

BRYANNA COTÉ WINS 2021 PWBA ITRC CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas – After almost five years, three heartbreaking runner-up finishes and a global pandemic, Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, found her way back to the winner's circle on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour.

Everything about the 34-year-old right-hander's journey to the trophy this week at the 2021 PWBA ITRC Classic was different than her breakthrough performance in 2016, except for the flood of emotions that came once the championship match concluded.

In a way, the teary-eyed Coté who stood at the microphone following her 244-238 win over Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, was the same young lady who had dreams of success on bowling's biggest stages. At the same time, the words she spoke came from an experienced veteran who had learned from every bit of adversity and disappointment since her last win.

The victory, broadcast live on BowlTV, was the second of Coté's career and earned her a \$10,000 top prize. Her performance also denied Martin, a 16-year-old right-hander, the opportunity to become the youngest bowler in history to win a PWBA Tour event.

"Because it had been so long, it felt like the first time all over again," Coté said. "I was really nervous for that match, no matter who I was going to bowl, because everyone had bowled well, and the pattern (43 feet) was really high-scoring. I just wanted to stay slow and bowl my own game."

Three quick strikes helped the six-time Team USA member to an early advantage at the International Training and Research Center, while converting the challenging 2-4-5-8 combination in the fourth frame gave her a six-pin lead halfway through the game. Both players struck three consecutive times to set up a dramatic conclusion.

Though Martin failed to strike again in the ninth frame, she closed with three strikes to put Coté in a familiar position, one she had thought about when she strategically chose to finish on the right lane, a benefit of being the higher seed going into the match.

In her own final frame, Coté calmly delivered the mark and five pins she needed to clinch the title. She would have preferred to seal it with a strike, but the 10 pin on her first offering had other plans.

"I really was trying not to pay too much attention to the scores, but I knew I needed a mark," Coté said. "Of course, everyone wants to strike there, and I thought it was a decent shot, but maybe not as good as the few before it. I was glad to leave something makeable. I took some extra time to slow my process, and I visualized myself making it. Then, I did."

Being in that position, even being on that particular lane in that moment, were the result of her having matured as a player. She succeeded because she previously had failed.

At the 2019 PWBA Fountain Valley Open, her most recent bid for a second career title, a devastating 8 pin in a must-strike situation allowed Sweden's Sandra Andersson to escape with a one-pin victory. Coté lost in that moment, but it helped her win Saturday at the ITRC.

"At Fountain Valley, I learned about my shot-making ability under pressure, and throwing a shot like that went a long way toward eliminating any self-doubt," said Coté, who was the runner-up to Danielle McEwan in Fountain Valley in 2018 and again to eventual PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe at the 2018 United States Bowling Congress Queens. "I've gained so much trust in my ability, and while that's just one example, it all helped with how I handled the situation tonight."

Coté's first title came at the 2016 PWBA Lexington Open, where she was the less-experienced player making her first TV appearance, so she was able to relate to what Martin likely was feeling on the lanes Saturday. On the way to that win, Coté defeated O'Keefe and USBC Hall of Famer Kelly Kulick.

Though Martin's first title match didn't end the same way, she said the experience was unforgettable. A win would've added her name to the record book just above hall of famer Wendy Macpherson, who

won the U.S. Women's Open in 1986 at age 18.

"It was surreal," Martin said. "I probably won't process it for a while. It's so crazy. I put everything out there. In the end, I didn't come out with the win, but I'm very happy with my performance. I can't believe how far I made it."

To earn the meeting with Coté, Martin had to defeat two of the PWBA Tour's top competitors.

Martin kicked off the stepladder with her second win of the day against USBC Hall of Famer Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, this time sneaking by the 24-time PWBA Tour champion, 238-235.

Martin was able to build a lead with five consecutive strikes, starting in the fifth frame, and she stepped up in the 10th frame with a chance to shut out Johnson. Martin left a 10 pin on her first offering, spared it and knocked down nine pins to seal the win.

Earlier in the day during match play, Martin defeated Johnson 289-220. Martin also owns the highest game rolled this week at the ITRC, a 299 performance that came in match play during the season-opening Bowlers Journal Classic. A 4 pin ended her quest for the first perfect game of her career.

Martin's semifinal victory over two-time PWBA Tour champion Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine was a little less eventful. Two splits and a missed single pin were the undoing for Kovalova, while Martin struck six times on the way to a 227-185 victory.

"Just bowling against all the ladies was a crazy experience because they're people I've looked up to," Martin said. "It was definitely nerve-wracking, but to come out here and bowl against them has been amazing."

The ITRC Classic was the second event of the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, which will feature three national tour stops and one regional event during its seven-day run at the ITRC, the home of Team USA.

This week's Kickoff Classic Series marks the first PWBA Tour competition since September 2019. The 2020 season was canceled due to COVID-19.

Competition at the ITRC resumes Sunday with the PWBA Arlington Regional. The eight-game qualifying round will begin at 3 p.m. Eastern, and the four-player stepladder finals will take place at 9 p.m. EST. All of the action will be shown live at BowITV.com.

The final event of the Kickoff Classic Series, the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic, will get underway Monday at 11 a.m. Eastern. The unique format will include 24 head-to-head matches over two days, with total pinfall, plus bonus pins for each win, determining the five players for the championship round.

Competitors qualified for the Hall of Fame Classic based on their combined qualifying totals from the Bowlers Journal Classic and ITRC Classic (18 games), but all pins have been dropped heading into the final tournament.

All of the qualifying and match-play rounds at the Kickoff Classic Series are being broadcast live at BowITV.com, free of charge to visitors who create a login for the site. The four events include formal stepladder finals, with a [BowITV](http://BowITV.com) subscription required for those who want to watch live.

Each event at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series is being contested on a different lane condition.

The prize fund for each of the three national tour stops is \$65,000, with \$10,000 going to each champion.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will feature 20 events, highlighted by the introduction of the Classic Series events and an increase in the season's overall prize fund by nearly \$400,000.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA ITRC Classic
At the International Training and Research Center
Arlington, Texas**

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 244 (one game), \$10,000
- 2, n-Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, 703 (three games), \$5,000
- 3, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 185 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 235 (one game), \$3,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Martin def. Johnson, 238-235

Semifinal – Martin def. Kovalova, 227-185

Championship – Coté def. Martin, 244-238

MATCH PLAY

(21 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 6-6-0, 5,134. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 9-3-0, 5,129. 3, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 7-4-1, 5,128. 4, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 4-8-0, 5,045.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 8-4-0, 5,033, \$2,500. 6, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 6-6-0, 4,953, \$2,150. 7, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 5-7-0, 4,948, \$2,125. 8, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 6-6-0, 4,941, \$2,075. 9, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 5-7-0, 4,884, \$2,000.

10, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 7-5-0, 4,881, \$1,900. 11, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 5-6-1, 4,878, \$1,850. 12, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3-9-0, 4,536, \$1,800.

JACQUELINE EVANS WINS 2021 PWBA ARLINGTON REGIONAL

ARLINGTON, Texas - Jacqueline Evans of Acton, Massachusetts, said she loves the pressure of stepping onto the approach and knowing exactly what she needs to do to win.

When the opportunity presented itself Sunday night at the International Training and Research Center with her first professional title on the line, she came through.

The 25-year-old right-hander confidently converted a 10 pin and struck on her fill ball to defeat Jody Scheerer of Orlando, Florida, 237-232, in the championship match of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Arlington Regional.

The event was third of four tournaments making up the season-opening 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series. The victory was broadcast live on BowITV and earned Evans a \$1,300 top prize.

Evans was behind in the match heading into the final frames, and Scheerer was in position to shut her out. Scheerer, the 1998 PWBA Rookie of the Year, rattled off seven consecutive strikes after a 3-6-7-10 split in the second frame but ran into trouble again in the 10th frame, leaving a 7-10 split on her first offering.

"I was in complete disbelief because she was so locked in the entire time," Evans said. "I hadn't really been looking at the scores, and I was in shock. I asked Elise (Bolton) if I really could win, and then I went up and threw the best shot I could."

Before stepping up, Evans was transported back to 2016, when she tossed a strike to lock up the girls 20-and-under title at the Junior Gold Championships. Delivering in that moment was rewarded with the coveted title and a lifetime of confidence in pressure situations.

Leaving a 10 pin this time didn't rattle her, even though she had missed one in the semifinal match. To her, it was a routine spare she has made countless times, and the magnitude of the moment didn't make it any different.

"I like being in control, and I really get amped up when I feel pressure like that," Evans said. "The Junior Gold moment definitely crossed my mind, and I knew I could do it again. I feel like since Junior Gold, I haven't had that kind of breakthrough again, so this means so much."

Evans, an assistant bowling coach at Fairleigh Dickinson University since 2019, earned her spot in Sunday's title match with a semifinal victory over Team USA member Sydney Brummett of Wichita, Kansas, 223-201.

Brummett started the match with strikes in four of the first five frames, but she was unable to register another strike the rest of the way. Despite struggling to get the 10 pin out, Evans managed a final-frame double to seal the win.

Evans determined her bowling ball was losing energy and a move would be necessary before facing Scheerer. She initially moved a couple boards left, and the result was more 10 pins, so she moved right and increased her speed, which was effective on the 37-foot oil pattern.

In the opening match of the night, Evans struck on six of her first seven shots and cruised to a 238-182 win over Bolton, a former Junior Team USA member from Merritt Island, Florida.

Bolton now is the women's bowling associate head coach at Life University. She won the first regional event of the 2019 PWBA season and went on to reach the semifinals of the Go Bowling! PWBA Regional Showdown.

The field for the Arlington Regional on Sunday included 14 competitors, who showcased their skills over eight qualifying games at the ITRC.

Evans earned the No. 3 seed for the championship round after two of her last three games were in the 270s. The game in between was a 179 performance on the same pair of lanes scheduled to host the stepladder.

Scheerer led the qualifying round with an eight-game total of 1,849, a 231.12 average, and though she did not go on to win the event, she was overjoyed to be back on the lanes and competing at the highest level.

After a standout youth, collegiate and international career, the South African enjoyed a successful stint on the PWBA Tour that included one regional title. She competed regularly until about 2001, then got married, moved to Florida and started a family.

Scheerer and her husband, Tim, had two children, Emily and Trevor. In recent years, their entire focus was on caring for their young son, who was battling cancer. He died in 2016.

As time passed, Scheerer found herself back on the lanes for league play, and after taking off again in 2018, she rededicated herself to high-level competition in 2019. Due to the pandemic, which forced the cancellation of the 2020 PWBA Tour season, her return was delayed.

Scheerer struggled to get comfortable at the ITRC this week and finished 36th and tied for 30th in the Bowlers Journal Classic and ITRC Classic, respectively.

A backup pair of bowling shoes and a few strings of strikes at the regional event Sunday restored her confidence and passion for the sport.

"It felt so good and makes me want to bowl even more," said Scheerer, a 46-year-old right-hander. "The last five games of the second event I started to get really comfortable, and that continued today. Even though I didn't win, it was really nice to bowl so well today. I know I'm better than what I scored at the beginning of the week, and I'm proud that I was able to overcome those struggles."

Scheerer said that throughout the championship match Sunday, she was focused on her process and repeating good shots. The final shot that resulted in the 7-10 was no different than the others.

"I thought I threw it well," said Scheerer, whose best finish on the PWBA Tour was a third-place effort. "I didn't really have to think about it because I was in my zone and process. I threw a good shot and couldn't believe the 7-10 didn't move. I really wanted to win this one, but even though I didn't, I proved to myself I could compete out here again. Honestly, I'm ready to bowl more games. I wish the week wasn't over for me."

The final event of the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series is the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic, which gets underway Monday.

Competition at the ITRC resumes at 11 a.m. Eastern with the first of three eight-game blocks at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic. Additional rounds will be held Monday at 5 p.m. Eastern and Tuesday at 3 p.m. EST.

Though the players qualified for the final event based on pins toppled earlier in the week, all pinfall now will be dropped.

The top five players, based on their 24-game pinfall totals, including bonus pins for each win, will advance to the stepladder finals, scheduled for 9 p.m. EST.

All of the action will be shown live at BowlTV.com. The match-play portion will be free for anyone who creates a login to BowlTV, but the stepladder will require a paid subscription.

All of the qualifying and match-play rounds at the Kickoff Classic Series are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com and will remain in the BowlTV archives, along with the subscription-required stepladder rounds.

This week's Kickoff Classic Series marks the first PWBA Tour competition since September 2019. Though the 2020 PWBA Tour season was canceled due to COVID-19, three regional events were able to be contested early in the year.

The PWBA Regional program returned to the bowling landscape with the relaunch of the PWBA Tour in 2015. There were seven regional events each year from 2015-2017, all conducted by the Professional Bowlers Association and held simultaneously with existing PBA regional tournaments.

In 2018, the program experienced a gap year, before returning in 2019 with a new look and season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown that featured the season's top regional performers in a special made-for-TV event.

There were five PWBA Regional events held in 2019, and there are 14 PWBA Regional events expected to be on the schedule in 2021.

As a true steppingstone to the bright lights of the PWBA Tour, the PWBA Regional program is limited to competitors who have not yet won on the national tour.

At this week's PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, competitors who qualified for the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic, based on their combined qualifying scores from the PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic and PWBA ITRC Classic, were not eligible to also participate in the Arlington Regional.

Of the 14 competitors in the regional field, 10 participated in the first two events of the Kickoff Series, but were not among the 24 bowlers who advanced to the all-match-play Hall of Fame Classic.

Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, a longtime member of the Team USA program and a past standout at the University of Nebraska, won the inaugural Regional Showdown. She is a three-time PWBA Regional champion.

Each event at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series is being contested on a different lane condition.

The prize fund for each of the three national tour stops is \$65,000, with \$10,000 going to each champion.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will feature 20 events, highlighted by the introduction of the Classic Series events and an increase in the season's overall prize fund by nearly \$400,000.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Arlington Regional

At the International Training and Research Center

Arlington, Texas

Sunday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Jacqueline Evans, Acton, Mass., 698 (three games), \$1,300
- 2, Jody Scheerer, Orlando, Fla., 232 (one game), \$900
- 3, Sydney Brummett, Wichita, Kan., 201 (one game), \$750
- 4, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 182 (one game), \$600

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 - Evans def. Bolton, 238-182

Semifinal - Evans def. Brummett, 223-201

Championship - Evans def. Scheerer, 237-232

QUALIFYING

(Eight games)

1, Jody Scheerer, Orlando, Fla., 1,849. 2, Sydney Brummett, Wichita, Kan., 1,830. 3, Jacqueline Evans, Acton, Mass., 1,765. 4, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 1,725.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 1,719, \$450. 6, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1,633. 7, Stephanie Martins, Brazil, 1,628. 8, Allie Tatrow, Wichita, Kan., 1,609. 9, Tina Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 1,608.

10, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 1,576. 11, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 1,553. 12, Britney Brown, Norman, Okla., 1,468. 13, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,448. 14, Sabena Brown, Rosenberg, Texas, 1,265.

BOOMERSHINE LEADS AFTER OPENING DAY OF 2021 PWBA HALL OF FAME CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - After 16 games of round-robin match play at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame Classic, Lindsay Boomershine of Perry, Utah, has emerged as the player to beat.

Boomershine successfully navigated a challenging 41-foot oil pattern at the International Training and Research Center on the way to a 13-3 record and holds a 16-pin lead over Erin McCarthy of Omaha, Nebraska (3,794), who is in search of her second PWBA Tour title.

Including 30 bonus pins for each win Monday, Boomershine tops the field with a 3,810 pinfall total. She lost her opening match, despite rolling a 226 game, then tallied 11 consecutive victories, while averaging 213.75 overall. The 35-year-old right-hander has a best finish of second on the PWBA Tour.

"Today was really awesome because my match-play record in the past hasn't been the best," Boomershine said. "I was taking it one shot at a time, doing everything I could to put myself in position to win and then making the shots I needed to close out my matches."

Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, the 16-year-old phenom who was the runner-up earlier this week at the PWBA ITRC Classic, made her way into the top spot late in the day and eventually settled into third place with a 12-4 record and a 3,788 total.

Martin was followed in the standings by 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan (3,769), and three-time PWBA regional champion Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (3,705).

McCarthy, who finished fourth in the season-opening PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic on Thursday, posted the highest average Monday, a 218.38 mark, on her way to a 10-6 record.

The Hall of Fame Classic is the final event of the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, which has included three national tour stops and one regional event during its seven-day run at the ITRC, the home of Team USA.

The field for the Series-ending tournament features the week's top 24 performers, based on their combined qualifying totals from the Bowlers Journal Classic and ITRC Classic. The 18-game pinfall totals were dropped, however, so the 24 bowlers entered match play Monday with a clean slate.

Boomershine, Martin and 14-time PWBA Tour champion Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, who won the Bowlers Journal Classic, are the only three players from the week's 36-bowler field to make the match-play portion of all three national tournaments.

In the two previous events, Boomershine finished sixth and seventh, respectively, and she is using the close calls as motivation for the Hall of Fame Classic.

Since the return of the PWBA Tour in 2015, Boomershine has been a top contender, but a trip to the winner's circle has eluded her.

After falling short in a handful of championship-round appearances, she has worked very hard to be as physically and mentally prepared as possible, and she also has spent extra time making sure her arsenal is prepped and ready for quick and confident moves on the lane.

"It has been a hard learning experience since the tour relaunched, but I've worked to change my mindset and focus on how to be better in the moments where I was failing," said Boomershine, a past standout at the University of Nebraska. "Things can be different from pair to pair and lane to lane, so I just try to stay in the moment and listen to what the lanes are telling me. I try to read the lanes well and make the best choices I can. I was able to do that today and put myself in a good position heading into tomorrow."

Competition at the Hall of Fame Classic will resume Tuesday at 1 p.m. Eastern with the last of the three eight-game match-play rounds. Total pinfall for the 24 games, including bonus pins for each win along the way, will determine the five players for Tuesday night's stepladder finals.

There will be a star-studded pregame show on BowlTV at 8:40 p.m. Eastern, and the championship round will get underway at 9 p.m. EST.

A quartet of hall of famers - Betty Morris, Lisa Wagner, Wendy Macpherson and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard - also the Bowlers of the 1970s, 80s, 90s and 00s, respectively, will help kick off the action, while Dorin-Ballard and Tony Franklin will call the action for the final show of the week.

All of the qualifying and match-play rounds at the Kickoff Classic Series are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com, free of charge to visitors who create a login for the site. A BowlTV subscription has been required to watch the stepladder finals of each event live.

This week's action marks the first national PWBA competition since September 2019. The 2020 PWBA Tour season was canceled due to COVID-19.

The prize fund for each of the three national tour stops is \$65,000, with \$10,000 going to each champion.

O'Keefe, the two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year, defeated Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, to win the Bowlers Journal Classic on Thursday, and Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, took the spotlight Saturday with a victory over Martin in the championship match of the ITRC Classic. The win was Coté's second overall, and first since 2016.

The week's regional event, the PWBA Arlington Regional, was won by Jacqueline Evans of Acton, Massachusetts. She defeated 1998 PWBA Rookie of the Year Jody Scheerer of Orlando, Florida. It was Evans' first professional title.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will feature 20 events, highlighted by the introduction of the Classic Series events and an increase in the season's overall prize fund by nearly \$400,000.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

About the PWBA

The Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) originally was formed in 1960. The PWBA Tour has events throughout the country, offering high-level competition and top prize money for women bowlers. The PWBA is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA) and the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).

2021 PWBA Hall of Fame Classic

At the International Training and Research Center

Arlington, Texas

Monday's results

MATCH PLAY

(16 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 13-3-0, 3,810. 2, Erin McCarthy, Omaha, Neb., 10-6-0, 3,794. 3, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 12-4-0, 3,788. 4, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 10-6-0, 3,769. 5, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 9-7-0, 3,705. 6, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 11-5-0, 3,680.

7, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 8-8-0, 3,674. 8, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 10-6-0, 3,673. 9, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 9-7-0, 3,661. 10, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 8-8-0, 3,573. 11, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 10-6-0, 3,570. 12, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 9-7-0, 3,544.

13, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 7-9-0, 3,521. 14, Valerie Bercier, Spring Lake, Mich., 6-10-0, 3,426. 15, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 7-9-0, 3,403. 16(tie), Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 7-9-0, and Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 6-10-0, 3,402. 18, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 6-10-0, 3,392.

19, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 9-7-0, 3,381. 20, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 5-11-0, 3,294. 21, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 4-12-0, 3,274. 22, Anggie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 5-11-0, 3,245. 23, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 6-10-0, 3,224. 24, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 5-11-0, 3,085.

JULIA BOND WINS 2021 PWBA HALL OF FAME CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, has enjoyed success at every level of her bowling career, and she raised the bar again Tuesday as she claimed her first Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title at the 2021 PWBA Hall of Fame Classic.

Just two days shy of her 25th birthday, Bond rebounded from a ninth-frame split with a title-clinching double, defeating top seed Lindsay Boomershine of Perry, Utah, 222-210.

The Hall of Fame Classic was the final event of the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, which included three national tour stops and one regional event during its seven-day run at the International Training and Research Center, the home of Team USA.

The victory, broadcast live on BowITV, earned Bond a \$10,000 top prize.

The right-hander already was a three-time PWBA regional winner, in addition to a victory at the made-for-TV Go Bowling! PWBA Regional Showdown in 2019, but the cancellation of the 2020 season due to the pandemic delayed her opportunity to build on the things she learned during her rookie campaign in 2019.

"I'm extremely proud of myself and how far I've come," said Bond, who had sixth-place finishes at the 2019 PWBA Lincoln Open and 2017 U.S. Women's Open. "There's naturally going to be some doubt when you go to the next level, but being able to push through in such a pressure situation and come away with my first title feels amazing."

The five-time Team USA member and former standout at the University of Nebraska entered Tuesday's championship round at the ITRC as the No. 4 seed and rolled through the stepladder with 28 strikes in her four matches.

As she did throughout the four games, Bond was able to strike early in the title match and put pressure on Boomershine, who was looking for the first championship-round win of her PWBA career.

Consecutive strikes from Boomershine in the sixth, seventh and eighth frames allowed her to cut into a deficit of more than 40 pins, and a 4-6-7-10 split from Bond in the ninth frame gave Boomershine the chance to lock up her first title with two more strikes and a nine-count.

Boomershine, a 35-year-old right-hander, struck in the ninth frame but left a 4 pin on the first offering of her final frame. After the conversion, she left the 3-6-9-10 combination to let some of the pressure off Bond. Had Boomershine gotten nine on the fill ball, she would've forced Bond to throw a double. Instead, Bond only needed to fill 19 pins.

In five previous stepladder appearances, Boomershine averaged just 165. Her best finish on the PWBA Tour was a second-place effort at the 2016 PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open.

To help move on from her past struggles, Boomershine has worked hard on her mental game. Her focus on keeping matches close and finishing strong allowed her to compile a 19-5 record on the way to the top of the standings in the all-match-play Hall of Fame Classic.

While the hard work and preparation didn't translate to her first PWBA Tour win, Boomershine collected three top-10 finishes at the Kickoff Classic Series. She was sixth in the Bowlers Journal Classic and seventh in the ITRC Classic.

"It didn't turn out the way I wanted, but I didn't miss a spare, and I shot over 200, so we're making moves, and I bowled the best game I could," said Boomershine, who was slowed by a 7-10 split in the fourth frame against Bond. "(This week) shows me I'm getting better. My spare shooting was good, I stuck to the game plan and I had a bad break. I wish the 7 or the 10 would've fallen. I only missed the pocket, I think, on the fill shot. I didn't really want to give away the head pin. I didn't want six, but it is what it is at this point.

"It has been a great week, I'm happy with my performance and I'm looking forward to the rest of the year. I'm up there in the points, so hopefully it's not devastating this time. I have a great support system, and I just hope I made everyone proud."

On the way to the title, Bond was able to showcase many of her strengths as the 41-foot oil pattern broke down, and the display of versatility included keeping her angles tight when the pattern was fresh, staying patient and using her ball speed to combat the transition.

A ball change heading into her semifinal meeting with 16-year-old Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, provided the firepower Bond needed to win the high-scoring matchup, 245-211.

Bond started the game with four consecutive strikes, and eight strikes in her first nine frames, while Martin kept the pressure on with five consecutive strikes after a first-frame spare. Back-to-back single pins and a 2-4-8-10 split from Martin ended her bid to become the youngest bowler in history to win a PWBA Tour event.

Martin had two opportunities this week to replace United States Bowling Congress and PWBA Hall of Famer Wendy Macpherson in the record book as the tour's youngest winner. Macpherson won the U.S. Women's Open in 1986 at the age of 18.

Martin's week also included a runner-up finish to Bryanna Cot, of Tucson, Arizona, in the ITRC Classic and an eighth-place performance in the season-opening Bowlers Journal Classic, won by two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, for her 14th PWBA Tour title.

In each of the first two stepladder matches Tuesday, Bond was able to pile on the strikes out of the gate to pull ahead early.

Against Erin McCarthy of Omaha, Nebraska, a PWBA Tour champion in 2018, Bond struck five times in her first six frames to set the pace. A late ball change and double from McCarthy, coupled with an open frame from Bond, gave McCarthy a chance to add some pressure, but a 10 pin on the first shot of her final frame ended her run. Bond advanced to the semifinal by a score of 213-191.

Bond opened the night with a 213-157 victory over two-time PWBA Tour champion Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine. Bond struck three times in the first four frames to build a sizable lead, while three open frames never allowed Kovalova to gain any momentum.

"I had a good rookie season, but I felt in my heart I could've done better," Bond said. "I used the time off to work on some things, including my speed control, opening up my angles and making smarter, quicker

choices, and to be able to test that progress on the biggest stage for women's bowling and find success means so much."

The field for the Series-ending tournament featured the week's top 24 performers, based on their combined qualifying totals from the Bowlers Journal Classic and ITRC Classic. The 18-game pinfall totals then were dropped, and the contenders battled over 24 head-to-head matches, with 30 bonus pins awarded for each victory, to determine the five players for Tuesday's championship round.

Boomershine, Martin and O'Keefe were the only three players from the week's 36-bowler field to make the match-play portion of all three national tournaments.

Three competitors - Martin, McCarthy and Kovalova - each made two championship-round appearances during the Kickoff Classic Series.

All of the qualifying and match-play rounds at the Kickoff Classic Series were broadcast live at BowITV.com and will remain in the BowITV archives for fans who want to revisit the action.

The 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series marked the first national PWBA competition since September 2019. The 2020 PWBA Tour season was canceled due to COVID-19.

The prize fund for each of the three national tour stops is \$65,000, with \$10,000 going to each champion.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will resume April 22 for the PWBA Twin Cities Open in Eagan, Minnesota.

In all, the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule will feature 20 events, highlighted by the introduction of the Classic Series events and an increase in the season's overall prize fund by nearly \$400,000.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

About the PWBA

The Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) originally was formed in 1960. The PWBA Tour has events throughout the country, offering high-level competition and top prize money for women

bowlers. The PWBA is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA) and the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).

2021 PWBA Hall of Fame Classic

At the International Training and Research Center

Arlington, Texas

Tuesday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 893 (four games), \$10,000
- 2, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 210 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, n-Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, 211 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Erin McCarthy, Omaha, Neb., 191 (one game), \$3,000
- 5, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 157 (one game), \$2,500

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 - Bond def. Kovalova, 213-157

Match No. 2 - Bond def. McCarthy, 213-191

Semifinal - Bond def. Martin, 245-211

Championship - Bond def. Boomershine, 222-210

MATCH PLAY

(24 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 19-5-0, 5,710. 2, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 18-6-0, 5,677. 3, Erin McCarthy, Omaha, Neb., 16-8-0, 5,628. 4, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 14-10-0, 5,587. 5, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 14-10-0, 5,528.

DID NOT ADVANCE

6, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 13-11-0, 5,473, \$2,150. 7, Maria Jos, Rodriguez, Colombia, 16-8-0, 5,416, \$2,125. 8, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 12-12-0, 5,375, \$2,075. 9, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 12-12-0, 5,366, \$2,000. 10, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 13-11-0, 5,359, \$1,900. 11, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 13-10-1, 5,331, \$1,850. 12, Bryanna Cot,, Tucson, Ariz., 15-9-0, 5,297, \$1,800.

13, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 13-11-0, 5,277, \$1,500. 14, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 11-13-0, 5,260, \$1,500. 15, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 11-13-0, 5,218, \$1,450. 16, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 9-14-1, 5,194, \$1,450. 17, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 10-14-0, 5,192, \$1,400. 18, Valerie Bercier, Spring Lake, Mich., 10-14-0, 5,169, \$1,400.

19, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 9-15-0, 4,972, \$1,400. 20, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 9-15-0, 4,946, \$1,400. 21, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 11-13-0, 4,881, \$1,350. 22, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 6-18-0, 4,822, \$1,350. 23, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 8-16-0, 4,755, \$1,350. 24, Angie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 6-18-0, 4,740, \$1,350.

O'KEEFE TAKES DIFFERENT APPROACH RETURNING TO PWBA TWIN CITIES OPEN

EAGAN, Minn. - After winning the first event of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season in January and capping a solid start to the year at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, Shannon O'Keefe quickly transitioned back to her role as head coach of the women's bowling team at McKendree University.

The two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year has been on the road with the Bearcats nearly every weekend since the Kickoff Classic Series, but she's excited to return to Cedarvale Lanes this week to compete in the PWBA Twin Cities Open.

The Twin Cities Open begins Thursday with the official practice session, and competition kicks off Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, before the field is cut to the top 32 players.

Advancers will bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 athletes, and a final six-game round will determine to the four players for the stepladder finals, based on pinfall totals for 24 games.

The stepladder finals of the Twin Cities Open will take place Saturday at 7 p.m. Eastern, with the champion taking home \$10,000. All qualifying rounds and the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

The 2021 event will mark the tour's third consecutive season visiting Cedarvale Lanes, and O'Keefe captured the title at the most recent trip to the center, claiming the 2019 Twin Cities Open by defeating England's Verity Crawley in the title match, 189-182.

The win at the Twin Cities Open in 2019 was the first of five victories on the season for O'Keefe, who recorded her second consecutive PWBA Player of the Year award. She hopes her previous success at the venue plays a part in another successful week on the PWBA Tour.

She was the top seed for her win in 2019 and qualified third for the stepladder finals in 2018, ultimately finishing in fourth place.

"I'm not going into this week thinking of defending anything, because you can't defend something you haven't earned yet," said O'Keefe, a 14-time PWBA Tour titlist. "I look at it as going back to a place that I'm comfortable with. I've made two shows there and have all of my notes in my journal. I'm ready to go bowl, have a good time and compete."

O'Keefe, from Shiloh, Illinois, admits she may have not put in the hours she's used to on the lanes in preparation for the second swing of the tour season, due to her responsibilities at McKendree, but she's relying on a couple of other factors to help her this week.

After her win at the PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic in January, she stayed in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to meet up with the Bearcats as they prepared for the Prairie View A&M Invitational.

From there, she had a nine-week stretch of traveling with the team across the country as they completed their regular season and prepared for postseason play. The Bearcats finished third at the NCAA Women's Bowling Championship earlier in April and recently qualified for the Intercollegiate Team Championships.

Even though the constant travel has not allowed her to physically roll a bowling ball as much as she would like in preparation for the PWBA Tour, a reminder from her husband, Bryan, allowed her to relax a bit heading into the Twin Cities Open.

"I freaked out a little going into the NCAA finals," O'Keefe said. "We had been going non-stop. Being gone from Thursday through Sunday each week had left me with not as much time to practice and prepare. Bryan told me I would be OK because I'm still reading ball motion every weekend and trying to help the team get lined up for a couple hours each day. I'm still working out a lot and reading my mental toughness books. He also reminded me I already won a title this season, which felt like so long ago with as busy as we've been."

When she's been able to get to the lanes to practice, the 42-year-old right-hander has tried to make the most of each opportunity and is attempting to focus on knowing the work she has put in over her career will have her ready for all challenges.

"I have to allow my brain to understand that I've been working my tail off for 20-plus years to get where I'm at," O'Keefe said. "I need to be confident that those 20 years are the foundation I've created. Although I'm not physically able to throw a bowling ball as much as I want, I've tried to incorporate more drills and have been more detail-oriented in my practices. I'm excited and ready to go in with a fresh mindset and will be ready to compete."

The Twin Cities Open is the fourth event of the 2021 season, which features 20 total tournaments on the schedule, and first event of the second swing of the season. The Kickoff Classic Series, which included three national tour stops and one regional competition, took place from Jan. 20-26 at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas.

MCCARTHY LEADS AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2021 PWBA TWIN CITIES OPEN

EAGAN, Minn. - Through 12 games of qualifying at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Twin Cities Open, Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, has put on a dominating performance to lead the field heading into the final day at Cedarvale Lanes.

McCarthy, who is coming off a successful run at the season-opening PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January, averaged more than 233 over two six-game blocks to finish with a 2,801 total. She holds a 98-pin lead over England's Verity Crawley, who sits in second with a 2,703 total.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova is third with 2,649, and Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, and Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, round out the top five with 2,647 and 2,644, respectively.

Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, is the defending champion at the event and is tied for sixth place with 2,628.

The 65-player field was cut to the top 32 athletes after Friday's second round, and Taylor Bulthuis of Coral Springs, Florida, earned the final spot with a 2,438 total, a 203.17 average.

"Just as I did in January, I didn't have much time to prepare due to my job as a registered nurse, so I'm very happy with the results," said McCarthy, who won the 2018 PWBA Louisville Open. "I think the lack of expectations has made me a lot more relaxed, which has led to some really good bowling these first few events."

Crawley, who is making her season debut after dealing with a multitude of visa issues that prevented her from bowling the Kickoff Classic Series, roared into second place after starting her second block with games of 290 and 279.

"I had no expectations coming into the week," said Crawley, who finished as the runner-up to O'Keefe at the 2019 PWBA Twin Cities Open. "I am just grateful to be back bowling a PWBA event and am trying to enjoy being out on the lanes once again."

The 32 advancers will bowl an additional six-game round starting Saturday at 11 a.m. Eastern, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will be Saturday at 7 p.m. Eastern and be broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com). The champion will earn \$10,000.

The PWBA Tour is resuming after a near three-month hiatus, following the Kickoff Classic Series. The 2021 season will feature 20 events, and the Twin Cities Open marks the beginning of a 14-event run that goes through the end of August.

**2021 PWBA Twin Cities Open
At Cedarvale Lanes
Eagan, Minn.**

Thursday's results

**QUALIFYING
(12 games)**

1, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,801. 2, Verity Crawley, England, 2,703. 3, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,649. 4, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,647. 5, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,644. 6(tie), Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., and Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,628.

8, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,623. 9, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,605. 10, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,601. 11, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 2,593. 12, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,583.

13, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,561. 14, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,554. 15, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,536. 16, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,522. 17, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,520. 18, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,519.

19, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,518. 20, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,509. 21, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,508. 22, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 2,507. 23, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 2,503. 24, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,499.

25, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,475. 26, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,471. 27, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,470. 28, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,458. 29, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,450. 30, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,444.

31, Courtney Ermisch (n), Big Bend, Wis., 2,443. 32, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,438.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,436. 34, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,427. 35, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,425. 36, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 2,406.

37, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,405. 38, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,404. 39, Lauren Pate, Inver Grove, Minn., 2,399. 40, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,397. 41, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,390. 42, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,388.

43, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,377. 44, Jacqueline Evans, Acton, Mass., 2,369. 45, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,360. 46, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 2,352. 47, Jody Scheerer, Orlando, Fla., 2,349. 48, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,341.

49, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,337. 50(tie), Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., and Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,317. 52, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,289. 53, Hailey Triske (n), Hopkins, Minn., 2,262. 54(tie), Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., and Brigitte Jacobs (n), Freeport, Ill., 2,200.

56, Alyssa Doyle (n), Chicago, 2,189. 57, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,182. 58, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,117. 59, Stephanie Harkless (n), Chaska, Minn., 2,065. 60, Kalli Triske (n), Minnetonka, Minn., 2,060.

61, Danielle Young (n), Loves Park, Ill., 2,050. 62, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 2,002. 63, Leandra Hulberg (n), Arcadia, Wis., 1,995. 64, Tina Kehborn (n), Little Canada, Minn., 953 (WD). 65, Danielle Lee (n), Golden Valley, Minn., 1,678 (WD).

KOVALOVA WINS 2021 PWBA TWIN CITIES OPEN

EAGAN, Minn. - After what most would consider a successful run at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Kickoff Classic Series in January, Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova was not satisfied.

After losing in the semifinal match to eventual champion Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, in what she considered embarrassing fashion at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic, Kovalova was determined to erase the memory of the disappointing performance and put herself back in the winner's circle as quickly as possible.

One event later, she captured her third career PWBA title with a resounding 268-173 victory over Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, in the championship match at the PWBA Twin Cities Open at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan, Minnesota.

The victory, broadcast live on BowITV.com, earned Kovalova the \$10,000 top prize.

"I'm driven to be the best, and losing like I did back in January was a big motivator to improve these last couple of months," said Kovalova, who had two top-five finishes at the Kickoff Classic Series in three events. "I was pretty obsessed about improving in every possible way coming into the rest of the PWBA season."

Kovalova entered Saturday's championship round as the No. 2 seed after surviving a hectic finish during the last qualifying round. She completely dominated her two matches in the stepladder finals, winning by 97 and 95 pins, respectively.

Parkin, the 2011 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, was looking for her first PWBA victory since the tour's relaunch in 2015. She captured the No. 1 seed after averaging more than 220 for 24 games over two days.

In the final, Kovalova opened with a barrage of four straight strikes, while Parkin struggled to find the range, trailing by 52 pins after five frames. Another string of strikes following a spare in the fifth frame sealed the victory early for Kovalova.

"I tried taking a completely different approach during the finals this time," Kovalova said. "I reminded myself to breath, stay calm and think through my choices, and it worked out very well."

Six-time PWBA champion Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, was the No. 4 seed and opened the stepladder finals with a 245-226 victory over No. 3 seed Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska. Like Kovalova, McCarthy also was making her third championship-round appearance of the 2021 PWBA Tour season.

Once Kovalova stepped in to take on Kulick in the semifinal, she asserted her dominance with a 258-161 victory and continued to roll in the title match.

“Now that I’m living in Michigan, I’ve been able to spend a lot of time at Brunswick’s facility,” Kovalova said. “I’ve been learning more about my equipment, practicing how to read lane transition to make quicker adjustments and getting myself in better physical condition.”

