

## **PWBA UNVEILS COMPLETE 2023 REGIONAL SCHEDULE AND REGIONAL SHOWDOWN FORMAT, MAKES SEVERAL NATIONAL TOUR UPDATES**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – Professional Women’s Bowling Association members planning on competing in regional tournaments this season can now fill in their calendars as the entire 2023 PWBA Regional schedule has been released.

The nine-event regional season will begin with the PWBA Greater Dallas Regional, which will be held at JB’s Allen Bowl in Allen, Texas, on Jan. 21 and conclude at Highland Park Lanes in Greeley, Colorado, host of the PWBA Northern Colorado Regional on Nov. 11.

In between, the PWBA Regional Tour will make stops in Michigan, Washington, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Minnesota in an attempt to give female bowlers from all across the country the opportunity to experience PWBA competition.

Those bowlers will be hoping to win titles and earn their way into the Regional Showdown, which will be held in December and serve as the official end to the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

Each regional champion will automatically be seeded for match play at the Regional Showdown. The remaining spots in the 16-person field will be awarded based on the results of an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.

The top 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals.

Every player who qualifies for match play will cash at the Regional Showdown. If the number of entries is high enough, additional cash spots outside the top 16 will be paid at a ratio of 1:3 as is done for PWBA National Tour prize funds.

The winner of the 2023 Regional Showdown will not only receive a cash prize, but she will also have her entry fees covered for all 2024 PWBA National Tour singles events as well.

To be eligible to enter a PWBA Regional event, a female competitor must average at least 180. PWBA Tour national champions, regardless of membership status at the time of their win, will not be eligible to compete in any PWBA Regional event.

The cost to enter a PWBA Regional event is \$100 for a member and \$150 for a non-member.

“The best way to continue growing the PWBA National Tour is by making sure that there are plenty of opportunities for bowlers to compete at the regional level,” PWBA Players Committee Chairperson Bryanna Coté said. “Once players get a taste of professional competition through regionals, they feel more confident and better equipped to take the next step and eventually begin competing on the national tour.”

Bowlers competing on the 2023 PWBA National Tour will be in store for some changes after the PWBA Players Committee voted to adjust Tour Championship eligibility rules and some of this year’s event prize funds.

Per the Players Committee vote, spots in the 24-player Tour Championship field will now be reserved for PWBA members who win titles during the 2023 season (with the exception of the PBA/PWBA Striking

Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles) or who are high enough on the season points list at the conclusion of the second Classic Series event provided they have participated in a minimum of 50% of the season's tournaments.

Tour Championship competitors will participate in round-robin match play with the top five bowlers advancing to the stepladder finals.

The Players Committee also voted to approve an increase in the purse offered at the events comprising the Great Lakes Classic Series. The additional prize money will be moved from this season's three PWBA standard events.

### **2023 PWBA REGIONAL SCHEDULE**

**With dates, event, center, location and broadcast channel (subject to change):**

- Jan. 21, PWBA Greater Dallas Regional, JB's Allen Bowl, Allen, Texas, BowITV
- March 25, PWBA Greater Detroit Regional, Thunderbowl Lanes, Allen Park, Mich., BowITV
- May 14, PWBA Spokane Regional, Lilac Lanes & Casino, Spokane, Wash., BowITV
- June 11, PWBA Cleveland Regional, Yorktown Lanes, Parma Heights, Ohio, BowITV
- July 2, PWBA Pinehurst Regional, Sandhills Bowling Center, Aberdeen, N.C., BowITV
- July 22, PWBA Greater Pittsburgh Regional, Nesbit's Lanes, Pittsburgh, Pa., BowITV
- Aug. 27, PWBA Rockford Regional, The Cherry Bowl, Rockford, Ill., BowITV
- Sept. 24, PWBA Twin Cities Regional, Cedarvale Lanes, Eagan, Minn., BowITV
- Nov. 11, PWBA Northern Colorado Regional, Highland Park Lanes, Greeley, Colo., BowITV
- Dec. 2023, PWBA Regional Showdown, host center and city TBD, BowITV

Athletes will be able to purchase their 2023 PWBA memberships starting Jan. 11, 2023.

### **DANIELS, CARTER AND BUNDRICK ELECTED TO PWBA HALL OF FAME IN 2023**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – The Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame will welcome three new inductees across three different categories in 2023.

Cheryl Daniels of Detroit was elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame in the Performance category, and Paula Carter of Miami was elected as an Ambassador. Mary Bundrick of Chicago will be inducted posthumously through Meritorious Service/Builder.

The 2023 PWBA Hall of Fame induction ceremony is scheduled to take place May 17 in Las Vegas in conjunction with the United States Bowling Congress Queens.

The 2023 USBC Queens is scheduled to run from May 17-23 at the Sam's Town Bowling Center inside of Sam's Town Hotel and Gambling Hall.

Daniels, 63, has won 10 PWBA Tour titles and owns one major victory at the 1995 U.S. Women's Open.

She collected her first victory at the 1989 Ebonite Firebolt Classic, which kicked off a four-win season for the talented right-hander. Daniels also collected multiple titles during the 1994 and 1995 seasons. Her last win came in 1996 at the Rossford Golden Triangle Open.

In addition to her win at the U.S. Women's Open, she has recorded nine other top-five finishes at majors and was inducted to the USBC Hall of Fame in 2002 for Superior Performance. She's also a member of the Michigan State USBC and Metro Detroit USBC Halls of Fame.

Carter, 71, is a two-time winner at the U.S. Women's Open. The left-hander captured the prestigious victory at the 1971 and 1975 events.

Her performance during the 1971 season helped her earn recognition as the International Bowling Media Association Bowler of the Year and a spot on the All-America team for Bowlers Journal International (1970-1971).

She promoted the sport through several national television appearances during the 1970s, helping bring professional women's bowling to a new audience, and in 2011, Carter received the Flowers for the Living Award. She was inducted to the USBC Hall of Fame for Superior Performance in 1994 and also is a member of the Greater Miami USBC, Florida State USBC and Florida Sports Halls of Fame.

Bundrick, who died in 2001 at the age of 89, played a major role in the creation of the PWBA and served as the organization's first president from 1959-1963.

While serving as the executive director of the Les Dames De 700 Bowling Club in the late 1950s, Bundrick looked at the formation of the Professional Bowlers Association in 1958 and hoped to bring together a similar program to showcase the top female athletes in the sport.

She hired Georgia Veatch (PWBA and USBC Hall of Famer) to serve as executive director for the new organization and invited eight prominent female bowlers to a meeting that helped set the stage for the creation of the PWBA. At the conclusion of the meeting, rules, regulations and a constitution had been approved and 23 women were made charter members of the organization.

The PWBA Hall of Fame Committee elected the 2023 class based on submitted applications. The committee is comprised of PWBA Hall of Fame members, board members of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and USBC and bowling media members.

Through 2022, there are 44 members of the PWBA Hall of Fame – 26 in performance, 10 in Ambassador and eight in Meritorious Service/Builder.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com).

## **LPBT CO-FOUNDER, PWBA HALL OF FAME JOHN FALZONE DIES AT AGE 80**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – John Falzone of Morris Chapel, Tennessee, co-founder of the Ladies Professional Bowlers Tour and a Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Famer, died Monday at the age of 80.

Falzone co-founded the LPBT in 1981 shortly after the dissolution of the Women's Professional Bowlers Association.

He served as both LPBT President and Commissioner while tour operations were headquartered at The Cherry Bowl in his hometown of Rockford, Illinois.

Among Falzone's many achievements while running the LPBT was his development of Sam's Town Hotel & Gambling Hall's umbrella sponsorship of the tour, which helped guarantee that the sport's best female competitors would have a world class venue to compete in on a yearly basis.

That accomplishment and many others led to Falzone's 1996 enshrinement in the PWBA Hall of Fame in the Meritorious/Builder Category, which is reserved for those who have advanced the PWBA as an organization and promoted the PWBA Tour through media.

Falzone is survived by his wife of 61 years, Kathy Falzone, his daughter Bonnie Falzone-Capriola, and by multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

More information on services for Falzone will be available soon.

For more information on the PWBA Hall of Fame, visit [PWBA.com/HallOfFame1](http://PWBA.com/HallOfFame1)

## **BEHR BREAKS THROUGH FOR FIRST REGIONAL WIN**

### **AT 2023 PWBA GREATER DETROIT REGIONAL**

ALLEN PARK, Michigan – Most bowlers will tell you that as a match comes down to the final frames, all they want is a chance.

Andrea Behr of Kettering, Ohio, found herself in that position during the final two matches of Saturday's stepladder finals at the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Greater Detroit Regional at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Michigan.

Although she had never won a professional title when the day began, Behr ended it by performing like a veteran champion, downing Victoria Giardina of Shelby Township, Michigan, (224-219) in the semifinals

and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, (197-185) during the title match to collect the \$2,200 winner's check and her first PWBA Regional victory.

Behr admitted that the magnitude of what she had just accomplished hadn't yet hit her in the moments immediately following her victory; nevertheless, she knew if felt good, and she certainly hadn't forgotten what it took to get there.

"It was a grind all day, but I caught some lucky breaks," Behr said. "My opponents left some doors open for me, and with carry on my side, I was able to take advantage. It was just amazing."

What was more amazing was the way that Behr came through and delivered the shots that she needed time and time again throughout the stepladder finals.

She trailed Woessner throughout the championship match, falling behind by 24 pins at the halfway point and still facing a 16-pin deficit with two frames remaining.

Nevertheless, Behr wouldn't give up, and when Woessner was unable to convert the 3-6-9-10 in the 10th frame, the door swung wide open.

Unwilling to let the opportunity slip away, Behr walked right through it, tripping a 4 pin for a strike on her first shot in the tenth to put herself on the brink of victory.

Needing seven pins for a tie or eight or more for the win, Behr struck on her next ball as well, giving her the title; it was the only time she led during the championship match.

"I've been in match-play situations before, so I know that when the ball is in my court, I have to take advantage," Behr said. "I just try to stay calm and execute."

In hindsight, maybe it should have been easy for Behr to stay calm and believe that she could pull off the come-from-behind victory over Woessner. After all, she had just done the very same thing against Giardina during the semifinals.

Giardina, who rolled the highest game of the tournament by shooting 299 during Game 2 of qualifying, jumped out to an early lead and seemed destined to eliminate Behr as their semifinal match moved toward the final frames.

However, when Giardina was unable to convert the bucket (2-4-5-8) in the ninth and was saddled with a pocket 7-10 split on her second ball in the tenth, Behr suddenly had a chance to win. She came through in fine fashion, delivering a double and nine to complete the comeback and move on to the title match.

Behr opened the stepladder finals by taking down No. 4 seed Alexis Runk of Milton, Pennsylvania, by a score of 211-203.

Saturday's victory not only earned Behr a big check and a fancy trophy, but it also earned her a berth in the 2023 PWBA Regional Showdown, which will be held in December.

The field at the Regional Showdown will feature 16 players. Each regional champion in 2023 will automatically be seeded into match play at the event while the rest of the field will be determined through an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.

The 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals. The winner of the Regional Showdown will receive paid entries into all singles events on the 2024 PWBA National Tour schedule.

Behr didn't realize that Saturday's victory earned her a berth in the Regional Showdown, but she's excited about the possibilities that affords.

"Bowling in the Regional Showdown will be a great opportunity," Behr said. "I didn't even know about that piece before. It's going to take some hard work because all of the ladies who will bowl that are just amazing, but it's still very exciting. The possibilities are endless."

In the meantime, Behr plans to keep her sights set on other regional events, and she may even bolster her competition schedule as a result of Saturday's win.

The next PWBA Regional event will be May 14 at the PWBA Spokane Regional. The tournament will be held at Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane, Washington, one day after competition concludes at the 2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open.

The 2023 PWBA Tour season will start in May at the PWBA Stockton Open in Stockton, California. The event will be contested from May 4-6 and kick off the 12-event national tour schedule.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com). For more information on the PWBA Regional competition, visit [PWBA.com/Regionals](http://PWBA.com/Regionals).

## 2023 PWBA Greater Detroit Regional

At Thunderbowl Lanes

Allen Park, Michigan

### Saturday's results

#### FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, Andrea Behr, Kettering, Ohio, 632 (three games), \$2,200.
- 2, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 185 (one game), \$1,100.
- 3, Victoria Giardina, Shelby Township, Mich., 219 (one game), \$950.
- 4, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 203 (one game), \$800.

#### STEPLADDER RESULTS

Match No. 1 – Behr def. Runk, 211-203.

Semifinal – Behr def. Giardina, 224-219.

Championship – Behr def. Woessner, 197-185.

## **PWBA TOUR TO KICK OFF 2023 SEASON IN STOCKTON**

**STOCKTON, Calif.** – The first event of every season is exciting, but the opening tournament of the 2023 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour season will be extra special as it will be the 100th tournament to award a title since the tour’s relaunch in 2015.

That title will be handed out at Pacific Avenue Bowl, which will host the 2023 PWBA Stockton Open from May 4-6.

This will mark the first time that Pacific Avenue Bowl has hosted a national event on the PWBA Tour.

The action begins Thursday at 5 p.m. Eastern with the official practice session. Tournament competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, the first beginning at 1 p.m. Eastern and the second following at 8 p.m. Eastern.

The top 24 athletes will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday at noon Eastern before the field is cut down to the top 12 players. Those 12 will have a final six-game round at 5 p.m. Eastern to determine the five players for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall for 24 games.

The finals of the Stockton Open will take place Saturday at 9:30 p.m. Eastern with the winner earning \$20,000.

All rounds of competition, including the stepladder finals, will be broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

The at-home audience and spectators on-hand at Pacific Avenue Bowl should be in for a treat this week as the Stockton Open field is loaded with talent from top to bottom.

USBC Hall of Famer Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, and Team USA legend Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas, are scheduled to compete. Stefanie Johnson won last year’s season opener at The Cherry Bowl in Rockford, Illinois.

This week’s roster also features reigning PWBA Rookie of the Year Olivia Farwell of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, and Player of the Year Shannon O’Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois.

O'Keefe is a 15-time PWBA Tour titlist and three-time major champion, and she's coming off what she considers to be her best season yet on tour.

As such, it would be easy to expect the right-hander to approach the 2023 season with a win-or-bust mentality. That is not, however, the view that O'Keefe is choosing to take.

"We went 12 years without the PWBA Tour, so every year that we get to compete, I feel extremely blessed and humbled just to be out here bowling," O'Keefe said. "I don't really put any extra pressure or expectations on myself. I just want to be able to leave the bowling center proud of who I was and how I competed that day."

While all bowlers want to be proud of how they compete, the 13 athletes from California will have a little extra incentive as they will be attempting to make a good showing while bowling in their home state.

That list is headlined by 2021 PWBA Rookie of the Year Stephanie Zavala of Downey and 2011 USBC Queens champion Missy Parkin of San Clemente.

Nevertheless, all 70 players in this week's field will be hoping to walk away with the 100th PWBA Tour title since the relaunch and become the first champion crowned at Pacific Avenue Bowl.

As far as O'Keefe is concerned, it's fitting for those distinctions to accompany this year's season opener.

"I actually didn't know at first that the Stockton Open was going to be the 100th title since the relaunch, but that's awesome," O'Keefe said. "It's a great way to start the year."

The 2023 season features 12 events and features an overall prize fund of approximately \$1.4 million, which is tied for the largest average per event since the tour's relaunch in 2015.

The schedule also features three majors, the USBC Queens, U.S. Women's Open and season-ending PWBA Tour Championship. The stepladder finals at all three majors will be broadcast live

## **PWBA ANNOUNCES 2024 NATIONAL TOUR SCHEDULE**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – World-class athletes deserve world-class venues to compete in, and that is precisely what the competitors on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour will get once again next season.



The 2024 PWBA Tour season will run from May to August and feature 12 tournaments hosted by several bowling centers that have proven track records of conducting successful events at the sport's highest level.

United States Bowling Congress President Melissa McDaniel is pleased by the schedule as she recognizes the important role the PWBA Tour's visibility has in ensuring bowling's future.

"The PWBA Tour spotlights the best female athletes in the world. The importance of being able to watch those athletes compete week in and week out across the country cannot be understated because by watching those bowlers perform, the next generation of young women have something to aspire to," McDaniel said. "We're very pleased that the 2024 PWBA Tour schedule will give young women across the country so many opportunities to watch their idols compete."

Bowling Proprietors' Association of America President Kevin Krauss agrees, and he's also encouraged by the continuation of these relationships as he knows that they benefit the PWBA Tour, the proprietors and the sport of bowling as a whole.

"PWBA bowling continues to thrill fans all over the world, so we're happy to be able to bring that exciting action to so many great cities and bowling centers again during the 2024 season," Krauss said. "The PWBA is good for bowling and its proprietors, and the support shown by those proprietors is good for bowling fans, the tour and its players; it's truly a situation where everybody wins."

The season will get underway May 2-5 with the PWBA Twin Cities Open at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan, Minnesota. One week later, from May 9-12, The Cherry Bowl in Rockford, Illinois, will host the PWBA Rockford Open.

Both centers have been very welcoming to PWBA bowlers over the years with Cedarvale Lanes having hosted four national tour stops and The Cherry Bowl, the former headquarters of the PWBA Tour, conducting more than 30.

The national tour last visited each center in 2022, but both will host PWBA Regional events later this season, The Cherry Bowl on Aug. 27, and Cedarvale Lanes on Sept. 24.

The first major of the 2024 PWBA Tour season will come along in Week 3 when bowlers travel to The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to battle for the coveted tiara at the 2024 USBC Queens, which will take place May 15-21.

Ashwaubenon is no stranger to conducting major championships as it played host to the 2016 and 2017 PWBA Players Championship as well as the 2015 Queens.

After leaving Green Bay, the tour will head to Smyrna, Tennessee, where Smyrna Bowl will be the site of the first Classic Series event of the 2024 season, the PWBA Classic Series - Nashville.

Smyrna Bowl last hosted PWBA Tour action in 2021 when England's Verity Crawley topped Poland's Daria Pajak to win the PWBA Greater Nashville Open for her first career title.

As exciting as that tournament was, fans in Smyrna are in for an even bigger treat in 2024 as by attending the PWBA Classic Series – Nashville, they will have the opportunity to see the best women's bowlers in the world compete for three separate tournament titles between May 28 – June 3.

The first two events will be stand-alone tournaments while the third will welcome the top 24 competitors based on the combined qualifying totals (24 games) from the first two events. The 24 advancers will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

Once all three titles have been handed out in Smyrna, the tour will head to Clarksville, Indiana, where Blackston Bowl will have the opportunity to begin writing its own legacy as a PWBA Tour host center by conducting its very first national tour event, the PWBA Southern Indiana Open, which will take place June 6-9.

When it comes to legacy, few centers can compete with Royal Pin Woodland in Indianapolis and Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Michigan, so it's fitting that those venues will host four of the last five events on the 2024 PWBA Tour schedule, including the season's final two majors.

The U.S. Women's Open will take place at Royal Pin Woodland from June 11-18, marking the first time the venue has hosted the prestigious event since 1996.

Nevertheless, Woodland has always been a featured center for bowling's major competitions, having hosted countless Professional Bowlers Association Tour stops and previous editions of the USBC Masters and Junior Gold Championships.

The same can be said for Thunderbowl Lanes, which will host PWBA Tour Championship Week from Aug. 6-13 to close out the 2024 PWBA Tour season.

Just like the PWBA Classic Series – Nashville, PWBA Tour Championship Week will feature three tournaments in a seven-day span.

The first two will be stand-alone events, and the third will be the PWBA Tour Championship, the final major of the 2024 season.

The PWBA Tour Championship will feature a 24-player field. In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must be a PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2024 season.

The remainder of the field will be filled from the 2024 PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship.

In addition to the events noted above, players from the PWBA and PBA Tours will once again combine to compete in the PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles at Copperfield Bowl in Houston. That event, which counts as a title on both tours, takes place from July 25-28 in between the U.S. Women's Open and PWBA Tour Championship Week.

### **2024 PWBA TOUR SCHEDULE**

**With dates, event, center, location and broadcast channel (subject to change):**

- **May 2-5, PWBA Twin Cities Open, Cedarvale Lanes, Eagan, Minn.**
- **May 9-12, PWBA Rockford Open, The Cherry Bowl, Rockford, Ill.**
- **May 15-21, USBC Queens, The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley, Green Bay, Wis.**
- **May 28-June 3, PWBA Classic Series – Nashville, Smyrna Bowl, Smyrna, Tenn.**
- **June 6-9, PWBA Southern Indiana Open, Blackston Bowl, Clarksville, Ind.**
- **June 11-18, U.S. Women's Open, Royal Pin Woodland, Indianapolis**
- **July 25-28, PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles, Copperfield Bowl, Houston**
- **Aug. 6-13, PWBA Tour Championship Week, Thunderbowl Lanes, Allen Park, Mich.**

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

on CBS Sports Network.

### **TAN WINS 2023 PWBA STOCKTON OPEN FOR FOURTH CAREER TITLE**

**STOCKTON, Calif.** – Being the top seed for the stepladder finals at a Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour event isn't always all it's cracked up to be. Just ask Cherie Tan of Singapore.

In 2019, Tan dominated the field at the Nationwide PWBA Greater Cleveland Open, leading qualifying by more than 200 pins and securing the top seed for the stepladder finals only to lose to Josie Barnes of Nashville, Tennessee, in the title match.

As such, it would've been understandable for Tan to feel a bit apprehensive heading into the finals at this year's season-opening PWBA Stockton Open.

After all, yet again, she led the pack from start to finish during qualifying and entered the stepladder as the No. 1 seed.

This time, however, Tan was able to finish what she started as the 35-year-old left-hander defeated Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, 237-205, during Saturday night's live BowlTV finals at Pacific Avenue Bowl.

The win gave Tan her fourth career PWBA Tour title, and it was a special one at that as the 2023 Stockton Open was the 100th tournament to award a title since the tour's relaunch in 2015.

Tan wasn't aware of the event's significance going in, but it's a fact that will make her latest win even more memorable.

"I didn't know it was going to be the 100th title until I got here and heard people talking about it," Tan said. "It's pretty cool to have won it, so I just hope that we keep seeing more and more tournaments and get the opportunity to come back."

The win certainly didn't come easy, however, as the title match was a back-and-forth affair until the very end.

Tan jumped out to an early 10-pin lead thanks to a double in the third and fourth frames, but Richard responded with strikes of her own in the fifth and sixth to cut the deficit back down to one.

Richard could have taken the lead with a strike in the seventh, but her shot crept just a bit high in the 1-3 pocket, resulting in a 4-pin, which she easily converted.

Nevertheless, the advantage shifted back in Tan's favor, and she made the most of it by striking in the sixth and seventh frames to stretch her lead back out to 12 pins.

However, the string stopped at two in a row yet again as a ringing 7-pin halted her momentum in the eighth frame.

At that point, it actually appeared as if maybe the championship match were headed for a tie as both players could strike out to finish at 238.

That possibility disappeared quickly though as Richard was saddled with a vicious pocket 7-10 split in the eighth and a ringing 10-pin in the ninth.

The open and spare swung the momentum firmly back in Tan's favor, and she refused to let it go.

Needing just a mark and good count to win, the star from Singapore closed things out in style, striking on three of her final four shots to put the finishing touches on two days of masterful bowling by securing the title.

For Tan, getting back in the winner's circle was gratifying, especially since she and the other bowlers from Singapore don't normally get as many opportunities to compete as most of their American counterparts do.

"We don't bowl every tour stop, so it's good for us to do well when we come here," Tan said. "It feels really great to win again."

Winning in Stockton allowed Tan to grab her second title in as many seasons – she won last year's PWBA BowlTV Classic in Rockville Centre, New York. Also, it gives her a lot of confidence as the 2023 season gets underway.

"I've been bowling pretty well consistently for the past couple of years, so to come in here and achieve this to start the season is very meaningful to me," Tan said.

In addition to pride, Tan also took home the \$20,000 top prize. Richard walked away with \$10,000 for her second-place finish.

Richard got to the title match by defeating Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, by a final score of 234-214 during the semifinals.

Clemmer actually stepped up in the 10th frame with a chance to win that match; unfortunately, it wasn't meant to be as, needing a strike, her ball went high and left a 3-4 split, which allowed Richard to survive and advance.

Clemmer's third-place finish earned her \$7,500.

One match earlier, Clemmer used a late four-bagger to defeat Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, 229-216.

Boomershine kicked off Saturday night's stepladder finals in thrilling fashion, finishing with eight strikes in a row to erase an early deficit and defeat Daria Pajak of Poland, 238-208.

Boomershine finished fourth, and Pajak took fifth, earning \$6,500 and \$5,500, respectively.

The 73-player field in Stockton bowled 12 games Friday before the first cut to the top 24 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

The 2023 PWBA Tour will now head to Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane, Washington, for the PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open, which will take place May 11-13.

The winner will take home \$20,000, and all rounds of competition, including the stepladder finals, will be broadcast live on BowlTV.

The stepladder finals of the GoBowling! Spokane Open will take place May 13 at 9:30 p.m. Eastern.

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

**2023 PWBA Stockton Open  
At Pacific Avenue Bowl  
Stockton, Calif.**

**Saturday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 237 (one game), \$20,000.
- 2, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 439 (two games), \$10,000.
- 3, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 443 (two games), \$7,500.
- 4, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 454 (two games), \$6,500.
- 5, Daria Pajak, Poland, 208 (one game), \$5,500.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Boomershine def. Pajak, 238-208.  
Match No. 2 – Clemmer def. Boomershine, 229-216.  
Semifinal – Richard def. Clemmer, 234-214.  
Championship – Tan def. Richard, 237-205.

