominant 266-232 victory in the title match. A nagging neck injury made the Delaware native consider withdrawing before the tournament, but a fortunate visit with a chiropractor put him on the path to \$10k.

Full story: Chesapeake Super Regional Results: Tim Foy Jr. Claims Third Career PBA Regional Title

#### TOP PERFORMERS

Just four players competed in all four events: Tackett, Ruiz Jr., Shawn Maldonado, and Joseph Grondin. Tackett averaged a finish of 10th place, beginning with 25th in Lubbock, then adding second, third and 11th place finishes.

Despite the fact you hadn't read Maldonado's name yet, assuming you actually read the previous paragraphs, he wasn't far behind. With four top-20 finishes, his average finish was 10.67. He also finished just outside the show in Jonesboro in fifth.

Ruiz Jr.'s summer tailed off after his win in Texas, posting results of 26th, 52nd and 54th. He might need to look into making his lady lucky, his 5-year-old daughter, a full-time travel partner.

Grondin, a former starter at Wichita State University, joined the PBA in 2020. His best showing came in Coldwater, a 27th place finish.

Tom Daugherty did not compete in Lubbock, but racked up three straight top-10 finishes afterwards, tallying seventh in Jonesboro and 10th in Coldwater.

What's that I hear? An onslaught of various NFL soundtracks? Well, that's our cue to leave.

A recap of the 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season is also available.

### **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: TEN MORE BOWLERS CROWNED AS REGIONAL CHAMPIONS BEFORE RPI QUALIFIERS BEGIN THIS MONTH SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

Seven tournaments developed over the past two weeks, including five events transpiring over Labor Day weekend.

While bowlers attempt to climb into the top eight of their PBA region's points list and the top four in their PBA50 lists, they are also sharpening their tools for the upcoming RPI qualifiers. The first one kicks off on the 17th of this month, with a few more each month until December.

For now, bowlers are focused on adding another title in their name to the record books.

### **PBA TONY REYES/TERRY LEONG MEMORIAL JR./SR. DOUBLES**

The West Region hosted their second annual doubles tournament in memory of Tony Reyes, who passed almost a decade ago and Terry Leong, who passed back in December 2020. This year's [event](#) raised \$2,500 for the Tony Reyes Memorial Youth Scholarship Fund, which aims to help young bowlers in California's Bay Area.

Fifty-six duos entered 4th Street Bowl in hopes of bringing back hardware. After qualifying first, the first-rate team of Ron Mohr and Tyler Cortez Schenck cruised through match play to seize the No. 1 seed for the stepladder by almost 400 pins.

The PJ Haggerty and Rich Corwin duo defeated Matt Zweig and David Leverage in the first match, 384-379, and then knocked off Don Sutherland and Jake Odell 399-340.

Although Mohr/Schenck had built a colossal lead into the stepladder, things were all square with one game remaining. Haggerty and Corwin came out on top, taking the match 423-405, earning Haggerty his fifth title of the season and Corwin his third.

### **PBA Tony Reyes/Terry Leong Memorial Jr/Sr Doubles Final Standings**

1. PJ Haggerty/Rich Corwin — 2,500 points, \$4,000
2. Tyler Cortez Schenk/Ron Mohr — 1,500, \$2,800
3. Jake Odell/Don Sutherland — 1,150, \$2,500
4. Matt Zweig/David Leverage — 950, \$2,200

Full tournament standings are available [here](#). View the West Region standings [here](#).

### **PBA50 JORDAN LANES OPEN**

In the first sole senior event since the PBA50 national tour wrapped up, 56 bowlers departed for Allentown, Pa. to bowl at Jordan Lanes. Dave Wodka led the group at +198, while the final spot for match play went to Brett Karkheck at +7.

Those 16 who made the cut woke up on Sunday with plenty of games to bowl. Troy Lint found himself with a mammoth lead of almost 200 pins entering the position round, partially thanks to a 300 in Game 14. He lost his final game 278-180, but it did not matter as he snagged his fifth career title and second of the season.

### **PBA50 Jordan Lanes Open Final Standings**

1. Troy Lint — 2,500 points, \$2,800
2. Andrew Neuer — \$1,500
3. Dave Wodka — 1,150, \$1,300
4. Brian LeClair — 950, \$1,100
5. Ryan Shafer — 850, \$1,000

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

### **PBA50/60 KINGSPORT CONVENTION CENTER & VISITORS BUREAU DOUBLES**

The South Region doubled up by running two PBA50/60 events in the same week: one in Tennessee, followed by another in North Carolina. Twenty-seven teams entered the tournament in the Volunteer State, but only eight moved onto match play. Michael Haggitt and Keith Kolozsi qualified first, although the team of James Campbell and Mike Webb delivered a pair of perfect games to qualify third.

The next day, however, the duo of Pete Weber and Brian Kretzer stole the show to snag the No. 1 seed for the stepladder, followed by Gregory Turner and Terry Wiley. Tom Baker and Eddie Graham faced Campbell and Webb in the first match.

Baker and Graham earned the win 246-213, but fell to the Turner/Wiley team 278-221 in the semis. Then in the finals, the Weber/Kretzer show continued as they delivered a 234-182 victory. Kretzer picked up his 32nd career title, but made up no ground on Weber, who now owns 55 of them.

### **PBA50/60 Kingsport Convention Center & Visitors Bureau Doubles Final Standings**

1. Pete Weber/Brian Kretzer — 2,500 points, \$3,000
2. Gregory Turner/Terry Wiley — 1,500, \$2,500
3. Tom Baker/Eddie Graham — 1,150, \$2,000
4. James Campbell/Mike Webb — 950, \$1,800

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

### **PBA50/60 MOORESVILLE CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU DOUBLES**

For the second doubles event of the week, 36 duos of senior and super-seniors came together at Victory Lanes Family Entertainment Center in an attempt to snag a title. Gary Faulkner and Walter Ray Williams Jr. smoked the field during qualifying at +556, while Pete Weber and Brian Kretzer followed behind at +398 and the next highest team at +166.

After match play, those two duos emerged as the only ones with a chance at first. Down by 25 pins, Weber and Kretzer struggled in the position round match versus Williams and Faulkner, losing 215-193. Faulkner added a fourth title to his résumé, while Williams Jr. grabbed title No. 61.

### **PBA50/60 Mooresville Convention & Visitors Bureau Doubles Final Standings**

1. Gary Faulkner/Walter Ray Williams Jr. — 2,500 points, \$3,000
2. Brian Kretzer/Pete Weber — 1,500, \$2,070
3. Lee Brosius/Terry Wiley — 1,150, \$1,680
4. Dave Han/Greg McMahan — 950, \$1,610

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

### **PBA50 STRIKE ZONE ALLEYS OPEN**

With only a few events completed for the PBA50 East Region, the PBA50 Strike Zone Alleys Open posed an opportunity for anyone looking to earn a spot for the RPI in January. Forty-nine bowlers took it upon themselves to test their luck, but only 12 bowlers advanced to the single-elimination bracket.

Surprisingly, all four bowlers who earned a bye in the first round won their second round match to move to the semifinals. In the first match, Glenn Smith squeaked by Jay Davis Jr. 177-170 to move on, while Troy Lint and Jeffrey Ripic must have hit an even harder pair, as Lint squeaked by Ripic, winning 154-145.

Smith and Lint put together a better final match, but Smith bested Lint in this one 218-202 to pick up his third career title.

### **PBA50 Strike Zone Alleys Open Final Standings**

1. Glenn Smith — 2,500 points, \$1,700
2. Troy Lint — 1,500, \$950
3. Jay Davis Jr. — 1,150, \$750
4. Jeffrey Ripic — 950, \$750

Full tournament standings are available [here](#). View the East Region standings [here](#).

## **PBA BOWLERO LAKESIDE MIDWEST OPEN**

*Mexico's Benjamin Martinez claimed the second regional title of his young career.*

For the lone under-50 singles event this stretch, Bowlero Lakeside in Missouri hosted 48 bowlers looking for a regional title and some extra cash. Kevin McCune led the field at +185 for eight games, while the final spot went to Brennen Smith at -40.

After four games in the advancer round, the field split in half and Kamron Doyle took the lead. Benjamin Martinez snagged the lead after those eight players competed in a round-robin match play. Martinez held onto the top-seed after the position round, while McCune took the two-seed, and Tim Gruendler and Ben Sobel met in the first match.

Sobel defeated Gruendler 183-160, then took down McCune 187-140 in the second match. The pair remained strenuous in the Battle of the Bens as Martinez took the victory for his second title 182-163.

### **PBA Bowlero Lakeside Midwest Open Final Standings**

1. Benjamin Martinez — 2,500 points, \$2,250
2. Ben Sobel — 1,500, \$1,600
3. Kevin McCune — 1,150, \$1,200
4. Tim Gruendler — 950, \$1,000

Full tournament standings are available [here](#). View the Midwest Region standings [here](#).

## **PBA50 VICTORY LANES MOORESVILLE OPEN**

After the doubles tournament ended, Victory Lanes presented bowlers with a PBA50 singles tournament. The entry list hit triple-digits, so 36 bowlers, led by James Campbell, moved onto the advancer round to bowl another four games.

John Marsala then swooped into the lead to grab a double-bye along with Chuck Richey Jr., Gary Faulkner, and Tracy Golding. However, nobody took advantage of their position, as all four dropped their first match.

In the semifinals, Campbell defeated Charlie Toney 202-168, while Walter Ray Williams Jr. cruised by Victor Florie Jr, 245-176. After just winning title No. 61, Williams Jr. had a chance for his 62nd right away, but Campell bested Williams Jr. 213-174.

### **PBA50 Victory Lanes Mooresville Open Final Standings**

1. James Campbell — 2,500 points, \$2,000
2. Walter Ray Williams Jr. — 1,500, \$1,300
3. Victor Florie Jr — 1,150, \$960
4. Charlie Toney — 950, \$960

Full tournament standings available [here](#). View the South Region standings [here](#).

There are still over three months of regional competition left, but the first of many RPI qualifiers begin this month, starting with the PBA East Region, and then the PBA50 Southwest Region the following week. To see who captures a berth into the Regional Players Invitational over the next few months, you can follow along here at [pba.com](http://pba.com).

## **THE FUTURE IS NOW FOR ERIC JONES SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

On the surface, Eric Jones resembles a typical high schooler. His messy hair looks like it hasn't seen a comb in years and he responds almost exclusively with witty sarcasm.

There's one thing about Jones that separates him from his peers: he *enjoys* reading books.

No, really. The 17-year-old said he's been addicted since last summer. Jones doesn't read for fun; he wants to gain an edge over his competitors.

Those foes, however, aren't teenagers vying for Scholastic Book Fair prizes. (Do they still have those?) They're professional bowlers, the best ones on the planet. Although, his classmates haven't grasped the fact that Jones is one of the PBA's numerous rising stars.

"I just tell them I'm professional, and they don't really ask me more questions," he said.

The two-handed lefty said he practices almost every day — two hours if he's not fried, nine games if he is — and doesn't do drills, instead focusing on feel. He said he doesn't believe there is anything special about his physical game, though specified his ball roll helps increase his miss room.

When he can't make it to the lanes, he makes his own. Inspired by Wesley Low, the Edmond, Okla. native and his father built a bowling lane in their backyard during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The father-son DIY project, complete with a functioning pin setter, drew national media attention that spring. But Jones doesn't want to be remembered as a 15-minute viral sensation; he wants to build a legacy that will stand the test of time.

"The goal is to be the best to ever do it," he said. "I put so much of myself into it that it'd be stupid for me to say, 'I want to be one of the best.' I want to be the best. I don't want anyone to hold a candle to it.

"Why not go for as much as you can? I'm 17. I've got time to do it."

*Eric Jones stayed sharp during the pandemic practicing on this lane he built this lane with his father, Heath. [Bryan Terry/[The Oklahoman](#)]*

Jones burst onto the bowling scene two years ago when he won a PBA regional at 15 years old, becoming the youngest to accomplish that feat.

With the tournament taking place in Oklahoma City, located half an hour south of Edmond, his father asked Eric if he'd be interested in bowling the Pro-Am. But Eric wanted to bowl in the real thing.

He felt he could learn more by competing against the pros than watching them. What he learned that weekend, however, had little to do with ball motion, lane play or the mental game — he learned he could compete against anyone, even the best in the southwest region.

The high school sophomore won the PBA Oklahoma City Southwest Open, besting runner-up Shawn Maldonado by more than 300 pins. However, since Jones competed as an amateur he was not credited with an official title.

The next summer, Jones nearly captured a PBA National Tour title, again as an amateur. In the 117-player field loaded with dozens of national tour stars, Jones took fourth place at the [2021 PBA Jonesboro Open](#).

The then-16-year-old made the stepladder finals alongside three other southpaws, falling to Jakob Butturff in the opening match. His sensational performance took a backseat as eventual Rookie of the Year Matt Russo secured his first career title, but it wouldn't take long for Jones to reappear in the spotlight.

Five months later, Jones earned the top seed at the [PBA Jr. National Championship](#). He opened his national television debut with five consecutive strikes. After converting spares in the 6th and 8th frames, he missed the 2-4-7 in the 10th.

"Man, that's not what you're supposed to do there," Jones said after missing the spare.

The miss proved costly in the high scoring match. Landin Jordan, another uber-promising young talent, stormed through the open door to seize the title.

*Jones picked up his second official regional title in early July at the PBA Bowlero Spring Hill Open.*

Elevating beyond the youth bowling circuit, Jones acquired his PBA card earlier this year and quickly added two official PBA titles to his résumé. As of publication, he sits second on the South Region's points list, earning one title, two runner-ups and a 10th place finish in his four events.

In 2023, he said he will take his talents across the nation. After he turns 18 in January, he'll be eligible to bowl the USBC Masters and US Open. He also intends to bowl the remaining majors and World Series of Bowling.

"I like to compete against the good guys," he said. "Even when I'm bowling bad, I get to see what they're doing."

You may be thinking: *Isn't this kid in high school? How does he have time to bowl all these tournaments?*

"Luckily, the school board allows me to miss extra days," Jones said. "There's like a limit for most people, but they said I can miss as many as I want as long as I turn in stuff."

While he's missing out on vital lessons about the quadratic formula and ancient Mesopotamia, he's receiving a world-class education on ball motion.

"When I was in youth bowling, I threw it 18-19 miles per hour. I put everything into it," he said. "Now I come out here and that just doesn't work. My ball speed has gone down three miles an hour, I'd estimate."

Between the ears is where Jones said he separates himself from players his age. That's where his eccentric reading habit comes into play.

He reread "The Inner Game of Tennis" before the August [super regional](#) in Virginia and the words of W. Timothy Gallwey paid dividends. Jones posted a blistering 1,924 eight-game block to qualify second. After two advancer rounds, he earned the No. 2 seed for the stepladder and averaged over 235.

Jones defeated Anthony Neuer, another flourishing young southpaw who made the 2021 U.S. Open telecast as a teenager, in his first match. However, he fell to top seed [Tim Foy Jr.](#) in another strike fest 266-232.

"I don't get in my own head and I don't think. I just bowl," Jones said. "If I just focus on my breaths, it's really hard to get in my own head."

Every so often, a teenager joins the tour and establishes themselves as a consistent title contender. EJ Tackett, Anthony Simonsen and Jesper Svensson rose to prominence last decade, perhaps sooner than expected.

That is not to say Jones will reach to the level of those future Hall of Famers. But he has demonstrated the physical tools and mental makeup necessary to follow a similar path, one that he believes begins with a deep breath and ends with a Hall of Fame plaque.

"I mean, titles will come in between," he said.

## **2022 PBA50 TOUR SEASON IN REVIEW SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

uring the 2022 PBA50 Tour season, we saw four first-time champions (Brad Angelo, Dino Castillo, Dave Johnson and John Burkett), one four-time champion (Parker Bohn III), a three-time champion (Chris Barnes) and a two-time champion on the three-event PBA60 schedule (Ron Mohr).

Bohn claimed the PBA50 Bowler of the Year Award, Castillo earned PBA50 Rookie of the Year honors and Lennie Boresch Jr. was the PBA60 Bowler of the Year, which is based on performance throughout all events, whether PBA50 or PBA60.

Here's a quick summary of the 2022 PBA50 Tour season:

### **PBA50 LIGHTNING STRIKES LANES OPEN**

Lightning Strikes Lanes

Fort Myers, Florida

Winner: Brad Angelo (1st PBA50 title)

After a rookie season in which Brad Angelo was the runner-up three times among nine top-10 finishes and contending for Bowler of the Year and Rookie of the Year despite not claiming a title, Angelo opened his sophomore season with a victory in the Lightning Strikes Lanes Open.

In doing so, Angelo welcomed another rookie, Dino Castillo, to the Tour by leaving Castillo in the runner-up position.

[Read more](#)

### **FLORIDA BLUE MEDICARE PBA50 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

Spanish Springs Lanes

The Villages, Florida

Winner: Parker Bohn III (7)

Angelo did his best to open the season with two straight wins, but waiting in the title match in The Villages was Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III, who rolled 247 to earn his seventh PBA50 title and first major.

It was the first of four wins on the season for Bohn.



[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 GRANVILLE FINANCIAL OPEN**

Sandhills Bowling Center

Aberdeen, North Carolina

Winner: Chris Barnes (2)

The second sophomore to win in 2022, Barnes qualified second for the stepladder and got past Tom Adcock to earn a match with Barnes' chief 2021 rival, Tom Hess. While Hess got the better of Barnes more often than not in 2021, Barnes took control in Aberdeen and won his second career PBA50 title.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 MOORESVILLE OPEN**

Victory Entertainment Center

Mooresville, North Carolina

Winner: Parker Bohn III (8)

For the second time in four events, Parker Bohn III led the field into the stepladder finals. For the second time in four events, Parker Bohn III won his match and claimed the title. In Mooresville, Bohn won his eighth PBA50 title and second of the season by outdueling fellow Hall of Famer Jason Couch.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 BUD MOORE CLASSIC**

Bowl America Dranesville and Bud Moore Lanes

Sterling, Virginia

Winner: Dave Johnson (1)

Four decades after winning a PBA Regional title, Dave Johnson earned his first national title. In the unique setting of Bud Moore Lanes in the basement of Bill Moore's (Bud's son) house, Johnson—the man who roots for everyone—defeated reigning Player of the Year Tom Hess by a single pin to add his name to the [list of PBA50 Tour champions](#).

[Read more](#)

### **USBC SUPER SENIOR CLASSIC**

Sam's Town

Las Vegas, Nevada

Winner: Ron Mohr (4th PBA60 title)

To win his second USBC Super Senior Classic title, Ron Mohr needed two strikes in the 10th frame followed by a single pin. He got two strikes and nine pins to defeat eventual PBA60 Bowler of the Year Lennie Boresch Jr. Mohr, already the all-time leader in PBA60 titles (and at the time of this event, the only player ever to win more than one), extended his record to four with the win.

[Read more](#)

### **USBC SENIOR MASTERS**

Sam's Town

Las Vegas, Nevada

Winner: Dino Castillo (1)

PBA50 Tour rookie Dino Castillo, who has been so close on many occasions to win a PBA Tour title, finally seized the trophy at the end of a PBA national event. To do it, he had to climb the stepladder, bowling a perfect game against Chris Barnes, then taking out Jack Jurek and Parker Bohn III, then having to beat Chris Warren twice. Castillo did it all to become a PBA50 major champion.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA SENIOR U.S. OPEN PRESENTED BY LUBBOCK SPORTS**

South Plains Lanes

Lubbock, Texas

Winner: Lennie Boresch Jr. (5)

Boresch's fifth PBA50 title was his second major, taking down Jack Jurek in the title match of the Senior U.S. Open. Boresch qualified first and rolled 233 to Jurek's 197, giving Boresch his first win since the 2018 season, when he won the PBA50 National Championship.

The win was one of six top-10 PBA50 finishes for Boresch which, along with a second- and third-place finish in two of the three PBA60 events, earned him PBA60 Bowler of the Year honors.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 ODESSA OPEN**

Diamond Lanes

Odessa, Texas

Winner: Walter Ray Williams Jr. (16)

Walter Ray Williams Jr., the all-time leader in PBA50 Tour titles, extended his own record to 16 with a win over Lennie Boresch Jr. in the PBA50 Odessa Open. Williams, who is also the all-time PBA Tour record holder with 47 titles, was the top seed for the stepladder finals and earned a 15-pin victory over Boresch, who'd previously defeated Dan Knowlton, Tom Hess and Brad Angelo to get to the title match.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 HIGHLAND PARK LANES OPEN**

Highland Park Lanes

Greeley, Colorado

Winner: Tom Hess (3)

Reigning PBA50 Bowler of the Year and PBA50 Rookie of the Year Tom Hess snagged his first title of 2022 in his fourth stepladder appearance. He'd previously finished second twice on the season. As the No. 1 seed for the stepladder finals, Hess drew Tom Adcock in the title match and emerged with an 11-pin victory.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 CUP**

Vision Lanes

Westland, Michigan

Winner: Parker Bohn III (9)

It had been five PBA50 events since Parker Bohn III's last win, making it his longest winless stretch of the season (he missed two of those events, but either way—three or five—was Bohn's longest title drought).

Bohn snapped his winless streak with his second major title and third overall of the season. As it turns out, although neither of them knew it at the time, defeating Chris Barnes in the championship match for the PBA50 Cup very likely decided the PBA50 Bowler of the Year race in Bohn's favor.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 SOUTH SHORE OPEN**

Olympia Lanes

Hammond, Indiana

Winner: John Burkett (1)

After seven years of competing on the PBA50 Tour, John Burkett got his first title. He'd been close on several occasions and frequently bowled deep into match play, but to finally emerge as the victor was what Burkett, the two-time MLB All-Star, called the "Number one accomplishment in (his) sports career." Burkett had to beat PBA50 Bowler of the Year Parker Bohn III, PBA60 Bowler of the Year Lennie Boresch Jr. and two-time-winner-in-Hammond Eugene McCune to do it, defeating McCune 223-190 for the title.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 SPECTRUM LANES OPEN**

Spectrum Lanes

Wyoming, Michigan

Winner: Parker Bohn III (10)

In case anyone doubted Parker Bohn III's chances at winning Bowler of the Year, he won his fourth title of the season. At the time, no one else had won more than once.

Bohn and Barnes battled yet again, this time in the semifinal match. Bohn shot 266 to advance to the championship against James Campbell, in which Bohn rolled 265 to win his 10th career PBA50 title.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S CHAMPIONSHIP LANES OPEN**

Championship Lanes

Anderson, Indiana

Winner: Chris Barnes (3)

In yet another tussle between Chris Barnes and Parker Bohn III (the third in the last four events and the second time in the championship match), Barnes came out the winner to earn his second title of the season and third of his PBA50 career.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA50 DAVID SMALL'S JAX60 OPEN**

JAX60

Jackson, Michigan

Winner: Chris Barnes (4)

In the final event of the PBA50 Tour season (with just two PBA60 events to go), Barnes won again, giving him three titles on the season, one short of Parker Bohn III. While Barnes won the previous event in Anderson as the top seed, he had to climb the ladder in Jackson, defeating Brian LeClair, Bryan Goebel, Michael Haggit and Jack Jurek on the way.

For the second straight year, Barnes finished second in the PBA50 Bowler of the Year race.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA60 DICK WEBER CLASSIC**

JAX60

Jackson, Michigan

Winner: Ron Mohr (5)

Two PBA60 events, two wins for Ron Mohr in 2022. Mohr defeated John Kirker Jr. for the second consecutive year to successfully defend Mohr's Dick Weber Classic title. The win was Mohr's fifth PBA60 title, an all-time record. No one else, to this point, had ever won more than one.

[Read more](#)

### **PBA60 TRISTAN'S T.A.P.S. MEMORIAL**

Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl

Columbus, Ohio

Winner: Amleto Monacelli (2)

Amleto Monacelli became the first non-Ron Mohr to win more than one PBA60 event in his career, taking the PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial for Monacelli's second PBA60 championship.

[Read more](#)

### **2022 PBA50 TOUR AWARDS**

PBA50 Bowler of the Year: Parker Bohn III

PBA50 Rookie of the Year: Dino Castillo

PBA60 Bowler of the Year: Lennie Boresch Jr.

### **FINAL 2022 PBA50 TOUR POINTS STANDINGS**

1. Parker Bohn III, 39,745
2. Chris Barnes, 37,385
3. Brad Angelo, 28,465
4. Tom Hess, 25,995
5. Dino Castillo, 24,250
6. Lennie Boresch Jr., 23,460
7. Walter Ray Williams Jr., 19,515
8. Tom Adcock, 19,070
9. Jason Couch, 15,590
10. Brian LeClair, 14,740

### **FINAL 2022 PBA50 TOUR EARNINGS**

1. Parker Bohn III, \$62,435
2. Chris Barnes, \$49,400
3. Dino Castillo, \$37,250
4. Brad Angelo, \$35,300
5. Lennie Boresch Jr., \$33,175
6. Tom Hess, \$31,675
7. Walter Ray Williams Jr., \$24,235
8. Tom Adcock, \$21,500

9. Jack Jurek, \$20,450
10. Jason Couch, \$19,400

## **2022 PBA50 TOUR CHAMPIONS**

### **Majors in bold**

*PBA60 events in italics*

PBA50 Lightning Strikes Lanes Open: Brad Angelo (1st PBA50 title)

**Florida Blue Medicare PBA50 National Championship: Parker Bohn III (7)**

PBA50 Granville Financial Open: Chris Barnes (2)

PBA50 Mooresville Open: Parker Bohn III (8)

PBA50 Bud Moore Classic: Dave Johnson (1)

*USBC Super Senior Classic: Ron Mohr (4th PBA60 title)*

**USBC Senior Masters: Dino Castillo (1)**

**PBA Senior U.S. Open presented by Lubbock Sports: Lennie Boresch Jr. (5)**

PBA50 Odessa Open: Walter Ray Williams Jr. (16)

PBA50 Highland Park Lanes Open: Tom Hess (3)

**PBA50 Cup: Parker Bohn III (9)**

PBA50 South Shore Open: John Burkett (1)

PBA50 Spectrum Lanes Open: Parker Bohn III (10)

PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open: Chris Barnes (3)

PBA50 David Small's JAX60 Open: Chris Barnes (4)

*PBA60 Dick Weber Classic: Ron Mohr (5)*

*PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial: Amleto Monacelli (2)*

## **PBA ANNOUNCES ALL STAR CELEBRITY EVENT AND CONCERT: THE JIMMIE ALLEN PBA CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY BOWLERO AIRS SUNDAY, OCT. 16 ON FOX**

*The PBA announces an all-new celebrity event with Jimmie Allen, Darius Rucker, and Terrell Owens, including performances by Allen and fellow country music stars Chris Young and Chuck Wicks, plus more to compete alongside professional bowlers.*

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. - September 13, 2022** - The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) announces a celebrity event to be hosted by GRAMMY nominated, award-winning, multi-platinum recording artist and avid bowler Jimmie Allen. The **Jimmie Allen PBA Challenge presented by Bowlero** will air Oct. 16 on FOX, varying per market, before or after local NFL games.