The tour resumed this week after a nearly three-month hiatus following the season-opening PWBA Kickoff Classic Series. Twenty titles will be awarded in the 2021 season, and the Twin Cities Open marked the beginning of a 14-event run that goes through the end of August.

All qualifying and match-play rounds at the PWBA Twin Cities Open were broadcast live at BowlTV.com and will remain in the BowlTV archives for fans who want to revisit the action.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will continue starting April 29 with the PWBA Lincoln Open in Lincoln, Nebraska.

2021 PWBA Twin Cities Open

At Cedarvale Lanes

Eagan, Minn.

Saturday’s results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 526 (two games), \$10,000
- 2, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 173 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 406 (two games), \$3,500
- 4, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 226 (one game), \$2,500

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Kulick def. McCarthy, 245-226

Semifinal – Kovalova def. Kulick, 258-161

Championship – Kovalova def. Parkin, 268-173

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 5,294. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 5,280. 3, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 5,273. 4, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5,228.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,223, \$1,900. 6, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 5,213, \$1,700.

7, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 5,148, \$1,650. 8, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 5,101, \$1,600. 9, Verity Crawley, England, 5,085, \$1,550. 10, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5,084, \$1,500. 11, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 5,059, \$1,450. 12, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 5,048, \$1,400.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 4,062. 2, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,987. 3, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,970. 4, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,960. 5, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,954. 6, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,936.

7, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,918. 8, Verity Crawley, England, 3,880. 9, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 3,860. 10, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 3,849. 11, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,836. 12, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,812.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,804, \$1,100. 14, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,802, \$1,100. 15, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,799, \$1,100. 16, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 3,797, \$1,100. 17, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,788, \$1,100. 18, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,778, \$1,100.

19, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 3,761, \$1,100. 20, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,726, \$1,100. 21, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 3,725, \$1,100. 22, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,713, \$1,100. 23, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 3,711, \$1,100. 24, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 3,690, \$1,100.

25, Courtney Ermisch (n), Big Bend, Wis., 3,682, \$1,100. 26, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,668, \$1,100. 27(tie), Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., and Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,651, \$1,100. 29, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,645, \$1,100. 30, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,624, \$1,100.

31, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,588, \$1,100. 32, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 3,576, \$1,100.

RICHARD READY TO RETURN TO

SUN VALLEY LANES FOR 2021 PWBA LINCOLN OPEN

LINCOLN, Neb. – Two-time Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour champion Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, has been working hard to get ready for the second swing of the 2021 PWBA Tour season, and she’s prepared to return to a familiar venue for the 2021 PWBA Lincoln Open.

The Lincoln Open, which is being held at Sun Valley Lanes, will begin Thursday with the official practice session. Competition gets underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, before the field is cut to the top 32 players.

Advancers will bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 athletes, and a final six-game round will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on pinfall totals for 24 games.

The finals of the Lincoln Open will take place Saturday at 7 p.m. Eastern, with the champion taking home \$10,000. All qualifying rounds and the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on BowITV.com.

Richard, the 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year, has often found success when lacing up to compete at Sun Valley Lanes. She represented Junior Team USA and collected three medals at the 2016 International Bowling Federation World Youth Championships at the 32-lane center and captured the individual title at the 2017 Big Red Invitational as a collegiate competitor for Arkansas State University.

Her most recent title at Sun Valley Lanes was at the 2019 Lincoln Open, where she nearly recorded a wire-to-wire victory and defeated Mexico’s Sandra Gongora in the finals, 215-195.

“I’m excited to go back, and I love Sun Valley Lanes,” Richard said. “I’ve had a lot of success there, and it almost has a feeling of being like home. I’ve been there so many times, so I feel comfortable and have learned a lot of the characteristics of the center. I think my ball roll matches up well with the surface, so hopefully the pattern will play to my strengths this week.”

The 25-year-old right-hander is coming off an eighth-place finish at last week’s PWBA Twin Cities Open and felt like she took away a lot of positives from that performance.

To prepare for the second stretch of the tour season, she changed her practice routine during the nearly three-month hiatus since the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series.

“In January I felt like I was sharp, but I really wasn’t,” Richard said. “There were too many shots I just missed during that week, and I felt like it was from a lack of practice. That really stuck with me. In the past three months, I’ve actually been practicing more than I ever had before. I used to practice a lot when I bowled collegiately, but I kind of got away from that.”

The additional time on the lanes also has helped her better understand ball motion and equipment since switching brands toward the end of the 2020. She’s been in steady contact with her new manufacturer representatives as well, which has helped with the transition to the new equipment.

Richard feels confident in making the right moves at the right times, and she feels she can stay ahead of the transition and avoid the mistakes moving forward this season.

“I wasn’t bowling enough tournaments after I made the switch to Roto Grip to really learn ball motion with my new equipment, and I struggled with that in January a bit,” Richard said. “I was determined to understand it better, and working with Steve (Jacobs) as a ball rep has been such a big help. He has given me a few tricks to understand my ball motion, and it has helped tremendously.”

The Lincoln Open is the fifth event of the 2021 season, which features 20 total tournaments on the schedule. The Kickoff Classic Series, which included three national tour stops and one regional competition, took place Jan. 20-26 at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas.

KULICK PACES FIELD AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2021 PWBA LINCOLN OPEN

LINCOLN, Neb. – Coming off a third-place finish at her first event of the 2021 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season, Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, continued strong Friday by leading the field after two rounds of qualifying at the PWBA Lincoln Open.

The United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer averaged more than 230 for her two six-game blocks at Sun Valley Lanes and finished with a 2,764 total. She was followed in the standings by former University of Nebraska standouts Gazmine Mason of Cranston, Rhode Island (2,718), Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York (2,674), and Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (2,672).

The 65-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday’s second round, with Jen Higgins of Lewis Center, Ohio, earning the final spot by rolling 234 in her last game to finish with a 2,435 total, a 202.92 average.

Higgins finished one pin ahead of Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California (2,434), two pins in front of Amanda Vermilyea of Apple Valley, Minnesota (2,433), and three pins ahead of defending PWBA

Lincoln Open champion Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio (2,432).

Kulick made her season debut last week at the PWBA Twin Cities Open in Eagan, Minnesota, and earned the final spot in the four-player stepladder finals. She won her first match, before falling in the semifinal to eventual champion Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine.

Kovalova, who claimed her third career PWBA Tour title last week, will have the opportunity to win two events in a row after finishing Friday in 12th place with 2,570.

Mason will lead a strong contingent of former Cornhuskers into Saturday's third round of qualifying, which starts at 11 a.m. Eastern. She rolled the first perfect game of the 2021 Lincoln Open during the third game of the second block on the way to posting the highest six-game score of the day (1,438).

In addition to Mason, Kuhlkin and Bond, eight other athletes who competed for Nebraska's women's bowling team advanced to the next round.

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 7 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com). The champion will earn \$10,000.

For more information on the PWBA, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

2021 PWBA Lincoln Open At Sun Valley Lanes Lincoln, Neb.

Friday's results

QUALIFYING (12 games)

1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,764. 2, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,718. 3, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,674. 4, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,672. 5, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,670. 6, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,657.

7, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,645. 8, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,620. 9, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,609. 10, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,591. 11, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,579. 12, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,570.

13, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,569. 14, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,565. 15, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,545. 16, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 2,543. 17(tie), Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., and Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,537.

19, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,533. 20(tie), Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., and Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,512. 22, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,510. 23, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,494. 24, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,491.

25, Verity Crawley, England, 2,488. 26, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,484. 27, Cassandra

Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 2,481. 28, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,465. 29, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,459. 30, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,446. 31, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,445. 32, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,435.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,434. 34, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 2,433. 35, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,432. 36, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,418.

37, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,411. 38, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,409. 39, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,403. 40, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,387. 41, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 2,385. 42, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,378.

43(tie), Megan Carpenter (n), San Diego, and Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 2,374. 45, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,364. 46, Jacqueline Evans, Acton, Mass., 2,351. 47, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,340. 48, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,335.

49, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,330. 50, Jennifer Cupples, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,329. 51, Jo Wood (n), Bellevue, Neb., 2,289. 52, Karina Capron (n), Fremont, Neb., 2,256. 53, Kasey Eaton (n), Wyoming, Mich., 2,226. 54, Christine Gill, Lebanon, Ill., 2,217.

55, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,206. 56, Anggie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 2,192. 57, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 2,188. 58, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,139. 59, Ricki Ellison (n), Wichita, Kan., 2,124. 60, Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 2,100.

61, Jamille Weber (n), Omaha, Neb., 2,086. 62, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,080. 63, Michelle Weber (n), Omaha, Neb., 2,069. 64, Tiffany Morris, Bel Aire, Kan., 1,994. 65, Kelsey Marsh (n), Omaha, Neb., 1,929.

LIZ JOHNSON WINS 25TH PWBA TOUR TITLE, ROLLS 300 GAME AT 2021 PWBA LINCOLN OPEN

LINCOLN, Neb. – A day before her 47th birthday, Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, earned a long-awaited gift as she put together an unforgettable performance to win her 25th Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title at the 2021 PWBA Lincoln Open.

Johnson collected three victories to run the ladder in Saturday's championship round at Sun Valley Lanes, averaging 261 in her three wins, which included a 300 game in the semifinal and a 238-213 victory over Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, in the title match.

The 10-time major champion earned \$10,000 for the win, and a \$10,000 bonus from Go Bowling for rolling a perfect game during the stepladder finals.

BowlTV.com provided wire-to-wire coverage of the 2021 PWBA Lincoln Open, including the stepladder finals.

"This is probably the best birthday present I've ever had," said Johnson, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer. "I couldn't ask for a better present, and this is one I'll never forget."

The title tilt featured Johnson holding the slight edge through the first seven frames, with a 7-10 split from Kulick in the eighth frame giving Johnson a 25-pin lead as the game neared its conclusion.

Needing eight pins in two shots to secure the win in the final frame, Johnson rolled a strike to claim her first title since the 2018 Nationwide PWBA Columbus Open.

The win moves Johnson into a tie for fourth place on the PWBA's all-time titles list, joining Patty Costello and Tish Johnson. Lisa Wagner tops the list with 32 wins, with Aleta Sill and Leanne Hulsenberg following with 31 and 27 victories, respectively.

Johnson's historic run Saturday, which also included the right-hander becoming the first bowler in PWBA history to roll multiple 300 games in championship-round appearances, was the result of trying to do something different in attacking the event's 46-foot oil pattern after the scoring pace slowed down toward the end of qualifying.

There have been five perfect games rolled in championship rounds on the PWBA Tour, with the last being achieved at the 2019 Pepsi PWBA Louisville Open by Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova. Kovalova's 300 game was against Johnson in the title match.

"They were brutal earlier today, and after talking to my ball reps, we tried something out," said Johnson, who rolled her first 300 in a championship-round appearance during the title match of the 2001 Paula Carter Classic. "I wanted to take a ball and put some surface on it to see how it looked from the outside part of the lane. It was the same ball I had used most of the week, but from different angles. I was fortunate to find the right combination.

"I felt really focused tonight. It was probably the most I've been in a long time, and everything kind of fell into place. My mindset was good, I felt great physically and was making the shots I needed. I was very excited to have another chance to shoot 300, and being able to do that and win tonight was absolutely amazing."

Johnson's 300 game in the semifinal was against Gazmine Mason of Cranston, Rhode Island, who was making her first championship-round appearance on the national tour after winning a pair of regional titles in 2019 and 2020. Mason rolled 232 in the match.

Saturday's opening game featured Johnson besting Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, 245-223.

Mason and Pluhowsky were part of a large contingent of former University of Nebraska standouts competing at the PWBA Lincoln Open this week.

Mason helped the Cornhuskers win the 2015 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship, while Pluhowsky was part of three national-title-winning teams (2001 Intercollegiate Team Championships and 2004 and 2005 NCAA) and recently helped Nebraska claim the 2021 NCAA title as an assistant coach.

Johnson qualified as the No. 4 seed for the stepladder after rolling 216 in her final qualifying game to jump into the top four. Kulick, who finished third at last week's PWBA Twin Cities Open and was looking for her seventh PWBA Tour title, earned the top seed by averaging more than 224 for 24 games, finishing with a 5,381 total.

The 65-player field bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers

bowed an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season, which features 20 events, will head next to Yorktown Lanes in Parma Heights, Ohio, for the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open. The event will take place May 6-8.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA Lincoln Open
At Sun Valley Lanes
Lincoln, Neb.**

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 783 (three games), \$10,000
- 2, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 213 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 232 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 223 (one game), \$2,500

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Johnson def. Pluhowsky, 245-223

Semifinal – Johnson def. Mason, 300-232

Championship – Johnson def. Kulick, 238-213

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5,381. 2, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 5,251. 3, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 5,236. 4, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5,203.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 5,183, \$1,900. 6, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 5,158, \$1,700. 7, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 5,149, \$1,625. 8, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 5,131, \$1,550. 9, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 5,128, \$1,500. 10, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,080, \$1,450. 11, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 5,077, \$1,425. 12, Verity Crawley, England, 4,994, \$1,400.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 4,089. 2, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 4,042. 3, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4,040. 4, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3,976. 5(tie), Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, and Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,938.

7, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,909. 8, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,898. 9, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,881. 10, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,862. 11, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,844. 12, Verity Crawley, England, 3,835.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,802, \$1,100. 14, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 3,795, \$1,100. 15, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,778, \$1,100. 16, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 3,772, \$1,100. 17, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,754, \$1,100. 18, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 3,745, \$1,100.

19, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,688, \$1,100. 20, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 3,676, \$1,100. 21, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,674, \$1,100. 22(tie), Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., and Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 3,670, \$1,100. 24, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,651, \$1,100.

25, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,645, \$1,100. 26, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,643, \$1,100. 27, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 3,634, \$1,100. 28, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 3,630, \$1,100. 29, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 3,615, \$1,100. 30, Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 3,609, \$1,100.

31, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 3,596, \$1,100. 32, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,543, \$1,100

BARNES BRINGS NEW OUTLOOK TO 2021 PWBA GREATER CLEVELAND OPEN

PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio – The 2021 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season has been a new experience in many ways for three-time champion Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee.

The second swing of the 2021 season has brought her back to competition with a new bowling ball company, and, more importantly, with a new biggest fan in her daughter, Lisa Ruth.

As Barnes looks to manage the challenging lane conditions of the PWBA Tour and spend time between blocks talking to her daughter through FaceTime this week, she’ll be returning to Yorktown Lanes as the defending champion at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open.

The Greater Cleveland Open will begin Thursday with the official practice session. Competition gets underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, before the field is cut to the top 32 players.

Advancers will bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 athletes, and a final six-game round will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on pinfall totals for 24 games.

The finals of the Greater Cleveland Open will take place Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern, with the champion taking home \$10,000. All qualifying rounds and the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

Barnes captured the first title of the 2019 season at Yorktown Lanes in a thrilling finish against Singapore's Cherie Tan, 223-213. While many recognized the intensity Barnes showed down the stretch during the stepladder finals, only a handful knew her and husband, Kyle, were expecting their first child.

"There will be some nostalgia heading back there," Barnes said. "I had a lot going on in my life during that time that people didn't know about, so to revisit that will be pretty cool."

The 32-year-old right-hander has bowled the previous two stops on tour, and she's trying to keep an open mind as she works her way back to the rigors of competing on tour.

"My life has drastically changed since the last time I was out on tour," said Barnes, who finished 42nd at the PWBA Twin Cities Open and 25th at the PWBA Lincoln Open. "I don't feel like I've competed as myself in almost three years, since I was pregnant from the beginning in 2019. Anyone who's bowled pregnant can tell you how different it feels, and I haven't competed in my body in a longtime. It doesn't make my standards any different, but I'm trying to keep an open mind and give myself a break."

She's also been adjusting to a new arsenal after electing not to compete in any events prior to the Twin Cities Open.

Barnes, the associate head coach for the Vanderbilt women's bowling program, knew her student-athletes were following strict protocols in order to compete during the season, and she wanted to follow suit.

"With changing ball companies, I've told my ball reps the last two weeks that I've really liked the way the new equipment has rolled for me, but it will be a learning curve," Barnes said. "Our team at Vanderbilt had to follow some really strict rules to compete this season, and I felt like I needed to stick to those as well, so I didn't compete at all until the Minnesota stop. I was able to see how well the new

balls rolled on Lane 2 at our rec center, but it's going to take some time for me to figure out the moves I need to make and what balls complement each other in my bag."

While the 2021 season might present some time for transition for Barnes, she also knows she wins each week by getting to see Lisa Ruth continue to grow.

"I make sure I talk to her between blocks, and I am able to FaceTime with them to see her," Barnes said. "Whether bowling is going well or not, it's always going to be good getting to see and talk to her."

The Greater Cleveland Open is the sixth event of the 2021 season, which features 20 total tournaments on the schedule.

To learn more about the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

COTÉ LEADS HIGH-SCORING DAY

AT 2021 PWBA GREATER CLEVELAND OPEN

PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio. – After an "unacceptable" performance at last week's event in Lincoln, Nebraska, Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, found the striking formula Friday to pace the field after two rounds of qualifying at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Greater Cleveland Open.

Coté, who won the 2021 PWBA ITRC Classic at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January, averaged more than 242 for her two six-game qualifying blocks at Yorktown Lanes and ended the day with a 2,909

total. She entered the final game of qualifying in a tie with Chicago's Diandra Asbaty but tossed a 259 game to maintain the overall lead.

Coté led after the first six games of qualifying following a strong opening block of 234, 268, 279, 267, 242 and 255 for a 1,545 total.

Asbaty finished second behind Coté with a 2,879 total. She was followed by Taylor Bailey of Joliet, Illinois (2,842), Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (2,838), and Germany's Birgit Noreiks (2,836).

Asbaty, who is bowling in her third event of the season, also started Friday's round strong, rolling games of 202, 278, 248, 276, 248 and 236 for a 1,488 first-round total.

The 76-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday's second round, with Jen Higgins of Lewis Center, Ohio, earning the final spot with a 2,592 total, a 216 average. Kayla Crawford of Silvis, Illinois, advanced in 31st after firing 258 in the final game of qualifying for a 2,601 total. Higgins finished five pins ahead of Summer Jasmin of Beckley, West Virginia, and Alexis Neuer of Milton, Pennsylvania (2,587), for the final spot.

McEwan used Friday night's qualifying round to make a major move up the leaderboard, jumping from 39th to fourth after posting a six-game score of 1,545, a 257.5 average. After opening the round with games of 245 and 187, the five-time PWBA champion finished with games of 279, 268, 277 and 289 to end the block.

Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, also made a move up the leaderboard and put herself in great position for a run at the stepladder finals for a second consecutive week. Pluhowsky fired games of 287, 212, 246, 238, 226 and 269 (1,478) to settle into sixth place with an overall total of 2,834. She sat in 15th position after Round 1.

Defending champion Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, did not advance after posting a 2,543 total to finish in 41st place.

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on BowITV.com. The champion will earn \$10,000.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

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2021 PWBA Greater Cleveland Open

At Yorktown Lanes

Parma Heights, Ohio

Friday's results

QUALIFYING

(12 games)

1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,909. 2, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 2,879. 3, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,842. 4, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,838. 5, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,836. 6, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,834.

7, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,821. 8, Verity Crawley, England, 2,793. 9, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,785. 10, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,783. 11, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,782. 12, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,752.

13, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 2,747. 14, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,724. 15, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,723. 16, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,713. 17, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,706. 18, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,699.

19, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,694. 20, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,678. 21, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,667. 22, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,664. 23, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,663. 24, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,662.

25, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,659. 26, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,634. 27, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,630. 28, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,627. 29, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,623. 30, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 2,616.

31, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,601. 32, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,592.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33(tie), Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., and Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,587. 35, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 2,580. 36, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,577.

37, Jody Scheerer, Orlando, Fla., 2,562. 38, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,560. 39, Michaela Oehler (n), Sun Prairie, Wis., 2,559. 40, Lauren Pate, Inver Grove, Minn., 2,552. 41, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,543. 42, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,534.

43, Kasey Eaton (n), Wyoming, Mich., 2,531. 44, Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y., 2,528. 45, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,519. 46(tie), Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Keller, Texas, 2,500. 48, Melissa Brenders (n), Parma, Ohio, 2,495.

49, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,461. 50, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 2,449. 51, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,445. 52, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 2,444. 53, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,439. 54, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,435.

55, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 2,424. 56, Kayla Starr (n), Crofton, Md., 2,409. 57, Jacqueline Evans, Acton, Mass., 2,399. 58, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,396. 59, Karli VanDuinen (n), New Era, Mich., 2,379. 60, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,366.

61, Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 2,364. 62, Danielle Knittle, State College, Pa., 2,348. 63, Christina Hartl, Ephrata, Pa., 2,331. 64, Angie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 2,272. 65, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,247. 66, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 2,230.

67, Lexus Petrich (n), Youngstown, Ohio, 2,203. 68, Danielle Young (n), Loves Park, Ill., 2,194. 69, Ashley Scott, Chesapeake, Va., 2,179. 70, Krista Sandt, Bethlehem, Pa., 2,155. 71, Carly Graham (n), Strongsville, Ohio, 2,102. 72, Suzette Draper, Dumont, N.J., 2,088.

73, Alanna-Johnie Swetay (n), Watervliet, Mich., 2,071. 74, AnnMarie Blankertz (n), Linden, Mich., 2,057. 75, Sandra Morgan (n), Parma, Ohio, 2,007. 76, Ashland Hoyt (n), Battle Creek, Mich., 1,984.

ZAVALA WINS FIRST CAREER TITLE

AT 2021 PWBA GREATER CLEVELAND OPEN

PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio - When Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, decided to become a member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association, she listed winning the PWBA Rookie of the Year award as her top goal.

It didn't take long for Zavala to become a front-runner for the award in the 2021 season after capturing her first career PWBA Tour title Saturday at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open.

Zavala defeated Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, in the championship match at Yorktown Lanes, 247-216, to claim the title in just her third tournament as a tour member.

The victory, broadcast live on BowlTV.com, earned Zavala the \$10,000 top prize.

After an excellent start to the title tilt, Coté finished the match first, with a chance to roll 248 to force Zavala to toss all three strikes in her final frame to tie the match. Coté rolled a strike in the ninth frame but left a 3-6 combination and missed the spare to give Zavala a chance to mark in the final stanza for the win.

Zavala stepped up in her final frame and calmly struck on her first shot to become the sixth different champion of the 2021 PWBA Tour season.

"This feels incredible," said Zavala, who was a member of Team USA and Junior Team USA in 2017. "My heart was beating out of my chest. I put myself in that position. I knew I wanted to finish, and I wanted to be that last one on the approach. So, I just took a deep breath and said, 'hit, smack, post your shot, everything's going to be all right.'"

Zavala entered the match as the No. 1 seed after posting a six-game block of 1,484 during the fourth qualifying round to surge ahead of Coté, who previously held the lead. It was the highest block by any competitor during that round.

Coté, the 2021 ITRC Classic champion, led three of the four qualifying rounds and was looking to become the first two-time winner this season.

She began the match with a spare, followed by three consecutive strikes, and looked to be in firm control.

After a strike to open her first career championship-round appearance, Zavala left a 2-8-10 split on the right lane in the second frame, the lane she chose to finish on as the top seed. Although it was early in the game, it was a key moment because the inexperienced Zavala could've folded and allowed Coté to create an insurmountable lead.

Instead, the 24-year-old right-hander followed with a strike and a spare before rolling five consecutive strikes to force the possibility of a tie. Zavala's maturity, despite her age, was on display, and she used her previous experiences to keep her calm and turn the negative into a positive.

"If you would've asked about a year ago, I would've said, 'oh, no it's over in the second frame,'" said Zavala, who competed collegiately for Sam Houston State. "After that, I told myself to get the count, sit down and take a minute and just stay with it. I liked that lane for a reason. I had to trust myself and my ability. Anything can happen, so make it work, and I did."

Zavala was set to compete on the PWBA Tour in 2020, but the tour was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although heartbroken she wasn't able to compete, Zavala quickly went back to work. That additional preparation just may have been the difference on Saturday.

"It broke my heart a little bit, and I think it did that for a lot of girls that were getting ready," Zavala said. "You either take that and say it's not meant to be or say, 'hey, I have one more year to perfect my craft, and I can work harder and be more prepared when that time comes.' That's exactly what I did. I practiced a lot. I feel I was more prepared this year, than if I had started last year."

Coté, the No. 2 seed, called her performance last week at the PWBA Lincoln Open "unacceptable." This week was a different story as Coté was back in the stepladder finals with a chance to win her third career title.

"If I look at my performance from start to finish, it was pretty solid," Coté said. "I can't say it was a bad week. I definitely wanted to win, but I'm not disappointed I got second. It's weird. I thought I would be disappointed, mad and frustrated, but I'm not. I'm content with it. Stephanie bowled amazing, and I bowled amazing this week, too. Either one of us could have won, so hats off to her. She did what she had to do to take the title."

Coté advanced to the title match after defeating Germany's Birgit Noreiks in the semifinal, 259-226. Noreiks, the No. 4 seed, made her first championship-round appearance of 2021 and was in search of her second career PWBA title.

Noreiks opened the stepladder finals by defeating No. 3 seed Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, 247-206. McEwan, who moved from 39th to fourth place during Round 2 on Friday, was making her second championship-round appearance of the season.

The 76-player field bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season, which features 20 events, will head next to the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, for the USBC Queens. The first major of the season will take place May 12-18.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Greater Cleveland Open

At Yorktown Lanes

Parma Heights, Ohio

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 247 (one game), \$10,000
- 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 475 (two games), \$5,000
- 3, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 473 (two games), \$3,500
- 4, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 206 (one game), \$2,500

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Noreiks def. McEwan, 247-206

Semifinal – Coté def. Noreiks, 259-226

Championship – Zavala def. Coté, 247-216

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5,784. 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5,711. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 5,688. 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5,604.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 5,575, \$2,000. 6, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 5,567, \$1,950. 7, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 5,561, \$1,925. 8, Verity Crawley, England, 5,542, \$1,875. 9, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 5,538, \$1,800. 10, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 5,475, \$1,700. 11, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 5,445, \$1,650. 12, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 5,278, \$1,600.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 4,396. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 4,300. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,292. 4, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 4,270. 5, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 4,261. 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 4,250.

7, Verity Crawley, England, 4,245. 8, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 4,242. 9, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 4,205. 10, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 4,202. 11, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 4,156. 12, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 4,125.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 4,096, \$1,250. 14, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 4,083, \$1,250. 15, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 4,078, \$1,200. 16, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 4,070, \$1,200. 17, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 4,064, \$1,200. 18, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 4,041, \$1,200.

19, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 4,031, \$1,200. 20, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 4,028, \$1,200. 21(tie), Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, and Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 4,017, \$1,150. 23, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 4,002, \$1,150. 24, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,993, \$1,150.

25, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,985, \$1,150. 26, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,976, \$1,150. 27, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 3,967, \$1,100. 28, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,883, \$1,100. 29, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,880, \$1,100. 30, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 3,862, \$1,100.

31, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 3,804, \$1,100. 32, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 3,772, \$1,100.

KOVALOVA READY TO DEFEND TITLE AT 2021 USBC QUEENS

RENO, Nev. – Ukraine’s Dasha Kovalova had her breakout victory at the United States Bowling Congress Queens in 2019, and she quickly has become one of the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour’s top stars since winning her first major championship.

The 26-year-old right-hander will return to the event this week at the National Bowling Stadium, and she’s looking for another long run through the tournament’s double-elimination bracket.

The 2021 USBC Queens begins Wednesday with the tournament’s official practice sessions. The first of three five-game qualifying rounds will start Thursday, before the field is cut to the top 63 players and Kovalova, who is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion.

Three-game total-pinfal matches will determine which players advance through the bracket leading up to the stepladder finals on May 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

With BowlTV.com providing wire-to-wire coverage of the 2021 Queens, the double-elimination format also will be extended to the stepladder for the top seed.

The winner of the Queens will take home a \$20,000 top prize and the tiara awarded to the champion.

Kovalova went undefeated through the bracket at the 2019 Queens in Wichita, Kansas, and defeated Malaysia's Sin Li Jane in the title match, 226-216.

The win was the first for Kovalova since joining the tour in 2016, and she added a second later in the season at the Pepsi PWBA Louisville Open, where she rolled a perfect game in the title match.

"The win at the Queens definitely showed me that I was on the right track and that my hard work paid off," Kovalova said. "It gave me a little bit of confidence and inspiration moving forward as a professional."

Kovalova finished the 2019 season ranked third on the season-long points list, and she currently finds herself leading in points through six events this season (43,975).

She collected her third career title at the PWBA Twin Cities Open in April and has advanced to the stepladder finals in three of the six events in 2021.

Kovalova isn't necessarily thinking about those statistics heading into the Queens, however, as she looks to improve her game each week on tour.

"I'm the kind of person who's never really satisfied," Kovalova said. "Yes, I have a win this season. Yes, it has been a great season so far. I can be better, though. I'm going to continue to trust my process and try to bowl well again this week."

The process will be important for Kovalova during the three qualifying rounds leading to match play, since she's already placed into the double-elimination bracket.

“It relaxes me a bit knowing I already have a spot, but it makes me anxious at the same time,” Kovalova said. “I know if I get too relaxed, I may start missing spares and my target. It puts a little extra pressure on me to make sure to watch the lanes, watch the transition and figure out what’s going on, so I can be ready for match play and predict what’s going to happen out there. I’m still going to compete as if I’m not seeded into the bracket.”

This year’s field will feature 110 players competing across two squads during qualifying. Match play will begin Sunday and go into Monday, before the top five players are determined for Tuesday’s stepladder finals.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit BOWL.com/Queens.

JORDAN RICHARD LEADS OPENING ROUND AT 2021 USBC QUEENS

RENO, Nev. – Two-time Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour champion Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, averaged 246 on Thursday to take the opening-round lead at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens.

After starting her five-game block at the National Bowling Stadium with 207, Richard recorded games of 229, 235, 290 and 269 to finish with a 1,230 total.

Last week’s PWBA Greater Cleveland Open champion Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, is second with 1,188, and Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (1,183), Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas (1,151), and Shannon Sellens of Long Beach, New York (1,148), round out the top five.

The USBC Queens is the first major championship on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule, and BowlTV.com is providing wire-to-wire coverage of the event.

A ball change at the end of the first game helped Richard find the right look Thursday at the NBS.

“When I watched earlier this morning, I saw a bunch of the players getting farther left than I wanted to get, so I started to the right,” said Richard, the 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year. “I switched balls in the 10th frame of the first game and crept a little left and was able to use that ball for the rest of the day. I only moved three boards the whole time. I stayed with my game plan, stayed on top of it and made some really good shots.”

The 25-year-old right-hander is in great position heading into the final two rounds of qualifying to advance to the tournament’s double-elimination bracket, and she’s going to try and collect as much information as she can in hopes of an extended run at the 2021 event.

“It feels really good to start strong,” said Richard, a Team USA member. “You can’t win it in a day, but you can lose it. I want to continue to stay focused, make good shots and get as much information as I can for the upcoming days.”

Sellens, who led all competitors on the first squad Thursday, has been one of the most consistent performers at majors over the last couple of seasons, which includes a fifth-place finish at the 2019 U.S. Women’s Open and a run at the 2018 Queens, also held at the NBS. She won four matches to finish tied for 13th place.

She finished qualifying in second place at the 2019 Queens in Wichita, Kansas, and won a pair of matches to finish tied for 25th place.

Her tournament schedule has picked up the past few months in preparation for the Queens, and she always finds a way to get into the right mindset for the biggest events of the year.

“We were shut down for six months in New York, and I didn’t throw a ball for another month after things began to open up,” Sellens said. “I got back into the swing of things at the beginning of the year and started to bowl a few events, which put me back in the right mindset. There’s something about these tournaments. I’m able to bear down and make shots.”

Sellens was able to work on some issues with her timing during Wednesday’s practice session to put up scores of 257, 221, 246, 208 and 216 on this week’s 42-foot oil pattern.

“I felt really good today, considering I was a little fast and my timing was off yesterday,” Sellens said. “For me, it was about keeping my angles in front of me and keeping the pocket in play, which plays into what I do really well.”

Competition resumes Friday with the second round of qualifying at noon Eastern. After 15 games, the field will be cut to the top 63 players and Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine, who is guaranteed a spot in the double-elimination bracket as the defending champion.

Kovalova finished the first round with a 1,099 total and is tied for 17th place.

Match play will begin Sunday, with all matches prior to the stepladder finals featuring a three-game total-pinfall format. Bracket play resumes Monday, with the top five athletes advancing to Tuesday’s stepladder finals at 8 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV.

With the finals being broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

The champion at the 2021 Queens will take home the \$20,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit BOWL.com/Queens.

2021 USBC Queens

At National Bowling Stadium

Reno, Nev.

Thursday’s Results

QUALIFYING – ROUND 1

(Five games)

1, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 1,230. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 1,188. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 1,183. 4, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 1,151. 5, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 1,148. 6, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,142.

7, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,139. 8, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 1,136. 9, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1,135. 10, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 1,127. 11, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 1,126. 12, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 1,119.

13, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 1,116. 14, Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., 1,110. 15, Christine Gill, Lebanon, Ill., 1,104. 16, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 1,102. 17(tie), Sabrena Divis, Gillette, Wyo., and Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 1,099.

19, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 1,097. 20, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 1,094. 21, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 1,087. 22, Verity Crawley, England, 1,085. 23(tie), Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Keller, Texas, 1,081.

25, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 1,075. 26, Blair Blumenscheid (n), Columbus, Ohio, 1,073. 27, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 1,069. 28, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 1,059. 29(tie), Sharon Powers (n), Lakewood, Colo., and Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 1,054.

31, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 1,053. 32, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 1,043. 33, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 1,039. 34, Ana Molina (n), Guatemala, 1,036. 35(tie), Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, and Katie Robb (n), Swedesboro, N.J., and Ana Ruiz (n), Guatemala, 1,035.

38, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,033. 39(tie), Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., and Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 1,031. 41, Nicole Kleutgen (n), Plainfield, Wis., 1,029. 42, Alejandra Urrutia (n), Highland, Calif., 1,023.

43, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 1,022. 44, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 1,021. 45(tie), Emily Eckhoff (n), Denver and Lilia Robles, Mexico, 1,018. 47, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 1,012. 48, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 1,010.

49, Jody Scheerer, South Africa, 1,008. 50, Michelle Sterner (n), Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,007. 51, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,006. 52(tie), Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., and Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,005. 54, Raelyn Hazen (n), Roy, Utah, 1,003.

55(tie), Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah, and Brandi Branka, Belleville, Ill., and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1,002. 58, Lauren Pate, Inver Grove, Minn., 1,000. 59(tie), Jennifer Cupples, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, and Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 999.

62, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 997. 63, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 993. 64, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 992. 65, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 990. 66, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 982.

67, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 981. 68, Nichole Hiraoka (a), Daly City, Calif., 980. 69, Daria Pajak, Poland, 979. 70, Hope Gramly (n), Aubrey, Texas, 977. 71, Aseret Zetter, Mexico, 975. 72, Tabetha DuVall (n), Gillette, Wyo., 974.

73, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 970. 74, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 969. 75, Megan Allensworth (n), Plainfield, Ill., 967. 76, Anggie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 964. 77, Sofia Granda (n), Guatemala, 960. 78(tie), Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., and Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 959.

80, Addy Nelson (n), Gregory, S.D., 957. 81, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 953. 82, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 950. 83, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 949. 84, Claudia Cabrera (n), Guatemala, 946.

85(tie), Debbie Ayers, La Mesa, Calif., and Kristin Nieter (n), Homewood, Ill., and Terysa Wojnar, New Lenox, Ill., 945. 88, Mallory Nutting (n), Topsham, Maine, 942. 89, Alyssa Ferraro (n), Deltona, Fla., 938. 90, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 935.

91, Samantha Knab (n), Antioch, Ill., 928. 92, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 927. 93, Madeleine McDuff (n), Katy, Texas, 917. 94, Karen Rosprim (n), Albany, Calif., 915. 95(tie), Stephani Cooksey (n), Reno, Nev., and Kalee Tripp (n), Butte, Mont., 914.

97, Angelica Anthony (n), Converse, Texas, 912. 98, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 903. 99, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 896. 100, Kristal Coppinger (n), Woonsocket, R.I., 884. 101, Rebecca Azurmendi (n), Winnemucca, Nev., 881. 102, Jennifer McLean (n), Seattle, 877.

103, Melissa Perez, Miami, Fla., 876. 104, Stephanie Dennis, Kingston, Mo., 872. 105, Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 867. 106, Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y., 861. 107, Jessica Abel (n), Broadalbin, N.Y., 847. 108, Karrie Brunner (n), Gobles, Mich., 844.

109, Cassandra Mize (a), Toledo, Ohio, 829. 110, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 814.

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KUHLKIN MOVES INTO LEAD AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2021 USBC QUEENS

RENO, Nev. – Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York, posted the highest five-game block Friday at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens to move into the overall lead after two rounds.

The two-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion now leads the field with a 10-game total of 2,284, a 228.4 average. She's followed in the standings by USBC Hall of Famer Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (2,257), opening-round leader Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio (2,246), Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (2,243), and Germany's Birgit Noreiks (2,238).

The USBC Queens is the first major championship on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule, and BowITV.com is providing wire-to-wire coverage of the event.

Kuhlkin improved on a strong opening round at the National Bowling Stadium (1,126 for five games on Thursday), rolling scores of 235, 255, 246, 190 and 232 for a 1,158 total Friday.

The 27-year-old right-hander saw a little more hook on this week's 42-foot lane condition during Friday's block, which played to her strengths.

"I was really satisfied with how I bowled yesterday, but I did miss a couple of moves and threw some splits at inopportune times," Kuhlkin said. "They hooked a little earlier today, and I had to throw a different ball. I had to shape the ball a little bit more, which I like to do, and because of that, my angle into the pocket was better. I was able to strike a lot today."

Kuhlkin bowled the USBC Women's Championships at the NBS prior to the start of Queens, and she was able to average more than 244 for the event to help her team take the lead in the Diamond Division. She currently sits in a tie for third place in Diamond All-Events with a 2,197 nine-game total.

Although the events are much different, Kuhlkin feels that seeing her ball strike at the NBS during the Women's Championships helped her confidence looking ahead to the Queens.

When the 78-lane venue hosted the Queens in 2018, Kuhlkin missed the cut to the bracket, finishing in 130th place.

"The last time the Queens was here, I didn't make the cut," Kuhlkin said. "That was in the back of my mind, but I had a really good showing at the Women's Championships. My ball was going through the pins really well, and I had that confidence going into this tournament. Knowing I'm capable of striking a lot at a center is a momentum thing for me, and I feel like I have a good look and just have to execute shots. If I keep doing that, I'll be OK."