**QUALIFYING ROUND 4**

- 1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 5,774. 2, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 5,759. 3, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 5,604. 4, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 5,525. 5, Daria Pajak, Poland, 5,512.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5,510, \$4,500. 7, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5,457, \$4,300. 8, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 5,456, \$4,100. 9, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 5,287, \$3,900. 10, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 5,209, \$3,700. 11, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 5,200, \$3,500. 12, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,186, \$3,300.

**QUALIFYING ROUND 3**

- 1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 4,395. 2, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 4,256. 3, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 4,165. 4, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 4,159. 5, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 4,140. 6, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 4,100.

7, Daria Pajak, Poland, 4,069. 8, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 4,025. 9, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 4,012. 10, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,992. 11, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,987. 12, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 3,972.

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

13, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,957, \$2,900. 14, (TIE) Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, and Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 3,954, \$2,825. 16, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,930, \$2,750. 17, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3,920, \$2,700. 18, Hui Fen New, Singapore, 3,900, \$2,650.

19, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,898, \$2,600. 20, Verity Crawley, England, 3,888, \$2,550. 21, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 3,868, \$2,500. 22, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,861, \$2,450. 23, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 3,844, \$2,400. 24, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 3,826, \$2,350.

## **MCEWAN LOOKS TO TURN FOND MEMORIES INTO STRONG PERFORMANCE AT 2023 PWBA GOBOWLING! SPOKANE OPEN**

**SPOKANE, Wash.** – No matter how hard you work and prepare during the offseason, it usually takes a week or two to get fully up to speed at the start of a new season.

While all bowlers on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour work hard, nobody can claim to work harder than seven-time PWBA titlist and two-time major champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York.

That work ethic and a healthy dose of pure talent helped the 31-year-old right-hander to a solid 16th-place finish at last weekend's PWBA Stockton Open, the first event of the 2023 PWBA Tour season and the 100th tournament to award a title since the tour's relaunch in 2015.

This week, the tour heads to the Pacific Northwest for the 2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open, which will be contested at Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane from May 11-13.

This will mark the third time that Lilac Lanes & Casino has hosted the PWBA Tour. The last time came during the 2021 season when McEwan topped USBC Hall of Famer Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, (203-192), to emerge as champion.

This week, McEwan will try to draw upon the confidence she gained from that winning performance to put forth another strong showing in Spokane.

"Whenever you return to a place with good memories, it's always nice to be back there and see the familiar faces of fans and staff," McEwan said. "I think it always gives you a little more confidence to be in an environment where you've had success before, so I'm super excited to be going back."

However, McEwan's excitement isn't based solely upon her previous success at Lilac Lanes; it's also due to the wonderful job bowling center management and staff have done making her and her fellow PWBA competitors feel welcome.

"It's a very nice bowling center, and they've always treated us great and done a wonderful job accommodating us," McEwan said. "On tour, we don't really have all that much time to adventure out and see a lot of things outside the bowling center, so when the staff treats you well and makes you comfortable, that's what you remember and makes you want to go back."

McEwan would obviously love to have another week to remember by reaching the winner's circle for the eighth time in her PWBA Tour career; however, that isn't how she measures success week in and week out.

"Every week, I just try to do my best, learn and grow," McEwan said. Early in the season is difficult because you're not sharp competition-wise, so I just try to get sharper every week and continue to grow for the rest of the season."

Despite the difficulties of coming out of the gate sharp to start the season, Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, kicked her 2023 campaign off in fine fashion last week by reaching the stepladder finals and walking away with a fourth-place finish at the Stockton Open.

Like McEwan, Boomershine also has enjoyed competing at Lilac Lanes & Casino in the past, and she's hoping to keep her early-season momentum going this week in Spokane.

"I did a lot of preparation and made a few changes to my physical game during the offseason, so it felt awesome to make the stepladder right out of the gate last week in Stockton; it was really satisfying, and it made it feel like all of that work is paying off," Boomershine said. "Also, I love Spokane. The proprietors are super awesome, and I just genuinely like the bowling center. They put on a great professional event."

This week's event kicks off Thursday at 6 p.m. Eastern with the official practice session. Tournament competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, the first beginning at 1 p.m. Eastern and the second following at 8 p.m. Eastern.

The top 26 athletes will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday at noon Eastern before the field is cut down to the top 12 players. Those 12 will have a final six-game round at 5 p.m. Eastern to determine the five players for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall for 24 games.

The finals of the Spokane Open will take place Saturday at 9:30 p.m. Eastern with the winner earning \$20,000.



The action doesn't stop there, however, as Lilac Lanes & Casino also will be hosting the 2023 PWBA Spokane Regional, which will be contested on Sunday starting at 1 p.m. Eastern.

Regional bowlers will participate in an eight-game qualifying block before the field is cut to the top four competitors for the stepladder finals, which will begin at 7 p.m. Eastern.

All rounds of competition at the PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open and the Spokane Regional will be broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

The 2023 PWBA Tour season features 12 events and an overall prize fund of approximately \$1.4 million, which is tied for the largest average per event since the tour's relaunch in 2015.

The schedule also features three majors, the USBC Queens, U.S. Women's Open and season-ending PWBA Tour Championship. The stepladder finals at all three majors will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

There are nine events on the 2023 PWBA Regional schedule. The season kicked off with the PWBA Greater Dallas Regional in January and will conclude with the season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown in December.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

### **MCCARTHY LEADS AFTER DAY 1 AT 2023 PWBA GOBOWLING! SPOKANE OPEN**

**SPOKANE, Wash.** – Some bowlers watch the leaderboard very closely throughout competition while others go out of their way to ignore it altogether.

Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, falls somewhere in the middle, and because of that, she knew that she was in contention for the lead as she stepped up to bowl the 10th frame of her final game of Round 2 qualifying at Lilac Lanes & Casino on Friday night.

However, since she didn't know exactly how many pins she needed in order to claim the top spot, McCarthy just went ahead and struck out, and that allowed her to hold off a late charge by Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, and finish in first place after Day 1 of qualifying at the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association GoBowling! Spokane Open.

McCarthy, a two-time PWBA titlist and the defending U.S. Women's Open champion, finished the day atop the 78-player field by putting up a 12-game total of 2,692 (a 224.33 average), which included four games above 250 (265, 252, 278 and 268).

The 32-year-old right-hander felt that the day could have gone a bit more smoothly; nevertheless, she was pleased to find herself in first place at the midway point of the tournament.

“It was kind of a rollercoaster day for me. I had two good games in the morning and two good games tonight, and the rest was just sort of coasting if you want to call it that,” McCarthy said. “Still, I saw a shape that I was comfortable with today, and that put me in my wheelhouse and allowed me to enjoy both blocks. It was a good day.”

Any day spent atop the standings in PWBA competition is a good day; nevertheless, McCarthy knows that it takes more than a couple of good rounds to bring home a title. As such, she’ll have to be equally sharp on Saturday if she hopes to keep the momentum going.

“Being at the top and having that little bit of cushion sort of eases your mindset a little bit, but obviously you still want to make good shots and try to extend that lead if possible because there’s still a lot of games left,” McCarthy said.

That outlook seems wise as McCarthy’s lead is small, and there are several big names lurking close behind.

Richard sits in second place just 12 pins back after putting up a Day 1 total of 2,680. Fellow Team USA member Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, is third at 2,669.

PWBA Tour rookie Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, who qualified for the TV finals at last year’s United States Bowling Congress Queens as an amateur, was fourth with 2,649 while five-time titlist Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, grabbed the final spot in Friday’s top five at 2,634.

Additionally, 2022 PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O’Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (2,615), was sixth, last week’s season-opening PWBA Stockton Open champion Cherie Tan of Singapore (2,571) was 11th and USBC Hall of Famer and 25-time titlist Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (2,530), was 15th.

The 78-player field was cut to the top 26 players after Friday night’s second round, and Gazmine Mason of Cranston, Rhode Island; Hui Fen New of Singapore and Lilia Robles of Mexico finished in a three-way tie for the final advancing spot with a 12-game total of 2,458, an average of 204.83.

Despite missing the cut by two pins at 2,456, Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri, thrilled the crowd at Lilac Lanes & Casino by recording the first 300 game of the 2023 PWBA season, which came during Game 4 of Round 2.

Saturday’s third round will consist of an additional six games starting at noon Eastern. Then, the top 12 players will return at 5 p.m. Eastern for a fourth and final six-game round to complete qualifying, after which the top five players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 9:30 p.m. Eastern and will be broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com). The champion will earn \$20,000.

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

**2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open**  
**At Lilac Lanes & Casino**  
**Spokane, Wash.**

**Friday's results**

**QUALIFYING**

**(12 games)**

1, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,692. 2, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,680. 3, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,669. 4, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 2,649. 5, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,634. 6, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,615.

7, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,609. 8, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,603. 9, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,593. 10, Avery Domaguin (n), San Diego, Calif., 2,586. 11, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 2,571. 12, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,564.

13, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 2,555. 14, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,533. 15, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,530. 16, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 2,516. 17, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 2,506. 18, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 2,505.

19, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,493. 20, (TIE) Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, and Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 2,479. 22, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,465. 23, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,461. 24, (TIE) Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., and Hui Fen New, Singapore, and Lilia Robles, Mexico, 2,458.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

27, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,456. 28, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 2,453. 29, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 2,449. 30, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 2,446.

31, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,441. 32, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,435. 33, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,434. 34, Samantha How (n), Oregon City, Ore., 2,433. 35, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2,420. 36, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,402.

37, Ana Morales (n), Guatemala, 2,390. 38, Leea Haworth (n), Centralia, Wash., 2,389. 39, Roosa Lundén, Finland, 2,385. 40, Verity Crawley, England, 2,382. 41, Katelyn Simpson (n), Nampa, Idaho, 2,380. 42, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,366.

43, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 2,362. 44, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 2,361. 45, Solene Goron, France, 2,359. 46, Sara Duque (n), Colombia, 2,357. 47, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 2,340. 48, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 2,334.

49, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,331. 50, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,326. 51, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,318. 52, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 2,315. 53, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2,314. 54, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 2,308.

55, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 2,304. 56, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,294. 57, Jill Creamer, Redding, Calif., 2,279. 58, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,276. 59, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 2,274. 60, Brandee Muszynski (n), Mead, Wash., 2,259.

61, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,255. 62, Laura Cowling (n), St. Helens, Ore., 2,252. 63, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 2,248. 64, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 2,247. 65, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 2,221. 66, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 2,204.

67, Shannon Canfield (n), Wellington, Colo., 2,192. 68, Sandy Friberg (n), Colbert, Wash., 2,190. 69, Carrie Schuldt (n), Spokane Valley, Wash., 2,182. 70, Kalee Tripp (n), Butte, Mont., 2,129. 71, Samantha

Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 2,124. 72, Salena Leavitt (n), Liberty Lake, Wash., 2,118.

73, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,101. 74, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,082. 75, Julie Milburn, Snohomish, Wash., 2,060. 76, Chloe Bartlett (n), Puyallup, Wash., 2,036. 77, Valentina Cruz (n), Tacoma, Wash., 2,022. 78, Kaitlyn Blamires (n), Lewiston, Idaho, 2,001.

### **RICHARD WINS 2023 PWBA GOBOWLING! SPOKANE OPEN, COLLECTS THIRD CAREER TITLE**

**SPOKANE, Wash.** – Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, is far from the most outspoken player on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour; nevertheless, if there’s one thing she isn’t shy about expressing, it’s how much she cares for her parents and how big an impact they’ve had on her bowling career.

As such, it somehow seems fitting that Richard captured her latest title on the eve of Mother’s Day.

Richard won that title, the third of her PWBA Tour career, by defeating top seed Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, 234-153, during Saturday night’s stepladder finals at the 2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open, which was contested at Lilac Lanes & Casino in Spokane.

The win allowed Richard to walk away with the \$20,000 first-place prize and championship trophy. McCarthy earned \$10,000 for finishing second.

Shortly after collecting her latest victory, her first since 2019 when she won the PWBA Lincoln Open at Sun Valley Lanes in Lincoln, Nebraska, Richard was asked to discuss what allowed her to reach the winner’s circle once again.

Not surprisingly, she immediately gave the credit to mom and dad.

“I get to do what I do because my parents raised me to be disciplined, and I’ve kept that throughout my entire life,” Richard said. “My parents are amazing, and I’m lucky and fortunate that I have them because they’re the most supportive people in my life. I wish that they were here, but I’ll get to see them tomorrow.”

Had they been in attendance at Lilac Lanes & Casino on Saturday night, Richard’s parents would have seen their daughter put on quite a show.

The 27-year-old right-hander began the evening as the No. 3 seed for the stepladder finals, but once she hit the championship pair, it was clear that she was going to be tough to beat.

Richard’s first opponent was rookie Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, who earned her spot in the bout by defeating 2021 PWBA Player of the Year Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, 202-195, during Match 1.

Gramly would up her score to 215 during Match 2, but it wasn’t nearly enough as Richard struck on six of her first seven shots and eight times overall to cruise to a 245-215 victory and earn herself a berth in the semifinals.

The fourth-place finish won Gramly \$6,500. Coté collected \$5,500 for finishing fifth.

Saturday night's semifinal bout would pit Richard up against No. 2 seed Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, in what would turn out to be the match of the night.

Kovalova, a five-time PWBA Tour titlist and the 2019 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, started strike-spare, strike-spare to grab an early five-pin lead.

Richard didn't take long to respond, however, throwing a four-bagger in frames four through seven to turn the tide and establish a 14-pin advantage of her own with three frames to go.

Kovalova didn't give up, delivering crucial strikes in the seventh, eighth and ninth to keep the pressure on.

Nevertheless, as Richard stepped up for her ninth and 10th frames, the match was hers to win.

If she could strike out, she'd finish at 244, which would lock out Kovalova, whose max score was 240.

Things wouldn't play out that smoothly, however, as Richard's shots in both the ninth and 10th frames went high on the headpin.

Thankfully for Richard, both shots left makeable spares – the 3-6 and the 6-10 – that she converted.

With the opportunity to shut Kovalova out having gone by the wayside, the best Richard could do was strike on her fill ball to force her opponent to throw the first strike in the 10th frame to win.

Richard did just that, delivering the key strike on her final ball to post a score of 220.

At that point, all Richard could do was wait and watch.

If Kovalova struck on her next shot, she would win, and Richard would have to settle for her second third-place finish in as many weeks – she finished third at last week's season-opener, the PWBA Stockton Open.

It wasn't meant to be for Kovalova on this night, however, as the crucial shot hooked high through the face, leaving a 3-6-7-10 split.

She took two pins on the conversion attempt, which made the final score 220-202 in favor of Richard, who advanced to the title match to face McCarthy.

Kovalova took home \$7,500 for finishing third.

The final match of the night wouldn't prove nearly as exciting as the one that came before it as McCarthy, who led the field after Day 1 and never relinquished the lead throughout the rest of qualifying, simply never found her way on the championship pair.

The two-time PWBA Tour titlist and reigning U.S. Women's Open champion opened three of the first five frames, which allowed Richard to jump out to a 35-pin lead at the halfway point of the match.

McCarthy did her best to hang tough, but once Richard delivered strikes in the sixth, seventh and eighth frames, the outcome was determined; the title belonged to Richard, and, to her, it felt like a long time coming.

"I feel relieved. Even though I had won twice before, it had been four years since I'd gotten it done, so it feels good to get that monkey off my back," Richard said. "I'm excited and happy that it all clicked today; it almost feels like my first title all over again."

Things certainly clicked pretty well for Richard during Saturday night's stepladder finals as she put up a three-game total of 699 (a 233 average) by shooting scores of 245, 220 and 234.

But more importantly, things have clicked well for Richard during each of the first two weeks of the 2023 PWBA Tour season as a whole as she already has a win and third-place finish under her belt.

She'd love to keep the momentum going next week at the season's first major, the 2023 USBC Queens, which will be contested at Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas from May 17-23.

However, part of Richard's early-season success can be attributed to looking at each event as a new opportunity, so she has no designs on changing that approach anytime soon.

"I've just been trying to keep an open mind and not try to prove anything to anybody. Every week is a new week, and I just have to take it that way," Richard said. "I can have good weeks and bad weeks, but as long as I focus on just putting one foot in front of the other, I'll be okay."

The winner of the 2023 Queens will take home \$60,000. All rounds of competition leading up to the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on BowlTV.

The stepladder finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network on May 23 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The 78-player field in Spokane bowled 12 games Friday before the first cut to the top 26 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

All rounds of competition at the Spokane Open, including the stepladder finals, were broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

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

For more information about the USBC Queens, visit [BOWL.com/tournaments/usbc-queens](http://BOWL.com/tournaments/usbc-queens).

## **2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open**

**At Lilac Lanes & Casino**

**Spokane, Wash.**

### **Saturday's results**

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 699 (three games), \$20,000.
- 2, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 153 (one game), \$10,000.
- 3, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 202 (one game), \$7,500.
- 4, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 417 (two games), \$6,500.
- 5, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 195 (one game), \$5,500.

## **STEPLADDER RESULTS**

Match No. 1 – Gramly def. Coté, 202-195.

Match No. 2 – Richard def. Gramly, 245-215.

Semifinal – Richard def. Kovalova, 220-202.

Championship – Richard def. McCarthy, 234-153.

## **QUALIFYING ROUND 4**

1, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 5,331. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 5,316. 3, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 5,227. 4, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 5,223. 5, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5,203.

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

6, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 5,157, \$4,500. 7, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,147, \$4,300. 8, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 5,008, \$4,100. 9, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 4,996, \$3,900. 10, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,994, \$3,700. 11, Avery Domaguin (n), San Diego, Calif., 4,982, \$3,500. 12, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 4,972, \$3,300.

## **QUALIFYING ROUND 3**

1, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 4,034. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 4,029. 3, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 3,944. 4, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 3,924. 5, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 3,921. 6, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,884.

7, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,841. 8, Avery Domaguin (n), San Diego, Calif., 3,837. 9, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,829. 10, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 3,811. 11, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,807. 12, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,770.

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

13, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 3,768, \$2,900. 14, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 3,767, \$2,850. 15, Hui Fen New, Singapore, 3,746, \$2,800. 16, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 3,737, \$2,750. 17, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,730, \$2,700. 18, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,727, \$2,650.

19, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,721, \$2,600. 20, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,711, \$2,550. 21, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,690, \$2,500. 22, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,679, \$2,450. 23, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 3,643, \$2,400. 24, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 3,599, \$2,350.

25, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,575, \$2,300. 26, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 3,536, \$2,250.

## **SIMPSON WINS 2023 PWBA SPOKANE REGIONAL**

**SPOKANE, Wash.** – Less than 24 hours after Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, captured her third Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title by winning the 2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open, Lilac Lanes & Casino was ready to crown another champion.

This time, it was Katelyn Simpson of Nampa, Idaho, who emerged victorious as she defeated top seed Kerry Smith of Lititz, Pennsylvania, 247-226, during Sunday night's stepladder finals to win the 2023 PWBA Spokane Regional.

The win gave Simpson her second career PWBA regional title – her first came at the 2019 PWBA Orlando Regional – and allowed her to walk away with the \$1,500 first-place prize.

Smith earned \$750 for her runner-up finish.

For Simpson, the win meant ending her week in Spokane on a high note.

“I didn’t have a super-great week at the national stop a couple days ago, which was kind of a letdown, so it feels really good to come out here today, execute really well and come away with the win,” Simpson said.

Only Simpson is qualified to assess how much better she executed from one day to the next, but the numbers make it crystal clear that something definitely improved for her between Friday and Sunday.

During Friday’s two rounds of qualifying at the PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open, Simpson broke 200 just five times in 12 games, which caused her to end the day with a 198.33 average and finish in 41st place, missing the cut.

On Sunday, Simpson qualified third in the 38-player field at the PWBA Spokane Regional, averaging 231.64 and breaking 200 during all 11 games she bowled. Her lowest game on the day was 216.

Besides the improved execution that she already mentioned, Simpson also attributed Sunday’s success to her having matched up very well with the regional’s 35-foot oil pattern.

“I typically like when there’s more friction, so I was able to see the picture pretty clearly all day,” Simpson said. “I only used three different balls today, and, thankfully, they struck enough.”

It certainly appeared as if plenty of strikes would be needed during the stepladder finals as both Smith and No. 2 qualifier Mallory Clark of Auburn, Maine, recorded a 299 during qualifying.

Nevertheless, once the finals began, it was Simpson who always seemed to be riding a string of strikes.

Simpson struck on five of her first six shots and eight times total while taking down No. 4 seed Justyne Vukovich of New Stanton, Pennsylvania, 222-194, in Match 1.

Vukovich finished in fourth place and took home \$500.

Not content to rest on her laurels, Simpson upped her total to nine strikes during her semifinal tilt with Clark, and she’d need every one of them too.

Clark actually led the match early on, using an opening double and a four-bagger in frames four through seven to establish an 18-pin advantage with just three frames to go.

Disaster struck Clark in the eighth frame, however, as a high shot resulted in a 4-7-10 split that she could not convert.

She would recover by striking out to post a final score of 244, but the open frame left the door open wide open for Simpson.

As champions usually do, the talented-righthander walked right through, finishing the game with a five-bagger of her own to eliminate Clark by a final score of 247-244 and punch her ticket to the title match.



The loss sent Clark home with a third-place finish and \$600.

When the championship match started, it was clear that Simpson had no interest in playing from behind again.

To prove that point, she opened the game with a four-bagger before a solid 10-pin halted her string; nevertheless, she converted the spare and then doubled in the sixth and seventh to keep the pressure firmly on Smith's shoulders.

The top seed stayed strong, notching her own double in frames five and six and then carding a turkey in the eighth, ninth and 10th to keep herself within striking distance of Simpson.

However, the run ended when Smith's 11th shot came in light and left the 2-8. She'd take one pin on the conversion attempt, causing her to finish with a 226 total.

That meant that Simpson would just need to mark in the 10th frame in order to capture the title.

To nobody's surprise, Simpson's mark of choice was a strike, which officially made her the 2023 PWBA Spokane Regional champion.

Simpson would finish her 10th frame off with two additional strikes to make the final score 247-226.

During her three games in the stepladder finals, Simpson averaged 238.67 and struck on 26 out of 35 shots.

Nevertheless, Simpson wasn't keeping score or tracking stats in her head as each match came down the stretch; she kept her focus on one shot at a time.

"I was trying to stay in the moment and just control what I could control," Simpson said. "That's what I did, and it all worked out."

Another thing that worked out for Simpson is that by winning the Spokane Open, she earned herself a spot in the season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown in December.

Simpson wasn't aware that a Regional Showdown berth was on the line when competition began Sunday; nevertheless, winning that spot helped make her latest victory just that much sweeter.

"The Regional Showdown sounds like a really cool opportunity," Simpson said. "I was trying to stay in the moment and not really think about that while I was competing, but now that I've won, it's definitely a nice perk."

The field at the Regional Showdown will feature 16 players. Each regional champion in 2023 will automatically be seeded into match play at the event while the rest of the field will be determined through an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.

The 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals. The winner of the Regional Showdown will receive paid entries into all singles events on the 2024 PWBA National Tour schedule.

The next PWBA Regional event will be June 11 at the PWBA Cleveland Regional. The tournament will be held at Yorktown Lanes in Parma Heights, Ohio, one day after competition concludes at the 2023 PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open.

**2023 PWBA Spokane Regional**  
**At Lilac Lanes & Casino**  
**Spokane, Wash.**

**Sunday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Katelyn Simpson, Nampa, Idaho, 716 (three games), \$1,500.
- 2, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 226 (one game), \$750.
- 3, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 244 (one game), \$600.
- 4, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 194 (one game), \$500.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Simpson def. Vukovich, 222-194.  
Semifinal – Simpson def. Clark, 247-244.  
Championship – Simpson def. Smith, 247-226.

**QUALIFYING**  
**(8 games)**

- 1, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 1,899. 2, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 1,839. 3, Katelyn Simpson (n), Nampa, Idaho, 1,832. 4, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 1,822.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 5, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,797, \$300. 6, Avery Domaguin (n), San Diego, Calif., 1,793, \$280.

- 7, Felicia Wong, Canada, 1,771, \$260. 8, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,766, \$240. 9, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 1,761, \$220. 10, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 1,739, \$210. 11, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 1,731, \$205. 12, Roosa Lundén, Finland, 1,727, \$195.

- 13, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 1,698, \$190. 14, Solene Goron, France, 1,692. 15, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 1,670. 16, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 1,660. 17, Cheryl Gould, Spokane, Wash., 1,612. 18, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 1,595.

- 19, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 1,594. 20, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 1,593. 21, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 1,588. 22, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,587. 23, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 1,563. 24, Jill Creamer, Redding, Calif., 1,560.

- 25, Kaitlyn Blamires (n), Lewiston, Idaho, 1,554. 26, Candace Vantine, Spokane, Wash., 1,473. 27, Sandy Friberg (n), Colbert, Wash., 1,462. 28, Paige Harns (n), Kennewick, Wash., 1,451. 29, Brandee Muszynski (n), Mead, Wash., 1,445. 30, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 1,436.

- 31, Carrie Schuldt, Spokane Valley, Wash., 1,412. 32, Annie Silvers (n), Spokane, Wash., 1,409. 33, Samantha Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 1,408. 34, Paula Phelps (n), Hayden, Idaho, 1,330. 35, Ana Morales (n),

Guatemala, 1,326. 36, Elizabeth Wong, Canada, 1,319.

37, Nicole Huth, Hermiston, Ore., 1,310. 38, Julie Milburn, Snohomish, Wash., 1,214.