The event will take place on Oct. 5 at Bowlero Matthews in Matthews, N.C. with a live musical performance beginning at 6 p.m. ET and bowling beginning at 8 p.m. ET. This event will feature performances from some of country music's best talent including Wicks, Young, Neon Union and of course, Allen. In addition to their performances Wicks, Neon Union and Allen will be joined by Owens and Rucker on the lanes.

The country music stars will also be competing alongside PBA Tour stars Pete Weber, Kyle Troup, Sean Rash, Ronnie Russell, and AJ Johnson. Each artist will be paired with a PBA player for a

doubles competition, with the artists bowling the odd-numbered frames and the PBA players bowling the evens. In addition to the main tournament, the event will feature a Celebrity Super Clash, in which each celebrity rolls one shot and the low score is eliminated in each round until only one celebrity remains as the victor.

“Since the moment my friend Cortland Finnegan introduced me to bowling, I’ve been hooked,” said Jimmie Allen. “I’ve been a fan of the PBA for years as a viewer. But I’m excited for the next part of my journey with the PBA, and that is to make bowling a worldwide sport with the same respect that’s given to basketball, baseball, and football.”

Allen discovered his love for bowling during the pandemic, calling it his “pandemic passion”, after being introduced to the sport. He quickly made it a goal to become an expert, bowling several hours a day in different cities while on tour in addition to at home in Nashville. He currently belongs to five bowling leagues and plans to try out for the Professional Bowlers Association in 2023.

Viewers can live stream the PBA on the FOX Sports and FOX Now apps or at FOXSports.com. Select highlights will be available on @FOXSports social handles across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. To purchase tickets and learn more, please visit the link [here](#).

## **PBA REGIONAL PLAYERS INVITATIONAL QUALIFIERS SET TO BEGIN THIS WEEKEND**

### **SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The first PBA Regional Players Invitational (RPI) qualifier event of 2022 begins today in South Glens Falls, N.Y. It will be the first of 14 RPI qualifiers over the next two months.

The RPI will be held Jan. 2-5, 2023 at South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas, featuring 84 PBA and 48 PBA50 athletes.

Each region will send 12 players to the RPI: the season's top eight in points and the top four finishers in its RPI qualifier.

For the PBA50 division, each region will send the top four on the points list and the top three finishers in its RPI qualifier. The PBA50 Northwest Region's RPI qualifier will award two spots.

If a player ranked in the top eight of their respective region earns a berth through an RPI qualifier, the player with the next-most points will qualify through the points list.

The top 50 players from the PBA Tour national points list and the top 10 players from the PBA50 Tour national points list will not be eligible for the RPI. However, a top 10 PBA50 player could be eligible in the standard division, provided they were also outside of the top 50 on the national tour.

Points earned in other PBA and PBA50 regionals will count towards 2022 RPI qualification through Nov. 14.

The full PBA Regional Tour schedule is available [here](#).

The RPI schedule, prize fund and qualifying breakdown is available [here](#).

#### PBA REGION POINTS LEADERS

East: Cody Shoemaker  
Full standings

Central: Graham Fach  
Full standings

Midwest: Benjamin Martinez  
Full standings

South: Trevor Roberts  
Full standings

Southwest: Ildemaro Ruiz Jr.  
Full standings

West: PJ Haggerty  
Full standings

Northwest: Payden Stumpf  
Darren Tang leads but is not eligible for the RPI.  
Full standings

#### CURRENT PBA50 REGION POINTS LEADERS

East: Troy Lint  
Full standings

Central: Michael Haggitt  
Full standings

Midwest: Eugene McCune  
Full standings

South: Darryl Bower  
Full standings

Southwest: Glenn Smith  
Brad Angelo and Chris Barnes lead, but are not eligible for the PBA50 RPI.  
Full standings

West: Rick Meneley  
Full standings

Northwest: Rich Corwin  
Full standings

#### UPCOMING RPI QUALIFIERS

PBA East Region: PBA Kingpins Alley Family Fun Center RPI Open  
Sept. 16-18  
South Glens Falls, New York

PBA50 Southwest Region: PBA50 Waxahachie SW Open  
Sept. 23-25  
Waxahachie, Texas

PBA50 Central Region: PBA50 Mel Westrich Memorial/Brunswick Central Open  
Sept. 30 - Oct. 2  
Delphos, Ohio

PBA Southwest Region: PBA Oklahoma City SW Open  
Sept. 30 - Oct. 2  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

PBA South Region: PBA Strike It Big Oviedo RPI South Open  
Sept. 30 - Oct. 2  
Oviedo, Florida

PBA Central Region: PBA Family Ford Of Bluffton/EZ Bowl Central Open  
Oct. 7-9  
Bluffton, Indiana

PBA50 South Region: PBA50 Jeff Schrum Memorial RPI South Open  
Oct. 7-9  
Gastonia, North Carolina

PBA50 Northwest Region: PBA50 NW Gary Mage Classic  
Oct. 21-23  
Tacoma, Washington

PBA Northwest Region: PBA Jim Kent Memorial  
Oct. 21-23  
Tacoma, Washington

PBA50 Midwest Region: PBA50 Greater Freeport Midwest RPI Open  
Oct. 28-30  
Freeport, Illinois

PBA West Region: PBA South Point Open  
Nov. 4-6  
Las Vegas, Nevada

PBA50 West Region: PBA50 South Point Classic  
Nov. 4-6  
Las Vegas, Nevada

PBA Midwest Region: PBA Plaza Bowl Midwest RPI  
Nov. 4-6  
Clinton, Iowa

PBA50 East Region  
Coming soon

## **ANTHONY NEUER ISN'T DONE MAKING PBA HISTORY SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

It was the shot heard 'round the world: The ball annihilated the 10-pin at the National Bowling Stadium, sending it flying across the deck and onto its final destination atop the 7-pin.

Anthony Neuer made bowling history at the 2021 U.S. Open, becoming the fourth player to convert bowling's most infamous spare on TV and the first in 30 years.

Sporting a red mullet and wielding as much raw power as any player on tour, Neuer became the apple of FOX announcer Rob Stone's eye. "The Ginger Assassin" was born.

The landmark moment transcended into mainstream sports media. Yet for the last 18 months, Neuer has been trying to conceal that spare from his record.

Making the 7-10 involves a tremendous amount of luck, finishing third in the U.S. Open at 18 years old does not.

"I want to be known as something else," he said. "It's really driving me to want to win because I want people to be like, 'Oh, you made the 7-10, but you also have a title.' "

He does not want to be remembered as "the guy who made the 7-10." He wants to be remembered as a champion and ultimately, a Hall of Famer.

While Neuer made his PBA TV debut in the 2021 U.S. Open, that was not his first-time bowling under the bright lights. Back in 2014, he won the inaugural U12 Junior Gold Championships title, kicking off a remarkable Junior Gold career.

In 2017, he returned to TV and finished as the U15 division runner-up. Solomon Salama's 299 game and 553 two-game set proved insurmountable.

Six months later, Neuer secured his first career berth on Junior Team USA. He has earned a spot on the national team in each of past five years and hopes to make a sixth consecutive appearance at Team USA Trials in January.

Neuer turned 16 before Junior Gold in 2018, but the stiffer competition posed little threat. He won the U20 title and became the first boy to win titles in different age divisions.

The next year, he led U20 qualifying by 138 pins and finished tied for ninth.

Neuer began to crave a higher level of competition, feeling like a big fish in a small bowl. After Junior Gold was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic and a brief stint in college that fall, Neuer opted to make the leap to the pro ranks.

"I decided that there was no point in me wasting years not doing what I want," he said. "The tour is what I've been looking forward to my whole life."

Anthony and Alexis Neuer celebrate making Junior Team USA in 2018.



Like many pro athletes, Neuer grew up inundated by the sport. His family runs Imperial Lanes in central Pennsylvania.

"I started bowling as soon as I was old enough," he said. "Standing around watching everybody else do it when you're too young to bowl makes you want to do it."

By virtue of being four years older, his sister Alexis received a head start in the family pastime. It wasn't long before the brother-sister rivalry was off to the races.

"You never want your sibling to be better than you," he said with a sincerity that every brother or sister knows well.

Before long, Anthony moved his sights toward beating his father, Andy.

Andy competed on the PBA Tour during the 1980s and 90s. The journeyman bowled in 176 PBA tournaments before finding the winner's circle.

As the top seed, he won the 1994 PBA Bud Light Hall Of Fame Championship, taking down a prime Walter Ray Williams Jr. to his lone PBA title.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out where Anthony learned to bowl. His game is the modern equivalent of his dad's — less finesse, more power — and their fist pumps are frighteningly similar.

"He was my main coach for a long time, still kind of is," Anthony said. "He was really big on teaching me versatility with my release. I can trick my hand a little bit to make the ball do what it needs to do. That allows me to stay where I'm more comfortable."

Anthony said his dad helped prepare him for life on tour more than anything else. When he joined the tour at 18, he had known to shift his mindset.

"The first two years are a learning experience," he said. "You don't go out there and just expect to win."

Anthony said he caught lightning in a bottle with his U.S. Open performance, capitalizing on matching up with the patterns. He said learning remains the primary focus on a week in, week out basis.

During his PBA education, he said Jakob Butturff and Ryan Ciminelli have taken him under their wing. Neuer said Butturff has become one of his best friends on tour, which made the 7-10 conversion more special because it was against him.

Neuer said he's learned how to read the lanes front-to-back, slow his ball speed down and loft over the fronts more often. The next step of his evolution is applying those skills to combat the early friction left-handers often face.

He saw that early friction at the Chesapeake super regional against fellow southpaw Eric Jones. Neuer's solution that day was switching from urethane to reactive. While the move did not pay off that day, he said it's all part of the learning process.

That match between 18- and 20-year-olds perhaps offered a glimpse at a future PBA telecast.

In his second season on tour, Neuer showed steady improvement and more consistency.

He didn't reach any championship rounds, though he came just 31 pins shy PBA David Small's Best of the Best Championship with a fifth-place finish. He later added three more top-25 finishes.

Overall, Neuer finished 59th in points, not far behind PBA major titleists Graham Fach, Thomas Larsen and Parker Bohn III, who has been another mentor throughout Neuer's career.

Now that he's gotten his feet wet on tour, he's ready to dive in.

"I'm hoping to use the knowledge I've learned going into my third year," he said. "Now that I've got a year or two under my belt, I'm thinking I've figured it out pretty good now. Expectations have gone back up."

Only four father-son duos have won PBA titles: Dick and Pete Weber; Don and Jimmy Johnson; Don and Eugene McCune; and Guppy and Kyle Troup.

"That's a pretty narrow list," Anthony said. "It'd be pretty cool to join that list."

"It would be great," Andy said. "This sport is something I've loved my whole life and I just feel very fortunate and thankful that both my kids love the sport as much."

Andy pointed out that Alexis finished sixth in a PWBA tournament last year, and wants to see both of his kids win professional titles.

In 2023, Anthony aims to return to TV. Down the road, he wants to reach the Hall of Fame.

"10 titles or five with two majors," he said. "That's the long-term goal."

## **THE 2022 GUARANTEED RATE PBA TOUR: BY THE NUMBERS SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The 2022 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season featured all kinds of compelling statistics.

Jason Belmonte won five titles. Anthony Simonsen won two majors. EJ Tackett averaged 225.27 to lead the tour. Kris Prather left 872 9-pins. (Trust me on that last one.)

But any fool could find those numbers on the internet. I wanted to dig deeper — I wanted to find stats only a fool with the internet and basic knowledge of Excel could discover.

What was the average score in championship round wins? What was the highest scoring telecast? The lowest? Who threw the most strikes on the left lane on patterns between 39- and 41-feet on Tuesday afternoons?

Some of these stats shed new light on a player's season or reveal riveting insights into a telecast. Others are simply interesting. Either way, you'll learn something new about the 2022 season.

2

the number of pins Keven Williams by which missed the show of the PBA Players Championship - Southwest Region Qualifier

The 2022 season began with a gut punch for Keven Williams. After making the regional show in 2021, Williams looked poised to return through 27.9 frames.

He needed one more strike to secure the final spot on the show. The 8-pin had other ideas. The two-pin deficit was the narrowest margin by which any player missed a championship round this season.

The bowling gods would ultimately return the favor. Later in the season, Williams had a chance to claim his first career PBA Tour title, needing two strikes and nine pins to shut out AJ Chapman.

That time, the pins cooperated. He threw all three strikes, securing his first career PBA Tour title by a margin of... two pins.

6.4

Tommy Jones's average finish in majors

Jones may not have won a major title in 2022, but he was the tour's second most consistent player.

The 43-year-old opened the year with a fifth place at the Players Championship, obliterating the South Region by 293 pins to reach the finals. He followed that performance up with sixth at the U.S. Open, fifth at the Tournament of Champions and third at the World Championship.

His lowest major finish of the season came at the Masters, where he fell to Simonsen (the top qualifier and eventual champion) in the second round of the bracket. Jones won three more matches to finish tied for 13th.

It's hard to believe the Hall of Famer hasn't won a major since 2007. He seems poised to end that drought sooner rather than later.

20-4

Jason Belmonte's record in championship round matches

Statistically speaking, a player's odds of winning a single-game match should be similar to winning a coin flip. Ten frames is a small sample size and results are therefore highly susceptible to variance. The odds shift in the favor of the game's top talents, but not to a significant degree.

And yet, that fella from Australia won 20 of 24 matches, an 83% clip. Dom Barrett, Simonsen, Prather and Jones, the next four winningest players, won a combined 19 championship round matches.

Belmonte won his first eight matches of the season while averaging 243. On the year, he averaged 239.59 under the lights.

Just one player had a higher singles winning percentage on TV: the aforementioned Williams, who bowled (and won) one game.

0

the number of singles matches won in the championship round by EJ Tackett

Tackett made seven singles shows in 2022: Players Midwest Region Qualifier, U.S. Open, Kokomo, Scorpion, Lubbock, Playoffs and Tour Finals. He lost his first match each time. (In the Playoffs, Tackett split the two-game match with Jesper Svensson but lost the roll-off.)

The 30-year-old has earned somewhat of a reputation for struggling on TV. But looking solely at his win-loss record ignores all context and nuance.

He averaged 208 across eight championship round games while his opponents averaged 239. But those eight games represent about two percent of his season.

Leading the tour in average over nearly 400 games is more indicative of Tackett's success this season than any eight-game sample, even if those eight games came on TV.

If you change a single shot — when Tackett left a stone-9 in his 10th frame, then Belmonte doubled to win the Lubbock Sports Open title — the entire complexion of his season changes.

While Tackett struggled in singles shows, he had one of the season's best TV performances at the Roth/Holman Doubles.

246.60

Jesper Svensson's average at the PBA David Small's Best of the Best Championship, the highest of any No. 1 seed.

Svensson rolled 300 in Game 2 of the season's first Storm Cup event and never let off the gas. He closed the opening six-game block with games of 279, 269 and 279.

After 20 games and three advancer rounds, he finished at +932 for 20 games to earn the top seed for the stepladder. Despite his evisceration of the pins, Nick Pate finished just six pins behind Svensson.

In the title match against Packy Hanrahan, Svensson rolled a ho-hum 248 to capture the title, the 11th of his young career.

\$15,000

Thomas Larsen's total earnings

After a 2021 season in which Larsen captured a career-defining victory at the USBC Masters, he struggled in 2022. He earned just one top-20 finish — exactly 20th at the Tournament of Champions — and ranked 55th in points.

Honestly, I just thought it was cool his season earnings were a round number.

210

the difference in points between Kyle Sherman and Brad Miller

Sherman perhaps earned bragging rights by finishing juuuust ahead of his co-vlogger. Miller's thrilling run at the Masters, resulting in a third-place finish, closed the gap and secured his PBA Playoffs berth.

\$3,260

the difference in earnings between Brad Miller and Kyle Sherman

Miller's performance at the Masters also helped close the gap in earnings. Miller surged ahead of Sherman at the PBA League, where Sherman did not compete due to an injury.

1

the difference in titles between Kyle Sherman and Brad Miller

Well, we needed a tiebreaker! To the victor go the spoils, or however that saying goes.

241.47

the average score in championship round wins

In case you needed a reminder, these guys are the best in the world. Average winning scores topped 250 eight times, twice as often as they dipped below 220.

They saved their best for last, as the two highest scoring shows were the championship matches of the Tour Finals and Kia PBA Playoffs. Kyle Troup averaged 265 in his 3-1 defeat of Jones in the Playoffs Finals, while Belmonte averaged 267.5 in the Tour Finals Championship.

Scores were higher in part due to the players breaking the lanes down themselves and seeing transition first-hand, but 265+ averages are nothing to scoff at.

208.96

the average score in championship round losses

It only made sense to show you both sides of the coin. Losing scores dropped below 200 eight times, and exceeded 220 seven times.

Losing scores were the lowest in the Scorpion Championship, where players averaged just 182.75. (More on that show later.)

Note: These figures include all games from the Playoffs and Tour Finals. For example, Jones beat Troup 279-201 in Game 3 of the PBA Playoffs Finals. Troup won the match, but Jones's Game 3 score counts as a win.

249.25

the average score on the first Playoffs Quarterfinals show, the highest of any telecast

The Kia PBA Playoffs featured five of the seven highest scoring telecasts — that's what happens when the game's best collide. The first quarterfinals show was the highest of them all: Troup, Bill O'Neill, Barrett and Prather averaged nearly 250 combined.

Troup and Prather didn't give their opponents any breathing room, sweeping their Race to Two matches while averaging 260. O'Neill and Barrett averaged 238.5 combined, the highest losing average by almost 10 pins. In fact, Barrett shot 248-268 and lost both games.

If it wasn't for Troup and O'Neill's second game (205-202), this could've been one of the highest scoring telecasts in PBA history. Even if they both shot 300, however, it wouldn't have sniffed the 276.50 collective average at the 1996 Flagship Open.

224

the highest score on the Masters telecast

There are plenty of statistical quirks to discuss with the Masters show. The collective average of 199.88 was the season's lowest and the only one below 200. The last three matches were decided by a combined seven pins.

But the single weirdest statistic from the Masters was that AJ Johnson shot the highest game on the show and did not win his match. He tied with Brad Miller at 224, but lost the roll-off.

67.50, 53.25

the average margin of victory in the PBA Players Championship - West Region Qualifier and Scorpion Championship

No, these aren't Alabama football's margins of victory from recent wins over Louisiana-Monroe and Utah State. (Though they are very similar.)

Notice anything similar about those two tournaments? They were both shows in which Belmonte climbed the stepladder to win.

Belmonte averaged 254.75 and 236 while his opponents averaged 187.25 and 182.75, respectively. He's an alien.

A similarly large margin of victory happened in the Roth/Holman Doubles, where Tackett and Marshall Kent averaged a 249-199 win in four matches.

Anecdotally, this makes sense. When one player/team has a great look on a challenging pattern, it is difficult for an oncoming player/team to quickly figure out the lanes and take them down.

∞

the number of collective tears shed watching Norm Duke's final shot

After Wes Malott locked up the Elias Cup for the Portland Lumberjacks, the anchor stepped aside to let Duke cap off his PBA career. It took everything he had but Duke, of course, delivered a parting gift for the ages.

There aren't words to properly describe that moment, one sports fans will remember for a long, long time.

## **ROLLINS, NEUER, SHOEMAKER AND GALLI AWARDED FIRST 2022 RPI BERTHS SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

The number of regional tournaments once again climbed into the double-digits over the previous half-month. Ten more tournaments took place all across the United States, including the first national Regional Players Invitational qualifier in the East Region. The Upstate New York tournament determined the first four bowlers who will move onto the RPI, which will be held Jan. 2-5., 2023 in Las Vegas.

Jake Rollins won the title in South Glens Falls, while Anthony Neuer, Cody Shoemaker, and Ryan Galli also earned RPI entries.

Read more below to see who else took home a title in the past two weeks.

### **PBA50 HARRAH'S CHEROKEE/ULTRASTAR MULTI-TAINMENT CENTER OPEN**

Just one bowler went plus in qualifying in Cherokee, N.C., and that was Darryl Bower. He snagged the top seed and a double-bye and made good use of it.

Bower first defeated Ben Snyder and then took down Jonathan Cross to get to the final match. Mac Sanders would be Bower's final opponent after Sanders just defeated Tom Baker 193-162. Sanders held a 19-pin lead through six frames after Bower's second open, but Sanders left the door open after a split in the 9th frame.

Bower then stepped up and delivered a turkey to shut out Sanders and ultimately take the win 197-170. Bower picked up his 20th career regional title and second of the season.

#### PBA50 Harrah's Cherokee/UltraStar Multi-Tainment Center Open Final Standings

Darryl Bower, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Mac Sanders, 1,500, \$1,100  
Tom Baker 1,150, \$820  
Jonathan Cross, 950, \$820  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA South Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA KLAMATH FALLS OPEN

Scores boomed out west at the Klamath Falls Open in Oregon as bowlers competed on the short Cheetah pattern. Jake Peters led the way at +262, while Daria Pajak grabbed the last spot at +117. Pajak had the best record of the day when match play came around at 10-1 to move up to 3rd place with position round remaining.

Peters maintained the top spot, holding a 64-pin lead with a game to go. He held on in the final round to take the win over Warren Crawford 235-227 to earn his sixth career regional title and second of the season.

#### PBA Klamath Falls Open Final Standings

Jake Peters, 2,500 points, \$2,200  
Warren Crawford, \$1,350  
Evan Nash, 1,150, \$1,100  
Daria Pajak, 950, \$925  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA Northwest and West Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA50 KLAMATH FALLS LEGENDS CLASSIC

Jeffrey Polson thought he was bowling in the younger division because his +225 score would have safely put him inside the Klamath Falls Open cut. Instead, he led the PBA50 division by over 100 pins, and it stayed that way through the majority of match play.

After 11 games of match play, Polson accumulated a near 200-pin lead to cruise into position round. He lost his final match, but it didn't matter as he still snagged his first career regional title and \$2,000 to go with it.

#### PBA50 Klamath Falls Legends Classic Final Standings

Jeffrey Polson, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Shawn Horenberger, 1,500, \$1,300

David Leverage, 1,150, \$1,050  
Kevin Croucher, 950, \$925  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA50 Northwest and West Region points leaders.

#### PBA BOSS SNOW PLOWS/O'BRIEN AUTO/RADICAL CENTRAL OPEN

Scores were also high out in Fishers, Ind. at Pinheads. Zach Weidman led the way at +330 for eight games, with Brendon Miller and Jeffery Mann close behind at +293 and +271.

The top-12 moved into bracket play, and each of the top four qualifiers who earned a bye also won their first match to advance to the semifinals. Weidman delivered a 278 and 245 to defeat Zeke Bayt, while Mann shot a 250 and 279 to take down Brendon Miller. In the end, Weidman knocked off Mann to earn his second career title.

#### PBA Boss Snow Plows/O'Brien Auto/Radical Central Open Final Standings

Zach Weidman, 2,500 points, \$2,600  
Jeffery Mann, 1,500, \$1,400  
Zeke Bayt, 1,150, \$1,100  
Brendon Miller, 950, \$1,100  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA Central Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA50 J.D. PRODUCING, INC./TRIWAY LANES CENTRAL OPEN

Now in the Midwest Region, 35 seniors came out for a chance to win a title in Wooster, Ohio. Charles Ferrell led the way in qualifying at +249, but Jeff Johnson was just four pins behind, and there was plenty of bowling left. After 12 games of match play, Dean Mueller grabbed the one-seed, Johnson took the two, Michael Haggitt with the three, and Ferrell at four.

In the stepladder, Haggitt defeated Ferrell in the first match 235-193 but dropped the next game to Johnson in a close one, 231-226. Johnson didn't make the final round nearly as close, delivering 279 to Mueller's 207 to pick up his third regional title.

#### PBA50 J.D. Producing, Inc./Triway Lanes Central Open Final Standings

Jeff Johnson, 2,500 points, \$1,500  
Dean Mueller, 1,500, \$1,000  
Michael Haggitt, 1,150, \$900  
Charles Ferrell, \$800  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA50 Central Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA TOM LIME RE/MAX LAKE OF THE OZARKS MIDWEST NEVER FORGET OPEN

Forty-three bowlers traveled to Osage Beach, Missouri, for the two-day event, where Nick Pate sat on top after the first day. He stayed on top for the next two advancers rounds, with Kevin McCune in second, Benjamin Martinez in third, and Phillip Watson in fourth behind him to grab those stepladder seeds.



Martinez eventually ran the table, taking down Watson 234-227, McCune 258-208, and Pate 238-217. Martinez now owns three titles this season and a 2,000-point lead over McCune.

#### PBA Tom Lime RE/MAX Lake of the Ozarks Midwest Never Forget Open Final Standings

Benjamin Martinez, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Nick Pate, 1,500, \$1,500  
Kevin McCune, 1,150, \$1,100  
Phillip Watson, 950, \$900  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA Midwest Region points leaders [here](#).

#### PBA FORT MEADE CHALLENGE (NON-CHAMPIONS) PRESENTED BY AUTO SPA EXPRESS

It was a quick one-day event for the 30 titleless bowlers who traveled out to Fort Meade, Md. as everyone started with just six games of qualifying. Sam DeWitt III averaged almost 240 to take the top spot in the eight-man bracket, while David Gilliam took the final position at +49.

In the finals, the two-seed Michael Mirabile and five-seed Nate Trentler faced off, both looking for their first regional title. In a close match, Trentler emerged victorious 190-185 to earn a banner and \$1,400.

#### PBA Fort Meade Challenge (Non-Champions) presented by Auto Spa Express Final Standings

Nate Trentler, \$1,400  
Michael Mirabile, \$765  
Samuel DeWitt III, \$625  
William Little, \$625  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA KINGPINS ALLEY FAMILY FUN CENTER RPI OPEN (RPI QUALIFIER)

For the first RPI qualifier of the season, 76 players came out to grab an early spot for South Point, but only four walked away with an entry. Bowlers rolled eight games as the top 24 and ties moved onto the first advancers round.

Three advancer rounds followed qualifying to determine the four RPI berths and stepladder finalists. Jake Rollins, Bill O'Neill, Cody Shoemaker, and Anthony Neuer advanced into the stepladder, while the latter two faced off in the first match. Neuer won the first match, 266-209, and then narrowly defeated O'Neill 193-190. In the end, Rollins took down Neuer 225-145 to take the title and \$2,500.

Rollins, Neuer, and Shoemaker earned spots into the RPI, along with fifth-place Ryan Galli. O'Neill finished 16th on the PBA National Tour in points, which made him ineligible for the RPI.

#### PBA Kingpins Alley Family Fun Center RPI Open (RPI Qualifier) Final Standings

Jake Rollins, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Anthony Neuer, 1,500, \$1,300  
Bill O'Neill, 1,150, \$1,150  
Cody Shoemaker 950, \$1,000  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA East Region points leaders [here](#).