Qualifying concludes Saturday, with A Squad kicking the day off at noon Eastern. After 15 games, the field will be cut to the top 63 players and Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine, who is guaranteed a spot in the double-elimination bracket as the defending champion.

Kovalova is in 27th place after two rounds with a 2,115 total.

The 64th spot heading into Saturday's final round of qualifying belongs to South Africa's Jody Scheerer, who has recorded a 1,992 total through 10 games, a 199.2 average.

Match play will begin Sunday, with all matches prior to the stepladder finals featuring a three-game total-pinfall format. Bracket play resumes Monday, with the top five athletes advancing to Tuesday's stepladder finals at 8 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV.

With the finals being broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

The champion at the 2021 Queens will take home the \$20,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

2021 USBC Queens

At National Bowling Stadium

Reno, Nev.

Friday's Results

QUALIFYING – ROUND 2

(10 games)

1, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,284. 2, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,257. 3, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,246. 4, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,243. 5, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,238. 6, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,235.

7, Taylor Bulhuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,216. 8, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,192. 9, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 2,185. 10, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,181. 11(tie), Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., and Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,180.

13, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,176. 14, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 2,172. 15, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,168. 16, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 2,151. 17, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,149. 18, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,134.

19, Christine Gill, Lebanon, Ill., 2,131. 20(tie), Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., and Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., and Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,129. 23, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Keller, Texas, 2,127. 24(tie), Anggie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, and Sabrena Divis, Gillette, Wyo., 2,117.

26, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,116. 27, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,115. 28(tie), Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, and Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 2,113. 30, Brandi Branka, Belleville, Ill., 2,109.

31, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,101. 32, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,100. 33, Aseret Zetter, Mexico, 2,096. 34, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,094. 35, Emily Eckhoff (n), Denver, 2,091. 36, Lauren Pate, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., 2,090.

37, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,073. 38, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,069. 39, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,063. 40, Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 2,060. 41, Verity Crawley, England, 2,058. 42, Blair Blumenscheid (n), Columbus, Ohio, 2,056.

43, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 2,053. 44, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,050. 45, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,048. 46, Ana Molina (n), Guatemala, 2,047. 47(tie), Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, and Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,043.

49, Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., 2,038. 50, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,037. 51, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,034. 52, Nicole Kleutgen (n), Plainfield, Wis., 2,033. 53(tie), Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., and Sharon Powers (n), Lakewood, Colo., 2,031.

55, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,030. 56(tie), Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,025. 58, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,015. 59(tie), Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., and Ana Ruiz (n), Guatemala, 2,010.

61, Jennifer Cupples, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,002. 62, Katie Robb (n), Swedesboro, N.J., 1,999. 63, Debbie Ayers, La Mesa, Calif., 1,994. 64, Jody Scheerer, South Africa, 1,992. 65(tie), Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, and Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 1,985.

67, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 1,977. 68, Nichole Hiraoka (a), Daly City, Calif., 1,976. 69, Mallory Nutting (n), Topsham, Maine, 1,975. 70, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 1,973. 71, Alejandra Urrutia (n), Highland, Calif., 1,972. 72, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,968.

73, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,964. 74(tie), Sofia Granda (n), Guatemala, and Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah, 1,960. 76, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 1,952. 77, Addy Nelson (n), Gregory, S.D., 1,947. 78, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,934.

79, Kristin Nieter (n), Homewood, Ill., 1,929. 80, Michelle Sterner (n), Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,927. 81, Raelyn Hazen (n), Roy, Utah, 1,926. 82, Claudia Cabrera (n), Guatemala, 1,916. 83, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 1,915. 84(tie), Angelica Anthony (n), Converse, Texas, and Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 1,909.

86, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 1,908. 87, Megan Allensworth (n), Plainfield, Ill., 1,900. 88, Hope Gramly (n), Aubrey, Texas, 1,892. 89, Tabetha DuVall (n), Gillette, Wyo., 1,891. 90, Samantha Knab (n), Antioch, Ill., 1,887.

91, Melissa Perez, Miami, 1,882. 92, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 1,865. 93, Alyssa Ferraro (n), Deltona, Fla., 1,864. 94, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,863. 95, Madeleine McDuff (n), Katy, Texas, 1,857. 96, Kalee Tripp (n), Butte, Mont., 1,854.

97(tie), Karen Rosprim (n), Albany, Calif., and Terysa Wojnar, New Lenox, Ill., 1,843. 99, Stephani Cooksey (n), Reno, Nev., 1,831. 100, Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 1,827. 101, Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y., 1,809. 102, Cassondra Mize (a), Toledo, Ohio, 1,795.

103, Rebecca Azurmendi (n), Winnemucca, Nev., 1,774. 104, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 1,769. 105, Kristal Coppinger (n), Woonsocket, R.I., 1,766. 106, Jessica Abel (n), Broadalbin, N.Y., 1,762. 107, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 1,742. 108, Jennifer McLean (n), Seattle, Wash., 1,715.

109, Karrie Brunner (n), Gobles, Mich., 1,706. 110, Stephanie Dennis, Kingston, Mo., 1,688.

MCEWAN LEADS QUALIFYING AT 2021 USBC QUEENS

RENO, Nev. – Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, averaged more than 225 during qualifying at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens to lead the field into the double-elimination bracket.

The five-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion posted a 1,138 five-game block Saturday at the National Bowling Stadium to finish qualifying with a 3,381 total for 15 games, a 225.4 average.

McEwan is followed in the standings by Rocio Restrepo of Uniontown, Ohio (3,364), Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California (3,346), Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York (3,346), and Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio (3,345).

The USBC Queens is the first major championship on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule, and BowITV.com is providing wire-to-wire coverage of the event.

With qualifying complete, the top 63 players and Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine, who was guaranteed a spot in the double-elimination bracket as the defending champion, will return to the NBS on Sunday for match play.

Kovalova finished qualifying in 28th place with a 3,136 total and will face Kerry Smith of New Holland, Pennsylvania, in the opening round.

The final spot in the bracket went to Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, who finished with a 15-game total of 3,001, a 200.07 average. Clemmer delivered three strikes in the 10th frame of her final game to get the last spot by a single pin over Alejandra Urrutia of Highland, California.

McEwan will face Clemmer in the first round of match play.

McEwan has been near the top of the leaderboard all week at the NBS, finishing Round 1 in third place and Round 2 in fourth place before moving into the lead Saturday.

The quick start Thursday allowed the 29-year-old right-hander the opportunity to collect information looking ahead to match play.

The three-game total-pinfall format moving into the bracket will allow for multiple angles to be in play and different strategies to be used by each opponent, and McEwan hopes to be one step ahead with the information she's gathered on this week's 42-foot oil pattern.

"I was looking at the long game this week," said McEwan, who finished third at the 2016 Queens. "I was focusing on gathering information and preparing myself for the end of the week. I've competed in enough of these events to know what I see on Day 1 won't be what it's like in match play. I focused on getting a lot of score the first day, which I was able to do, and build my arsenal from there for different situations. I want to make sure I know what ball I'll have to go to depending on what I'm seeing, so I can focus on my physical game and make sure I'm confident when I step up on the approach."

Restrepo averaged more than 238 on Saturday to move up from 14th place, rolling games of 215, 254, 266, 221 and 236 to lead all competitors on the day with a 1,192 total.

The four-time PWBA Tour champion took a week off during the PWBA Lincoln Open to return home to work on some aspects of her game. She returned to the tour last week at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open and finished in 18th place.

"I'm just excited to start feeling like myself again," Restrepo said. "I haven't felt like I've bowled well for almost eight months, and I took off a few weeks ago to focus on the stuff my reps have been telling me. The time at home has paid off. I built some momentum from last week in Cleveland, and I'm bringing that here as well."

Restrepo drilled some new equipment to help her see the shapes she wants to see on tour, and the physical changes she's implemented to her game not only have helped with her consistency, but also have provided some relief from a hip injury she's been competing through.

"I feel like my start has always been the key to my delivery, and I started to feel very uncomfortable from the moment I held the ball - it wasn't me," Restrepo said. "I focused on making sure my start was always the same and that my hand positions were correct, because a bad start means a bad finish."

"I've been dealing with a hip injury, and I've been taking it one week at a time. There have been times when I was in a lot of pain, but it seems like with the physical changes I've made, I'm not in as much pain. That's why I'm here. I feel like I'm strong enough, and I've dealt with worse."

Sunday's match-play round will begin at noon Eastern with the left side of the bracket, with the right side of the bracket getting underway at 2 p.m. Eastern. All matches prior to the stepladder finals will feature a three-game total-pinfall format.

Bracket play resumes Monday, with the top five athletes advancing to Tuesday's stepladder finals at 8 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV.

With the finals being broadcast on BowlTV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

The champion at the 2021 Queens will take home the \$20,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit BOWL.com/Queens.

2021 USBC Queens

At National Bowling Stadium

Reno, Nev.

Saturday's Results

QUALIFYING – ROUND 3

(15 games)

1, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,381. 2, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 3,364. 3(tie), Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., and Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,346. 5, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 3,345. 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,327.

7, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 3,318. 8, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,293. 9, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 3,291. 10, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,266. 11(tie), Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., and Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 3,239.

13, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 3,231. 14, Taylor Bulhuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,220. 15, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,208. 16, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,200. 17, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 3,197. 18, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,196.

19, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,194. 20, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3,192. 21, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,181. 22, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,180. 23, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,171. 24, Anggie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 3,163.

25, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 3,152. 26(tie), Laura Plazas, Colombia, and Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,141. 28, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,136. 29(tie), Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., and Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,130.

31, Brandi Branka, Belleville, Ill., 3,129. 32(tie), Daria Pajak, Poland, and Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 3,125. 34, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 3,124. 35, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 3,123. 36, Emily Eckhoff (n), Denver, 3,120.

37, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 3,112. 38, Lauren Pate, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., 3,109. 39, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,108. 40, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Keller, Texas, 3,105. 41, Verity Crawley, England, 3,096. 42, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,086.

43, Ana Molina (n), Guatemala, 3,085. 44, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,084. 45(tie), Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., and Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 3,080. 47, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 3,077. 48, Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 3,073.

49, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 3,062. 50, Hope Gramly (n), Aubrey, Texas, 3,059. 51, Christine Gill, Lebanon, Ill., 3,057. 52, Sharon Powers (n), Lakewood, Colo., 3,050. 53, Aseret Zetter, Mexico, 3,044. 54, Sabrena Divis, Gillette, Wyo., 3,037.

55, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,027. 56, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,022. 57, Nichole Hiraoka (a), Daly City, Calif., 3,016. 58, Addy Nelson (n), Gregory, S.D., 3,012. 59(tie), Kristin Nieter (n), Homewood, Ill., and Blair Blumenscheid (n), Columbus, Ohio, 3,011.

61(tie), Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, and Nicole Kleutgen (n), Plainfield, Wis., 3,007. 63, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,002. 64, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,001.

DID NOT ADVANCE

65, Alejandra Urrutia (n), Highland, Calif., 3,000. 66, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 2,999.

67, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,997. 68, Sofia Granda (n), Guatemala, 2,995. 69, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,985. 70, Jody Scheerer, South Africa, 2,949. 71, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,947. 72, Ana Ruiz (n), Guatemala, 2,930.

73, Raelyn Hazen (n), Roy, Utah, 2,927. 74, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,916. 75, Jennifer Cupples, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,913. 76, Madeleine McDuff (n), Katy, Texas, 2,911. 77, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 2,910. 78, Angelica Anthony (n), Converse, Texas, 2,909.

79(tie), Megan Allensworth (n), Plainfield, Ill., and Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah, 2,907. 81(tie), Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, and Mallory Nutting (n), Topsham, Maine, 2,902. 83, Katie Robb (n), Swedesboro, N.J., 2,893. 84, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,881.

85, Alyssa Ferraro (n), Deltona, Fla., 2,862. 86, Debbie Ayers, La Mesa, Calif., 2,853. 87, Michelle Sterner (n), Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,841. 88, Karen Rosprim (n), Albany, Calif., 2,827. 89, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,818. 90, Claudia Cabrera (n), Guatemala, 2,816.

91, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,811. 92, Jessica Abel (n), Broadalbin, N.Y., 2,808. 93, Terysa Wojnar, New Lenox, Ill., 2,804. 94, Tabetha DuVall (n), Gillette, Wyo., 2,802. 95, Kalee Tripp (n), Butte, Mont., 2,800. 96, Samantha Knab (n), Antioch, Ill., 2,791.

97, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,781. 98, Melissa Perez, Miami, Fla., 2,772. 99, Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 2,763. 100, Kristal Coppinger (n), Woonsocket, R.I., 2,753. 101, Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y., 2,744. 102, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 2,734.

103, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,727. 104(tie), Rebecca Azurmendi (n), Winnemucca, Nev., and Stephani Cooksey (n), Reno, Nev., 2,715. 106, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 2,678. 107, Jennifer McLean (n), Seattle, Wash., 2,645. 108, Karrie Brunner (n), Gobles, Mich., 2,567.

109, Stephanie Dennis, Kingston, Mo., 2,510.

**FIVE PAST CHAMPIONS AMONG
16 UNDEFEATED PLAYERS AT 2021 USBC QUEENS**

RENO, Nev. – The field at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens is down to 32 players after the opening rounds of match play Sunday at the National Bowling Stadium.

There are 16 players remaining in the winners bracket after two rounds in the double-elimination format, with five past USBC Queens champions rolling to undefeated records at the 78-lane venue.

The past champions in the winners bracket includes Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of Keller, Texas (2001), Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (2009, 2015), Shannon O’Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (2018), Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California (2011), and Latvia’s Diana Zavjalova (2013, 2017).

Defending champion Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine and 2012 champion Diandra Asbaty of Chicago also are in contention in the elimination bracket.

The USBC Queens is the first major championship on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule, and BowITV.com is providing wire-to-wire coverage of the event.

Johnson rolled the first 300 game of the 2021 event during her first-round match against Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas. Johnson was down by 10 pins heading into the final game before connecting on 12 consecutive strikes to win the three-game total-pinfal match, 719-596.

The USBC Hall of Famer narrowly held on to win her second match Sunday, delivering a strike to start her final frame to lock up a victory against Estefania Cobo of North Richland Hills, Texas, 716-710. Johnson was up by 76 pins heading into the final game, but Cobo rolled 274 to close the gap.

Johnson will face Lindsay Boomershine of Perry, Utah, in her next match.

O’Keefe defeated Russia’s Maria Bulanova (671-656) and Shanna Chepelsky of East Rochester, New York (668-546), to set up a match against Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York.

McEwan, the top seed from qualifying, recorded wins over Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina (732-676), and Indonesia’s Tannya Roumimper (636-619).

O’Keefe and McEwan have finished first and second, respectively, on the PWBA Tour points list the last two seasons.

After winning her first match, Kovalova lost to Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio (689-520). She won her final match Sunday in the elimination bracket against 2014 Queens champion Maria José Rodriguez of Colombia (727-653) and will face Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, in the next round.

Kovalova went undefeated in match play on the way to the title at the 2019 event in Wichita, Kansas.

Bracket play resumes Monday at noon Eastern, with the top five athletes advancing to Tuesday’s stepladder finals at 8 p.m. Eastern on BowITV.

With the finals being broadcast on BowITV, the top seed will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

The champion at the 2021 Queens will take home the \$20,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

The 2021 event started with 110 competitors. After 15 games of qualifying over three days, the top 63 players and Kovalova, who was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, advanced to match play.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit BOWL.com/Queens.

**2021 USBC Queens
At National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.**

Sunday's Results

MATCH PLAY

Double-elimination, three-game matches decided by total pinfall

ROUND 1

(Winners remain in Winners Bracket. Losers move to Elimination Bracket.)

- (1) Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., def. (64) Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 732-676
- (33) Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, def. (32) Daria Pajak, Poland, 663-604
- (48) Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., def. (17) Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 640-571
- (16) Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., def. (49) Maria Bulanova, Russia, 671-656

- (9) Shannon Sellens, Long Beach, N.Y., def. (56) Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 628-549
- (41) Verity Crawley, England, def. (24) Anggie Ramirez-Perea, Austin, Texas, 706-575
- (40) Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Keller, Texas, def. (25) Lili Robles, Mexico, 665-631
- (8) Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., def. (57) Nichole Hiraoka, Daly City, Calif., 648-602

- (5) Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, def. (60) Blair Blumenscheid, Columbus, Ohio, 656-571
- (28) Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, def. (37) Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 699-598
- (44) Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., def. (21) Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 669-666
- (53) Aseret Zetter, Mexico, def. (12) Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 615-593

- (13) Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., def. (52) Sharon Powers, Lakewood, Colo., 722-596
- (45) Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., def. (20) Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 653-516
- (36) Emily Eckhoff, Denver, def. (29) Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 631-526
- (4) Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., def. (61) Nicole Kleutgen, Plainfield, Wis., 572-548

- (62) Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, def. (3) Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 679-603
- (30) Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., def. (35) Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 721-611
- (19) Clara Guerrero, Colombia, def. (46) Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 613-606
- (14) Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., def. (51) Christine Gill, Lebanon, Ill., 651-610

(11) Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., def. (54) Sabrena Divis, Gillette, Wyo., 715-680
(22) Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, def. (43) Ana Molina, Guatemala, 667-571
(38) Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., def. (27) Laura Plazas, Colombia, 640-593
(6) Birgit Noreiks, Germany, def. (59) Kristin Nieter, Homewood, Ill., 763-535

(58) Addy Nelson, Gregory, S.D., def. (7) Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 648-597
(39) Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, def. (26) Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 704-686
(42) Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., def. (23) Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 639-588
(10) Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., def. (55) Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 656-603

(15) Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., def. (50) Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 719-596
(47) Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, def. (18) Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 769-592
(31) Brandi Branka, Belleville, Ill., def. (34) Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 626-570
(63) Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, def. (2) Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 580-565

ROUND 2 – WINNERS BRACKET

McEwan def. Roumimper, 636-619
O’Keefe def. Chepelsky, 668-546
Crawley def. Sellens, 683-630
Dorin-Ballard def. Mangiola, 666-557

Richard def. Kovalova, 689-520
Parkin def. Zetter, 643-534
Bolton def. Current, 655-633
Kuhlkin def. Eckhoff, 720-596

Pashina def. Asbaty, 656-619
Guerrero def. Bulthuis, 677-639
Zavjalova def. Neuer, 628-568
Noreiks def. Pate, 639-552

S. Johnson def. Nelson, 712-597
Bond def. Mason, 684-577
L. Johnson def. Cobo, 716-710
Boomershine def. Branka, 619-569

ROUND 2 – ELIMINATION BRACKET (Losers eliminated, earn \$1,200)

Clemmer def. Pajak, 731-661
Hiraoka def. Robles, 686-569
Ragsdale def. Bulanova, 645-562
Gongora def. Ramirez-Perea, 590-553

Blumenscheid def. Smith, 628-606
McCarthy def. Kleutgen, 672-607
Coté def. Kulick, 698-607
Powers def. Pluhowsky, 661-647

Bailey def. Zavala, 624-615
Nieter def. Plazas, 613-602
Gill def. Vermilyea, 683-608
Divis def. Molina, 672-544

C. Johnson def. Bercier, 657-550
Restrepo def. Zulkifli, 750-663
Rodriguez def. Brummett, 603-517
Barnes def. Gramly, 667-596

**ROUND 3 – ELIMINATION BRACKET
(Losers eliminated, earn \$1,250)**

Clemmer def. Bulthuis, 716-704
Neuer def. Hiraoka, 626-537
Asbaty def. Ragsdale, 656-628
Gongora def. Pate, 658-631

Mason def. Blumenscheid, 611-567
McCarthy def. Cobo, 609-608
Coté def. Nelson, 647-618
Branka def. Powers, 612-560

Bailey def. Chepelsky, 717-604
Sellens def. Nieter, 685-623
Roumimper def. Gill, 693-682
Mangiola def. Divis, 718-649

C. Johnson def. Zetter, 629-505
Restrepo def. Current, 686-647
Kovalova def. Rodriguez, 727-653
Barnes def. Eckhoff, 679-633

JULIA BOND EARNS TOP SEED FOR FINALS AT 2021 USBC QUEENS

RENO, Nev. – Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, went undefeated in match play at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens and earns the top seed for the stepladder finals at the first major of the 2021 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season.

The 25-year-old right-hander defeated her former University of Nebraska teammate, Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York, in the final match of the winners bracket Monday at the National Bowling Stadium to secure the top seed, 663-620. Kuhlkin will be the No. 2 seed for the finals.

The finals of the 2021 USBC Queens will be broadcast live on Tuesday at 8 p.m. Eastern at BowlTV.com. The champion will take home the \$20,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

With the finals being broadcast on BowlTV, Bond will have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

Joining Bond and Kuhlkin in the stepladder will be No. 3 Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, No. 4 Diana Zavjalova of Latvia and No. 5 Verity Crawley of England.

Parkin, Zavjalova and Crawley advanced out of the elimination bracket Monday. The final four athletes in the elimination bracket bowled a final three-game total-pinfall contest, with the top three scores advancing to the stepladder.

Parkin earned the No. 3 seed with a 688 series. Zavjalova advanced with a 683 set and will face Crawley (598) in Tuesday's opening match. Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, rolled a 575 series and was eliminated, finishing in sixth place.

Bond captured her first national tour title earlier this season at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic in January, and she's worked hard during the year to become more consistent from week to week.

Her confidence has continued to grow, too, and she attributed her success in match play to being able to put together an arsenal that allowed her to make quick changes as this week's 42-foot oil pattern began to transition.

Bond averaged more than 234 in her six wins on Sunday and Monday.

"I think what really helped with my confidence this week was getting into a part of the lane I was comfortable in and using bowling balls that helped me stay in that part of the lane," said Bond, a five-time Team USA member. "We built my arsenal in a great way to make my ball changes really simple and

straightforward. I knew exactly what ball to go to when the lanes started to transition, which allowed me to settle in and be loose and make the best shots possible.”

Bond faced her biggest test in her match against Kuhlkin, as she worked through a couple of different bowling balls and a different zone on the lanes to find a look during the final game.

Kuhlkin, who joined Bond in helping Nebraska win the 2015 NCAA Women’s Bowling Championship, was up by 21 pins after two games, but Bond was able to deliver six consecutive strikes after a spare in the first frame to finish with a 257 game and the victory.

“When Plan A and B aren’t working, you have to go to Plan C,” Bond said. “I didn’t have to play that angle since early in match play, because I’ve mostly been able to stay right. I’m very proud that I was able to trust myself and believe in the plan we worked on to get into the right ball and make the zone change. I made the change and saw the shape I was looking for, and I knew I could do it.”

Bond is making her first championship-round appearance in a major, and she’s confident her experiences on the way to the top seed will give her the opportunity to take home the tiara.

“There’s a little bit of a confidence boost knowing there’s a cushion with the extra game, but I’m still going to go out there and give it my all,” Bond said. “I don’t want to give anyone the opportunity to beat me more than once, and we’re just going to stick with the process. If the game plan doesn’t work, I know I have the ability to completely switch gears. I know there are two parts of the lane I can play very well, and I feel pretty good about tomorrow.”

Kuhlkin will be looking to win her second career major and third PWBA Tour title. She won the 2018 U.S. Women’s Open and is making her second stepladder appearance at the Queens after finishing fifth at the 2015 event.

Parkin and Zavjalova will look to add an additional tiara to their collections as past champions at the Queens. Parkin won the 2011 event, and Zavjalova will look to join USBC and PWBA Hall of Famers Mildred Ignizio and Wendy Macpherson as the only three-time champions at the event. Zavjalova won the 2013 and 2017 Queens.

Crawley joins Bond in making her first championship-round appearance at a major and is looking for her first PWBA Tour title.

The 2021 event started with 110 competitors. After 15 games of qualifying over three days, the top 63 players and Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova, who was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, advanced to match play.

Kovalova won two matches at the NBS before she was eliminated Monday by Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, 629-609. Kovalova finished tied for 25th place.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit BOWL.com/Queens.

2021 USBC Queens

At National Bowling Stadium

Reno, Nev.

Monday's Results

MATCH PLAY

Double-elimination, three-game matches decided by total pinfall

ROUND 3 – WINNERS BRACKET

(Winners remain in Winners Bracket. Losers move to Elimination Bracket.)

(1) Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., def. (16) Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 685-656

(41) Verity Crawley, England, def. (40) Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Keller, Texas, 706-599

(44) Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., def. (5) Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 635-631

(4) Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., def. (13) Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 657-574

(19) Clara Guerrero, Pflugerville, Texas, def. (30) Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 634-531

(22) Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, def. (6) Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 625-613

(10) Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., def. (39) Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 734-636

(15) Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., def. (63) Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 652-592

ROUND 4 – ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, earn \$1,350)

(11) Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., def. (64) Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 707-627

(56) Sandra Gongora, Mexico, def. (62) Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 747-580

(29) Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., def. (42) Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 735-609

(31) Brandi Branka, Belleville, Ill., def. (21) Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 631-604

(35) Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., def. (9) Shannon Sellens, Long Beach, N.Y., 696-563

(33) Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, def. (8) Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 598-558

(2) Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, def. (7) Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 678-579

(18) Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., def. (28) Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 629-609

ROUND 4 – WINNERS BRACKET

Crawley def. McEwan, 672-616

Kuhlkin def. Parkin, 663-569

Zavjalova def. Guerrero, 664-585

Bond def. L. Johnson, 759-650

ROUND 5 – ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, earn \$1,550)

Richard def. Neuer, 700-646

Gongora def. Bolton, 652-644

McCarthy def. O'Keefe, 730-716

Dorin-Ballard def. Branka, 574-562

Boomershine def. Bailey, 657-610

S. Johnson def. Roumimper, 672-620

Restrepo def. Noreiks, 577-552

Barnes def. Pashina, 682-630

ROUND 5 – WINNERS BRACKET

Kuhlkin def. Crawley, 688-550

Bond def. Zavjalova, 723-652

ROUND 6 – ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, earn \$1,750)

Richard def. Gongora, 661-632

McCarthy def. Dorin-Ballard, 708-604

Boomershine def. S. Johnson, 623-563

Barnes def. Restrepo, 674-542

ROUND 6 - WINNERS BRACKET

(Winner earns No. 1 seed for Tuesday's BowlTV finals; loser is No. 2 seed)

Bond def. Kuhlkin, 663-620

ROUND 7 – ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, earn \$2,000)

Richard def. L. Johnson, 675-631

McCarthy def. Guerrero, 691-480

Parkin def. Boomershine, 688-576

McEwan def. Barnes, 675-598

ROUND 8 – ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, earn \$2,300)

McCarthy def. Richard, 726-689

Parkin def. McEwan, 731-675

ROUND 9 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Three highest scores advance to BowlTV finals, high score is No. 3 seed, second high is No. 4, third high is No. 5, lowest score is eliminated, earns \$2,700)

Parkin 688, Zavjalova 683, Crawley 598, McCarthy 575

JULIA BOND WINS FIRST MAJOR AT 2021 USBC QUEENS

RENO, Nev. – Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, capped a dominating performance this week at the National Bowling Stadium by winning her first major championship Tuesday at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens.

The 25-year-old right-hander went undefeated through the double-elimination bracket and recorded her second win of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season by defeating 2011 USBC Queens champion Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, in the title match, 238-154.

Bond claimed the coveted tiara and the \$20,000 first-place prize. Parkin earned \$10,000 for her runner-up finish.

The finals of the 2021 Queens were broadcast on BowlTV.com.

“This feels great,” said Bond, who won her first career national tour title in January at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic. “It’s a very validating feeling to see that I’m on the right path, making good choices and learning. That’s been the goal since my rookie season, and this win is very special.”

Bond, who had to be defeated twice as the top seed for the stepladder finals in the true double-elimination format, quickly took the lead in the title match, with Parkin opening in two of her first four frames.

Bond stayed clean through the first six frames and then tossed six consecutive strikes to seal the victory.

Bond noted how quickly the 42-foot oil pattern was transitioning during her warm-up shots as she waited for the opportunity to start the title match, and she was able to see the path she wanted to take.

“Every time I was able to take a couple of practice shots, I would mark down where I finished,” said Bond, a five-time Team USA member. “When I returned to pair, I would start there and see how much it changed. I think we did a good job of tracking the transition and moves, so it didn’t take me too long to figure out where I needed to be after a few small tweaks. Staying in the pocket was the name of the game.”

The three-time PWBA Regional champion also was able to rely on things she learned Monday in the final match in the winners bracket against Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York. Bond rolled 257 in the final game of that match after making a jump to the left. She recorded the win and earned the top seed, 663-620.

“In the match against Liz, I had to change my game plan, and it gave me confidence to know I could make the jump into that zone,” Bond said. “I had tried to see what was out farther right, which had been my path to success for most of the bracket, and it looked like by the time it was going to be my turn in the title match, it wasn’t going to look too great. A lot of it was reading my ball motion and trusting what I saw. I made some quick decisions and trusted it, and fortunately, it worked.”

Parkin won two matches to advance to the final, but she also knew she would have to make some moves to stay ahead of the transition in the title match.

Parkin defeated England’s Verity Crawley, 236-220, before striking out in the ninth and 10th frames of her semifinal match to defeat Kuhlkin, 223-211.

Kuhlkin had the chance to double in the final frame to advance to the championship match, but she left a 2 pin on her first delivery.

“They were transitioning very quickly, like they had all week,” said Parkin, who made her third championship-round appearance of the season and collected her second runner-up finish of 2021. “Even before the final match, I had grabbed another bag because I was anticipating what was going to happen. Unfortunately, I made the wrong move to start and didn’t figure them out quick enough.”

The 39-year-old right-hander took away a lot of positives from her time at the NBS, knowing she made some strides in her execution during the week.

“I’m extremely proud of my execution,” said Parkin, a 12-time Team USA member. “Starting the week, I didn’t really have a great look. I ended up drilling a few bowling balls, which made a big difference, and I feel, especially yesterday, I physically executed really well during the matches. I’m very proud with how I bowled this week.”

Tuesday’s stepladder finals started with Crawley defeating Latvia’s Diana Zavjalova, 197-172.

Zavjalova was looking to become the third player to win three Queens titles after capturing the tiara in 2013 and 2017. USBC and PWBA Hall of Famers Mildred Ignizio (1967, 1970, 1971) and Wendy Macpherson (1988, 2000, 2003) are the only players to win the event three times.

The 2021 event started with 110 competitors. After 15 games of qualifying over three days, the top 63 players and Ukraine’s Dasha Kovalova, who was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, advanced to match play.

Kovalova won two matches at the NBS before she was eliminated Monday by Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, 629-609. Kovalova finished tied for 25th place.

The PWBA Tour season will resume May 27-29 at the PWBA BVL Open in Farmingdale, New York.

2021 USBC Queens

At National Bowling Stadium

Reno, Nev.

Tuesday's Results

Final standings

- 1, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 238 (one game), \$20,000
- 2, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 613 (three games), \$10,000
- 3, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 211 (one game), \$6,000
- 4, Verity Crawley, England, 417 (two games), \$4,500
- 5, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 172 (one game), \$3,500

Stepladder results

Match 1 – Crawley def. Zavjalova, 197-172

Match 2 – Parkin def. Crawley, 236-220

Semifinal – Parkin def. Kuhlkin, 223-211

Championship – Bond def. Parkin, 238-154

CAITLYN JOHNSON LEADS TALENTED ROOKIE CLASS HEADING INTO 2021 PWBA BVL OPEN

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. – The race to become the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Rookie of the Year is heating up for a talented group of young athletes, and the top nine contenders in points are competing this week at the PWBA BVL Open.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will continue Thursday at Farmingdale Lanes with the official practice session at the BVL Open. Competition gets underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, before the field is cut to the top 32 players.

Advancers will bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 athletes, and a final

six-game round will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on pinfall totals for 24 games.

The finals of the BVL Open will take place Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern, with the champion taking home \$10,000. All qualifying rounds and the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

The BVL Open is the eighth of 20 tournaments scheduled for the 2021 season, and Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, is leading the points-based charge for the rookie-of-the-year award. She sits in 22nd place among all competitors this season.

She's followed closely by PWBA Greater Cleveland Open champion Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California (25th in points), Abby Ragsdale of Aurora, Illinois (26th), Russia's Maria Bulanova (27th), Taylor Bailey of Joliet, Illinois (32nd), and Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina (35th).

Estefania Cobo of North Richland Hills, Texas (40th), Alexis Neuer of Milton, Pennsylvania (44th), and Kara Mangiola of Spencerport, New York (46th), also are in the mix to make a run at the award with a couple of strong performances already in the books this season.

With the future of the PWBA Tour looking bright and the next generation of athletes taking to the lanes week in and out, there's also a lot of learning taking place each week.

Johnson, a 22-year-old right-hander, has experienced success at every level, including at the Junior Gold Championships, as part of Junior Team USA and as a collegiate standout at Webber International University.

Through her first run at the tour, she's noted how it has been important to keep an open mind when facing the challenging conditions at a new center each event.

"I've learned to be OK with seeing something different from block to block," said Johnson, who has a top finish of 10th place this season at the PWBA ITRC Classic. "The 12 games (at PWBA Standard events) go by in a blink of an eye when you're in the moment, and being able to make quicker adjustments has been the hardest part for me. I have to really trust what I'm seeing and be OK with making different moves, compared to the previous block or even game before. It has been a huge learning curve so far, and I've been taking notes nonstop.

"I'm proud that I've been able to keep an open mind and try different things. I'm trying to take everything in as a learning experience. I've also been able to finish blocks strong at the last couple of events to make some cuts, and I've been proud to be able to continue to keep pushing to get better every week."

In looking ahead to the next swing of the tour season, Johnson isn't necessarily focused on the statistics, but rather the process to further her game to the next level after each tournament.

After finishing qualifying in seventh place earlier in May at the United States Bowling Congress Queens, Johnson slowed down in match play, losing her first match and finding the need to alter her game plan moving forward in the three-game total-pinfall matches.

Heading to Farmingdale Lanes this week, Johnson will look to take something from that experience to apply to her time on the lanes at the BVL Open.

“My goals aren’t really numerical for the most part,” said Johnson, who went 2-2 in match play at the USBC Queens and finished tied for 25th place. “They’re more centered around learning and overcoming obstacles I’ve seen the last few weeks. At the Queens, I started strong and qualified in a high position, but in match play, I felt like my game plan was gone, and I didn’t overcome that easily. Looking ahead to the BVL Open, if I’m in that position again, I have to be OK with making a big adjustment and trusting that my execution and preparation will be there.”

The BVL Open will mark the PWBA Tour’s first visit to New York since 2017 and first trip to Farmingdale and Farmingdale Lanes.

John LaSpina, the president of Maple Family Centers (which includes Farmingdale Lanes), is the chairman for the BVL Board of Directors.

The Bowlers to Veterans Link is a national nonprofit charity 501(c)(3) that supports America’s veteran and active-duty service men and women through myriad recreational therapy programs and services to speed recuperation and boost morale to brighten lives. Founded in 1942, BVL is the sport of bowling’s oldest and most successful charity, raising more than \$50 million for the cause.

ZAVALA ROLLS TO LEAD ON OPENING DAY OF 2021 PWBA BVL OPEN

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. – Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, quickly is becoming a rising star on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour, and she continued her impressive run this month by leading the first two rounds of the 2021 PWBA BVL Open.

Zavala, a 24-year-old right-hander who will turn 25 on Saturday, won her first PWBA Tour title earlier in May at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open, and she cruised to the top of the leaderboard Friday at Farmingdale Lanes by averaging more than 224 for her two six-game blocks to finish with a 2,690 total.

Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, is second with 2,625, and she’s followed in the standings by Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio (2,571), Poland’s Daria Pajak (2,512) and Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York (2,503).

The 69-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday’s second round, with Karsyn Lukosius of Brick, New Jersey, claiming the final spot by finishing with a 2,294 total, a 191.17 average.

Lukosius rolled 203 in her final game to get ahead of Abby Ragsdale of Aurora, Illinois, by a single pin to advance to Saturday's third round of qualifying, which starts at 10 a.m. Eastern.

Zavala is part of a talented rookie class competing on tour this season, and her win at the Greater Cleveland Open was in her third event as a professional.

She followed the victory with an impressive performance in qualifying at the United States Bowling Congress Queens in Reno, Nevada. She earned the No. 3 seed for the 64-player double-elimination bracket after averaging more 223 for 15 games in the first major of the 2021 season.

Zavala lost her first two matches, however, to finish tied for 49th place.

On Friday, Zavala rolled the highest six-game block of the day during the first round, posting games of 246, 213, 242, 195, 279 and 225 for a 1,400 total to build her lead on the field. She added 1,290 in the second round.

Clemmer, who also is a rookie this season, was the only other player to surpass the 1,300 total Friday at Farmingdale Lanes, making her move during the second round on the strength of a 1,389 six-game block.

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on BowITV.com. The champion will earn \$10,000.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

BVL Open

At Farmingdale Lanes

Farmingdale, N.Y.

Friday's results

QUALIFYING

(12 games)

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,690. 2, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,625. 3, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,571. 4, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,512. 5, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,503. 6, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,484.

7, Verity Crawley, England, 2,480. 8, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,450. 9, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,437. 10, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,428. 11, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,426. 12, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,416.

13, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,402. 14, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,391. 15, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,379. 16, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,368. 17, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,366. 18, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,361.

19, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,355. 20, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,347. 21, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,345. 22, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,333. 23, Sarah Germano (n), Rochester, N.Y., 2,327. 24, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,322.

25, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,321. 26, Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 2,315. 27, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,313. 28, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,309. 29, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,303. 30, Kayla Jones (n), Johnstown, Pa., 2,296.

31, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,295. 32, Karsyn Lukosius (n), Brick, N.J., 2,294.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,293. 34, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 2,291. 35, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,283. 36(tie), Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., and Aseret Zetter, Mexico, 2,282.

38, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 2,276. 39, Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., 2,275. 40, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,273. 41, Danielle Knittle, State College, Pa., 2,262. 42(tie), Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., and Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,259.

44, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,258. 45, Amanda Nardiello (n), Toms River, N.J., 2,250. 46(tie), Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., and Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,232. 48, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,226.

49, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,220. 50, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,219. 51, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 2,198. 52, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,191. 53, Suzanne Morine (n), Castleton-on-Hudson, N.Y., 2,182. 54, Jacqueline Evans, Acton, Mass., 2,171.

55, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 2,168. 56, Danielle Merino (n), College Point, N.Y., 2,164. 57, Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y., 2,153. 58, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,152. 59, Krista Sandt, Bethlehem, Pa., 2,133. 60, Toni Kaufman (n), Plainview, N.Y., 2,117.

61, Ingellimar Beasley, Clarksville, Tenn., 2,114. 62, Christina Hartl, Ephrata, Pa., 2,075. 63, Rachel Hines (n), Medford, N.Y., 2,063. 64, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 1,984. 65, Katy Barnes, Greenwich, R.I., 1,961. 66, Cathrine Bell, Averill Park, N.Y., 1,912.