## **PWBA HALL OF FAME INDUCTS FOUR NEW MEMBERS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Three members of the 2023 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Hall of Fame class and a belated member from 2020 were celebrated during their induction ceremony Wednesday at Sam’s Town Hotel and Gambling Hall.

Cheryl Daniels of Detroit and Carol Gianotti of Australia were elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame in the Performance category, and Paula Carter of Miami was elected as an Ambassador. Mary Bundrick of Chicago was inducted posthumously through Meritorious Service/Builder.

All four inductees were represented at the ceremony on Wednesday with Daniels, Gianotti and Carter attending in person while Bundrick’s induction was celebrated by members of her family.

Gianotti was elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame in 2020, but this year was the first opportunity she’s had to attend the induction ceremony since that time.

Daniels has won 10 PWBA Tour titles and owns one major victory at the 1995 U.S. Women’s Open.

She collected her first victory at the 1989 Ebonite Firebolt Classic, which kicked off a four-win season for the talented right-hander. Daniels also collected multiple titles during the 1994 and 1995 seasons. Her last win came in 1996 at the Rossford Golden Triangle Open.

In addition to her win at the U.S. Women’s Open, she has recorded nine other top-five finishes at majors and was inducted to the USBC Hall of Fame in 2002 for Superior Performance. She’s also a member of the Michigan State USBC and Metro Detroit USBC Halls of Fame.

But for all the accomplishments that she recorded over the course of her career, what Daniels remembers and values most are the relationships that she was able to forge while bowling on tour.

“The thing I cherish most is how many wonderful people I met,” Daniels said. “I met so many fans and terrific people while traveling all over the United States and abroad. I value so many of the fans and friends that I met along the way. We had a great time, and I wouldn’t give it up for anything.”

Daniels got to see firsthand just how special those interactions were to the fans and friends she shared them with as well, and that is something else that she thinks of fondly when reminiscing about her PWBA career.

“For some people, just meeting a lady pro really made it for them,” Daniels said. “You don’t always realize the impact that you have, but people really appreciate women, bowlers and athletes in their sport. It was an incredible feeling to know that I met so many amazing people who just love bowling so much.”

Gianotti certainly loves it.

She became a major champion at age 21, capturing her first professional title at the 1989 USBC Queens. The Perth, Australia, native would claim 16 PWBA titles from 1989 through 2000, adding her second major title at the 1996 Sam’s Town Invitational.

She won a career-best four titles during the 1992 season, which helped her earn Quit Australian Sportswoman of the Year honors in 1992 and 1993. In 1998, she won two titles and was named PWBA Player of the Year after leading the PWBA in earnings and average.

Gianotti also was named the 1998 International Bowling Media Association Female Bowler of the Year and 1998 Bowling Digest Female Pro Bowler of the Year.

Gianotti was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2011 for Superior Performance.

Considering all that she accomplished, it’s hard to imagine the PWBA Tour of the 1990s without Gianotti; nevertheless, had it not been for the encouragement of a fellow bowler and friend, Gianotti may never have had the courage to leave Australia to take a run at tour life.

“It started when Wendy (Macpherson) told me that I should come to the States and try to compete over here,” Gianotti said. “I made the decision when I was 19; it was a big move, and it was scary. I didn’t know how it would turn out, but it was one of the best decisions I ever made.”

And that decision set the stage for what would become a Hall of Fame career.

Gianotti is humbled when she thinks of all that she accomplished; nevertheless, like Daniels, Gianotti remembers the people and friendships as much or more than she remembers the trophies and checks.

“Everyone’s goal is to try to win one or two titles, so to win 10 and then get all the way up to 16, that’s a lot of titles,” Gianotti said. “I love bowling; I love the competitiveness, but it’s the people, the friends and the laughs that mean the most. I just think it’s amazing.”

What was equally amazing was how Carter managed to not only focus on her own career, but also to put so much time and effort into helping to promote the sport of bowling as a whole.

Carter is a two-time winner at the U.S. Women's Open. The left-hander captured the prestigious victory at the 1971 and 1975 events.

Her performance during the 1971 season helped her earn recognition as the IBMA Bowler of the Year and a spot on the All-America team for Bowlers Journal International (1970-1971).

She promoted the sport through several national television appearances during the 1970s, helping bring professional women's bowling to a new audience, and in 2011, Carter received the Flowers for the Living Award. She was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame for Superior Performance in 1994 and also is a member of the Greater Miami USBC, Florida State USBC and Florida Sports Halls of Fame.

But for all that she accomplished as a competitor, for Carter, it was always more about what she could do to grow the sport.

"After I had some success, they would send me to newspapers. I remember one time I went to the New York Times, and they put me on top of a desk and had me pretend I was bowling. That was picked up by something like 200 papers," Carter said. "When I did those kinds of things, I knew the word was getting out about bowling. I loved that; it's all I ever wanted."

Carter's willingness to make the good of the sport a higher priority than her own personal accolades is probably what she is best known for, and it's very close to the top of the list of what she's proudest of regarding her induction.

"I was honored to be accepted into the Hall of Fame under the category of Ambassador," Carter said. "There are hundreds of bowlers, but how many ambassadors are there? I thought it was special to be one of the people who made the sport better, go forward and get bigger as opposed to just being a bowler. That wasn't the part for me. The part for me was getting other people to love the sport as much as I did."

But Carter may never have had the opportunity to grow the sport through the PWBA Tour if it weren't for Bundrick.

Bundrick, who died in 2001 at the age of 89, played a major role in the creation of the PWBA and served as the organization's first president from 1959-1963.

While serving as the executive director of the Les Dames De 700 Bowling Club in the late 1950s, Bundrick looked at the formation of the Professional Bowlers Association in 1958 and hoped to bring together a similar program to showcase the top female athletes in the sport.

She hired Georgia Veatch (PWBA and USBC Hall of Famer) to serve as executive director for the new organization and invited eight prominent female bowlers to a meeting that helped set the stage for the creation of the PWBA. At the conclusion of the meeting, rules, regulations and a constitution had been approved and 23 women were made charter members of the organization.

“Many people thought that Georgia Veatch started the PWBA when the truth is that she was its first executive secretary; she was hired by Mary Bundrick,” USBC Hall of Famer Fran Deken said. “Mary Bundrick started the PWBA.

“When we learned this, we knew that Mary Bundrick deserved to be in the Hall of Fame just as Georgia Veatch already was. We felt that Mary Bundrick’s exclusion was an oversight that needed to be corrected, and we got the job done and got her elected as she should’ve been as the founder of the PWBA.”

If it weren’t for Bundrick’s initiative, the PWBA Tour may never have come to fruition, and the best women’s bowlers in the world may never have had a consistent opportunity to compete.

With that in mind, all PWBA Hall of Famers, past, present and future, owe Bundrick a debt of gratitude.

The PWBA Hall of Fame Committee elected the 2023 class based on submitted applications. The committee is comprised of PWBA Hall of Fame members, board members of the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America and USBC and bowling media members.

Through 2023, there are 47 members of the PWBA Hall of Fame – 27 in performance, 11 in Ambassador and nine in Meritorious Service/Builder.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## **– MEDIA ADVISORY –**

### **PRO WOMEN’S BOWLING TOUR IN ROCHESTER JUNE 13-20**

\* **WHAT:** U.S. Women’s Open, the second major championship of the 2023 Professional Women’s Bowling Association (PWBA) Tour season

\* **WHERE:** ABC Gates Bowl, 645 Spencerport Rd., Rochester, NY 14606

#### **\* SCHEDULE:**

**- Tuesday, June 13**

11 a.m. – Pre-tournament qualifier (eight games)

6:30 p.m. – Bowl with the Pros, where fans bowl alongside their favorite PWBA players in a fun and exciting environment. Contact ABC Gates Bowl to register.

**- Wednesday, June 14**

9 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. – Official practice sessions

**- Thursday, June 15**

8 a.m. – 10 p.m. – Qualifying (three squads each bowl eight games)

**- Friday, June 16**

8 a.m. – 10 p.m. – Qualifying (three squads each bowl eight games)

**- Saturday, June 17**

8 a.m. – 10 p.m. – Qualifying (three squads each bowl eight games, cut to top third of the field)

**- Sunday, June 18**

10 a.m. – Cashers' Round (one squad bowls eight games, cut to top 24 players)

5 p.m. – Round-Robin match play (one squad bowls eight games)

**- Monday, June 19**

10 a.m. – Round-Robin match play (one squad bowls eight games)

5 p.m. – Round-Robin match play (one squad bowls eight games, cut to top 5 players)

**- Tuesday, June 20**

7 p.m. – Live stepladder finals on CBS Sports Network

**\* ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** This will mark the tenth time that the PWBA Tour has come to Rochester. The last time was in 2017 when Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, won the Rochester Open by defeating Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, 226-224.

The 2023 PWBA season will have 12 events taking place across the country. Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, is the reigning PWBA Player of the Year, and Olivia Farwell of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, was the 2022 PWBA Rookie of the Year.

We encourage local media to reach out ahead of time so that we can have athletes available for interviews. Players have the most accessibility on practice day (June 14) but also can be accessed after the completion of each round of competition.

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

## **BARNES BESTS FIELD DURING OPENING ROUND AT 2023 USBC QUEENS**

**LAS VEGAS** – On a day when less than 25 percent of the field averaged 200, Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, averaged nearly 230 to capture the overall lead after Round 1 of qualifying at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens.

Barnes had a strong start to her week at Sam's Town Bowling Center, breaking 200 during all five games of Thursday's opening round (278, 200, 246, 201 and 222) for an 1,147 five-game total (a 229.4 average).

Heather Erdei of Omaha, Nebraska, was second with 1,127 while Iliana Lomeli of Mexico was third at 1,123. Carlene Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin (1,121) and Abby Ragsdale of Aurora, Illinois (1,112), secured the final spots in the Day 1 top five.

The Queens is the third event and first major championship on the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule. The finals will be broadcast live Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network. All qualifying and match-play rounds leading up to the televised finals are streaming live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

For Barnes, a four-time PWBA Tour champion, getting to the top of the leaderboard on Day 1 involved executing a very simple plan.

"I just tried to keep the ball in front of me and not give the head pin away," Barnes said. "I watched A Squad in the morning, and the lanes didn't look fun at all. My goal coming in was just to try to make tomorrow and the following day as easy as possible, and I'm walking away feeling good about that."

Now, the 34-year-old right-hander hopes to continue those good feelings and take another step toward capturing her second career major title – she won the 2021 U.S. Women's Open – when she gets back on the lanes Friday morning for Round 2.

However, Barnes has more than enough Queens experience to know that the object of the first three days is simply to keep yourself in position to make the cut to match play.

"The goal of this tournament is to make that bracket," Barnes said. "The way that I bowled today should make it a little easier to do that, which gives me a lot of confidence."

Barnes should be confident at the Queens as she advanced to the TV finals and finished fifth during her debut appearance in 2012, and she's gone on to record multiple top-10 finishes in the years that have followed.

For Barnes, there's just something about Queens match play that brings out her best.



“I like getting into that head-to-head match-play format because it’s just you and one other person; you can figure out the equation that’s on the lane,” Barnes said. “I always look forward to this event.”

Barnes and the rest of the bowlers on B Squad will be back on the lanes when 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 Birgit Noreiks of Germany, who is guaranteed a spot in the double-elimination bracket as the defending champion.

Noreiks finished the first round with a 968 total and is tied for 74th place.

Match play will begin Sunday, with all matches prior to the stepladder finals featuring a three-game total-pinfal format. Bracket play resumes Monday with the top five athletes advancing to Tuesday’s stepladder finals on CBS Sports Network.

The 2023 Queens champion will take home the \$60,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit [BOWL.com/Queens](http://BOWL.com/Queens).

**2023 USBC Queens  
At Sam’s Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas**

**Thursday’s Results**

**QUALIFYING – ROUND 1  
(Five games)**

1, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,147. 2, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 1,127. 3, Iliana Lomeli (n), Mexico, 1,123. 4, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 1,121. 5, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 1,112. 6, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 1,111.

7, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 1,106. 8, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 1,098. 9, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 1,092. 10, Maranda Pattison (n), Redwood Valley, Calif., 1,087. 11, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 1,083. 12, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 1,072.

13, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,070. 14, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,064. 15, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 1,062. 16, Alyssa Tucker (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 1,061. 17, Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 1,052. 18, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 1,049.

19, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 1,048. 20, Jenny Wegner (n), Sweden, 1,042. 21, Amber MacLeod (n), Brick, N.J., 1,041. 22, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 1,040. 23, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 1,039. 24, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 1,030.

25, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,026. 26, (TIE) Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y.,

and Karsyn Lukosius (n), Jackson, N.J., 1,022. 28, (TIE) Brittany Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, and Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 1,021. 30, (TIE) Marcia Kloempken (n), Pleasant View, Utah, and

Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, and Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,015. 33, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 1,014. 34, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 1,013. 35, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 1,012. 36, Solene Goron, France, 1,010.

37, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 1,008. 38, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 1,005. 39, (TIE) Laura Plazas, Colombia, and Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., and Jennifer Russo, Holdmel, N.J., 1,002. 42, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,001.

43, (TIE) Roosa Lundén, Finland, and Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,000. 45, (TIE) Madeleine McDuff (n), Katy, Texas, and Anna Andersson (n), Sweden, and Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 999. 48, Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 995.

49, Crystal Bitrick (n), Mountain Home, Idaho, 994. 50, (TIE) Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, and Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., and Sarah Gill (n), Fitchburg, Mass., 993. 53, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 988. 54, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 986.

55, (TIE) Daria Pajak, Poland, and Samantha How (n), Oregon City, Ore., and Joline Persson Planefors (n), Sweden, 983. 58, (TIE) Casja Wegner (n), Sweden, and Allison Korcak (n), Tampa, Fla., 982. 60, Ana Morales (n), Guatemala, 980.

61, (TIE) Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, and Alejandra Urrutia (n), Highland, Calif., and Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 979. 64, (TIE) Edith Quintanilla (n), El Salvador, and Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 976. 66, (TIE) Barbara Lunsford (n), Plainfield, Ill., and

Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., and Vanessa Fuzie (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 975. 69, Mary Orf (n), St. Louis, Mo., 974. 70, (TIE) Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, and Jenna Williams (n), Homosassa, Fla., 972. 72, Kelsi Anderson (n), San Antonio, Texas, 971.

73, Amber Milan, Mount Vernon, N.Y., 970. 74, (TIE) Kristina Catoe (n), Mooresville, N.C., and Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 968. 76, Katie Robb (n), Swedesboro, N.J., 967. 77, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 966. 78, (TIE) Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., and

Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 965. 80, Johanna Puentes (n), Colombia, 961. 81, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 960. 82, (TIE) Sarah Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, and Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Julie Oczepek (n), Vassar, Mich., 959.

85, (TIE) Nichole Hiraoka (n), Daly City, Calif., and Nicole Reese (n), Duluth, Minn., 958. 87, Laura Lopez Botero (n), Colombia, 957. 88, (TIE) Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., and Harmonie Trenn (n), Aurora, Colo., 955. 90, Lauren Sammel (n), Madison, Wis., 953.

91, Hayley Veitch (n), Kenner, La., 951. 92, (TIE) Peppi Konsteri, Finland, and Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 949. 94, Cassidy Courey (n), Brooklyn Center, Minn., 948. 95, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 946. 96, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 945.

97, Estefania Prieto Pinilla (n), Colombia, 944. 98, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 943. 99, (TIE) Virginia Young (n), Vista, Calif., and Hui Fen New, Singapore, 941. 101, (TIE) Raycine Mortensen (n), Las Vegas, Nev., and Maria Ferraro (n), Colombia, 939.

103, (TIE) Linda Walbaum (n), Brighton, Colo., and Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., and Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, and Najah Owens (n), Raleigh, N.C., 938. 107, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 937. 108, Michelle Abner (n), Cincinnati, Ohio, 936.

109, (TIE) Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., and Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill.,

935. 111, Jenna Coldiron (n), West Chester, Ohio, 934. 112, (TIE) Raelyn Hazen (n), Roy, Utah, and Daniela Gonzalez (n), Babson Park, Fla., and Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., and

Josefin Hermansson (n), Sweden, 933. 116, Sarah Hood (n), Clifton, N.J., 932. 117, Ana Bolanos (n), Guatemala, 930. 118, (TIE) Carrie Endres (n), Windsor, Colo., and Kayla Crawford, Ossian, Ind., 929. 120, Sara Duque (n), Colombia, 927.

121, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 926. 122, Emily Peterson (n), West Fargo, N.D., 925. 123, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 924. 124, (TIE) Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, and Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., 923. 126, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 922.

127, (TIE) Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., and Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., 921. 129, (TIE) Emily Eckhoff (n), Wheat Ridge, Colo., and Kristina Kennicutt (n), Lubbock, Texas, 920. 131, (TIE) Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, and Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 919.

133, Cheryl Daniels (n), Southfield, Mich., 918. 134, (TIE) Suzanne Morine (n), Castleton on Hudson, N.Y., and Stephanie Casey (n), Yonkers, N.Y., and Kimberly Newell (n), New Smyrna Beach, Fla., and Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 917. 138, (TIE) Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and

Eryn Jones (n), Greenfield, Ind., 915. 140, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 914. 141, (TIE) Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Kelso, Wash., and Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 913. 143, (TIE) Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., and Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 912.

145, (TIE) Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., and Brandi Stephens (n), Lubbock, Texas, 911. 147, Brooke Salzman (n), Inver Grove Heights, Minn., 909. 148, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 908. 149, Theresa Wells (n), Deerfield, Wis., 906. 150, (TIE) Alyssa Ballard (n), Keller, Texas, and

Nora Johansson (n), Sweden, and Mary Conneely (n), Des Plaines, Ill., 905. 153, (TIE) Bailey Palmer (n), Ottumwa, Iowa, and Stephanie DellaBernarda (n), Vernon Rockville, Conn., 902. 155, Madyson Marx (n), Maplewood, Minn., 901. 156, Felicia Wong, Canada, 900.

157, Terysa Wojnar (n), New Lenox, Ill., 896. 158, Corina Grasso (n), Fort Collins, Colo., 895. 159, Hanna Engberg (n), Sweden, 894. 160, Victoria Johansson (n), Sweden, 893. 161, Brooklyn Gagnon (n), Sioux Falls, S.D., 891. 162, (TIE) Taishaye Naranjo (n), Lake Wales, Fla., and

Mandi Fournier (n), Braintree, Vt., and Carmen Aguilar (n), Venezuela, 889. 165, (TIE) Chelsea Sporkia (n), Eugene, Ore., and Stephanie Burkhardt (n), Beavercreek, Ohio, 884. 167, Samantha Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 883. 168, Genese Cowart-Headen, Yonkers, N.Y., 882.

169, Juliana Botero (n), Colombia, 880. 170, Jennifer Dorn (n), Chino, Calif., 879. 171, Kirstin Foster (n), Pella, Iowa, 877. 172, (TIE) Brianna Rogers (n), Florence, S.C., and Elizabeth Rees (n), Lehi, Utah, 876. 174, (TIE) Sandra Maresca (n), Mamaroneck, N.Y., and

Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 875. 176, Donna Yellowrobe (n), Albuquerque, N.M., 871. 177, (TIE) Emma Wrenn (n), Arlington Heights, Ill., and Kaitlyn Eder (n), Lithia, Fla., 870. 179, (TIE) Breanne Woten (n), Oskaloosa, Iowa, and Pamela Perez Millan (n), Carolina, PR, 869.

181, (TIE) Michelle Dennison (n), Albuquerque, N.M., and Debbie Ayers (n), La Mesa, Calif., and Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 868. 184, Verity Crawley, England, 864. 185, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 863. 186, Alyssa Ferraro (n), Deltona, Fla., 862.

187, Roberta Vann (n), Downey, Calif., 861. 188, Leea Haworth (n), Centralia, Wash., 858. 189, Veronica Cepeda-Samer (n), Savannah, Ga., 856. 190, Laura Barrios (n), Guatemala, 851. 191, (TIE) Angela Brown (n), Diamondhead, Miss., and Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 849.

193, Jill Moore (n), Elizabethtown, Pa., 846. 194, (TIE) Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Andreea Gohagan (n), Henderson, Nev., and Teddi Wright (n), Lutz, Fla., 842. 197, Claudia Barrios de Burbano (n), Guatemala, 838. 198, Aileen Linares (n), Rio Rancho, N.M., 837.

199, Sofia Rodriguez Granda (n), Guatemala, 835. 200, Melissa Landers (n), Joplin, Mo., 831. 201, Jennifer DeGroot (n), North Little Rock, Ark., 830. 202, Brandi Calderon (n), Tempe, Ariz., 829. 203, (TIE) Rebecca Hagerman (n), Loves Park, Ill., and Kim Bui (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 825.

205, Gabriella VanHorn (n), Lansing, Mich., 823. 206, Carla Hansen (n), Deptford, N.J., 821. 207, (TIE) Adrienne Hare (n), Rio Rancho, N.M., and Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 815. 209, Darlene Dysart (n), Southfield, Mich., 809. 210, Krysta Deleon (n), Henderson, Nev., 808.

211, Denise Kurek, Leland, N.C., 803. 212, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 802. 213, Nicole Kleutgen, Stevens Point, Wis., 799. 214, Michaela Morgan (n), The Woodlands, Texas, 766. 215, (TIE) Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., and Bernadette Wooley (n), Frankfort, Ill., 736.

## **TAN CONTINUES TORRID START TO SEASON, LEADS FIELD AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2023 USBC QUEENS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Cherie Tan of Singapore isn't a bowler who can fly under the radar.

After all, the 35-year-old left-hander is a four-time winner and past major champion on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour.

Her success isn't limited to the past either as she won the season-opening 2023 PWBA Stockton Open and finished 13th at last weekend's GoBowling! Spokane Open.

As such, it probably didn't come as a surprise to many when Tan moved into the overall lead after Friday's second round of qualifying at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens, which is being contested at Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas.

Tan followed up Thursday's five-game score of 1,072 with a tournament-best 1,167 on Friday thanks to games of 222, 215, 248, 225 and 257. That allowed her to jump from

12th place after Round 1 to the lead at the end of Round 2 with a two-day, 10-game total of 2,239, an average of 223.9.

Tan is joined in the top five by Madison Janack of Wichita, Kansas (2,149), Anna Andersson of Sweden (2,138), Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas (2,138), and Day 1 leader Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee (2,123).

However, the number most competitors are eyeing at the moment is 1,952, which is the score shared by Daniela Gonzalez of Babson Park, Florida, and Lilia Robles of Mexico.

That's because those two bowlers are currently tied for 64th place, which represents the final advancing position into the match-play bracket.

Gonzalez and Robles are far from assured of spots, however, as there is still one five-game qualifying round remaining before the first cuts are made.

That round is scheduled to get underway Saturday at noon Eastern with all bowlers competing on the fresh 45-foot lane condition. After 15 games, the field will be cut to the top 63 players and Birgit Noreiks of Germany, who is guaranteed a spot in the double-elimination bracket as the defending champion.

Noreiks currently sits tied for 28th place with a two-day total of 2,009.

The USBC Queens is the third event and first major championship on the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule. The finals will be broadcast live Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network. All qualifying and match-play rounds leading up to the televised finals are streaming live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

Tan is hoping to be a part of that telecast, and to get there, she plans on employing the same strategy that has allowed her to find success during the first two rounds.

"I've pretty much kept things simple," Tan said. "I kept the same launch angles both days; I just changed the equipment I used to play them. I think I'm a little lucky because I found the right look early on, which kept me from having to figure things out throughout the blocks."

Tan will enter Round 3 with a 90-pin lead on second place and inside the current cut number by nearly 300 pins. She plans to put that cushion to good use before the match-play portion of the tournament begins on Sunday.

"I have quite a bit of a buffer, so that should allow me to try a few things here and there with my equipment tomorrow to see what's solid," Tan said. "I wasn't very good toward the end of the first day, so since I won't have to focus on carry as much, I should be able to experiment to see how the lanes are changing each day."

Tan knows that such knowledge could prove invaluable once match play begins.

“It’s always nice to be the leader, but once we move to the bracket, being first, 20th, 30th or 60th doesn’t make that much of a difference since it’s all about winning matches,” Tan said.

Match play will begin Sunday with all matches prior to the stepladder finals featuring a three-game total-pinfal format. Bracket play resumes Monday with the top five athletes advancing to Tuesday’s stepladder finals.

The 2023 Queens champion will take home the \$60,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit [BOWL.com/Queens](http://BOWL.com/Queens).

**2023 USBC Queens  
At Sam’s Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas**

**Friday’s Results**

**QUALIFYING – ROUND 2  
(10 games)**

1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 2,239. 2, Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 2,149. 3, (TIE) Anna Andersson (n), Sweden, and Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,138. 5, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,123. 6, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,118.

7, Maranda Pattison (n), Redwood Valley, Calif., 2,097. 8, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 2,094. 9, Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,085. 10, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 2,081. 11, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,079. 12, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,077.

13, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 2,076. 14, Iliana Lomeli (n), Mexico, 2,075. 15, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,064. 16, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 2,059. 17, Roosa Lundén, Finland, 2,057. 18, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,056.

19, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,052. 20, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,048. 21, Brittany Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 2,045. 22, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,043. 23, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2,040. 24, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,034.

25, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,030. 26, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 2,020. 27, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,017. 28, (TIE) Birgit Noreiks, Germany, and Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 2,009. 30, (TIE) Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, and

Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,004. 32, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,003. 33, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,002. 34, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 1,999. 35, (TIE) Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., and Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,998.

37, Solene Goron, France, 1,997. 38, (TIE) Jenna Williams (n), Homosassa, Fla., and Sarah Gill (n), Fitchburg, Mass., and Laura Plazas, Colombia, 1,995. 41, Samantha How (n), Oregon City, Ore., 1,994. 42, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 1,991.

43, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,990. 44, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 1,987. 45, Amber Milan, Mount Vernon, N.Y., 1,986. 46, (TIE) Laura Lopez Botero (n), Colombia, and Madeleine McDuff (n), Katy, Texas, and Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,985.

49, (TIE) Daphne Tan, Singapore, and Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 1,984. 51, (TIE) Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., and Daria Pajak, Poland, 1,977. 53, Karsyn Lukosius (n), Jackson, N.J., 1,972. 54, Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 1,970.

55, Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., 1,967. 56, (TIE) Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., and Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 1,966. 58, Kelsi Anderson (n), San Antonio, Texas, 1,965. 59, (TIE) Hui Fen New, Singapore, and Crystal Bitrick (n), Mountain Home, Idaho, 1,963.

61, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 1,962. 62, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 1,961. 63, (TIE) Daniela Gonzalez (n), Babson Park, Fla., and Lilia Robles, Mexico, 1,952. 65, (TIE) Bailey Palmer (n), Ottumwa, Iowa, and Amber MacLeod (n), Brick, N.J., 1,950.

67, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 1,948. 68, Hanna Engberg (n), Sweden, 1,947. 69, (TIE) Shayna Ng, Singapore, and Chelsea Sporkia (n), Eugene, Ore., and Mary Orf (n), St. Louis, Mo., and Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 1,941.

73, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 1,940. 74, Brooklyn Gagnon (n), Sioux Falls, S.D., 1,939. 75, Casja Wegner (n), Sweden, 1,938. 76, (TIE) Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., and Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 1,937. 78, Katie Robb (n), Swedesboro, N.J., 1,933.

79, Hayley Veitch (n), Kenner, La., 1,932. 80, (TIE) Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., and Joline Persson Planefors (n), Sweden, 1,931. 82, Alejandra Urrutia (n), Highland, Calif., 1,930. 83, Alyssa Tucker (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 1,928. 84, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 1,927.

85, Jennifer Russo, Holdmel, N.J., 1,925. 86, Virginia Young (n), Vista, Calif., 1,924. 87, Edith Quintanilla (n), El Salvador, 1,921. 88, Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 1,915. 89, Nichole Hiraoka (n), Daly City, Calif., 1,914. 90, Cheryl Daniels (n), Southfield, Mich., 1,912.

91, Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., 1,909. 92, Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Kelso, Wash., 1,908. 93, (TIE) Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., and Marcia Kloempken (n), Pleasant View, Utah, 1,904. 95, Johanna Puentes (n), Colombia, 1,902. 96, Jenna Coldiron (n), West Chester, Ohio, 1,901.

97, (TIE) Emily Peterson (n), West Fargo, N.D., and Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 1,898. 99, Sara Duque (n), Colombia, 1,895. 100, Cassidy Courey (n), Brooklyn Center, Minn., 1,894. 101, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 1,893. 102, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 1,892.

103, Allison Korcak (n), Tampa, Fla., 1,888. 104, (TIE) Brooke Salzman (n), Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and Kimberly Newell (n), New Smyrna Beach, Fla., 1,887. 106, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 1,886. 107, Nicole Reese (n), Duluth, Minn., 1,884. 108, Adrienne Hare (n), Rio Rancho, N.M., 1,883.

109, (TIE) Pamela Perez Millan (n), Carolina, PR, and Kayla Crawford, Ossian, Ind., 1,881. 111, Suzanne Morine (n), Castleton on Hudson, N.Y., 1,879. 112, Terysa Wojnar (n), New Lenox, Ill., 1,877. 113, Kristina Catoe (n), Mooresville, N.C., 1,871. 114, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 1,870.

115, Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,869. 116, Mary Conneely (n), Des

Plaines, Ill., 1,868. 117, (TIE) Victoria Johansson (n), Sweden, and Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 1,867. 119, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 1,866. 120, Barbara Lunsford (n), Plainfield, Ill., 1,865.

121, Ana Morales (n), Guatemala, 1,863. 122, (TIE) Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., and Sarah Hood (n), Clifton, N.J., 1,862. 124, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 1,859. 125, Brianna Rogers (n), Florence, S.C., 1,858. 126, (TIE) Stephanie Casey (n), Yonkers, N.Y., and

Estefania Prieto Pinilla (n), Colombia, 1,855. 128, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 1,854. 129, (TIE) Emma Wrenn (n), Arlington Heights, Ill., and Sarah Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 1,852. 131, Vanessa Fuzie (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 1,850. 132, Felicia Wong, Canada, 1,849.

133, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 1,848. 134, Emily Eckhoff (n), Wheat Ridge, Colo., 1,846. 135, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,845. 136, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 1,844. 137, Aileen Linares (n), Rio Rancho, N.M., 1,841. 138, (TIE) Josefin Hermansson (n), Sweden, and

Raycine Mortensen (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 1,840. 140, Alyssa Ballard (n), Keller, Texas, 1,839. 141, (TIE) Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., and Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, and Jenny Wegner (n), Sweden, 1,838. 144, Carrie Endres (n), Windsor, Colo., 1,837.

145, Nicole Kleutgen, Stevens Point, Wis., 1,835. 146, Michelle Abner (n), Cincinnati, Ohio, 1,834. 147, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1,833. 148, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 1,829. 149, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 1,827. 150, (TIE) Ana Bolanos (n), Guatemala, and

Linda Walbaum (n), Brighton, Colo., and Julie Oczepek (n), Vassar, Mich., 1,826. 153, Najah Owens (n), Raleigh, N.C., 1,824. 154, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 1,821. 155, (TIE) Raelyn Hazen (n), Roy, Utah, and Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 1,819.

157, Michelle Dennison (n), Albuquerque, N.M., 1,818. 158, Kristina Kennicutt (n), Lubbock, Texas, 1,815. 159, Stephanie Burkhardt (n), Beavercreek, Ohio, 1,814. 160, (TIE) Theresa Wells (n), Deerfield, Wis., and Harmonie Trenn (n), Aurora, Colo., 1,810. 162, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 1,808.

163, (TIE) Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, and Verity Crawley, England, 1,805. 165, Nora Johansson (n), Sweden, 1,802. 166, Taishaye Naranjo (n), Lake Wales, Fla., 1,801. 167, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 1,799. 168, Samantha Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 1,796.

169, (TIE) Genese Cowart-Headen, Yonkers, N.Y., and Mandi Fournier (n), Braintree, Vt., 1,793. 171, Lauren Sammel (n), Madison, Wis., 1,792. 172, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 1,790. 173, (TIE) Juliana Botero (n), Colombia, and Madyson Marx (n), Maplewood, Minn., 1,787.

175, Maria Ferraro (n), Colombia, 1,775. 176, Eryn Jones (n), Greenfield, Ind., 1,774. 177, Kaitlyn Eder (n), Lithia, Fla., 1,773. 178, Roberta Vann (n), Downey, Calif., 1,766. 179, Donna Yellowrobe (n), Albuquerque, N.M., 1,764. 180, Corina Grasso (n), Fort Collins, Colo., 1,759.

181, Rebecca Hagerman (n), Loves Park, Ill., 1,758. 182, Carmen Aguilar (n), Venezuela, 1,756. 183, Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 1,755. 184, Stephanie DellaBernarda (n), Vernon Rockville, Conn., 1,750. 185, Kirstin Foster (n), Pella, Iowa, 1,747. 186, Veronica Cepeda-Samer (n), Savannah, Ga., 1,746.

187, Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 1,744. 188, Alyssa Ferraro (n), Deltona,



Fla., 1,736. 189, Elizabeth Rees (n), Lehi, Utah, 1,735. 190, (TIE) Krysta Deleon (n), Henderson, Nev., and Leea Haworth (n), Centralia, Wash., and Sandra Maresca (n), Mamaroneck, N.Y., 1,730.

193, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 1,718. 194, Jill Moore (n), Elizabethtown, Pa., 1,715. 195, Brandi Stephens (n), Lubbock, Texas, 1,712. 196, Sofia Rodriguez Granda (n), Guatemala, 1,710. 197, Teddi Wright (n), Lutz, Fla., 1,707. 198, Jennifer DeGroot (n), North Little Rock, Ark., 1,705.

199, Jennifer Dorn (n), Chino, Calif., 1,699. 200, (TIE) Michaela Morgan (n), The Woodlands, Texas, and Carla Hansen (n), Deptford, N.J., 1,689. 202, Gabriella VanHorn (n), Lansing, Mich., 1,686. 203, Brandi Calderon (n), Tempe, Ariz., 1,680. 204, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,677.

205, Laura Barrios (n), Guatemala, 1,675. 206, Claudia Barrios de Burbano (n), Guatemala, 1,672. 207, Breanne Woten (n), Oskaloosa, Iowa, 1,668. 208, (TIE) Melissa Landers (n), Joplin, Mo., and Angela Brown (n), Diamondhead, Miss., 1,667. 210, Debbie Ayers (n), La Mesa, Calif., 1,659.

211, Denise Kurek, Leland, N.C., 1,655. 212, Kim Bui (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 1,653. 213, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 1,636. 214, Andreana Gohagan (n), Henderson, Nev., 1,600. 215, Darlene Dysart (n), Southfield, Mich., 1,586. 216, Bernadette Wooley (n), Frankfort, Ill., 1,498.

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## **TAN EARNS TOP SEED FOR MATCH PLAY AT 2023 USBC QUEENS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Cherie Tan of Singapore maintained her lead and averaged more than 225 during qualifying to lead the field into the double-elimination match-play bracket at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens.

The 35-year-old left-hander posted an 1,138 five-game block Saturday at Sam's Town Bowling Center to complete qualifying with a 3,377 total for 15 games, a 225.13 average.

Tan is followed in the standings by Anna Andersson of Sweden (3,232); Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee (3,180); Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas (3,171) and 2021 Queens champion Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (3,158).

The Queens is the third event and first major championship on the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule. The finals will be broadcast live Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network. All qualifying and match-play rounds leading up to the televised finals are streaming live at BowlTV.com.

With qualifying complete, the top 63 players and Birgit Noreiks of Germany, who was guaranteed a spot in the double-elimination bracket as the defending champion, will return Sunday for match play.

Noreiks finished qualifying in 43rd place with a 2,972 total and will face 2016 Queens champion Bernice Lim of Singapore in the opening round.

USBC Hall of Famer Cheryl Daniels of Southfield, Michigan, who was inducted into the PWBA Hall of Fame just hours before the 2023 Queens began, qualified 61st with a total of 2,926. At 63 years old, Daniels, the 1995 U.S. Women's Open champion and a 10-time winner on the PWBA Tour, is the oldest bowler to make the match-play cut at this year's tournament.

Daniels approached the qualifying rounds at this year's Queens using the same approach she used during her heyday on tour.

"My main goal whenever I bowl a tournament like this is just to make the cut," Daniels said. "Of course, in the back of my mind, I always want to win, but now that I'm not doing this full time, getting through to match play was the first goal. Now that I'm there, I just need to stay patient and make my spares because anything can happen."

Finishing just below Daniels and securing the 64th and final spot in the bracket was Hui Fen New of Singapore, who finished with a 15-game total of 2,919, a 194.6 average. She will face Tan in the first round of match play.

Although Tan would appear to be the heavy favorite after leading the 216-player field and capturing the No. 1 seed in the bracket, the veteran from Singapore knows that she can't take Hui Fen New (or anyone else) lightly.

"It's great to be the top seed, but since the scores don't carry over from qualifying, we're all starting over," Tan said. "To be successful, it's going to take great shot-making and a little luck of the draw."

A lot of words can be used to describe Tan's performance during qualifying, but lucky isn't one of them.

The four-time PWBA Tour titlist and past major champion – Tan won the 2019 PWBA Players Championship – was simply dominant during the first 15 games, leading the field by 145 pins.

While the vast majority of the field struggled to get to the 200 mark game in and game out – only 32 players averaged 200 or better over the course of the first 15 games – Tan only recorded one game under 200 during qualifying, that being the 172 she finished with during Round 1 on Thursday.

Tan more than made up for it on Friday and Saturday, however, shooting 215 or better during each of her final 10 games, averaging just over 230 in the process.

The outstanding effort begs the question: How has Tan managed to make the 45-foot 2023 Queens oil pattern look easy when those who've bowled on it know that it's anything but.

Nevertheless, for Tan, the answer is simple.

"I think it boils down to shot making," Tan said. "The lanes are hard, so if you're not able to make shots consistently, you're not going to be able to score. I got lucky with some carry here and there, so the strikes came in bunches, which helped make my scores get a little bigger."

If the strikes continue coming in bunches during match play, Tan is going to be a daunting opponent for anyone she matches up with during the tournament's final three days.

Sunday's match-play round will begin at noon 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.

The 2023 Queens champion will take home the \$60,000 first-place prize and tiara awarded to the winner.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit [BOWL.com/Queens](https://www.bowl.com/queens).

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**2023 USBC Queens  
At Sam's Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas**

**Saturday's Results**

**QUALIFYING – ROUND 3  
(15 games)**

1, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 3,377. 2, Anna Andersson (n), Sweden, 3,232. 3, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,180. 4, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,171. 5, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 3,158. 6, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 3,148.

7, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,145. 8, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 3,143. 9, Maranda Pattison (n), Redwood Valley, Calif., 3,136. 10, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,134. 11, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 3,129. 12, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,122.

13, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,097. 14, Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 3,084. 15, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 3,081. 16, Iliana Lomeli (n), Mexico, 3,053. 17, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,050. 18, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,049.

19, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,044. 20, Brittany Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 3,043. 21, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 3,035. 22, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 3,033. 23, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 3,029. 24, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 3,024.

25, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,021. 26, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3,019. 27, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,012. 28, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 3,010. 29, Ashley Rucker (n), Bartlesville, Okla., 3,007. 30, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,006.

31, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 3,005. 32, Laura Lopez Botero (n), Colombia, 3,003. 33, (TIE) Daphne Tan, Singapore, and Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 2,994. 35, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 2,993. 36, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 2,986.

37, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,985. 38, Roosa Lundén, Finland, 2,983. 39, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,982. 40, Karsyn Lukosius (n), Jackson, N.J., 2,981. 41, Solene Goron, France, 2,975. 42, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 2,974.

43, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,972. 44, Samantha How (n), Oregon City, Ore., 2,965. 45, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 2,961. 46, Madeleine McDuff (n), Katy, Texas, 2,956. 47, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,955. 48, Jenna Coldiron (n), West Chester, Ohio, 2,954.

49, (TIE) Chelsea Sporkia (n), Eugene, Ore., and Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 2,953. 51, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,950. 52, (TIE) Daniela Gonzalez (n), Babson Park, Fla., and Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,947. 54, Jennifer Russo, Holdmel, N.J., 2,944.

55, Joline Persson Planefors (n), Sweden, 2,942. 56, Kelsi Anderson (n), San Antonio, Texas, 2,939. 57, Allison Korcak (n), Tampa, Fla., 2,937. 58, Bailey Palmer (n), Ottumwa, Iowa, 2,934. 59, Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., 2,928. 60, Alejandra Urrutia (n), Highland, Calif., 2,927.

61, Cheryl Daniels (n), Southfield, Mich., 2,926. 62, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,923.

63, Crystal Bitrick (n), Mountain Home, Idaho, 2,920. 64, Hui Fen New, Singapore, 2,919.

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

65, Sara Duque (n), Colombia, 2,916. 66, (TIE) Virginia Young (n), Vista, Calif., and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, and Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 2,913. 69, (TIE) Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., and Jenna Williams (n), Homosassa, Fla., 2,909. 71, Mary Conneely (n), Des Plaines, Ill., 2,905. 72, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 2,904.

73, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,903. 74, Alyssa Tucker (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 2,898. 75, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,892. 76, Cassidy Courey (n), Brooklyn Center, Minn., 2,891. 77, Terysa Wojnar (n), New Lenox, Ill., 2,890. 78, Adrienne Hare (n), Rio Rancho, N.M., 2,887.

79, Johanna Puentes (n), Colombia, 2,885. 80, Brooklyn Gagnon (n), Sioux Falls, S.D., 2,884. 81, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,883. 82, Amber Milan, Mount Vernon, N.Y., 2,876. 83, Estefania Prieto Pinilla (n), Colombia, 2,875. 84, Ana Morales (n), Guatemala, 2,874.

85, Emily Peterson (n), West Fargo, N.D., 2,873. 86, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 2,872. 87, (TIE) Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, and Mary Orf (n), St. Louis, Mo., 2,871. 89, (TIE) Stephanie Casey (n), Yonkers, N.Y., and Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,870.

91, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 2,869. 92, Kristina Catoe (n), Mooresville, N.C., 2,866. 93, Hanna Engberg (n), Sweden, 2,865. 94, Amber MacLeod (n), Brick, N.J., 2,864. 95, Lilia Robles, Mexico, 2,863. 96, Aileen Linares (n), Rio Rancho, N.M., 2,860.

97, Brianna Rogers (n), Florence, S.C., 2,856. 98, Suzanne Morine (n), Castleton on Hudson, N.Y., 2,855. 99, Katie Robb (n), Swedesboro, N.J., 2,849. 100, Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., 2,848. 101, Jenny Wegner (n), Sweden, 2,846. 102, (TIE) Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., and

Pamela Perez Millan (n), Carolina, PR, and Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 2,844. 105, (TIE) Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, and Rina Sabo, Bennett, Colo., 2,841. 107, (TIE) Nora Johansson (n), Sweden, and Catherine Rawsthorne (n), Kelso, Wash., 2,840.

109, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,837. 110, Kristie Leong (n), Daly City, Calif., 2,835. 111, (TIE) Casja Wegner (n), Sweden, and Sarah Gill (n), Fitchburg, Mass., 2,834. 113, (TIE) Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., and Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 2,833.

115, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 2,832. 116, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,830. 117, Kimberly Newell (n), New Smyrna Beach, Fla., 2,826. 118, Vanessa Fuzie (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 2,818. 119, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 2,817. 120, Hayley Veitch (n), Kenner, La., 2,816.

121, Madyson Marx (n), Maplewood, Minn., 2,812. 122, Marcia Kloempken (n), Pleasant View, Utah, 2,808. 123, Victoria Johansson (n), Sweden, 2,807. 124, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 2,804. 125, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 2,799. 126, Kristina Kennicutt (n), Lubbock, Texas, 2,796.

127, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 2,794. 128, Raycine Mortensen (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 2,792. 129, Rebecca Hagerman (n), Loves Park, Ill., 2,790. 130, (TIE) Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., and Sarah Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 2,789. 132, Josefin

Hermansson (n), Sweden, 2,788.

133, Edith Quintanilla (n), El Salvador, 2,786. 134, (TIE) Eryn Jones (n), Greenfield, Ind., and Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 2,785. 136, Sarah Hood (n), Clifton, N.J., 2,780. 137, Nicole Reese (n), Duluth, Minn., 2,779. 138, (TIE) Verity Crawley, England, and

Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,777. 140, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,774. 141, (TIE) Linda Walbaum (n), Brighton, Colo., and Nichole Hiraoka (n), Daly City, Calif., 2,770. 143, Brooke Salzman (n), Inver Grove Heights, Minn., 2,763. 144, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2,762.

145, Juliana Botero (n), Colombia, 2,757. 146, Leea Haworth (n), Centralia, Wash., 2,750. 147, Carmen Aguilar (n), Venezuela, 2,748. 148, Kayla Crawford, Ossian, Ind., 2,741. 149, (TIE) Raelyn Hazen (n), Roy, Utah, and Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 2,736.

151, Michelle Dennison (n), Albuquerque, N.M., 2,735. 152, Emma Wrenn (n), Arlington Heights, Ill., 2,734. 153, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,733. 154, Emily Eckhoff (n), Wheat Ridge, Colo., 2,732. 155, Alyssa Ferraro (n), Deltona, Fla., 2,731. 156, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 2,730.

157, Najah Owens (n), Raleigh, N.C., 2,729. 158, Harmonie Trenn (n), Aurora, Colo., 2,726. 159, (TIE) Maria Ferraro (n), Colombia, and Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,724. 161, Roberta Vann (n), Downey, Calif., 2,720. 162, Ana Bolanos (n), Guatemala, 2,710.

163, Taishaye Naranjo (n), Lake Wales, Fla., 2,709. 164, (TIE) Corina Grasso (n), Fort Collins, Colo., and Barbara Lunsford (n), Plainfield, Ill., 2,700. 166, (TIE) Julie Oczepek (n), Vassar, Mich., and Nicole Kleutgen, Stevens Point, Wis., 2,698. 168, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 2,692.

169, Shawna Strause (n), Tucson, Ariz., 2,690. 170, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 2,689. 171, Samantha Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 2,688. 172, Sofia Rodriguez Granda (n), Guatemala, 2,687. 173, Theresa Wells (n), Deerfield, Wis., 2,685. 174, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 2,684.

175, Alyssa Ballard (n), Keller, Texas, 2,680. 176, Michelle Abner (n), Cincinnati, Ohio, 2,679. 177, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 2,678. 178, Teddi Wright (n), Lutz, Fla., 2,674. 179, Stephanie DellaBernarda (n), Vernon Rockville, Conn., 2,662. 180, (TIE) Genese Cowart-Headen, Yonkers, N.Y., and

Stephanie Burkhardt (n), Beavercreek, Ohio, 2,660. 182, (TIE) Elizabeth Rees (n), Lehi, Utah, and Lauren Sammel (n), Madison, Wis., 2,659. 184, Carrie Endres (n), Windsor, Colo., 2,654. 185, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,638. 186, (TIE) Gabriella VanHorn (n), Lansing, Mich., and

Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 2,636. 188, Donna Yellowrobe (n), Albuquerque, N.M., 2,634. 189, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,632. 190, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,626. 191, Jill Moore (n), Elizabethtown, Pa., 2,616. 192, Kaitlyn Eder (n), Lithia, Fla., 2,615.

193, Mandi Fournier (n), Braintree, Vt., 2,612. 194, Krysta Deleon (n), Henderson, Nev., 2,602. 195, Carla Hansen (n), Deptford, N.J., 2,601. 196, Veronica Cepeda-Samer (n), Savannah, Ga., 2,593. 197, Brandi Calderon (n), Tempe, Ariz., 2,587. 198, Kirstin Foster (n), Pella, Iowa, 2,585.

199, Michaela Morgan (n), The Woodlands, Texas, 2,580. 200, Brandi Stephens (n),

Lubbock, Texas, 2,577. 201, Jennifer Dorn (n), Chino, Calif., 2,570. 202, Jennifer DeGroot (n), North Little Rock, Ark., 2,565. 203, Claudia Barrios de Burbano (n), Guatemala, 2,561. 204, Breanne Woten (n), Oskaloosa, Iowa, 2,552.

205, Laura Barrios (n), Guatemala, 2,548. 206, Sandra Maresca (n), Mamaroneck, N.Y., 2,529. 207, Debbie Ayers (n), La Mesa, Calif., 2,525. 208, Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 2,522. 209, Melissa Landers (n), Joplin, Mo., 2,488. 210, Angela Brown (n), Diamondhead, Miss., 2,483.

211, Denise Kurek, Leland, N.C., 2,480. 212, Kim Bui (n), Las Vegas, Nev., 2,468. 213, Darlene Dysart (n), Southfield, Mich., 2,399. 214, Bernadette Wooley (n), Frankfort, Ill., 2,367. 215, Andreana Gohagan (n), Henderson, Nev., 2,353. 216, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 1,641 (WD).

## **SIXTEEN PLAYERS STILL UNDEFEATED AFTER DAY 1 OF MATCH PLAY AT 2023 USBC QUEENS**

**LAS VEGAS** – The 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens began on Thursday with a field of 216 players. After the first two rounds of match play were completed at Sam's Town Bowling Center on Sunday, that number has been whittled down to just 32.

Sixteen bowlers went 2-0 to remain in the Winners Bracket on the first day of head-to-head matches while another 16 went 1-1 and remain alive in the tournament's Elimination Bracket.

Qualifying leader and No. 1 seed Cherie Tan of Singapore; Maria Jose Rodriguez of Colombia; Carlene Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin; Karsyn Lukosius of Jackson, New Jersey; Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois; Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois; Taylor Bulhuis of New Port Richey, Florida; and Correen Acuff of Surprise, Arizona, are the undefeated players on the left side of the Winners Bracket.

Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee; Madeleine McDuff of Katy, Texas; Birgit Noreiks of Germany; Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan; Jasmine Snell of Papillion, Nebraska; Shannon Sellens of Long Beach, New York; Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri; and Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, have yet to lose on the right side.

Match play will continue Monday at noon Eastern until the five competitors are determined for Tuesday's stepladder finals, which will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network at 7 p.m. Eastern. The winner will claim the coveted tiara and \$60,000 top prize.

The USBC Queens is the third event and first major championship on the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule. All qualifying and match-play rounds leading up to the televised finals are streaming live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

Eight past Queens champions are among the 32 players still hoping to take home the tiara this year.

Noreiks, the defending champion, is joined in the Winners Bracket by past titlists Bond (2021), Kovalova (2019), O'Keefe (2018) and Jose Rodriguez (2014) while two-time winners Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (2009 and 2015), and Diana Zavjalova of Latvia (2013 and 2017), and 2016 champion Bernice Lim of Singapore remain alive in the Elimination Bracket.

Noreiks just narrowly avoided a major setback to her title-defense bid as her Round 1 match with Lim required a one-ball roll off after the two competitors finished three games tied at 628.

Thankfully for Noreiks, Lim began the extra session with a seven count. That took just enough pressure off Noreiks, who calmly stepped up and knocked down nine pins to win the roll off and secure the victory.

Having no desire to go down to the wire again, Noreiks made things much easier on herself during Round 2, defeating Jennifer Russo of Holdmel, New Jersey, by a final score of 603-513 to end her day in the Winners Bracket.