## PBA PHOENIX OPEN PRESENTED BY VIRTUE BOWLING SUPPLY

Hopefully Bowlero Mesa has insurance because the scores blew the roof off. Jakob Butturff averaged 251 on the day, and Eddie VanDaniker was close behind at +350, which included a 299 and 300 game.

After the advancer and match play rounds, Butturff remained on top, VanDaniker Jr stayed in second, but Kyle Duster grabbed the third seed. Duster won the opening match 237-162. In a close final match, where both bowlers doubled in the tenth, Duster won 235-231. He took home his fourth career regional title and now sits eighth in points in the West region.

### PBA Phoenix Open presented by Virtue Bowling Supply Final Standings

Kyle Duster, 2,500 points, \$2,900

Jakob Butturff, 1,500, \$1,800

Eddie VanDaniker Jr., \$1,400

Lanndyn Carnate, 950, \$1,200

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

View the PBA West Region points leaders [here](#).

## PBA WABASH LANES MEMBER/NON-MEMBER DOUBLES CENTRAL OPEN PRESENTED BY MPS MANUFACTURING

Finally in New Philadelphia, Ohio, 32 doubles teams aimed for the top eight spots after eight games. Jean Perez and non-member Jalen Mosley found the top spot, averaging almost 235 as a team.

After winning their first two matches, they matched up against Dave Wodka and Frank Testa in the finals. In a best of five match, they got the best of their opponents, winning in four games. Perez now owns two regional titles, both coming in Ohio.

### PBA Wabash Lanes Member/Non Member Doubles Central Open presented by MPS Manufacturing Final Standings

Jean Perez/Jalen Mosley, \$5,000

Dave Wodka/Frank Testa, \$2,700

Patrick Dombrowski/Dan Higgins Jr., \$1,900

Justin Bohn/Parker Bohn III, \$1,900

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The next batch RPI qualifiers will take place over the next couple of weeks, starting with the PBA50 Southwest Region this weekend, then the PBA Southwest Region and the PBA50 Central Region the following weekend.

Keep track of all the PBA regional action [here](#).

## **PATIENCE AND AGGRESSION KEY TO NICK PATE'S NEXT EVOLUTION**

### **SEPTEMBER 24, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

If you were to dream of winning your first PBA Tour title, you would probably imagine something like this:

You average almost 222 to earn the No. 3 seed for the stepladder. In the opening match, you draw Anthony Simonsen, who won the U.S. Open about 10 days earlier. But you're not intimidated, you've been waiting for this opportunity your entire life. You take care of Simo 237-226.

Your reward for taking down the 25-year-old superstar? EJ Tackett, you know, the guy who just led the U.S. Open by over 500 pins. No problem there, either. 237's a winner once again.

Now, you're in the finals. Your first ever national tour title sits just 10 frames away. You can see the trophy sitting on that little table a few feet from your chair.

But first, you must defeat the one man who stands in between you and destiny: Jason Belmonte, the winningest player of the modern era. To be the best, you have to beat the best. Bring it on.

It's a back-and-forth, high-scoring affair. Belmo fires the front-six, but you throw the front-seven! Then transition hits and you miss the move. After an open frame in the 8th and a spare in the 9th, Belmonte can shut you out with a double. You need some help.

The Australian delivers the first strike, because of course he does. The second one looks good, too, but the 6-pin wraps around the 10. Wait, no! Here comes the messenger... just in front of the 10. There's your opening.

You're now two strikes away from your first ever PBA title. (You'll also need eight pins on the fill, but you can get that with your eyes closed. Just ask Dom Barrett.) This is the moment you've always dreamed of.

The first shot is good, really good, probably the best you've ever thrown in your life. You sent all 10 pins straight back like Jadeveon Clowney dismantled that poor Michigan running back. One strike away now.

The second shot doesn't look much different, maybe a tad right, but it's pretty good. Good enough to strike, for sure, or so you thought. The 10-pin decided it wasn't good enough. 249-243, Belmo. Second place will have to do. Maybe next time.

If I was going to win my title, that would have been the one to remember for a long time — Nick Pate

As you may have surmised, that anecdote was reality for Nick Pate. As the 27-year-old Minnesotan enters his sixth season on the national tour, the 2022 PBA David Small's Kokomo Open is the closest he's come to the PBA mountaintop.

When he reflects on that tournament, coming fractions of an inch away from securing the elusive victory, he doesn't dwell on the 10-pin leave.

"I actually took it as positive right away," he said. "I talked to my girlfriend probably an hour after that show, and I was just smiling.

"The fact that I was able to throw one for the title," he added, "I'm grateful to have been in that situation and to put the ball where it needed to be. You hope you can be in that position and hope one day that it will fall."

Seven months removed from that tournament, the 10th frame isn't the one that comes to Pate's mind. It's the 7th frame, where he said Belmonte left a 4-pin off a pretty good shot. In hindsight, Pate said he should have moved before his next shot on that lane. If he does, he probably gets a mark instead of an open and then doesn't need to double in the 10th.

Pate said he doesn't tend to think about the 10-pin. Instead, he focuses on positive takeaways: making the show, defeating Simonsen and Tackett, leading in the title match. I made a mistake against Belmonte, and I still had a chance to win.

"It was definitely one of those experiences that [makes you think] I do belong out here. I can strike with the best," he said.

Nick Pate made his TV debut at the 2020 Go Bowling! PBA Indianapolis Open, finishing third.

While Pate grew up in a bowling family — furiously working to prove his superiority over his siblings, Lauren and Josh — he didn't blossom until he arrived at Midland University in 2013. He made the varsity team as a freshman and began working with senior Perry Crowell, who helped transform his game. He said Crowell, who made the 2020 U.S. Open show, still helps him to this day.

As a sophomore, Pate was named a First Team All-American alongside Michael and Darren Tang, Nick Kruml and François Lavoie. Graham Fach and AJ Johnson made the Second Team. He led Midland to the Intercollegiate Team Championships, earning MVP honors despite their loss to Wichita State.

(To further emphasize the collegiate talent boom during the mid-2010s, the Shockers started Mitch Hupé, Matt McNiel, AJ Chapman and Lavoie. What a time to be alive.)

In 2017, Pate announced himself as a force. He kicked off the year with a seventh place finish at Team USA Trials, earning his first career berth on the national team. Four months later, he captured the Intercollegiate Singles Championship title. He also earned his second First Team All-American honor and was named the season's MVP.

Since college Pate has shined as a member of Team USA. Over the past four years, he has tallied five gold and two silver medals in international competition and rolled a pair of 300 games in 2019.

On the PBA Tour, he has shown steady improvement while fighting the steep learning curve. His growth hasn't followed the linear trajectory that it did in college, but that's life. With only so many titles to go around and a handful of generational talents making it all the more challenging to pry one away, he said he has learned to have a patient, yet aggressive mindset.

In 2022, the right-hander took second place in Kokomo, third at the PBA David Small's Best of the Best Championship — where he averaged over 246 across 20 games of qualifying to earn the No. 2 seed — and sixth at the PBA Colorado Springs Open. Pate said he wouldn't call his 2022 season a breakout, but he took a clear step in the right direction.

"It's one of those seasons that gets me excited for the next one," Pate said. "I want to build off of that. There's definitely room for improvement."

Pate's best performances last season all occurred in Storm Cup events. He said the shorter blocks and frequent re-oils played to his strengths.

"I definitely like to bowl on the fresh," he said. "I like to use surface, throw it a little bit harder and keep my angles in front of me. I can still bowl on the burn and get around it, but I feel like I strike a little bit more in games 1-2-3."

He finished the season 21st in points, about 2,000 points shy of making the Kia PBA Playoffs. You can find those points anywhere, most obviously in that match against Belmonte; if the 10-pin carries, Pate's in.

"That's the ultimate goal when you bowl the tour season because it rewards a full season's worth of good bowling," he said. "To miss by few thousand points the last few years, it really hurts. I made it in 2020 when (the field) was 24, but I want to get back there."

From the glass half-full perspective, Pate finished 21st without doing much of anything in the majors. He totaled 1,425 points in majors, 855 of which came via a 25th place finish at the World Championship. He did not qualify for the Tournament of Champions and missed the U.S. Open for a wedding.

Overall, just 14.8% of Pate's total points came from majors. Compare that to Bill O'Neill, who earned the 16th and final spot in the playoffs: O'Neill racked up almost 6,000 points in majors, comprising 51.5% of his total points.

The solution seems so simple. Just bowl better at majors! But it doesn't take an expert to know that's easier said than done. Majors are longer, the patterns are harder (usually) and the competition is stronger.

Pate has all the tools to take the next step — well, except for lofting beyond the arrows, but he's working on that — and dedicates himself to consistent strength and conditioning training. That allows him to stay sharp during a grueling tour season where players often bowl multiple blocks of six-eight games per day.

He recalled one instance during the second block of a two-a-day back in March: "Belmo came up to me in Lubbock and he's like, 'Man, I'm tired.' I said 'Really? I could go another eight more.'

Belmonte, despite battling fatigue, went on to win that tournament. It's a perfect example of how the mental game matters as much, if not more, than the physical game at this level.

"I can train myself to outlast the field physically, but I'm training to outlast them mentally, too," Pate said.

Since Team USA camp last month, Pate has been utilizing a new mental performance program. He said the team has worked with Brian Cain, the author of the program, in the past but it clicked this time. He saw immediate results, winning his first tournament and adding a handful of top-five finishes.

"You can be as sharp as you want physically, but ultimately it comes down to having that elite mindset, controlling what you can control and not letting outside distractions interfere," he said. "I can't wait to try it out on tour. It's going to work."

Pate has a lengthy checklist for 2023: winning his first title, returning to Team USA, defending his medals at the Pan American Games and making the playoffs. It's a long list, but he said it's attainable if he puts the work in.

In 2017, he made the leap from solid college player to undeniable force and has remained one of the country's top players for more than half a decade. It feels like only a matter of time before he elevates at the pro level.

"If you want something, you have to go out and work hard for it," he said. "This is my sixth year on tour. I'm hungry to win, but I'm going to stay patient. I'm going to put all my all my effort into getting that first title."

## **PBA VETERANS DAY CLASSIC TO HONOR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Whether he was stationed in Alaska or deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, Michael Romero had bowling on his mind.

He would practice his footwork and visualize his release while walking between barracks. He said he jumped out of an airplane for a living, but his heart lied on the lanes, even if finding time to practice proved difficult during his seven years in the Army.

"I still considered myself bowling because I still lived it," Romero said. "It was still in my heart and still in my blood."

Romero said he left the military with a medical discharge in 2011 and now lives in Seaside, Calif.

Between starting a new job and raising his children, making time to compete remains a challenge. When he heard about a PBA regional taking place on Veterans Day weekend (Nov. 11-13), he knew he would have to be there.

"If there's any tournament that I want to do, it's going to be that one," Romero said. "I hold true to my military service. I have jerseys that are camouflage or red, white and blue. I felt it was right when Josh announced it."

Tournament director Josh Blanchard said the PBA Veterans Day Classic is the first PBA tournament to honor veterans and active duty service members and provide a discounted entry fee for them. He said it took about a year to plan and secure funding.

The event will be held just south of Seattle at Joint Base Lewis-McChord — the same base where Steve DeSordi said he last competed while on active duty.

DeSordi, 57, served in the Air Force for over 30 years before retiring in April 2020. In 1994, he said his base team from Alaska won the Military Classic in Las Vegas. He said he competes with Air Force members in the USBC Open Championships as well; at one point, he was organizing four teams each year.

He said the Air Force holds team trials each year, which determine a roster to send to the Armed Forces Championships to compete against the best bowlers from other military branches. He said he made the All-Air Force team three times, winning the individual championship in 2005 and shooting the first known 300 in the event's history in 2006.

DeSordi stopped bowling in 2016, but decided to return in January because he missed his friends in the bowling community. He bowled in a few PBA50 events as a non-member earlier this season, but loved the environment and competition so he joined the PBA earlier this month.

"Because it's a Veterans Day event and the PBA is going to recognize military members, I have to go," DeSordi said. "(I feel like) it's my duty to honor other military members and veterans."

DeSordi joked he may be out-gunned by the kids competing, but will make the trip from his home in Oregon to Washington.

Entries will remain open for the PBA Veterans Classic until two weeks before the event or the roster is filled. Active duty and veteran military members looking to compete can email Blanchard (JBlanchard@pba.com) to receive the discount.

Blanchard said Friday's Pro-Am is only open to military families who live on the base, which holds over 100,000 active duty and family members according to its website. He added there will be a women's event running alongside the PBA regional.

Additionally, all veterans and active service members will be honored during the event. The two highest military members outside of the final cash spot will receive \$275.

Learn more about the PBA Veterans Day Classic [here](#).

## **REMEMBERING TONY REYES AND HIS EVERLASTING SMILE**

OCTOBER 3, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

Perhaps no smile shined brighter on the PBA Tour than that of Tony Reyes. His smile — that "everlasting, fun-loving smile" as Parker Bohn III described it — never illuminated the world more so than on Nov. 5, 2006.

Reyes made the show at the PBA Motor City Classic, seeking his first career title. He bowled a 299 in the position round to earn the No. 2 seed.

The 33-year-old drew Bohn III in the semifinal. Bohn III's 30 titles dwarfed Reyes's zero, but a first-time viewer would've never known watching Reyes's glowing bravado.

Prior to that season, his ninth on the tour, Reyes rededicated himself to his career after his father passed away in a tragic accident. Wearing his dad's lucky ring and a black Hammer jersey splattered with the Denny's logo, Reyes opened the teased the crowd with a slight grin. He meant business on that day.

He rolled a Hammer Hawg Zilla over the first arrow for an opening strike. He did the same in the 2nd frame. Then again in the 3rd, and the 4th, and the 5th, and all the way through the 9th frame.

Robert Smith was one of Reyes's closest friends on tour. He said they had competed against each other on the California junior circuit since they were 14 and became good friends by 16.

Smith said Reyes often sat in the TV production truck during telecasts. He said Reyes's job was to log the timestamps of potential replays and advise the producers on which replays to use. Smith said he filled in for Reyes on that show, and quickly learned how those on the truck felt about Reyes.

"Tony was the TV crew's favorite, hands down," Smith said. "The way they were treating it when Tony was going for 300, it was really awesome to see people high up in different professions really look to him as one of the guys."

As Reyes stepped up for his 10th frame, Smith will never forget the energy in the truck.

"I can remember, clear as day, (the director) pointing directions out to each of the camera guys on the lanes," Smith said before paraphrasing: "You do this, you do that — and everybody else shut the f--- up so Tony can shoot 300!"

Reyes went on to defeat Wes Malott for his first career title. After striking in the 10th to secure the win, he pointed to his dad's lucky ring and said "That's for Dad."

For the last decade, the PBA Tour has been a little dimmer without Reyes's smile. In September 2012, Tony Reyes died in a car accident near his hometown.

"It's been 10 years, but man it's crazy to think it's been that long," Smith said. "Mike Edwards, Brian Himmler, Jimmie Johnson and me, we still talk about him quite a bit. It's almost like he's still around a little bit."

Lindsey Wong grew up bowling in the San Jose area with Reyes. They met as junior bowlers and bowled at San Jose State University together before becoming business partners. More than anything, Wong remembers Reyes's willingness to help other people.

He runs an annual PBA regional in Reyes' name. He said Reyes launched the tournament several years earlier in honor of Don Johnson and held silent auctions and fundraising to fight against juvenile diabetes.

When Reyes passed away, Wong renamed the tournament in Reyes's honor. A few years later, they modified the tournament to a doubles format to honor Terry Leong as well.

"(Tony) always went out of his way to make everybody feel welcome at the event," Wong said. "I've tried to do the same."

PJ Haggerty and Rich Corwin won the 2022 PBA Tony Reyes/Terry Leong Memorial Jr./Sr. Doubles.

On the lanes, Reyes was a late bloomer. Wong and Smith agreed Reyes wasn't very good as a junior bowler. Wong said Reyes was a goofy kid who always ran out shots and didn't take the game super seriously.

The goofiness would never change, but Reyes did begin to take bowling more seriously at San Jose State.

"When he got to college, he got good — and he also got a little crazy," said Smith, who bowled at San Diego State for one season in 1993. "We wouldn't even give them high-fives because they were trying to break our hands."

In 1992, Reyes's freshman season, Wong said San Jose State qualified for ITC nationals for the first time in forever. For a team with a bunch of "no-name guys," Wong said, the Spartans stunned the field by making the stepladder finals.

He said Wichita State stars like Chris Barnes and David Garber took note of Reyes, even imitating his run-outs and fist pumps.

San Jose State finished third at ITC nationals in 1991-92.



Wong said San Jose State returned to ITC nationals in 1993 with almost the same roster; the only change was Wong shifting to an assistant coaching role after graduating. Once again, the Spartans sat near the top of the standings. This time, few were surprised.

After the first day of the tournament, Wong said Reyes and one of the freshmen were goofing around in the hotel room, as college students often do.

"Tony was chasing after him and he jumped from one bed to the other, slipped and fell off and landed on his right ankle," Wong said. "We thought he sprained it, but as we later found out, he basically broke it."

He said the team loaded Reyes up with enough ibuprofen to put a hole in his stomach and the women's team coach wrapped his ankle as tight as possible. For the rest of the tournament, Reyes adjusted his approach by shortening his steps to minimize the pain.

Despite their best player battling a serious injury, the Spartans returned to the stepladder finals. They defeated William Paterson, the defending national champions, in the first match.

Though San Jose State fell to a Wichita State juggernaut in the championship, Reyes was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

"Everybody knew his situation, where he basically broke his ankle, bowled on one foot for the rest of the tournament, and led us to a second place finish at the national championship," Wong said.

Jason Couch, Patrick Allen, Lindsey Wong, Greg Thompson II and Tony Reyes pose at the pro shop Reyes and Wong owned together.

Greg Thompson II worked with Reyes at Off the Sheet Pro Shop in San Jose's 4th Street Bowl. Thompson II said they met bowling on tour around the time of Reyes's win and they quickly became close friends. That was usually how it went with Reyes.

"He never met a stranger," Thompson II said. "You just immediately felt like your best friends with him."

Thompson II said Reyes meant "everything" to him, describing him as his big brother. When they first met, Thompson II lived in Ohio and worked at a pro shop. He said Reyes knew his boss — Reyes knew everybody — and soon made Thompson II an offer he couldn't refuse.

"He asked me if I wanted to move to California and run his pro shop," Thompson II said. "He wanted to keep going on tour, but he needed someone to manage the shop. He paid for me to move out to California. He gave me a place to live, gave me a job."

Thompson II said he worked at Off The Sheet from 2008 until 2014, including with Reyes on the night of his death.

He said Reyes proudly displayed the iconic Hawg Zilla in the shop. When customers asked about the ball or his pro career, Thompson II said Reyes had a favorite answer, which he always said while flashing his timeless smile: "I'm the most famous one-time titleist ever."

"It's not even a joke: It's the God's honest truth," Smith said. "He is the most famous one-time titleist in the history of the PBA. It didn't matter where we went, he was loved by everybody."

"Everybody knew who he was, even though he never had the titles to go along with it," Wong said. "What you saw was really who he was all the time."

"What you saw was really who he was all the time," Wong said.

Though his pro career lasted just 14 years, Reyes left an indelible legacy on the PBA Tour.

Bohn III said Reyes would've won more titles had the opportunity been available. It's easy to look at the years Reyes lost and wonder what could have been, but the "what if" questions only make his lone victory all the more meaningful.

One moment to share his talent and charisma, his smile and laugh with the world. One memory to be shared with bowling fans for eternity. One win for his dad.

Every year on the anniversary of his death, Thompson II and many of Reyes's closest friends reconvene in a virtual "Toast to Tony." Carl Ong, another of Reyes's close friends, organized the event in 2013. Friends and family reminisce about Reyes, sharing stories of his extraordinary life.

Beyond anything Reyes achieved in bowling, he will be remembered for who he was off the lanes. From his brilliant smile, to his willingness to help, to his hippie roots, to his laugh. Oh, his laugh — the one so "ridiculously loud and obnoxious" Smith said it could wake the dead.

"He's bigger than life," Thompson II said, before correcting himself. "He was bigger than life. Whenever he walked into the room, everybody knew: Tony's here and we're about to have a good time."

To uphold the legacy of Reyes, the PBA created the Tony Reyes Community Service award in 2013. The honor annually recognizes a current PBA member who does extraordinary community service, charitable and/or educational contributions over the course of a PBA Tour season.

Past winners of the Tony Reyes Community Service award:

Parker Bohn III, 2013

Missy Parkin, 2014

Ed Godbout, 2015

Rhino Page, 2016

Del Ballard Jr., 2017

Chris Barnes, 2018

Chuck Gardner, 2019

Danny Wiseman, 2020

Warren Eales, 2021

## **ONE MORE FOR MOHR, PLUS 10 PLAYERS CLINCH RPI BERTHS**

OCTOBER 7, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN

Three more Regional Players Invitational qualifiers hit the books recently, which means 10 more bowlers earned themselves a spot in the 2023 RPI. Time is running out for bowlers to grab a berth via the points list, which means the RPI Qualifiers could be the way to go.

On this go-around, Rick Minier, Sean Lavery-Spahr, and Andrew Rettig earned spots in addition to their titles. Find out who else secured their spots to Las Vegas in this week's Regional Recap.

## **PBA50 WAXAHACHIE SW OPEN (RPI QUALIFIER)**

Fighting for one of three spots in the Regional Players Invitational, 64 bowlers took a chance at the Southwest qualifier in Waxahachie, Texas. Jeff Atkins began in the lead at +259, with Daniel Inocencio right behind at +217.

After a few advancer rounds, those two bookended the four-player stepladder, respectively, with Rick Minier and Mike Bailey at two and three. Inocencio won the first game 220-192, but Minier won the next match 248-200.

The championship match was a doozy as both players started with the front-five, and the game stayed close to the 10th frame. Atkins had the chance to shut out Minier but couldn't convert, leaving the door open. Minier clinched it by striking out in the 10th to win 266-259. Minier, Atkins, and Bailey earned spots in the RPI at the end of the year from their performances.

PBA50 Waxahachie SW Open Final Standings

Rick Minier, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Jeff Atkins, 1,500, \$1,500

Daniel Inocencio, \$1,100

Mike Bailey, 950, \$900

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA50 Southwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

## **PBA GREATER NASHVILLE OPEN**

Smyrna Bowling Center earned a double dose of bowling as the PBA and PBA50 made their way to Tennessee for a pair of regional events. Kamron Doyle led the field of 101 bowlers on Saturday to grab the one-seed and a double-bye for the single elimination bracket on Sunday.

He won his first match to advance to the semifinals but lost to Trevor Roberts 248-210 after two splits in his first four frames. Ryan Lane took down Matt Taylor in the other semifinal matchup 241-202 after he delivered a seven-bagger late in the game.

Lane maintained his momentum, throwing the front five in the final round while Roberts split four times in the match. Lane earned his first title, winning 234-166 and taking home 2,500 points and \$2,500 for his efforts.

PBA Greater Nashville Open Final Standings

Ryan Lane, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Trevor Roberts, 1,500, \$1,225

Kamron Doyle, \$1,060

Matt Taylor 950, \$1,060

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA South Region points leaders are available [here](#).

### **PBA50 GREATER NASHVILLE OPEN**

On the senior side, Gary Alstott led the way at +102, with Walter Ray Williams Jr., David Smalley, and Tony Churchey right behind to snag double-bye spots. Unfortunately for Alstott, he was the lone double-bye recipient to lose his first match.

Thanks to a late turkey, Churchey defeated Jonathan Cross 212-190 in the semifinals, while Williams Jr beat Smalley with ease 256-210 with an eight-bagger in the middle of the game. The final round was tight to the finish line as each player rolled an early double and one headed into the 10th frame. Churchey stepped up just needing the first strike and good count, and he delivered to pick up the win and \$2,000.

PBA50 Greater Nashville Open Final Standings

Tony Churchey, \$2,000

Walter Ray Williams Jr. 1,500 points, \$1,155

David Smalley, \$890

Jonathan Cross, 950, \$890

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA50 South Region points leaders are available [here](#).

### **PBA SUPER BOWL MW DOUBLES**

Seventeen teams bowled in the Iowa doubles tournament on the Dick Weber pattern, where six advanced into the bracket round. The team of Tims qualified on top with Tim Curran and Tim Gruendler at +228. They earned a bye to start, and defeated Tom Hess and Cameron Foster 4-2 in the semifinals.

In the other semifinal, Benjamin Martinez and Collin Smith also moved onto the finals, coming back from a 3-1 deficit against Zach Wilkins and Matt Anderson. The final match went the way of the No. 1 seed as Curran and Gruendler never shot a game below 200 to win 4-1.

PBA Super Bowl MW Doubles Final Standings

Timothy Curran/Tim Gruendler, 2,500 points, \$4,000

Benjamin Martinez/Collin Smith, 1,500, \$2,400

Zachary Wilkins/Matthew Anderson, 1,150, \$1,400

Tom Hess/Cameron Foster 950, \$1,400

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA Midwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

### **PBA50/PBA60 DOUBLES/PARK CENTRE LANES CENTRAL OPEN**

Just a couple of states over, another doubles tournament took place in Canton, Ohio. The top eight of 23 senior and super-senior pairs moved onto match play, where Michael Tryniski and Michael Haggitt snagged the last spot at +265. After seven games of match play, it came down to just two teams.

Tom Adcock and Brad Angelo led Sam Maccarone and Parker Bohn III by a good margin, but Maccarone and Bohn came up with a big last game to clinch the title. Now Maccarone, like Bohn, owns regional titles in each of the previous five decades.

#### PBA50/PBA60 Doubles/Park Centre Lanes Central Open Final Standings

Sam Maccarone/Parker Bohn III, 2,500 points, \$3,200  
Tom Adcock/Brad Angelo, 1,500, \$2,000  
Darryl Bower/Troy Lint, 1,150, \$1,800  
Jeff Zaffino/Eddie Graham, 950, \$1,600  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA50 Central Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### **PBA OKLAHOMA CITY SW OPEN (RPI QUALIFIER)**

The second RPI qualifier of the last fortnight came in Oklahoma City, where 94 bowlers came out. High scores lit up the scoreboards as almost half the field found a way to go plus during qualifying. A couple of advancers round later, and it was down to eight bowlers vying for four stepladder spots in a very tight battle. In the end, Dylan Macon led the way, followed by Packy Hanrahan, Eric Jones, and Sean-Lavery Spahr.

Lavery-Spahr won the first match over Jones 236-201, then took down Hanrahan 268-213 and Dylan Macon 227-203 in the final round. Lavery-Spahr picked up his fifth career regional title and first since 2017. Macon, Jones, and Fero Williams will join Lavery-Spahr at the RPI in a few months.