67, Canan Bademci (n), Patchogue, N.Y., 1,864. 68, Becky Decker (n), Honesdale, Pa., 1,843. 69, Renee Martel-Ethridge (n), Danielson, Conn., 969 (WD).

ZAVALA CLAIMS SECOND TITLE OF 2021 SEASON AT PWBA BVL OPEN

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. – Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, celebrated her 25th birthday Saturday by raising the trophy at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association BVL Open.

Zavala claimed her second title in just five events as a professional by defeating Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, at Farmingdale Lanes, 228-204.

The championship round was broadcast live on BowITV.com, with Zavala earning her second \$10,000 first-place check in May. She won the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open three weeks ago, defeating Bryanna Coté in the title match, 247-216.

Zavala nearly recorded a wire-to-wire victory at the BVL Open. She was at the top of the standings for 22 of the 24 qualifying games heading into the stepladder finals and finished qualifying with a 229-pin lead over the next closest competitor, Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, to earn the top seed for the stepladder.

“If someone told me I’d already have two titles, I’d say they were crazy, but it sounds like a dream come true,” said Zavala, a rookie on the PWBA Tour this season. “It’s one I would have wanted to come true, so I’m glad it did. This was the best birthday present I could have given myself and my grandpa. We share a birthday, and he passed away in November, so it was the first one I’ve had to spend without him. It was tough waking up this morning knowing that, but I knew he was watching over me all weekend and that he couldn’t be prouder.”

Zavala got out to an early lead in the title match, rolling four consecutive strikes after a first-frame spare, while Richard stayed clean but was unable to double.

A 7-10 split in the sixth frame momentarily slowed Zavala, but she responded with three more strikes to set up the 10th frame and the opportunity to shut out Richard, who had found some late momentum with a pair of strikes in the eighth and ninth frames.

Needing a mark to lock up the victory, Zavala left, and converted, the 3-6-9-10 combination and then knocked over six pins on her fill ball to put it out of reach.

“I definitely took a few extra breaths before shooting at that spare,” said Zavala, who bowled collegiately at Sam Houston State University. “It’s not fun or my favorite, however, I do leave a lot of them and have had plenty of practice shooting at it. I wanted to take my time, relax and give it a shot.”

Zavala also was the top seed at the Greater Cleveland Open, but noted that some of the initial nerves she felt at Yorktown Lanes against Coté were not present at Farmingdale Lanes as she waited for her opportunity to bowl for the title.

Despite out-averaging the field by nearly 10 pins during qualifying, she continued to push herself to stay ahead of the transition on the event’s 40-foot lane condition.

“The scores weren’t very high this week in qualifying, and I found success pretty early,” Zavala said. “For me, though, I wanted to keep my head down and keep working. I knew I couldn’t get too comfortable or complacent and always had to stay on top of the moves. I kept working hard and kept making good shots.”

Richard, a two-time PWBA Tour champion, advanced to the title match with a near-perfect performance in the semifinal against Clemmer. The 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year rolled 10 consecutive strikes, before leaving the 4-6-7-10 split on her 11th delivery. She defeated Clemmer, 284-225.

Richard kicked off the stepladder with a 245-224 victory against England's Verity Crawley.

The 25-year-old right-hander advanced to her first championship-round appearance of the season after several close calls. Richard recorded top-10 finishes at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic (ninth place), PWBA Twin Cities Open (eighth) and United States Bowling Congress Queens (tied for seventh) before her runner-up finish Saturday.

Clemmer, who's also a rookie on tour this season, made her first career championship-round appearance Saturday, while Crawley recorded her second consecutive fourth-place finish after advancing to the stepladder at the USBC Queens.

The 69-player field in Farmingdale bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The Bowlers to Veterans Link is a national nonprofit charity 501(c)(3) that supports America's veteran and active-duty service men and women through myriad recreational therapy programs and services to speed recuperation and boost morale to brighten lives. Founded in 1942, BVL is the sport of bowling's oldest and most successful charity, raising more than \$50 million for the cause.

John LaSpina, the president of Maple Family Centers (which includes Farmingdale Lanes), is the chairman for the BVL Board of Directors.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will stay in New York for next week's event, the PWBA Albany Open. The tournament will be contested at Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center and be held June 3-5.

To donate to BVL, visit BVL.org. For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA BVL Open

At Farmingdale Lanes

Farmingdale, N.Y.

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 228 (one game), \$10,000

2, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 733 (three games), \$5,000

3, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 225 (one game), \$3,500

4, Verity Crawley, England, 224 (one game), \$2,500

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Richard def. Crawley, 245-224

Semifinal – Richard def. Clemmer, 284-225

Championship – Zavala def. Richard, 228-204

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5,281. 2, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 5,052. 3, Verity Crawley, England, 5,027. 4, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 5,023.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 4,984, \$2,000. 6, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 4,944, \$1,800. 7, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 4,922, \$1,750. 8, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 4,915, \$1,700. 9, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,886, \$1,650. 10, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 4,792, \$1,600.

11, Daria Pajak, Poland, 4,781, \$1,550. 12, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 4,771, \$1,500.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,985. 2, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,879. 3, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 3,868. 4, Verity Crawley, England, 3,787. 5, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,777. 6, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,752.

7, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,713. 8, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,691. 9, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,672. 10, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,655. 11, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,651. 12, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 3,643.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,635, \$1,150. 14, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,630, \$1,150. 15, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,607, \$1,150. 16, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,594, \$1,150. 17, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,593, \$1,100. 18, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,561, \$1,100.

19, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,552, \$1,100. 20, Karsyn Lukosius (n), Brick, N.J., 3,547, \$1,100. 21, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,533, \$1,100. 22, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,527, \$1,100. 23, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 3,505, \$1,100. 24, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,500, \$1,100.

25, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,499, \$1,100. 26, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 3,478, \$1,100. 27, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,454, \$1,100. 28, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,448, \$1,100. 29, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 3,396, \$1,100. 30, Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 3,391, \$1,100.

31, Kayla Jones (n), Johnstown, Pa., 3,330, \$1,100. 32, Sarah Germano (n), Rochester, N.Y., 2,713, \$1,100 (WD).

KUHLKIN READY FOR CAPITAL REGION AT 2021 PWBA ALBANY OPEN

SOUTH GLENS FALLS, N.Y. – Two-time Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour champion Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York, is excited to represent upstate New York this week and hopes to break through for her first title of the 2021 season at the PWBA Albany Open.

The Albany Open will begin Thursday at Kingpin’s Alley Family Fun Center with the event’s official practice session, and competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds.

The top 32 athletes will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 players, and a final six-game round will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on pinfall totals for 24 games.

The finals of the Albany Open will take place Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern, with the winner taking home \$10,000. All qualifying rounds, and the stepladder finals, will be broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

Kuhlkin, a 27-year-old right-hander, lives about 45 minutes from Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center but is very familiar with the 42-lane center. She has competed in multiple events at the venue and is eager to bring her hometown crowd to see the top bowlers on the PWBA Tour.

"This is not my home center, but I've been to this center many, many times," said Kuhlkin, a four-time Team USA member. "I've bowled a lot of tournaments here, and I'm excited for this event to take place in the Capital Region. Our area just loves bowling, and we have a rich history in the sport. I think it's going to be cool for everyone to see the support upstate New York has for professional bowling."

The 2018 U.S. Women's Open champion will use those previous experiences at Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center to her advantage when she can, but she's still going to stick to her same process in approaching the tournament.

"It's certainly beneficial to know some of the characteristics of the center before you walk in the door," Kuhlkin said. "I'm still going to treat this like any other tournament on tour, though. Things can happen, and the pattern can play a certain way, but I have that information in my back pocket if I need it."

Kuhlkin made her season debut at the PWBA Twin Cities Open in April, and she's quickly found her rhythm. She's recorded three top-10 finishes in five events in 2021, including a third-place finish at last month's United States Bowling Congress Queens, the first major of the season.

She was in the mix for a second consecutive championship-round appearance at last week's PWBA BVL Open in Farmingdale, New York, ultimately finishing in eighth place.

Kuhlkin's strong performances have helped her jump to 16th place on the PWBA's season-long points list, despite missing the first three events of the season at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January.

She knows she'll have to make her way to the winner's circle if she wants a legitimate shot at the points-based PWBA Player of the Year award this season, and she feels confident and ready to put herself in that position each week.

"It was a tough decision to miss the events in January, but I'm sticking by it and glad I did it," Kuhlkin said. "I knew when I made that decision, looking at points and player of the year, I was going to have to win. With how I've been bowling, I feel that's very possible for the next couple of events. I hope the

home crowd and extra support this week can give me that boost I may need to get to the top, but I feel like I'm at the point of my career where I'm out here to win."

In addition to the on-lane success, Kuhlkin also has been working to make healthier choices, and she feels that also has helped during her recent run on tour.

"I made a change in my lifestyle as far as my health and how I'm taking care of myself," Kuhlkin said. "I have lost 15 pounds since the (PWBA) Lincoln Open, and I feel it. I feel stronger and have had more stamina while competing, and I don't think it's a coincidence that I've been bowling so well. I'm looking forward to continuing the success this week with the hometown crowd."

KULICK FIRES 300 TO LEAD OPENING DAY

OF 2021 PWBA ALBANY OPEN

SOUTH GLENS FALLS, N.Y. – Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, rolled 300 in her final game Friday at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Albany Open to move into the lead after two rounds of competition.

The United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer concluded her second six-game block at Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center with 12 consecutive strikes to record the highest round of the day (1,523) and take over the top spot in the standings with a 2,860 total, a 238.33 average.

Kulick jumped from third to first in the final game, passing Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, and Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York. O'Keefe (2,827) and McEwan (2,822) are second and third, respectively.

Opening-round leader Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas (2,761), and Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (2,737), also finished Friday in the top five.

The 66-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday's second round, with Gazmine Mason of Cranston, Rhode Island, holding onto the final spot with a 2,487 total, a 207.25 average.

Mason rolled 170 in her final game but remained in the top 32.

Last week's PWBA BVL Open champion Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, made a run at the number in the final game, but a 4-6-7-10 split in her 10th frame resulted in her missing the cut by six pins with a 2,481 total.

Kulick, a six-time major champion, started her 2021 season by advancing to the stepladder finals of the PWBA Twin Cities Open and PWBA Lincoln Open. She finished third at the Twin Cities Open and was the runner-up as the top seed at the Lincoln Open, falling to Liz Johnson in the title match, 238-213.

The 44-year-old right-hander skipped the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open but returned for the season's first major at the USBC Queens, where she advanced to match play and finished tied for 49th place. Kulick placed 22nd at last week's BVL Open.

After starting Friday's competition with a 1,337 six-game block, Kulick fired games of 206, 265, 269, 279 and 204, before connecting for 300 in her final game to average 253.83 in the second round.

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on BowITV.com. The champion will earn \$10,000.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Albany Open

At Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center

South Glens Falls, N.Y.

Friday's results

QUALIFYING

(12 games)

1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,860. 2, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,827. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,822. 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,761. 5, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,737. 6, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,723.

7, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,707. 8, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 2,703. 9, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,697. 10, Verity Crawley, England, 2,664. 11, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,653. 12, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,638.

13, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,634. 14, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,627. 15, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,625. 16, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,590. 17, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,588. 18(tie), Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, and Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,579.

20, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,578. 21, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 2,576. 22, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,575. 23, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,571. 24, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,568.

25, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,563. 26, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,550. 27, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,549. 28, Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., 2,539. 29, Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 2,520. 30, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,492.

31, Mallory Nutting (n), Topsham, Maine, 2,488. 32, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,487.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,481. 34, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,466. 35, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,457. 36, Ingellimar Beasley, Clarksville, Tenn., 2,456.

37, Aseret Zetter, Mexico, 2,447. 38, Sabrena Divis, Gillette, Wyo., 2,446. 39, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,434. 40, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,421. 41, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,395. 42, Janelle Irwin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,392.

43, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,377. 44, Suzanne Morine (n), Castleton-on-Hudson, N.Y., 2,339. 45, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,336. 46, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,313. 47, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,311. 48, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,309.

49, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,305. 50, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 2,301. 51, Christina Hartl, Ephrata, Pa., 2,286. 52, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,284. 53, Michelle Sterner (n), Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,265. 54, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,249.

55, Nichole Toto (n), North Brunswick, N.Y., 2,242. 56, Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y., 2,230. 57, Jennifer Roback (n), New York Mills, N.Y., 2,225. 58, Danielle Knittle, State College, Pa., 2,218. 59, Morgan Brunet (n), Plattsburgh, N.Y., 2,172. 60, Emma Grace Dockery (n), Kent, Ohio, 2,160.

61, Jessica Aiezza (n), Mechanicville, N.Y., 2,157. 62, Jessica Abel (n), Broadalbin, N.Y., 2,075. 63, Kalynn Carl (n), Albany, N.Y., 2,071. 64, Suzette Draper, Dumont, N.J., 2,068. 65, Renee Riffey (n), Glen Burnie, Md., 2,030. 66, Cathrine Bell, Averill Park, N.Y., 2,024.

KELLY KULICK WINS 2021 PWBA ALBANY OPEN

SOUTH GLENS FALLS, N.Y. – Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, was in complete control of her game this week at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Albany Open, and her masterful performance concluded with a return to the winner's circle for the first time since 2017.

The United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer defeated two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, in a thrilling title match at Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center, 228-217, to record her seventh PWBA Tour victory.

The championship round was broadcast live on BowlTV.com, with Kulick earning \$10,000 for the win. O'Keefe collected \$5,000 for the runner-up finish.

Kulick's last win on tour came at the 2017 PWBA Fountain Valley Open, and her victory Saturday was her second since the relaunch of the PWBA Tour in 2015.

The 44-year-old right-hander entered Saturday's competition as the tournament leader and retained that spot through 12 more games to earn the top seed for the stepladder finals, averaging more than 240 for her 24 qualifying games.

O'Keefe never let her out of her sights, however, averaging more than 238 to finish qualifying in second place.

The 14-time tour champion continued to pressure Kulick as the title match got underway, rolling three consecutive strikes after a spare in the first frame to take the early advantage.

Kulick maintained her hold on the pocket on this week's 36-foot oil pattern, but she didn't record a double through the first five frames.

A small adjustment in her physical game helped her create a better angle through the pins, resulting in four consecutive strikes, starting in the sixth frame.

"I talked with my tour reps and wondered if I needed to make a ball change," said Kulick, a 17-time Team USA member. "After talking about it, I told them I knew what I needed to do. I got my hand underneath the bowling ball and started to go around it a bit more, to create more angularity off the spot. I know I have the tools and the knowledge, but you have to trust what you're able to do. I trusted myself, like I had all week long."

Kulick entered the final frame with the opportunity to roll two more strikes to shut out O'Keefe, but a light hit on her first delivery resulted in a 7 pin. She converted the spare and struck on her fill ball to force O'Keefe to double for her second win of the season.

O'Keefe, who won the season-opening PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic, left a 3-10 split on the first shot of her 10th frame, allowing Kulick to raise the trophy.

Kulick had finished as the runner-up five times since her win in 2017, including earlier this season at the PWBA Lincoln Open.

Saturday's run to the stepladder finals was her third championship-round appearance in five events this season, and her confidence is growing as she looks ahead at the rest of the year.

"I came out here for two reasons – to have fun and enjoy bowling again and to know I could win again," Kulick said. "Age is just a number, and I still feel energetic, youthful and like I'm in great shape. With the way I'm throwing it right now, I'm building confidence, and I know the sky is the limit for the rest of the season. I've been bowling smart and trusting myself, and the fact that I'm making shows on multiple patterns means my versatility is still there, too."

O'Keefe advanced to the title match by defeating her former student-athlete at McKendree University, Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, 247-193.

O'Keefe is the head coach for the women's bowling program at McKendree, and Clemmer attended the university from 2016-2020. O'Keefe and Clemmer helped bring the Bearcats titles at the 2017 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship and Intercollegiate Team Championships.

Clemmer, a rookie on tour this season, made her second consecutive championship-round appearance after recording a third-place finish at last week's PWBA BVL Open in Farmingdale, New York.

The 23-year-old right-hander advanced to the semifinals by defeating three-time PWBA Tour champion Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas, in the opening game of the stepladder, 213-192. Clemmer closed with four strikes to shut out Johnson, who made her first championship-round appearance of 2021.

The 66-player field in South Glens Falls bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The PWBA Tour will head to Smyrna, Tennessee, next week for the PWBA Greater Nashville Open. The event will be held at the Smyrna Bowling Center and take place June 10-12.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

About the PWBA

The Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) originally was formed in 1960. The PWBA Tour has events throughout the country, offering high-level competition and top prize money for women bowlers. The PWBA is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA) and the United States Bowling Congress (USBC).

2021 PWBA BVL Open

At Kingpin's Alley Family Fun Center

South Glens Falls, N.Y.

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 228 (one game), \$10,000
- 2, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 464 (two games), \$5,000
- 3, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 406 (two games), \$3,500
- 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 192 (one game), \$3,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Clemmer def. Johnson, 213-192

Semifinal – O'Keefe def. Clemmer, 247-193

Championship – Kulick def. O’Keefe, 228-217

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5,768. 2, Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,721. 3, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 5,521. 4, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 5,457.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 5,455, \$1,900. 6, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 5,449, \$1,800. 7, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5,438, \$1,700. 8, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 5,414, \$1,650. 9, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 5,342, \$1,600. 10, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 5,328, \$1,550.

11, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 5,311, \$1,500. 12, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 5,279, \$1,450.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 4,280. 2, Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 4,233. 3, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 4,178. 4, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 4,118. 5, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,113. 6, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 4,077.

7, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 4,051. 8, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 4,048. 9, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 4,041. 10, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4,000. 11, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,997. 12, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,986*.

*Bercier defeated Coté in a one-game roll-off to break the tie, 224-217.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,986*, \$1,150. 14, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,980, \$1,150. 15, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,967, \$1,150. 16, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,955, \$1,150. 17, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 3,936, \$1,100. 18, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,931, \$1,100.

19, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 3,920, \$1,100. 20, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,891, \$1,100. 21, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,884, \$1,100. 22, Verity Crawley, England, 3,882, \$1,100. 23, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 3,878, \$1,100. 24, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,874, \$1,100.

25, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 3,864, \$1,100. 26(tie), Mallory Nutting (n), Topsham, Maine, and Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 3,795, \$1,100. 28, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,788, \$1,100. 29, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 3,781, \$1,100. 30, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,741, \$1,100.

31, Elysia Current, Ephrata, Pa., 3,707, \$1,100. 32, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,689, \$1,100.

2021 SEASON HITS HALFWAY POINT AT PWBA GREATER NASHVILLE OPEN

SMYRNA, Tenn. – The 2021 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season will hit its halfway point this week at the PWBA Greater Nashville Open, with the first nine events of the year showcasing a mix of youth and experience in the winner’s circle and at the top of the season-long points list.

The Greater Nashville Open is the 10th event on the 20-tournament schedule for the 2021 PWBA Tour season, which kicked off in January. This week’s event at the Smyrna Bowling Center will begin Thursday with the official practice session, and competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds.

The top 32 athletes will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 players. A final six-game round will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on pinfall totals for 24 games.

The finals of the Greater Nashville Open will take place Saturday at 7 p.m. Eastern, with the winner taking home \$10,000. All qualifying rounds, and the stepladder finals, will be broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

A pair of 25-year-olds have made the biggest impact on tour so far this season, with Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, and Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, each collecting a pair of wins in the first half of the year.

Bond, in her second season on tour, won her first national title at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic in

January, and she followed that performance with an undefeated run through the bracket at the United States Bowling Congress Queens, the first major of the 2021 season.

[Bond leads the tour in points \(70,225\)](#), which determines who is recognized as PWBA Player of the Year at the end of the season.

The five-time Team USA member learned a lot during her rookie season in 2019 that helped her prepare to make the leap to the next level. She was runner-up for PWBA Rookie of the Year to Valerie Bercier of Muskegon, Michigan.

"It feels a little surreal to be in the conversation (for PWBA Player of the Year), especially so soon, but I'm grateful to be in the hunt," said Bond, a former collegiate standout at Nebraska. "Something I learned during my rookie season was to not let outside distractions like that dictate how I go about my business. I think I wanted rookie of the year so badly that when I felt like I wasn't reaching that goal, it meant I wasn't succeeding, but that was far from the truth. Right now, all I'm concerned about is doing my best, learning and growing into the athlete I want to be."

Part of the learning that has helped Bond's ascension in 2021 has been with her equipment, but she's also grown to be more comfortable as an athlete on tour and has embraced the opportunity to be more aggressive in her decision-making.

"The best things that have helped me this season have been understanding my equipment better, getting comfortable in my environment and taking risks," said Bond, a three-time PWBA Regional champion. "When you understand the shapes of your equipment, it's easier to make decisions and get to the right shapes faster. I think now I'm ready to admit that I wasn't completely comfortable in my environment my rookie year. I still was learning the ropes of the format and pacing, and I still was concerned about if I belonged or what people thought of me. Now, that's not even a question or thought. I'm exactly where I'm meant to be.

"Lastly, I was just playing scared. I didn't make big enough moves. I wasn't willing to completely change game plans like I am this year. I'm not as concerned about failing, because now I believe those risks will lead to success or learning. When you learn, you never lose."

Some familiar names can be found in Bond's rearview mirror on the points list heading into the Greater Nashville Open, however.

Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, moved into second place on the points list after last week's runner-up finish at the PWBA Albany Open. O'Keefe, who won the season-opening PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic for her 14th PWBA Tour title, has accumulated 61,850 points in eight events.

Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, is third in points (59,700) on the strength of a pair of runner-up finishes, including the USBC Queens, and three championship-round appearances.

Three-time PWBA Player of the Year Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, found her way into the winner's circle at the PWBA Lincoln Open, which included a 300 game in the semifinals. The 25-time PWBA Tour titlist is fourth in points with 58,185.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova is fifth in points (56,835) after claiming her third career win at the PWBA

Twin Cities Open in April. Kovalova, 2019's breakout star on tour, has advanced to three stepladder finals this season.

Zavala is part of a talented rookie class in 2021, and she quickly vaulted her name into the conversation for the PWBA Rookie of the Year with an unforgettable run in May.

The former collegiate standout at Sam Houston State earned the top seed at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open and claimed the victory in just her third event as a professional.

She followed the win with a dominating performance at the PWBA BVL Open, where she outdistanced her next closest competitor by 229 pins on a low-scoring oil pattern and recorded her second title in three events.

Zavala admits there have been some bumps in the road as well, but the confidence she's gained since starting on the tour in April has been worth it.

"The first half has been a bit of a roller coaster for me," Zavala said. "I've won a couple titles, which has been a dream come true, but I've also missed a couple cuts, which is disappointing because I had a goal making every Round of 32. My confidence has never been this high, though. When I struggled at the previous events a couple years ago, I doubted my abilities and wondered if I should continue to pursue this crazy dream of mine. I'm glad I stuck it out."

Zavala leads the rookie-of-the-year standings heading into Smyrna with 37,650 points, but she is closely followed by Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina.

Clemmer, a four-time National Tenpin Coaches Association Division II/III Player of the Year at McKendree, has recorded back-to-back third-place finishes the last two weeks on tour to close the gap on Zavala. She's less than 2,000 points behind Zavala with 36,075.

Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, is third with 27,635. Johnson was a two-time National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association Most Valuable Player at Webber International and has a top finish of 10th this season at the PWBA ITRC Classic.

Abby Ragsdale of Aurora, Illinois (23,650), Taylor Bailey of Joliet, Illinois (22,910), and Russia's Maria Bulanova (22,850) also are within 15,000 points, and Zavala knows she'll need to continue to put together strong performances each week to take home some additional hardware at the end of the season.

"(PWBA) Rookie of the Year was my ultimate goal, so to have my name in the mix is huge," Zavala said. "It's extremely validating, and I know it's going to be a close race all the way to the end because of how talented this rookie class is. I'm hoping with all the work I've put in, the tides keep rolling in my favor."

BULANOVA LEADS OPENING DAY AT 2021 PWBA GREATER NASHVILLE OPEN

SMYRNA, Tenn. – Russia's Maria Bulanova found herself in familiar surroundings Friday at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Greater Nashville Open as she moved to the top of the leaderboard after the opening two rounds.

Bulanova, who was a collegiate standout at nearby Vanderbilt University and is a rookie this season on the PWBA Tour, took the lead in the final game at the Smyrna Bowling Center and finished the day with a 12-game total of 2,661, a 221.75 average.

Two-time PWBA Tour champion Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, is second with 2,643, and Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, is third with 2,637.

Opening-round leader Birgit Noreiks of Germany is fourth with 2,635, and Alexis Neuer of Milton, Pennsylvania, is fifth with 2,634.

The 73-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday's second round, with two-time champion Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York, moving into the cut in Friday's final game with 214 for a 2,440 total, a 203.33 average.

Bulanova starred for Vanderbilt from 2016-2020, and she helped the Commodores win the 2018 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship. The 2019 National Tenpin Coaches Association Division I Player of the Year spent plenty of time at the Smyrna Bowling Center during her time on campus, and she was able to stay ahead of the moves on this week's 39-foot oil pattern during both of her six-game blocks.

The 22-year-old right-hander was able to lean on her previous experiences at the center to know some of the tendencies of the pairs across the 52-lane venue in posting consistent sets of 1,318 and 1,343 on the way to the lead.

Bulanova is joined in the top five by two other rookies heading into Saturday's third round. Clemmer is fresh off back-to-back third-place finishes at the PWBA BVL Open and PWBA Albany Open, and Neuer posted her best performance of the season last week at the Albany Open, finishing in eighth place.

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 7 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on BowlTV.com. The champion will earn \$10,000.

2021 PWBA Greater Nashville Open
At Smyrna Bowling Center
Smyrna, Tenn.

Friday's results

QUALIFYING

(12 games)

1, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,661. 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,643. 3, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,637. 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,635. 5, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,634. 6, Verity Crawley, England, 2,625.

7, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,619. 8, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,615. 9, Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 2,607. 10, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,605. 11, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 2,592. 12, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,578.

13, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,570. 14, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,565. 15, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,564. 16, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,561. 17, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,549. 18, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,545.

19, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,530. 20, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,510. 21, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,508. 22, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,505. 23, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 2,501. 24, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,498.

25, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,491. 26, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,485. 27, Pamela Alvarez, Mexico, 2,464. 28, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,460. 29, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,455. 30, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,454.

31, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,452. 32, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,440.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Lauren Pate, Inver Grove, Minn., 2,436. 34, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,435. 35, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,432. 36, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,431.

37, Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., 2,426. 38, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,414. 39, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,413. 40(tie), Jordan Mundt (n), Arlington, Tenn., and Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,411. 42, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,402.

43, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,388. 44, Sabrena Divis, Gillette, Wyo., 2,380. 45, Amanda Vermilyea, Apple Valley, Minn., 2,378. 46, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 2,374. 47, Lauren Brown (n), Louisville, Ill., 2,353. 48, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,349.

49, Lauren Tomaszewski (n), Wylie, Texas, 2,346. 50, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,340. 51, Ingellimar Beasley, Clarksville, Tenn., 2,336. 52, Melanie McDaniel, Crest Hill, Ill., 2,324. 53, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,311. 54(tie), Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., and Brooke Roberts (n), Port Orange, Fla., 2,283.

56, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,273. 57, Jessica Earnest (n), Nashville, Tenn., 2,266. 58, Mari Gallegos (n), Chicago, 2,255. 59, Allyson Lakota, Shorewood, Ill., 2,224. 60, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,218.

61, Linda Himes (n), Texarkana, Ark., 2,209. 62, Emma Grace Dockery (n), Kent, Ohio, 2,188. 63, Morgan Cooper (n), Gloucester Point, Va., 2,170. 64, Ashley Scott, Chesapeake, Va., 2,169. 65, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,143. 66, Stephanie Dennis, Kingston, Mo., 2,105.

67, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,091. 68, Allison Sledge (n), Memphis, Tenn., 2,043. 69, Kerri King (n), Port Wentworth, Ga., 1,999. 70, Suzette Draper, Dumont, N.J., 1,996. 71, Rachel Newcomb (n), Smyrna, Tenn., 1,821. 72, Jill Creamer, Folsom, Calif., 1,913 (WD).

73, Montana Meyer (n), Imperial, Mo., 1,979 (WD).

VERITY CRAWLEY WINS FIRST TITLE AT 2021 PWBA GREATER NASHVILLE OPEN

SMYRNA, Tenn. – After several close calls during her first four seasons on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour, England’s Verity Crawley broke through for her first victory Saturday at the PWBA Greater Nashville Open.

The 26-year-old right-hander won three matches in the stepladder at Smyrna Bowling Center on the way to the title and \$10,000 top prize, defeating Poland’s Daria Pajak in the final, 245-168.

The championship round was broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

Crawley had recorded four runner-up finishes on tour prior to her win Saturday, including a loss to Pajak, one of her tour roommates, in the championship match of the 2017 PWBA Greater Detroit Open.

“I’ve been working so hard and knocking on the door and been so close to breaking through,” said Crawley, who made her third championship-round appearance of the season. “It’s an amazing feeling to know all the hard work paid off and that I deserve to be here. I used to not have the confidence that I could win, and it’s something I’ve worked on a lot. It’s always special when you can share these moments with friends, and I’m very thankful for their support.”

Crawley averaged 244 in her three wins Saturday, which included victories over Germany’s Birgit Noreiks (246-214) and Shannon O’Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (241-220), before recording the win against Pajak.

She was able to get ahead early in each match, rolling at least five strikes in her first six frames to build the advantage.

In the title tilt, Crawley was ahead by 55 pins after six frames, benefiting from a pair of opens and only one strike from Pajak. She already had locked up the win by the time she stepped up for her final frame.

“I just had really good ball motion and wanted to take advantage of that,” Crawley said. “When you see your ball do the right thing, all you want to do is make the best shots possible and hope it works out in your favor. I was just focused on executing and making good shots. I didn’t want to walk away with wanting to take back any shots. I wanted to be happy with every shot and really stay in the moment.”

Both Crawley and Pajak faced visa issues that kept them out of the United States and prevented them from competing during the first part of the 2021 season, and Crawley has used that experience in changing her mindset while competing.

Prior to Saturday’s victory, Crawley had recorded four top-10 finishes in her first six events this season, including back-to-back fourth-place finishes at the United States Bowling Congress Queens and PWBA BVL Open.

"My mindset changed when I went back to England in January and was unable to practice for three months," Crawley said. "When I came back to the U.S., I had three weeks to prepare for the PWBA Tour and had no expectations heading into that first event, but I was genuinely so happy to compete. I love being out here on tour and love bowling, and I haven't been as stressed about making cuts or anything like that. I haven't been thinking about those things because I just want to be here and bowl. I will have to head back to England after the Louisville stop because of my visa, so I'm really happy to be able to bring this trophy back to my parents after next week."

Crawley's run through the ladder almost did not take place, as she entered the final game of qualifying outside of the top four spots. She was able to jump ahead of Alexis Neuer of Milton, Pennsylvania, with a 207 game and hold off a late charge from Valerie Bercier of Muskegon, Michigan, who rolled 267 in the final game.

Crawley was the No. 4 seed with a 5,131 total, with Bercier (5,121) and Neuer (5,120) finishing in fifth and sixth place, respectively.

Pajak, who was looking for her second PWBA Tour title and making her first championship-round appearance of 2021, put together a phenomenal run on this week's 39-foot condition during the final two rounds of qualifying Saturday to earn the top seed for the stepladder with a 5,166 total.

The 2017 PWBA Rookie of the Year rolled 257 in the final game of the Round of 32 to advance to the final qualifying round in 11th place. She moved from 11th to first in the first five games of the final round and edged O'Keefe by three pins after 24 games to lead qualifying.

O'Keefe, the two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year, was making her second consecutive championship-round appearance, and third overall, after a runner-up finish at last week's PWBA Albany Open.

The 14-time PWBA Tour titlist finished her semifinal match against Crawley with four consecutive strikes, starting in the eighth frame, followed by a nine-count on her fill ball, to force her to knock over nine pins in the final frame to advance. Crawley struck on her first delivery in the 10th frame to deny O'Keefe the chance for a second title this season.

O'Keefe won the season-opening PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic in January.

Noreiks made her second championship-round appearance of the season Saturday after posting a third-place finish at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open in May.

She was looking for her second career title but fell behind in the opening match after a 7-10 split in the fourth frame. She followed the open with three consecutive strikes, but spares in the eighth and ninth frames kept Crawley ahead in the match.

The 73-player field in Smyrna bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The PWBA Tour will return to Louisville, Kentucky, next week for the PWBA Louisville Open. The

event will be held at Executive Strike and Spare and take place June 17-19. Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova is the defending champion at the event.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA Greater Nashville Open
At Smyrna Bowling Center
Smyrna, Tenn.**

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Verity Crawley, England, 732 (three games), \$10,000
- 2, Daria Pajak, Poland, 168 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 220 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 214 (one game), \$3,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Crawley def. Noreiks, 246-214

Semifinal – Crawley def. O'Keefe, 241-220

Championship – Crawley def. Pajak, 245-168

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Daria Pajak, Poland, 5,166. 2, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,163. 3, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5,152. 4, Verity Crawley, England, 5,131.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 5,121, \$2,000. 6, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 5,120, \$1,950. 7, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5,118, \$1,925. 8, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 5,111, \$1,875. 9, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 5,074, \$1,800. 10, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 5,071, \$1,700.

11, Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 5,014, \$1,650. 12, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5,009, \$1,600.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1(tie), Verity Crawley, England, and Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 3,967. 3, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,961. 4, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,933. 5, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,909. 6(tie), Maria Bulanova, Russia, and Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,897.

8, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,884. 9, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3,874. 10, Cassandra Leuthold, Lincoln, Neb., 3,873. 11, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,851. 12, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,828.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,826, \$1,200. 14, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,825, \$1,200. 15, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,813, \$1,200. 16, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 3,776, \$1,200. 17,

Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,755, \$1,200. 18, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 3,735, \$1,200.

19, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,732, \$1,150. 20, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,731, \$1,150. 21, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 3,730, \$1,150. 22, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,721, \$1,150. 23, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,720, \$1,150. 24, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 3,684, \$1,150.

25, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,680, \$1,150. 26, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,679, \$1,100. 27, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,646, \$1,100. 28, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 3,640, \$1,100. 29, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,637, \$1,100. 30, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,596, \$1,100.

31, Pamela Alvarez, Mexico, 3,579, \$1,100. 32, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 3,513, \$1,100.

KOVALOVA RETURNS TO SITE OF HISTORIC 300 FOR 2021 PWBA LOUISVILLE OPEN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Ukraine’s Dasha Kovalova delivered one of the most iconic moments since the relaunch of the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour in her last visit to Executive Strike and Spare, and she’ll be back this week to defend her title at the PWBA Louisville Open.

The Louisville Open will begin Thursday with the official practice session, and competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds.

The top 32 athletes will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the top 12 players. A final six-game round will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall for 24 games.

The finals of the Louisville Open will take place Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern, with the winner earning \$10,000. All qualifying rounds, and the stepladder finals, will be broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

The 26-year-old right-hander rolled a perfect game in the title match at the 2019 Pepsi PWBA

Louisville Open to defeat Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, for her second title in 2019. She became just the fourth player to record a 300 game in a championship-round appearance.

The moment was captured live on CBS Sports Network, and while the admiration from fans around the world and an energy drink-soaked celebration courtesy of her fellow competitors are things Kovalova won't forget, the memory was made by being able to have her mother, Oksana, in attendance for her historic performance.

Kovalova's 300 was the first in a championship-round appearance since 2001, when Johnson rolled 300 in the title match of the PWBA Paula Carter Classic. Johnson recorded the fifth perfect game in a championship-round appearance in May during the semifinals of the 2021 PWBA Lincoln Open.

"It was pretty insane," Kovalova said. "It was pretty cool that my mom was there, and it was an amazing opportunity to share an amazing moment with her."

As she prepares for her return to Executive Strike and Spare, Kovalova isn't going to dwell too much on her past success at the center. She'll keep her process the same heading into the final event of this stretch of the 2021 season, which started in April with her victory at the PWBA Twin Cities Open for her third career title.

The PWBA Tour event schedule nearly has been non-stop each weekend for the last two months, and Kovalova has experienced ups and downs along the way.

The win at Cedarvale Lanes marked her third championship-round appearance through four events in 2021, starting with the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January, and the strong start created some additional pressure for Kovalova.

After missing her first cut of the season at the PWBA Albany Open, she bounced back last week at the PWBA Greater Nashville Open to finish in 15th place, and she's ready to take on the challenges of the tour for the rest of the year.

"With how I started the season, I felt like I had to keep it going," said Kovalova, who enters this week fifth in points with 60,610. "When I struggled, it all kind of weighed down on me. I'm usually a slow starter, and it takes a couple of tournaments to get in my groove, so the fact that I started so well startled me a bit. I found some redemption this past week in Tennessee after Albany, and I'm excited to see what I can do in Louisville before getting ready for the next stretch of the season."

The PWBA Tour season will take a brief hiatus after the Louisville Open, with competition resuming at the end of July with the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles event in Houston.

Kovalova's parents will join her during the break, and she's excited to continue to work on her game alongside her family.

"The last time they were here was for New Year's, so I'm excited to see them," Kovalova said. "We'll go through my arsenal, and I'll work with my mom on some physical stuff in my game. It will be nice to have them around as I focus on getting ready for the second half of the season."

To learn more about the PWBA, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

DEFENDING CHAMPION KOVALOVA LEADS OPENING ROUNDS AT 2021 PWBA LOUISVILLE OPEN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova has put herself in position to defend her title at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Louisville Open and leads the field after two rounds of competition Friday at Executive Strike and Spare.

Kovalova, who won the 2019 Pepsi PWBA Louisville Open, used steady six-game blocks of 1,393 and 1,407 to build a 98-pin lead over Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, with a 2,800 total, a 233.33 average.

Parkin (2,702) is second, while Latvia's Diana Zavjalova (2,686), Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina (2,660), and Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York (2,650), round out the top five spots in the standings.

The 73-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday's second round, with Mexico's Sandra Gongora and Lauren Pate of Fairview Heights, Illinois, finishing tied for 31st position with a 2,442 total, a 203.5 average.

Gongora was able to maintain her spot in the top 32 with 202 in her final game, while Pate was able to jump into the number by rolling 264 to close her block.

Kovalova, a 26-year-old right-hander, has looked comfortable from the start on this week's 44-foot lane condition. She nearly averaged 250 in her first three games of each block Friday, and she rolled 268 in her final game of the second round to expand her lead on the field.