"That match in the morning was really tough with the roll off and everything; that's not really what you want, especially for your first match," Noreiks said. "I'm glad I made it. It's nice to have two wins and still be starting in the Winners Bracket tomorrow."

There, she will face Kovalova in a battle of former champions. Noreiks knows that she's going to have to bring her A Game if she hopes to remain undefeated after that matchup.

"Bowling against Dasha (Kovalova) is going to be a tough match, but, honestly, everyone who is still bowling at this point is very talented," Noreiks said. "The lanes are hard, so I just have to stay patient and see how it goes because it's not going to get any easier from here."

It's true that the road only gets harder the deeper you advance into a major championship. As such, sometimes the key to surviving and advancing is digging deep into the bag of tricks and pulling out something that's worked in the past.

That's precisely what O'Keefe has done, and it's allowed her to get stronger and stronger each day at this year's Queens.



“Once we got to the third round, I started keying on one specific aspect of my physical game, and once I did that, I had a better look,” O’Keefe said. “It’s something I’ve done at multiple other tournaments, and once I implemented that, the picture got even clearer.”

O’Keefe certainly didn’t appear to have any difficulties figuring out the 45-foot Queens oil pattern on Sunday as her two three-game sets were among the highest during each round

She began the day with a 687-521 victory over Chelsey Klingler of Grand Rapids, Michigan, before taking down Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina – a player O’Keefe coached when Clemmer bowled collegiately at McKendree University – during Round 2 (664-606).

Although having to square off against someone so familiar may not appear ideal, at this point, O’Keefe has gotten used to battling former players at major championships, and she wouldn’t have it any other way.

“We have a lot of great kids who have come through our program, so having to bowl them at events like this is going to happen a lot,” O’Keefe said. “They’re great, so they’re going to beat me sometimes, and I’m going to beat them sometimes. It’s really cool; I just love it.”

O’Keefe would also love to remain undefeated and advance to Tuesday night’s telecast, but the path won’t be easy as Bond is her opponent for Round 3.

Bond earned her spot in the match by defeating Alejandra Urrutia of Highland, California (646-560), and 2006 champion Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio (653-545).

Pluhowsky rebounded with a win over Abby Ragsdale of Aurora, Illinois (609-571), but was eliminated (759-706) one round later by Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York. Kuhlkin’s 759 was the highest three-game total shot on Day 1 of match play.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit [BOWL.com/Queens](http://BOWL.com/Queens).

**2023 USBC Queens  
At Sam's Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas**

**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) Cherie Tan, Singapore, def. (64) Hui Fen New, Singapore, 640-590.  
(33) Daphne Tan, Singapore, def. (32) Laura Lopez Botero, Colombia, 589-567.  
(17) Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, def. (48) Jenna Coldiron, West Chester, Ohio, 644-602.  
(49) Chelsea Sporkia, Eugene, Ore., def. (16) Iliana Lomeli, Mexico, 610-568.
- (9) Maranda Pattison, Redwood Valley, Calif., def. (56) Kelsi Anderson, San Antonio, 621-561.  
(24) Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., def. (41) Solene Goron, France, 577-571.  
(40) Karsyn Lukosius, Jackson, N.J., def. (25) Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 612-538.  
(8) Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., def. (57) Allison Korcak, Tampa, Fla., 598-522.
- (5) Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., def. (60) Alejandra Urrutia, Highland, Calif., 646-560.  
(37) Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, def. (28) Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 639-509.  
(21) Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., def. (44) Samantha How, Oregon City, Ore., 599-570.  
(12) Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., def. (53) Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 687-521.
- (13) Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., def. (52) Daniela Gonzalez, Babson Park, Fla., 562-545.  
(45) Taylor Bulhuis, New Port Richey, Fla., def. (20) Brittany Smith, Van Meter, Iowa, 570-542.  
(36) Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., def. (29) Ashley Rucker, Bartlesville, Okla., 648(10)-648(9).  
(4) Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, def. (61) Cheryl Daniels, Southfield, Mich., 660-522.
- (3) Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., def. (62) Laura Plazas, Colombia, 669-612.  
(35) Shayna Ng, Singapore, def. (30) Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 646-484.  
(46) Madeleine McDuff, Katy, Texas, def. (19) Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 620-579.  
(51) Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., def. (14) Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 578-530.

(54) Jennifer Russo, Holdmel, N.J., def. (11) Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 650-624.

(43) Birgit Noreiks, Germany, def. (22) Bernice Lim, Singapore, 628(9)-628(7).

(38) Roosa Lunden, Finland, def. (27) Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 697-604.

(6) Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., def. (59) Caroline Thesier, Mooresville, N.C., 603-502.

(58) Bailey Palmer, Ottumwa, Iowa, def. (7) Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 600-530.

(39) Jasmine Snell, Papillion, Neb., def. (26) Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 611-570.

(42) Shannon Sellens, Long Beach, N.Y., def. (23) Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 640-555.

(55) Jolene Persson Planefors, Sweden, def. (10) Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 578-565.

(50) Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., def. (15) Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 673-652.

(47) Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., def. (18) Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 639-603.

(31) Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, def. (34) Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 646-524.

(2) Anna Andersson, Sweden, def. (63) Crystal Bitrick, Mountain Home, Idaho, 612-514.

## **ROUND 2 – WINNERS BRACKET**

C. Tan def. D. Tan, 606-549.

Jose Rodriguez def. Sporkia, 670-591.

Beyer def. Pattison, 616-605.

Lukosius def. Coté, 616-604.

Bond def. Pluhowsky, 653-545.

O’Keefe def. Clemmer, 664-606.

Bulthuis def. McCarthy, 578-550.

Acuff def. S. Johnson, 662-598.

Barnes def. Ng, 660-603.

McDuff def. Grimm, 609-514.

Noreiks def. Russo, 603-513.

Kovalova def. Lunden, 653-591.

Snell def. Palmer, 641-621.

Sellens def. Persson Planefors, 661-638.

Pate def. K. Smith, 571-569.

Boomershine def. Andersson, 663-575.

## **ROUND 1 – ELIMINATION BRACKET (Losers eliminated, earn \$2,125)**

New def. Lopez Botero, 646-534.  
Korcak def. Gongora, 604-550.  
Lomeli def. Coldiron, 589-474.  
Anderson def. Goron, 540(10)-540(9).

Erdei def. Urrutia, 672-493.  
Rucker def. Daniels, 716-572.  
Klingler def. How, 610-508.  
B. Smith def. Gonzalez, 610-556.

Zavjalova def. Plazas, 641-528.  
Thesier def. Guerrero, 665-608.  
L. Johnson def. Janack, 667-577.  
Lim def. Parkin, 670-662.

McEwan def. Earnest, 625-556.  
Bitrick def. Richard, 606-576.  
Kuhlkin def. Ragsdale, 609-571.  
Mangiola def. Farwell, 600-594.

**ROUND 2 – ELIMINATION BRACKET  
(Losers eliminated, earn \$2,600)**

Grimm def. New, 616-586.  
Russo def. Korcak, 574-536.  
Ng def. Lomeli, 657-648.  
Lunden def. Anderson, 563-551.

Persson Planefors def. Erdei, 624-516.  
Rucker def. K. Smith, 582-577.  
Klingler def. Palmer, 652-585.  
Andersson def. B. Smith, 569-517.

Zavjalova def. Sporkia, 678-597  
Thesier def. Pattison, 575-571.  
L. Johnson def. D. Tan, 666-622.  
Lim def. Côté, 706-642.

Clemmer def. McEwan, 628-619.  
McCarthy def. Bitrick, 664-625.  
Kuhlkin def. Pluhowsky, 759-706.  
Mangiola def. S. Johnson, 649-637.

## **BOOMERSHINE CLAIMS TOP SEED FOR FINALS AT 2023 USBC QUEENS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, went undefeated through two days of match play to earn the top seed for the stepladder finals at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens.

The 37-year-old right-hander defeated 2016 champion Maria Jose Rodriguez of Colombia, 674-564, in the final Winners Bracket match Monday at Sam's Town Bowling Center. Rodriguez will be the No. 2 seed.

The finals of the 2023 USBC Queens will be broadcast live on Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network. The champion will take home the \$60,000 first-place prize and the coveted tiara.

Joining Boomershine and Rodriguez in the stepladder will be No. 3 Carlene Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin, No. 4 Correen Acuff of Surprise, Arizona, and No. 5 Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, the 2019 Queens champion.

Beyer, Acuff and Kovalova advanced out of the Elimination Bracket on Monday. The final four athletes in the Elimination Bracket bowled a three-game total-pinfall contest with the top three scores advancing to the stepladder.

Beyer earned the No. 3 seed with a 668 series. Acuff advanced with a 650 three-game set and will face Kovalova (601) in Tuesday's opening match. Latvia's Diana Zavjalova rolled a 569 series and was eliminated, finishing in sixth place.

Boomershine is seeking her first PWBA Tour title. Tuesday's show will mark her sixth stepladder finals appearance and second as an event's top seed; however, this will be the first time she's held the top spot in a major.

Nevertheless, Boomershine is going to do her best to approach Tuesday's stepladder finals the same way she's approached the first five days of the tournament.

"My husband flew in after the first day, and we've had a different gameplan ever since. Obviously, it has worked, so I'm going to do the same thing tomorrow," Boomershine said. "I feel like I'm in a really good place mentally and physically, so there's no reason to change it up now. Tomorrow will be the same just with a lot more people around."

Earlier in her career, Boomershine may have let the bigger crowd and TV lights get to her, but she doesn't anticipate that being an issue on Tuesday.

"It's taken me a long time to get here, and I don't mean just this week; I mean since the relaunch of the PWBA Tour in 2015," Boomershine said. "I feel like I'm in a really good place right now mentally and physically."

“My hard work has paid off. The last few shows that I’ve been on, I’ve bowled exceptionally well, and it just didn’t go my way. I figure if I keep putting myself in this position, I’m eventually going to break through.”

To do so on Tuesday, she could very well end up having to battle one of her best friends in Rodriguez. That matchup wouldn’t bother Boomershine though; in fact, she’d welcome the opportunity.

“Maria and I are best friends; we support one another and want each other to do well,” Boomershine said. We wanted to make the show together, and it’s pretty amazing that we did. If we end up facing each other, it won’t make it any easier or harder, but it will be more fun.

“Still, I’m just bowling the pins. All week long, I haven’t focused on who my opponents have been. I’ve just tried to do my best, make my spares and hope that my total was higher than theirs at the end.”

Speaking of the end, after battling injuries for the better part of the last three years, Rodriguez sometimes wondered if the end of her career might be approaching.

Now that she’s finally healthy, however, she has her game back to the elite level that propelled her to the 2014 Queens title and the PWBA Players Championship in 2018.

Sitting just two wins away from capturing major title No. 3, Rodriguez didn’t mince words when discussing what it would mean to her to get back in the winner’s circle for the first time in more than four years.

“I come here to win; I don’t come here to finish 12th, 64th or whatever,” Rodriguez said. “This is our job; it’s what we do this for.”

“Of course, it’s nice to get a great pay day, get another major and maybe take another step toward the hall of fame, which are things I’ve dreamed of since I was a kid, but the goal is always to win. Winning is addictive. Whenever you do it, you want to do it again.”

Rodriguez has done plenty of winning thus far at this year’s Queens, starting match play 5-0 with wins over Jenna Coldiron of West Chester, Ohio (644-602), Chelsea Sporkia of Eugene, Oregon (670-591), top qualifier Cherie Tan of Singapore (660-609), Karsyn Lukosius of Jackson, New Jersey (713-605) and Acuff (686-635) before falling to Boomershine in the top-seed battle.

Even though the top seed eluded her, Rodriguez still feels very good about her chances on Tuesday night’s show.

“I matched up really well to the pattern, and when you have good ball reaction, your swing loosens up and things start to flow,” Rodriguez said. “Tomorrow, I’m just going to

pay attention to how everyone else on the show is playing the lanes and see how I can use that to my advantage.”

Rodriguez will get to see what Acuff and Kovalova do in the opening match before one of them advances to take on Beyer in Match 2.

Beyer and Acuff are both PWBA Tour rookies who will be making their stepladder finals debuts Tuesday night. Kovalova, on the other hand, enters the finals looking for her sixth career title and second major.

The 2023 Queens started with 216 competitors. After 15 games of qualifying over three days, the top 63 players and Birgit Noreiks of German, who was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, advanced to match play.

Noreiks won two matches at Sam’s Town Bowling Center on Sunday, but she dropped into the Elimination Bracket with a 699-654 loss to Kovalova Monday morning. Noreiks rebounded with three wins before finally being eliminated by Zavjalova, 607-582.

For more information on the USBC Queens, visit [BOWL.com/Queens](http://BOWL.com/Queens).

**2023 USBC Queens  
At Sam’s Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas**

**Monday’s Results**

**MATCH PLAY**

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

**ROUND 3 – WINNERS BRACKET**

Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, def. Cherie Tan, Singapore, 660-609.  
Karsyn Lukosius, Jackson, N.J., def. Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 665-566.  
Julia Bond, Aurora, Ill., def. Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 644-612.  
Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., def. Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 660-571.

Madeleine McDuff, Katy, Texas, def. Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 570(10)-570(9).  
Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., def. Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 699-654.  
Shannon Sellens, Long Beach, N.Y., def. Jasmine Snell, Papillion, Neb., 620-536.  
Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, def. Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 653-585.

**ROUND 3 – ELIMINATION BRACKET  
(Losers eliminated, earn \$3,100)**

Jennifer Russo, Holmdel, N.J., def. Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 587-545.  
Roosa Lunden, Finland, def. Shayna Ng, Singapore, 678-593.  
Joline Persson Planefors, Sweden, def. Ashley Rucker, Bartlesville, Okla., 652-640.  
Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., def. Anna Andersson, Sweden, 664-596.

Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, def. Caroline Thesier, Mooresville, N.C., 601-596.  
Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., def. Bernice Lim, Singapore, 612-605.  
Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., def. Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 567-563.  
Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., def. Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 654(10)-654(9).

#### **ROUND 4 – WINNERS BRACKET**

Jose Rodriguez def. Lukosius, 713-605.  
Acuff def. Bond, 637-636.  
Kovalova def. McDuff, 639-515.  
Boomershine def. Sellens, 651-580.

#### **ROUND 4 – ELIMINATION BRACKET (Losers eliminated, earn \$3,700)**

O'Keefe def. Russo, 665-513.  
Lunden def. Bulthuis, 626-602.  
Tan def. Persson Planefors, 656-603.  
Beyer def. Klingler, 625-541.

Zavjalova def. Pate, 633-627.  
Johnson def. Snell, 677-535.  
Noreiks def. McCarthy, 711-495.  
Barnes def. Mangiola, 693-505.

#### **ROUND 5 – WINNERS BRACKET**

Rodriguez def. Acuff, 686-635.  
Boomershine def. Kovalova, 602-558.

#### **ROUND 5 – ELIMINATION BRACKET (Losers eliminated, earn \$4,450)**

O'Keefe def. Lunden, 596-545.  
Beyer def. Tan, 640-562.  
Zavjalova def. Johnson, 641-625.  
Noreiks def. Barnes, 641-576.

#### **ROUND 6 – ELIMINATION BRACKET (Losers eliminated, earn \$5,500)**



O'Keefe def. Sullens, 683-611.  
Beyer def. McDuff, 618-500.  
Zavjalova def. Bond, 685-609.  
Noreiks def. Lukosius, 596-525.

### **ROUND 6 - WINNERS BRACKET**

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

Boomershine def. Rodriguez, 619-596.

### **ROUND 7 – ELIMINATION BRACKET**

**(Losers eliminated, earn \$6,600)**

Beyer def. O'Keefe, 602-592.  
Zavjalova def. Noreiks, 607-582.

### **ROUND 8 - ELIMINATION BRACKET**

**(Three highest scores advance to CBS Sports Network finals, high score is No. 3 seed, second high is No. 4, third high is No. 5, lowest score is eliminated, earns \$8,000)**

Beyer 668, Acuff 650, Kovalova 601, Zavjalova 569.

## **BOOMERSHINE BREAKS THROUGH FOR FIRST TITLE AT 2023 USBC QUEENS**

**LAS VEGAS** – Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, won the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens by defeating Colombia's Maria Jose Rodriguez, 202-176, at Sam's Town Bowling Center on Tuesday night.

The victory allowed Boomershine to walk away with the \$60,000 first-place prize and coveted Queens tiara. Also, it earned her the right to never have to face the question "When are you finally going to win?" ever again.

That's because by taking down Rodriguez, Boomershine was able to collect her first Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title, and a major at that.

Boomershine waited a long time and had to endure multiple setbacks before reaching the winner's circle. As such, hoisting the trophy and celebrating with family and friends meant a great to the 37-year-old right-hander.

"I've dreamt of this moment ever since my son was born, so I kept telling myself to keep working hard and putting myself in this position," Boomershine said. "I'm glad that my

family got to experience this with me because I think it shows that you can have it all if you never give up on your dreams.”

To secure the victory, Boomershine was forced to come through in the clutch in a fashion that many youngsters dream about and simulate on the practice lanes every day.

Just four pins separated Boomershine and Rodriguez with two frames to go in the title match.

Rodriguez, the 2014 Queens champion and one of Boomershine’s best friends, applied the pressure by delivering a double in the eighth and ninth frames.

Nevertheless, Boomershine stepped up for her ninth and 10th frames with the opportunity to strike out to finish off Rodriguez.

Things wouldn’t be that easy, however, as Boomershine’s ball came in light to the 1-3 pocket during the ninth frame, leaving the 2-4 standing. Undaunted, she easily converted the spare.

Still, the advantage shifted sides at that point as no matter what Boomershine did in the 10th, Rodriguez would have a chance to top it.

But just as she had all week long, Boomershine refused to be distracted by what her opponent could or couldn’t do; instead, she kept her focus solely on what she could control, making the best shots possible to finish her game.

That focus paid off in a major way as despite having only struck four times up to that point in the match, Boomershine delivered three clutch strikes in the 10th frame to post a score of 202.

Those strikes forced Rodriguez to throw a double of her own to start the 10th or else surrender the title to Boomershine.

Rodriguez has demonstrated the ability to perform under pressure many times during her PWBA career; that’s part of the reason why she’s a two-time major champion – she won the 2014 Queens and 2018 PWBA Tour Championship.

Nevertheless, this time it wasn’t meant to be as her first shot in the 10th frame came in light, leaving the 2-4-10 to end the match and give Boomershine her first title in her seventh PWBA Tour stepladder finals appearance.

Rodriguez settled for second place and took home \$30,000.

Sharing the lanes with such a good friend during the title match may have helped make Tuesday night's experience less nerve racking for Boomershine; then again, she was so focused that she may have felt that way no matter who she faced.

"For the first time, I really didn't feel like I was bowling anyone; I was bowling my game," Boomershine said. "All week long, I just kept treating it like I was back at the training center in Utah throwing shots like I normally do.

"I don't know if it's because I was bowling Maria or not, but I just felt really comfortable. Maybe it's because we were sort of doing it together, and one of us was going to win. I don't know, but I just felt really at ease the whole time; honestly, I completely forgot that we were even on TV."

Three people who will likely never forget that Boomershine was on TV were her parents Cheryl and Henry and her young son Aiden, who were all watching Tuesday night's stepladder finals with bated breath back home in Utah.

After her victory, Boomershine's husband Hank immediately started a video chat with Aiden so that he could watch his mother have the tiara placed upon her head and hold up the 2023 Queens trophy.

Understandably, that moment is one that Boomershine won't soon forget.

"He told me that he wanted me to bring home that crown, and he was in tears the whole time when he saw that I'd won it," Boomershine said. "I'm glad that he knows that the reason why I have to be gone so much at times is because I'm out trying to fulfill my dreams because I want him to fulfill his dreams no matter what he chooses to do."

Boomershine wasn't the only bowler who came to Sam's Town looking to fulfill her dreams on Tuesday night, however; No. 3 seed Carlene Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin; No. 4 seed Correen Acuff of Surprise, Arizona, and No. 5 seed Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, had big things on their minds as well.

Acuff kicked off the stepladder by taking down Kovalova, the 2019 Queens champion, by a final score of 215-190.

That's as far up the ladder as Acuff would climb, however, as she fell to Beyer, 202-170, in the Match 2 battle of PWBA Tour rookies.

Beyer would go on to put up a valiant fight against Rodriguez during the semifinals, but a costly 3-4-6-7 split and open frame by Beyer in the ninth allowed Rodriguez to emerge with a hard-fought 202-198 win that set up the title tilt with her close friend.

Beyer took home \$22,500 for her third-place finish. Acuff earned \$17,500 for finishing fourth, and Kovalova walked away with \$12,500 for placing fifth.

As for Boomershine, she was obviously happy to have come out on top, but had she lost, she would've been very pleased to see Rodriguez reach the top of the mountain at the Queens once again.

"Maria is one of my best friends in the entire world," Boomershine said. "Sure, I would've been disappointed if I'd lost, but I would've been ecstatic to see her win her second Queens title. The great thing is that she isn't upset that I won just like I wouldn't have been upset if she won. I think we need more women supporting women in this day and age and in the bowling industry."

There are certainly plenty of other women bowlers out there to support.

The 2023 Queens started with 216 competitors. After 15 games of qualifying over three days, the top 63 players and Birgit Noreiks of Germany, who was guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion, advanced to match play.

The PWBA Tour season continues May 31-June 6 at the PWBA Classic Series – Grand Rapids in Wyoming, Michigan.

**2023 USBC Queens  
At Sam's Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas  
Tuesday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 202 (one game), \$60,000.
- 2, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 378 (two games), \$30,000.
- 3, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 400 (two games), \$22,500.
- 4, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 385, (two games), \$17,500.
- 5, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 190, (one game), \$12,500.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Acuff def. Kovalova, 215-190.  
Match No. 2 – Beyer def. Acuff, 202-170.  
Semifinal – Rodriguez def. Beyer, 202-198.  
Championship – Boomershine def. Rodriguez, 202-176.

**REGIONAL SHOWDOWN HOST NAMED FOR 2023 AND 2024;  
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR REMAINING 2023 REGIONALS**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – Bowlers on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour have known for quite some time that the Regional Showdown would serve as the final event of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

Now, those bowlers know where the event will be held not only this season, but next season as well.

The 2023 and 2024 editions of the PWBA Regional Showdown will be held at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida, which has signed an agreement to host the event for the next two years.

Jennifer Serowchak, Director of Bowling for Aloma Bowling Centers, is very pleased that Aloma will be hosting some of the best up-and-coming bowlers in the world for such a prestigious event.

“We are extremely proud and excited to be hosting the PWBA Regional Showdown for the next two years,” Serowchak said. “It’s a signature tournament with an elite field of athletes. We will do whatever it takes to ensure that the event is enjoyable for both players and fans.”

The 2023 Regional Showdown will be contested Dec. 7-9; the 2024 event is slated to take place Dec. 5-7.

Each regional champion will automatically be seeded for match play at the Regional Showdown. The remaining spots in the 16-person field will be awarded based on the results of an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.

The top 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals.

Every player who qualifies for match play will cash at the Regional Showdown. If the number of entries is high enough, additional cash spots outside the top 16 will be paid at a ratio of 1:3 as is done for PWBA National Tour prize funds.

The winner of the 2023 Regional Showdown will not only receive a cash prize, but she will also have her entry fees covered for all 2024 PWBA National Tour singles events as well.

Ashley Rucker of Bartlesville, Oklahoma (PWBA Greater Dallas Regional), Andrea Behr of Kettering, Ohio (PWBA Greater Detroit Regional), and Katelyn Simpson of Nampa, Idaho (PWBA Spokane Regional), have already punched their tickets to this year’s Regional Showdown by capturing titles earlier this season.

There are still five potential automatic berths up for grabs this season with the PWBA Cleveland Regional (June 11); PWBA Greater Pittsburgh Regional (July 22); PWBA Rockford Regional (Aug. 27); PWBA Twin Cities Regional (Sept. 24) and PWBA Northern Colorado Regional (Nov. 11) remaining on the schedule.

Registration for the final three events – Rockford, Twin Cities and Northern Colorado – is now open. Players who wish to participate can sign up for these events at [PWBA.com/Regionals](http://PWBA.com/Regionals).

To be eligible to enter a PWBA Regional event, a female competitor must average at least 180. PWBA Tour national champions, regardless of membership status at the time of their win, will not be eligible to compete in any PWBA Regional event.

The cost to enter a PWBA Regional event is \$100 for a member and \$150 for a non-member.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

### **TRIO OF TITLES UP FOR GRABS AT FIRST CLASSIC SERIES EVENT OF 2023 PWBA TOUR SEASON**

**WYOMING, Mich.** – A normal week on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour brings many of the world’s best bowlers together for three days to do battle for one tournament title.

PWBA Classic Series events are anything but normal, however, as they give those same bowlers the opportunity to compete for three titles within a seven-day span.

The 2023 PWBA Classic Series – Grand Rapids will do just that, and that is why a field of nearly 100 bowlers will be converging on Spectrum Lanes in Wyoming, Michigan, from May 31-June 6.

Competitors will begin to arrive at Spectrum Lanes on Wednesday for the tournament’s official practice session, which will take place from 2-4 p.m. Eastern.

Following the official practice session, a select group of PWBA Tour stars will take to the lanes for the Bowl with the Pros event starting at 6 p.m. Eastern. This event gives local bowlers the opportunity to bowl alongside their favorite PWBA players in a fun and exciting environment.

Competition begins Thursday with the first of two rounds of qualifying for the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic. Participants will bowl two six-game blocks, starting at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern, with the top 12 competitors making the cut for match play.

The top 12 will return to Spectrum Lanes on Friday and bowl two six-game rounds of round-robin match play starting at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Eastern. After the second round of match play is completed, the top five players will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 6:30 p.m. Eastern on Friday and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Grand Rapids Classic. The finals will be broadcast live at BowITV.com.