#### PBA Oklahoma City SW Open (RPI Qualifier) Final Standings

Sean Lavery-Spahr, 2,500 points, \$2,800  
Dylan Macon, 1,500, \$1,900  
Patrick Hanrahan, 1,150, \$1,500  
Eric Jones, 950, \$1,300  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA Southwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### **PBA50 MEL WESTRICH MEMORIAL/BRUNSWICK CENTRAL OPEN (RPI QUALIFIER)**

The final of three RPI qualifiers over the last two weeks came from the senior side in Delphos, Ohio, where 54 bowlers entered. One third of them moved onto the Advancer Round to bowl another eight games.

Andrew Rettig grabbed the No. 3 seed by 24 pins, while Larry Verble took the second seed and Brian Kretzer grabbed the top spot. Rettig knocked off Verble in the first match and did the same in the final game to take home his 33rd regional title. Rettig, Kretzer and Verble each claimed a spot in the RPI.

#### PBA50 Mel Westrich Memorial/Brunswick Central Open (RPI Qualifier) Final Standings

Andrew Rettig, 2,500 points, \$1,500  
Brian Kretzer, 1,500, \$1,050  
Larry Verble, 1,150, \$900  
Darryl Bower, 950, \$850  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA50 Central Region points leaders are available [here](#).

### **PBA50 JAN JORDAN MEMORIAL**

Starting with the PBA50 tournament in Oregon, Michael Kennedy led qualifying at +152, with Stephen DeSordi right behind at +120. The next day, Kennedy still maintained the lead, but Rich Corwin moved behind him at +257.

Corwin needed a 19-pin win over Kennedy to take the title, and he came close but narrowly missed out after winning 206-191. Kennedy earned his first PBA regional title and \$1,900.

PBA50 Jan Jordan Memorial Final Standings

Michael Kennedy, 2,500 points, \$1,900  
Rich Corwin, 1,500, \$1,200  
Steven DeSordi, 1,150, \$975  
Robert Reed Sr, 950, \$850  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

PBA50 Northwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

### **PBA60 JAN JORDAN MEMORIAL**

Ty Dawson was the lone super-senior to go plus on the Wayne Webb pattern at Linn Lanes in Oregon but superstar Ron Mohr was just 16 pins. The top eight moved into match play the following day, and there was no contest.

Mohr hit his stride midway through the day going 258-265-246 in games 3, 4 and 5, for the three highest games of the day. Dawson eventually put up a 267 in the position round to take that honor, but it didn't matter as Mohr still won by over 200 pins for his 25th regional title.

PBA60 Jan Jordan Memorial Final Standings

Ron Mohr, \$1,200  
Ty Dawson, \$900  
Mitchell Vernon, \$750  
Rick Goishi, \$650  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

Regions are starting to wind down as winter nears, so players need to be on their A-game if they want a spot into the RPI. Next up is the PBA's Central Region RPI, where it's bound to be a good one with the action we've seen there thus far. Along with that, seven other tournaments will convene between now and mid-October.

The rest of the PBA Regional Tour schedule is available [here](#).

## **JIMMIE ALLEN IS ALL IN ON BOWLING AND THE PBA OCTOBER 12, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Jimmie Allen is one of the fastest rising names in country music. His first two singles “Best Shot” and “Make Me Want To” from his 2018 debut album Mercury Lane both topped the Billboard Country Airplay charts. He earned the New Artist of the Year award at the 2021 Country Music Awards and New Male Artist of the Year award at the 2021 Academy of Country Music Awards, and was nominated for Best New Artist at this year’s GRAMMY Awards.

Over the past two years, Allen has expanded his ventures to the lanes. His obsession with bowling began in the early days of the pandemic. The Delaware native now lives near Nashville, where Mookie Betts and Cortland Finnegan introduced him to the sport. He’s been hooked ever since.

“I fell in love with the sport — how fun yet difficult it is; how challenging yet competitive it is,” Allen said. “The cool thing about bowling is you don’t have to be a certain height. You don’t have to be a certain age. You can pick it up at any age and get really good at it and can become a professional.”

Allen connected with the PBA thanks to a few fortuitous connections. Chuck Wicks, a country singer Allen grew up with, knew Ronnie Russell. Last March, Allen happened to be in Milwaukee during the World Series of Bowling, where Russell introduced him to Sean Rash.

“I asked him to just come hang out with us in Milwaukee,” Rash said. “I will never forget it, and history has put (the rest) together.”

“The growth is great, not really because of me but because of how receptive the whole bowling community has been,” Allen said. “Everyone from Tom Clark to Sean Rash, EJ Tackett, AJ Johnson and Ronnie Russell, they’ve been great welcoming me to the bowling community.”

Two years after picking up a ball and seven months after meeting the pros, Allen’s taking his obsession to the national stage: The Jimmie Allen PBA Challenge will air this Sunday, Oct. 16 on FOX.

The opening match will pit AJ Johnson and Terrell Owens, who won the PBA CP3 Celebrity Invitational last year, against Kyle Troup and Nelly. Rash and Allen will then take on Ronnie Russell and Hannibal Buress. Allen said Rash had “no other choice” than to be his partner.

“I’ve learned so much about the game from watching (Rash) and what he has told me,” Allen said. “In my first event, every event, he has no choice but to bowl with me. He’s stuck with me.”

After the semifinal matches, a concert featuring Chris Young, Neon Union and Allen will kick-off a star-studded celebrity clash.

Allen, Owens, Nelly and Buress, PBA star EJ Tackett, Mr. 300 Bob Learn Jr., PBA Jr. ambassador Bella Love Castillo, former University of Michigan quarterback Devin Gardner among a host of other celebs will compete in a thrilling roll-off competition.

The title match of the Jimmie Allen PBA Challenge will take place following the celebrity clash.

Jimmie Allen competed against Sam Cooley and Dan MacLelland at the Bud Light Challenge this summer.

If you ever doubted Allen's commitment to bowling, his pandemic pastime turned life obsession, consider this:

Back in August, Allen bowled the Bud Light Challenge in Rochester, N.Y. He competed against PBA athletes Sam Cooley, Dan MacLelland, Michael Martell and Tim Pfiefer, plus dozens of the Northeast's top talents.

After the tournament, he said he took a plane down to Chattanooga, Tenn. to perform at his show and attend a celebrity basketball game. From there, he said he flew to another bowling tournament in Pennsylvania before flying down to Florida for another show.

Allen's all-in. You can't pry him from the lanes. He said he was once late to a meet and greet because he was bowling: "We had this game going and I couldn't get away."

The demands of a cross-country music tour have forced him to cut back his practice schedule. The 40-hour weeks at the lanes will have to wait until after the upcoming 43-city THE DENIM & RHINESTONES TOUR with Carrie Underwood, on which he is special guest for all dates.

Like any true bowler, he's always got a stash of equipment stowed in the trunk. Allen said he has a dozen balls stashed on the tour bus and estimated there are about 62 more at home.

It's been a meteoric rise for Allen within bowling, but he's just getting started. Like any relative newcomer, he's still learning to post shots and how to read ball motion.

Allen paid his dues in the music industry. Years of fine-tuning his sound preceded his big break; he's willing to commit to the same grind in bowling.

"These first few events, I'm just looking forward to showing up, trying my best and learning and watching everyone around me," he said.

While Allen has a few PBA regional tournaments marked on his calendar, he isn't expecting to start racking up Ws right away. In fact, he has been pleasantly surprised at the camaraderie within bowling.

"Normally during competition, people don't help," he said. "But I've had so many people at these tournaments give me advice and help me out. I think it's just because they see the love I have for this game."

Allen said his songs "Best Shot," "Good Times Roll" and "Be Alright" best exemplify his relationship with bowling: "You might have one bad frame, let it go. It'll be alright."

Jimmie Allen wants to give the PBA Tour a chance — and he wants the next generation to do the same.

"I want bowling to be as popular and as respected as basketball, football and baseball," Allen said. "I want this to do something kids talk about in school about what they want to be when they grow up."



**JIMMIE ALLEN AND SEAN RASH CAPTURE FIRST-EVER JIMMIE ALLEN PBA CHALLENGE  
TITLE  
OCTOBER 17, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Multi-platinum, GRAMMY Award nominated country musician Jimmie Allen wore a yellow and black jersey with "be alright" inscribed on his chest. Those words represent the lead-off track of his most recent album, *Tulip Drive*, which he performed live in front of the Bowlero Matthews crowd, and his bowling mentality.

"You might have one bad frame, let it go," Allen said. "It'll be alright."

Those words proved prophetic as Allen and his doubles partner Sean Rash overcame a trio of 10-pin leaves to emerge with the title at the first-ever Jimmie Allen PBA Challenge.

First, Allen and Rash took down the eclectic duo of Hannibal Buress and Ronnie Russell 195-142. They then outlasted the burly brothers, Terrell Owens and AJ Johnson, 177-173 to take home the win.

"With us being a doubles team, you win and lose together," Rash said. "I've had a lot of success with double partners. This one means a lot. It's very, very special and we're looking forward to next year. There will be more to go."

"I feel like I started both games off strong," Allen said. "Towards the end, I kind of fell off a little bit. Sean, being the professional he is, did what he did. He was the closer. He picked it up for us and got us a win."

Entering the 10th frame of the final match, Rash needed a mark and six pins. The 38' pattern, designed with input from Allen himself, played trickier than previous celebrity tournament patterns — exactly how Allen wanted it.

A 10-pin conversion and nine pins on Rash's fill secured the win for the host team.

"I've made (the 10-pin) a thousand times before," Rash said. "I've missed them before, too. You learn from failure. You keep grinding. You keep giving yourself opportunities. Jimmie gave me an opportunity and that's what we did."

While Rash's 10-pin conversion in the 10th frame secured the win, Johnson's missed 10-pin in the 8th frame perhaps spelled his team's defeat. After starting the match with a strike, Johnson left a 7-pin, 8-pin and two 10-pins in his final four frames.

Owens and Johnson took care of Nelly and Kyle Troup in their first match 185-164.

Following the semifinal matches, Chris Young, Neon Union and Allen took to the stage. The concert preceded the Celebrity Super Clash, where a cast of 14 music icons, present and past PBA stars, FOX Sports talent and an NFL Hall of Famer competed in a one-ball, roll-off competition.

The PBA Jr.'s first ambassador, the 13-year-old, two-handed Bella Love Castillo, kicked off the marathon with an emphatic strike. Her new best friend, Nelly, followed with a 7-count, but was soon spared as Josh Sims and Leo Brooks rolled gutter balls and went out in the first round.

Allen didn't last much longer. To close Round 2, he bowled while holding his daughter, Naomi, in his left arm; the ball, however, slid into the right gutter and Allen took permanent residence on the couch.

In the fourth round, Nelly, Shannon Spake and Hannibal Buress appeared destined for elimination as only EJ Tackett, who Randy Pedersen called a top-three player on the planet, stepped up needing just seven pins.

Tackett, perhaps captivated by Nelly's eccentric distraction techniques, missed right. The ball never saw any friction and knocked over just five pins, reprieving Spake, Buress and Nelly, much to the latter's delight.

Nelly took advantage of his first golden opportunity — a second came from Bob Learn Jr. in Round 9 — and survived until the final two rounds along with Castillo and Owens. Ultimately, Nelly's fortune expired in the 11th round with a five-count.

Castillo opened Round 12 with a strike, forcing Owens to match. Owens had struck as much as any player in the field, but his ball saw too much friction in the final round. His 3-10 leave handed the Celebrity Super Clash title to Castillo, the "13-year-old shark," as Nelly dubbed her.

"Honestly, this is probably the most fun thing I've ever done in my career," Allen said. "Bowling is a sport that I respect and I love. I'm just trying to be an ambassador for the sport of bowling."

### **JIMMIE ALLEN PBA CHALLENGE RESULTS**

Semifinal 1: Terrell Owens and AJ Johnson def. Nelly and Kyle Troup, 185-164

Semifinal 2: Jimmie Allen and Sean Rash def. Hannibal Buress and Ronnie Russell, 195-142

Finals: Jimmie Allen and Sean Rash def. Terrell Owens and AJ Johnson, 177-173

### **CELEBRITY SUPER CLASH RESULTS**

Round 1: Bella Love Castillo X, Nelly 7, Josh Sims 0, Terrell Owens X, Shannon Spake 3, Amon Nehesi X, Hannibal Buress X, Devin Gardner X, Leo Brooks 0, Andrew Millsaps 1, Phil Parsons 6, Bob Learn Jr. X, EJ Tackett X, Jimmie Allen 7

Josh Sims and Leo Brooks eliminated

Round 2: Bella Love Castillo X, Nelly 7, Terrell Owens X, Shannon Spake 5, Amon Nehesi 9, Hannibal Buress 4, Devin Gardner 9, Andrew Millsaps 9, Phil Parsons 7, Bob Learn Jr. X, EJ Tackett X, Jimmie (and Naomi) Allen 0

Jimmie Allen eliminated

Round 3: Bella Love Castillo 6, Nelly 5, Terrell Owens X, Shannon Spake 7, Amon Nehesi 3, Hannibal Buress 9, Devin Gardner 1, Andrew Millsaps 9, Phil Parsons 8, Bob Learn Jr. X, EJ Tackett 9

Devin Gardner eliminated

Round 4: Bella Love Castillo X, Nelly 6, Terrell Owens 7, Shannon Spake 6, Amon Nehesi 7, Hannibal Buress 6, Andrew Millsaps 8, Phil Parsons 8, Bob Learn Jr. 8, EJ Tackett 5

EJ Tackett eliminated

Round 5: Bella Love Castillo 8, Nelly 9, Terrell Owens 5, Shannon Spake 0, Amon Nehesi X, Hannibal Buress 3, Andrew Millsaps 7, Phil Parsons 7, Bob Learn Jr. 5

Shannon Spake eliminated

Round 6: Bella Love Castillo 9, Nelly 8, Terrell Owens X, Amon Nehesi 8, Hannibal Buress 1, Andrew Millsaps 9, Phil Parsons X, Bob Learn Jr. 8

Hannibal Buress eliminated

Round 7: Bella Love Castillo 9, Nelly 9, Terrell Owens X, Amon Nehesi 6, Andrew Millsaps 7, Phil Parsons 9, Bob Learn Jr. X

Amon Nehesi eliminated

Round 8: Bella Love Castillo 6, Nelly 7, Terrell Owens 2, Andrew Millsaps 1, Phil Parsons 7, Bob Learn Jr. X

Andrew Millsaps eliminated

Round 9: Bella Love Castillo X, Nelly 8, Terrell Owens X, Phil Parsons 9, Bob Learn Jr. 7  
Bob Learn Jr. eliminated

Round 10: Bella Love Castillo 9, Nelly 8, Terrell Owens 8, Phil Parsons 6  
Phil Parsons eliminated

Round 11: Bella Love Castillo X, Nelly 5, Terrell Owens 9  
Nelly eliminated

Round 12: Bella Love Castillo X, Terrell Owens 8  
Terrell Owens eliminated — Bella Love Castillo wins

**PBA REGIONAL RECAP: MAVRICK, ROBINSON, ZAC TACKETT AND SCHLABACH CLAIM RPI BERTHS  
OCTOBER 20, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

Just two 2023 Regional Players Invitational qualifiers transpired within the past two weeks, moving another four PBA and three PBA50 athletes into the RPI. This bout took place in Bluffton, Ind. in the Central Region, but seven other tournaments also took place, giving bowlers all over the United States a chance to earn more points toward the leaderboards.

**PBA FAMILY FORD OF BLUFFTON/EZ BOWL CENTRAL OPEN**

Patrick Dombrowski led the field of 56 in qualifying, but national tour powerhouse EJ Tackett didn't sit far behind at +152, just two pins behind Dombrowski. The top third of bowlers moved onto the advancers round to bowl another eight games, aiming to jump into the top four for the stepladder.

After 16 games, EJ Tackett jumped into first at +217, while Bailey Mavrick, Zac Tackett, and Brian Robinson snagged the other three stepladder spots. Robinson took down Zac Tackett 195-180, then fell to Mavrick 206-190.

In a nail-biter final, EJ Tackett squeaked out Mavrick 248-246 to win his 10th PBA Regional title, while Mavrick, Robinson, Zac Tackett, and Michael Schlabach seized spots in the RPI. EJ Tackett is ineligible for the RPI after finishing in the top-50 during this season's national tour.

**PBA Family Ford Of Bluffton/EZ Bowl Central Open Final Standings**

EJ Tackett - 2,500 points, \$2,500

Bailey Mavrick - 1,500, \$1,300

Brian Robinson - 1,150, \$1,100

Zac Tackett - 950, \$925

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA Central Region leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA50 JEFF SCHRUM MEMORIAL RPI SOUTH OPEN

The 42' Mark Roth pattern was very friendly to bowlers as a pair of 300s were thrown in qualifying by tournament leader Gary Faulkner and Ed Oakes, who qualified in sixth. It took a 221 average for bowlers to get in the single-elimination bracket, where three of the top four bowlers in qualifying who had earned a double-bye won their first match to move into the semifinals.

Mac Sanders powered through Walter Ray Williams Jr. 243-184, while Darryl Bower took down Lee Robison 238-221. In the end, Sanders defeated Bower 214-211 to pick up his second regional title, both of which came at Liberty Lanes in Gastonia, N.C. Sanders, Bower and Robison earned berths in the PBA50 RPI.

#### PBA50 Jeff Schrum Memorial RPI South Open Final Standings

Mac Sanders - 2,500 points, \$3,000  
Darryl Bower - 1,500, \$1,700  
Lee Robison - 1,150, \$1,157  
Walter Ray Williams Jr - 950, \$1,157  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 South Region leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA BATTLE AT BLACK OAK (MEMBERS ONLY)

Forty-four members took part in the Battle at Black Oak in Tuolumne, Calif., but only 16 moved into the bracket. Lanndyn Carnate, Darren Tang, Tyler Cortez Schenck, and Bryan Hahlen earned double-byes, but Tang was the lone player to win his first match to head into the semifinals.

Jake Peters and Scott Boyle battled in the first semifinal match, but Boyle came out on top with a 267 in his last game to move onto the finals. In the other bout, Tang faced Wesley Low Jr. but dropped both games by 20 pins to fall in the semis.

Boyle's momentum was too much to handle as he shot another 267 to Low's 222 for his second regional title.

#### PBA Battle at Black Oak Final Standings

Scott Boyle - 5,000 points, \$2,500  
Wesley Low Jr. - 3,000, \$1,500  
Jake Peters - 2,300, \$1,100  
Darren Tang - 1,900, \$1,100  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA West Region leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA50 PLATINUM FORD SOUTHWEST OPEN

Mike Bailey led 36 Southwest bowlers in Rowlett, Texas on the Marshall Holman pattern at +101. Six others went plus and another five just snuck into the cut at -32 or better.

After 11 games of match play, John Burkett moved up the leaderboard to first at +406. Lee Lorts sat just 17 pins behind, meaning the position round would be a winner-take-all game barring any shake-up from below.

Winning 209-186, Lorts ended up getting the better of Burkett to finish first, also just 15 pins ahead of Mike Bailey, who nailed a 269 in his last match. Lorts earned title number one of his career, 2,500 points and \$2,000.

#### PBA50 Platinum Ford Southwest Open Final Standings

Lee Lorts - 2,500 points, \$2,000

Mike Bailey - 1,500, \$1,300

John Burkett - 1,150, \$1,000

Glenn Smith - 950, \$850

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 Southwest Region leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA ODESSA SOUTHWEST SUPER OPEN

The following week, the young guns competed in Texas and 64 bowlers came out to play. Nobody ran away with the tournament on Saturday, but Nathan Bohr led the field at +261 with five guys behind him at +200 or better.

The 21 bowlers were cut to 12 on Sunday after the cashers round. Through eleven games of match play, Bohr retook the lead after relinquishing it for a short period earlier that morning. Bohr easily held onto the lead after the position round to claim his 25th regional title, which ranks among the top-35 in PBA history.

#### PBA Odessa Southwest Super Open Final Standings

Nathan Bohr - 2,500 points, \$5,000

Dylan Macon - 1,500, \$2,700

Deo Bernard - 1,150, \$1,800

AJ Chapman - 950, \$1,400

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA Southwest Region Leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA LAFAYETTE LANES FAYETTEVILLE OPEN

Michael Patterson was the lone player to average above 230 in qualifying, but Tim Davidson Jr. wasn't far behind thanks to shooting 275, 300, and 268 in Games 3-5.

Four advancer rounds remained before the final match. Dick Allen jumped into the top spot following a 1,005 four-game block, and he stayed there until the last round when he faced Dwight Adams in the finals. Allen struggled to double, while Adams found a late double in the 8th and 9th frame, which gave Adams his first regional title.

#### PBA Lafayette Lanes Fayetteville Open Final Standings

Dwight Adams - 2,500 points, \$2,500

Dick Allen - 1,500, \$1,500

Colin Champion - 1,150, \$840

Matthew Woodall - 950, \$840

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA South Region leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA50 SUPER BOWL MW OPEN

Back to the senior side of things, Atlantic, Iowa hosted 21 bowlers at Super Bowl on the 41' Harry Smith pattern. Jeff Johnson led the field, going +277, with the next-highest bowler, Eugene McCune, at +139. Even with their earned byes in the first round, both fell in the semifinals in four games.

Anthony Jovanovich faced Tony Manna, Jr. in the championship round, but it was all Manna, Jr. as he swept Jovanovich 3-0. It had been a while for Manna, as his last regional title came in 1998.

#### PBA50 Super Bowl MW Open Final Standings

Tony Manna, Jr. - \$1,800

Anthony Jovanovich - 1,500 points, \$1,000

Eugene McCune - 1,150, \$750

Jeff Johnson - 950, \$750

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 Midwest Region leaderboard is available [here](#).

#### PBA JAX-60 CENTRAL OPEN

A one-day event wrapped up the weekend in Jackson, Michigan, where 54 bowlers looking for a title came together. For the second week in a row, Patrick Dombrowski led qualifying in the Central Region, but again, with plenty of work to do. He earned a bye, as did the other top qualifiers, and he won his first match to move into the semifinals.

Zac Tackett, Zeke Bayt, and Jeffery Mann also found themselves in the semifinals. Tackett took down Dombrowski 220-203 and Mann quickly handled Bayt 266-181 in the semis. In the finals, Tackett got it done 225-199 for his third career regional title.

#### PBA JAX-60 Central Open Final Standings

Zac Tackett - 2,500 points, \$2,000

Jeffery Mann - 1,500, \$1,200

Patrick Dombrowski - 1,150, \$1,000

Zeke Bayt - 950, \$1,000

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA Central Region Leaderboard is available [here](#).

This weekend, the Northwest Region RPI qualifiers will send four PBA and three PBA50 athletes to Las Vegas in January. Eight other events are on the schedule, so there's plenty of action coming up.

## **INAUGURAL PBA LBC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS DEBUT SUMMER 2023 IN WISCONSIN**

MILWAUKEE, October 24 — A new national tournament for bowlers of all skill levels launches next summer, the Professional Bowlers Association announced today.

The 2023 PBA LBC National Championships will crown winners in five divisions across three different events, as bowlers from all over the world converge on Bowlero Wauwatosa in Wisconsin from June 3rd-July 16th, 2023 to compete for an estimated \$500,000 total prize fund.

Entries for the event open on November 7th, with members of the PBA League Bowler Certification program and the PBA having priority to reserve their spots in the field at a reduced entry fee through December 31st. Registration then opens to all bowlers on January 1st, 2023.

The inaugural Championships will culminate with a nationally-televised event on FOX Sports, as winners from each division vie for an additional \$100,000 purse.

"These Championships have something for everyone" said PBA Tour Commissioner Tom Clark. "The event will become an annual destination for all bowlers and it will be a lot of fun to be a part of this historic first edition."

The 2023 PBA LBC National Championships will feature five separate divisions that include: Men and Women's Handicap, Open Classic, Women's Classic and a Senior Classic. First place in the Open Classic will pay \$25,000, with the other divisions awarding \$5,000 first place prizes.

The 2023 event has chosen a perfect home in the Midwest, just outside of Milwaukee in the heart of bowling country.

Bowlero Wauwatosa, which will soon undergo substantial upgrades in lane beds, pinsetters and amenities in anticipation of hosting the 2023 PBA LBC National Championships, is the largest bowling center in Wisconsin with 72 lanes. The venue has hosted many prestigious events such as the PBA World Series of Bowling and USBC Masters.

A full list of the 2023 PBA LBC National Championships' details including tournament rules, squad times and registration, can be found at [pba.com/LBCTournament](https://pba.com/LBCTournament).

The PBA League Bowler Certification program launched this fall, with more than 180,000 league bowlers in Bowlero, Corp.-owned centers automatically enrolled. One promise of the ground-breaking program, in addition to real-time statistics, official playing rules and awards, is the chance to compete in exclusive tournaments such as the PBA LBC National Championships.

For breaking news and updates on the new PBA LBC National Championships and the PBA, visit here and PBA's official Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

## **NOMINEES FOR THE 2022 PBA PLAYER AND ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 25, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) is pleased to announce the nominees for the 2022 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year and Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year.

These are the two PBA end-of-season awards that are based on in-season performances. All 2022 award winners will be announced next week.

Monday, Oct. 31: Tony Reyes Community Service Award and Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award

Tuesday, Nov. 1: Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year

Wednesday, Nov. 2: Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year

The Tony Reyes Award, founded in 2013 to honor the late Tony Reyes, will recognize a PBA member who has done extraordinary community service and/or charitable contributions in the calendar year. The recipient is selected by a panel of PBA leaders.

The Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award honors Nagy's memory as a PBA Hall of Famer and founding member whose guidance in the PBA's formative years was considered critical to the tour's success. The winner is selected by PBA Tour players who bowled in at least half of the season's tournaments.

### **CHRIS SCHENKEL PBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

The Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year award recognizes only the world's finest bowling talents. To qualify for the ballot, a player must win at least one PBA Tour title and rank among the top-10 earners during the calendar year. Any player with multiple titles year is automatically added to the ballot.

Here are the six nominees for the 2022 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year award (in alphabetical order):

Dom Barrett

Barrett averaged nearly 223 and topped \$200,000 in earnings in 2022. His triumph at the PBA Tournament of Champions underlined his spectacular season. The win made him the eighth player in PBA history to complete the Triple Crown.

He later added a second win at The Storm Cup: PBA Colorado Springs Open and finished second to Belmonte in the Tour Finals.

Titles: PBA Tournament of Champions (major), The Storm Cup: PBA Colorado Springs Open

Other notes: Runner-up at PBA Tour Finals

Jason Belmonte

The six-time PBA Player of the Year turned in yet another splendid campaign, hoping to tie Walter Ray Williams Jr.'s record for the most Player of the Year awards. The 39-year-old Australian led the tour in points (34,230), earnings (\$302,525), games (380), top-five finishes (8), top-10 finishes (13) and titles (5). His 224.38 average ranked second on tour.

Belmonte compiled a 20-4 record in championship round appearances en route to racking up five titles in 2022. He won 14th career major at the PBA Players Championship to open the season before taking home four more standard titles.