Kovalova captured her second career title at the 2019 event at Executive Strike and Spare and recorded a perfect game in the title match against Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, to become just the fourth player in PWBA history to roll a 300 game in a championship-round appearance.

She won the PWBA Twin Cities Open in April for her third career PWBA Tour title, and she's looking to make her fourth championship-round appearance of the 2021 season.

Johnson, a 25-time champion, also advanced to the next round, finishing Friday's sessions tied for 19th place with 2,490.

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 6 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on BowITV.com. The champion will earn \$10,000.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Louisville Open
At Executive Strike and Spare
Louisville, Ky.

Friday's results

QUALIFYING
(12 games)

1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,800. 2, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,702. 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,686. 4, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,660. 5, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,650. 6, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,607.

7, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,605. 8, Melanie McDaniel, Crest Hill, Ill., 2,591. 9, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,587. 10, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,562. 11, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,552. 12, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,544.

13, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 2,541. 14, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,538. 15, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,534. 16, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,532. 17, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 2,504. 18, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 2,498.

19(tie), Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 2,490. 21, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,488. 22(tie), Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,480. 24, Andrea Behr (n), Kettering, Ohio, 2,478.

25, Verity Crawley, England, 2,474. 26, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,472. 27, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,471. 28, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,470. 29, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,460. 30, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,456.

31(tie), Sandra Gongora, Mexico, and Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 2,442.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,438. 34, Ingellimar Beasley, Clarksville, Tenn., 2,431. 35, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,429. 36, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,414.

37, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 2,411. 38, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,402. 39, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,399. 40, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,398. 41, Pamela Alvarez, Mexico, 2,394. 42, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,391.

43, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,389. 44, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 2,387. 45, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 2,385. 46, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,377. 47, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,373. 48(tie), Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., and Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 2,372.

50, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,368. 51(tie), Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., and Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,367. 53, Lauren Brown (n), Louisville, Ill., 2,365. 54, Danielle Knittle, State College, Pa., 2,350.

55, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,324. 56, Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., 2,289. 57, Hope Gramly (n), Aubrey, Texas, 2,288. 58, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,271. 59, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,252. 60, Jessica Earnest (n), Nashville, Tenn., 2,240.

61, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 2,213. 62, Allyson Lakota, Shorewood, Ill., 2,209. 63, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,201. 64, Shania Carr (n), Chicago, 2,195. 65, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,177. 66, Jordan Mundt (n), Arlington, Tenn., 2,152.

67, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,149. 68, Dannielle Henderson (n), St. Louis, 2,148. 69, Emma Grace Dockery (n), Kent, Ohio, 2,108. 70, Dana File (n), Avon, Ind., 2,095. 71, Danielle Duffy (n), Quincy, Ill., 2,056. 72, Kristen Alcorn (n), Corydon, Ind., 1,973. 73, Chelsea Tonsing, Loveland, Colo., 1,835.

KOVALOVA SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS TITLE AT 2021 PWBA LOUISVILLE OPEN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Ukraine’s Dasha Kovalova became the first player on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour since 2017 to successfully defend a title after capturing the win Saturday at the 2021 PWBA Louisville Open.

The 26-year-old right-hander capped a dominating performance during the week at Executive Strike and Spare with a 225-202 title-match victory over Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, to earn her second win of the season and fourth career PWBA Tour title.

The win garnered Kovalova a \$10,000 top prize, and the championship round was broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

She led all but the first round this week in Louisville, and she earned the top seed for the championship round by 274 pins over Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, who qualified second for the stepladder after 24 games.

Kovalova became the first player since Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, at the 2017 U.S. Women’s Open to successfully defend a title. Johnson captured her fourth consecutive green jacket, and sixth overall, with her win at the major championship in Plano, Texas.

Kovalova’s win at the 2019 Pepsi PWBA Louisville Open included a perfect game in the title match to defeat Johnson, 300-163. The performance made Kovalova just the fourth player to record a 300 game in a championship-round appearance.

“Being able to defend my title here really means a lot,” said Kovalova, the 2019 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion. “I had the same opportunity at the Queens this year, and I let the pressure get to me and struggled. This week, even though the pressure was on and I was nervous, I was able to do it. I’m proud of myself.”

In the title match, Kovalova set the tone and took the early lead with three consecutive strikes. An open frame in fifth from Parkin gave Kovalova a 33-pin lead after she responded with her fourth strike of the match in the sixth frame.

Parkin bounced back with three consecutive strikes, starting in the seventh frame, to put pressure on Kovalova heading into the final frames.

Finishing the match first, Kovalova tripped a 4 pin in the ninth frame for a strike and followed with another strike to start her 10th frame, giving her the opportunity to shut out Parkin.

Needing a third consecutive strike, or nine and a spare, to secure the win, she left a 4-7 combination and converted it, but that allowed Parkin the chance to roll three strikes in her final frame to force a tie.

Parkin’s first delivery was left of target, and she left the 3-6-10 combination.

“I was very nervous heading into the match and was relying on my ball reps to tell me what to do,” said Kovalova, who also defeated Parkin to win the 2021 PWBA Twin Cities Open in April. “I tried to shut off my brain and just focus on not overthinking things and executing good shots. I threw some really good

shots at the end and knew I did the best I could, so I was ready to accept whatever happened and roll with it.”

Kovalova credited her support system in helping her during her title defense. She admitted to feeling anxious during the week and noted there was some additional pressure after her performance through qualifying, where she averaged more than 231 on the 44-foot oil pattern used during the event.

She was proud to be able to persevere through those moments to collect the title while posting a second consecutive season on tour with multiple wins.

“I’m not sure how I did it, because inside, I felt the most anxious I’ve ever been,” said Kovalova, who made her fourth championship-round appearance of the season. “I had great help with me, though, and I just tried to stick to my process. Chuck (Gardner) gave me a book – “Learn To Win: One Shot at a Time” – and even though it’s about golf, I read it, wrote down notes and kept rereading it and going through the cycle that was described, which really helped a lot.

“I’m afraid to disappoint people, so I felt very anxious because I had been leading for most of the week. I start to wonder what will happen if I throw it bad during the title match, but I know I have to just enjoy the journey.”

Parkin, the No. 4 seed for the stepladder, advanced to the title match by defeating Bond in a tightly contested semifinal, 232-224. Bond delivered three strikes in the final frame to force Parkin to knock over at least nine pins on her first shot for the chance to move on and face Kovalova.

Parkin, who was looking for her first title since the 2011 Queens, rolled a strike and toppled seven pins on her second shot to collect the win.

She recorded her third runner-up finish of the 2021 season in her fourth championship-round appearance. In addition to the second-place finishes to Kovalova, she also lost to Bond in the title match of the Queens in May.

Bond was looking for her third win of the 2021 season. Along with the tiara at the Queens, Bond claimed the win at the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic in January. She was making her third championship-round appearance of the year.

Parkin began the stepladder with a 236-212 victory over two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O’Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois.

O’Keefe was making her third consecutive championship-round appearance, and fourth this season, after a runner-up finish at the PWBA Albany Open and third-place finish at last week’s PWBA Greater Nashville Open.

O’Keefe won her 14th career title to start the 2021 season at the PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic.

The 73-player field in Louisville bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season now will take a brief hiatus, with competition resuming at the end of July with the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles event in Houston. The tournament will take place at Copperfield Bowl from July 29 - Aug. 1.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Louisville Open

At Executive Strike and Spare

Louisville, Ky.

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 225 (one game), \$10,000
- 2, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 670 (three games), \$5,000
- 3, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 224 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 212 (one game), \$3,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Parkin def. O'Keefe, 236-212

Semifinal – Parkin def. Bond, 232-224

Championship – Kovalova def. Parkin, 225-202

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 5,557. 2, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 5,283. 3, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,243. 4, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 5,180.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 5,161, \$2,000. 6, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 5,157, \$1,950. 7, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5,076, \$1,925. 8, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5,072, \$1,875. 9, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5,021, \$1,800. 10, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 4,997, \$1,700.

11, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 4,993, \$1,650. 12, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,964, \$1,600.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 4,158. 2, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,932. 3, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,906. 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,896. 5, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,886. 6, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,872.

7, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,825. 8, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,805. 9, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,801. 10(tie), Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, and Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,800. 12, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,785.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 3,781, \$1,200. 14(tie), Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., and Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,774, \$1,200. 16, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,741, \$1,200. 17(tie), Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., and Laura Plazas, Colombia, 3,716, \$1,150.

19, Verity Crawley, England, 3,702, \$1,150. 20, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 3,676, \$1,150. 21, Andrea Behr (n), Kettering, Ohio, 3,673, \$1,150. 22, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,672, \$1,150. 23, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 3,671, \$1,150. 24, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,659, \$1,150.

25, Melanie McDaniel, Crest Hill, Ill., 3,652, \$1,150. 26, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 3,650, \$1,100. 27, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 3,648, \$1,100. 28, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,641, \$1,100. 29, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,618, \$1,100. 30, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 3,609, \$1,100.

31, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 3,601, \$1,100. 32, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,582, \$1,100.

2021 PWBA TOUR SEASON SET TO RESUME, LOCATION DETERMINED FOR FALL CLASSIC SERIES

ARLINGTON, Texas – The first half of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour

season was filled with amazing stories, historic performances and the emergence of new stars, and the action is set to resume this week for the next swing on the schedule.

The Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles event will get things underway from July 29 - Aug. 1 at Houston's Copperfield Bowl and be followed by the PWBA Summer Classic Series from Aug. 2-10 at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington.

The PWBA Tour then will head to the Pacific Northwest for the PWBA Spokane Open at Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane, Washington, from Aug. 19-21, before competition in August concludes with the U.S. Women's Open, the final major of the 2021 season.

The U.S. Women's Open will take place at Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park, California, from Aug. 24-31.

For the final events on the 2021 schedule, the PWBA Tour will return to the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, and the 78-lane venue will host the PWBA Fall Classic Series from Oct. 24-30. The NBS also hosted the United States Bowling Congress Queens in May.

The 2021 PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles will begin with the event's official practice sessions Thursday, before competition gets underway Friday with the first of four qualifying squads, beginning at 9 a.m. Eastern.

Each mixed doubles team will bowl seven qualifying games to determine which teams advance to Sunday's semifinal round, which will feature five additional games. The top eight teams will advance to round-robin match play, with total pinfall, including bonus pins, determining this year's champions.

Every round of the 2021 PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles will be broadcast live by FloBowling and simulcast to [Bowltv.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

PWBA Tour champion Amanda Greene of Romney, West Virginia, and Kyle Sherman of O'Fallon, Missouri, won the 2019 event.

The Summer Classic Series will feature three national tour stops and one regional tournament during the event's nine-day run at the home of Team USA. The national events will include the PWBA Go Bowling Classic (Aug. 3-5), PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic (Aug. 6-7) and PWBA Bowltv Classic (Aug. 9-10).

The PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional will take place Aug. 8.

The Summer Classic Series field will be limited to 56 players, with athletes in the top 48 on the season-long points list receiving an invitation to the main event. One exemption from the USBC and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America also was granted into the main event for the Summer Classic Series – Junior Team USA member Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio.

Martin, a 17-year-old right-hander, put together a memorable run at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January to start the 2021 season, posting second- and third-place finishes in three events. She recently finished as the top qualifier in the 18-and-under division at the 2021 Junior Gold

Championships in Indianapolis.

The final seven spots at the Summer Classic Series will be filled through an on-site pre-tournament qualifier Aug. 2. The qualifying event will include nine games.

All 56 players will compete at the Go Bowling Classic and International Bowling Campus Classic. Both events will feature nine games of qualifying, before the top 12 players advance to round-robin match play. After 12 games of match play, the top four bowlers will advance to the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins for each victory in match play.

The BowlTV Classic will feature the top 24 players from the Go Bowling Classic and International Bowling Campus Classic, based on 18-game qualifying totals. Total pinfall will drop at the start of the BowlTV Classic, and the 24 advancers will bowl 24 games of round-robin match play to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins.

The Dallas/Fort Worth Regional will feature an eight-game qualifying block, with the top four players, based on total pinfall, advancing to the stepladder finals.

Each of the stepladder finals will air live at 9 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV. The dates of the stepladder finals are Aug. 5 (Go Bowling Classic), Aug. 7 (International Bowling Campus Classic), Aug. 8 (Dallas/Fort Worth Regional) and Aug. 10 (BowlTV Classic).

The three national events at the Summer Classic Series will further develop the tightly contested race for the PWBA Player of the Year and PWBA Rookie of the Year awards for the 2021 season.

Both awards are determined at the end of the season and based on the season-long points list.

Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, has maintained the lead in points (84,075) since winning her second title of the 2021 season at the USBC Queens, but three players have been keeping pace and are in position to make a run at the top of the list during the next swing.

Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, is second in points with 80,850. The 14-time titlist has claimed one title this season and made the championship round in each of her last three events.

Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, is in third place with 75,625. She has made four championship-round appearances and has three runner-up finishes in 2021.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova is just a few points behind Parkin at 75,610. She captured her second title of the 2021 season last month at the PWBA Louisville Open, where she successfully defended her title.

Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, and Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, have created some distance between themselves and the rest of the talented 2021 rookie class on tour through the first 11 events.

Clemmer currently leads the rookie-of-the-year standings with 48,825, and Zavala sits in second with 45,900. Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, is third with 36,210.

Clemmer has made her run after recording four consecutive top-10 finishes in May and June, including back-to-back third-place finishes at the PWBA BVL Open and PWBA Albany Open.

Zavala won two titles in her first five events as a professional, capturing the wins at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open and Albany Open.

For more information on the PWBA, visit PWBA.com.

KOVALOVA SETS PACE DURING FIRST DAY OF 2021 PWBA GO BOWLING CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - Dasha Kovalova may be nearly 6,000 miles from her native Ukraine, but she's quickly finding a home at the International Training and Research Center, where she paced the field Wednesday through the first day of competition at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Go Bowling Classic.

Her run to the top of the standings was a continuation of the success she had at the ITRC during the season-opening PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January. At that special event, she collected a pair of top-five finishes in three tournaments and saw that momentum carry over to the second segment of the season, as she picked up the first of her two wins in 2021.

Now a four-time PWBA Tour champion, Kovalova averaged more than 225 over nine games Wednesday and closed with games of 275, 229 and 266 to outdistance the 56-player field in the first of the week's three national tour events with a 2,029 total.

"I lost the lane a couple of times, but I think I did all right overall," Kovalova said. "I was happy with my ball changes, hitting my target and my spares, so it was a pretty cool start to the week. I will work tomorrow to be smarter with my moves and more confident in my ball changes. I also need to remember that if the ball is not working, it really may be the ball and not just me."

The 26-year-old right-hander was followed in the standings Wednesday by Birgit Noreiks of Germany (1,949), Sydney Brummett of Fort Wayne, Indiana (1,930), 2019 PWBA Rookie of the Year Valerie Bercier of Muskegon, Michigan (1,926), and Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (1,921).

The final spot in match play went to Malaysian standout Shalin Zulkifli with a 1,863 total, a 207 average.

Kovalova now will lead the day's top 12 performers into match play, where they'll get another look at the 43-foot oil pattern and battle throughout the day Thursday for four spots in the championship round.

The top four competitors, based on their 21-game pinfall totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will advance the stepladder finals, scheduled for Thursday at 9 p.m. Eastern. The winner will take home a top prize of \$10,000. All rounds of competition are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

The Go Bowling Classic is part of the 2021 PWBA Summer Classic Series, which has brought players from more than a dozen countries to the ITRC. The Summer Classic Series also will include the International Bowling Campus Classic, the BowITV Classic and the Dallas/Fort Worth PWBA Regional.

January's PWBA Kickoff Classic Series followed the same format, and Kovalova finished 17th, third and fifth in the PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic, PWBA ITRC Classic and PWBA Hall of Fame Classic, respectively.

Though nearly three months passed until the PWBA Tour returned to action, Kovalova didn't miss a beat in winning the PWBA Twin Cities Open in Minnesota in late April. Her second win of the season came in June as the defending champion at the PWBA Louisville Open in Kentucky.

Another break of more than five weeks after Louisville gave Kovalova a chance to reevaluate her game and arsenal, and despite the successful start to the season, she decided to make some adjustments to her fit.

The change also meant the need for an arsenal overhaul, since none of her previous equipment fits anymore. Most bowlers would agree that new balls always seem to strike more, and Kovalova proved that Wednesday.

"I felt like it was very forced, and I had to control everything, and I couldn't be as smooth as I wanted to be," Kovalova said. "So, I changed my pitches a little bit to make sure I could release it better. At first, I was nervous and afraid it might not be a good idea, but I don't feel that way anymore. It changed the way I approach my target, and I actually feel a lot more comfortable now."

Just missing the top 12 on Wednesday was 17-year-old Junior Team USA member Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, who was the recipient of a special exemption into the event from the United States Bowling Congress/Bowling Proprietors' Association of America.

The opportunity was due in part to her memorable performance at the 2021 Kickoff Classic Series, where she turned in finishes of eighth, second and third and rolled a 299 game live on BowITV along the way.

She recently tossed her first career perfect game during the 2021 Junior Gold Championships and led qualifying in the 18-and-under division to earn a spot on Junior Team USA for the third consecutive year.

For her nine games Wednesday at the ITRC, Martin averaged 205.89 and finished in a tie for 13th place with Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, with a 1,853 total. Because she had a higher game during qualifying (248-240), Martin will be the alternate for match play Thursday.

All 56 players who competed in the Go Bowling Classic will return to the ITRC Friday for the International Bowling Campus Classic.

The final national event of the week, the BowITV Classic, will feature the top 24 players from the Go Bowling Classic and International Bowling Campus Classic, based on their 18-game qualifying totals.

Total pinfall will drop at the start of the BowlTV Classic, and the 24 advancers will bowl 24 games of round-robin match play to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins.

The PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional will take the spotlight Sunday and feature an eight-game qualifying block, with the top four players, based on total pinfall, advancing to the stepladder finals.

Bowlers with PWBA national titles, as well as those who qualify for the BowlTV Classic, will not be eligible for the regional event.

Each of the stepladder finals will air live at 9 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV.com. They'll take place Thursday (Go Bowling Classic), Saturday (International Bowling Campus Classic), Sunday (Dallas/Fort Worth Regional) and Tuesday (BowlTV Classic).

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Go Bowling Classic

At the International Training and Research Center
Arlington, Texas

1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,029. 2, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 1,949. 3, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1,930. 4, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 1,926. 5, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 1,921. 6, Daria Pajak, Poland, 1,908.

7, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 1,901. 8, Verity Crawley, England, 1,887. 9, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 1,883. 10, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,882. 11, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 1,873. 12, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 1,863.

Did not advance:

13(tie), Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., and Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 1,853, \$1,200. 15, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 1,849, \$1,200. 16, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 1,846, \$1,200. 17, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 1,844, \$1,200. 18, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,843, \$1,200.

19(tie), Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, and Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 1,841, \$1,150. 21, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,830, \$1,150. 22, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 1,829, \$1,150. 23, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 1,823, \$1,150. 24, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 1,819, \$1,150.

25, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 1,809, \$1,100. 26, Tannya Lopez, Mexico, 1,807, \$1,100. 27, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 1,796, \$1,100. 28, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 1,792, \$1,100. 29, Jennifer Russo (n), Monmouth Junction, N.J., 1,787. 30, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 1,786.

31, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 1,784. 32, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 1,780. 33(tie), Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, and Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,767. 35, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 1,757. 36, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 1,754.

37, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 1,751. 38, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 1,747. 39, Jennifer Hocuscak, Orange, Conn., 1,743. 40, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,738. 41, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 1,732. 42, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 1,729.

43, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 1,722. 44, Melanie McDaniel, Crest Hill, Ill., 1,709. 45, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 1,695. 46, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 1,692. 47, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,685. 48, Jody Scheerer, South Africa, 1,684.

49, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 1,648. 50, Stephanie Schwartz (n), Racine, Wis., 1,643. 51, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 1,641. 52, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,599. 53, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 1,590. 54, Hannah Brookins (n), Casselberry, Fla., 1,576.

55, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 1,516. 56, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1,493.

ZAVALA SETS PACE AT 2021 INTERNATIONAL BOWLING CAMPUS CLASSIC, LEADS FIELD FOR BOWLTV CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - In just a few months as a professional bowler, Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, has experienced all of the success and emotions young bowlers dream of, along with some feelings she'd probably prefer to avoid as much as possible.

But, even at just 25 years old, Zavala already knows the value of the lessons that can come from the less-desirable moments, and she used one as motivation Friday at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association International Bowling Campus Classic.

Zavala entered the International Training and Research Center well-rested and very motivated after missing the cut at the first event of this week's PWBA Summer Classic Series, and she averaged nearly 231 over nine games in her rebound opportunity.

The young right-hander and former Team USA member started the day with games 257, 279, 225 and 247 to make an early statement about her resilience and the day's 38-foot oil pattern, and though she faltered briefly with 168 in Game 5, the head start was enough to catapult her to the top of the standings for good.

Zavala finished the qualifying round with a 2,078 total and will return to the lanes Saturday to lead the day's top 12 competitors into 12 games of round-robin match play. The performance also had bigger implications and lifted the two-time PWBA Tour champion into the field for the 24-player PWBA BowlTV Classic, which gets underway Monday.

She was followed in the IBC Classic standings Friday by Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (2,071), United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey (2,043), England's Verity Crawley (2,025) and Clara Guerrero of Colombia (2,019).

"Striking a lot today was way more fun than what happened a couple days ago," Zavala said. "I had a good look on the fresh today, then got a little lost in the middle, but I kept my head on straight, which I think was the biggest difference from my last qualifying block to today."

In the first event of the week, the PWBA Go Bowling Classic, Zavala rolled a perfect game early in her nine-game qualifying block but ended the day 14 pins shy of the cut to match play.

"It was great to go out there and shoot 300, which was amazing for my confidence, but it was definitely disappointing to leave knowing how things turned out and that I wouldn't be bowling the next day."

The day was both special and disappointing, and she knew how she handled it was important.

While match play and the stepladder finals of the Go Bowling Classic commenced without her, Zavala used the day off to recharge her body and mind.

"Yesterday could've gone a lot differently, but I took the time I needed to be upset, got my head back together and focused on coming back in today with a clear mind," Zavala said. "I walked in ready to just bowl. I planned to do the things I'm comfortable with and forget about the past, because I can't

change it."

Prior to the Summer Classic Series, Zavala had participated in just eight singles events as a PWBA member, two of which she'd won, making her a top candidate for the 2021 PWBA Rookie of the Year.

That quest will continue beyond the conclusion of the IBC Classic on Saturday with the start of the BowlTV Classic on Monday.

The BowlTV Classic will feature the top 24 players from the Go Bowling Classic and IBC Classic, based on their 18-game qualifying totals.

Total pinfall will drop at the start of the BowlTV Classic, and the 24 advancers will bowl 24 games of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins.

Zavala's big day Friday also helped her to the top of the BowlTV Classic standings with an 18-game total of 3,927, a 218.16 average.

She was followed in the long trek by Crawley (3,912), Kulick (3,887), Go Bowling Classic champion Birgit Noreiks of Germany (3,877) and 2019 PWBA Rookie of the Year Valerie Bercier of Muskegon, Michigan (3,875).

"I came in today knowing I was going to be on the bubble for the bigger event, so I'd need to post a big number," said Zavala, who won the 2021 PWBA Greater Cleveland Open and PWBA BVL Open. "I just tried to take it one frame at a time. I knew I wouldn't be able to get to plus 250 if I was worrying about the three games ahead of me. The goal was to keep it small and let the bigger picture come together."

All competition at the Summer Classic Series is being broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

Match play for the IBC Classic will get underway Saturday at 11 a.m. Eastern, followed by the live stepladder finals at 9 p.m. EDT.

On Sunday, the ITRC will host the PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional, which will feature an eight-game qualifying block, with the top four players, based on total pinfall, advancing to the stepladder finals. The championship round of the regional will begin Sunday night at 9 p.m. Eastern.

Bowlers with PWBA national titles, as well as those who qualify for the BowlTV Classic, will not be eligible for the regional event.

The week's top performers will return to the lanes Monday morning at 11 a.m. Eastern for the start of the BowlTV Classic. The event will conclude with the final live stepladder of the week, beginning Tuesday at 9 p.m. EDT.

Crawley is the only bowler to make the cut in all three national events this week.

The first two national events at the Summer Classic Series featured 56 entries and brought players from more than a dozen countries to the ITRC. It was the second of three Classic Series events on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule.

The first was the season-opening PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, also at the ITRC, in January. The final installment, the PWBA Fall Classic Series, will bring the tour back to the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, in October for the last three events of the year.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic
At the International Training and Research Center
Arlington, Texas**

Friday's results

**QUALIFYING
(Nine games)**

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,078. 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,071. 3, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,043. 4, Verity Crawley, England, 2,025. 5, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,019. 6, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,011. 7, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 2,000. 8, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 1,998. 9, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 1,989. 10, Stephanie Schwartz (n), Racine, Wis., 1,987. 11, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 1,974. 12, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,973.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 1,971, \$1,200. 14, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 1,969, \$1,200. 15, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 1,966, \$1,200. 16, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 1,965, \$1,200. 17, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,959, \$1,200. 18(tie), Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., and Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 1,956, \$1,175.

20, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 1,949, \$1,150. 21, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,939, \$1,150. 22, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 1,933, \$1,150. 23, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 1,931, \$1,150. 24, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 1,929, \$1,150.

25(tie), Birgit Noreiks, Germany, and Maria Bulanova, Russia, 1,928, \$1,100. 27, Daria Pajak, Poland, 1,923, \$1,100. 28, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 1,901, \$1,100. 29, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 1,887. 30, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 1,885.

31, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 1,884. 32, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 1,881. 33, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,868. 34, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1,867. 35, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 1,865. 36, Tannya Lopez, Mexico, 1,859.

37, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1,854. 38, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 1,853. 39, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 1,850. 40(tie), Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., and Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 1,845. 42, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 1,829.

43, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,828. 44, Jody Scheerer, South Africa, 1,809. 45, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 1,804. 46, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 1,792. 47, Jennifer Russo (n), Monmouth Junction, N.J., 1,782. 48, Hannah Brookins (n), Casselberry, Fla., 1,776.

49, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,772. 50, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 1,768. 51, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 1,766. 52, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 1,764. 53, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,697. 54, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 1,692.

55, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 1,662. 56, Melanie McDaniel, Crest Hill, Ill., 1,524.

2021 PWBA BowITV Classic

Friday's results

**QUALIFYING
(18 games, all qualifiers)**

***To see the complete BowITV Classic standings, visit PWBA.com**

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,927. 2, Verity Crawley, England, 3,912. 3, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,887. 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,877. 5, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,875. 6, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 3,866.

7, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 3,844. 8, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 3,839. 9, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,831. 10, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,821. 11, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,820. 12, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,818.

13, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,812. 14, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,802. 15, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,797. 16, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,793. 17, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 3,786. 18, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 3,774.

19, Maria José Rodríguez, Colombia, 3,770. 20, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,766. 21, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 3,757. 22, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 3,738. 23, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,737. 24, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 3,736.

JEN HIGGINS WINS 2021 PWBA INTERNATIONAL BOWLING CAMPUS CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - Jen Higgins of Lewis Center, Ohio, averaged more than 252 in three championship-round matches Saturday to win the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association International Bowling Campus Classic for her first PWBA Tour title.

The 39-year-old right-hander faltered just once midway through the finale against top seed Verity Crawley of England but was able to maintain her look on the way to a nine-strike 252-155 victory at the International Training and Research Center.

Higgins opened the match with five consecutive strikes, before a 4-6-7 split ended her run at perfection and a \$10,000 bonus for a 300 game in the stepladder setting. She rebounded with four more strikes to take the win and \$10,000 top prize.

"I don't have the words to describe the feeling just yet, but it's definitely something I've always dreamed of," Higgins said. "I didn't really know if it would happen, but I'm glad it did. I'm super excited. Since this is supposed to be my last stop of the season, it was nice to go big before going home."

The 2021 International Bowling Campus Classic was the second of three national events at the PWBA Summer Classic Series. All rounds of competition at the Summer Classic Series, including a regional event, are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

A two-time member of Team USA and four-time member of Junior Team USA, Higgins has been a familiar face on the PWBA Tour since its relaunch in 2015 and was a regular threat in top-tier women's events in the decade prior, collecting a pair of fourth-place finishes at the United States Bowling Congress Queens in 2013 and 2014 and continued success at the U.S. Women's Open.

Her best previous finish in PWBA Tour competition was another fourth-place effort, which came early in her official rookie campaign in 2016. She finished that year as the runner-up for PWBA Rookie of the Year.

Being a regular casher on the PWBA Tour has kept Higgins motivated and able to continue competing.

In her first event this year, the Twin Cities Open in Minnesota in April, she finished two pins shy of the cut and cash line, but she felt like things were progressively getting better each week after that.

Higgins had every intention of bowling in the majority of the events on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule, but a broken toe in early June halted the progress she felt she was making since her season debut. She actually tripped over the suitcase she had packed for her trip to the 2021 PWBA Albany Open.

A month away from the lanes may have been disappointing, but it also may have been the best thing for her game.

"I had a month where I could hardly walk, let alone practice or work out or anything," Higgins said. "When I came back to bowling, it was almost like I dropped all my keys and started from fresh. Then, I started worked on some new stuff. Maybe that's what I needed - a reset button. A reset of my brain and my keys."

While Higgins was away, Crawley found the winner's circle for the first time in her career, following four runner-up finishes since 2017.

Crawley won the 2021 PWBA Greater Nashville Open in June and also felt like her year has been getting progressively better, especially since she missed the first three events of the season due to visa issues.

The 27-year-old right-hander backed up her claim by being the only bowler this week to make the cut in all three national events, and she used a 268-204 position-round win over Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, to erase a 45-pin deficit and lock up the No. 1 spot for Saturday's stepladder.

"I'm just really happy that I've been putting myself in position to get there, so for me, it's not all about winning," Crawley said. "It's about enjoying the experience and taking away something from every opportunity. I think I'm doing a very good job of that, and I think that's what helping me event to event."

On her way to Saturday's meeting with Crawley, Higgins bowled two nearly flawless matches against a pair of two-time PWBA Tour winners, Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, and Zavala, striking 16 times in 22 opportunities.

In the opening match with Coté, Higgins tossed eight strikes, including four to start her first championship-round appearance since 2016, and cruised to a 248-176 win.

Coté was making her third finals appearance in 2021.

She picked up a victory at the ITRC in January, defeating Junior Team USA member Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, in the title match of the ITRC Classic. The event was part of the 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, the first of the year's three Classic Series events on the schedule.

Against Zavala, who led for nearly the entire IBC Classic, Higgins opened with three strikes and capitalized on a second-frame washout from her 25-year-old opponent, who is a top contender for this year's PWBA Rookie of the Year Award.

Zavala managed to rally with five strikes in her next six frames, but it wasn't enough to keep up with Higgins, who won 257-196.

"I've been bowling my whole life and watching it since I was a kid, and this is something I've always wanted," said Higgins, a six-time Ohio Queens champion and a 2018 inductee into the Ohio USBC Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame. "I've put in the time on the lanes and in the gym, and I've practiced with pops, and this is something I truly knew was going to happen. I just didn't know when."

It took a while, but I finally got it."

The 2021 PWBA Summer Classic Series brought players from more than a dozen countries to the ITRC, and Germany's Birgit Noreiks was the first to hoist a trophy this week, winning the 2021 PWBA Go Bowling Classic on Thursday. Crawley also made that stepladder but fell to Noreiks in the opening game.

Higgins, Noreiks, Crawley, Zavala and Coté all are among the 24 players who qualified for the final event of the Summer Classic Series, the BowlTV Classic.

They will be back on the lanes at the ITRC on Monday at 11 a.m. Eastern for the first of three rounds of head-to-head matches.

The 24 players qualified for the final tournament based on their 18-game qualifying totals from the Go Bowling Classic and IBC Classic (nine games each).

Total pinfall will drop at the start of the BowlTV Classic, and the advancers will bowl 24 games of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins for each match they win.

The BowlTV Classic will conclude live on BowlTV on Tuesday at 9 p.m. Eastern.

First, though, the ITRC will welcome nearly three dozen competitors for the PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional, which will take place Sunday and feature an eight-game qualifying block, with the top four players, based on total pinfall, advancing to the stepladder finals at 9 p.m. Eastern.

Bowlers with PWBA national titles, as well as those who qualified for the BowlTV Classic, are not be eligible for the regional event. Qualifying for the regional will begin at 3 p.m. EDT.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic At the International Training and Research Center Arlington, Texas

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 757 (three games), \$10,000
- 2, Verity Crawley, England, 155 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 196 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 176 (one game), \$2,500

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 - Higgins def. Coté, 248-176

Semifinal - Higgins def. Zavala, 257-196

Championship - Higgins def. Crawley, 252-155

MATCH PLAY

(21 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Verity Crawley, England, 9-3-0, 4,952. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 8-4-0, 4,903. 3, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 6-6-0, 4,789. 4, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 6-6-0, 4,784.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 7-5-0, 4,720, \$2,000. 6, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 8-4-0, 4,698, \$1,750. 7, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 6-6-0, 4,654, \$1,650. 8, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 5-7-0, 4,645, \$1,600. 9, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 6-6-0, 4,632, \$1,550. 10, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4-8-0, 4,525, \$1,500.

11, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 5-7-0, 4,513, \$1,450. 12, Stephanie Schwartz (n), Racine, Wis., 2-10-0, 4,429, \$1,400.

TAYLOR BAILEY WINS 2021 PWBA DALLAS/FORT WORTH REGIONAL

ARLINGTON, Texas - The 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Summer Classic Series may have gone differently than Taylor Bailey had hoped, but she was able to end the week on a high note by winning the 2021 PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional.

Bailey, of Joliet, Illinois, defeated Russia's Maria Bulanova at the International Training and Research Center, 246-224, to earn the first title of her professional career, along with a custom championship bracelet and \$1,000 top prize.

Both qualifying and the stepladder finals of the Dallas/Fort Worth Regional were broadcast live Sunday at BowlTV.com.

The win comes after a remarkable collegiate career at McKendree and stint on Junior Team USA, a phase that included a pair of collegiate national championships and a team gold medal at the 2018 International Bowling Federation World Youth Championships.

The timing also meant the ultimate present for Bailey's father, Jeff, and her collegiate coach Bryan O'Keefe, who both celebrated birthdays Sunday.

"I told my dad this was his birthday present, even though I already bought him something, but I think this is the best thing he could've asked for," Bailey said. "Being called a PWBA champion of any kind sounds incredible, and it's something I've always dreamed of."

The 2021 Dallas/Fort Worth Regional was the third of four events at the PWBA Summer Classic Series, which includes three national tournaments and the regional competition.

The regional event was open only to bowlers who have not yet won a PWBA Tour title and those who

did not qualify for the 24-player PWBA BowlTV Classic, the final tournament of the Summer Classic Series.

Bailey, a 23-year-old right-hander, said she felt like she was throwing the ball well during the first two events of the Summer Classic Series, but something was missing. She just didn't have "it." Then, her shoe broke.

A clean slate and loaner shoes from former McKendree teammate Ashley Hathaway, who lives in the area, helped get Bailey back on track. She earned the top seed for the championship round with a 1,799 total for her eight games of qualifying at the ITRC on Sunday, an average of nearly 225.

Meeting each other in the championship match was not unfamiliar to Bailey and Bulanova, who faced off countless times in their four years together in college, as Bulanova starred for Vanderbilt. That also includes multiple visits to the ITRC for the Prairie View A&M Invitational and a meeting in the title match of the 2018 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship, won by Vanderbilt.

Bulanova finished Sunday's title game first and had an opportunity to apply pressure, but she could not shut out Bailey.

Bulanova struck in the ninth frame and on the first shot of her 10th frame, but a 2-4-8-10 split on her next offering meant Bailey just needed to keep the ball on the lane in her final frame.

In three stepladder matches, Bulanova averaged more than 234 and only had three shots where she knocked over less than nine pins. Regardless of the finish, the performance gave her a rush of confidence heading into the final stretch of the 2021 PWBA Tour season.

"I didn't really have a good week before the regional, so it was important for my self-confidence to bowl well today," Bulanova said. "Even though I didn't win, I'm super proud because I think I bowled really well. Taylor did a fantastic job in the final, and she was the top seed, but I am proud of how I bowled. I'll keep working, and hopefully soon, I'll be making more cuts and maybe a top 12 or even a show by the end of the season."

In the semifinal match against Fania Cobo of North Richland Hills, Texas, a recent collegiate bowler at Wichita State, Bulanova nearly let the game get away with a 1-2-4-6-10 washout in her final frame, which she was unable to convert.

Two strikes and seven pins would've earned Cobo a spot in the title match instead, but a 2 pin on her first shot left her short. Bulanova advanced, 232-223.

Bulanova, a 22-year-old right-hander and the No. 3 qualifier, started the night's opening game with four consecutive strikes and cruised to 247-189 win over Kara Mangiola of Spencerport, New York.

All four regional finalists are part of the 2021 PWBA Tour rookie class and learning from each experience on the lanes.

"I think it's really easy as a rookie coming out here to be super eager to do well and win on tour, but I keep telling myself Rome wasn't built in a day, so even if it takes me a whole season to learn and experience things, that's OK," Bailey said. "Now, I have bowled on BowlTV, and I have a win, and that is all important experience."

The 2021 PWBA Summer Classic Series brought 56 players, representing more than a dozen countries, to the ITRC.

Germany's Birgit Noreiks took home the title at the PWBA Go Bowling Classic for her first individual win and second victory overall, while former Team USA member Jen Higgins of Lewis Center, Ohio, won the PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic on Saturday for her first PWBA Tour title.

Bailey finished 24th in the PWBA Go Bowling Classic and 51st in the PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic, so her time in Arlington has concluded, but she'll now return to Illinois, where she'll continue to train with two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe, also the head women's bowling coach at McKendree.

Following her graduation from McKendree and the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bailey got the opportunity to move in with the O'Keefes and work on an online master's degree from Southern Illinois University.

Working with the O'Keefes on and off the lanes has been an invaluable experience, while walking past 14 PWBA trophies and countless other awards every day has been both intimidating and motivating for Bailey.

"When I first went to McKendree, I definitely was intimidated by Shannon, and I think that's still a little true, especially when she's bowling," Bailey said. "But, it's also what has pushed me to be a better bowler. I'm constantly learning from her and Bryan and picking their brains, and it has been really helpful for me."