The same format will be followed for the PWBA BowITV Classic, which begins with qualifying on Saturday at 10 a.m. Eastern and concludes with the stepladder finals on BowITV Sunday starting at 6:30 p.m. Eastern.

The final tournament of the week will be the PWBA Great Lakes Classic, which will have a field made up of the top 24 competitors based on the combined qualifying totals (24 games) from the first two events.

The 24 advancers will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play to determine the top five for the stepladder finals (total pins from the 24 games of qualifying will not carry over to this event).

The stepladder finals will start at 6:30 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Great Lakes Classic. The finals will be broadcast live at BowITV.com.

The 2023 Classic Series – Grand Rapids will mark the first time that Spectrum Lanes has hosted a PWBA Tour event.

Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, a five-time PWBA Tour titlist and the 2019 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, has been looking forward to this event ever since it popped up on this year's schedule, and she knows that there are plenty of locals who feel the same way.

"It's going to be great to bowl in Grand Rapids because I've been hearing about how excited people are about it for months and months ever since this season's schedule was announced," Kovalova said. "It's really cool to bring the tour to Michigan because it not only will showcase the best lady bowlers in the world, but it also shows people what it takes to compete out here full time.

"A lot of local ladies are really looking forward to this week. Not all of them will necessarily bowl, but they're excited it's at Spectrum so they can come on out, watch and support friends who bowl. They're really excited and happy, and I think that's sweet because it shows how great of a community we have."

Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, is definitely coming to bowl, and she's equally excited to have the PWBA Tour land in Grand Rapids for the first time.

"I'm always excited to go to different centers; I think it's great that we aren't in the same places every time because it gives us a chance to broaden our horizons," Coté said. "All lanes are different, so going someplace new gives us a chance to master our craft just a

little bit better. Also, it gives us a chance to meet new people and be in a different atmosphere, so I'm excited to be headed to Spectrum Lanes."

Fans in the Grand Rapids area should be just as excited to have Coté.

After all, the 37-year-old right-hander is a four-time PWBA Tour titlist and former PWBA Player of the Year (2021).

Three of Coté's four tour victories have come at classic series events (2022 PWBA BVL Classic; 2022 PWBA Dallas Classic and 2021 PWBA ITRC Classic), and her performance at the 2021 PWBA Fall Classic Series at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, is what helped her move from eighth to first in that season's player of the year race.

Coté isn't quite sure what it is about classic series competition that seems to bring out her best; she just knows that she wants it to continue this week in Grand Rapids.

"I couldn't really tell you why I've had success in the classic series because there's nothing different that I do preparation-wise for them," Coté said. "Maybe it's just that in the back of my mind I know that they're more of a sprint than a marathon, so I know I have to come out swinging."

Coté has definitely come out swinging during the early stages of the 2023 season as she has cashed in all three events, ranks in the top 15 in every major statistical category and has already made a stepladder finals appearance – she finished fifth at the PWBA GoBowling! Spokane.

While Coté would love to keep the momentum going this week in Spokane, she doesn't plan on forcing the issue; instead, she's just going to stick to the approach that's gotten her this far.

"I try to keep things simple when I compete. I have a gameplan going in, and then I just try to keep the ball in play and make my spares," Coté said. "I'm going to stay positive, mentally grind through any bumps that come along the way and try to conquer any challenges that lie ahead."

The 2023 PWBA Tour season features 12 events and an overall prize fund of approximately \$1.4 million, which is tied for the largest average per event since the tour's relaunch in 2015.

The schedule also features three majors, the USBC Queens, which was won by Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, U.S. Women's Open and season-ending PWBA Tour Championship. The stepladder finals at all three majors will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.



There are nine events on the 2023 PWBA Regional schedule. The season kicked off with the PWBA Greater Dallas Regional in January and will conclude with the season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida, on December 7-9.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## **KOVALOVA LEADS QUALIFYING AT 2023 PWBA GRAND RAPIDS CLASSIC**

**WYOMING, Mich.** – Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, has made an early impact at the first Classic Series of the Professional Women's Bowling Association season and leads after qualifying at the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic.

Kovalova moved to the top of the standings Thursday at Spectrum Lanes by finishing her 12-game block with a 2,783 total, which was good enough for a 231.92 average and first place in the field of nearly 100 bowlers.

Birgit Noreiks of Germany was second with 2,739, and Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, qualified third with 2,706. Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri (2,683), and Valerie Bercier of Muskegon, Michigan (2,620), followed next in the standings.

The top 12 athletes advanced to match play at the Grand Rapids Classic, which features a pair of six-game match-play rounds that start Friday at 9 a.m. Eastern. Total pinfall, including bonus pins for wins in match play, will determine the five finalists for Friday's stepladder finals.

All rounds of competition at the Grand Rapids Classic will be broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com). The stepladder will air at 6:30 p.m. Eastern, and the champion will take home \$10,000.

The final qualifying spot went to Taylor Bulthuis of New Port Richey, Florida, who tallied a 12-game total of 2,565 (a 213.75 average).

The Classic Series – Grand Rapids includes the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic, PWBA BowITV Classic and PWBA Great Lakes Classic. The BowITV Classic is taking place June 3-4, and the Great Lakes Classic will be June 5-6.

Kovalova began looking forward to the Classic Series – Grand Rapids as soon as it was announced as part of the 2023 schedule.

After all, competing at Spectrum Lanes means bowling less than an hour from her home and having even more support than usual from family, friends and sponsors.

However, more attention can bring even more pressure to perform, so, for Kovalova, bowling so close to home has its ups and downs.

“It’s a double-edged sword for me,” Kovalova said. “It’s nice having people around who know me very well because they can help me when I need it, but at the same time it’s hard because I don’t want to disappoint them.”

The 28-year-old right-hander gave her supporters very little to be disappointed about on Thursday as she was rock solid from start to finish.

Kovalova came out of the gate strong, beginning her day with a score of 288 to immediately jump to the top of the leaderboard.

She didn’t lead wire to wire, but the five-time PWBA Tour titlist and past major champion – Kovalova won the 2019 United States Bowling Congress Queens – was never far from the top.

How could she be? After all, she followed up the 288 with scores of 218, 206, 237, 221 and 212 to finish the morning block before notching games of 188, 246, 257, 233, 234 and 243 during Round 2 to easily secure the top spot heading into match play.

Kovalova’s consistency on Thursday was due in part to being very comfortable with her ball reaction on the Grand Rapids Classic’s 44-foot oil pattern.

She was so comfortable, in fact, that she was able to keep the same bowling ball in her hand pretty much throughout the entirety of her second block.

“I only had to make one ball change during the second set, and that change came during the first game,” Kovalova said. “After that, I stuck with the same ball and just kept going.”

That approach was good enough to get her to the top of the standings on Thursday. Kovalova is hoping the success continues when she and the other 12 qualifiers hit the lanes for match play Friday morning.

Kovalova has been around long enough to know that being the top qualifier doesn’t guarantee match-play success. As such, her focus is on what lies ahead, not on what she accomplished on Day 1.

“Anything can happen during round-robin match play,” Kovalova said. “I’ve seen it where the leader gets lapped because they can’t win matches, and everyone else starts bowling well and adding in those bonus pins. I’ve been there before, so I just need to throw good shots, do my best and take things one shot at a time in my mind.”

If that approach works even half as well Friday as it did during qualifying, then Kovalova is as good a bet as any to be right in the thick of the Grand Rapids Classic title hunt.

Once the Grand Rapids Classic has concluded, the BowlTV Classic and Great Lakes Classic will feature the same format. The finals of the BowlTV Classic also will air on BowlTV. The stepladder will be Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern.

The combined qualifying totals for the Grand Rapids Classic and BowlTV Classic (24 games) will determine the 24 athletes advancing to the Great Lakes Classic.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Great Lakes Classic, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday. The top five competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Tuesday's stepladder finals.

The finals of the Great Lakes Classic will be broadcast Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV with the winner earning the \$12,000 top prize.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## **2023 PWBA Grand Rapids Classic At Spectrum Lanes Wyoming, Mich.**

### **Thursday's Results**

1, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,783. 2, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,739. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,706. 4, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,683. 5, Valerie Bercier (n), Muskegon, Mich., 2,620. 6, Verity Crawley, England, 2,609.

7, (TIE) Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., and Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 2,606. 9, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,602. 10, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,582. 11, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,573. 12, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 2,565.

### **DID NOT ADVANCE**

13, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,535, \$1,200. 14, (TIE) Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., and Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,508, \$1,170. 16, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,506, \$1,140. 17, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 2,498, \$1,120. 18, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 2,493, \$1,100.

19, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,491, \$1,080. 20, Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 2,475, \$1,060. 21, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2,470, \$1,040. 22, Isabella Correa (n), Colombia, 2,467, \$1,020. 23, (TIE) Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., and Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 2,460, \$995.

25, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,457, \$980. 26, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,451, \$970. 27, (TIE) Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., and Ottilia Gunnarsson

(n), Kristianstad, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,439, \$955. 29, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 2,438, \$940. 30, Sanna Oksanen, Paimio, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,430, \$930.

31, Sarah Gill, Mandeville, La., 2,412, \$920. 32, Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,409, \$910. 33, (TIE) Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., and Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 2,408, \$900. 35, (TIE) Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., and Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,407, \$900.

37, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,405, \$900. 38, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,403, \$900. 39, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,396, \$900. 40, (TIE) Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., and Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, and Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2,389, \$900.

43, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 2,378, \$900. 44, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 2,376, \$900. 45, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,374, \$900. 46, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,370, \$900. 47, Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 2,367, \$900. 48, Solene Goron, France, 2,366, \$900.

49, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 2,364, \$900. 50, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 2,362, \$900. 51, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 2,361, \$900. 52, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,359, \$900. 53, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,357, \$900. 54, Ani Juntunen, Finland, 2,349, \$900.

55, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 2,339, \$900. 56, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,327, \$900. 57, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,307, \$900. 58, (TIE) Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 2,301, \$900. 60, Eliisa Hiltunen, Finland, 2,296, \$900.

61, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,287, \$900. 62, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,283, \$900. 63, (TIE) Laura Plazas, Colombia, and Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,280, \$900. 65, (TIE) Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 2,277, \$900.

67, Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 2,272. 68, Karli VanDuinen (n), New Era, Mich., 2,270. 69, Julie Oczepek (n), Vassar, Mich., 2,259. 70, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 2,254. 71, Kasey Eaton (n), Wyoming, Mich., 2,241. 72, (TIE) Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., and Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 2,240.

74, Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., 2,225. 75, Karine Bouchard (n), Canada, 2,221. 76, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,210. 77, Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., 2,204. 78, Laura Garcia (n), Cali, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,202.

79, Nora Johansson (n), Sweden, 2,195. 80, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,175. 81, Mackenzie Plichta (n), Muskegon, Mich., 2,155. 82, Bekki Myers, Hudsonville, Mich., 2,153. 83, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 2,151. 84, Tabitha Schlupe, Akron, Ohio, 2,136.

85, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,135. 86, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,106. 87, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,105. 88, Jenny Wonders (n), Roscoe, Ill., 2,075. 89, Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 2,070. 90, Morgan Walsh, Warwick, R.I., 2,068.

91, Julie Milburn, Snohomish, Wash., 2,037. 92, Emma Haltunen (n), Gantofta, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,035. 93, Theresa Kammers (n), Twin Lakes, Mich., 2,007. 94, Juliana Rincon (n), Colombia, 1,961. 95, Sydney Urben (n), Dorr, Mich., 1,953. 96, Adrienne Kissane, Anderson, Ind., 1,946.

97, Wendy Mann, South Elgin, Ill., 1,905.

## **CRAWLEY WINS 2023 PWBA GRAND RAPIDS CLASSIC**

**WYOMING, Mich.** – England’s Verity Crawley secured her first Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour title since 2021 and the second of her career Friday night at the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic.

Crawley defeated Germany’s Birgit Noreiks 258-189 in the title match at Spectrum Lanes to record the win live on BowITV and earn the \$10,000 top prize. Noreiks earned \$5,000 for the runner-up finish.

Crawley entered Friday’s stepladder finals as the No. 2 seed after posting an 8-4 record during match play on the 44-foot oil pattern being used at the Grand Rapids Classic.

Nevertheless, as soon as she got on the championship pair Friday night, it was obvious that the 28-year-old right-hander was going to be tough to beat.

She began her run to the title by defeating Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri, 235-226 in the semifinals.

Pate, who was making her PWBA stepladder finals debut, certainly didn’t make it easy as she closed the match with a four-bagger to force Crawley to strike on the first ball of the 10th frame to win.

Crawley was up to the task, however, delivering a flush strike to secure the victory and advance to the title match.

Getting the job done in such a crucial moment is no easy task, but it’s something that Crawley simulates often during practice.

“Those are the moments I work for and practice a lot,” Crawley said. “I knew I needed the strike, but, in the end, if I make a good shot and it doesn’t strike, that’s okay.”

But it did strike, sending Crawley through to the finals against top-seed Noreiks and forcing Pate to settle for third place and \$3,500.

Crawley only got stronger once the title match began, starting with a spare and then tossing a six-bagger in frames two through seven to build a 43-pin lead with just three frames to go.

Noreiks, a three-time winner on the PWBA Tour and the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, did her best to hang tough, but she simply couldn’t match Crawley’s striking power on this night.

By the time both players stepped up for the 10th frame, the match was already decided in Crawley’s favor.

Despite the rather lopsided final score, Crawley didn't relax until the final balls were thrown.

"I'd like to think that I had the mindset that I was going to win before the match even started, but it's hard to say when it really hit me," Crawley said. "Honestly, I didn't even know that I'd shot 250 until they told me during the interview with BowITV."

That may be because Friday night was about more than just putting up a couple big games and getting back in the winner's circle. For Crawley, it was also about solidifying the confidence that was shaken during a disappointing start to the 2023 season.

"The beginning of the season was awful; I knew it couldn't get any worse," Crawley said. "It kind of sounds like a fairytale, but people always say that your highest highs come after your lowest lows."

"I've always felt like that was probably true, but I never really experienced it. Now, I truly feel like sometimes you have to feel like you're at rock bottom to figure out what to do next and start over."

Crawley won't have to wait long to see if she can keep the momentum going as the Grand Rapids Classic is the first of three tournaments being contested at Spectrum Lanes this week.

The Classic Series – Grand Rapids includes the Grand Rapids Classic, PWBA BowITV Classic and PWBA Great Lakes Classic. The BowITV Classic is taking place June 3-4, and the Great Lakes Classic will be June 5-6.

The Grand Rapids Classic featured 12 games of qualifying Thursday to determine the top 12 players for round-robin match play Friday. Total pinfall, including bonus pins, for 24 games determined the five finalists for the stepladder.

Five-time PWBA Tour champion Dasha Kovalova of nearby Muskegon, Michigan, opened Friday night's stepladder by defeating rookie Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, 265-178. Gramly took home \$2,000 for finishing fifth.

Kovalova's run would end one game later after she fell 225-207 to Pate in Match 2. Kovalova's fourth-place finish earned her \$2,500.

Competition at Spectrum Lanes will continue Saturday at 10 a.m. Eastern for the BowITV Classic. The BowITV Classic will feature the same format as the Grand Rapids Classic with the finals taking place Sunday on BowITV at 6:30 p.m. Eastern.

The combined qualifying totals for the Grand Rapids Classic and BowITV Classic (24 games) will determine the 24 athletes advancing to the Great Lakes Classic.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Great Lakes Classic, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday. The top five athletes, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Tuesday's stepladder finals.

The finals of the Great Lakes Classic will be broadcast Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern on BowITV. The winner will earn the \$12,000 top prize.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

**2023 PWBA Grand Rapids Classic  
At Spectrum Lanes  
Wyoming, Mich.**

**Friday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Verity Crawley, England, 493 (two games), \$10,000.
- 2, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 189 (one games), \$5,000.
- 3, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 451 (two games), \$3,500.
- 4, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 472 (two games), \$2,500.
- 5, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 178 (one game), \$2,000.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Kovalova def. Gramly, 265-178.  
Match No. 2 – Pate def. Kovalova, 225-207.  
Semifinal – Crawley def. Pate, 235-226.  
Championship – Crawley def. Noreiks, 258-189.

**MATCH PLAY**

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

- 1, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 9-3-0, 5,555.
- 2, Verity Crawley, England, 8-4-0, 5,514.
- 3, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 7-5-0, 5,481.
- 4, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 8-4-0, 5,451.
- 5, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 6-6-0, 5,409.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 6, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 9-3-0, 5,387, \$1,700.
- 7, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 7-5-0, 5,290, \$1,650.
- 8, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 6-6-0, 5,273, \$1,600.
- 9, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 4-8-0, 5,207, \$1,550.
- 10, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2-10-0, 5,191, \$1,500.
- 11, Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., 4-8-0, 5,104, \$1,450.
- 12, Valerie Bercier (n), Muskegon, Mich., 2-10-0, 5,100, \$1,400.

## **PLUHOWSKY PACES FIELD IN QUALIFYING AT 2023 PWBA BOWLTV CLASSIC**

WYOMING, Mich. – Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, didn't bowl the first two events of the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season.

Instead, she began her campaign in Week 3 when she made the cut to match play and finished tied for 33rd place at the season's first major, the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens, which was held at Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas from May 17-23.

This week, the PWBA Tour is at Spectrum Lanes for the Classic Series – Grand Rapids, and ever since she arrived in Michigan, Pluhowsky has continued making up for lost time.

The 40-year-old left-hander began the week with an 8th-place finish at the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic, which concluded Friday night with England's Verity Crawley defeating Germany's Birgit Noreiks, 258-189, to secure the week's first title.

Pluhowsky put herself in prime position to make a run at the second by rolling a 12-game total of 2,873 on Saturday (a 239.42 average) to lead qualifying by more than 100 pins at the PWBA BowlTV Classic.

Hometown favorite Brianna Andrew of Grand Rapids, Michigan, qualified second with 2,761. Melanie McDaniel of Joliet, Illinois (2,753); Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas (2,719); and Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York (2,711), grabbed the remaining spots in the top five.

The top 12 athletes from the field of nearly 100 players advanced to match play at the BowlTV Classic. The advancers will bowl two six-game match-play rounds, starting Sunday at 9 a.m. Eastern. Total pinfall, including bonus pins for each win in match play, will determine the five finalists for the stepladder finals.

The stepladder also will take place Sunday, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Eastern live at BowlTV.com. The champion will win \$10,000.

Twelve games weren't enough to determine who got the final spot for match play as Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, and Kayla Bandy of Wichita, Kansas, finished qualifying with matching totals of 2,660 (a 221.67 average).

The duo wouldn't stay tied for long, however, as McCarthy began the roll-off with 10 strikes in a row to cruise to a 287-192 victory to move on to match play and eliminate Bandy.

Things weren't nearly as dramatic for Pluhowsky, who simply dominated the field from start to finish on Saturday.

The two-time PWBA major champion – Pluhowsky won the 2006 Queens and 2021 PWBA Tour Championship – was rock solid all day long, recording a low game of 202 and authoring eight games of 245 or higher (245, 246, 245, 267, 249, 257, 268 and 248).

As impressive as those numbers are, they didn't necessarily surprise Pluhowsky as the tournament's 36-foot oil pattern fits squarely within her comfort zone.



"I usually tend to like the shorter patterns if we can play to the left," Pluhowsky said. "It's always just one of those things if I can strike enough. I did today, so it was a good day."

There's no reason to think Pluhowsky won't remain locked in throughout match play on Sunday; nevertheless, the PWBA Tour veteran and longtime Team USA member isn't taking anything for granted.

"Today was a great day, but tomorrow could be completely different," Pluhowsky said. "Every time a lane is stripped and reoiled, they change a little bit, so I have to keep an open mind, keep making my spares and just hang in there."

Pluhowsky has done much more than just hang in there so far; she was downright dominant on Saturday, leading the field in average by nearly 10 pins per game.

That feat is made even more impressive when remembering, once again, that Pluhowsky started the season two weeks later than most of her opponents.

"Two tournaments had passed before I bowled the Queens, so by the time I started, the rest of the ladies were already sharp because they'd been out there and been on the patterns," Pluhowsky said. "I think that the Queens pattern being a little tougher helped get me physically sharp, and things have just sort of gone from there. It's nice because the goal is always to get off to a good start."

Pluhowsky has certainly reached that goal, and in doing so, she has not only put herself in the hunt for the BowlTV Classic title, but she also appears to be the player to beat once match play begins at the third and final event of the Classic Series – Grand Rapids as well.

That's because in addition to leading the field at the BowlTV Classic, Pluhowsky also ended Saturday night atop the standings for the Great Lakes Classic.

The combined qualifying totals for the Grand Rapids Classic and BowlTV Classic (24 games) determined the 24 athletes advancing to match play for the Great Lakes Classic.

Pluhowsky got to the lead by finishing with a 24-game total of 5,475, a 228.13 average. She was followed by Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan (5,364); Gramly (5,325); Taylor Bulthuis of New Port Richey, Florida (5,219); and Colombia's Maria Jose Rodriguez (5,215).

Mexico's Sandra Gongora earned the final spot at the Great Lakes Classic with a 5,007 total, a 208.63 average.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Great Lakes Classic, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday. The top five competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Tuesday's stepladder finals.

The finals of the Great Lakes Classic will be broadcast Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV, with the winner earning the \$12,000 top prize.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## 2023 PWBA BowlTV Classic

At Spectrum Lanes

Wyoming, Mich.

### Saturday's Results

1, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,873. 2, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,761. 3, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 2,753. 4, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 2,719. 5, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,711. 6, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,707.

7, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 2,700. 8, (TIE) Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., and Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,698. 10, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,688. 11, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,686. 12, \*Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,660.

### DID NOT ADVANCE

13, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,660, \$1,200. 14, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 2,654, \$1,180. 15, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 2,649, \$1,160. 16, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,648, \$1,140. 17, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,646, \$1,120. 18, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 2,642, \$1,100.

19, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 2,638, \$1,080. 20, Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,635, \$1,060. 21, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 2,625, \$1,040. 22, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,597, \$1,020. 23, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 2,593, \$1,000. 24, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,591, \$990.

25, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,589, \$980. 26, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,581, \$970. 27, (TIE) Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., and Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,573, \$955. 29, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 2,554, \$940. 30, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,548, \$930.

31, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,545, \$920. 32, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,535, \$910. 33, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 2,531, \$900. 34, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,530. 35, Karine Bouchard (n), Canada, 2,522. 36, Sanna Oksanen, Paimio, \*\*\*\*\* , 2,519.

37, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,518. 38, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 2,506. 39, Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 2,505. 40, Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., 2,502. 41, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 2,500. 42, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,498.

43, (TIE) Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, and Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,495. 45, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,493. 46, Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 2,489. 47, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 2,487. 48, Verity Crawley, England, 2,483.

49, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 2,481. 50, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,476. 51, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,473. 52, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2,469. 53, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,457. 54, Sarah Gill, Mandeville, La., 2,451.

55, Karli VanDuinen (n), New Era, Mich., 2,447. 56, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 2,444. 57, Jenny Wonders (n), Roscoe, Ill., 2,433. 58, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,427. 59, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,421. 60, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,417.

61, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 2,409. 62, Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., 2,408. 63, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 2,405. 64, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,402. 65, Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 2,400. 66, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 2,399.

67, Emma Haltunen (n), Gantofta, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,390. 68, Ottilia Gunnarsson (n), Kristianstad, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,374. 69, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,365. 70, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,364. 71, Ani Juntunen, Finland, 2,360. 72, (TIE) Eliisa Hiltunen, Finland, and

Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 2,352. 74, Isabella Correa (n), Colombia, 2,351. 75, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 2,350. 76, Solene Goron, France, 2,349. 77, Laura Garcia (n), Cali, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,337. 78, Morgan Walsh, Warwick, R.I., 2,327.

79, Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 2,317. 80, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 2,311. 81, Bekki Myers, Hudsonville, Mich., 2,310. 82, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,295. 83, Kasey Eaton (n), Wyoming, Mich., 2,277. 84, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 2,271.

85, Julie Oczepek (n), Vassar, Mich., 2,247. 86, Nora Johansson (n), Sweden, 2,241. 87, Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., 2,239. 88, Valerie Bercier (n), Muskegon, Mich., 2,212. 89, Tabitha Schlupe, Akron, Ohio, 2,204. 90, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 2,199.

91, Juliana Rincon (n), Colombia, 2,198. 92, Adrienne Kissane, Anderson, Ind., 2,173. 93, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,159. 94, Julie Milburn, Snohomish, Wash., 2,143. 95, Sydney Urben (n), Dorr, Mich., 2,130. 96, Mackenzie Plichta (n), Muskegon, Mich., 1,991.

97, Wendy Mann, South Elgin, Ill., 1,904. 98, Theresa Kammers (n), Twin Lakes, Mich., 1,897.

\* McCarthy def. Bandy in roll-off, 287-192, to advance. Bandy was eliminated.

## **ZAVALA WINS BOWLTV CLASSIC FOR FIFTH CAREER PWBA TOUR TITLE**

**WYOMING, Mich.** – When Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, was growing up, she dreamed of one day becoming a household name on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour and being mentioned in the same breath as legends such as Liz Johnson, Kelly Kulick and Shannon Pluhowsky.

Just three years into her professional career, Zavala is no longer just dreaming about it; she’s making it happen.

The 27-year-old right-hander took another step on Sunday night when she defeated Pluhowsky, 223-202, at Spectrum Lanes to win the 2023 PWBA BowlTV Classic and record her fifth career PWBA Tour victory in just under two and a half seasons.

Zavala, who earned \$10,000 for the win, has now captured at least one title during each of her three seasons on tour. The stepladder of the BowlTV Classic was broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

Those who tuned in got to see Zavala put on quite a show.