Titles: PBA Players Championship (major), The Storm Cup: PBA David Small's Kokomo Open, PBA Scorpion Championship, The Storm Cup: Lubbock Sports Open, PBA Tour Finals  
Other notes: Led Storm Cup series in points, shot televised 300 game at the PBA Tour Finals

#### Kris Prather

A near-perfect two week stretch highlighted Prather's 2022 season. He earned the top seed at the PBA Tournament of Champions, averaging over 233 during his bid for a second ToC title in three years. His quest came short as he fell in the title match to Barrett.

In the next singles event, Prather once again rolled to the top seed at the PBA World Championship. This time, he took down Jason Sterner for the title in a historic roll-off. He finished the season fifth in points (19,155) and third in earnings (\$222,750)

Titles: PBA World Championship (major)  
Other notes: Runner-up at PBA Tournament of Champions (major), Won PBA League Elias Cup Finals with Portland Lumberjacks

#### Anthony Simonsen

Simonsen has developed a knack for making history. With wins at the U.S. Open and USBC Masters, he added two more major titles to his résumé, becoming the youngest player to win one, two, three and four majors. He finished no lower than seventh in the season's final four majors.

The 25-year-old ranked second in earnings (\$274,975), points (26,195) and top-five finishes (6) this season.

Titles: U.S. Open (major), USBC Masters (major)  
Other notes: Runner-up at PBA Scorpion Championship

#### EJ Tackett

The 2016 Player of the Year and 2012-13 Rookie of the Year turned in one of his most consistent seasons to date. Tackett led the tour in average (225.27), top-25 finishes (15) and cashes (15).

A dominant showing at the U.S. Open resulted in one of his two runner-up performances, but he still added a pair of titles to his name in 2022.

Titles: PBA Mark Roth/Marshall Holman Doubles, PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles  
Other notes: Runner-up at U.S. Open (major), The Storm Cup: Lubbock Sports Open

#### Kyle Troup

The 2021 Player of the Year put up another tremendous campaign in 2022. Troup repeated as PBA Playoffs champion, while his \$213,950 in earnings ranked fourth on the tour and his 11 top-25 finishes ranked third among POY candidates.

At the Tour Finals, he rolled the 33rd televised 300 in PBA history. Troup earned Mark Roth PBA League MVP honors while helping lead the Portland Lumberjacks to a third straight Elias Cup title.

Titles: PBA Playoffs

Other notes: Shot televised 300 game at PBA Tour Finals, Won PBA League Elias Cup Finals with Portland Lumberjacks, Named Mark Roth PBA League MVP, Won PBA Strike Derby

#### HARRY GOLDEN PBA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

The Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award honors the top first-year player on the PBA National Tour. To qualify for the ballot, a player must finish inside the top five in points and earnings among rookies.

Here are the four nominees for the 2022 Harry Golden PBA Rookie of the Year award (in alphabetical order):

Kevin McCune

As the son and grandson of champions on the PBA Tour, you could say McCune was born to succeed on the tour. He led ROY contenders in games bowled (227) while averaging 211.23.

McCune's 16th-place finish at the U.S. Open, where he averaged 212.80 across 56 games of the season's most demanding lane conditions, marked the highlight of his rookie campaign.

Brandon Runk

By virtue of advancing to the East Region Finals of the PBA Players Championship, the first telecast of the 2022 season, Runk made the season's opening bid to be the top rookie. He averaged 232 across 28 games to earn the No. 2 seed, sitting 201 pins ahead of the third place qualifier. On the show, Runk's eight-strike 243 wasn't enough to take down Patrick Dombrowski's 257, but he made quite an impression nonetheless.

Runk led all ROY candidates in points (5,445), while ranking second in earnings (\$15,930), average (212.02), games (195), top-10 finishes (1) and top-25 finishes (2).

David Stouffer

The glorious, gray-haired Stouffer doesn't look like a rookie, but he ranked fourth among first-year players in points with 2,790. The rook made the first telecast of his career in the South Region Finals of the PBA Players Championship. Though he lost to DJ Archer in his first match, a fourth-place finish in the region and top-20 overall finish in the major made for a tremendous debut.

Stouffer later added a 39th-place finish at the U.S. Open. Those two performances propelled him to an 80th on the tour's points list.

Santtu Tahvanainen

The 25-year-old's immense power caught the eye of Norm Duke — well, technically Tommy Jones and Bill O'Neill — and helped make him the lone rookie drafted into the PBA League. Tahvanainen topped all 2022 rookies in earnings (\$31,350) and average (216.28).

His runner-up finish at The Storm Cup: PBA Colorado Springs Open was the best finish of any rookie this season; in fact, he posted more top-10 finishes (2) than all others on the ballot combined (1).

#### 2021 PBA PLAYER AWARD WINNERS

Tony Reyes Community Service Award: Warren Eales

Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award: Jake Peters

Harry Golden Rookie of the Year: Matt Russo

Chris Schenkel Player of the Year: Kyle Troup

## **PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 2023 PBA ON FOX SCHEDULE**

*All five majors and the PBA Super Slam Cup will air live on FOX Broadcast Channel*

**Richmond, VA - November 1, 2022** - Major championships are the focus of the 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour on FOX season. For the first time in PBA Tour history, all five majors will air live on network television, beginning with the U.S. Open on FOX Broadcast Channel in February. The PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship, USBC Masters and PBA Players Championship will also air live on FOX throughout the season.

All 2023 major champions will be entered into the PBA Super Slam Cup, which will air live on FOX in May. Plus, all majors and the Super Slam Cup will feature additional live televised coverage of match play rounds prior to the championship finals.

Jason Belmonte, a six-time PBA Player of the Year and candidate for a record-tying seventh award in 2022, holds the all-time record with 14 major championships and is one of just two players, along with Mike Aulby, to complete the Super Slam of all five majors in his career. Belmonte will have the opportunity at the U.S. Open to become the first player ever to complete the Super Slam twice.

In addition to the majors, the PBA on FOX schedule will feature World Series of Bowling XIV, including three animal-pattern events (Cheetah, Scorpion and Shark) and the return of USA vs. The World in addition to the PBA World Championship, the third major of the season.

Special events airing in 2023 include the Go Bowling! PBA Celebrity Event, PBA Jr. National Championship, PBA Collegiate National Championship, and the PBA League Bowler Certification National Championships Clash.

The PBA Elite League will compete in late September at Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine in which eight hours of live coverage on FS1 will showcase the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals of the Elias Cup playoffs.

The full PBA Tour season will also feature seven additional title events in seven different markets, which will be streamed or broadcast.

The PBA welcomes back [Guaranteed Rate](#), one of the top five retail mortgage lenders in the United States, and Pabst Blue Ribbon, an American lager beer sold by Pabst Brewing Company as returning partners of the PBA Tour, as well as welcoming a returning partner in Go Bowling!

Stay up to date on the Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour by visiting [pba.com/pba-tour](https://pba.com/pba-tour) and following [@pbatour](#).

# 2023 PBA on FOX Schedule

## **U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling! - Royal Pin Woodland in Indianapolis, Indiana**

Saturday, Feb. 4 at 4 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Sunday, Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. ET LIVE on FOX – Finals

## **PBA Collegiate Championship - Royal Pin Woodland in Indianapolis, Indiana**

Sunday, Feb. 19 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1

## **Go Bowling! PBA Celebrity Event - TBA in Phoenix, Arizona**

Sunday, Mar. 12 at 12 p.m. ET on FS1

## **PBA Tournament of Champions - AMF Riviera in Fairlawn, Ohio**

Friday, Mar. 17 at 10 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Saturday, Mar. 18 at 7:30 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Saturday, Mar. 18 at 9:30 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Sunday, Mar. 19 at noon ET LIVE on FOX - Finals

## **PBA Jr. National Championship - AMF Riviera in Fairlawn, Ohio**

Saturday, Mar. 25 at 7:30 p.m. ET on FS1

## **USBC Masters - Thunderbowl in Detroit, Michigan**

Friday, Mar. 31 at 7 p.m. LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Sunday, Apr. 2 at 1 p.m. ET LIVE on FOX - Finals

## **Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIV - Bowlero Wauwatosa in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin**

Saturday, Apr. 15 at 2 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – USA vs. The World match play

Sunday, Apr. 16 at noon ET LIVE on FS1 – USA vs. The World finals

Monday, Apr. 17 at 7 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – PBA Cheetah Championship finals

Tuesday, Apr. 18 at 7 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – PBA Scorpion Championship finals

Wednesday, Apr. 19 at 7 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – PBA Shark Championship finals

Sunday, Apr. 23 at noon ET LIVE on FOX – PBA World Championship finals presented by

Pabst Blue Ribbon

## **PBA Players Championship - Bowlero North Brunswick in North Brunswick, New Jersey**

Saturday, May 6 at 10:30 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Sunday, May 7 at noon ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Sunday, May 7 at 9:30 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Match play

Saturday, May 13 at 12:30 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Semifinals

Sunday, May 14 at 1 p.m. ET LIVE on FOX – Finals

## **PBA Super Slam Cup - Bowlero Jupiter in Jupiter, Florida**

Saturday, May 20 at 2 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Prelims

Sunday, May 21 at 3 p.m. ET LIVE on FOX – Finals

## **PBA League Elias Cup Playoffs presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon - Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine**

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 8 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Quarterfinals

Monday, Sept. 25 at 8 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Quarterfinals  
Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Semifinals  
Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. ET LIVE on FS1 – Elias Cup Finals

### **PBA LBC National Championships Clash - Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine**

Sunday, October 1 at 6 p.m. ET on FS1

### **JAKE PETERS WINS SECOND STRAIGHT PBA STEVE NAGY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD NOVEMBER 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

PBA Tour athletes recognize Peters for his upstanding character and authenticity.

For the second straight year, Jake Peters has been selected to receive the 2022 PBA Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award.

Peters, Tommy Jones, BJ Moore and Brad Miller earned nominations from PBA players who competed in over half of 2022 national tour stops. Peters received 38.5% of the votes, with Jones receiving 27%, Moore 23% and Miller 11.5%.

"I feel completely overwhelmed and excited," Peters said. "This award is something you don't win. It's something that your peers select you and find you deserving of (because of) the type of person and character you are. I'm so blessed to have such amazing friends and family on the PBA Tour and for them to think of me, it's unbelievably special and overwhelming."

While Peters has long been one of the PBA's exemplary characters, the grace he displayed through personal adversity — losing his wife, Melissa, in May 2021 after a battle with breast cancer — magnified the reverence for him around the PBA.

Peters said he felt overwhelmed during the surreal moment of accepting the 2021 Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award at the 2022 PBA Hall of Fame dinner.

While accepting the award at this year's Hall of Fame dinner, Peters received a lengthy standing ovation.

"The entire PBA community was so supportive of everything that my family and I went through the year before," Peters said. "To look out and see all of them applauding with respect was just so amazing. I truly feel like they're family, so to feel the exact same coming back was just so special to me."

Peters, 33, becomes the 17th player to win multiple Nagy awards and the first back-to-back winner since Justin Hromek in 2002.

Peters said he has understood the significance of the Nagy award since his childhood. He said having his name etched in PBA history alongside the greatest guys ever to play the game is unbelievable.

“Jason Queen from my hometown had the opportunity to win it,” Peters said. “That was always a huge deal to us growing up, because it proved that your peers think you’re a great person.”

The PBA’s sportsmanship award honors Steve Nagy, a PBA Hall of Famer and founding member. He was instrumental to the early success of the PBA. The award has been awarded since 1966, the year of Nagy’s death.

#### Recent Winners

Jake Peters, 2021

Brad Miller, 2020

Martin Larsen, 2019

Tom Smallwood, 2018

Chris Loschetter, 2017

Tom Smallwood, 2016

Josh Blanchard, 2015

Brett Spangler, 2014

Ryan Shafer, 2013

Martin Larsen, 2012

Complete list of PBA Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award winners

#### **RYAN SHAFER NAMED 2022 TONY REYES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD WINNER NOVEMBER 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Shafer’s efforts have raised over \$35,000 for mental health workers and families in need in New York state.

Ryan Shafer, a 35-year PBA Tour veteran and five-time titleist, has been selected as the 2022 Tony Reyes Community Service Award winner. Shafer’s persistent work assisting the New York state mental health community over the past eight-plus years gained the attention of the PBA’s selection committee.

Shafer founded the Michelle Shafer Fund for Suicide Prevention and Awareness to honor his late wife, Michelle, who died by suicide in 2014. His largest fundraising event is an annual team tournament at Crystal Lanes in Corning, N.Y.

Shafer has worked extensively to improve accessibility to treatment for those suffering from depression and other mental health illnesses.

"I'm very honored. It's very meaningful, not just for me, but for everyone involved in the event that we hold," Shafer said. "The event couldn't have happened without the people who get donations, the people who donate themselves, the people who participate in the event and the people who helped run the event, especially my wife, Jennifer, and my best friend, Jim Pitts. They're indispensable."

Shafer, centered wearing the Brunswick jersey, said the event would not be possible without the 20-25 people that help plan and put on the event.

The fundraising event began as a youth scholarship tournament. Shafer said education was very important to Michelle, and he followed the lead of Danny Wiseman, Chris Barnes and Parker Bohn III — all former Reyes award recipients — in starting a tournament to help youth players in his area.

During this iteration of the event, Shafer said they raised \$38,000 in scholarships. Over time, he felt the initial goal of suicide prevention and awareness was being lost. He pivoted to a scratch team tournament with a greater emphasis on the cause and said the response from the community has been incredible.

"You can raise awareness all you want," Shafer wrote. "But I prefer to do something about it by helping the true professionals have the means to do so."

Over the past four years, Shafer said they have raised \$7,000, \$7,500 and \$11,000. This year, a 50-team field and countless donors, including annual donors Sean Rash and Tom Hess, raised \$11,500. The proceeds benefit mental health workers and families who have a loved one suffering from mental health illness.

Two organizations that Shafer said he helps support are the Suicide Prevention Center of New York State and GST BOCES, who assist southern New York teens in crisis. Because of Shafer's diligence, the Suicide Prevention Center of New York State was able to run a webinar series that provided direct service to almost 400 people.

He said when Michelle was ill, the long wait for outpatient care was a big issue.

"You can't get in to see anybody," he said. "There's a long waiting list, so the people who are struggling with depression, mental illness and have made an attempt on their own life and survived that attempt, they really have nowhere to go."

Shafer said he believes the stigma related to someone admitting they need help is slowly going away. "It's okay to not be okay" is one of the mottos of his event.

“The reason why this award is important isn’t because it recognizes me,” Shafer said. “I want it to recognize the people who help, participate and donate. Anytime you get focus on what you're doing, it raises more awareness for (mental health and suicide prevention) and you can grow that way.”

While the tournament is named in honor of Michelle, Shafer and Jennifer added a memorial table this year so lost loved ones of others can be recognized as well.

The Tony Reyes Community Service Award recognizes a current PBA member who exemplifies extraordinary community service, charitable or educational contributions over the course of a PBA season.

Reyes, who died in 2012, was an eight-time PBA Regional champion, collegiate All-American and the 18th player in PBA history to bowl a 300 game on national television. Players today still remember his "everlasting smile" fondly.

Shafer, the 19th player in PBA history to bowl a televised 300 game, defeated Reyes in the match before his perfect game. He said Reyes was always very gracious.

Many years ago, Shafer said he was not invited to a PBA doubles event at Six Flags, though he felt he should have been. He said Reyes, who was invited, voluntarily gave his spot to Shafer.

“That just tells you how he was,” Shafer said.

#### Past Winners

Warren Eales, 2021

Danny Wiseman, 2020

Chuck Gardner, 2019

Chris Barnes, 2018

Del Ballard Jr., 2017

Rhino Page, 2016

Ed Godbout, 2015



Missy Parkin, 2014

Parker Bohn III, 2013

Complete list of PBA Tony Reyes Community Service Award winners

## Resources

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a hotline for individuals in crisis or for those looking to help someone else. To speak with a trained listener, call 988.

Crisis Text Line is a texting service for emotional crisis support. To speak with a trained listener, text HELLO to 741741. It is free, available 24/7, and confidential.

## **SANTTU TAHVANAINEN WINS 2022 HARRY GOLDEN PBA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD NOVEMBER 3, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The 25-year-old Finnish star becomes the fourth international player to win Rookie of the Year.

When Santtu Tahvanainen received the call from PBA Commissioner Tom Clark and learned that he had been named the 2022 Harry Golden PBA Rookie Of The Year, he was left almost speechless.

"Well, I was not sitting in a chair, so it couldn't be the same as when I was picked to the PBA League," Tahvanainen said. "(But) I would say my reaction was pretty much the same. I couldn't say literally anything."

The 25-year-old received 51.1% of the vote from PBA members and media. Kevin McCune finished second with 28.8% of the vote and Brandon Runk finished third with 15.7%.

Tahvanainen's \$31,350 in earnings and a 216.28 average topped all rookies, as did his three top-25 and two top-10 finishes. His runner-up finish at The Storm Cup: Colorado Springs Open, where he also shot 300 during qualifying, was the best finish of any rookie this season.

## Video file

Tahvanainen's freshman campaign almost didn't happen. Back in July, he said he got cold feet just before leaving for the World Series of Bowling. His friend, Simon Susiluoto, set him straight.

"It's crazy to think of that moment, if not going to the PBA was my final choice," Tahvanainen said. "I don't know what my bowling would be like right now."

That conversation with Susiluoto will stick with Tahvanainen for a long time. But he said it wasn't the most memorable moment of his freshman season, nor was the 300 game and runner-up finish in Colorado.

"If there's something I'm not ever going to forget, it's Norm Duke's last shot at the PBA League," said Tahvanainen, the lone rookie drafted to the PBA League.

Tahvanainen becomes the fourth international player to win the award, succeeding Australia's Jason Belmonte, Sweden's Jesper Svensson and Canada's François Lavoie.

"It feels amazing because it's also history for Finnish bowling," Tahvanainen said. "Neither Mika (Koivuniemi) or Osku (Palermä) were Rookie of the Year. I respect both of them a lot, especially now playing in the PBA. I was able to see how hard it is to actually compete and how good of careers they've had."

Tahvanainen said he doesn't see himself as following those names — all five are PBA major champions — but he doesn't want to be the outlier. He said he wants to prove that this season was not a flash in the pan, and joining that list of international stars only strengthens his motivation to do so.

"I don't want this to be my life's highlight," he said. "I want to go all the way and chase the Player of the Year. Not next year, but someday."

The PBA Rookie of the Year Award is named after legendary PBA Tour tournament director Harry "Goose" Golden, who was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame in 1983.

Recent winners

Matt Russo, 2021

not awarded in 2020 due to the pandemic-interrupted season (2020 rookies retained eligibility through 2021)

Mykel Holliman, 2019

Kamron Doyle, 2018

Matt Sanders, 2017

François Lavoie, 2016

Jesper Svensson, 2015

Marshall Kent, 2014

EJ Tackett, 2013

Josh Blanchard, 2012

Complete list of PBA Rookie of the Years

## **JASON BELMONTE WINS RECORD-TYING SEVENTH CHRIS SCHENKEL PBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD NOVEMBER 4, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

Belmonte's commanding 2022 season results in his seventh Player of the Year award in 10 seasons, tying Walter Ray Williams Jr. for the most such awards in PBA history.

After winning a single-season, career-high five titles, including the 14th major of his career at the PBA Players Championship, Jason Belmonte was named the 2022 Chris Schenkel PBA Player Of The Year.

Belmonte received 62.9% of the votes by PBA members and the media. Anthony Simonsen, who took home a pair of major titles in 2022, finished second in the voting with 18.8%. Kyle Troup, who won this award in 2021, finished third with 8.3% of the vote.

"I am not naive to the level of difficulty it is to win Player of the Year," Belmonte said. "It's a culmination of hard work, sacrifice, travel, mental and physical exhaustion. Whilst I was quietly confident to get that call (from PBA Commissioner Tom Clark), you get a big sigh of relief because you felt confident and then you get this very overwhelming feeling of reward."

This award marks the seventh of Belmonte's career, tying Walter Ray Williams Jr. for the most in PBA history. While Williams Jr.'s Player of the Year awards spanned from 1986-2010, a testament to his unprecedented longevity, Belmonte has won all seven awards in the past 10 seasons.

"Walter Ray, the man is a living legend and someone who I see as the best player that I've ever seen," Belmonte said after the Tour Finals in June, when asked about the prospect of tying Williams Jr. "To equal him is a huge accomplishment and something I'm very, very proud of, but it also motivates me to get one more, just one more and have that title all to myself."

The excellence of Williams Jr., who holds the record with 47 career PBA Tour titles, inspired Belmonte early in his career. Belmonte described equaling Dead Eye with seven Player of the Year awards as "mind-bending." He said he grew up watching Williams Jr. and wondering how anyone could be so dominant.

Over time, Belmonte grew to view Williams Jr.'s staggering list of accomplishments in a different light.

"If he can do it, then someone else can," Belmonte said. "So why not me?"

Video file

The 39-year-old led the tour with \$302,525 in earnings, 34,230 points, five titles, eight top-five finishes and 13 top-10 finishes. His 224.38 average over a tour-high 380 games ranked second behind EJ Tackett.

Belmonte separated himself from his peers in championship rounds: He compiled a 16-4 record on national television and a 20-4 overall record. Title match wins over Player of the Year contenders Simonsen (PBA Scorpion Championship), Dom Barrett (PBA Tour Finals) and Tackett (The Storm Cup: Lubbock Sports Open) proved critical to his Player of the Year campaign.

"I want to thank my family for the support that they give me through an entire season," Belmonte said. "A really massive thank you to Storm Bowling, Bill and Barbara Chrisman and Dave Symes, and to my tour reps, Jim Callahan and Shawn Ryan. All of those people, if not for the unwavering support and advice, it's so much harder to do what I do, and do it as well as I do."

The dominant 2022 campaign followed a down year, by Belmonte's standards. In 2021, he went without a title for the first time since 2016 and reached just one championship round.

"I'm typically not someone who really focuses on the narrative, but there was enough said (like), 'The reign of the king is done,' and that got to me," Belmonte said. "I really wanted to come back in the 2022 season, start off strong and put my foot back down as the authority, as if to say 'Look, I had a very average year in 2021, but those aren't going to be coming again.'"

That tenacity fueled Belmonte's season-opening major victory at the PBA Players Championship. He won six consecutive matches on TV, culminating with his "I'm back!" declaration after defeating Sean Rash in the title match.

Belmonte's remarkable track record in major championships continued in 2022. For the first time in his career, he finished in the top 10 in each of the five majors.

"The part that I'm most proud of with the five (titles) this year was the consistency from beginning to end of the season," Belmonte said. "The way that the Tour Finals went, with the 300 game and then really dominating that final match, was a big tick for me to say, 'The last tournament you bowled, you might have performed the best in' and that was a huge positive for me to take out of this season."

Belmonte said the moment he will remember the most from the 2022 season is his "I'm back" assertion at the PBA Players Championship.

"That's something I'll definitely remember is the comeback after an average season, hearing the narrative, and then making sure that people realize: I'll call it quits on my career when I'm ready — not the other way around," Belmonte said.

#### Recent Winners

Kyle Troup, 2021

Jason Belmonte, 2020

Jason Belmonte, 2019

Andrew Anderson, 2018

Jason Belmonte, 2017

EJ Tackett, 2016

Jason Belmonte, 2015

Jason Belmonte, 2014

Jason Belmonte, 2013

Sean Rash, 2012

Complete list of Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year winners

**PBA REGIONAL RECAP: WEBER WINS TITLE NO. 56, NINE MORE PLAYERS EARN TRIP TO RPI  
NOVEMBER 4, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

The fog clears each week as bowlers cement their spots to the Regional Players Invitational. Nine bowlers punched their ticket to the RPI in Las Vegas this winter, and they won't have to travel too far as most of this group comes from the Northwest Region. Along with the qualifier, nine other events awarded titles to bowlers, including one to a legend coming out of the Midwest.

#### PBA50 NW GARY MAGE CLASSIC (RPI QUALIFIER)

The seniors kicked things off at the trio of tournaments in Tacoma, Wash. and high scores were easy to come by. In the first RPI qualifier over the last two weeks, more than half of the field went plus on the Mark Roth pattern and it took a +81 score to move onto the Advancer Round.

Top qualifier Jodey Rees was knocked off by Michael Kennedy in the bracket, and Kennedy was then defeated by Shawn Horenberger. In the bottom half, Darron Peters took down David Leverage.

In the one-game final, Horenberger marked in the 10th to slide past Peters 217-212 to grab his first career title. Horenberger and Peters both punched their tickets to the final tournament in Las Vegas.

#### PBA50 NW Gary Mage Classic (RPI Qualifier) Final Standings

Shawn Horenberger, 2,500 points, \$2,000

Darron Peters, 1,500, \$1,300

David Leverage, 1,150, \$900

Michael Kennedy, 950, \$900

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 Northwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### PBA NW JEANNE NACCARATO WOMEN'S OPEN

In the second of three northwestern events, 24 women showed up for six games of bowling, where the top eight advanced to bracket play. Samantha How led the field at +94 and won her first match to enter the semifinals. She lost to Kristen Quah, while Leea Haworth beat Kaylene Folks 2-1. Against the two-time defending champion, Quah emerged triumphant 188-175.

#### PBA NW Jeanne Naccarato Women's Open Final Standings

Kristin Quah, \$1,050

Leea Haworth, \$750

Samantha How, \$525

Kaylene Bishop, \$525

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA JIM KENT MEMORIAL (RPI QUALIFIER)

For the main card, EJ Tackett led the way with a 300 in Game 2, which propelled him to the lead after qualifying. He also stayed there after the Advancer Round to grab the No. 1 seed for bracket play. After defeating Clay Rees in two games, he fell in the semifinals to Gary Lenox.

Meanwhile, frequent finalist Darren Tang dropped his match in the semis to Evan Nash 2-1. In the finals, Nash grabbed the win 214-177 to earn 2,500 points and \$2,200. He'll be moving on to Vegas along with Lenox, Cameron Weier, and Tim Cagle II.

#### PBA Jim Kent Memorial Final Standings

Evan Nash, 2,500 points, \$2,200

Gary Lenox, 1,500, \$1,500

EJ Tackett, 1,150, \$1,100

Darren Tang, 950, \$1,100

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA Northwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### PBA50 ROCKY MOUNT PLYGEM WINDOWS OPEN

Moving across the US to the South Region, Victor Florie Jr., as he has done so often, found himself at the top of the leaderboard after Day 1. After the Advancer Round and a few head-to-head matches, Kip Roberts, Darryl Bower, Jay Davis Jr, and Mark Dixon emerged in the final four.

Roberts snuck by Bower in a tight match 167-163 after Bower opened in the 9th and 10th, while Davis Jr. shut down Dixon 234-179. The final match was close throughout until Davis Jr. opened twice late to open the door for Roberts, who slammed it shut. Roberts struck on his first ball in the 10th to win 208-192.