The O'Keefe influence also helped Bailey down an unexpected path as a coach. She'll soon head to Arkansas State, where she'll serve as the assistant coach for the bowling team.

The action in Arlington now shifts to the BowlTV Classic, which gets underway Monday at 11 a.m. Eastern with the first of three rounds of head-to-head matches.

The 24 players qualified for the final tournament based on their 18-game qualifying totals from the Go Bowling Classic and IBC Classic (nine games each).

Total pinfall will drop at the start of the BowlTV Classic, and the advancers will bowl 24 games of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins for each match they win.

The BowlTV Classic will conclude live on BowlTV on Tuesday at 9 p.m. Eastern.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional
At the International Training and Research Center
Arlington, Texas**

Sunday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 246 (one game), \$1,000
- 2, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 703 (three games), \$700
- 3, Fania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 223 (one game), \$500
- 4, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 189 (one game), \$400

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 - Bulanova def. Mangiola, 247-189

Semifinal - Bulanova def. Cobo, 232-223

Championship - Bailey def. Bulanova, 246-224

QUALIFYING

(eight games)

1, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 1,799. 2, Fania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1,749. 3, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 1,743. 4, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 1,728.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 1,724, \$200. 6, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 1,723, \$200. 7, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 1,719, \$200. 8, Aseret Zetter, Mexico, 1,704, \$200. 9, Tina Williams, Pflugerville, Texas, 1,694, \$200. 10, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 1,666, \$200.

11, Catie Jensen, Fort Worth, Texas, 1,661, \$200. 12, Tannya Lopez, Mexico, 1,657. 13, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 1,640. 14, Jennifer Russo, Monmouth Junction, N.J., 1,639. 15, Jennifer Cupples, Colorado Springs, Colo., 1,614. 16, Kayla Pashina, Minnetonka, Minn., 1,604.

17, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 1,586. 18, Sandi Charles, Nolanville, Texas, 1,578. 19, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 1,550. 20, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,544. 21, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 1,534. 22, Genie Franklin, Frisco, Texas, 1,532.

23, Hannah Brookins, Casselberry, Fla., 1,524. 24, Kaitlyn Schroyer, Aubrey, Texas, 1,517. 25, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,510. 26, Trimeya Washington, Lancaster, Texas, 1,501. 27, Nicolette Gaudette, Keller, Texas, 1,496. 28, Suzette Draper, Dumont, N.J., 1,491.

29, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,486. 30, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 1,474. 31, Brandi Stephens, Lubbock, Texas, 1,392. 32, Lisa Goodson, Ardmore, Okla., 1,333. 33, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 664 (WD)

JILLIAN MARTIN LEADS AFTER OPENING DAY OF 2021 PWBA BOWLTV CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - Two rounds of head-to-head match play were completed Monday at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association BowlTV Classic, and Junior Team USA member Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, tops the 24-player standings with eight games remaining.

The 17-year-old right-hander averaged more than 214 and posted the best match-play record of the day, 13-3, to set the pace at the International Training and Research Center. All rounds of competition

are being broadcast live on BowlTV.

The lead changed hands frequently throughout the day, first belonging to two-time PWBA Tour champion Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, who kicked off the action with the third perfect game of the four-event PWBA Summer Classic Series.

A half-dozen players occupied the top spot at some point during the 16 games on the 41-foot oil pattern, with Martin being one of them, and she was able to catapult from third place back into the lead with a 241 effort and a victory in her final game Monday night.

Martin finished with a 3,821 total and was followed by Latvia's Diana Zavjalova (3,818), England's Verity Crawley (3,725), Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio (3,631), and Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (3,603).

"The whole day, I just tried to stick to my process, make good shots and stay calm, and at the end, I was fortunate enough to find a look very different from the end of the first block," said Martin, who ended the day's first eight-game block with 166. "I made the best shots I could and finished with a big game, which was pretty cool."

The 24 bowlers qualified for the BowlTV Classic, the final tournament of the 2021 Summer Classic Series, based on their 18-game qualifying totals from the PWBA Go Bowling Classic and PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic (nine games each).

Martin averaged 210.33 over the two days of qualifying and finished 17th in the BowlTV Classic rankings. She finished tied for 13th in the Go Bowling Classic and 22nd in the IBC Classic, cashing in both events.

"I'm not too disappointed in the first two events because I know there were a few things that were so close to being right where I wanted them to be, and that when they clicked, it would feel really good, and I feel like that kind of happened out here today," Martin said. "In the first event, I just barely missed the cut, and a couple bad shots and missed spares cost me. In the second event, I missed the opportunity to close out a couple games and left splits, which was at least 75 pins. I just need to learn from those things and continue to get better."

All pinfall dropped heading into the BowlTV Classic, and total pinfall, plus bonus pins for each win or tie in match play, will determine the five players for Tuesday's stepladder finals, which will be broadcast live at BowlTV.com at 9 p.m. Eastern.

Martin understands the need to take advantage of the times she has a great look and grind when she doesn't, as well as how important bonus pins are in the match-play format.

"Games 3 and 4, I bowled on the same pair and had some trouble with one of the lanes, but I was able to grind through those games and get two Ws, which is really important in this format," Martin said. "Tomorrow, I'll come in with the same thought process and keep going after those wins. I think if I can have another good day, we should be able to make the show and have a chance to go out and win a title."

Martin was the recipient of a special exemption into the Summer Classic Series from the United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America.

The opportunity was due in part to her memorable performance at the 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, also at the ITRC, where she turned in finishes of eighth, second and third and rolled a 299 game live on BowITV along the way.

She is looking to become the youngest bowler in history to win a national PWBA event, a record owned by USBC and PWBA Hall of Famer Wendy Macpherson, who won the U.S. Women's Open at 18.

Competition in Arlington will continue Tuesday at 1 p.m. Eastern with the final eight games of round-robin match play at the ITRC.

The 2021 PWBA Summer Classic Series brought 56 players, representing more than a dozen countries, to the ITRC.

Germany's Birgit Noreiks took home the title at the Go Bowling Classic for her first individual win and second victory overall, while former Team USA member Jen Higgins of Lewis Center, Ohio, won the IBC Campus Classic on Saturday for her first PWBA Tour title.

The Summer Classic Series also included the 2021 PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional, won by past Junior Team USA member Taylor Bailey of Joliet, Illinois, a member of the 2021 PWBA Tour rookie class.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA BowITV Classic
At the International Training and Research Center
Arlington, Texas**

Monday's results

MATCH PLAY

(16 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 13-3-0, 3,821. 2, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 12-4-0, 3,818. 3, Verity Crawley, England, 9-7-0, 3,725. 4, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 9-7-0, 3,631. 5, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 9-7-0, 3,603. 6, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 9-7-0, 3,586.

7, Daria Pajak, Poland, 8-8-0, 3,575. 8, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 8-8-0, 3,571. 9, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 9-6-1, 3,551. 10, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 9-7-0, 3,550. 11, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 11-5-0, 3,548. 12, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 9-7-0, 3,513.

13, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 8-8-0, 3,493. 14, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 8-8-0, 3,465. 15, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 8-8-0, 3,448. 16, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 8-8-0, 3,440. 17, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 7-9-0, 3,413. 18, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 8-8-0, 3,395.

19, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5-11-0, 3,372. 20, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 5-11-0, 3,320. 21, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 4-12-0, 3,318. 22, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 4-12-0, 3,310. 23, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 4-11-1, 3,285. 24, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 7-9-0, 3,263.

JILLIAN MARTIN MAKES HISTORY WITH WIN AT 2021 PWBA BOWLTV CLASSIC

ARLINGTON, Texas - Junior Team USA member Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, made history Tuesday night by becoming the youngest bowler to win a Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour event.

The 17-year-old phenom defeated England's Verity Crawley in the title match of the 2021 PWBA BowlTV Classic, 221-188, to claim the \$10,000 top prize and a place in the bowling record book.

The BowlTV Classic was held at the International Training and Research Center as part of the four-event PWBA Summer Classic Series, and all rounds of competition were broadcast live on BowlTV.

Martin, who celebrated her birthday on July 25, bested the 35-year-old mark set by PWBA and United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Wendy Macpherson, when she won the 1986 U.S. Women's Open as an 18-year-old high school senior.

"I was very nervous going into that match, but I reminded myself how special it was to have an opportunity to win a tournament against the best ladies in the world," Martin said. "I wanted to make the most of it and have some fun. I kept telling myself that the whole match. I made a couple bad shots, but it was incredible to have that opportunity and be able to find success at the highest level."

The loss was Crawley's second runner-up finish of the Summer Classic Series, and sixth since joining the PWBA in 2017, but she did break through for her first PWBA Tour title at the 2021 Greater Nashville Open in June.

She started Tuesday's title tilt with a pair of strikes, before back-to-back washouts in the third and fourth frames left her in a hole she could not climb out of.

In the championship match of the PWBA International Bowling Campus Classic on Saturday, she fell to Jen Higgins of Lewis Center, Ohio, 252-155.

Though Crawley won't leave Arlington with a trophy, she did make her way into the race for PWBA Player of the Year. She's now second on the 2021 PWBA points list behind Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, who has won two titles this year.

"It has been a phenomenal few weeks," said Crawley, a 27-year-old right-hander who was the only bowler to make the cut in all three Summer Classic Series events. "If you would've told me coming into this that it would turn out this way, I 100% would've walked away completely satisfied with those finishes. I'm very proud of myself and how I competed each event and how I stayed mentally strong."

After sparing a 10 pin in her first frame back under the BowlTV lights, Martin struck in six of her next seven frames to put the match out of reach.

Not only did Martin help herself to the brink of history Monday and Tuesday, she also set herself up for a chance at redemption.

At the 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in January, Martin found herself in a similar position, when she earned a meeting with Bryanna Coté in the title match of the PWBA ITRC Classic. Unfortunately, it wasn't Martin's time, and Coté won the game, 244-238.

"I made good shots last time against Bryanna and bowled the best game I could to give myself a chance, and while it was a hard loss, I learned from it and wanted to come back from it," Martin said.

"I knew I'd be back out here competing at some point in time, but I didn't know it would be this soon. I figured that whenever that time came, I'd try to be the best I could be and take advantage of the opportunity."

It was Martin's performance at that event, and the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series it was a part of, that earned her a special exemption into the Summer Classic Series from USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America.

Along with the second-place effort against Coté, Martin added third- and eighth-place finishes at the Kickoff Classic Series, plus a 299 game.

Returning to the lanes this week, knowing she had previous success at the ITRC, allowed Martin to be comfortable and confident from the start of the Summer Classic Series.

She posted the highest average (212) and turned in an event-best 20-4 record over three rounds of match play on the 41-foot oil pattern at the BowlTV Classic to lead the field by more than 200 pins and earn the top seed for Tuesday's stepladder.

She had a high game of 244 and low game of 166, and it was her consistency over the two days that left her just one win away from becoming the answer to a trivia question.

"I had a good look on the pattern and felt I was able to play to my strengths," said Martin, who's latest visit to the ITRC also included a 13th-place finish at the PWBA Go Bowling Classic and a 22nd-place effort at the IBC Classic. "My shot making this tournament was absolutely incredible. The two tournaments before, I just felt a click off, but I felt so close. I put it all together for this last tournament and was able to get it done, so that was incredible."

Crawley earned the opportunity to meet Martin by defeating Coté in Tuesday's semifinal match, 208-182. Nine clean frames from Crawley after a first-frame 7-10 split, including three consecutive strikes as the game reached its midpoint, proved to be enough to hold off the two-time PWBA Tour winner, who left a pair of splits along the way.

Coté made her way to the semifinal with an eight-strike, 233-194, win over Germany's Birgit Noreiks. A split and a washout from Coté in the fifth and sixth frames, respectively, had four strikes on either side, while Noreiks did not throw a double until her final frame.

Noreiks was looking for her second title at the Summer Classic Series. She won the series-opening Go Bowling Classic for her first singles win, and second victory overall, on the PWBA Tour. She also won the 2017 Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles with Jason Sterner.

In the opening match, Noreiks struck in four of her first five frames to take a lead over Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, but Richard rallied with four consecutive strikes, starting in the fourth frame, to cut the deficit.

A 4-6-7-9-10 split from Noreiks in the eighth frame gave Richard the lead for the first time, along with a chance to lock up the win.

Richard struck in her ninth frame, before leaving, and converting a 3-10 split, but a six-count washout on her fill ball opened the door for Noreiks. Instead of needing a double to advance, the German right-hander got the job done with a strike and a spare for a 205-204 victory.

A total of 24 bowlers qualified for the BowlTV Classic, the final tournament of the 2021 Summer Classic Series, based on their 18-game qualifying totals from the Go Bowling Classic and International Bowling Campus Classic (nine games each).

All pinfall dropped heading into the BowlTV Classic, and total pinfall, plus bonus pins for each win or tie in match play, determined the five players for Tuesday's stepladder.

The 2021 PWBA Summer Classic Series brought 56 players, representing more than a dozen countries, to the ITRC.

The Summer Classic Series also included the 2021 PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional, won by past Junior Team USA member Taylor Bailey of Joliet, Illinois, a member of the 2021 PWBA Tour rookie class.

Next up on the PWBA schedule is the PWBA Spokane Open at Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane, Washington, from Aug. 19-21.

Ahead for Martin is a pre-planned visit to "FOX & Friends" on Saturday to help celebrate National Bowling Day. She'll now have a little more to talk about.

"I didn't even think about that," Martin said of the upcoming appearance. "I'm so in the moment. I have this awesome trophy. It's so crazy. Yeah, it's going to be really cool to go out there and be able to say I won a PWBA tournament at 17. I knew that was going to be a great experience, and this will make it even better, for sure."

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA BowITV Classic
At the International Training and Research Center
Arlington, Texas**

Tuesday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio (n), 221 (one game), \$10,000
- 2, Verity Crawley, England, 396 (two games), \$5,000
- 3, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 415 (two games), \$3,500
- 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 399 (two games), \$2,500
- 5, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 204 (one game), \$2,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

- Match No. 1 - Noreiks def. Richard, 205-204
Match No. 2 - Coté def. Noreiks, 233-194
Semifinal - Crawley def. Coté, 208-182
Championship - Martin def. Crawley, 221-188

MATCH PLAY

(24 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

- 1, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 20-4-0, 5,688. 2, Verity Crawley, England, 15-9-0, 5,483. 3, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 13-11-0, 5,402. 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 15-9-0, 5,393. 5, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 13-11-0, 5,377.

DID NOT ADVANCE

- 6, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 15-9-0, 5,376, \$1,750. 7, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 15-9-0, 5,353, \$1,650. 8, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 11-13-0, 5,266, \$1,600. 9, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 12-12-0, 5,249, \$1,550. 10, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 14-9-1, 5,248, \$1,500. 11, Daria Pajak, Poland, 12-12-0, 5,240, \$1,450.
12, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 13-11-0, 5,210, \$1,400. 13, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 11-13-0, 5,179, \$1,200. 14, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 12-12-0, 5,132, \$1,200. 15, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 11-13-0, 5,108, \$1,200. 16, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 10-14-0, 5,094, \$1,200. 17, Lauren Pate, Fairview Heights, Ill., 12-12-0, 5,079, \$1,200.
18, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 12-12-0, 5,064, \$1,200. 19, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 7-17-0, 5,020, \$1,150. 20, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 8-15-1, 4,979, \$1,150. 21, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 9-15-0, 4,967, \$1,150. 22, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 10-14-0, 4,954, \$1,150. 23,

Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 8-16-0, 4,894, \$1,150. 24, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 9-15-0, 4,849, \$1,150.

August 18, 2021

2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN TO FEATURE \$100,000 TOP PRIZE, FINALS COVERAGE ON CBS SPORTS NETWORK

ARLINGTON, Texas – The 2021 U.S. Women's Open will feature a record-setting top prize of \$100,000, and the finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open, which is taking place Aug. 24-31 at Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park, California, will mark the first professional women's bowling event to award its champion a six-figure first-place prize, with the stepladder finals airing Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The second major championship on the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule will feature an increased overall prize fund of \$275,000.

In addition to this year's U.S. Women's Open, the four major championships presented by the United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America will be awarding \$100,000 to each champion through 2023. These events include the U.S. Women's Open, U.S. Open, USBC Queens and USBC Masters.

"The U.S. Women's Open has a long and storied history, and we're excited to be able to add to its legacy in 2021 with a record top prize and national exposure on CBS Sports Network," USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. "Looking ahead to 2022 and 2023, we're proud to be able to commit to \$100,000 top prizes at our major championships, while continuing to recognize champions and build a future for the sport."

Along with the increased prize fund and exposure during the U.S. Women's Open, the PWBA Tour Championship will return during the Fall Classic Series at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, this October as the final major of the season with a \$50,000 top prize and live finals on CBS Sports Network.

The Tour Championship, with a new format, will replace the PWBA Bowl for the Cure Classic on the schedule as the final event of the Fall Classic Series on Oct. 29-31 and feature a projected prize fund of \$200,000. The CBS Sports Network broadcast will be Oct. 31 at 5 p.m. Eastern.

The Tour Championship will mark the conclusion of the 2021 PWBA Tour season, which kicked off in January and will include 20 events across the United States.

"The PWBA Tour Championship has provided our athletes and fans with some incredible moments over the past five seasons, and it's fitting that it will help us wrap up another amazing year on national television, along with an increased prize fund," PWBA Director of Operations Tennelle Milligan said. "We're excited to conclude our season live on CBS Sports Network, while crowning our final champion of the year."

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open will feature three eight-game qualifying rounds to determine the bowlers advancing to the Cashers' Round at the recently renovated Double Decker Lanes, which installed new lanes leading up to the major championship. The eight-game Cashers' Round will determine the 24 athletes advancing to round-robin match play.

Match play will consist of three eight-game rounds, with total pinfall and bonus pins for each victory during match play determining the top five for the stepladder finals. Advancers to the championship round will have bowled 56 games to earn their spots on CBS Sports Network.

"We're excited to welcome back the top athletes on the PWBA Tour to Double Decker Lanes for the U.S. Women's Open," said Jim Decker, BPAA President and proprietor of Double Decker Lanes. "To be able to showcase this event on CBS Sports Network and help support a record-setting top prize means a great deal to our center, staff and the BPAA and its membership."

The Fall Classic Series will run from Oct. 24-31 in Reno and feature three national tour stops. The PWBA Reno Classic will kick things off Oct. 24-26, and the PWBA Pepsi Classic will take place Oct. 27-28.

A total of 24 bowlers will qualify for the Tour Championship, based on their 24-game qualifying totals from the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic (12 games each).

All pinfall will drop heading into the Tour Championship, with total pinfall, plus bonus pins for each win or tie during the tournament's 24 games of match play, determining the five players advancing to the stepladder finals.

All qualifying and match-play rounds of the 2021 U.S. Women's Open and Tour Championship will be broadcast on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com). BowlTV will provide wire-to-wire coverage of the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic, including the stepladder finals.

Information on dates and locations for USBC's major championships in 2022 and 2023 will be released at a later date.

For more information about the U.S. Women's Open, visit [BOWL.com/USWomensOpen](https://www.bowl.com/USWomensOpen). To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

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MEMBERS OF TEAM SINGAPORE EXCITED TO COMPETE AT 2021 PWBA SPOKANE OPEN

SPOKANE, Wash. – It has been nearly two years since fans of the Professional Women's Bowling Association have been able to watch members of Team Singapore compete on tour, but that will change this week as six athletes from the national team make their return at the PWBA Spokane Open.

Cherie Tan, Shayna Ng, New Hui Fen, Jazreel Tan, Bernice Lim and Daphne Tan have traveled to the United States to compete at the next two stops on the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule, with their

journey kicking off at Lilac Lanes & Casino.

The official practice session for the Spokane Open will take place Thursday, and competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds.

The top 32 athletes will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday to determine the 12 players for the final round of competition. An additional six-game block will determine the four players for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall for 24 games.

The finals of the Spokane Open will take place Saturday at 9 p.m. Eastern, with the winner earning \$10,000. All qualifying rounds, and the stepladder finals, will be broadcast live on [Bow!TV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

Though the members of Team Singapore have only participated in a limited number of events since the relaunch of the PWBA in 2015, their impact certainly has been noticed in the standings and winner's circle.

Five of the six players competing at the Spokane Open have won a PWBA event during the last five seasons, with Cherie Tan (2019 PWBA Players Championship), New (2016 PWBA Tour Championship) and Lim (2016 United States Bowling Congress Queens) capturing major victories. All six athletes have made an appearance in the stepladder finals of a major championship during that time frame, too.

Ng won a pair of standard PWBA Tour events (2018 and 2019), and Jazreel Tan won in 2015 prior to joining the PWBA.

New's victory at the Tour Championship also helped her win the 2016 PWBA Rookie of the Year award, despite just six tournament appearances during the season.

The Spokane Open and upcoming U.S. Women's Open (Aug. 24-31) will mark the first time the team members have competed in any capacity in approximately 20 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Singapore's last events were in December of 2019 at the Southeast Asian Games in the Philippines, which included gold medals in singles (New), team (New, Ng, Cherie Tan, Daphne Tan) and Masters (New) competition, along with the Storm-Domino's Pizza Cup in South Korea, which was won by Cherie Tan.

"We haven't been able to compete at all since December 2019," said Cherie Tan, a two-time PWBA Tour champion. "We've only been able to train on and off because of the COVID measures in our country."

Even with the added logistics in traveling across the Pacific Ocean more than 8,000 miles to the Pacific Northwest and knowing they'll have to quarantine at a hotel for 14 days upon their return to Singapore, it was important for the team to get back into the mix against the top players on the PWBA Tour.

These events also will serve as a tuneup for Singapore looking ahead to the International Bowling Federation World Championships in November. The 2021 IBF World Championships will take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from Nov. 3-26, with the IBF Super World Championships (adult men

and women) occurring from Nov. 6-15.

"The competition environment is something we can't replicate at home, no matter how much we train," Ng said. "It will be good for us to shake off some of the dust as we get ready for the World Championships in November."

The international presence will be strong at the Spokane Open, with 13 countries being represented in the 67-player field. Historically, many of the athletes competing each week on the PWBA Tour have represented their countries at events like the IBF World Championships.

"These events will be a major help for us," said Cherie Tan, who won the Masters gold medal at the 2019 IBF World Championships. "They are our only events prior to the World Championships, and most of these players compete at the World Championships, so the competition level will be quite similar."

Though the trip certainly has a business-like feel to it, these six players also are ready to enjoy the moment and see if they're able to continue the success they've found in previous seasons on the PWBA Tour.

"I believe that we're all very, very excited," Ng said. "Just to be able to be here to compete with the rest of the ladies on tour is quite a privilege for us, and considering how crazy it's been, we feel extremely excited and lucky to be here. We have to manage our expectations, since we haven't competed in so long, but if one of us can find a way to win, that'd be great. We are just here to get back into the motion of competing and ultimately have some fun, too."

The PWBA is returning to Washington for the first time since 1986, when Leila Wagner won the 1986 Hammer Western Open in Tacoma, and this week's event will mark the tour's first trip to Spokane.

The PWBA Spokane Open is the 16th event out of 20 on the 2021 schedule, and the tournament also will feature several players in the midst of a highly contested race for PWBA Player of the Year.

Two-time champion Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, leads with 95,750 points, but she's now just 275 points ahead of England's Verity Crawley (95,475), who made her charge with three consecutive championship-round appearances at the PWBA Summer Classic Series earlier in August, after winning her first career title in June at the PWBA Greater Nashville Open.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova (92,280) and two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (90,645), also are less than 5,200 points away from the top spot.

Kovalova has collected a pair of victories this season and now is a four-time champion, and O'Keefe kicked off the 2021 season with her 14th career title at the PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic.

To learn more about the PWBA, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

LIZ JOHNSON LEADS OPENING ROUNDS AT 2021 PWBA SPOKANE OPEN

SPOKANE, Wash. – Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, averaged more than 236 during her final nine games Friday at Lilac Lanes & Casino to roll to the top of the leaderboard after two rounds at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Spokane Open.

The 25-time PWBA Tour titlist bounced back after a slow start to roll 783 in her final three games during Friday's opening six-game round for a 1,363 total and nearly matched the effort in Round 2 (1,348) to finish with a 2,711 total, a 225.92 average.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova is second with a 2,666 total, and Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, is third with 2,632.

Team Singapore's New Hui Fen and Daphne Tan round out the top five with 2,536 and 2,514, respectively.

The 66-player field was cut to the top 32 players after Friday's second round, with Taylor Bailey of Joliet, Illinois, hanging on for the final spot with a 2,327 total, a 193.92 average. Bailey, a rookie on tour this season, is coming off a regional victory earlier in August at the PWBA Dallas/Fort Worth Regional.

Johnson, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer, rolled games of 270, 259 and 254 to close her first-round block on this week's 45-foot oil pattern to take over the top spot in the final game, and she maintained the lead throughout the second round.

She's looking to make her third championship-round appearance and record her second win of the season. Johnson claimed victory at the PWBA Lincoln Open in May, which included a 300 game in the semifinals.

Kovalova is in search of her third title of the season, and fifth of her career, after collecting wins at the PWBA Twin Cities Open and PWBA Louisville Open.

McEwan is looking for her second title of the 2021 season after winning the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles event in August with EJ Tackett. She now owns six PWBA Tour titles.

New and Tan are part of a six-player contingent from Singapore making their first appearance on the PWBA Tour in nearly two years. New, the 2016 PWBA Rookie of the Year, and Tan will be joined in the next round by 2016 USBC Queens champion Bernice Lim (2,493) and two-time winner Shayna Ng (2,353).

Saturday's third round will consist of an additional six games starting at 1 p.m. Eastern, with the top 12 returning to the lanes for one more six-game round to complete qualifying. The top four players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 9 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowlTV.com). The champion will earn \$10,000.

For more information on the PWBA, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

**2021 PWBA Spokane Open
At Lilac Lanes & Casino
Spokane, Wash.**

Friday's results

**QUALIFYING
(12 games)**

1, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,711. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,666. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,632. 4, New Hui Fen, Singapore, 2,536. 5, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 2,514. 6, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,513.

7, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,512. 8, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,510. 9, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 2,506. 10, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,497. 11, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 2,493. 12, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,490.

13, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,480. 14, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 2,478. 15, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 2,472. 16, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,468. 17, Kaylene Folks (n), Medical Lake, Wash., 2,454. 18, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,451.

19, Katelyn Simpson, Emmett, Idaho, 2,447. 20, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,444. 21, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,436. 22, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,434. 23(tie), Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, and Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,433.

25, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,432. 26, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,422. 27, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 2,404. 28, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 2,403. 29, Verity Crawley, England, 2,379. 30, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,364.

31, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 2,353. 32, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,327.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Samantha How (n), Oregon City, Ore., 2,313. 34, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 2,306. 35, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 2,303. 36, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,300.

37, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,299. 38, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,297. 39(tie) Anggie Ramirez Perea, Austin, Texas, and Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,294. 41, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,284. 42, Paula Phelps (n), Hayden, Idaho, 2,281.

43, April McDonough (n), Spokane Valley, Wash., 2,279. 44, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 2,278. 45, Jazreel Tan, Singapore, 2,271. 46, Kristie Schultz (n), Spokane, Wash., 2,265. 47, Sabrina Groves (n), Spokane, Wash., 2,260. 48, Sarah Jackson (n), Marysville, Wash., 2,259.

49, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,254. 50, Chloe Bartlett (n), University Place, Wash., 2,230. 51, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,199. 52, Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Federal Way, Wash., 2,196. 53, Cheyanne Myers (n), Moscow, Idaho, 2,195. 54, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,188.

55, Chelsea Tonsing, Loveland, Colo., 2,173. 56, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,165. 57, Sandy Friberg (n), Colbert, Wash., 2,158. 58, Valentina Cruz (n), Tacoma, Wash., 2,154. 59, Brandy Au (n), Spokane, Wash., 2,152. 60, Jennifer Cupples, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,139.

61, Kolette Larsen (n), Spokane, Wash., 2,101. 62, Shannon Canfield (n), Wellington, Colo., 2,083. 63, Adrienne Sadlo (n), Spokane, Wash., 2,001. 64, Kaitlyn Blamires (n), Lewiston, Idaho, 1,982. 65, Sharlene Palos (n), Spokane, Wash., 1,963. 66, Annie Silvers (n), Spokane, Wash., 1,830.

DANIELLE MCEWAN WINS SECOND TITLE OF SEASON AT 2021 PWBA SPOKANE OPEN

SPOKANE, Wash. – Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, locked up her second title of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season with a strike in her final frame Saturday at the PWBA Spokane Open.

The 29-year-old right-hander recorded her seventh career PWBA Tour title with a 203-192 victory over Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, at Lilac Lanes & Casino.

She claimed \$10,000 for the victory, and the championship round was broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowlTV.com).

McEwan needed a mark in the 10th frame to secure the win in the back-and-forth title match, and she delivered one of her best shots of the week.

The 10-time Team USA member started the month with a win at the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles event in Houston with EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana.

"That shot is literally everything we practice and train for every day," McEwan said. "I knew exactly what I had to do, and I just cleared my mind and let my body do what it knows how to do. Thankfully, the pins fell."

McEwan, who entered the stepladder as the top seed, started the match against Johnson with a double and recorded spares in the third and fourth frames to build a slight advantage, but she missed a 10 pin in the fifth frame to hand over the lead to the 25-time PWBA Tour titlist and United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer.

Johnson wasn't able to capitalize on the miscue, however, allowing McEwan to showcase her resilience and recapture the lead with strikes in the seventh and eighth frames.

"I was really frustrated after missing that," McEwan said. "I actually missed a couple of them today and handed Liz an open on a stupid mistake. After that, I really had to buckle down to make sure it didn't cost me."

Johnson stayed clean during the title match, but she was unable to pair any strikes together, recording just three of them in the final.

Finishing the match first, Johnson could have doubled to force McEwan to throw two strikes of her own. Instead, Johnson left the 3-10 split on her first delivery.

McEwan felt her best look on this week's 45-foot oil pattern was on the fresh, and she parlayed her success early in blocks at Lilac Lanes & Casino to get to the top spot after 24 games of qualifying with a 5,204 total, a 216.83 average.

She was happy to take advantage of her qualifying position, too, as the opening match of Saturday's stepladder resulted in low scores and 10 open frames between Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, and Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova.

Kulick advanced to the semifinal, 178-115.

"I actually was very concerned after our initial practice on that pair," McEwan said. "My best look had been on the fresh, and it kind of went away later in the block, but they were playing different, and I didn't have a good look. I was happy I wasn't bowling in the first match. I was able to sit back and watch what everyone else was doing and come up with a different game plan if needed.

"By the time we got to my match, it was definitely much better. It had blended out a little more. The lanes were still a little bit different from lane to lane, so that was tricky to figure out on the fly, but I just tried to make some really good shots to get a feel for what they were doing."

Johnson was awaiting Kulick as the No. 2 seed, and she advanced to the title match with a 238-192 victory over her fellow USBC Hall of Famer.

Johnson, who was looking for her second win in 2021 after defeating Kulick in the title match at the PWBA Lincoln Open in May, put together a string of five consecutive strikes in the middle of the game to roll to the final.

Kulick and Kovalova also were looking to add onto their win totals for the 2021 season.

Kulick, a seven-time PWBA Tour champion, won the PWBA Albany Open in June, while Kovalova captured wins at the PWBA Twin Cities Open in April and PWBA Louisville Open in June, bringing her number of career titles to four.

The 66-player field in Spokane bowled 12 games Friday, before the first cut to the top 32 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning, with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the four bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season now will head to Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park, California, for the U.S. Women's Open, the second major championship of the year.

The U.S. Women's Open will take place Aug. 24-31 and feature a record-setting top prize for this year's champion. The winner will take home \$100,000, along with the coveted green jacket.

The stepladder finals of the U.S. Women's Open will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network on Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. Eastern. All rounds leading up to the finals will be broadcast on BowITV.

McEwan will enter the event as the defending champion after claiming the win in 2019 in North Las Vegas, Nevada. She captured her second major title with two strikes in her final frame to defeat Indonesia's Tannya Roumimper, 201-199.

For more information on the PWBA, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

**2021 PWBA Spokane Open
At Lilac Lanes & Casino
Spokane, Wash.**

Saturday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Danielle McEwan, 203 (one game), \$10,000
- 2, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 430 (two games), \$5,000
- 3, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 370 (two games), \$3,500
- 4, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 115 (one game), \$3,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Kulick def. Kovalova, 178-115

Semifinal – Johnson def. Kulick, 238-192

Championship – McEwan def. Johnson, 203-192

QUALIFYING - ROUND 4

1, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 5,204. 2, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5,093. 3, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 5,069. 4, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 5,024.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, New Hui Fen, Singapore, 5,003, \$2,000. 6, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 5,000, \$1,800. 7, Daria Pajak, Poland, 4,995, \$1,750. 8, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 4,972, \$1,700. 9, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 4,959, \$1,650. 10, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 4,936, \$1,600.

11, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 4,933, \$1,550. 12, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4,830, \$1,500.

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3

1, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,967. 2, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,922. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,894. 4, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 3,796. 5, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 3,768. 6, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,752.

7, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,747. 8, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,745. 9, New Hui Fen, Singapore, 3,740. 10(tie), Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., and Bernice Lim, Singapore, 3,731. 12, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,729.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,704, \$1,100. 14, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,687, \$1,100. 15, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,676, \$1,100. 16, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 3,674, \$1,100. 17, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,671, \$1,100. 18, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 3,668, \$1,100.

19, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,662, \$1,100. 20, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 3,648, \$1,100. 21, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,636, \$1,100. 22, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,633, \$1,100. 23, Kaylene Folks (n), Medical Lake, Wash., 3,630, \$1,100. 24, Katelyn Simpson (n), Emmett, Idaho, 3,613, \$1,100.

25, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,603, \$1,100. 26, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 3,597,

\$1,100. 27, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,592, \$1,100. 28, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,577, \$1,100. 29, Verity Crawley, England, 3,574, \$1,100. 30, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 3,567, \$1,100.

31, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 3,561, \$1,100. 32, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 3,522, \$1,100.

MCEWAN HAS MOMENTUM HEADING INTO TITLE DEFENSE AT 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. – Fresh off a victory at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Spokane Open, Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, is ready to put her title on the line this week at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open.

The event kicks off Wednesday at Double Decker Lanes with the tournament's official practice sessions, and the season's second major will conclude in record fashion Aug. 31 at 7 p.m. Eastern, live on CBS Sports Network.

The winner of the 2021 U.S. Women's Open will take home a record-setting top prize of \$100,000 and the coveted green jacket. The event will feature an overall prize fund of \$275,000.

McEwan won the 2019 U.S. Women's Open in North Las Vegas, Nevada, in a dramatic finish over Indonesia's Tannya Roumimper, 201-199, to claim her second major title.

Stepping up in the 10th frame at Texas Star Lanes, McEwan needed two strikes and eight pins to take home the title and was able to deliver a double and topple nine pins on her final shot.

The 29-year-old right-hander recently was able to reflect on that performance after securing her seventh career PWBA Tour title Saturday at the Spokane Open, where she needed a mark in her final frame to defeat United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, and rolled a strike on her first delivery on the way to a 203-192 win.

"The U.S. Women's Open is the biggest and most prestigious event we bowl, and it was such a huge honor and big success in my career to win in 2019," McEwan said after her win Saturday at Lilac Lanes & Casino. "After 2020, though, it honestly feels like it happened in a previous lifetime. I would go back and watch that video to look for some things in my physical game. I would watch that 10th frame, and it was kind of like, 'How did I do that?' I feel like today kind of reminded me how I did that. I think that's going to help me going into the U.S. Women's Open."

The 10-time Team USA member planned to take a short break to allow her body to recover after the win in Spokane, knowing she'll need to make her way through 56 games and four challenging lane conditions to make it back to CBS Sports Network.

The 2021 event will feature three eight-game qualifying rounds, starting Thursday at 2 p.m. Eastern, to determine the 24 players advancing to a fourth eight-game block. Each of the four rounds will feature a different oil pattern.

After 32 games, the 24 athletes will begin round-robin match play, starting Sunday, with the fourth oil pattern being used for the remainder of the event.

Match play will consist of three eight-game rounds, with total pinfall and bonus pins for each victory determining the five players advancing to the stepladder finals.

All rounds leading up to the CBS Sports Network broadcast will be livestreamed at [BowITV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

With the recent addition of television, plus the first six-figure first-place prize in the history of professional women's bowling, competitors will have to manage a few different emotions as they look to etch their names in the tournament's long and storied record book.

McEwan is motivated by the chance to again bowl under the bright lights, but she's not letting the thought of collecting a record-breaking check affect her game plan or goals.

"Having the opportunity to possibly bowl on TV is going to give me a lot of encouragement and kind of be a driving force," said McEwan, who won the 2021 Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles with EJ Tackett earlier in August. "There's nothing like being able to bowl on a live show. If I'm thinking about the prize fund, though, then I'm a step behind. I never bowl for money. I bowl because I love bowling and want to be the best. I want to hold that trophy at the end. I'm going to do my best to not focus on the prize fund, and hopefully it just works itself out at the end."

McEwan's performance in Spokane also helped her into the tightly contested race for PWBA Player of the Year. The PWBA Player of the Year award is determined by the season-long points list.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova has reclaimed the top spot on the list heading into the U.S. Women's Open with 101,280 points, but she has three players within 5,000 points of her total and another three within 15,000 points.

England's Verity Crawley (98,200), Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (96,830), and two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (96,645), join Kovalova in the top four through 16 of the 20 events scheduled for the 2021 season.

Johnson, a six-time U.S. Women's Open champion, leads the next group of challengers with 90,110 and is followed by Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California (88,212.5), and McEwan (86,595).

Junior Team USA member Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, also will be competing at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open. The 17-year-old recently made history at the PWBA BowITV Classic on Aug. 10, becoming the youngest bowler to win a PWBA Tour event after defeating Crawley in the title match, 221-188.

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit [BOWL.com/USWomensOpen](https://www.bowl.com/USWomensOpen).

SINGAPORE'S CHERIE TAN SETS PACE AT 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. - It took a few games for Singapore's Cherie Tan to see what she wanted to on the lanes at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open, but once the right look developed, she was able to take advantage and find her way to the top of the standings.

The 33-year-old left-hander is one of three southpaws in the 71-player field, and she averaged more than 220 over eight games at Double Decker Lanes to lead the opening day of competition with a 1,766 total.

Tan rolled three 181 games during the block, including her first and last games, but a mid-round run of 233, 268, 245 and 246 gave her the boost she needed on the day's 36-foot oil pattern, the first of four lane conditions the players will see this week in Rohnert Park.