The 2021 PWBA Tour Rookie of the Year earned the No. 3 seed for the stepladder finals after finishing match play with a 7-5 record and coming in with a 24-game total of 5,578, which included 30 bonus pins for each of her seven match victories.

Zavala's first stepladder opponent was No. 4 seed Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, who earned the right to face Zavala after defeating United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer and seven-time PWBA Tour titlist Kulick, 259-216, in the night's opening match.

Kulick, who earlier in the day recorded just the second 300 game of the 2023 PWBA Tour season, earned \$2,000 for her fifth-place finish.

Although Zavala and Gramly squared off in Match 2, their bout ended up being the match of the night.

Zavala began the bout with an open frame, which allowed Gramly to take a seven-pin lead after three frames.

Gramly would return the favor one frame later, however, after her first ball in the fourth frame didn't make it back to the pocket and left a 2-8-10 split.

After Gramly failed to convert, Zavala took advantage, going strike, spare, turkey in frames four through eight to establish a double-digit lead with just three frames remaining.

When Zavala stepped up for her ninth and 10th frames, she controlled her own destiny. Even with Gramly having recorded a triple of her own in frames seven, eight and nine, if Zavala could strike in the ninth and first ball in the 10th, she'd move on.

But Zavala didn't strike in the ninth; instead, her ball drifted high and left the 3-4-6-7 split. She made a valiant effort at the conversion, but the 7 pin remained standing, resulting in a costly open frame.

Nevertheless, Zavala didn't have time to dwell on the mistake; she needed to finish strong in order to apply pressure to Gramly.

Showing the poise that helped her reach the winner's circle four times before, Zavala did just that, striking out to post a final score of 203.

That forced Gramly to go nine, spare, nine or better to win or eight, spare, strike to tie.

Despite being a PWBA Tour rookie, Gramly is quite familiar with being asked to come through in high-pressure situations.

In April, she was faced with a similar scenario while bowling anchor for McKendree University during the finals of the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships in Las Vegas.

On that occasion, Gramly stepped up and delivered a flush strike to defeat Maryville and give the Bearcats their second USBC Collegiate national title.

Things would turn out differently this time, however, as Gramly's first ball in the 10th frame went out to the right and refused to recover, coming in light and leaving the 2-4-8.

She converted the spare and threw a strike on her fill ball, but the seven count to start the 10th was enough to allow Zavala to emerge with a hard-fought 203-202 victory.

For Zavala, the ability to come through in the clutch boils down to refusing to pine over mistakes and never giving in.

“I told myself that I needed to make her show up in the 10th; make her earn it,” Zavala said. “Sometimes that mentality fires me up a little bit. If I’m going to lose, I’m going to go down swinging.

“I knew that I was lined up and that it was my fault that I split in the ninth because it was just a bad shot on my part. I cleared my mind and remembered that I hadn’t missed on the left lane. It was just about having a short memory.”

Gramly, who was making her third stepladder finals appearance of the season and second in less than three days – she also qualified for the finals at Friday night’s PWBA Grand Rapids Classic – was forced to settle for fourth place and \$2,500.

Zavala’s semifinal opponent wasn’t a rookie, but, like Gramly, she was seeking her first PWBA Tour title.

That opponent was Melanie McDaniel of Joliet, Illinois, who was making her first stepladder finals appearance after earning the No. 2 seed thanks to a 7-5 record and 5,691 24-game total (including bonus pins).

As those numbers clearly indicate, McDaniel performed brilliantly during qualifying on Saturday and throughout Sunday’s two rounds of match play.

Unfortunately, she was unable to keep the momentum going once the stepladder began, opening four times in the first eight frames to allow Zavala to cruise into the finals with a 224-169 victory.

Although her last game didn’t go as planned, McDaniel still had plenty to be proud of as she walked away with a career-best third-place finish and a check for \$3,500.

Zavala, meanwhile, had punched her ticket to the championship match, and there she found a familiar opponent waiting for her in Pluhowsky.

Pluhowsky and Zavala battled for the title at the final major of the 2022 PWBA Tour season, the Tour Championship, which was held at USA Bowl in Dallas.

Zavala got the better of Pluhowsky on that occasion, defeating the then 39-year-old left-hander by a final score of 252-181 to pick up her first major title while denying Pluhowsky’s bid for a third.

Despite having gotten the better of Pluhowsky last time, Zavala certainly wasn’t overlooking the two-time PWBA Tour champion and 23-time Team USA member heading into Sunday’s rematch.

“Shannon is a phenomenal bowler, and she’s going to be a hall of famer,” Zavala said. “She’s somebody that I grew up watching and looked up to. I have pictures of me and her standing together with me holding up a pin that she signed for me, so it’s really great getting to compete against her.”

Despite the obvious respect that she has for Pluhowsky, Zavala made it clear from the first ball of the title match that she wasn’t intimidated by her childhood idol.

Instead, Zavala threw the first punch, starting with a double and two spares to jump out to a 22-pin lead, which was helped by a Pluhowsky 4-7-10 split in the fourth frame.

After making a ball change, Pluhowsky attempted to get back in the match with a turkey in the fifth, sixth and seventh frames.

It wasn't enough to gain any ground, however, as Zavala responded with a triple of her own over the same stretch, which kept her lead intact heading into the final three frames.

Some of the spectators at Spectrum Lanes may have had their hopes up for another dramatic finish like the one between Zavala and Gramly in Match 2, but it wasn't meant to be.

Instead, Zavala and Pluhowsky matched one another spare, strike, spare during each of their next three deliveries.

Pluhowsky had the higher fill ball, finishing with a strike to one-up Zavala's ending nine-count; nevertheless, it was Zavala who emerged with the victory and tour title No. 5.

As expected, Zavala was very excited to find the winner's circle again.

"This feels insanely great," Zavala said. "This is what we dream of and work for. One day, I hope I'm a hall of famer, and I feel like I'm getting closer and closer with every win I'm able to get under my belt."

On Sunday, Zavala demonstrated once again how tough she is to beat whenever a title is within her grasp.

The ability to close and get the job done when it matters most can be a very difficult skill to master, and it's one that has eluded many talented bowlers over the years; nevertheless, when victory is in sight, that's when Zavala is at her best.

"Once you're in that title match and it's so close that you can taste it, you have to put your foot on the gas and never look back," Zavala said. "That's the mentality I like to take in."

"I just wanted this win really bad. I wanted to defend my title at the end of the year at the Tour Championship, and this is the first step because now I'm in. You've just got to want it, and I did."

The BowlTV Classic started with nearly 100 athletes on Saturday. All competitors bowled two six-game rounds of qualifying to determine the top 12 for Sunday's match-play rounds.

Advancers bowled two six-game rounds of match play, with total pinfall and bonus pins determining the top five for the stepladder finals.

The BowlTV Classic was the second of three events in the Classic Series – Grand Rapids.

England's Verity Crawley won the Grand Rapids Classic on Friday at Spectrum Lanes for her second PWBA Tour title, and competition at the PWBA Great Lakes Classic gets underway Monday at 10 a.m. Eastern.

The combined qualifying totals for the Grand Rapids Classic and BowlTV Classic (24 games) determined the 24 athletes advancing to the Great Lakes Classic. Pluhowsky led Great Lakes Classic qualifying with a 24-game total of 5,475 (a 228.13 average).

Gramly (5,325), Zavala (5,194) and Kulick (5,062) also advanced.

Pinfall will drop at the beginning of the Great Lakes Classic, with all advancers bowling three eight-game blocks of round-robin match play Monday and Tuesday. The top five competitors, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will move on to Tuesday's stepladder finals.

The finals of the Great Lakes Classic will be broadcast Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern on BowlTV, with the winner earning the \$12,000 top prize.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## **2023 PWBA Grand Rapids Classic**

### **At Spectrum Lanes**

### **Wyoming, Mich.**

#### **Sunday's results**

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 650 (three games), \$10,000.
- 2, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 202 (one game), \$5,000.
- 3, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 169 (one game), \$3,500.
- 4, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 461 (two games), \$2,500.
- 5, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 216 (one game), \$2,000.

#### **STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Gramly def. Kulick, 259-216.  
Match No. 2 – Zavala def. Gramly, 203-202.  
Semifinal – Zavala def. McDaniel, 224-169.  
Championship – Zavala def. Pluhowsky, 223-202.

#### **MATCH PLAY**

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

1, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 8-4-0, 5,762. 2, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 7-5-0, 5,691. 3, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 7-5-0, 5,578. 4, (TIE) Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 8-4-0, and Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 6-6-0, 5,568.

#### **DID NOT ADVANCE**

6, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 6-6-0, 5,526, \$1,700. 7, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 5-7-0, 5,482, \$1,650. 8, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 7-5-0, 5,459, \$1,600. 9, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 6-6-0, 5,263, \$1,550. 10, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 4-8-0, 5,255, \$1,500. 11, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 4-8-0, 5,187, \$1,450. 12, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 4-8-0, 5,170, \$1,400.

## **CRAWLEY LEADS AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2023 PWBA GREAT LAKES CLASSIC**

**WYOMING, Mich.** – England's Verity Crawley averaged 220.81 and posted an 11-4-1 record in match play through the first two rounds to lead the field Monday at the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour Great Lakes Classic.

Crawley finished her day at Spectrum Lanes with a 3,878 total, which included 30 bonus pins for each victory in the round-robin format for the third event of the week.

Diana Zavjalova of Latvia grabbed second place after authoring a 12-4 match-play mark and coming in with a 3,864 total.

Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio (3,821); Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan (3,776); and Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York (3,615), also are in the top five.

All competitors will return to Spectrum Lanes on Tuesday at 10 a.m. Eastern for the final eight-game block of match play. The top five, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Tuesday's stepladder finals and compete for the \$12,000 top prize.

BowlTV.com will broadcast the final match-play round and stepladder finals, which will air Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern.

Crawley began Monday's action at the Great Lakes Classic just three days after capturing her second career PWBA Tour title, which came Friday night when she defeated Germany's Birgit Noreiks, 258-189, to win the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic, which was the first event of the three-tournament Classic Series – Grand Rapids.

The PWBA BowlTV Classic came next and was won by Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, who topped Pluhowsky 223-202 on Sunday night to collect her fifth PWBA Tour title in less than three full seasons on tour.

Crawley missed the cut at that tournament, but she thinks that it may have actually been something of a blessing in disguise.

"I was actually very happy to have the day off yesterday because my thumb is a bit of a mess," Crawley said. "Bowling so many games in a short amount of time like this is what we work for in the offseason, but it can be pretty brutal."

Crawley's assessment really hits home when you take a closer look at the numbers.

Each event at the Classic Series – Grand Rapids began with 12 games of qualifying. Bowlers who made the cut then bowled two six-game sets of round-robin match play, bringing their total up to 28 games.

The top five bowlers then advanced to stepladder-finals competition, which, depending upon where a player qualified, meant anywhere from one to four additional games for a grand total of 28 possible games in just two days.

That's just for one tournament of the three-event series, which means that if a bowler performed well enough to reach the stepladder finals in all three tournaments, she could end up bowling as many as 84 games in six days.

To be clear, none of the nearly 100 competitors who competed in Grand Rapids this week will end up reaching that number, but some are much closer than others, and the mental and physical wear and tear is definitely starting to show.



Crawley's total for the week stood at 54 games after the completion of Monday's first two rounds of Great Lakes Classic match play. She has at least eight more to go Tuesday morning, but she's hoping for even more.

"Being able to compete at a high level day after day like this shows our level of endurance and the mental and physical power that we have to have to be able to show up and perform," Crawley said. "I commend the people who made the cut at all three events. I didn't make the cut in the second one, so I had the day off yesterday, which I think was monumental toward helping me feel like I could physically perform today."

Despite missing the cut at the second event in the series, Crawley's overall performance during the qualifying rounds of the first two tournaments allowed her to stay inside the overall top 24 and qualify for the final competition.

The Classic Series – Grand Rapids features three events – PWBA Grand Rapids Classic, PWBA BowITV Classic and PWBA Great Lakes Classic – with the combined qualifying totals for the Grand Rapids Classic and BowITV Classic (24 games) determining the 24 advancers for the Great Lakes Classic.

Pinfall dropped for all athletes at the beginning of the Great Lakes Classic.

Despite the long and arduous road it's taken to get there, Crawley is happy with the position she's put herself in with one day of competition remaining in Grand Rapids, and she's hoping to finish strong.

"Eight more games is a lot, and bonus pins make a huge difference. For me, it's going to be about winning matches, staying in the pocket and staying present," Crawley said. "Anything can happen in eight games, so I need to treat it like a whole new day and do it all over again."

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

**2023 PWBA Great Lakes Classic  
At Spectrum Lanes  
Wyoming, Mich.**

**Monday's results**

**MATCH PLAY**

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

1, Verity Crawley, England, 11-4-1, 3,878. 2, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 12-4-0, 3,864. 3, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 9-7-0, 3,821. 4, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 11-5-0, 3,776. 5, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 8-7-1, 3,615. 6, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 9-6-1, 3,585.

7, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 9-7-0, 3,552. 8, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 8-8-0, 3,551. 9, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 8-7-1, 3,538. 10, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 10-6-0, 3,533. 11, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 7-9-0, 3,532. 12, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 10-6-0, 3,528.

13, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 9-7-0, 3,500. 14, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 6-10-0, 3,494. 15, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 7-9-0, 3,491. 16, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 9-7-0, 3,482. 17, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 7-9-0, 3,464. 18, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 7-9-0, 3,462.

19, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 7-9-0, 3,435. 20, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 5-10-1, 3,384. 21, Taylor Bulhuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 5-11-0, 3,269. 22, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 6-10-0, 3,243. 23, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 5-10-1, 3,212. 24, Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., 4-12-0, 3,102.

## **RICHARD WINS 2023 PWBA GREAT LAKES CLASSIC, BECOMES PWBA'S FIRST TWO-TIME WINNER THIS SEASON**

**WYOMING, Mich.** – Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, has had success on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour since her rookie season in 2018, but she has been having success at Spectrum Lanes for much longer than that.

That's because the now-28-year-old right-hander used to bowl (and win) at Spectrum on a regular basis years ago while competing on the youth tournament circuit.

On Tuesday night, she captured her first professional title at Spectrum Lanes by defeating England's Verity Crawley, 241-171, live on BowITV to win the 2023 PWBA Great Lakes Classic.

The victory was Richard's second of the 2023 season and fourth of her PWBA Tour career, earning her \$12,000 and the distinction of becoming the tour's first two-time champion this season.

Crawley, who was also vying for her second title of the year, took home \$6,000 for finishing second.

With Richard and Crawley both entering the title match having already won this season, the matchup was billed as an early battle for the lead in the 2023 PWBA Tour Player of the Year race.

Early on, the bout lived up to the hype as Richard started with a four-bagger while Crawley came out of the gate with three strikes of her own before settling for a spare in the fourth.

That's as close as it would get, however, as Crawley went on to open the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth frames thanks to two chops, a split and a washout.

Richard suffered a split and opened the fifth frame as well, but she bounced back with a spare in the sixth and then carded another four-bagger in frames six through 10 to put the match away and reach the winner's circle for the second time in less than a month – she won the PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open on May 13.

Winning is always special to Richard, but winning at Spectrum meant even more since it's a center that holds a lot of fond memories for her and her family.

“We used to bowl MJMA (Michigan Junior Masters Association) at Spectrum at least once a year, and I won here, my older sister won here and my twin won here as well,” Richard said. “We've always bowled well at Spectrum, so it's kind of been like a home away from home.”

Richard certainly appeared comfortable, capturing the top seed for the Great Lakes Classic stepladder finals by going 18-6 during Monday and Tuesday's three 8-game blocks of round-robin match play.

Most bowlers enjoy being the top seed for the finals. Richard, on the other hand, has mixed feelings on the subject.

“I didn't even realize that I was in the lead until we got ready to bowl the position round,” Richard said. “Sometimes I feel it's good to be the No. 1 seed, but other times I feel like I need a couple games to get loose.”

“However, in this tournament, toward the end of my blocks is when my ball reaction got better and better, so letting the other finalists break the lanes down for me and leaving me with the least number of games possible was okay with me this time.”

Getting a little bit of rest certainly couldn't have hurt Richard's cause; after all, she had already done more than her share of bowling this week.

The 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year racked up 61 games during her six days of competition at the 2023 PWBA Classic Series – Grand Rapids, 12 at the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic, 24 at the PWBA BowITV Classic and 25 enroute to the title at the PWBA Great Lakes Classic.

Nevertheless, it wasn't her endurance that Richard was most proud of after her latest victory; it was her ability to reach the top despite having to navigate the Great Lakes Classic's difficult match-play format.

“To win an event like this one means a lot because with the 30 bonus pins that are available in match play, anything can happen,” Richard said. “If you lose one game and the people around you win and shoot 250, you drop 10 spots, and it's so easy to do

that. Still, I just tried to stay focused on what I was doing, and that helped me stay near the top.”

Speaking of being near the top, with three stepladder finals appearances and two victories already under her belt this season, Richard has put herself right in the thick of the 2023 PWBA Tour Player of the Year race.

But Richard isn't looking that far down the road; instead, she's trying to enjoy the ride and stay focused on the tasks at hand.

“Of course, I would love to add an award like that to my resume, but there have been times before when I've gotten too focused on that, which caused me to start bowling really bad,” Richard said. “I feel like right now I just have to take care of myself and do what I'm doing best.

“I'm in a really good place in my life right now where I'm extremely happy, and I think that shows a lot on the lanes. I'm happy and bowling well, so I really couldn't ask for more.”

Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, knows a little something about happiness and peace of mind off the lanes catapulting a bowler to new heights on them as that's one of the factors that has helped her win 15 PWBA Tour titles and secure three PWBA Tour Player of the Year awards of her own (2018, 2019 and 2022).

O'Keefe, who entered the stepladder finals as the No. 5 seed, made a strong run of her own Tuesday night, defeating Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, 267-238, in Match 1 and Latvia's Diana Zavjalova, 238-184, in Match 2 before falling to Crawley (216-210) in the semifinals.

O'Keefe's third-place finish was worth \$4,000. Zavjalova and Pluhowsky earned \$3,000 and \$2,600, respectively.

The Classic Series – Grand Rapids featured three events – PWBA Grand Rapids Classic, PWBA BowITV Classic and PWBA Great Lakes Classic – and kicked off Thursday with nearly 100 athletes.

The combined qualifying totals for the Grand Rapids Classic and BowITV Classic (24 games) determined the 24 athletes advancing to the Great Lakes Classic.

Pinfall dropped at the beginning of the Great Lakes Classic, and competition consisted of three eight-game rounds of match play Monday and Tuesday. Total pinfall for 24 games, including bonus pins for each victory in match play, determined the five finalists for Tuesday's championship round.

Crawley won the Grand Rapids Classic on Friday for her second career title. Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, claimed her fifth PWBA Tour title Sunday night at the BowITV Classic.

PWBA Tour action resumes Friday in Parma Heights, Ohio, at the 2023 PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open, which will take place at Yorktown Lanes from June 8-10.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

**2023 PWBA Great Lakes Classic  
At Spectrum Lanes  
Wyoming, Mich.**

**Tuesday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 241 (one game), \$12,000.
- 2, Verity Crawley, England, 387 (two games), \$6,000.
- 3, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 715 (three games), \$4,000.
- 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 184 (one game), \$3,000.
- 5, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 238 (one game), \$2,600.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – O'Keefe def. Pluhowsky, 267-238.  
Match No. 2 – O'Keefe def. Zavjalova, 238-184.  
Semifinal – Crawley def. O'Keefe, 216-210.  
Championship – Richard def. Crawley, 241-171.

**MATCH PLAY**

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

- 1, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 18-6-0, 5,791. 2, Verity Crawley, England, 14-9-1, 5,725. 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 16-8-0, 5,708. 4, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 13-11-0, 5,602. 5, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 14-10-0, 5,557.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 6, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 15-8-1, 5,520, \$2,000. 7, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 14-10-0, 5,484, \$1,980. 8, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 12-12-0, 5,449, \$1,940. 9, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 13-10-1, 5,425, \$1,910. 10, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 14-10-0, 5,392, \$1,880. 11, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 13-11-0, 5,384, \$1,850. 12, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 13-11-0, 5,321, \$1,820.  
13, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 13-11-0, 5,262, \$1,790. 14, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 14-10-0, 5,228, \$1,760. 15, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 11-13-0,

5,167, \$1,730. 16, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 11-13-0, 5,129, \$1,700. 17, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 12-12-0, 5,070, \$1,670. 18, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 10-14-0, 5,045, \$1,640.

19, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 6-17-1, 5,018, \$1,610. 20, (TIE) Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 10-14-0, and Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 8-15-1, 4,907, \$1,565. 22, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 8-16-0, 4,860, \$1,520. 23, Robin Orlikowski (n), Grand Rapids, Mich., 7-17-0, 4,795, \$1,490. 24, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 6-17-1, 4,758, \$1,460.

## **ZAVALA RETURNS TO SITE OF FIRST VICTORY AT 2023 PWBA BOWLERS JOURNAL CLEVELAND OPEN**

**PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio** – Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California, is a five-time titlist on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour.

As such, she has fond memories to look back upon at several bowling centers across the country; nevertheless, Yorktown Lanes in Parma Heights, Ohio, will always hold a special place in her heart.

That’s because Yorktown Lanes was the site of Zavala’s first PWBA Tour victory, which came when she defeated Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, 247-216, at the 2021 Greater Cleveland Open.

Zavala would go on to win two more tournaments that season enroute to being named the 2021 PWBA Tour Rookie of the Year.

Since then, the 27-year-old right-hander has reached the winner’s circle two more times, the first coming when she captured her first major by winning the 2022 PWBA Tour Championship and the second taking place less than a week ago when she won the second event of the Classic Series – Grand Rapids, the 2023 PWBA BowITV Classic.

This week, the PWBA Tour heads back to Parma Heights for the 2023 PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open, which will be contested at Yorktown Lanes from June 8-10.

This will mark the third time that Yorktown Lanes has hosted the PWBA Tour since 2019 and the fourth time overall that the best female bowlers in the world have competed in the greater Cleveland area.

Zavala is definitely looking forward to returning to Yorktown Lanes.

“This is the first time that I’m going to back to a center that I’ve won at, and it feels really great,” Zavala said. “I really matched up well at Yorktown Lanes the last time, so I’m really excited to go back there and try again.”

If recent performances are any indication of things to come, then Zavala should definitely be counted among the favorites in Cleveland after capturing three top-20 finishes at last week’s events in Grand Rapids - 16th at the Grand Rapids Classic, first at the BowlTV Classic and eighth at the Great Lakes Classic.

Zavala will look to keep the momentum going this week and make another deep run at Yorktown Lanes.

“Winning in Grand Rapids really helps my confidence a lot,” Zavala said. “Now, it’s just keep going, keep throwing it well and keep executing because I’m seeing the shapes I want to see.”

The Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open kicks off Thursday at 3 p.m. Eastern with the official practice session.

Following the official practice session, a select group of PWBA Tour stars also will take to the lanes for the Bowl with the Pros event starting at 7 p.m. Eastern. This event gives local bowlers the opportunity to bowl alongside their favorite PWBA players in a fun and exciting environment. To sign up for the Bowl with the Pros event, contact Yorktown Lanes.

Tournament competition will get underway Friday with two six-game qualifying rounds, the first beginning at 10 a.m. Eastern and the second following at 5 p.m. Eastern.

The top one-third of the field will advance and bowl another six-game block Saturday at 9 a.m. Eastern before the field is cut down to the top 12 players. Those 12 will have a final six-game round at 2 p.m. Eastern to determine the five players for the stepladder finals, based on total pinfall for 24 games.

The finals of the Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open will take place Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern with the winner earning \$20,000.

The action doesn’t stop there, however, as Yorktown Lanes also will be hosting the 2023 PWBA Cleveland Regional, which will be contested on Sunday starting at 10 a.m. Eastern.

Regional bowlers will participate in an eight-game qualifying block before the field is cut to the top four competitors for the stepladder finals, which will begin at 4 p.m. Eastern.

All rounds of competition at the PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open and the Cleveland Regional will be broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](http://BowlTV.com).

The 2023 PWBA Tour season features 12 events and an overall prize fund of approximately \$1.4 million, which is tied for the largest average per event since the tour's relaunch in 2015.

The schedule also features three majors, the USBC Queens, U.S. Women's Open and season-ending PWBA Tour Championship. The stepladder finals at all three majors will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

There are nine events on the 2023 PWBA Regional schedule. The season kicked off with the PWBA Greater Dallas Regional in January and will conclude with the season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown in December.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## **BOOMERSHINE LEADS AFTER TWO ROUNDS AT 2023 PWBA BOWLERS JOURNAL CLEVELAND OPEN**

**PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio** – Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, put up a 12-game total of 2,717 (a 226.42 average) to grab the lead after Day 1 of qualifying at the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open, which is being contested at Yorktown Lanes.

Boomershine, who a little over two weeks ago picked up her first career PWBA Tour title and major at the 2023 USBC Queens, broke 200 during 11 of 12 games on Friday and went above 230 five times (233, 238, 231, 267 and 256) to finish the day atop the standings in the 100-player field.

The 37-year-old right-hander has always enjoyed competing at Yorktown Lanes, and Friday's first two rounds of qualifying certainly did nothing to change that as Boomershine was pretty well locked in from start to finish on the Cleveland Open's 39-foot oil pattern.

"We've come to Yorktown a few times now since the relaunch, and I love bowling here," Boomershine said. "The bowling center seems to match up to my ball roll, so I made some really good shots, stayed patient and just let each block sort of develop for me."