#### PBA50 Rocky Mount PLYGEM Windows Open Final Standings

Kip Roberts, 2,500 points, \$3,000

Jay Davis Jr., 1,500, \$1,370

Mark Dixon, 1,150, \$1,000

Darryl Bower, 950, \$1,000

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 South Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### PBA50 SHOWTIME LANES MIDWEST OPEN

The 20 bowlers who came out to Showtime Lanes put up some solid scores. Larry Verble qualified first at +243 for eight games, while Jeremy Wolfe took the last spot at +153. Although Verble earned a round off, he never lost his momentum and won his first match against Gary Alstott 3-1. The No. 2 seed Steve Jaros would be Verble's opponent after he defeated Tom Adcock 3-0, and once again Verble stayed strong. After delivering a 289 in Game 1, Verble won the second game, lost the third, but won the fourth to clinch his sixth regional title and first since 2016.

#### PBA50 Showtime Lanes Midwest Open Final Standings

Larry Verble, 2,500 points, \$1,800  
Steve Jaros, 1,500, \$1,100  
Tom Adcock, 1,150, \$725  
Gary Alstott, 950, \$725  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 Midwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### PBA50 TIMBER LANES OPEN PRESENTED BY ARNICAR

Beginning the second half of recent tournaments, the East Region and Timber Lanes hosted 51 bowlers and set them up with the Johnny Petraglia pattern. Ryan Shafer, the 2022 PBA Tony Reyes Community Service Award winner, from Horseheads, N.Y., started with the lead at +256 for eight games. After a pair of advancer rounds, he dropped to second for the stepladder.

Robert Mockenhaupt slid past Shafer by just five pins for the top seed, while David Handlowich Jr. and Dave Davison earned the final two spots. That pair fought in the opening match, where Davison slipped past Handlowich Jr. 203-191. Shafer struggled to get anything going in the second match as Davison moved on 195-158. The tides had turned in the final match, as Mockenhaupt took the 187-159 win for his first career title.

#### PBA50 Timber Lanes Open presented by Arnicare Final Standings

Robert Mockenhaupt, 2,500 points, \$1,700  
Dave Davison, 1,500, \$1,200  
Ryan Shafer, 1,150, \$1,000  
David Handlowich Jr., 950, \$900  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 East Region points leaders are available [here](#).

#### PBA50 GREATER FREEPORT MIDWEST RPI OPEN, PRESENTED BY JUMPIN' JOE'S

Thirty-six bowlers came to the Midwest event at 4 Seasons Bowling Center last Saturday and the top-12 returned on Sunday. Anthony Jovanovich had the lead after Saturday at +148 for eight games, but nothing stayed the same the following day as the leaderboard shook up from top to bottom.

Eugene McCune took the lead after bowling 262 in the position round, while Brian Kretzer took the No. 2 seed and Pete Weber snagged the third and final seed for the stepladder. Weber cruised past Kretzer in the first match, 227-157, and followed it up with a big game over McCune, winning 277-241. This marks Weber's 56th career regional title, keeping him in third all-time, but now just five behind Walter Ray Williams Jr. and three behind Chris Warren.

Weber, McCune and Jovanovich earned berths to the RPI.

#### PBA50 Greater Freeport Midwest RPI Open, presented by Jumpin' Joe's Final Standings

Pete Weber, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Eugene McCune, 1,500, \$1,100  
Brian Kretzer, 1,150, \$800  
Steve Jaros, 950, \$700  
Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 Midwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

## PBA50 CHEROKEE LANES CANTON OPEN

In Georgia, Amleto Monacelli and James Winterfield were the only two of 65 players to roll all eight games above 200. Those two, Walter Ray Williams Jr. and Stoney Baker all earned a double-bye for the single-elimination bracket.

Monacelli and Winterfield won their first matches to move onto the semifinals, where Monacelli faced John Dougherty III, and Winterfield bowled Dan Knowlton. Chalk continued as Monacelli won 269-198 and Winterfield defeated Knowlton 239-182. The final match went the way of Monacelli 214-154, as he earned back-to-back wins at Cherokee Lanes and his third career regional title.

### PBA50 Cherokee Lanes Canton Open Final Standings

Amleto Monacelli, 2,500 points, \$2,000

James Winterfield, 1,500, \$1,110

John Dougherty III, 1,150, \$890

Dan Knowlton, 950, \$890

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 South Region points leaders are available [here](#).

## PBA GREATER ANDERSON CENTRAL/MIDWEST OPEN

The one-day event in Anderson, Ind. drew in 78 bowlers who aimed for the top-16 to get into the bracket. Zach Weidman led at +223 for eight games, while PBA Jr. star Landin Jordan earned the last spot at +72. Weidman and Chris Via battled in the top-half semifinal, but Weidman moved to the finals, winning 222-190.

Benjamin Martinez may have been the No. 15 seed, but the three-time 2022 PBA Regional champ was no Cinderella. He won a pair of matches then defeated Jeffery Mann 246-194 in the semifinals. Martinez kept trucking in the finals, upsetting the top seed Weidman 242-233 to pick up his fourth title of the season and \$2,200.

### PBA Greater Anderson Central/Midwest Open Final Standings

Benjamin Martinez, 2,500 points, \$2,200

Zach Weidman, 1,500, \$1,225

Jeffery Mann, 1,150, \$1,025

Chris Via, 950, \$1,025

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA Midwest Region points leaders are available [here](#).

## PBA50 CASINO MORONGO OPEN



For the final event, the seniors bowled out west in Cabazon, California. Walt Blackston earned the top qualifying spot at +232 for eight games, while Alan Grobmeier took the final spot at +108.

As usual, match play on Sunday shook things up as David Leverage had himself a day, going 10-1 to jump from 10th place to first. He held a 104-pin lead over Warren Eales entering the position round, and held him off to win his first title of the season and eighth of his career.

#### PBA50 Casino Morongo Open Final Standings

David Leverage, 2,500 points, \$1,800

Warren Eales, 1,500, \$1,300

Michael Haugen Jr. 1,150, \$1,075

Joe Petrovich, 950, \$900

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

The PBA50 West Region points leaders are available [here](#).

The RPI qualifiers pick right back up this weekend in Las Vegas, where four PBA bowlers and three PBA50 players will clinch spots in the final tournament. Over 2,500 miles away in Binghamton, N.Y., the East Region will hand out spots to three PBA50 bowlers as well.

### **PRIORITY REGISTRATION OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR THE 2023 PBA LBC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

#### **NOVEMBER 7, 2022 PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION**

Registration for next summer's inaugural National Championships, with an estimated \$500,000 prize fund, is now open to PBA LBC and PBA members.

Entries are now open for the 2023 PBA LBC National Championships. The 2023 PBA LBC National Championships will be held on Saturdays and Sundays from June 3 to July 16, 2023 at Bowlero Wauwatosa in the greater Milwaukee area.

The 2023 PBA LBC National Championships will feature five divisions: Open Classic, Women's Classic, Men and Women's Handicap, and Senior Classic. There will be a sixth division exclusive to the top 50 PBA players from the previous year's points rankings.

#### How To Register

PBA LBC and PBA members are now able to register [here](#).

#### Who Can Register

Priority registration will be available starting Nov. 7, 2022 through Dec. 31, 2022. During the priority registration period, only PBA LBC members (which includes all Bowlero and AMF League Bowlers) and PBA members may register for \$100. Starting on Jan. 1, 2023, anyone can register, including non-PBA LBC and PBA members, at an increased entry fee of \$200.

#### Tournament Details

The \$100 entry fee covers each bowler's singles event, which will feature six games across 12 lanes. A bowler may enter the singles event only once. There will be optional Doubles and four-person Team

Events that bowlers can opt-in to with multiple partners. Bowlers can cash unlimited times in each event. There is an entry fee of \$50 per bowler/event for Doubles and Team events.

The first three games of each player's six-game singles event will count toward their doubles score, and the second three games of the singles event will count toward their team score.

The top 50 PBA stars will compete in their own division and squad on July 17. Their scores will not compete against the bowlers in the Open Classic division, but the pros will compete against each other in the PBA Exempt division.

However, all entrants in the 2023 PBA LBC National Championship will be able to combine their scores with any participant, including any of the top 50 PBA stars, to form Doubles and Team entries. This means scores can be combined with your favorite pro bowlers like EJ Tackett, Sean Rash, Kyle Troup, Tommy Jones, etc.

### **Prize Funds**

Bowlers will be competing for an estimated \$500,000 prize fund with first place in the Open Classic division guaranteed to pay \$25,000. All other divisions will award \$5,000 first place prizes.

Beyond the guaranteed top prizes, divisions will pay an 1:8 ratio, meaning one prize for every eight bowlers who enter.

At the conclusion of the event, the top three (3) bowlers in the Open Classic division, the top three (3) in the Women's Classic division and the top three (3) in the PBA Exempt division, as well as the winner of the other three divisions (Men's Handicap, Women's Handicap and Senior Classic) will be invited to the PBA LBC National Championships Clash. That event will take place at Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine, be televised on FS1 and include a total prize fund of \$100,000.

### **PBA JR. TO INTRODUCE AFFILIATE TOURNAMENT PROGRAM, POINT SYSTEM AND NEW SCHOLARSHIP IN 2023**

NOVEMBER 11, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

Independent youth tournaments can now sign up to partner with PBA Jr. through the new PBA Jr. Affiliate Tournament program.

The 2023 PBA Jr. season will feature several enhancements, including a PBA Jr. Affiliate Tournament program and point system that will determine winners in the new PBA Jr. Jim Welch Memorial Scholarship.

Independent junior scholarship tournaments can request to partner with PBA Jr. and become a PBA Jr. Affiliate Tournament. These partnerships will enable PBA Jr. Club members who bowl in PBA Jr. and PBA Jr. Affiliate Tournaments to earn points.

"We're rolling out the PBA Jr. Affiliate Tournaments to give more junior bowlers the opportunity to earn SMART scholarship awards from PBA Jr." said Mike Sledz, the PBA's director of membership who also oversees the PBA Jr. program.

Independent junior scholarship tournaments that are interested in becoming a PBA Jr. Affiliate Tournament should contact Mike Sledz by email at [msledz@pba.com](mailto:msledz@pba.com).

"Since there are so many junior scholarship tournaments being run on any given weekend, we found that there are times when bowlers had to choose between two or more events, including PBA Jr.

tournaments,” Sledz said. “We felt it best to work with other tournaments, rather than split the entries between the two. It’s a win-win for the junior bowlers and the independent tournaments.”

Fifty awards from the PBA Jr. Jim Welch Memorial Scholarship, totaling over \$20,000 in SMART scholarships, will go to points leaders in Boys & Girls divisions across each of the five PBA Jr. Regions.

To earn points towards the PBA Jr. Jim Welch Memorial Scholarship, junior bowlers must be PBA Jr. Club members.

“Jim was a great tournament promoter and a huge advocate for youth bowling,” Sledz said. “Naming this new scholarship after him seemed only fitting.”

While the full 2023 PBA Jr. schedule will be announced in the coming weeks, Regional Qualifiers for next season’s PBA Jr. National Championships will be held Aug. 11-13, 2023 at five locations across the country.

## **2023 PBA TOUR FINALS RETURN TO CBS SPORTS NETWORK NOVEMBER 15, 2022 PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION**

Eight elite players compete for a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title June 24-25 in Arlington, Washington

Richmond, VA — The top eight Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour professionals, as determined by competition points earned over the past two seasons, will return to Strikerz Bowling in the Angel of the Winds Casino in Arlington, Wash. for the 2022 PBA Tour Finals, which will feature nine hours of live bowling on CBS Sports Network June 24 and 25.

The top points earners from the 2022 season through the 2023 PBA Players Championship in May will be divided into two groups for qualifying rounds broadcast live on June 24. The stepladder finals and championship match will air live on June 25.

Last year, eventual PBA Player of the Year Jason Belmonte won the PBA Tour Finals for his career-best fifth PBA Tour title of the season, bowling his second career televised perfect game in the process. Earlier in the event, Kyle Troup also bowled a 300 game, marking the first time two perfect games were bowled during a single PBA Tour Finals event.

“The Tour Finals is one of the hardest events to win and qualify for,” Belmonte said. “I respect this event so much. Going back to defend my title at Strikerz Bowling is so exciting. The fans there love bowling and the massive crowds are proof of that. Plus, my ball seems to strike a little better there, which I won’t complain about.”

This is the seventh iteration of the PBA Tour Finals, which rewards the best bowlers over a two-year period with a chance to compete in the quest to earn a Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title.

PBA fans will be able to watch the PBA Tour Finals on CBS Sports Network. Select highlights will be available on @PBATour social handles across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

PBA Tour Finals on CBSSN Schedule

June 24 – Qualifying

June 25 – Group stepladders and championship match

## PBA Tour Finals Winners Since 2017

2017 – EJ Tackett

2018 – Jason Belmonte

2019 – EJ Tackett

2020 – Kyle Troup

2021 – Anthony Simonsen

2022 – Jason Belmonte

## **PBA REGIONAL RECAP: STUBLER COMPLETES WIRE-TO-WIRE VICTORY, PICKS UP FIRST CAREER REGIONAL TITLE NOVEMBER 17, 2022 CHASE KAUFMAN**

With just a handful of events remaining, the PBA Regional Tour is slowing down as the Regional Players Invitational is on the horizon. The final two automatic qualifier tournaments were held in the West and the season-long points race wrapped up across the nation, meaning this was the last chance for bowlers to jump into the RPI.

### PBA WEST NON-CHAMPIONS PRESENTED BY SOUTH POINT

MLB superstar Mookie Betts may have competed in the one-day event, but Bryan Hahlen stole the show in qualifying. Thanks in part to a 300 game, Hahlen averaged over 251 for eight games at the future RPI venue to take the top seed out of the 87 entrants. Betts started hot, but finished 11 pins outside of the cut in 18th.

Hahlen won his first two matches to advance to the semifinals, but fell to Adam Wilson 257-201. Meanwhile, Michael Fitzgerald defeated Anthony Schanen 254-244 in the bottom half of the bracket to move on to the finals. While there, Wilson got the best of Fitzgerald 247-235 for his first career title.

### PBA West Non-Champions presented by South Point Final Standings

Adam Wilson, \$2,400

Michael Fitzgerald, \$1,600

Bryan Hahlen, \$1,100

Anthony Schanen, \$1,100

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

### PBA SOUTH POINT OPEN (RPI WEST QUALIFIER)

The next day at South Point, 87 bowlers vied for four spots in the RPI. Michael Tang cruised on the Johnny Petraglia pattern, averaging 255 for eight games, exceeding the mark set by Hahlen shot on the conditions just a day prior.

Tang eventually fell in the third round to Deo Bernard, who had himself a day. Bernard remarkably shot at least 278 in seven of his 10 games during match play, averaging 260.10 despite a 161.

Bernard defeated George Gohagan III in the finals for his third career regional title. Kyle King, Kyle Duster, Lanndyn Carnate, and David Haynes earned spots in the RPI.

#### PBA South Point Open (RPI West Qualifier) Final Standings

Deo Bernard, 2,500 points, \$2,400

George Gohagan III, \$1,600

Carson Opela, 1,150, \$1,100

Kyle King, 950, \$1,100

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA50 SOUTH POINT CLASSIC (RPI WEST QUALIFIER)

To complete the trifecta and continue the myriad of scoring, the senior regional event out West also transpired the same day. Darron Peters and Michael Hartter led the strong field, each going +419 for eight games. Neither bowler won their first match in the bracket though, as both lost 2-0.

In the semifinals, Kenneth Fox delivered a 300, after just shooting one in the previous round, to top Dan Sasaki. Jay Watts beat Martin Bedford in the other semifinal, but nobody could stop Fox as he beat Watts 265-205 for his first regional win. Sasaki moves onto the RPI with David Leverage and Dan Long.

#### PBA50 South Point Classic (RPI West Qualifier) Final Standings

Kenneth Fox, \$2,500

Jay Watts, \$1,600

Dan Sasaki, 1,150 points, \$1,150

Martin Bedford, 950, \$1,150

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA STRIKE IT BIG OVIEDO RPI SOUTH OPEN

Another big crowd came out to Florida, as 88 bowlers fought the Cheetah pattern, and the bowlers won. It took +70 to move onto the top third of bowlers and go to the first advancer round.

Three 300 games happened on the way to the final four, but in the end, Cristian Azcona, Tom Daughtery, Chris Polizzi, and Michael Patterson earned spots in the stepladder.

Daughtery defeated Azcona in Game 1, but lost in Game 2 after Polizzi started with the front nine to shoot 278. In the final match, Patterson struggled to figure out the pair, failing to strike until the seventh frame. In turn, Polizzi earned his second title and third of his career.

#### PBA Strike It Big Oviedo RPI South Open Final Standings

Chris Polizzi, 2,500 points, \$3,000

Michael Patterson, 1,500, \$1,600

Tom Daughtery, 1,150, \$1,200

Cristian Azcona, 950, \$1,000

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA ROADHOUSE SPORTSBAR MIDWEST RPI

Clinton, Iowa held the fifth regional of the weekend, and Nate Stubler picked up a wire-to-wire win, a rare feat in the world of bowling. Stubler started his weekend with a 115-pin lead. He extended his lead by eight pins after the advancer round, and he picked it back up within minutes. After his eight games of match play, he led the field by 465 pins, while Collin Smith, Kevin McCune, and 16-year-old Landin Jordan also advanced to the stepladder.

Jordan picked up a victory in the first match after stringing three strikes late and would win again after doing the same in the second match. However, in the championship match, Stubler could not be stopped, amassing the front eight and ultimately winning 254-234. The victory marks Stubler's first career regional title.

#### PBA Roadhouse Sportsbar Midwest RPI Final Standings

Nate Stubler, 2,500 points, \$2,500

Landin Jordan, 1,500, \$1,800

Collin Smith, \$1,400

Kevin McCune, 950, \$1,200

Full tournament standings available [here](#).

#### PBA50 RIPIC'S CAROUSEL LANES RPI OPEN (RPI QUALIFIER)

For the last event of the weekend, the East Region had their chance to send a few bowlers to the RPI. Ray Edwards began on top at +231 for eight games, but plenty of match play remained. With no stepladder finals, bowlers needed to move to number one as soon as possible. Ryan Shafer, who qualified second, put together a very respectable day, capped off by a 300 in his 11th game. The latest Tony Reyes Community Service award winner's 100+ pin lead was too much for anybody to catch as he moved on to win his 35th regional title.

#### PBA50 Ripic's Carousel Lanes RPI Open (RPI Qualifier) Final Standings

Ryan Shafer, 2,500 points, \$1,800

Darryl Bower, 1,500, \$1,100

Ray Edwards, 1,150, \$900

Dan Babcock, 950, \$800

Full tournament standings are available [here](#).

#### PBA VETERANS DAY CLASSIC

Taking place near the home of the I Corps and 62nd Airlift Wing, many bowlers and fans came out to the Veterans Day Classic in Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, to compete in the Northwest Region's last event of the year and the pro-am. Gary Lenox was the top qualifier through eight games, and he increased that lead after the advancer round.

Lenox won his first match, but dropped his second to Tim Cagle II. Lanndyn Carnate emerged in a one-game, winner-take-all finale, where he delivered on his first shot in the 10th frame to clinch his first title as a member. The highest finishing military member honors went to Kai Pedro, who finished 15th.

#### PBA Veterans Day Classic Final Standings

Lanndyn Carnate, 2,500 points, \$2,100  
Tim Cagle II, 1,500, \$1,500  
Gary Lenox, 1,150, \$1,000  
Nick Borgaro, 950, \$1,000  
Full tournament standings available [here](#).

#### PBA WOMEN'S VETERANS DAY CLASSIC

Sixteen bowlers entered the women's division and anybody who finished plus advanced into the single-elimination bracket. Top seeded Kristin Quah took down Samantha How in the semifinals in two games, while Valentina Cruz defeated PBA Jr. star Avery Domaguin in two games to advance to the finals as well. In a final match we've seen so often, Quah got the best of Cruz thanks to a late five-bagger. Quah picked up her second title after her 233-192 victory.

#### PBA Women's Veterans Day Classic Final Standings

Kristin Quah, \$800  
Valentina Cruz, \$625  
Avery Domaguin, \$500  
Samantha How, \$500

#### **BORESCH, MCCORDIC, BORDEN ELECTED TO PBA HALL OF FAME NOVEMBER 17, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

Lennie Boresch Jr., Pete McCordic and Fred Borden will make up the PBA Hall of Fame Class of 2023. Boresch will enter in the superior performance category for his PBA50 career and McCordic and Borden will both enter for meritorious service.

The PBA Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held March 12, 2023 in Fairlawn, Ohio prior to the PBA Tournament of Champions.

#### LENNIE BORESCH JR.

Boresch, of Kenosha, Wis., won the 2022 Senior U.S. Open in June for his fifth PBA50 title and second major, making him eligible for PBA Hall of Fame consideration. At his first opportunity of eligibility, he was elected and will enter the PBA Hall of Fame in 2023. He's already a member of the USBC Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 2012.

PBA Tour commissioner Tom Clark broke the news to Boresch prior to the Friday-morning league at Castle Lanes in Racine, Wisconsin, where Boresch owns Bowler's Choice Pro Shop. Clark addressed the league—a league Boresch created—under the guise of relaying information on the new PBA LBC National Championships tournament, then surprised everyone by announcing Boresch's upcoming induction into the Hall of Fame.

"It was a total shock," said Boresch. "I saw Tom earlier and he told me he was making the rounds to talk about the tournament, and then when he said I was going into the Hall of Fame, I was caught way off guard. I met the criteria for consideration this year but I don't know how that all plays out. I thought maybe some day, but not this quickly."

In addition to Boresch's five PBA50 titles, he has eight second-place finishes and also owns 33 PBA Regional Tour titles (25 standard and eight PBA50).

"I was always a late bloomer," said Boresch. "I joined the PBA when I was 19 and didn't win my first regional until I was 32. I never gave up and then all of a sudden I've put together a little success these last several years. It's still kind of surreal to me."

"Lennie is a great example of a bowler who extends his bowling career with the PBA50 Tour," said Clark. "He joined the Tour, went full-bore into it, won some big titles against some of the best ever to play, and now he gets into the Hall of Fame. It's inspirational for a lot of people."

"It really hasn't sunk in yet," said Boresch. "I look around at all the Hall of Famers out there and it's the guys I watch on TV, and now I'm one of them? Going into the Hall of Fame was a goal of mine. I've been very blessed in my career."

#### PETE MCCORDIC

Long-time Southwest Region manager McCordic, of Katy, Texas, retired in 2022 after 25 years running the region. Overwhelmingly respected by the players for his excellence, consistency and fairness, McCordic will enter the PBA Hall of Fame for his meritorious service to the game.

"Having bowled on Tour for about 18 years, I know what it's like trying to make a living competing," said McCordic. "I did the best I could to give the bowlers chasing that dream a great experience in every tournament."

"The PBA has been blessed with great regional managers," said Clark. "They keep the PBA together by running a regional system that is the backbone of the PBA. They understand tournament bowling and how to create a consistent, fair environment for the players. Pete McCordic was all those things and he was also a great player."

Prior to devoting his time to amplifying the regional program, McCordic was a touring pro, winning two PBA Tour titles and bowling a perfect game in the 1987 Greater Los Angeles Open. It was the fourth televised 300 game in PBA history and first in 13 years. In 2018, during the PBA's 60th anniversary season, McCordic's perfect game was designated the fourth-most memorable moment in PBA history.

"He sacrificed his own playing career to take on the Southwest Region and give opportunities for so many players to compete," said Clark. "Pete's going into the Hall of Fame for meritorious service, and his unforgettable performance on the lanes is the cherry on top."

"I was literally speechless when Tom told me," said McCordic. "I loved my job. I was blessed to be able to be around great bowlers 25 weekends a year, if not more. I got to see Chris Barnes and Wes Malott win their first titles and it was a joy to watch those players and so many other greats. I have no complaints or regrets. It was a great way to spend my adult life and it's a tremendous honor to be inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame."

#### FRED BORDEN

Coach, teacher, proprietor and author Fred Borden's impact on the PBA began at the very beginning. When Eddie Elias announced the formation of the PBA in 1958, 17-year-old Borden, like Elias a resident of Akron, Ohio, fast-tracked his devotion to bowling.



"When I was 15, I made up my mind I was going to own a bowling center or two," said Borden, "but I knew I wasn't going to bowl professionally. Our junior coach had us older kids coach the younger kids, and one of the kids I coached bowled a 300 game. I always respected my coaches and I realized there was a lot to coaching beyond just the Xs and Os. Then when Eddie announced the PBA, I got really serious about bowling. I never expected it would lead to this. I'm really taken aback by this honor."

Borden, studied biomechanics, sports psychology, physiology and began coaching women's learn-to-bowl schools that had 600 women taking lessons at the same time.

"Harry Smith started telling people I've been coaching," said Borden, "and up comes Don Johnson. He hadn't won yet but he was a very coachable person. He would try anything, saying, 'Bords, that's so clever, I've never heard of that.' Then he started telling a lot of players. George Pappas, Johnny Petraglia, Barry Asher—they all started showing up. They became friends, not students. My wife would make spaghetti and they'd stay at the house and show up and bowl."

Borden continued coaching the top players and honing his own coaching skills, eventually famously working with eight-time PBA Tour champion John Mazza. "I told him, Johnny, I want you to think of yourself as world class every time you go out there. To this day, he calls me World Class. The relationships I've developed in this game are so special to me."

"Fred's credentials are amazing," said Clark. "The work he did with the PBA and its players since the sixties is unmatched. The art of coaching is something Fred mastered and the PBA is proud to recognize that skill and how important and influential it is on the game and the players."

Borden, a member of the USBC Hall of Fame since 2002, owns five patents in the world of bowling and is a former head coach of Team USA. Borden was instrumental in creating the USBC Bowling Coaches Certification Program and spent time as the color analyst with the PWBA among many other roles in the industry.

"Bowling is a sport that's good for everybody," said Borden. "This is the biggest thrill of my life. I didn't do these things for the accolades so I just need to know how blessed I am to be appreciated. I didn't do this by myself by any means."

## **FORMAT AND RULES: THE 2023 PBA LBC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

NOVEMBER 22, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

An overview of the format and rules for next summer's inaugural National Championships

The inaugural 2023 PBA LBC National Championships will head to the greater Milwaukee area next summer. The new singles event will take place at Bowlero Wauwatosa on Saturdays and Sundays from June 3 to July 16, 2023.

Players will bowl six games and do not need a team to compete. Pick a weekend and come out to bowl!

"I'm a fan of this new approach to a national tournament," said PBA Hall of Famer Chris Barnes. "It has elements that will be new to some of the tournament players, but opens up a lot of new possibilities and makes coordinating squads, dates, and times a non-factor."

All players will bowl six games of competition. Each six-game total (plus handicap, if applicable) will represent a player's score in the Singles event. However, bowlers will be able to sign up for optional Doubles and Team events onsite, where they can enter and cash an unlimited number of times.

"I have bowled in quite a few events with 'crossover doubles,' but this is like that on steroids!" Barnes said. "I have not bowled one with multiple teams and that is really intriguing. This is going to be like playing fantasy football except we get to play in the game. A new way for people to have a connection with their favorite players, or still be able to be a part of the same doubles or team even if they can't make a specific weekend work."