The two-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion was followed in the standings by Poland's Daria Pajak (1,763), Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas (1,751), Singapore's Shayna Ng (1,748) and Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska (1,732).

"The lanes were a little different from pair to pair, and I struggled to get the right shape to start with, but I eventually saw it and got the ball to read right," Tan said. "I do think I got lucky at times, but I also found some room to miss, and that really helped my confidence. It's pretty important to have a great start, but tomorrow is a new day and new pattern, so it's also important to go in with a fresh mindset."

Competition at Double Decker Lanes will resume Friday at 2 p.m. Eastern with the second of three rounds of qualifying, this time on a flat 40-foot oil pattern.

A final eight games Saturday, on a 46-foot oil pattern, will determine the 24 players who advance to the fourth round and fourth oil pattern. Those 24 competitors will transition into 24 games of round-robin match play, with seeding based on their 32-game pinfall totals.

There will be 30 bonus pins awarded for each win in match play, and the 56-game pinfall totals will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast on BowlTV.com through Monday night, and the event will conclude live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy, coveted green jacket and a record \$100,000 top prize.

Tan and her Team Singapore teammates picked the perfect time to make their 2021 debuts on the PWBA Tour, and their presence was felt immediately last week at the PWBA Spokane Open, where four of the six cashed and three finished in the top 12.

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open is the 17th event on this year's PWBA Tour schedule and the second of three majors. Along with the recently announced record payout, the players also are bowling for

double points this week.

Unfortunately for Tan, she was one of the two players from Singapore who did not make the first cut in Spokane. She started the event with a 147 game and never was able to recover, despite bowling 242 pins better in her second six-game block.

Though her second-block surge ultimately wasn't enough for another day of bowling, it did give her a rush of confidence heading into the U.S. Women's Open.

What she missed out on in prize money, she gained in knowledge and experience, and that's part of what kept her from getting rattled after another slow start Thursday at Double Decker Lanes.

The Spokane Open marked the first competition for Tan and her teammates in about a year and a half due to COVID-19, and it was a much-needed way to ease back into the competitive mindset, before taking aim at her second major title.

The thing Tan struggled with in her 2021 debut was the same thing that tripped her up Thursday - seeing the right shape and ball reaction. Working through the challenges, and getting there quicker than last week, is the first small victory of what is expected to be a challenging U.S. Women's Open.

"I think it was good to have that event, even though it didn't go as well as I'd hoped," said Tan, who won the PWBA Storm Sacramento Open in 2016 and the PWBA Players Championship in 2019. "I struggled a little and then got comfortable. I had a lot of catching up to do, but I made a great run, and it got me in the right frame of mind to be competing again. Just like today, it took some time to see the right shape, and it was good to know it was more about recognizing that and not a physical problem with me."

Defending U.S. Women's Open champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, who won last week's Spokane Open, finished Thursday's opening round in the middle of the pack in 33rd place. A 245 final game gave her a 1,566 total.

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit BOWL.com/USWomensOpen.

2021 U.S. Women's Open
At Double Decker Lanes
Rohnert Park, Calif.

Thursday's results

QUALIFYING
(Eight games)

1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 1,766. 2, Daria Pajak, Poland, 1,763. 3, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 1,751. 4, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 1,748. 5, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 1,732. 6, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 1,722.

7, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 1,702. 8, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 1,700. 9(tie), Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., and Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,690. 11, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 1,686. 12, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 1,665.

13, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 1,653. 14, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 1,644. 15,

Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 1,640. 16, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 1,638. 17, Verity Crawley, England, 1,631. 18, Wendy Bartaire-Jimenez, France, 1,629.

19, Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., 1,621. 20, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 1,618. 21, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 1,617. 22, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,615. 23, New Hui Fen, Singapore, 1,611. 24, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 1,607.

25, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 1,606. 26(tie), Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., and Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 1,602. 28, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 1,586. 29, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 1,583. 30, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 1,579.

31, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 1,572. 32, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 1,571. 33, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 1,566. 34(tie), Bernice Lim, Singapore, and Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 1,563. 36(tie), Daphne Tan, Singapore, and Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 1,561.

38, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 1,548. 39, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 1,546. 40, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 1,525. 41, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 1,515. 42, Adrienne Schock (n), Battle Ground, Wash., 1,507.

43(tie), Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., and Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 1,506. 46, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 1,503. 47, Johanna Puentes (n), Colombia, 1,501. 48, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 1,500.

49, Saphyre Nofuente (n), Rocklin, Calif., 1,499. 50, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 1,495. 51, Angie Ramirez Perea, Austin, Texas, 1,490. 52(tie), Jazreel Tan, Singapore, and Nichole Hiraoka (n), Daly City, Calif., 1,487. 54, Annalise OBryant (n), Ball Ground, Ga., 1,478.

55, Crystal Elliott (n), Palm Bay, Fla., 1,474. 56, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,473. 57, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 1,470. 58, Roberta Vann (n), Downey, Calif., 1,464. 59, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 1,451. 60, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 1,448.

61, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,444. 62, Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Federal Way, Wash., 1,438. 63, Debbie Ayers (n), La Mesa, Calif., 1,415. 64, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 1,409. 65, Karen Adolphson (n), Concord, Calif., 1,401. 66, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 1,396.

67, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 1,389. 68, Catie Jensen (n), Fort Worth, Texas, 1,388. 69, Ashtyn Woods (n), Santa Rosa, Calif., 1,342. 70, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,309. 71, Amber Wurz (n), Rohnert Park, Calif., 1,193.

BRYANNA COTÉ LEADS AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. - The U.S. Women's Open is both feared and respected for its long format and some of the most challenging lane conditions players can face.

In its current form, that means nearly a week of competition on four oil patterns of varying length, volume and difficulty.

It's a true test of endurance and versatility, and being the one who successfully navigates all the twists and turns this week at Double Decker Lanes will come with an unprecedented reward - a \$100,000 top prize.

Not thinking about that potentially life-changing number might be as difficult as the flat 40-foot oil pattern the competitors faced Friday in the second round of the 2021 edition of the storied event.

Two-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, was able to handle both challenges, and while the performance may have felt like an erratic game of Tetris, she displayed the poise and skill of a chess grandmaster.

The 35-year-old right-hander turned in the highest eight-game total of the day and surged to the top of the 71-player standings with a 16-game pinfall total of 3,370, a 210.63 average.

Coté will enter the final day of qualifying at Double Decker Lanes nearly 50 pins ahead of Poland's Daria Pajak, who is second with 3,323. Pajak, the runner-up at the 2017 U.S. Women's Open, is followed by six-time U.S. Women's Open champion Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (3,293), Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas (3,288), and Shayna Ng of Singapore (3,275).

"It's the U.S. Open, so you definitely expect to see a flat pattern at some point, and you know it will require some of your best shots and making all your spares," Coté said. "Patterns like this don't scare me, though, because they're supposed to be hard. It's just about keeping the ball in the pocket and taking advantage when the strikes do come."

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast on BowlTV.com through Monday night, and the event will conclude live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern.

With four drastically different oil patterns now being the standard at the U.S. Women's Open, the players know one or two may play to their strengths, while others might require a get-all-you-can-but-be-OK-with-it plan of attack.

For many, the latter might describe Friday's offering, and that certainly was on the truer side for Coté while strategizing for the week. Through two days of competition, though, the standings say otherwise.

While her expectations were different for each of the first two oil patterns, her eight-game scores nearly were identical - 1,686 and 1,684.

Collectively, 27 players averaged more than 200 on the event-opening 36-foot oil pattern Thursday, while only nine competitors found themselves on the north side of par Friday.

"I was a little disappointed yesterday because of how I started, but I was proud of how I rebounded and finished the day," said Coté, who started Thursday's round with a 155 game. "Coming into today, I didn't think I would bowl as well as I did. I knew it would be a grind, so being even or a little plus would've been OK. I kept the ball in the pocket, took advantage when I could and didn't split a lot. I'm very happy with today."

The lane conditions aren't the only variables the bowlers are facing this week.

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open is the first event being held on Double Decker's newly installed lane panels, and the pins are relatively new, too, Coté noted. All of that means pin carry may be a little tougher and figuring out the pattern transition will take more patience and potentially more guesswork.

But, it's the U.S. Women's Open, and the bowlers wouldn't expect anything less, which has created a love-hate relationship with the sport's most prestigious event. With so much going on, there's almost

not enough time to think about the monumental money on the line this time around.

"I bowl to win," Coté said. "I want to win a major, and I want to win the U.S. Women's Open, but if I'm thinking about the money the whole time, that means I'm not focused. This event can be overwhelming because of all the games and factors, so it's about managing the different tasks and not getting too far ahead. If I'm fortunate enough to get there and win, it would be amazing to see my name on that prize check."

Qualifying at Double Decker Lanes will resume Saturday at 2 p.m. Eastern with the final round of competition that will include the entire field, this time on a 46-foot oil pattern.

Following Saturday's third round, the top 24 players, based on their 24-game pinfall totals, will advance to a fourth round and fourth lane condition.

Those 24 competitors will bowl eight games Sunday morning, and they'll take their 32-game pinfall totals into round-robin match play Sunday evening and throughout the day Monday.

There will be 30 bonus pins awarded for each win during the three eight-game rounds of match play, and the 56-game pinfall totals will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

Along with the record-setting prize check, the winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy and coveted green jacket.

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open is the 17th event on this year's PWBA Tour schedule and the second of three majors.

Defending U.S. Women's Open champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, who won last week's Spokane Open, finished Friday's second round in 21st place with a 3,173 total. She was 33rd after Round 1.

With one round of qualifying remaining, PWBA major champion Maria José Rodriguez of Colombia is in the 24th position with a 3,147 total, a 196.69 average.

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit BOWL.com/USWomensOpen.

**2021 U.S. Women's Open
At Double Decker Lanes
Rohnert Park, Calif.**

Friday's results

**QUALIFYING
(16 games)**

1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,370. 2, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,323. 3, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,293. 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,288. 5, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 3,275. 6(tie), Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., and Cherie Tan, Singapore, 3,246.
8, Taylor Bulhuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 3,241. 9, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 3,239. 10,

Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 3,234. 11, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,228. 12, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3,203.

13, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 3,199. 14, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,196. 15, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,188. 16(tie), Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, and Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,186. 18, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,183.

19, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,179. 20, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 3,175. 21, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,173. 22, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 3,149. 23, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 3,148. 24, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,147.

25, New Hui Fen, Singapore, 3,146. 26, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3,143. 27, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,136. 28, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 3,125. 29, Wendy Bartaire-Jimenez, France, 3,113. 30, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 3,109.

31, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 3,108. 32(tie), Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., and Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 3,106. 34, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 3,100. 35, Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., 3,089. 36(tie), Daphne Tan, Singapore, and Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 3,082.

38, Jazreel Tan, Singapore, 3,067. 39, Verity Crawley, England, 3,061. 40, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 3,058. 41, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 3,042. 42, Crystal Elliott (n), Palm Bay, Fla., 3,016.

43, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 3,014. 44, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 3,011. 45, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 3,001. 46, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,990. 47, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 2,983. 48, Catie Jensen (n), Fort Worth, Texas, 2,978.

49, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 2,975. 50, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 2,971. 51, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,964. 52, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,962. 53, Johanna Puentes (n), Colombia, 2,958. 54, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 2,950.

55, Anggie Ramirez Perea, Austin, Texas, 2,944. 56, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,935. 57, Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Federal Way, Wash., 2,920. 58, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,910. 59(tie), Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., and Adrienne Schock, Battle Ground, Wash., 2,908.

61, Nichole Hiraoka (n), Daly City, Calif., 2,902. 62, Annalise OBryant (n), Ball Ground, Ga., 2,881. 63, Ashtyn Woods (n), Santa Rosa, Calif., 2,867. 64, Saphyre Nofuente (n), Rocklin, Calif., 2,853. 65, Jennifer Hocuscak, Orange, Conn., 2,844. 66, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,817.

67, Debbie Ayers (n), La Mesa, Calif., 2,799. 68, Karen Adolphson (n), Concord, Calif., 2,713. 69, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 2,704. 70, Roberta Vann (n), Downey, Calif., 2,657. 71, Amber Wurz (n), Rohnert Park, Calif., 2,389.

FIELD SET FOR FOURTH ROUND AT 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. - For Taylor Bulthuis of Coral Springs, Florida, the journey to the top 24 at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open was far more involved than just the miles between the Sunshine State and California or the 24 games of qualifying this week at Double Decker Lanes.

In fact, it actually may be the miles she didn't travel and the games she didn't bowl heading into the event that have been the biggest contributors to her success through three rounds of the second major of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season.

The U.S. Women's Open marks her return to competition after sitting out a tournament to focus on her mental health, and the 28-year-old right-hander has been in, or around, the top 10 since the opening game of the event Thursday.

After 24 games across three days and three oil patterns, Bulthuis is 14th overall with a 4,915 pinfall total, a 204.79 average. Her strong performance has proven that the time off was beneficial, and it has guaranteed her another 32 games of competition at Double Decker Lanes.

"My mental health affects me every day, and I'm using that to fuel my fire," Bulthuis said. "I've been working hard to keep my mood as even as possible. I'm incredibly excited, but I'm also trying to be calm. I know I'm in a good place heading into tomorrow, but it will be important for me to keep that balance."

Leading Bulthuis and the rest of the advancers into Sunday's fourth round will be left-hander Cherie Tan of Singapore, who led the opening round, struggled on Day 2 and then made light work of Saturday's 46-foot oil pattern.

Tan averaged nearly 246 to reclaim her spot at the top of the 71-player standings, and she finished the 24 games of qualifying with a 5,213 total.

The two-time PWBA Tour champion was followed by 2021 PWBA Rookie of the Year front-runner Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California (5,140), Poland's Daria Pajak (5,083), Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California (5,059), and Singapore's Shayna Ng, who bowled the week's highest game, 298, on the way to a 5,034 total.

Also advancing is six-time U.S. Women's Open champion Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (sixth with 5,025), and defending champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, who got progressively better each round and settled into 10th place with a 4,950 total.

Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, also a rookie-of-the-year candidate, closed with games of 224 and 236 to earn the final spot in the next round. She finished qualifying in 24th place with a 4,854 total, a 202.25 average.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast on BowlTV.com through Monday night, and the event will conclude live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern. The winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy, coveted green jacket and a \$100,000 top prize.

Competition at Double Decker Lanes will resume Sunday at 1 p.m. Eastern with the introduction of a fourth lane condition and eight more games of competition.

Following the initial round Sunday, the 24 advancers will move on to round-robin match play Sunday evening and throughout the day Monday.

There will be 30 bonus pins awarded for each win during the three eight-game rounds of match play, and the 56-game pinfall totals will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

On the way to the top 24, Bulthuis definitely was aware of the things she needed to do mentally and emotionally to remain in contention, while relying on the skills and fundamentals that have made her a factor on the PWBA Tour since her debut in 2019.

"My shot making has been great, and my spare shooting has been at its best, and those are two things that are important at this event," Bulthuis said. "I've been able to hang out in the top 10 since

Day 1 went well, even with yesterday being such a grind. I didn't want to look around too much today and stress myself out. I knew I was close and just needed to stay focused. Now, here I am."

Bulthuis has been a familiar name among the cashers this season on the PWBA Tour, and she started the year with prize checks in 10 consecutive events. She has a best finish of sixth, coming in early June at the PWBA Albany Open.

Cashing regularly was her first big goal when she joined the PWBA. Consistently making top 12s is another. Winning on the PWBA Tour is the ultimate goal, of course, and Bulthuis feels she has been on the doorstep, if not knocking on the door.

Despite the run of success earlier this year, growing confidence and the support of a new ball company, a rough outing in Louisville, Kentucky, in mid-June left her mentally drained and not happy with the person she was on the lanes.

It was followed by another missed cut at the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles and a subpar showing at the PWBA Summer Classic Series.

"I knew after the Summer Classic Series was such a disaster that something needed to change," Bulthuis said. "I was crying mid-block. As a competitor, I know emotions run high, but it was different, and I didn't know where it was coming from. I also let personal things affect me when I was competing, and that's never a good thing.

"My decision to miss last week was super tough, but I knew it was the best thing for me, especially coming into the U.S. Women's Open. Now, I'm standing at the same door and hoping this is the week it blows open."

Bulthuis has a noteworthy presence on social media and shares a lot about herself, including her recent experiences and the role of depression and anxiety in her life.

She also is motivated by the unwavering support of her father, Mitch, who hasn't been able to travel with her to events this year, and that has been tough. She does, however, bowl with a sticker on her shoe that says, "do it for dad," so he's there with her on every shot.

Even in times of success and prosperity, there are challenges, and everyone handles them differently. So far, skipping the PWBA Spokane Open to make sure she was ready for this week has paid off.

"I started putting way too much pressure on myself, and not having my dad there has been tough, too," said Bulthuis, a PWBA Regional champion in 2020. "He hated seeing me miss bowling, but it's what I needed most. It gave me time to focus on self-development and being ready for an event we all know is mentally challenging. I needed to find the fire I felt I lost in Kentucky."

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit BOWL.com/USWomensOpen.

**2021 U.S. Women's Open
At Double Decker Lanes
Rohnert Park, Calif.**

Saturday's results

**QUALIFYING
(24 games)**

1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 5,213. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5,140. 3, Daria Pajak, Poland, 5,083. 4, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 5,059. 5, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 5,034. 6, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5,025.
7, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5,024. 8, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4,995. 9, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 4,957. 10, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,950. 11, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 4,948. 12, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 4,943.
13, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 4,918. 14, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 4,915. 15, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 4,913. 16, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 4,906. 17, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 4,901. 18, Verity Crawley, England, 4,892.
19, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 4,891. 20, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 4,884. 21, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 4,875. 22, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 4,865. 23, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 4,859. 24, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 4,854.

DID NOT ADVANCE

25, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 4,848. 26, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, 4,838. 27, Crystal Elliott (n), Palm Bay, Fla., 4,827. 28, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 4,813. 29(tie), Wendy Bartaire-Jimenez, France, and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 4,804.
31, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 4,791. 32, Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., 4,776. 33, Alexis Neuer, Milton, Pa., 4,766. 34, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 4,763. 35, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 4,759. 36, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 4,753.
37, New Hui Fen, Singapore, 4,751. 38, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 4,719. 39, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 4,718. 40, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 4,715. 41, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 4,711. 42, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 4,708.
43, Rocio Restrepo, Uniontown, Ohio, 4,692. 44, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 4,669. 45, Anggie Ramirez Perea, Austin, Texas, 4,660. 46, Saphyre Nofuente (n), Rocklin, Calif., 4,611. 47, Annalise OBryant (n), Ball Ground, Ga., 4,609. 48, Estefania Cobo, North Richland Hills, Texas, 4,603.
49, Adrienne Schock (n), Battle Ground, Wash., 4,594. 50, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 4,590. 51, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 4,585. 52, Nichole Hiraoka (n), Daly City, Calif., 4,580. 53, Taylor Bailey, Joliet, Ill., 4,579. 54, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 4,573.
55, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 4,571. 56, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 4,568. 57, Jazreel Tan, Singapore, 4,561. 58, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 4,552. 59, Giselle Poss, Maitland, Fla., 4,541. 60, Catie Jensen (n), Fort Worth, Texas, 4,534.
61, Johanna Puentes (n), Colombia, 4,523. 62, Debbie Ayers (n), La Mesa, Calif., 4,507. 63, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 4,482. 64, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 4,459. 65, Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Federal Way, Wash., 4,382. 66, Ashtyn Woods (n), Santa Rosa, Calif., 4,322.
67, Jada Horn (n), Memphis, Tenn., 4,302. 68, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 4,299. 69, Roberta Vann (n), Downey, Calif., 4,252. 70, Karen Adolphson (n), Concord, Calif., 4,154. 71, Amber Wurz (n), Rohnert Park, Calif., 3,649.

ZAVALA AMONG CONTENDERS AFTER FIRST ROUND OF MATCH PLAY AT 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. - Of the 24 competitors remaining at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open, Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, had the shortest trip to Double Decker Lanes, and she's representing her home state of California very well through 40 games of competition.

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open marks her debut at the storied tournament, and while there were some initial nerves due to the magnitude and history of the event, she's certainly showing that she's not intimidated by the long format or world-class field.

Instead, she is drawing on the experience she has gained during her memorable rookie campaign on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour and the success she has had against the sport's best to help keep her calm as she takes aim at her first major title and third PWBA Tour victory overall.

The 25-year-old right-hander has made a steady climb up the standings over the last four days, and she's inching closer to her first appearance on live TV, though she knows how much still can happen over Monday's final 16 games.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast on BowlTV.com, and the event will conclude live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern.

After 24 games of qualifying on three lane conditions, eight additional games on a fourth oil pattern and one round of match play, Zavala is second among the 24 competitors still in contention for the tournament's coveted green jacket, iconic trophy and record \$100,000 top prize.

In the rounds leading up to match play, where 30 bonus pins are awarded for each win, she was 15th, 11th, second and second. She turned in a 7-1 record Sunday night in the first of three rounds of round-robin match play to maintain her place in the standings, while cutting the deficit between her and Cherie Tan of Singapore.

Tan, who went 4-4 in the opening round of match play, leads with an 8,541 total. Zavala is 57 pins back with 8,484 and followed by Singapore's Shayna Ng (8,380), Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee (8,366), and defending U.S. Women's Open champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (8,364).

"I did have some nerves coming in, since it is my first U.S. Women's Open, and I know how mentally and physically challenging it can be," Zavala said. "The rest of the season definitely has helped me be prepared and confident coming into this week, and I'm happy with how it's going so far. I know a lot can happen in 16 games, but it was nice to finish the night strong. I hope to keep that momentum going tomorrow."

Zavala, who is a two-time winner on the PWBA Tour this season and the front-runner for PWBA Rookie of the Year, ended the night with a pair of wins and will join the rest of the competitors back on the lanes Monday at 1 p.m. Eastern.

The final round of match play is scheduled for Monday at 8 p.m. EDT, and the 56-game pinfall totals will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

Earlier this month, Zavala had a chance to test her endurance during the three-event PWBA Summer Classic Series in Arlington, Texas, where she bowled 55 games across three oil patterns during the week.

The early part of the U.S. Women's Open has been much of the same, as she endured oil patterns of 36, 40, 46 and 42 feet over the first 40 games. With the final 32 games all taking place on the same 42-foot pattern, she'll now have the opportunity to lock in a strategy.

The Summer Classic Series also gave her the chance to experience the ups and downs of 24 games of match play, since the final event consisted entirely of head-to-head matches.

"The Classic Series showed me what match play is all about and how to bounce back from a miss or a loss, which is so important with this format," Zavala said. "As far as the conditions here, the first three days definitely were a grind, but not flipping patterns anymore the rest of the way definitely helps with developing a game plan."

The week started with 71 competitors, who bowled 24 games over three days, before the field was cut to the top 24 for Round 4 and match play.

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit BOWL.com/USWomensOpen.

2021 U.S. Women's Open At Double Decker Lanes Rohnert Park, Calif.

Sunday's results

MATCH PLAY

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

1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 4-4-0, 8,541. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 7-1-0, 8,484. 3, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 5-3-0, 8,380. 4, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 6-2-0, 8,366. 5, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 5-3-0, 8,364. 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 6-2-0, 8,339.

7, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3-5-0, 8,335. 8, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 4-4-0, 8,322. 9, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 4-3-1, 8,318. 10, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3-4-1, 8,275. 11, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2-6-0, 8,255. 12, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 4-4-0, 8,229.

13, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 4-4-0, 8,227. 14, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5-3-0, 8,207. 15, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 5-2-1, 8,206. 16, Verity Crawley, England, 6-2-0, 8,183. 17, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 2-6-0, 8,155. 18, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3-5-0, 8,134.

19, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2-6-0, 8,114. 20, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 6-2-0, 8,073. 21, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 1-6-1, 8,014. 22, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 3-5-0, 7,993. 23, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2-6-0, 7,945. 24, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2-6-0, 7,940.

ROUND 4 (32 games)

1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 6,806. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 6,650. 3(tie), Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, and Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 6,647. 5, Daria Pajak, Poland, 6,621. 6, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 6,605.

7, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 6,596. 8, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 6,595. 9, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 6,587. 10, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 6,584. 11, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 6,578. 12, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 6,555.

13, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 6,539. 14, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 6,488. 15, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 6,484. 16, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 6,481. 17, Verity Crawley, England, 6,479. 18, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 6,465.

19, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 6,423. 20, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 6,405. 21, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 6,335. 22, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 6,333. 23, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 6,318. 24, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 6,302.

JOSIE BARNES EARNS TOP SEED FOR TV SHOW AT 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. - Slow and steady easily could've described Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, and her climb up the leaderboard at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open over the last five days, but it was an explosive finish that rocketed her to the top of the standings and guaranteed her a chance to bowl for the biggest prize in the history of professional women's bowling.

The championship round of the 2021 U.S. Women's Open will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern. The winner will take home the second major title of the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season, the event's coveted green jacket and iconic trophy, and a record \$100,000 top prize.

As the top seed for the finals, Barnes is guaranteed at least \$50,000.

The 33-year-old right-hander entered Monday's position round at Double Decker Lanes 65 pins behind Singapore's Cherie Tan and needing to win the final game by 36 pins on a pair of lanes she'd struggled on a few games before.

Barnes was able to strike on five of her last six shots, including three in her 10th frame, to force Tan to throw a double of her own to maintain the lead. The 33-year-old left-hander left a 7 pin on her first offering to fall short, 214-174, and the 30 bonus pins for the win pushed Barnes ahead by five pins.

"I didn't have any expectations coming into this week because my season was pretty subpar, and I never really gave myself a chance to think about what this would feel like," Barnes said. "I bowled in the 160s on that last pair a few games before, so I didn't know if I'd be able to get enough to go around Cherie. Halfway through the game, when I knew I was going to make the show, my thoughts shifted a little bit. I just told myself to focus on making shots my daughter would be proud of, and that kept me calm the rest of the way."

After 56 games across four oil patterns, Barnes finished with a 12,003 total, which included 30 bonus pins for each of her 16 wins in match play. She averaged 205.5 for the week and rolled to a 16-7-1 record.

Over the previous six rounds, she was 56th, tied for 32nd, 19th, 13th, fourth and fifth, respectively.

Tan, who was the leader after four of the seven rounds, will enter the stepladder as the No. 2 seed. She had the highest overall average among the 24 bowlers in match play (207.29) and posted a 13-11 record on the way to a 11,998 total.

Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, qualified third with 11,950, Latvia's Diana Zavjalova was fourth with 11,926 and 2021 PWBA Rookie of the Year front-runner Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, used her own clutch finish to secure the fifth spot with a 11,875 total.

Barnes' daughter, Lisa Ruth, with husband, Kyle, may not be old enough to completely understand what's happening, but she'll likely be thrilled to see Barnes on TV, and she'll definitely be excited to welcome her home, win or lose.

Also knowing she has the security of a full-time job at home takes some of the pressure off Barnes, who is looking for her first major victory and fourth PWBA Tour title overall.

"I'm going to try to keep the same mentality I've had all week, which has been to give what has been a pretty crummy season a respectable finish," said Barnes, the associate head coach for the Vanderbilt bowling program. "I'm humbled and appreciative of the support and security I have at home with my family and my job, but I also can admit that \$100,000 sounds pretty amazing. Plus, it's the U.S. Open. Who wouldn't love to win the U.S. Open?"

Tan is a two-time PWBA Tour champion and won the 2019 PWBA Players Championship for her first major.

She and Pluhowsky were two of the three left-handers in the 71-player field this week at the U.S. Women's Open, while she and Zavjalova each are looking to become the first foreign player to win the event since Japan's Shinobu Saitoh accomplished the feat in 1982.

Pluhowsky, the 2006 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, was the runner-up at the 2016 U.S. Women's Open after surging from 24th place to the top seed for the TV show. She's still looking for her first win since the relaunch of the PWBA Tour in 2015.

Zavjalova, a two-time winner at the USBC Queens, is searching for some redemption after finishing sixth at the U.S. Women's Open in 2019.

Zavala, who already has collected two wins this year during her rookie campaign, is less than 500 miles from home and looking to ride the momentum of her own exciting position-round win Monday.

The 25-year-old struck in the ninth frame, and on the first shot of her 10th frame, to outdistance two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, for the No. 5 spot in the championship round.

Zavala had split two consecutive times on the left lane, which is where she finished the match. The two were just one pin apart heading into the final game.

Zavjalova and Zavala will face off in the opening match Tuesday, marking the PWBA's return to the national TV spotlight for the first time since 2019. The winner will advance to meet Pluhowsky.

All rounds of qualifying and match play were broadcast on BowITV.com.

The full field, representing 15 countries, bowled 24 games across three days and three oil patterns, before the cut to the top 24 for Round 4 and match play. A fourth lane condition was introduced for Round 4, match play and the championship round. Patterns this week ranged from 36-46 feet.

Defending champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, finished eighth this week, missing the stepladder by 107 pins.

The overall prize fund for the 2021 U.S. Women's Open is nearly \$284,000.

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit BOWL.com/USWomensOpen.

**2021 U.S. Women's Open
At Double Decker Lanes
Rohnert Park, Calif.**

Monday's results

MATCH PLAY

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

1, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 16-7-1, 12,003. 2, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 13-11-0, 11,998. 3, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 12-12-0, 11,950. 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 15-9-0, 11,926. 5, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 16-8-0, 11,875.

TELEVISED STEPLADDER FINALS

(Will be live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. Eastern)

Match No. 1: Zavjalova vs. Zavala

Match No. 2: Pluhowsky vs. Match No. 1 winner

Semifinal: Tan vs. Match No. 2 winner

Final: Barnes vs. Semifinal winner

DID NOT ADVANCE

6, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 14-9-1, 11,826, \$9,000. 7, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 15-8-1, 11,801, \$7,500. 8, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 14-10-0, 11,768, \$6,500. 9, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 15-9-0, 11,762, \$6,000. 10, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 13-8-3, 11,761, \$5,500. 11, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 12-12-0, 11,719, \$4,250.

12, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 15-9-0, 11,669, \$4,000. 13, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 11-12-1, 11,659, \$3,750. 14, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 11-13-0, 11,568, \$3,500. 15, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 11-13-0, 11,561, \$3,400. 16(tie), Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 9-15-0, and Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 9-14-1, 11,368, \$3,250.

18, Verity Crawley, England, 12-12-0, 11,341, \$3,100. 19, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 8-16-0, 11,326, \$3,000. 20, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 9-14-1, 11,286, \$2,900. 21, Taylor Bulhuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 13-10-1, 11,225, \$2,850. 22, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 5-19-0, 11,165, \$2,800.

23, Maria Bulanova, Russia, 9-15-0, 11,086, \$2,750. 24, Daria Pajak, Poland, 6-18-0, 11,027, \$2,700.

JOSIE BARNES WINS 2021 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN AND RECORD \$100,000 TOP PRIZE

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. - Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, may not have had the year she was hoping for on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour, but she now has 100,000 reasons to celebrate a successful conclusion to her 2021 campaign.

The 33-year-old right-hander made history Tuesday night at the U.S. Women's Open, live on CBS Sports Network, as she defeated Singapore's Cherie Tan, 198-194, to claim the biggest prize check ever awarded at a professional women's bowling event.

The win was the first major championship, and fourth PWBA Tour title overall, for Barnes, and the \$100,000 payday at Double Decker Lanes also included the event's coveted green jacket and iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy.

"Going into this week, I really was trying to find some good things about this season, and while there were a few, there weren't many," said Barnes, who finished tied for ninth place at this year's United States Bowling Congress Queens. "After tonight, I feel like I can say it was the best season ever. It's funny how quickly our emotions can change."

The seesaw showdown under the TV lights Tuesday was settled with Barnes on the bench and Tan stepping up needing a double and five pins in her final frame to secure the victory.

The 33-year-old left-hander got the first strike, but she left the 3-6 combination on her second shot to fall short in her bid to become the first international player in nearly four decades to wear the green jacket.

Having finished first, Barnes had the opportunity to lock up the win with a double of her own, but the first shot of her 10th frame crossed over and left a 9 pin. After the spare, she got six pins on her fill ball. Getting at least three pins meant Tan would need a double.

"Cherie and I have met up in some pretty big moments, including last night in the position round, and she's always made great shots, but the pins haven't fallen her way yet," Barnes said. "After she got the first one, I thought my time finally was up, and I started preparing for the disappointment to begin creeping in."

Both players struck in two of their first three frames, but a missed 2-8 combination from Barnes in the fourth frame allowed Tan to take an 11-pin lead halfway through the match. A sixth-frame ball change and a double from Barnes turned the momentum back in her favor.

The ball change was calculated, however, as Barnes knows her game well enough to have predicted that if she got out to a strong start, the tendency would be for her ball speed to go up.

Though she felt the back-to-back 2-8 leaves in the fourth and fifth frames were decent shots, the results supported the expectations. A quick visual exchange with her ball rep confirmed it was time for the ball change.

"My tendency is for things to speed up in those situations, and while I sometimes can control it with breathing, it's something we talked about before the match," Barnes said. "Since we already had a game plan in place, it just took a look to know for sure it was time. I went to a stronger ball I'd thrown a lot during the week, and it worked."

Even before the win, Barnes already had planned to skip the final swing of the 2021 season - the three-event PWBA Fall Classic Series in Reno, Nevada - to focus on her responsibilities as the

associate head coach for the Vanderbilt bowling program.

The historic title tilt also was a rematch of the final game of the 2019 Nationwide PWBA Greater Cleveland Open, where Barnes again came out on top. That was her last visit to the winner's circle.

Tan, who owns two PWBA Tour titles, including a major win at the 2019 PWBA Players Championship, was competing in her second event of the 2021 season.

She earned \$50,000 for the runner-up finish, but also will leave the United States with a short list of things to work on as she prepares for the 2021 International Bowling Federation Super World Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in November.

"It's disappointing because I really wanted to win it, but at the end of the day, bowling is like that," Tan said. "You can execute the way you want, but if the reaction doesn't pan out, it doesn't pan out. For the week, I was able to gather a lot of information about what else I need to work on. My game hasn't been tested for about one and a half years, so it was a chance to see how I could fare. I'm leaving this tournament knowing some things to work on, so I'm pleased about that."

The biggest first-place prize in a women's bowling event prior to Tuesday came in 2001, when USBC Hall of Famer Kim Kearney collected \$55,000 for the first of her two U.S. Women's Open titles.

Japan's Shinobu Saitoh was the last international bowler to win the event, doing so in 1982.

To earn her chance at history Tuesday, Tan first had to defeat fellow left-hander Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio. They were two of the three southpaws in the field this week at Double Decker Lanes.

Their semifinal meeting was far different than the matches that preceded it, yielding just three strikes between the two players.

Tan struck twice in the match and converted the 2-4-7 combination in her final frame to slip past Pluhowsky, 178-166.

Pluhowsky, 39, was seeking her second major title, and first since winning the Queens in 2006. In 2016, she was the runner-up at the U.S. Women's Open, losing the title match to Liz Johnson as the top seed.

Before the meeting with Tan, Pluhowsky kicked off her seventh championship-round appearance at a major in a major way, tossing 10 strikes in a 279-211 victory against 2021 PWBA Tour Rookie of the Year front-runner Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California.

Zavala, a 25-year-old right-hander, has earned two PWBA Tour titles in her rookie season, and Tuesday's show was her fourth stepladder appearance of the year.

It took Zavala a few frames to settle in for her first PWBA show on live TV, but she was able to overcome two splits in the first three frames to collect a 220-199 win over two-time Queens champion Diana Zavjalova of Latvia.

Zavala rallied with six consecutive strikes, starting in the fifth frame, while Zavjalova, a 30-year-old right-hander, hit the pocket 11 times but failed to record a double.

The week started with 71 competitors, who bowled 24 games across three days and three oil patterns, before the field was cut to the top 24 for Round 4 and match play. A fourth lane condition was introduced for Round 4, match play and the championship round. Patterns this week ranged from 36-46 feet.

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

Defending champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, finished eighth, missing the stepladder by 107 pins.

The total prize fund for the 2021 U.S. Women's Open was nearly \$284,000.

For more information on the U.S. Women's Open, visit BOWL.com/USWomensOpen.

**2021 U.S. Women's Open
At Double Decker Lanes
Rohnert Park, Calif.**

Tuesday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tennessee, 198 (one game), \$100,000.
- 2, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 372 (two games), \$50,000.
- 3, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 445 (two games), \$25,000.
- 4, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 431 (two games), \$15,000.
- 5, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 199 (one game), \$12,000.

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 - Zavala def. Zavjalova, 220-199.

Match No. 2 - Pluhowsky def. Zavala, 279-211.

Semifinal - Tan def. Pluhowsky, 178-166.

Championship - Barnes def. Tan, 198-194.

**KOVALOVA LEADS PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR RACE
HEADING INTO PWBA FALL CLASSIC SERIES**

RENO, Nev. – The stage is set for an incredible conclusion to the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season, with three titles, a major championship and postseason honors being determined during the next week at the PWBA Fall Classic Series.

The Fall Classic Series, which will feature the final three events of the 2021 season, will get underway Sunday at the National Bowling Stadium with the official practice session for the PWBA Reno Classic (Oct. 25-26), PWBA Pepsi Classic (Oct. 27-28) and PWBA Tour Championship (Oct. 29-31), the third major of the year.

The finals of the PWBA Tour Championship will be broadcast live Oct. 31 at 5 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network, with the winner taking home a \$50,000 top prize.

All qualifying and match-play rounds, including the stepladder finals of the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic, will be broadcast on BowlTV.com. The winner of each event will earn \$10,000.

The battle for PWBA Player of the Year ultimately may come down to the title match during the Tour Championship, with six players within 13,400 points of Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova.

Kovalova enters the Fall Classic Series at the top of the season-long points list

(110,380), which determines PWBA Player of the Year.

Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O’Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, is second with 108,145 points, and England’s Verity Crawley is third with 106,100.

Three-time PWBA Player of the Year Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, is in the mix for the award once again with 100,710 points, while Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (100,370), Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (97,495), and Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California (97,012.5), all look to win the award for the first time.

Kovalova has ascended to the top of the points list this season on the strength of two wins and six championship-round appearances.

The 26-year-old right-hander also has experienced some struggles during the 2021 season, which started in January and already has featured 17 events.

“This season has definitely been eye-opening for me in regard to my mental stability,” said Kovalova, who won the PWBA Twin Cities Open and PWBA Louisville Open this season. “I’ve experienced some really big dips in my self-confidence, and I struggled more with ball choices than I did last season. But, we also saw a bigger variety of patterns. They definitely were tough for some tournaments, and I think I really like that.

“It’s a very cool thought (to be leading for PWBA Player of the Year), but I’m trying not to think about it because it freaks me out. I’m just going to stick to my process and make sure all the things I’ve been working on stay the same. I’m just going to do my own thing and try my best, because that’s all I can do.”

Kovalova has stayed busy on the lanes since the U.S. Women’s Open in August, devoting much of her time to sharpening her skills at Brunswick’s headquarters in Michigan.

After successfully defending her title at the Louisville Open in June, Kovalova adjusted her fit during a break in the schedule and saw the momentum continue at the PWBA Summer Classic Series at the beginning of August. She promptly earned the top seed at her next event and finished as the runner-up to Germany’s Birgit Noreiks at the PWBA Go Bowling Classic.

During this most recent break, she has been working on ways to create better motion through the pins and become more familiar with her arsenal.

“I’ve been living in the bowling alley the past two months,” said Kovalova, a four-time PWBA Tour champion. “I think the people who stay at Brunswick after hours will start telling urban legends about that one girl who’s always there. I’ve been practicing a lot. I’ve been working on staying behind the ball more, because my spin-y release sometimes affects my carry. When I have my wrist behind the ball, it’s better.”

The format for the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic will feature two six-game blocks of qualifying, with the top 12 athletes advancing to round-robin match play. Match play

also will consist of two six-game rounds, with the top four players, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, advancing to the stepladder finals.

The top 24 players after 24 games of qualifying from the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic will qualify for the Tour Championship. Pinfall will drop at the start of the Tour Championship, and all competitors will bowl 24 games of round-robin match play. The top five will advance to the finals, based on total pinfall and bonus pins.

Kovalova has been one of the top performers during the season's two previous Classic Series events, making three championship-round appearances in six tournaments.

"I think what I've liked about these events is that it's a marathon," Kovalova said. "I tend to be less anxious, because I know that there's a lot of games, and one bad one won't necessarily affect it in a crucial way. I know I can survive the longer events because I've been working on my stamina. I like the longevity of the format, and the previous events have showed me the range of patterns we could have, too."

In the race for PWBA Rookie of the Year, Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, enters the Fall Classic Series with a 15,050-point lead over Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina.

Zavala won two of her first five events as a PWBA member, recording wins at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open and PWBA BVL Open. She increased her lead heading into the Fall Classic Series after making her fourth championship-round appearance of the year at the U.S. Women's Open, finishing in fourth place.

Reno and the NBS are hosting the PWBA for the second time during the 2021 season. The United States Bowling Congress Queens was contested at the 78-lane venue in May, with Bond winning her first major and second career title over Parkin in the title match, 238-154.

ZAVALA LEADS AFTER FIRST DAY OF 2021 PWBA RENO CLASSIC

RENO, Nev. – Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, is another step closer to securing the Professional Women's Bowling Association Rookie of the Year award for the 2021 season after a strong opening day at the PWBA Reno Classic.

The 25-year-old right-hander paced qualifying Monday at the National Bowling Stadium with a 12-game total of 2,799, a 233.25 average, on the event's 37-foot lane condition. The top 12 athletes from Monday's qualifying rounds will return to the 78-lane venue Tuesday, starting at 11 a.m. Eastern, for round-robin match play.

After two six-game rounds of match play, the top four competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to the stepladder finals of the Reno Classic. The finals will take place Tuesday at 8 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV.com, with the winner taking home \$10,000.

Zavala was followed in the standings by Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (2,766), England's Verity Crawley (2,668), Latvia's Diana Zavjalova (2,652) and Stefanie

Johnson of McKinney, Texas (2,640).

Valerie Bercier of Muskegon, Michigan, and Japan's Misaki Mukotani tied for 11th place to earn the final spots into match play with 2,598 totals, a 216.5 average. Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, who is a top contender for the award again this year, missed the cut by one pin (2,597).

Zavala entered the PWBA Fall Classic Series as the top rookie on the season-long points list, which determines PWBA Rookie of the Year.

The Fall Classic Series features the final three events of the 2021 season — Reno Classic, PWBA Pepsi Classic and PWBA Tour Championship. The Pepsi Classic is taking place Oct. 27-28, and the Tour Championship will be Oct. 29-31 at the NBS.

Zavala's rookie season has included two wins and four championship-round appearances, and a fourth-place finish at the U.S. Women's Open in August placed her 15,050 points ahead of the next closest competitor for the postseason award, Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina.

Zavala had her sights on hoisting the rookie-of-the-year trophy since winning her first title in May at the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open. She knows it's important not to get too far ahead of herself, however, even after the strong start at the Reno Classic.

Clemmer missed the cut at the Reno Classic, finishing tied for 19th place with a 2,538 total.

"It's been on my mind every day since I won in Ohio," said Zavala, who won her second title of the season at the PWBA BVL Open. "Coming into this week, even with a little bit of cushion, you can't get too comfortable. Anything can happen. I really wanted to keep within myself, keep the ball in play as much as possible and not give anything away."

Zavala posted the highest six-game block Monday (1,451) and rolled five games over 245 during the two blocks. Her expectations were a little different following Sunday's official practice session.

"Honestly, this was not something I expected after yesterday's practice session," Zavala said. "I thought this pattern played a little trickier, but it blew wide open. During the transition, I jumped really far to the left and got into a zone not many of the players could get into. I was creating my own transition after that, and they were helping me by staying farther right and giving me a bumper to bounce off. I kept chasing little moves to the left, and it worked out."

The Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic will feature the same format, with the finals of the Pepsi Classic taking place on BowITV on Thursday at 8 p.m. Eastern.

The combined qualifying totals for the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic (24 games) will determine the 24 athletes advancing to the season-ending Tour Championship, the third major of the 2021 season.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Tour Championship, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Friday and Saturday. The top five competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Sunday's stepladder finals.

The finals of the Tour Championship will be broadcast Sunday at 5 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network, with the winner earning a \$50,000 top prize.

The 2021 PWBA Player of the Year also will be determined during the Fall Classic Series this week.

Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova entered the week at the top of the season-long points list, which determines the award winner. Kovalova finished the Reno Classic in 37th place and will drop to second or third in the tightly contested race.

O'Keefe surpassed Kovalova by finishing the Reno Classic in 13th place, but Crawley can hold the lead heading into the final two events if she finishes in eighth place or better Tuesday.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

2021 PWBA Reno Classic At National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

Monday's Results

1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,799. 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 2,766. 3, Verity Crawley, England, 2,668. 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,652. 5, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,640. 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,625. 7, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,624. 8, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,614. 9, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,610. 10, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,603. 11(tie), Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., and Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 2,598.

DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,597. 14, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,590. 15, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,588. 16, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,564. 17, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 2,556. 18, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, Ind., 2,543. 19(tie), Anneli Blomqvist (n), Sweden, and Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 2,538. 21, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,526. 22, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 2,511. 23, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 2,507. 24, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,502. 25, Wendy Bartaire-Jimenez, France, 2,500. 26(tie), Amanda Fry (n), Antelope, Calif., Clara Guerrero, Colombia, and Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 2,497. 29, Taylor Bulthuis, Coral Springs, Fla., 2,489. 30, Maxine Nable (n), Australia, 2,476.

31, Maria José Rodríguez, Colombia, 2,468. 32, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,466. 33, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,458. 34, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 2,418. 35, Valentina Cruz (n), Tacoma, Wash., 2,416. 36, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,414.

37, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 2,394. 38, Melanie McDaniel, Crest Hill, Ill., 2,381. 39, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,365. 40, Elise Bolton, Merritt Island, Fla., 2,362. 41, Kerry Smith, New Holland, Pa., 2,354. 42, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 2,332.

43, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,327. 44(tie), Marissa Allison (n), Temperance, Mich., and Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,316. 46, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,312. 47, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,289. 48, Melissa Kammerer (n), Staten Island, N.Y., 2,204.

49, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 2,194. 50, Jennifer Hocurscak, Orange, Conn., 2,182.

October 26, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ZAVALA WINS THIRD TITLE OF 2021 SEASON AT PWBA RENO CLASSIC

RENO, Nev. – Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, won her third title of the 2021 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season Tuesday at the PWBA Reno Classic.

The front-runner for PWBA Rookie of the Year defeated Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, for the title at the National Bowling Stadium, 207-194, to become the first athlete to record three victories this season.

She earned \$10,000 for the win, which was broadcast live on BowITV.com.

The win also allowed the 25-year-old right-hander to become the first bowler since PWBA and United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Leanne Hulsenberg to win three titles as a rookie on a professional women’s bowling tour.

Hulsenberg claimed three victories during her rookie campaign in 1987 and has won 27 career titles.

"This means the world to me," said Zavala, who also won the PWBA Greater Cleveland Open and PWBA BVL Open. "This is all I've dreamed about for so long. I'm out here proving myself day in and day out, and I deserve to be here as much as anybody."

In the title match, Zavala capitalized on a pair of crossover strikes in the third and seventh frames to put together five consecutive strikes to take the lead.

Zavala opened in the eighth frame after leaving a 2-4-8-10 split but bounced back with a strike in the ninth frame to maintain the opportunity to shut out Coté in the 10th.

"I had made a move (in the eighth), but it probably wasn't the right move," said Zavala, who defeated Coté in the title match to win the Greater Cleveland Open. "We were playing a little defense since I had tugged a few shots. In my mind, I was playing it safe and thinking I would get away with it if I tugged it again, but I ended up throwing it decent and the ball never recovered.

"I knew I needed to put some sort of pressure on her (in the ninth). All I could think about was to hit the pocket and pure the shot. Even if I got tapped, as long as I was in the pocket, she was going to be thinking about it."

Coté had recorded strikes in her seventh and eighth frames but was unable to keep the streak intact in the ninth, leaving a 2 pin. After converting the spare, Coté did not connect for a strike on her first delivery in the 10th, giving Zavala the chance to secure the win without a mark in her final frame.

Zavala toppled nine pins on her first shot in the 10th to hoist the Reno Classic trophy.

She entered the season-ending Fall Classic Series, which features the Reno Classic, PWBA Pepsi Classic and PWBA Tour Championship, with a 15,050-point lead in the race for PWBA Rookie of the Year over Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina.

With her victory Tuesday, Zavala now has expanded her lead to more than 26,300 points with two events remaining in the 2021 season. Clemmer finished the Reno Classic tied for 19th place.

"I'm going to take a minute tonight and enjoy it, but once my alarm clock goes off tomorrow it's right back to business," Zavala said. "What I did yesterday and today might not happen tomorrow. There's a different game plan and mindset, and I'm going to be right back at it."

Coté had earned the top seed for Tuesday's stepladder finals on the strength of an 8-3-1 record in match play earlier in the day at the NBS. She finished match play with a 5,645 total, including bonus pins.

She was in search of her second title of the season and third career PWBA Tour title.

Zavala advanced to the title match by defeating three-time titlist Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas, in the semifinals, 233-194. Zavala started the game with strikes on six of her first seven deliveries to build the early advantage and advance.

Johnson kicked off the stepladder with a win over seven-time champion Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, 205-189. Johnson stayed clean and held off a late rally from Kulick, who opened in two of her first four frames.

The Reno Classic featured 12 games of qualifying on a 37-foot oil pattern Monday to determine the top 12 players for round-robin match play Tuesday. Total pinfall, including bonus pins, for 24 games determined the four finalists for the stepladder.

Competition at the NBS will resume Wednesday at 11 a.m. Eastern for the Pepsi Classic. The Pepsi Classic will feature the same format, with the finals taking place on BowlTV on Thursday at 8 p.m. Eastern.

The combined qualifying totals for the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic (24 games) will determine the 24 athletes advancing to the season-ending Tour Championship, the third major of the 2021 season.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Tour Championship, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Friday and Saturday. The top five competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Sunday's stepladder finals.

The finals of the Tour Championship will be broadcast Sunday at 5 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network, with the winner earning a \$50,000 top prize.

The 2021 PWBA Player of the Year also will be determined during the Fall Classic Series this week.

England's Verity Crawley has taken over the top spot on the season-long points list, which determines the award winner. Crawley finished fifth at the Reno Classic and now has accumulated 113,100 points on the season.

Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, is second with 112,070 points, and Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova is third with 111,800.

Coté's runner-up finish moves her into fourth with 105,695 points, and three-time PWBA Player of the Year Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, is fifth with 103,810.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

**2021 PWBA Reno Classic
At National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.**

Tuesday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 440 (two games), \$10,000
- 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 194 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 399 (two games), \$3,500
- 4, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 189 (one game), \$2,700

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Johnson def. Kulick, 205-189

Semifinal – Zavala def. Johnson, 233-194

Championship – Zavala def. Coté, 207-194

MATCH PLAY

(24 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 8-3-1, 5,645. 2, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 8-4-0, 5,573. 3, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 9-3-0, 5,530. 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 7-5-0, 5,440.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Verity Crawley, England, 5-7-0, 5,368, \$2,250. 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5-5-2, 5,339, \$2,000. 7, Daria Pajak, Poland, 7-5-0, 5,170, \$1,850. 8, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 4-8-0, 5,148, \$1,750. 9, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 5-7-0, 5,120, \$1,650. 10(tie), Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 4-8-0, and Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 4-7-1, 5,111, \$1,575.

12, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 4-8-0, 5,036, \$1,500.

**BOND CAPTURES THIRD TITLE OF 2021 IN
DRAMATIC FINISH AT PWBA PEPSI CLASSIC**

RENO, Nev. – Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, concluded the championship match at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Pepsi Classic with six consecutive strikes to win her third career title in an intense finish Thursday at the National Bowling Stadium.

The 25-year-old right-hander was trailing throughout the match against Colombia's Maria José Rodriguez and recorded the victory after Rodriguez left a devastating 7-10

split to start her final frame, 234-222.

Bond collected the \$10,000 top prize for her third win of the 2021 PWBA Tour season. The Pepsi Classic was broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

In the title tilt, Bond fell behind early after she was unable to convert a 3-6-10 combination in the second frame. Rodriguez built her lead on the strength of six strikes through the first eight frames, and a spare in the ninth frame gave her the opportunity to lock out Bond in the 10th to secure her third PWBA Tour title.

Bond finished the match first, and her final three strikes forced Rodriguez to roll a strike on her first delivery for the chance to win the title. A nine count on the first offering from Rodriguez opened the door for the chance at a tie, if she converted the spare and rolled a strike on her fill ball.

"I'm very proud of the way I finished that match," Bond said. "I think it shows who I am as a person. I don't care if I'm losing or down, I'm always going to attempt to throw a great shot, because every shot holds the same importance for me.

"This win makes me happy. It makes me feel like I'm where I'm supposed to be. I've learned a lot, and I'm continuing to learn, which makes me excited. There are things I still need to get better at and things I'm still learning, but being able to apply those things and succeed makes me excited for the future."

Bond won three matches in the stepladder and averaged 231 on her way to the title. She defeated Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas, in Thursday's opening game, 203-192, and rolled eight strikes to defeat Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, 256-220, to advance to the finals.

The championship pair did provide Bond with some initial trouble, however, since the ball that helped her make her fourth championship-round appearance of the season did not give her the best look.

She also made a ball change at the end of the game against Johnson and felt she was making the right choices, while trying to think ahead for her remaining matches.

"We knew what looked good based on qualifying and match play, but it didn't look great on the TV pair," said Bond, who won her first major at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens, also held at the NBS. "I think we did a good job of being open-minded and flexible."

Rodriguez was making her first championship-round appearance of the 2021 season after earning the top seed for the stepladder by a single pin over Parkin. Rodriguez struck on her fill ball against Parkin in the position round earlier on Thursday to finish qualifying with a 5,646 total, including bonus pins.

Parkin made her fifth championship-round appearance of the year. She has three runner-up finishes this season, including to Bond at the USBC Queens.

Johnson made her second consecutive finals appearance at the PWBA Fall Classic Series after placing third at the PWBA Reno Classic on Tuesday. It marked her third championship-round appearance of the season.

The Fall Classic Series features the final three events of the 2021 PWBA Tour season — the Reno Classic, Pepsi Classic and PWBA Tour Championship.

The Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic featured the same format. Each event featured 12 games of qualifying to determine the top 12 players for round-robin match play. At the conclusion of match play, the top four athletes, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, advanced to the stepladder finals.

Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, won her third title of the season at the Reno Classic, defeating Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, in the title match, 207-194.

The top 24 athletes based on their combined qualifying totals for the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic (24 games) determined the advancers to the season-ending Tour Championship, the third major of the year.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Tour Championship, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Friday and Saturday. The top five competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The finals of the Tour Championship will be broadcast Sunday at 5 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network, with the winner earning a \$50,000 top prize.

All four finalists from the Pepsi Classic qualified for the Tour Championship, and Bond is looking to use the momentum from her win to make a run at a second major and the chance to win PWBA Player of the Year for the 2021 season, which is based on position on the season-long points list.

"After this event, I know I'm throwing it well," Bond said. "It's a nice confidence boost and offers a little validation. Now, I need to make good choices and be smart. That's the goal heading into the next event."

Heading into the final event, the race for PWBA Player of the Year features six players within 8,600 points of current leader Verity Crawley of England.

Crawley (118,600 points) is 300 points ahead of Ukraine's Dasha Kovalova (118,300) and 355 points ahead of Bond (118,245).

Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, enters the Tour Championship in fourth place with 115,770 points and is followed by Coté (111,445), Parkin (110,262.5) and three-time PWBA Player of the Year Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (110,060).

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

**2021 PWBA Pepsi Classic
At National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.**

Thursday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 693 (three games), \$10,000
- 2, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 222 (one game), \$5,000
- 3, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 220 (one game), \$3,500
- 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 192 (one game), \$2,700

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Bond def. Johnson, 203-192

Semifinal – Bond def. Parkin, 256-220

Championship – Bond def. Rodriguez, 234-222

MATCH PLAY

(24 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 8-4-0, 5,646. 2, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 7-4-1, 5,645. 3, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 8-4-0, 5,589. 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 7-5-0, 5,541.

DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 7-5-0, 5,510, \$2,250. 6, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3-9-0, 5,507, \$2,000. 7, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 7-5-0, 5,480, \$1,850. 8, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 6-6-0, 5,436, \$1,750. 9, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5-7-0, 5,410, \$1,650. 10, Verity Crawley, England, 5-7-0, 5,320, \$1,600.

11, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 4-7-1, 5,311, \$1,550. 12, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 4-8-0, 5,296, \$1,500.

**BOND CAPTURES THIRD TITLE OF 2021 IN
DRAMATIC FINISH AT PWBA PEPSI CLASSIC**

RENO, Nev. – Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, concluded the championship match at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Pepsi Classic with six consecutive strikes to win her third career title in an intense finish Thursday at the National Bowling Stadium.

The 25-year-old right-hander was trailing throughout the match against Colombia's Maria José Rodriguez and recorded the victory after Rodriguez left a devastating 7-10 split to start her final frame, 234-222.

Bond collected the \$10,000 top prize for her third win of the 2021 PWBA Tour season. The Pepsi Classic was broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

In the title tilt, Bond fell behind early after she was unable to convert a 3-6-10 combination in the second frame. Rodriguez built her lead on the strength of six strikes through the first eight frames, and a spare in the ninth frame gave her the opportunity to lock out Bond in the 10th to secure her third PWBA Tour title.

Bond finished the match first, and her final three strikes forced Rodriguez to roll a strike on her first delivery for the chance to win the title. A nine count on the first offering from Rodriguez opened the door for the chance at a tie, if she converted the spare and rolled a strike on her fill ball.

"I'm very proud of the way I finished that match," Bond said. "I think it shows who I am as a person. I don't care if I'm losing or down, I'm always going to attempt to throw a great shot, because every shot holds the same importance for me.

"This win makes me happy. It makes me feel like I'm where I'm supposed to be. I've learned a lot, and I'm continuing to learn, which makes me excited. There are things I still need to get better at and things I'm still learning, but being able to apply those things and succeed makes me excited for the future."

Bond won three matches in the stepladder and averaged 231 on her way to the title. She defeated Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas, in Thursday's opening game, 203-192, and rolled eight strikes to defeat Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California, 256-220, to advance to the finals.

The championship pair did provide Bond with some initial trouble, however, since the ball that helped her make her fourth championship-round appearance of the season did not give her the best look.

She also made a ball change at the end of the game against Johnson and felt she was making the right choices, while trying to think ahead for her remaining matches.

"We knew what looked good based on qualifying and match play, but it didn't look great on the TV pair," said Bond, who won her first major at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Queens, also held at the NBS. "I think we did a good job of being open-minded and flexible."

Rodriguez was making her first championship-round appearance of the 2021 season after earning the top seed for the stepladder by a single pin over Parkin. Rodriguez struck on her fill ball against Parkin in the position round earlier on Thursday to finish qualifying with a 5,646 total, including bonus pins.

Parkin made her fifth championship-round appearance of the year. She has three runner-up finishes this season, including to Bond at the USBC Queens.

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Heading into the final event, the race for PWBA Player of the Year features six players within 8,600 points of current leader Verity Crawley of England.

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Two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, enters the Tour Championship in fourth place with 115,770 points and is followed by Coté (111,445), Parkin (110,262.5) and three-time PWBA Player of the Year Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (110,060).

2021 PWBA Pepsi Classic
At National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.

Thursday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 693 (three games), \$10,000
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STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Bond def. Johnson, 203-192
Semifinal – Bond def. Parkin, 256-220
Championship – Bond def. Rodriguez, 234-222

MATCH PLAY

(24 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

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DID NOT ADVANCE

5, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 7-5-0, 5,510, \$2,250. 6, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 3-9-0, 5,507, \$2,000. 7, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 7-5-0, 5,480, \$1,850. 8, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 6-6-0, 5,436, \$1,750. 9, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5-7-0, 5,410, \$1,650. 10, Verity Crawley, England, 5-7-0, 5,320, \$1,600.
11, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 4-7-1, 5,311, \$1,550. 12, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 4-8-0, 5,296, \$1,500.

COTÉ EARNS TOP SEED FOR STEPLADDER AT 2021 PWBA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

RENO, Nev. – Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, averaged more than 243 for her final eight games of match play Saturday at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour Championship to earn the top seed for Sunday's stepladder finals.

The live CBS Sports Network broadcast will begin at 5 p.m. Eastern, with Coté looking to secure her first major championship, a \$50,000 top prize and the 2021 PWBA Player of the Year award.

The 35-year-old right-hander posted a 16-8 record in match play to claim the top seed with a 6,095 total, including bonus pins for each victory.

She'll be joined in the stepladder by Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio (6,026), Latvia's Diana Zavjalova (5,853), Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California (5,768), and Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (5,763).

The Tour Championship is the final event, and third major, of the 2021 PWBA Tour season. It also marks the conclusion of the PWBA Fall Classic Series, which featured the PWBA Reno Classic and PWBA Pepsi Classic.

Coté was the top qualifier for the all-match-play Tour Championship, which used the combined qualifying totals from the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic (24 games) to determine the 24 athletes advancing to the season-ending major.

Pinfall dropped at the beginning of the Tour Championship, but the fresh start didn't slow Coté's roll this week at the National Bowling Stadium. She was in second place after the first two blocks of round-robin match play Friday and averaged more than 257 for her first five games Saturday to take over the top spot on the event's 40-foot lane condition.

"I was pretty nervous this morning," said Coté, who won her second career PWBA Tour title earlier this season at the PWBA ITRC Classic. "I still had eight games to bowl, and anything can happen in eight games, especially with how high the scores were getting. I wanted to make good shots, see the lane clear with my ball reaction and take advantage of the big games. You usually hit one or two pairs with big games, and I was grateful to have a few more where my ball reaction was great and my ball was going through the pins really well."

Coté finished as the runner-up to Zavala on Tuesday at the Reno Classic and placed ninth at the Pepsi Classic on Thursday.

Her performance this week at the NBS, coupled with consistent showings throughout the 2021 season, have vaulted Coté to the top of the season-long points list, which determines PWBA Player of the Year and PWBA Rookie of the Year awards. She started the Fall Classic Series eighth on the points list.

Zavala, a three-time winner on the PWBA Tour this year, secured her spot as top rookie earlier in the week at the Pepsi Classic.

Coté will make her sixth championship-round appearance of the season Sunday and lock up the postseason award for the first time in her career with a victory in the title match.

It also would be possible for Coté to win the award before she even throws a shot Sunday, if O'Keefe loses the opening match of the stepladder to Zavala.

O'Keefe, the two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year, can win the award for the third consecutive season if she finishes in fourth place or higher and Coté finishes in second

place.

All of the extra noise surrounding the player-of-the-year race and pressure of a major championship, television lights and big payday are things Coté plans to put out of her mind.

"I really can't think about all the outside factors," Coté said. "If I let my mind get there, my body is not going to know what to do. My mind needs to focus on the task at hand, and everything else will fall into place if I do that."

As Coté secured her spot at the top of the standings, Zavala turned the leaderboard upside down.

Zavala started the event with five consecutive open frames on the way to a 96 game, but she averaged 229 for the rest of the opening block to finish the first round in 16th place.

She slipped to 20th place after Friday's second eight-game round, but a memorable comeback Saturday earned her a sixth championship-round appearance of the year.

Zavala started Saturday's final round 338 pins outside of the cut number but averaged more than 251 and went 7-1 to make an improbable run to the show. She rolled games of 286, 266, 269, 252, 231, 227, 265 and 217.

The 25-year-old right-hander entered Saturday's position round in fifth place, but she was only four pins ahead of Poland's Daria Pajak.

Zavala recorded a 217-205 win by rolling three strikes in her final frame and moved into fourth place overall. Pajak finished in sixth place with a 5,722 total.

Zavala will be making her second consecutive championship-round appearance at a major after finishing fourth at the U.S. Women's Open in August.

Pluhowsky hopes to capture her second major title at the 78-lane venue. She won her lone PWBA Tour title at the 2006 United States Bowling Congress Queens. She also made the show at the U.S. Women's Open this year, finishing in third place.

Zavjalova is the only athlete to advance to the championship round at each major this season.

She recorded fifth-place finishes at the USBC Queens, held at the NBS in May, and U.S. Women's Open. She's in search of her third major title (2013 and 2017 Queens) and fifth career PWBA Tour title.

O'Keefe is the defending champion at the Tour Championship and the only player to win the event twice (2017 and 2019). She won the season-opening PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic in January and is looking for her fourth major championship and 15th PWBA Tour title.

O'Keefe won the 2018 Queens at the NBS, defeating Coté in the title match, 221-189.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit PWBA.com.

**2021 PWBA Tour Championship
At National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.**

Saturday's results

MATCH PLAY

(24 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)

1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 16-8-0, 6,095. 2, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 16-8-0, 6,026. 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 16-7-1, 5,853. 4, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 13-11-0, 5,768. 5, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 14-9-1, 5,763.

DID NOT ADVANCE

6, Daria Pajak, Poland, 13-11-0, 5,722, \$6,000. 7, Missy Parkin, Laguna Hills, Calif., 14-10-0, 5,720, \$5,000. 8, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 13-11-0, 5,696, \$4,500. 9, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 13-11-0, 5,671, \$4,000. 10, Verity Crawley, England, 12-12-0, 5,658, \$3,600. 11, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 11-12-1, 5,599, \$3,300.

12, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 13-9-2, 5,590, \$3,000. 13, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 14-10-0, 5,588, \$2,800. 14, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 12-12-0, 5,558, \$2,600. 15, Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., 12-11-1, 5,507, \$2,400. 16, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 12-12-0, 5,434, \$2,250. 17, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 12-12-0, 5,432, \$2,100.

18, Valerie Bercier, Muskegon, Mich., 9-15-0, 5,359, \$1,950. 19, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 11-13-0, 5,332, \$1,800. 20, Lindsay Boomershine, Perry, Utah, 9-15-0, 5,307, \$1,650. 21, Misaki Mukotani, Japan, 6-18-0, 5,295, \$1,550. 22, Dasha Kovalova, Ukraine, 8-16-0, 5,266, \$1,450. 23, Shalin Zulkifli, Malaysia, 9-15-0, 5,046, \$1,350.

24, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 7-17-0, 5,015, \$1,250.

**PLUHOWSKY WINS 2021 PWBA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP
FOR SECOND MAJOR TITLE**

RENO, Nev. – Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, captured her second major title, and first since 2006, in a dominating performance Sunday at the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour Championship.

The 39-year-old left-hander defeated Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, 244-178 to claim the final major of the 2021 PWBA Tour season. Pluhowsky earned \$50,000 for the victory, and Coté collected \$25,000 for her runner-up finish.

The stepladder finals of the Tour Championship were broadcast live from the National Bowling Stadium on CBS Sports Network.

Pluhowsky's last win came at the 2006 United States Bowling Congress Queens, which also was held at the 78-lane venue.

"I finally did it," said Pluhowsky, a 21-time Team USA member. "I finally got over that hump. I get asked that question a lot, and I can erase it now. Fifteen years is a long time, but it's worth the wait."

In the title match, Pluhowsky built the early advantage after connecting for four consecutive strikes, beginning in the second frame. Coté left back-to-back splits the first two times she bowled on the left lane and was unable to convert either. She struggled to find a consistent look on that lane to get back into the match, and Pluhowsky filled frames to pull away.

Pluhowsky, the No. 2 seed, looked comfortable under the bright lights in both of her wins Sunday. She started her semifinal match against Latvia's Diana Zavjalova with 10 consecutive strikes, before a 6 pin ended her bid at a perfect game. It would've been the sixth 300 game during the championship round of a PWBA Tour event.

Pluhowsky averaged 266.5 on Sunday, defeating Zavjalova, 289-199.

"They were a little different, which typically happens on TV," Pluhowsky said. "My ball reps told me to bowl my A game. I was able to throw it a little harder, so I could stay a little closer to it, and it worked out. I caught a couple lucky breaks, and you need that to win. I've had some bad luck on TV, but today was different."

Pluhowsky has been a top competitor on the PWBA Tour since it relaunched in 2015, making 15 championship-round appearances prior to Sunday's appearance at the Tour Championship.

She had been unable to turn those opportunities into victories, however, but a new approach has helped her enjoy each moment.

At the U.S. Women's Open in August, she qualified for the stepladder and rolled 279 in her first match, before losing her ball reaction on the way to a third-place finish.

"I've had to work really hard," Pluhowsky said. "I'm just trying to have fun. It's not life or death anymore. I took it way too seriously and was trying too hard for too long. The last few times, I just tried to have fun. I lost my ball reaction at the U.S. Women's Open and didn't throw it the greatest in the second game, but here, I had a good look and tried to do what I needed to do."

Sunday's win also was special for Pluhowsky because she was able to share it with her wife, Carrie, and father, Nick.

"Things are looking up and really good," Pluhowsky said. "We got married in July, and it means a lot that she's able to travel with me. My dad flew in for the show, and he was worried he was going to jinx me. My mom was too nervous to come, so she stayed home. I wish the kids were here, but I'm glad he came and she's here. It's great."

Coté was the top seed for Sunday's stepladder after averaging more than 233 in match play Friday and Saturday, but she had trouble figuring out the left lane on the championship pair.

She noted some struggles on that lane earlier in the week during the finals of the PWBA Reno Classic, where she also was the top seed and finished as the runner-up to Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California.

"I feel like I had the right lane down pretty well, but I'm still trying to figure out what was happening on the left lane," Coté said. "I struggled with it at the Reno Classic, too. I made some moves, but you only get five shots on each lane, and everything is a guessing game when you get lost in that position. Shannon was bowling great, and I had to try to find ways to strike."

Coté still was able to collect some hardware Sunday. Her runner-up finish secured her spot at the top of the season-long points list, and it earned her PWBA Player of the Year honors for the first time in her career.

The 35-year-old right-hander collected her second career PWBA Tour title in January at the PWBA ITRC Classic, and she added three runner-up finishes in her six championship-round appearances during the season.

She entered the events in Reno this week eighth in points but quickly entered the conversation for the postseason award with her runner-up finish Tuesday.

"I had talked to my husband about it, and coming into Reno, we never even thought player of the year was on the table," Coté said. "I knew the points were very close, especially with two regular events and a major to go, and things could shift around pretty easily. You can't count out those ahead of you, though, because they're there for a reason. All I could do was just bowl and try to bowl great. When I realized I was getting closer and put myself in position to be player of the year, I just stayed the course and tried to stay focused. If it was meant to be, it was meant to be."

Zavjalova, a two-time major winner and four-time PWBA Tour champion, earned her spot in the semifinals with a 190-164 victory over Zavala, the 2021 PWBA Rookie of the Year.

Zavjalova took advantage of a missed single pin by Zavala in the eighth frame and rolled strikes on five of her last six shots to advance.

Zavala, a three-time winner during her rookie season, kicked off the stepladder with a 203-200 win over two-time PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois.

Zavala needed to fill 17 pins in her final frame to eliminate O'Keefe and struck on her first delivery. A nine-count on her second shot secured the victory.

O'Keefe entered the broadcast with the chance to earn the PWBA Player of the Year award for a third consecutive season, but she needed to record at least a fourth-place

finish to force Coté to win the Tour Championship to earn enough competition points.

The Tour Championship was the third event of the PWBA Fall Classic Series, which also included the Reno Classic and PWBA Pepsi Classic.

After Zavala won the Reno Classic on Tuesday, Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, captured her third win of the year at the Pepsi Classic on Thursday.

The Tour Championship featured the top 24 athletes from the first two events of the Fall Classic Series. The combined qualifying totals from the Reno Classic and Pepsi Classic (24 games) determined the players to advance to the season-ending event.

Pinfall dropped at the beginning of the Tour Championship, which featured three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Friday and Saturday. Total pinfall, including bonus pins for each victory, determined Sunday's five finalists.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season featured 20 events, kicking off in January at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series in Arlington, Texas.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

2021 PWBA Tour Championship At National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

Sunday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 533 (two games), \$50,000
- 2, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 178 (one game), \$25,000
- 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 389 (two games), \$15,000
- 4, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 367 (two games), \$12,000
- 5, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 200 (one game), \$9,000

STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Zavala def. O'Keefe, 203-200

Match No. 2 – Zavjalova def. Zavala, 190-164

Semifinal – Pluhowsky def. Zavjalova, 289-199

Championship – Pluhowsky def. Coté, 244-178

December 21, 2021

2022 PWBA SCHEDULE TO FEATURE EVENTS WITH LARGER PRIZE FUNDS, ADDITIONAL TV COVERAGE FOR FINALS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The 2022 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season will begin in May and feature 12 events, seven of which will conclude on CBS Sports Network.

Athletes in 2022 will be competing for an overall prize fund of approximately \$1.4 million, which represents the largest average per event since the tour’s relaunch in 2015.

The schedule will feature the United States Bowling Congress Queens and U.S. Women’s Open, along with the season-ending PWBA Tour Championship, to close out the season. Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, won her second major title and \$50,000 in October at the 2021 Tour Championship.

The stepladder finals at all three majors, and four standard events throughout the season, will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

Along with the noteworthy prize money at the three majors on the 2022 PWBA Tour schedule, three additional events will award increased prize money for first place — the PWBA Rockford Open, PWBA Twin Cities Open and PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open.

“We’re thrilled to continue this commitment to larger top prizes after the excitement earlier this year at the U.S. Women’s Open and PWBA Tour Championship,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. “The 2022 season will be incredible to watch, and we’re proud to be able to invest in the future of the PWBA Tour and the sport of bowling.”

PWBA staff worked closely with the newly elected PWBA Player Committee to revise the schedule, prize fund distribution and additional television exposure.

“It has been great to work together with the PWBA staff to deliver a schedule that we felt best serves the wants and needs of the entire membership,” said 2021 PWBA Player of the Year and PWBA Player Committee chair Bryanna Coté. “We are really looking forward to getting out on the lanes in 2022 and hope these new changes will bring even more new faces out to compete on the PWBA Tour.”

The CBS Sports Network coverage will begin with the season-opening Rockford Open at The Cherry Bowl in Rockford, Illinois. The event will begin May 12, with the stepladder finals being broadcast May 15.

The other standard events on the CBS Sports Network schedule are the Twin Cities Open, St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open and PWBA BVL Open.

“The additional exposure of the PWBA Tour on CBS Sports Network will allow the best athletes in the sport to be showcased throughout 2022,” BPAA Executive Director Frank DeSocio said. “We’re excited to be able to watch these athletes perform on the biggest stages, while reaching a larger audience and fanbase through these national broadcasts.”

All rounds leading up to the stepladder finals will be broadcast on BowITV.com. Events not featuring a CBS Sports Network broadcast, excluding the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles event, will conclude live on BowITV.

Two venues on the 2022 schedule are being visited for the first time since the relaunch, and they will host Classic Series events. The Classic Series events were introduced in 2021 and featured three national tour events during a single stop.

Maple Lanes Rockville Centre in Rockville Centre, New York, will host the PWBA Long Island Classic, PWBA BowITV Classic and BVL Classic from June 6-12. USA Bowl in Dallas will host the PWBA DFW Classic, PWBA Pepsi Classic and Tour Championship from Aug. 2-9.

2022 PWBA TOUR SCHEDULE

With dates, event, center, location and broadcast channel (subject to change):

- May 12-15, PWBA Rockford Open, The Cherry Bowl, Rockford, Ill., CBS Sports Network
- May 18-24, USBC Queens, Stardust Bowl, Addison, Ill., CBS Sports Network
- May 26-29, PWBA Twin Cities Open, Cedarvale Lanes, Eagan, Minn., CBS Sports Network
- June 2-5, PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open, Seminole Lanes, Seminole, Fla., CBS Sports Network
- June 6-8, PWBA Long Island Classic, Maple Lanes Rockville Centre, Rockville Centre, N.Y., BowITV
- June 9-10, PWBA BowITV Classic, Maple Lanes Rockville Centre, Rockville Centre, N.Y., BowITV
- June 11-12, PWBA BVL Classic, Maple Lanes Rockville Centre, Rockville Centre, N.Y., CBS Sports Network
- June 14-21, U.S. Women’s Open, Kingpin’s Alley Family Fun Center, South Glens Falls, N.Y., CBS Sports Network
- July 28-31, PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles, Copperfield Bowl, Houston, TBD
- Aug. 2-4, PWBA DFW Classic, USA Bowl, Dallas, BowITV
- Aug. 5-6, PWBA Pepsi Classic, USA Bowl, Dallas, BowITV
- Aug. 7-9, PWBA Tour Championship, USA Bowl, Dallas, CBS Sports Network

There also will be two PWBA Regional competitions tied to national tour stops during the season. The regionals will take place May 15 after the Rockford Open and May 29 after the Twin Cities Open.

Athletes will be able to purchase their 2022 PWBA memberships starting Jan. 12, 2022