The top 50 PBA players from the 2022 PBA National Tour will compete on July 17, 2023 in the PBA Exempt division. Any bowler competing in the PBA LBC National Championships will be able to sign up for the Doubles and Team events with the pros.

"It's the first time I can remember being able to partner up with any pro I want," Barnes said. "The ability to have that connection and win money while holding up my favorite pro is a really great story that will get told I'm sure!"

Discounted priority registration of just \$100 is now open to PBA and PBA LBC members here.

With discounted priority registration now open for all PBA and PBA LBC members, here is an overview of the tournament's format and notable rules.

#### FORMAT

##### Singles

All players will bowl six games across 12 lanes. Players may enter the singles event once. The estimated \$500,000 total prize fund will award a guaranteed first place prize of \$25,000 for the Open Classic division and a \$5,000 top prize in the other divisions. Subsequent finishers will be paid based on a 1:8 ratio, awarding one prize for every eight bowlers who enter.

The top three players in the Open Classic, Women's Classic and PBA Exempt divisions, along with the leader from the Men's Handicap, Women's Handicap and Senior Classic divisions will qualify for the PBA LBC National Championships Clash. The FS1 televised event from legendary Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine will feature a \$100,000 prize fund.

##### Doubles and Team (optional)

Bowlers can sign up to compete in Doubles and four-person Team events on site. Doubles and Team entries cost \$50 and bowlers can enter unlimited times in each event. Bowlers can also cash an unlimited number of times in Doubles and Team events, while each division will award participants at the same 1:8 ratio.

Doubles scores will consist of each player's scores from games 1-3 of singles qualifying. Team scores will consist of each player's scores from games 4-6 of singles qualifying.

Bowlers may only select Doubles partners or Team members who have not yet bowled. Youth participants are also not eligible for the Doubles and Team events.

There will be two divisions for Doubles and Team: Classic (scratch) and Handicap. If both partners or all team members are bowling scratch, they will compete in the scratch division.

If there are partners or team members competing in the Men's or Women's Handicap division, they will have handicap added to their scores and be placed in the Handicap division. Scratch bowlers may compete with partners or teammates using handicap, but they will still bowl scratch.

##### General

There will be four bowlers to a pair of lanes. Each pair will receive five minutes of practice prior to the start of competition and move one pair (or more) to the right after each game.

Any ties for a TV-finalist position or first place will be broken by highest overall game (with handicap, if applicable) among their six qualifying scores. Ties beyond first place and TV finalists will not be broken; prize money will be added together and divided equally.

## RULES

### Equipment

There will be a limit of six (6) bowling balls per participant. All bowling balls are required to satisfy the specifications of the PBA (which can be found under the Appendix of the Universal Playing Rules) and may be inspected at any time prior to, during or after competition. Bowlers must document any ball used during competition on the provided "Ball Registration Card." Surface adjustments are not allowed once each squad begins.

### Dress Code

Participants are expected to wear attire suitable for participation in a national championship event. Examples of prohibited attire include, but are not limited to, tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, spaghetti strap tops, headphones/earbuds (permitted for medical reasons only), sleeveless shirts or tops and workout attire (athletic shorts, sweats, yoga pants, leggings, etc.). Profanity or inappropriate wording is not allowed. Jeans (no holes) and hats are acceptable. Skirts, dress shorts, culottes or skorts are permitted provided the length is beyond the fingertips when your arms are at rest along your sides.

Bowlers will be required to change if attire is deemed inappropriate by Tournament Sponsor's management. Tournament Sponsor's management decision will be final. Any bowler requesting a dress code exception for a medical, religious or other reason must do so in writing to Tournament Sponsor's management 30 days prior to the event.

A complete breakdown of rules for the 2023 PBA LBC National Championships can be found [here](#).

## **BREAKING DOWN THE FULL 2023 PBA TOUR SCHEDULE DECEMBER 1, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

The 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season features 16 title events, including five majors on FOX, and over 50 hours of coverage on FOX and FS1. Additional coverage of all qualifying rounds and select championship rounds will be provided by BowITV.

Beginning in Indianapolis with the U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!, the PBA will travel to 15 cities across 13 states in 2023. A first-time host and the return of one of the sport's most iconic venues highlight the schedule.

### 2023 GUARANTEED RATE PBA TOUR SCHEDULE

2023 U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!

Jan. 29, 2023 – Feb. 5, 2023

Royal Pin Woodland | Indianapolis

Qualifying and match play: BowITV | Additional Match Play: Feb. 4, 4 p.m. ET on FS1 | Finals: Feb. 5, 2 p.m. ET on FOX

Royal Pin Woodland is the only bowling center that has hosted every PBA major, so it's fitting the Indianapolis venue will host the season-opening U.S. Open where plenty of bowling history is at stake.

Anthony Simonsen claimed the green jacket one year ago to become the youngest player to win three majors, later extending that record with his fourth career major title at the USBC Masters. He'll look for back-to-back titles and expand his impressive résumé once again.

EJ Tackett, who led last year's tournament by 502 pins before falling to Simonsen in the title match, seeks to complete the Triple Crown.

All the while, Jason Belmonte pursues an unfathomable second Super Slam.

PBA Springfield Classic  
Feb. 7, 2023 – Feb. 11, 2023  
Enterprise Park Lanes | Springfield, Mo.  
All rounds streaming on BowlTV

Following the U.S. Open, the PBA will debut in Missouri's southwest corridor as Springfield hosts the first of the season's five Classic events. The PBA National Tour last visited the Show Me State in 2004 for the PBA BowlersParadise.com Open near St. Louis.

A pair of prominent PBA athletes call Springfield home, including Keven Williams and Spencer Robarge, a former PBA Jr. national champion and 2021 USBC Masters finalist.

PBA Shawnee Classic  
Feb. 13, 2023 – Feb. 17, 2023  
FireLake Bowling Center | Shawnee, Okla.  
All rounds streaming on BowlTV

The Classic series continues into nearby Oklahoma for the third event of the season. Perhaps no player is more excited about Shawnee's return to the PBA schedule than Sean Rash. The 40-year-old has won three titles in Shawnee, including each of the last two: the 2020 PBA Oklahoma Open and 2019 Roth/Holman Doubles Championship with Matt Ogle.

PBA Wichita Classic  
Feb. 20, 2023 – Feb. 24, 2023  
Northrock Lanes | Wichita, Kan.  
All rounds streaming on BowlTV

The fourth stop of 2023 will also be a welcome return for Rash, one of the PBA's ever-growing collection of collegiate bowling powerhouse Wichita State University alumni. Nine former Shockers finished among the top 50 in points last season, all of whom are quite familiar with Bowlero Northrock.

Dom Barrett won the city's last professional event at the 2018 U.S. Open.

PBA Jackson Classic  
March 6, 2023 – March 9, 2023  
JAX60 | Jackson, Mich.  
All rounds streaming on BowlTV

JAX60, located about an hour west of Detroit, will return as the host of the PBA Jackson Classic in early March. Jesper Svensson engineered a wire-to-wire victory in the south-central Michigan town last season.

PBA Tournament of Champions  
March 12, 2023 – March 19, 2023  
AMF Riviera Lanes | Fairlawn, Ohio

Qualifying: BowlTV | Match Play: March 17-18 on FS1 | Finals: March 19, 12 p.m. ET on FOX

Historic AMF Riviera near Akron, Ohio will once again host the Tournament of Champions and Hall of Fame induction ceremonies in March 2023. Kris Prather finished first and second in the ToC's last two appearances at AMF Riviera.

The week will begin with the induction of Lennie Boresch Jr., Pete McCordic and Fred Borden into the PBA Hall of Fame.

PBA Kokomo Classic  
March 21, 2023 – March 24, 2023  
Heritage Lanes | Kokomo, Ind.  
All rounds streaming on BowlTV

For the second straight season, the PBA National Tour heads to Kokomo, the birthplace of 26-time titleist and PBA Hall of Famer, Don Johnson.

Nick Pate almost pulled off a stepladder climb for the ages in 2022, defeating Simonsen and Tackett before falling to Belmonte in the title match.

USBC Masters  
March 26, 2023 – April 2, 2023  
Thunderbowl Lanes | Allen Park, Mich.  
Qualifying and match play: BowlTV | Match Play: March 31, 7 p.m. ET on FS1 | Finals: April 2, 1 p.m. ET on FOX

Simonsen, who will turn 26 before the start of the season, will look to defend two crowns in the Detroit suburb: His 2022 USBC Masters title and his 2021 PBA Tour Finals title, which was the last PBA Tour title awarded at Thunderbowl Lanes.

Guaranteed Rate PBA World Series of Bowling XIV  
April 7, 2023 – April 23, 2023  
Bowlero Wauwatosa | Wauwatosa, Wis.  
Qualifying: BowlTV | Championship Rounds: April 15-19 on FS1 | World Championship Finals: April 23, 12 p.m. ET on FOX

The Cheetah, Scorpion and Shark Championships all return for the World Series of Bowling XIV, once again at Bowlero Wauwatosa.

But the World Series will have a revamped look in 2023, featuring longer qualifying formats and the return of the USA vs. The World event after a three-year hiatus. The top five American and international players, based on 60 games qualifying across all three animal patterns, will qualify for each team.

The World Championship moves to the end of the World Series as the major caps off two weeks of international bowling at the highest level. François Lavoie and Tommy Jones could achieve Triple Crown status with a World Championship win.

PBA Players Championship  
April 30 – May 7, 2023; May 13-14, 2023  
Bowlero North Brunswick | North Brunswick, N.J.  
Qualifying: BowlTV | Match Play and Semifinals: May 6, 7, 13 on FS1 | Finals: May 14, 1 p.m. on FOX

The PBA Players Championship may just be the most anticipated event of the year — for the athletes and fans — as it marks the PBA's long-awaited homecoming to Bowlero North Brunswick. The final major champion of 2023 will have to emerge from the 12-player bracket finals, airing in entirety on FS1 and FOX.

Roth/Holman PBA Doubles Championship  
May 8, 2023 – May 11, 2023  
Mid County Lanes | Middletown, Del.  
All rounds streaming on BowlTV

The doubles event moves from the World Series to its own event, separating the qualifying and championship rounds of the Players Championship. Tackett and Marshall Kent will look for back-to-back titles and a sixth telecast in seven years when the Roth-Holman Doubles Championship heads to Delaware. This marks the first PBA National Tour tournament in Delaware since 2019 when Ryan Ciminelli captured his eighth career title at the PBA Gene Carter's Pro Shop Classic.

PBA Super Slam  
May 19, 2023 – May 21, 2023  
Bowlero Jupiter | Jupiter, Fla.  
Prelims: May 20, 2 p.m. ET on FS1 | Finals: May 21, 3 p.m. ET on FOX

The five major champions from 2023 will reconvene in Florida to determine the champion of champions. This non-title event was last held in 2021, when three-time major champion Lavoie took down a quartet of first-time major titleists.

If there is a repeat major winner, the runner-up in the repeat champion's most recent major will compete in the Super Slam. For example, Norm Duke would have qualified in 2022 after finishing second at the USBC Masters, where Simonsen won his second major title of the year.

PBA Tour Finals  
June 23, 2023 – June 25, 2023  
Strikerz Bowling in Angel of the Winds Casino | Arlington, Wash.  
All rounds broadcast live on CBS Sports Network

The top eight points earners from the 2022 season through the 2023 Players Championship will return to the Pacific Northwest for the Tour Finals.

Strikerz Bowling in Angel of the Winds Casino produced the third-highest scores among all telecasts in 2022, including a PBA-record two 300 games during the Group 1 stepladder finals show.

PBA League Bowler Certification National Championships  
July 17, 2023  
Bowlero Wauwatosa | Wauwatosa, Wis.  
Clash: Oct. 1, 7 p.m. ET on FS1

The top 50 PBA players from 2022 will return to Bowlero Wauwatosa on July 17 to compete in the PBA Exempt division of the PBA LBC National Championships.

Each pro will bowl six games of singles qualifying; their first three games will count toward the Doubles event and the final three games will count toward the Team event. Any player competing in the PBA LBC National Championships can sign up to compete in the Doubles and Team events with the PBA stars.

The top three PBA players will advance to the telecast to be contested at Bayside Bowl. They'll join finalists from the other five divisions, including the top three players in the Open Classic and Women's Classic divisions and the leaders from the Men's Handicap, Women's Handicap and Senior Classic divisions.

PBA Skill Ball Challenge  
July 22, 2023 – July 23, 2023  
Thunderbowl Lanes | Allen Park, Mich.

The top eight players in points accumulated at the five Classic events (Springfield, Shawnee, Wichita, Jackson, Kokomo) return to Thunderbowl Lanes.

This non-title event will harken back to bowling of yesteryear as part of Teen Masters event. Players will be issued identical PBA Skill Balls — the same plastic balls used by Teen Masters competitors — and compete on the Teen Masters' signature low-volume patterns.

PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles  
July 27, 2023 – July 30, 2023  
Copperfield Bowl | Houston, Texas

The annual crossover event with the PWBA in Houston has been dominated by Tackett in recent years. He has won three of the last four titles, all with different partners.

The special event, more commonly known as the Luci, has raised over \$1 million to help in the fight against breast cancer since launching in 2000.

PBA League Elias Cup Playoffs presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon  
Sept. 23, 2023 – Sept. 27, 2023  
Bayside Bowl | Portland, Maine  
Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals: Sept. 24-27 on FS1

The frenetic atmosphere at Bayside Bowl provides the perfect setting to close out the season. In 2022, the Portland Lumberjacks completed an improbable comeback to capture an Elias Cup three-peat while Norm Duke rode off into the sunset in dramatic fashion.

What will 2023 have in store?

ROSTER SET FOR 2022 PBA REGIONAL PLAYERS INVITATIONAL  
DECEMBER 2, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES  
Facebook  
Twitter  
Email

With the 2022 PBA Regional Players Invitational just one month away, the field has taken shape.

South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas will host the 84 PBA and 48 PBA50 athletes competing for the Walter Ray Williams Jr. Championship Trophies, named in honor of the PBA's all-time winningest player.

Each of the PBA and PBA50's seven regions held an RPI qualifier tournament, awarding four RPI berths per region in the Regular Division and three in the PBA50 Division. The PBA50 Northwest Region awarded two RPI berths.

Through the season-long points list, an additional eight PBA players and four PBA50 players per region qualified for the RPI.

Players who finished among the top 50 on the PBA National Tour points list and the top 10 on the PBA50 National Tour points list were not eligible for the RPI. However, a top-10 finishing PBA50 player would be eligible in the Regular Division.

#### PBA REGULAR DIVISION

Headlining the PBA field are Graham Fach, the 2016 PBA Players Championship winner who captured five regional titles this season, and Benjamin Martinez, the rising Mexican star who won four times on the 2022 regional circuit.

Carlos Granados, who won the 2021 PBA Regional Players Invitational, did not qualify.

#### EAST REGION

Points Leaders: Jason Cornog, Cherry Hill, N.J.; Todd Sigeti, Lancaster, Pa.; Mike Ruben, Selden, N.Y.; Tim Foy Jr., Seaford, Del.; Tom Sorce, Blasdell, N.Y.; Paul Smith, Madison, Conn.; Joe Paluszek, Bensalem, Pa. and Alex Cavagnaro, Massapequa, N.Y.

RPI Qualifier: Jake Rollins, Glen Rock, N.J.; Cody Shoemaker, Hanover, Pa.; Ryan Galli, Johnson City, N.Y. and John Furey, Howell, N.J.

Shoemaker paced the East Region in points, while Galli's two titles led the way. They'll be the East's top contenders in Vegas, along with Foy and Paluszek, who have each made PBA Tour telecasts.

#### CENTRAL REGION

Points Leaders: Graham Fach, Urbana, Ohio; Patrick Dombrowski, Parma, Ohio; Justin Knowles, Okemos, Mich.; Jeffery Mann, West Lafayette, Ind.; Jean Perez, Puerto Rico; Mike Eaton Jr., Byron Center, Mich.; Matt Sanders, Evansville, Ind. and TBD

RPI Qualifier: Bailey Mavrick, Peru, Ind.; Brian Robinson, Morgantown, W.Va.; Zac Tackett, Huntington, Ind. and Michael Schlabach, Goshen, Ind.

After leading the 2021 RPI, Fach obliterated the Central Region in 2022; he racked up five titles and earned twice as many points as the next-best player. The left-handed Canadian native is the favorite from the Central Region, but fellow southpaws Knowles, Perez and Sanders can't be counted out, nor can veterans like Dombrowski and up-and-comers Mann, Mavrick and Schlabach.

#### MIDWEST REGION

Points Leaders: Nathan Michalowski, Mount Pleasant, Wis.; Brenden Sramek, Bettendorf, Iowa; Tim Gruendler, St. Louis, Mo.; Nick Kruml, Downers Grove, Ill.; Zach Wilkins, Canada; Tim Curran, St. Louis, Mo.; Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind. and Nathan Rayborn, St. Louis, Mo.

RPI Qualifier: Benjamin Martinez, Guadalajara, Mexico; Chris Hill, Franklin, Wis.; Russ Oviatt, Sioux Falls, S.D. and Tom Hess, Granger, Iowa

While this region's college football teams struggle to score points, its bowlers do not. It's feasible someone could average higher than Iowa's 255 offensive yards per game this season. The safest bet is Martinez, who won four titles and cashed in all nine of his events, but Wilkins and McCune have set scoring record books ablaze during their careers.

#### SOUTH REGION

Points Leaders: Trevor Roberts, Crystal River, Fla.; Colin Champion, Spring Hill, Fla.; Matt Taylor, Zebulon, N.C.; Ryan Ciminelli, Monroe, N.C.; Mathew Woodall, Norfolk, Va.; Dwight Adams, Greensboro, N.C.; Nick Christy, Lugoff, S.C.; Kennon McFalls, Cayce, S.C.



RPI Qualifier: Chris Polizzi, Spring Hill, Fla.; Michael Patterson, Canton, Ga.; Nate Garcia, Port St. Lucia, Fla.; Ryan Lane, Powder Springs, Ga.

Ciminelli, who came up clutch for the PBR Milwaukee Pounders at the PBA League, headlines the stellar South Region field. Roberts and Polizzi each captured a pair of titles this season, while Lane, Taylor and Adams snagged one win apiece.

#### SOUTHWEST REGION

Points Leaders: Ildemaro Ruiz Jr., Venezuela; Nathan Bohr, Austin, Texas; Deo Benard, Roanoke, Texas; David Krol, Nixa, Mo.; Johnathan Norman, Houston; Cody Meiers, Lubbock, Texas; Mykel Holliman, Collierville, Tenn.; Deeronn Booker, Anaheim, Calif.

RPI Qualifier: Sean Lavery-Spahr, Pasadena, Texas; Dylan Macon, Lubbock, Texas; Trey Ford III, Bartlesville, Okla.; Fero Williams, Norman, Okla.

The Southwest is loaded with dominant regional players on the precipice of national success. Lavery-Spahr snuck into the RPI after finishing 51st on the PBA Tour points list; Bohr wasn't far behind in 58th and owns 25 career PBA Regional Tour titles.

Holliman, the 2019 PBA Rookie of the Year, will be a top contender at South Point. Benard, who averaged nearly 250 en route to winning the PBA South Point Open in November, should be a factor as well.

#### WEST REGION

Points Leaders: PJ Haggerty, Roseville, Calif.; Chad Lusche, Henderson, Nev.; Cortez Schenck, Phoenix; Ramsey Basurto, Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.; Scott Boyle, Salida, Calif.; Anthony Schanen, Glendale, Calif.; Matt Murtishaw, Menifee, Calif.; Michael Fitzgerald, Phoenix

RPI Qualifier: Kyle King, Glendale, Ariz.; Kyle Duster, Scottsdale, Ariz.; Lanndyn Carnate, Redding, Calif.; David Haynes, Las Vegas

With the RPI taking place on the West Region's home turf, these players could have a leg up on competitors. King, Duster, Carnate and Haynes are all names to watch based on their success at the RPI qualifier, which was also held at South Point.

Two of the region's best this season were Haggerty, who won three titles and earned a region-best 14,030 points, and Schenck, who earned a pair of titles in just seven events. In 2021, Fitzgerald reached the semifinals of the RPI before falling to runner-up Joe Bailey.

#### NORTHWEST REGION

Points Leaders: Payden Stumpf, Puyallup, Wash.; Tyler Cruz, Tacoma, Wash.; Craig Tuholski, Gresham, Ore.; Bill Machin, Stayton, Ore.; Joe Lipan, Bend, Ore.; Nick Borgaro, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Giorgio Clinaz, Brigham City, Utah; Nick Amrein, Hillsboro, Ore.

RPI Qualifier: Cameron Weier, Seattle; Gary Lenox, Hillsboro, Ore.; Evan Nash, Kennewick, Wash.; Tim Cagle II, Hercules, Calif.

Stumpf, despite not claiming a title, led all Northwest RPI representatives in points, while Cruz, Lipan, Nash and Clinaz each earned a title. Weier, a former First Team All-American at Robert Morris-Illinois, averaged over 223 in his four events and finished among the top 10 in each. Borgaro finished 11th in points this season, but was the Northwest Player and Rookie of the Year in 2021.

#### PBA50 DIVISION

For the first time, the RPI will feature a division exclusive to PBA50 players. The senior field includes 10 former PBA Tour champions, most notably Pete Weber, Ryan Shafer and Eugene McCune.

#### EAST REGION

Points Leaders: Troy Lint, Blandon, Pa.; David Handlowich Jr., Ancram, N.Y.; Rick Graham, Elizabethtown, Pa. and Sammy Ventura, Syracuse, N.Y.

RPI Qualifier: Ryan Shafer, Horseheads, N.Y.; Ray Edwards; Middle Island, N.Y. and Dan Babcock, Endicott, N.Y.

Shafer, the latest recipient of the Tony Reyes Community Service award, highlights the region's crop of players. He led the region in points and earnings this season. With players like Ventura, the East will bring the good stuff.

#### CENTRAL REGION

Points Leaders: Michael Haggitt, Springfield, Ohio; Bill Watson, Maineville, Ohio; Danny Clark, New Palestine, Ind.; and Mark Sullivan, Indianapolis

RPI Qualifier: Andy Rettig, Hamburg, N.Y.; Brian Kretzer, Dayton, Ohio and Larry Verble, Mason, Mich.

Three southpaws, Haggitt, Clark and Rettig, will represent the Central region in Las Vegas. The former topped all Central players in points, earnings and cashes in 2022.

#### MIDWEST REGION

Points Leaders: Jeff Johnson, Freeport, Ill.; Tony Jovanovich, Dekalb, Ill.; Mitch Beasley, Clarksville, Tenn and Scott Merritt, Iowa City, Iowa

RPI Qualifier: Pete Weber, St. Ann, Mo.; Eugene McCune, Munster, Ind. and Steve Jaros, Yorkville, Ill.

On paper, it's hard to argue any PBA50 region is sending more talent than the Midwest. McCune earned a near-3,000 point lead over Johnson this season, while Weber secured the win at the region's RPI qualifier — not to mention Jaros and Beasley, both PBA Tour champions.

#### SOUTH REGION

Points Leaders: Terry Wiley, Vienna, Va.; James Winterfeld, Fort Mill, S.C.; Victor Florie Jr., Richmond, Va. and Gary Faulkner, The Villages, Fla.

RPI Qualifier: Mac Sanders, Roebuck, S.C.; Darryl Bower, Middletown, Pa. and Lee Robison, Lancaster, S.C.

The super-senior Bower led the South with 11,150 points this season, cashing in all 10 of his events. With players like Wiley, Winterfeld, Florie Jr. and Faulkner, the depth of the South is apparent.

#### SOUTHWEST REGION

Points Leaders: Glenn Smith, New York; Kenneth Harlan, Lubbock, Texas; Lee Lorts, Katy, Texas; Mark Williams, Beaumont, Texas

RPI Qualifier: Rick Minier, Houston; Jeff Atkins, Hot Springs Village, Ark.; and Mike Bailey, Carrollton, Texas

New York's Smith made the most of his three trips to the Southwest though Nov. 14, as he secured a spot in the RPI off the points list. Smith won twice this year, while Minier and Lorts also earned titles.

## WEST REGION

Points Leaders: Ron Mohr, Las Vegas; Rick Meneley, Santa Maria, Calif; Warren Eales, Chandler, Ariz. and Eric Adolphson, Concord, Calif.

RPI Qualifier: David Leverage, Peoria, Ariz.; Dan Sasaki, Rodeo, Calif. and Dan Long, Visalia, Calif.

You could say Leverage leveraged his eight events in 2022, cashing in all eight while earning six top-10 finishes and one title. Meneley won twice and cashed in all six of his events and Mohr, the region's 2021 Senior Bowler of the Year, is never to be counted out.

## NORTHWEST REGION

Points Leaders: Rich Corwin, Portland, Ore.; Robert Reed Sr., Weed, Calif.; Michael Kennedy, Bonney Lake, Wash. and Kevin Croucher, Grants Pass, Ore.

RPI Qualifier: Shawn Horenberger, Boise, Idaho and Darron Peters, Temecula, Calif.

Corwin's two-title season led the way in the Northwest, while Horenberger's splendid season peaked with a win at the RPI qualifier.

## **2023 PBA50 TOUR SCHEDULE RELEASED DECEMBER 6, 2022 PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION**

### *New Senior WSOB Features Highest Winner's Share in Decades; TOC returns*

The 2023 PBA50 Tour schedule will feature the greatest bowlers in the world aged 50-and-over competing in 12 title events, including five major championships, from early June to the end of August, with a total purse of more than \$1 million.

The Professional Bowlers Association also announced fans will be able watch every PBA50 Tour event start-to-finish, livestreamed on BowlTV.

Highlighting the season will be the first-ever PBA50 World Series of Bowling, at JAX60 in Jackson, Mich., July 15-23. The inaugural senior WSOB will feature four title events including the main-event PBA50 World Championship, which will boast a first-place prize of \$25,000, the highest on the senior circuit in more than two decades.

Similar to the PBA Tour's World Series, the PBA50 WSOB will have multiple oil pattern championship stages leading to the World Championship.

Another exciting addition to the schedule finds the 2023 PBA50 Tour season concluding with the return of the PBA50 Tournament of Champions, at Orange Bowl Lanes in Lakeland, Fla., Aug. 26-30. Back for the first time this century, the PBA50 TOC and its \$15,000 winner's check will be open to PBA champions over the age of 50 who have won a PBA title of any kind in their careers from the PBA Tour and PBA50 Tour, including PBA and PBA50 Regional Tour titles.

Last season, legendary PBA Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III earned PBA50 Player of the Year honors, winning four titles and leading the Tour in points and earnings.

Lennie Boresch Jr. won the 2022 Senior U.S. Open, and the victory earned the 10-year PBA50 Tour veteran eligibility into the PBA Hall of Fame, based on his senior Tour accomplishments. Boresch was elected to the HOF by vote and will be inducted in March.

Andres Gomez, the first Colombian to win a PBA Tour title, will cross the age 50 threshold on July 19, and is expected to compete.

In addition to Bohn and Boresch, PBA Hall of Famers Walter Ray Williams Jr., Chris Barnes, Pete Weber, Jason Couch, Amleto Monacelli, Ron Mohr, Tom Baker and Johnny Petraglia once again figure to be regulars on the PBA50 Tour.

Rounding out the major championships on the 2023 PBA50 Tour schedule are the USBC Senior Masters at Sam's Town in Las Vegas, the Senior U.S. Open at Highland Park Lanes in Greeley, Colo. and the PBA50 Players Championship at Bowl America Dranesville in Virginia. The Players Championship finals and its record-high \$20,000 first place prize will be contested on specially-installed lanes at the home of PBA50 player Bill Moore.

Other cities hosting 2023 PBA50 Tour regular events include Hammond, Ind., Morgantown, W.Va., The Villages, Fla., and Fort Myers, Fla.

The PBA50 Tour schedule will also allow for players to participate in the new PBA LBC National Championships at Bowlero Wauwatosa in Milwaukee, Wis. Depending on which division the PBA50 players choose to enter, the National Championships have a \$25,000 first-place prize in the Open Classic division, and \$5,000 first in the Men's Senior Classic division. The top three finishers in the Open Classic division and winner of the men's Senior Classic division will join winners in other divisions earning trips to the FOX Sports presentation of the PBA LBC National Championships Clash, and its \$100,000 purse, from Bayside Bowl in Portland, Maine.

The PBA LBC National Championships will run on weekends from June 3-July 17, with June 24-25, July 1-2 and July 8-9 being ideal weekends for the touring PBA50 players to enter.

Two PBA50 Regional events will also be available along the way for touring players, July 24-26 in Wyoming, Mich.; and July 28-30 in Bowling Green, Ohio. Dozens more PBA50 Regionals around the country will be announced soon.

Two PBA60 National Tour events for players age 60-and-over are also on the schedule, including the season-opening USBC Super Senior Classic in Las Vegas, which will kick things off on May 31, prior to the Senior Masters. PBA60 Tour players will also travel to Ohio for the PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial Tournament at Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl in July.

## **2023 PBA50 (AND PBA60) NATIONAL TOUR SCHEDULE**

### **PBA50 majors are bolded**

*PBA60 majors are italicized*

*May 31-June 4: USBC Super Senior Classic, Sam's Town, Las Vegas (PBA60)*

**June 5-11: USBC Senior Masters, Sam's Town, Las Vegas**

**June 14-19: Senior US Open, Highland Park Lanes, Greeley, Colo.**

July 4-7: PBA60 Tristan's T.A.P.S. Memorial Tournament, Wayne Webb's Columbus Bowl, Columbus, Ohio (PBA60)

July 10-13: PBA50 South Shore Classic, Olympia Lanes, Hammond, Ind.

**July 15-23: PBA50 World Series of Bowling, JAX60, Jackson, Mich.**

July 16, 19: PBA50 Ballard Championship

July 17, 20: PBA50 Monacelli Championship

July 18, 21: PBA50 Petraglia Championship

**July 16-23: PBA50 World Championship**

July 31 – August 3: PBA50 Morgantown Classic, Suburban Lanes, Morgantown, W.Va.

**Aug. 6-10: Bud Moore PBA50 Players Championship, Bowl America Dranesville, Sterling, Va.**

Aug. 14-18: PBA50 The Villages Classic, Spanish Springs Lanes, The Villages, Fla.

Aug. 20-23: PBA50 Fort Myers Classic, Lightning Strikes Bowling Lanes, Fort Myers, Fla.

**Aug. 26-30: PBA50 Tournament of Champions, Orange Bowl Lanes, Lakeland, Fla.**

## **JEFF JOHNSON NAMED 2022 PBA50 DICK WEBER SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD WINNER DECEMBER 8, 2022 JEF GOODGER**

Voted most sportsmanlike by his fellow PBA50 Tour competitors

PBA50 Tour competitors voted Jeff Johnson of Freeport, Ill. to receive the 2022 PBA50 Dick Weber Sportsmanship Award, given to the player who best exemplifies the class and sportsmanship for which Weber was known. Johnson has been a finalist for the award in the past and this is his first time receiving the honor.

"It's very surprising," said Johnson. "Knowing it's a player vote, it was far from my mind I was going to get the award. It means a lot because Dick Weber was the regional director in the Midwest when I started bowling regionals in the mid eighties. His family and my family were and still are friends, and Dick Weber is an icon of the sport so it's definitely an honor to win an award with his name on it."

Voting was open to PBA50 players who participated in at least half the 2022 PBA50 Tour events. After the eligible players nominated deserving candidates, the five finalists with the most nominations were put up for a vote. Johnson was the overwhelming winner, receiving nearly as many votes as the other four finalists—Mark Sullivan, Donald Hogue, Ted Staikoff and Parker Bohn III—combined.

"There's not anything special I'm trying to do to earn an award," said Johnson. "I'm just being Jeff. I'm glad other people apparently view that as something special."

Johnson competed in 13 events on the 2022 PBA50 Tour, cashing in eight of them with a best finish of 12th in the PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open. While on Tour, Johnson also serves as a ball rep for the brands of Brunswick.

"In my position as a ball rep, I'm in the pits with the bowlers all the time, but we also all travel together," said Johnson. "We spend so much time on the road with everybody, being sportsmanlike is especially important. I enjoy being out there, traveling and competing, helping anyone who needs it. If I have a choice between being the good guy and the bad guy, I'd rather be the good guy."

Dick Weber was a founding member of the Professional Bowlers Association and won 30 PBA titles in his career, including four majors. Weber is considered by many to be the greatest ambassador bowling has ever seen and his name is appropriately attached to the PBA50's sportsmanship award, first given out in 2008.

### **PREVIOUS PBA50 DICK WEBER SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD WINNERS**

2021 – Mark Sullivan

2020 – no winner (season canceled)

2019 – Sammy Ventura

2018 – Chris Keane

2017 – Ted Staikoff

2016 – Kerry Fulford

2015 – Tom Carter

2014 – Chris Keane

2013 – Robert Harvey

2012 – Dave Soutar

2011 – Ray Randall

2010 – Robert Harvey

2009 – Larry Graybeal

2008 – Fred Baldwin

## **2023 PBA CLASSIC SERIES PREVIEW**

DECEMBER 13, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

From a first-time PBA National Tour host city, to an iconic venue of PBA lore, to the place where dozens of teens matured into professionals, the 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour schedule is filled with memorable destinations.

While majors are the focus of the 2023 season, the five-tournament Classic Series represents a crucial portion of the schedule. Four Classic Series tournaments fall in between the season-opening U.S. Open and March's Tournament of Champions. The final Classic Series event, a return to Kokomo, Ind., takes place immediately after the Tournament of Champions.

The top eight point earners across the five Classic Series events will earn the chance to compete in July's PBA Skill Ball Challenge. Each of the Classic Series tournaments will be livestreamed in entirety on BowlTV.

These tournaments will be pivotal for players looking to capitalize on an offseason's worth of growth and stay sharp for the remaining four majors. A mix of short, medium and long oil patterns, including dual pattern formats in Jackson and Kokomo, will test players' versatility.

For many players, the locations of the five Classic Series events bear personal significance, whether they are excited about a place filled with precious memories, returning to their old stomping grounds or even welcoming the tour to their home center.

### **PBA SPRINGFIELD CLASSIC**

**Enterprise Park Lanes | Springfield, Mo.**

For the first time, the PBA National Tour is heading to Springfield — and no player is happier than Springfield's own Keven Williams.

"I always say I'm the King of Enterprise," said Williams, who has lived in Springfield since the second grade. "I know the center like the back of my hand."

He has spent several years working with Steve Weimer, the proprietor of Enterprise Park Lanes, to bring the PBA to their hometown. Their efforts will pay off in 2023.

Williams said Springfield isn't well known nationally beyond being home to the inaugural Bass Pro Shops. But come February 2023, the town will become the capital of the bowling world for a few days.

"It's going to be cool to have the local bowling community be able to see the actual best of the best in the world," Williams said. "We get a handful of tour guys at the event that I run, but this is full fledged tour season. Everybody's out there."

Packy Hanrahan said that while he has bowled at Enterprise Park Lanes in the past, including a win at Williams's event with Anthony Lavery-Spahr in October, the conditions are incomparable to a PBA Tour event.

The Springfield Classic will exhibit 18 games of qualifying over three rounds before a cut to the top 22 players. After a fourth six-game qualifying round, the top 12 players will advance to round robin match play. The top four players following match play will advance to the stepladder finals.

## **PBA SHAWNEE CLASSIC**

### **Firelake Bowling Center | Shawnee, Okla.**

The Shawnee Classic could be renamed Seanee, as Sean Rash has won there three times in his career, including the PBA's last two trips to the Oklahoma town. His first win came at the 2014 Wolf Open, where he shot 300 in the opening match and climbed the ladder for his eighth career title.

He said his Roth/Holman Doubles Championship with Matt Ogle in 2019 is one of the most memorable of his career.

"To watch Matt's dreams come true and celebrate with his family, it's something I'll never forget, especially when we were the underdogs and ran the ladder again."

Two more players looking to capitalize on past success in Shawnee are EJ Tackett and Hanrahan. Tackett has made four career shows in Shawnee and claimed his second career major at the 2017 Tournament of Champions, while Hanrahan made his first career show at the 2020 PBA Oklahoma Open in Shawnee.

A pair of eight-game qualifying blocks, featuring A- and B-squads, will begin the Shawnee Classic. The top 12 players after those 16 games will advance to round-robin match play, where four stepladder finalists will emerge.

## **PBA WICHITA CLASSIC**

### **Northrock Lanes | Wichita, Kan.**

Northrock Lanes has a rich history as a PBA host center, perhaps most notably when Norm Duke won the 2008-09 World Championship and became the first player to win three consecutive majors.

In fact, bowling just might be the biggest sport in town. Dozens of former Wichita State University players have progressed to the professional ranks.

Many Shockers tend to stick around town after graduation — Rash and Barnes stayed for about a decade each — but Hanrahan said he and François Lavoie are the lone National Tour players currently with a Wichita ZIP code.

"For the past five or six years, I've bowled either league or practice there weekly," Hanrahan said. "I've probably bowled there over a thousand times over the past five years."

His understanding of the center and each lane's unique traits will certainly benefit the lanky lefty, but said that won't be his greatest advantage.

"We don't bowl many tournaments there and (the PBA Tour stop) won't be on a house shot, so it's probably a little less of an advantage than you would think," he said. "I know a bunch of my friends are gonna be there watching and cheering me on. It's just comfortability. I get to sleep in my own bed. It's a very familiar setting."

Familiarity will be an asset shared by Barnes and Rash, two Shocker legends, as well. The two shared a common theme when describing their old college town: home.

"It's always great going back home," said Barnes, who also grew up in Kansas. "I still probably know more people there than even in Dallas (including his son, Ryan, who currently bowls at Wichita State). It's all circling back around again."

The Wichita Classic will feature the same format as Springfield with 24 games of qualifying, 12 games of round-robin match play and a four-player stepladder finals.

### **PBA JACKSON CLASSIC** **JAX60 | Jackson, Mich.**

Andrew Anderson said JAX60 is a bowling center that everybody in Michigan grows up bowling in. The native of Holly, Mich., which is located about 90 minutes northeast of Jackson, said he's been bowling there since he was about eight years old.

"Everybody knows how much I take pride in being from Michigan," Anderson said. "Bowlers have come before me and I'm just trying to keep that trend going. (Winning in Jackson) would be a good step."

Chris Barnes and Hanrahan found success in Jackson last season — Barnes won on the PBA50 Tour while Hanrahan earned a career-best second place finish at the PBA Tour stop — but that is not the main reason either one is excited to return to Jackson.

"David Small has been a fantastic host for both of the tours," Barnes said. "The renovations that happened in Jackson from the time the regular tour was there to the PBA50 was pretty amazing."

"On top of that, it's literally one of the most accommodating places I know," Hanrahan said. "Going back there with such a good host, everybody is going to look forward to that whether they bowled well or not."

The Jackson Classic will comprise 18 games of qualifying over three rounds before a cut to the top 24 players. A fourth six-game qualifying round will determine the top 12 players and a final six-game qualifying round will decide the four stepladder finalists.

### **PBA KOKOMO CLASSIC** **Heritage Lanes in Kokomo, Ind.**

Nick Pate nearly captured his first career title in Kokomo last season. Pate said his strike in the seventh frame of the title match, which briefly gave him the lead over Jason Belmonte, sticks with him to this day.

"I was so close," Pate said. "I could almost taste it. It just shows how focused you have to be for every frame. As high as your emotions go, you've got to bring it back until all 12 shots are thrown."

Tackett, who Pate defeated in the semifinals, sought a career milestone in Kokomo. The 30-year-old owns 16 career PBA titles; he's won all across the country and around the world. But one setting has eluded his dominance: He has yet to win a PBA Tour title in his home state.

He said he has three career second-place finishes and one third-place finish in the Hoosier State — half of which came in 2022. The season-opening U.S. Open in Indianapolis is, of course, at the forefront of his mind, but Tackett relishes the opportunity to win at Heritage Lanes as well.

"I'm itching to finally get a national tour win in Indiana," Tackett said.

The Kokomo Classic features the same format as the Jackson Classic: 30 games of qualifying, with cuts to the top 24 and top 12, and a four-player stepladder finals.



## **THE 2023 PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP MARKS PBA'S RETURN TO HISTORIC BOWLERO NORTH BRUNSWICK**

DECEMBER 19, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

There may be no more romantic venue in bowling than Bowlero North Brunswick, formerly known as Carolier Lanes. From an unforgettable whiffed 10-pin to the game's most transcendent quote, its 82 lanes have been the setting to many of the PBA's most spectacular moments.

The center hosted the Johnny Petraglia Open from 1991-2001, a standard PBA Tour event named in honor of the New Jersey icon. After a brief hiatus, New Jersey returned to the PBA Tour schedule, hosting seven of eight U.S. Opens between 2005 and 2012 and the USBC Masters in 2013 and 2014.

Legend upon legend captured victories in the Garden State center. Chris Barnes, Tommy Jones and Jason Belmonte celebrated their first career majors. Norm Duke, Pete Weber and Mike Scroggins added to their Hall of Fame careers.

The 2014 Elias Cup Finals was the last PBA event contested on the hallowed lanes — until now. The 2023 Players Championship marks the PBA's long awaited return to North Brunswick, N.J.

Jason Belmonte searches for a fan to award with a ball at the 2012 U.S. Open.

They say time makes the heart grow fonder. That adage rings true in regards to Bowlero North Brunswick.

"Oh my goodness," Belmonte said, "I think all of us players are excited to get back to Carolier. In my memory, the events that we've played there had some of the greatest atmosphere from the crowd that I've ever experienced."

When it comes to selecting a favorite memory from Carolier, Belmonte struggles to distinguish between his two USBC Masters wins.

His win in 2013 was the first major title of his career. (Belmonte's 2011 Players Championship was retroactively changed to a major title in 2016.) After defeating Wes Malott, he leapt with elation after finally prevailing in his then-fifth major telecast.

Belmonte made history with his victory at the 2014 Masters. He climbed the ladder as the No. 5 seed — no five-seed had ever reached the title match, let alone won the title — and defeated top-seeded, 21-year-old EJ Tackett.

"To put my name on that trophy two times in a row, which hadn't been done in 50 years, was pretty special," Belmonte said. "Both in the same place."

Mika Koivuniemi lies in disbelief after losing the 2011 U.S. Open title.

In 2011, top-seeded Duke aimed for a second U.S. Open crown against Mika Koivuniemi, the leading candidate for Player of the Year. Duke struck on his final four shots, forcing Koivuniemi to mark in the 10th. Koivuniemi wrapped a 10-pin on his opening shot.

Belmonte said he remembers himself skipping ahead to Koivuniemi's fill ball, calculating how the Finnish star would secure eight pins and the title.

"Alright, so what's he going to do? Is he just going to throw it the same? Is he gonna gas on it?" Belmonte asked himself. "And then I'm watching and the ball just falls off into the gutter."

The image of a despondent Koivuniemi crumbling to the floor as an astonished Duke grasps the reality of a seventh career major title has been etched in PBA lore.

But if we're talking about PBA history at 1 Carolier Lane, there's one moment that stands above the rest...

Video file

Weber's strike and inimitable celebration at the 2012 U.S. Open, the fifth green jacket of his storied career, was named the fifth most memorable moment in PBA history in 2018.

The reaction was inspired by a fan's actions during the match, which encapsulates everything about what makes Bowlero North Brunswick exceptional.

"New Jersey always brought a lot of great fans and created a hostile environment so to say with the East Coast bowling community," Sean Rash said. "They bring the noise. They bring the excitement. They bring the energy. You've got the love-hate relationships, whether it's one-handed or two-handed bowling, East Coast or West Coast bowlers, international or national players. People pick a side and really go after it."

Bill O'Neill, who lives less than an hour away in eastern Pennsylvania, has a close connection to the local fanbase. After winning the 2010 U.S. Open in Indianapolis, coming home for the 2011 event was supposed to be extra special.

But about a month before the tournament, he said his grandfather died. O'Neill said when his family came to watch, his grandmother was overcome with emotion seeing his face on all the banners as defending champion.

Aided by the hometown crowd, O'Neill led the tournament into match play and advanced to the championship round.

"There's just nothing like having that fan support, family and friends and everybody cheering for you," he said. "It's a totally different feeling."

The 2023 Players Championship will be another emotional homecoming for the O'Neill family, as the 41-year-old said this will be the first time his kids will be old enough to be able to watch and appreciate him compete.

Bill O'Neill finished sixth at the 2011 U.S. Open in North Brunswick, N.J.

While Weber experienced the signature animosity of the New Jerseyites, or at least the perception of it, several players noted the fan base's seasoned understanding of the game.

Belmonte said when players make ball changes and aggressive moves across the lane, fans understand the method behind the madness.

"There's an element of appreciation to the craft," he said.

Chris Barnes won his first career title in front of those very fans at the 2005 U.S. Open and made another run with a third place finish in 2009. The Triple Crown winner said Bowlero North Brunswick is one of the game's great traditional venues.

"It's the people that make the places," Barnes said. "It's a knowledgeable fan base that always comes out in droves. The atmosphere is hard to replace."

Bowlero North Brunswick hosts the 2023 PBA Players Championship, the final major of the season, beginning on April 30, 2023.

The 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour season begins on Jan. 29, 2023 with the U.S. Open.

All qualifying rounds and Classic Series championship rounds will be livestreamed on BowlTV. Subscribe here before Jan. 1, 2023 to take advantage of a discounted price.

## **SPECTO INSTALLED AT 2023 PBA LBC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SITE DECEMBER 22, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES**

In anticipation of the 2023 PBA LBC National Championships, Specto, the lane-tracking technology from Kegel, has been installed at Bowlero Wauwatosa.

PBA LBC National Championships competitors will be able to access the world-class training tool and sharpen their game while on-site for the tournament.

"If you've watched the PBA on TV and you see the ball data on the screen, that's Specto data and that's the data we will be able to give you," said Neil Stremmel, the PBA's director of rules and equipment. Specto measures a ball's speed, location at the arrows and breakpoint board, among dozens more tracking statistics. It has been installed in over 250 locations around the world, aiding bowlers of all skills to take their game to the next level.

During the PBA LBC National Championships, which runs on Saturdays and Sundays from June 3 through July 16, 2023, players will be able to use Specto and practice on the oil pattern that will be used during the tournament.

Stremmel said Specto will be available to tournament participants for individual use as well. Bowlers can download the Specto app, which offers three features (Worlds, Challenges and Performance) designed for players of all skill levels.

The man behind the Specto tracking on FOX telecasts is Kegel's Brent Sims. He said elite tournament players would benefit from using Specto to test their versatility.

One feature offered is the Wheel of Targets, which challenges players to hit within a certain range of a randomized target board. Targets range from outside of the first arrow to inside of the fourth arrow.

Jason Belmonte said he wants to be able to play every board on the lane. With Specto, players can measure their ability to do exactly that.

Less experienced players may want to begin using Specto to check their consistency, Sims said.

Specto tracks the location of the ball from the foul line to the pins and measures a player's ability to repeat shots. Using this information, players can learn their precision and coaches can better instruct how to improve their accuracy.

Of course, spare shooting is critical to winning in bowling. Sims said the Master of Corner Pins challenge is their most popular feature.

More information on how bowlers will be able to access [Specto](#) and sign up for coaching will be available soon.

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Priority registration for PBA and PBA LBC members runs through Dec. 31, 2023. Registration for the inaugural national championships is available [here](#).

Players who sign up before the end of the new year can enter the tournament for \$100 in one of five divisions: Open Classic, Women's Classic, Men and Women's Handicap, and Senior Classic.

Registration for the optional Doubles and Team events will be available on site, where players can compete with anyone who has not yet bowled, including PBA stars bowling in the PBA Exempt division. Players in the PBA LBC National Championships will be competing for shares of an estimated \$500,000 prize fund (based on 3,360 entries). First place in the Open Classic division is guaranteed \$25,000, while all other divisions will pay a guaranteed \$5,000 to first place finishers. Additional prizes will be awarded at a 1:8 ratio.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2023, registration for the PBA LBC National Championships will open to bowlers of all skill levels for \$200.

## **STORM LUCKY LARSEN MASTERS ADDED TO 2023 PBA TOUR SCHEDULE**

DECEMBER 28, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

The Storm Lucky Larsen Masters has been added to the 2023 Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour schedule. The tournament will take place Sept. 1-10, 2023 in Helsingborg, Sweden.

It will be the only international PBA Tour event of 2023 and will award an official PBA Tour title. The winner must be a PBA member to earn a PBA Tour title.

The tournament bears the name of PBA veteran Martin Larsen, a two-time recipient of the PBA's Steve Nagy Sportsmanship award.

"I, if anyone, knows how hard it is to travel to the USA and try to beat the best bowlers in the world," Larsen said. "I love to give the European bowlers a better chance to compete against the best now that we have a tour stop in Europe!"

Next season will mark the return of the Storm Lucky Larsen Masters as a PBA Tour title event for the first time in four years.

"Thanks to a great collaboration between Olympia Bowling, Storm Lucky Larsen Masters and the city of Helsingborg, we're now very much looking forward to welcoming the PBA and the best bowlers in the world to the Swedish Riviera," said Henrik Gidlund, unit manager Helsingborg convention and event bureau.

Carsten Hansen of Denmark (pictured above) claimed his first career PBA Tour title over Chris Via in 2019, the last year the tournament awarded a PBA Tour title.

The 323-player field included 25 full-time PBA Tour players and 15 part-time international PBA Tour players, PBA Commissioner Tom Clark said.

"The Lucky Larsen is one of the top international professional events of the year, and we are happy to include it once again as an official stop on the PBA Tour," Clark said. "Sweden's level of bowling is very strong, and its fan base is growing, so our players will enjoy the experience and opportunity this event provides."

Former PBA Tour champions of the Storm Lucky Larsen Masters include Kyle Troup in 2018 and Jason Belmonte in 2017.

Storm will return as the presenting sponsor of the Storm Lucky Larsen Masters, said Tyler Jensen, the chief international business development officer at Storm Products, Inc.

More tournament details, including livestreaming, will be determined at a later date.

## **STAGE SET FOR EXTRAORDINARY PBA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2023**

DECEMBER 29, 2022 NOLAN HUGHES

Tommy Jones and François Lavoie's pursuit of the Triple Crown headlines the 2023 PBA World Championship.

From Tom Smallwood's Hollywood-worthy conquest at the inaugural World Series of Bowling, to Kris Prather's \$100,000 strike in 2022, the PBA World Championship has never lacked the extraordinary.

Dom Barrett's victorious howl in 2013 — when he still needed eight pins on the fill — still echoes to this day.

In 2015, top-seeded EJ Tackett fell to Gary Faulkner Jr., who became the second African American to win a PBA Tour title. Tackett bounced back, returning as the top seed in 2016 to claim his first career major before leaping into his father's arms.

Winning the World Championship requires perseverance on par with any tournament on tour. Two weeks separate the first shot of qualifying from the championship round this April.

No player has mastered this marathon quite like Jason Belmonte. In the WSOB era, he's won three of the 13 World Championships — a three peat from 2017-2020 (no tournament was held in 2018) — while no other player has won more than one.

Belmonte said his versatility and grit have been key to his success at the World Series, and that he enjoys the challenge of playing every board across multiple oil patterns.

"If you feel locked in, there's no guarantee you'll feel locked in on the next pattern," he said. "If you feel a little lost on Day 1, there's no reason why you can't find something on the other days to make a comeback."

Tommy Jones said the tenacity required to emerge with the trophy makes it one of the hardest events to win.

Jones and fellow tour veteran François Lavoie have their eyes on PBA history as the World Series of Bowling enters its 14th iteration in 2023, returning to Bowlero Wauwatosa for the second consecutive year.

The one-handed righties seek to join the exclusive list of Triple Crown winners with a World Championship win.

After winning the U.S. Open in 2006 and the Tournament of Champions in 2007, Jones has been perched on the cusp of bowling royalty for nearly 15 years. He said the World Championship has been his Achilles heel.

Jones has made multiple championship rounds at the Tournament of Champions, USBC Masters and U.S. Open, but didn't make his first World Championship show until last season. As the No. 2 seed, he fell to Jason Sterner in the semifinal after a pair of open frames derailed his strong start.

The Hall of Famer admitted a pursuit of the Triple Crown weighed on his mind during the match.

"Going into that show, I probably put a little bit too much pressure on the whole thing, especially with Dom (Barrett) completing it the week before," Jones said.

Jones's hunger to win a third career major was evident in his 2022 campaign, in which he made three major shows and finished just shy of a fourth at the U.S. Open. The World Championship, of course, sits atop his list of goals entering 2023.

"To complete the Triple Crown and put my name next to those guys in the record books, it would mean a lot to me," Jones said. "For me, it's the pinnacle."

Lavoie's U.S. Open title in 2019 cemented his status as an all-time player.

After firing 300 en route to his first U.S. Open title in 2016, Lavoie added a second green jacket in 2019. His Tournament of Champions win in 2021 — defeating four future Hall of Famers as the No. 5 seed — placed him on the precipice of the Triple Crown.

Lavoie's finesse style is an outlier in today's game; instead of deploying an explosive rev rate, he outwits opponents with nuanced gameplans and an emphasis on execution.

For a player whose goal was once to win a single PBA Tour title, a Triple Crown is almost unfathomable.

"It would be more than I ever thought I would achieve in this sport," Lavoie said.

Chris Barnes completed the Triple Crown at the 2011 World Championship. Last season, Barrett's predominance at the Tournament of Champions made him the eighth overall and second international member of the elusive club.

"Dom and I were rooming together that week," Lavoie said. "At the start of the week, he goes, 'Frankie, let me win the TOC. I'll let you have the World Championship.' And sure enough that same week, he ended up winning the TOC."

"I hope that things go my way this time."

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