But Friday was far from the first time this season that things have developed nicely for Boomershine; on the contrary, her hard work and solid execution have allowed her to seemingly keep her name at or near the top of the standings at just about every event she's bowled during the first half of the 2023 PWBA Tour schedule.

Through the first six events this season, Boomershine has one win, two stepladder finals appearances and five top-20 finishes to her credit.



That success, and the strong start Friday in Cleveland, is certainly gratifying for Boomershine as it makes life on the road just bit less grueling.

“If I’m going to be away from my family for this long, I want to make sure it’s because I’m making something great happen,” Boomershine said. “Being out on tour is hard. It’s hard on your body, and it’s hard mentally. I’m just lucky that it’s been going in a great direction and that all of the hard work is paying off because I’m not done yet.”

Boomershine is certainly right about that because not only does she have 12 more games to bowl if she wants to make the stepladder finals at the Cleveland Open, but she’ll also have to fend off several top-flite competitors while attempting to do so.

Seven-time PWBA Tour titlist and two-time major champion Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, sits one spot behind Boomershine after coming in with a 12-game total of 2,712 on Friday.

Germany’s Birgit Noreiks and Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, both of whom have three career titles and one major on their resumes, finished in third and fourth with 2,699 and 2,698, respectively.

England’s Verity Crawley, who made two stepladder finals appearances and won her second career title at last week’s Grand Rapids Classic at Spectrum Lanes in Wyoming, Michigan, grabbed the final spot in Friday’s top five with 2,693.

Crawley shot the fourth 300 game of the 2023 PWBA Tour season during Round 2 of qualifying Friday night, just hours after Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, shot the third during Game 6 of Round 1.

Richard, who became the first two-time champion on tour this season by winning the Great Lakes Classic on Tuesday, qualified seventh with 2,660.

The 100-player field was cut to the top 33 players after Friday night’s second round, but a roll-off was needed to determine who got the final spot after Haley Richard of Tipton, Michigan, and Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, tied for 33rd with matching totals of 2,476 (a 206.33 average).

Kovalova, a five-time titlist and the 2019 USBC Queens champion, came out on top during the extra session, besting Haley Richard, 224-181, to advance to Round 3.

Saturday’s third round will consist of an additional six games starting at 9 a.m. Eastern. Then, the top 12 players will return at 2 p.m. Eastern for a fourth and final six-game round to complete qualifying, after which the top five players, based on total pinfall for 24 games, will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder will be Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Eastern and will be broadcast live at BowITV.com. The champion will earn \$20,000.

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

### **2023 PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open**

**At Yorktown Lanes  
Parma Heights, Ohio**

### **Friday's results**

#### **QUALIFYING (12 games)**

1, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 2,717. 2, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,712. 3, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,699. 4, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2,698. 5, Verity Crawley, England, 2,693. 6, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,691.

7, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,660. 8, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 2,638. 9, Sanna Oksanen, Finland, 2,624. 10, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,618. 11, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,617. 12, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 2,615.

13, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,613. 14, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,611. 15, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,605. 16, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,602. 17, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 2,552. 18, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 2,547.

19, Otilia Gunnarsson (n), Kristianstad, \*\*\*\*\*, 2,537. 20, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,536. 21, Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 2,529. 22, (TIE) Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., and Felicia Wong, Canada, and Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,524.

25, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,517. 26, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 2,515. 27, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 2,513. 28, Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., 2,510. 29, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,499. 30, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 2,495.

31, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 2,480. 32, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,478. 33, \*Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,476.

#### **DID NOT ADVANCE**

34, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,476. 35, (TIE) Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., and Nora Johansson (n), Sweden, 2,468.

37, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,466. 38, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,456. 39, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 2,451. 40, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 2,447. 41, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 2,425. 42, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 2,418.

43, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 2,413. 44, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 2,410. 45, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,402. 46, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 2,395. 47, Stephanie Casey, Yonkers, N.Y., 2,386. 48, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,379.

49, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 2,376. 50, (TIE) Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., and Ani Juntunen, Finland, 2,371. 52, (TIE) Melissa Voytko (n), Brunswick, Ohio, and Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, and Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 2,368.

55, Tiffany Clark (n), Huntsville, Ala., 2,363. 56, (TIE) Jennifer Russo, Holdmel, N.J., and Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 2,356. 58, Edith Quintanilla (n), El Salvador, 2,336. 59, Kirsten Moore (n), Tallmadge, Ohio, 2,335. 60, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 2,331.

61, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,330. 62, Jenna Rapach (n), Hazleton, Pa., 2,328. 63, (TIE) Justyne Vukovich, New Stanton, Pa., and Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,323. 65, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 2,322. 66, Nichole DePaul, Fayette, Iowa, 2,314.

67, Haley Swindle (n), Sharpsburg, Ga., 2,310. 68, T'nia Moore (n), Greensburg, Pa., 2,306. 69, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,303. 70, Emily Rettig (n), Wixom, Mich., 2,286. 71, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,283. 72, Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 2,277.

73, Alyssa Pierson (n), Waukesha, Wis., 2,273. 74, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 2,264. 75, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 2,250.

\*Kovalova def. H. Richard, 224-181, in a roll-off to advance. H. Richard was eliminated.

## **RICHARD WINS 2023 PWBA BOWLERS JOURNAL CLEVELAND OPEN FOR SECOND TITLE IN A ROW, THIRD OF SEASON**

**PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio** – At the start of the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season, Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, was wondering when she'd win again.

Now, the question has changed to can she lose?

It certainly doesn't seem like it at the moment as Richard defeated Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas, 247-219, at Yorktown Lanes Saturday night to win the 2023 PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open, giving Richard back-to-back tournament titles and three wins in the first seven events this season.

The victory earned the 27-year-old right-hander \$20,000 and pushed her PWBA Tour career win total up to five.

Johnson, who entered Saturday night's championship match in search of her fifth win as well, took home \$10,000 for the runner-up finish.

Richard's journey to title No. 5 followed a similar roadmap to the one she used enroute to victory at the Great Lakes Classic in Grand Rapids, Michigan, just four nights earlier.

The 2018 PWBA Tour Rookie of the Year was in seventh place after Friday's first two rounds of qualifying, but by the end of Round 3 on Saturday morning, she had moved up to third.

Richard saved her best for last, however, firing a six-game total of 1,360 (a 226.67 average) during Round 4 to take the lead and earn the No. 1 seed for Saturday night's stepladder finals.

Even though Richard is always careful not to get too far ahead of herself, once she'd earned the top seed, the notion that she could actually pull off back-to-back victories started looking more and more realistic.

"Once I got to the top, it was like, 'okay, I can win again,' which made it more about trying to stay at the top," Richard said. "That was really important because I only wanted to bowl one game."

Richard certainly ended up making the most of that game, but things didn't start off as favorably as she would have liked.

In fact, it was Johnson who held the early lead, capitalizing on a pair of Brooklyn strikes to jump out to a 16-pin advantage through five frames over Richard, who began the title match by leaving three 10 pins and a 7 pin during that stretch.

But Richard refused to let the early lack of pin carry get her down; instead, she made her spares, stayed patient and waited for the strikes to come.

And come they did.

After striking just once during the first five frames, Richard ripped off a six-bagger in frames six through 11 to go around Johnson and reach the winner's circle for the second time in four days.

Richard's ability to flip the switch and start striking when she needed to most certainly impressed the fans at Yorktown Lanes, but she just saw it as an exercise in patience.

"Stefanie (Johnson) caught a couple of breaks early while I was struggling to carry, but I knew that the pins would eventually fall my way," Richard said. "So, I made a move and stuck to what I'd been trying to do all along, and they eventually did."

Richard had very little reason to expect otherwise as she's performed at such a high level so far this season that it's more of a surprise when things don't work out in her favor.

Through the first seven events on the 2023 PWBA Tour schedule, Richard has three wins (PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open; PWBA Great Lakes Classic; and PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open) and a second-place finish (PWBA Stockton Open).

Her worst result was finishing tied for 49th at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens in Las Vegas, where she made the cut to match play but then went 0-2 to be eliminated from the bracket.

Nevertheless, Richard will have an opportunity to redeem herself when the season's second major, the 2023 U.S. Women's Open, kicks off at ABC Gates Bowl in Gates, New York, on June 15.

Richard had success at the 2022 event in South Glens Falls, New York, where she made the stepladder finals and wound up finishing third.

Given the outstanding start that she's off to so far this season, Richard has even higher hopes for this year's U.S. Women's Open.

"I bowled really well at the U.S. Open last year, so I have really high expectations," Richard said. "I'm hoping that I can use what I learned last year and how well I've been bowling now to get to the top again. I'm really excited."

The winner of the 2023 U.S. Women's Open will take home \$60,000. All rounds of competition leading up to the stepladder finals will be broadcast live on BowITV.

The stepladder finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network on June 20 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The 100-player field in Cleveland bowled 12 games Friday before the first cut to the top 33 athletes. Advancers bowled an additional six-game block Saturday morning with the top 12 competing in a final six-game round to determine the five bowlers for the stepladder, based on 24-game pinfall totals.

Saturday night's stepladder began with 2023 USBC Queens champion Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, taking down Latvia's Diana Zavjalova, a two-time Queens champion (2013 and 2017), by a final score of 256-172.

Zavjalova's fifth-place finish was worth \$5,500.

Match 2 was much closer, but Boomershine still emerged victorious, this time thanks to a hard-fought 269-258 victory over seven-time titlist and two-time major winner Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York.

McEwan could've struck out in the 10th frame to tie the score and force a one-ball roll-off, but her second shot left a 10 pin, which sent Boomershine through to the semifinals while sending McEwan home with a fourth-place check and \$6,500.

Boomershine's run would end one game later, however, as difficulties on the left lane resulted in one strike, two opens and three spares, which caused Boomershine to end the semifinal tilt with a final score of 171.

Johnson, meanwhile, had no trouble on either lane. After starting the match with a ringing 10-pin and high-flush 7-pin, Johnson proceeded to throw the last 10 strikes in a row to breeze past Boomershine and into the title match by a final score of 279-171.

Boomershine's third-place finish earned her \$7,500.

Johnson would go on to strike on her first two balls of the championship match, giving her 12 strikes in a row over the course of two games, which is often referred to as an Andy Varipapa 300.

Despite failing to make the stepladder finals, Germany's Birgit Noreiks recorded a 300 of her own during Round 3 of qualifying. That made three perfect games total for the 2023 Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open. Richard and England's Verity Crawley notched the other two.

All rounds of competition at the Cleveland Open, including the stepladder finals, were broadcast live at BowITV.com.

## **2023 PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open At Yorktown Lanes Parma Heights, Ohio**

### **Saturday's results**

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 247 (one game), \$20,000.
- 2, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 498 (two games), \$10,000.
- 3, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 696 (three games), \$7,500.
- 4, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 258 (one game), \$6,500.
- 5, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 172 (one game), \$5,500.

#### **STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Boomershine def. Zavjalova, 256-172.  
Match No. 2 – Boomershine def. McEwan, 269-258.  
Semifinal – Johnson def. Boomershine, 279-171.  
Championship – Richard def. Johnson, 247-219.

#### **QUALIFYING ROUND 4**

- 1, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 5,387. 2, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 5,349. 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 5,330. 4, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 5,279. 5, \*Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 5,256.

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

6, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 5,256, \$4,500. 7, Sanna Oksanen, Finland, 5,253, \$4,300. 8, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5,225, \$4,100. 9, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 5,171, \$3,900. 10, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5,170, \$3,700. 11, Verity Crawley, England, 5,105, \$3,500. 12, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 5,088, \$3,300.

\*Zavjalova def. Pate, 214-213, to advance; Pate was eliminated.

## **QUALIFYING ROUND 3**

1, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 4,050. 2, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,033. 3, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 4,027. 4, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 4,021. 5, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 4,010. 6, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 4,005.

7, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 3,981. 8, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 3,955. 9, Verity Crawley, England, 3,922. 10, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 3,906. 11, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,902. 12, Sanna Oksanen, Finland, 3,898.

## **DID NOT ADVANCE**

13, (TIE) Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., and Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 3,888, \$2,706. 15, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 3,884, \$2,594. 16, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 3,881, \$2,519. 17, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,855, \$2,444. 18, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 3,850, \$2,369.

19, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 3,822, \$2,294. 20, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 3,812, \$2,219. 21, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,802, \$2,144. 22, (TIE) Madison Janack, Wichita, Kan., and Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3,791, \$2,031. 24, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,784, \$1,919.

25, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,764, \$1,844. 26, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 3,760, \$1,769. 27, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,721, \$1,694. 28, Felicia Wong, Canada, 3,710, \$1,619. 29, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 3,704, \$1,544. 30, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,700, \$1,469.

31, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 3,691, \$1,394. 32, Otilia Gunnarsson (n), Kristianstad, \*\*\*\*\*, 3,676, \$1,319. 33, Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 3,637, \$1,244.

## **BOLTON WINS 2023 PWBA CLEVELAND REGIONAL FOR SECOND WIN AT YORKTOWN LANES**

**PARMA HEIGHTS, Ohio** – Elise Bolton of Riverview, Florida, sustained an ankle injury just prior to the start of the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season.

Although she has been attempting to bowl through the pain, it certainly hasn't been easy, and that's why Bolton gave serious consideration to sitting out Sunday's regional event at Yorktown Lanes.

However, since her lone professional title came the last time a regional was held at Yorktown – the 2019 PWBA Greater Cleveland Regional – Bolton decided to gut it out and see what she could do.

It was a good decision.

Bolton made that abundantly clear when she defeated Alexis Cloud of Cleveland, 226-197, during Sunday's live BowlTV stepladder finals at Yorktown Lanes to win the 2023 PWBA Cleveland Regional.

The victory earned Bolton her second career PWBA Regional title and \$2,200. Cloud finished in second place and took home \$1,100.

Cloud led during the early stages of the championship match, starting with three strikes in a row to establish a 29-pin advantage through three frames over Bolton, who began strike, open, spare.

That advantage wouldn't last long though as Bolton recorded a turkey in frames four, five and six while Cloud recorded back-to-back opens and a spare during that same stretch.

That put Bolton ahead by 13 pins after six frames, and she had no intention of letting Cloud get any closer.

A light 7-pin ended Bolton's string of strikes in the seventh frame, but she converted the spare and then proceeded to record three more strikes in the eighth, ninth, and 10th to officially shut Cloud out and secure the victory.

As expected, Bolton felt very good about getting back in the winner's circle.

"After I threw the first strike in the 10th, I knew I'd won, but I still wanted to finish strong and end on a good note; that's just the way I am," Bolton said. "Still, if I'm being honest, I don't think this win has really sunk in yet."

Nevertheless, one thing that did sink in for Bolton was that by winning on Sunday, she had officially punched her ticket to the 2023 PWBA Regional Showdown, which will be contested at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida, on Dec. 7-9.

Bolton and the other regional champions from 2023 will automatically be seeded for match play at the Regional Showdown. The remaining spots in the 16-person field will be awarded based on the results of an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.



The top 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals.

Every player who qualifies for match play will cash at the Regional Showdown. If the number of entries is high enough, additional cash spots outside the top 16 will be paid at a ratio of 1:3 as is done for PWBA National Tour prize funds.

The winner of the 2023 Regional Showdown will not only receive a cash prize, but she will also have her entry fees covered for all 2024 PWBA National Tour singles events as well.

With such a lucrative prize up for grabs, Bolton was very happy to have secured her spot.

“My one goal going into this season was to make it to the Regional Showdown because I didn’t know how many national events I was going to be able to bowl due to my ankle,” Bolton said. “I wanted to win a regional to lock up my spot, so to do that today and give myself the opportunity to bowl in my home state is nothing short of amazing.”

What was even more amazing was the tenacity that Bolton showed enroute to her latest victory, especially since she wasn’t even sure she’d be able to compete in the first place.

“I didn’t even think that I was going to be able to come this weekend, but I figured I could suck it up for one more day and give it a go,” Bolton said. “Thankfully, my ankle started feeling good because last night I was able to go home, rest it and get some ice on it. I wanted to be able to come out here and try to defend my title, so to have done that is just unbelievable.”

Cloud kicked off Sunday’s stepladder finals by defeating No. 3 seed Haley Richard of Tipton, Michigan, by a final score of 202-190.

Cloud then went on to defeat Jenna Stretch of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, 181-178, in the semifinals before falling to Bolton in the title match.

Stretch settled for third place and \$900 while Richard took fourth and walked away with \$750.

Bolton earned the top seed for the stepladder finals by topping the nearly 100-player field during qualifying with an eight-game total of 1,755 (a 221.88 average). Stretch was second with 1,743 while Richard and Cloud punched their tickets to the stepladder finals by coming in with 1,742 and 1,720, respectively.

The next PWBA Regional event will be July 2 at the PWBA Pinehurst Regional. The tournament will be held at Sandhills Bowling Center in Aberdeen, North Carolina.

**2023 PWBA Cleveland Regional  
At Yorktown Lanes  
Parma Heights, Ohio**

**Sunday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 226 (one game), \$2,200.
- 2, Alexis Cloud, Cleveland, 580 (three games), \$1,100.
- 3, Jenna Stretch, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, 178 (one game), \$900.
- 4, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 190 (one game), \$750.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Cloud def. Richard, 202-190.  
Semifinal – Cloud def. Stretch, 181-178.  
Championship – Bolton def. Cloud, 226-197.

**QUALIFYING  
(8 games)**

- 1, Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 1,775. 2, Jenna Stretch (n), Chagrin Falls, Ohio, 1,743. 3, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 1,742. 4, Alexis Cloud (n), Cleveland, Ohio, 1,720.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 5, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,718, \$400. 6, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 1,702, \$395. 7, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,693, \$390. 8, Alyssa Pierson (n), Waukesha, Wis., 1,691, \$385. 9, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 1,688, \$380. 10, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 1,682, \$360. 11, Kaitlyn Cavender (n), New Baltimore, Mich., 1,669, \$355. 12, Eliisa Hiltunen, Finland, 1,663, \$345.

- 13, Sarah Gill, Mandeville, La., 1,661, \$340. 14, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 1,659, \$335. 15, Courtney Burris (n), Columbus, Ohio, 1,656, \$330. 16, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 1,655, \$325. 17, Megan Ashley (n), Miamisburg, Ohio, 1,653, \$320. 18, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 1,647, \$315.

- 19, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 1,644, \$310. 20, Ani Juntunen, Finland, 1,642, \$305. 21, Trisha Reid (n), Columbus, Ohio, 1,639, \$300. 22, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,637, \$295. 23, (TIE) Edith Quintanilla (n), El Salvador, and Felicia Wong, Canada, 1,629, \$287.

- 25, (TIE) Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., and Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 1,623, \$277. 27, Kayla Crawford, Silvis, Ill., 1,617, \$270. 28, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 1,616, \$265. 29, Jenna Rapach (n), Hazleton, Pa., 1,610, \$260. 30, Haley Swindle (n), Sharpsburg, Ga., 1,598, \$255.

- 31, Audra Fields (n), Dayton, Ohio, 1,594, \$250. 32, Bethany Strong (n), Prospect,

Ohio, 1,592, \$245. 33, (TIE) Madison Strouse (n), Marysville, Ohio, and Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 1,591, \$120. 35, Laura Branch, Lancaster, Pa., 1,586. 36, (TIE) Jennifer Russo, Holdmel, N.J., and

Stephanie Casey, Yonkers, N.Y., 1,585. 38, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 1,584. 39, Lakyn Edwards (n), Parkersburg, W. Va., 1,582. 40, Morgan Brookover (n), Davisville, W. Va., 1,578. 41, (TIE) Andrea Behr (n), Kettering, Ohio, and Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., and

Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 1,564. 44, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 1,563. 45, Rebecca Dodson, Panama City, Fla., 1,559. 46, Brooke Roberts (n), Port Orange, Fla., 1,555. 47, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 1,553. 48, Dana File, Camby, Ind., 1,552.

49, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 1,542. 50, Gabriella VanHorn (n), Lansing, Mich., 1,540. 51, (TIE) Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., and Tamera Stanton (n), Baltimore, Md., 1,539. 53, Jerracah Gray (n), Shelbyville, Ind., 1,538. 54, Melissa Voytko (n), Brunswick, Ohio, 1,522.

55, (TIE) Jaclyn Coterel (n), New Carlisle, Ohio, and Kathryn Montgomery (n), Aberdeen, Md., 1,519. 57, Christine Johnston, Canada, 1,515. 58, Samantha Shanley (n), Canada, 1,513. 59, Liana Motel (n), Dyer, Ind., 1,511. 60, Allison Hresko (n), Greensburg, Pa., 1,510.

61, (TIE) Sandra McIntire (n), Parma, Ohio, and Emma Siekarski (n), Davison, Mich., 1,508. 63, Kayleigh McMullen (n), Troy, Ohio, 1,506. 64, Amy Pysk (n), Pittsburgh, Pa., 1,505. 65, Lindsey Furnas, Dayton, Ohio, 1,497. 66, Jessica Guesman, Warren, Ohio, 1,491.

67, Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 1,485. 68, Katie Bush (n), Mechanicsburg, Ohio, 1,483. 69, Jenny Applewhite (n), Kokomo, Ind., 1,481. 70, Miranda Singer (n), Reynoldsburg, Ohio, 1,480. 71, Jackie Kosier (n), Sylvania, Ohio, 1,473. 72, Elizabeth Payeur (n), Ann Arbor, Mich., 1,457.

73, Rachael Delserone (n), Avon, Ohio, 1,455. 74, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 1,452. 75, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 1,447. 76, Savannah Portillo (n), Bellevue, Mich., 1,446. 77, Serenity Quintero, Aurora, Ill., 1,438. 78, Angel West (n), Huber Heights, Ohio, 1,430.

79, Kristin Womeldorf (n), Apollo, Pa., 1,425. 80, (TIE) Hannah Klein (n), Ravenna, Ohio, and Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 1,421. 82, (TIE) Nikki Stiteler, North Canton, Ohio, and Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 1,416. 84, (TIE) Olivia Johnson (n), Columbus, Ohio, and

Sophia Fischer (n), Cincinnati, Ohio, and Allison Stump (n), Whitestown, Ind., 1,405. 87, Stephanie Crider (n), Dayton, Ohio, 1,395. 88, Morgan Walsh, Warwick, R.I., 1,392. 89, Amber Brunson (n), Miami, Fla., 1,386. 90, Sydney Urben (n), Dorr, Mich., 1,378.

91, Alissa VanHorn (n), Lansing, Mich., 1,369. 92, Macie Hadley (n), Indianapolis, Ind., 1,368. 93, Amelia Droste (n), Greensburg, Pa., 1,357. 94, Hannah Vaughn, Mount Vernon, Ohio, 1,341. 95, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 1,322. 96, Megan Matasy (n), Austintown, Ohio, 1,310.

97, Dominique Cook, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., 1,303. 98, Bethany Burton (n), Muncie, Ind., 1,282. 99, Kelly Jackson (n), Eastlake, Ohio, 1,228.

## **MCCARTHY PREPARED FOR FIRST MAJOR TITLE DEFENSE AT 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN**

**GATES, N.Y.** – Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, has been a member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour for nearly 10 years.

As such, there isn't a whole lot the 32-year-old right-hander hasn't seen or experienced out on the lanes.

Nevertheless, when McCarthy arrives at ABC Gates Bowl to compete in the 2023 U.S. Women's Open, she'll face something new: what it feels like to come to a major as the defending champion.

McCarthy earned that right just under a year ago when she captured the coveted green jacket and \$60,000 first-place prize by defeating Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, to take home the title at the 2022 U.S. Women's Open in South Glens Falls, New York.

The win gave McCarthy her first major title and the second PWBA Tour victory of her career. She'll be back in New York and in the field this week hoping to make another strong run at the tour's most prestigious (and challenging) tournament.

The 2023 U.S. Women's Open kicks off Wednesday at ABC Gates Bowl with the tournament's official practice sessions, and the season's second major will conclude June 20 at 7 p.m. Eastern live on CBS Sports Network.

This year's winner will once again receive \$60,000, with the event's overall prize fund at nearly \$280,000.

Even though McCarthy has had plenty of time to reflect upon last year's victory, there are still moments when she needs to be reminded that she's the reigning U.S. Women's Open champion.

"Some days it still doesn't seem real that last year happened let alone the fact that it's been almost an entire 365 days since it did," McCarthy said. "I'm not sure that it will ever truly sink in even though I see the trophy sitting at home. Maybe when I get there this year and see the banners and we start competing, maybe that's when it will hit me that I won last year."

She certainly earned those banners because winning the U.S. Women's Open is no easy task; the tournament is so challenging, in fact, that McCarthy found herself much closer to the bottom of the leaderboard than the top during the early stages of the 2022 event.

"Last year, I started out in last place after two games, so I obviously didn't think that I'd come back from that to win it," McCarthy said. "But the fact that I did, that I was able to

bounce back kind of showed me that if I stay patient and true to my process, anything is possible.”

Given the long and difficult nature of the U.S. Women’s Open, just about every player will have her patience tested at one point or another.

“To make the stepladder at this tournament, you have to bowl 56 grueling games on multiple patterns with each day bringing a different challenge,” McCarthy said. “You just have to literally focus on one shot at a time and one game at a time because anything is possible with that format and amount of games.”

McCarthy comes into the event with fewer games under her belt this season than some of her fellow PWBA Tour competitors. That’s because her work schedule as a nurse back home keeps her from being able to bowl every tour stop like some players do.

That hasn’t kept McCarthy from finding success, however; in fact, she is off to a very solid start again this season.

Through six events on the 2023 PWBA Tour schedule, McCarthy has recorded three top-10 finishes – including a runner-up performance at the GoBowling! Spokane Open – and she’s yet to finish worse than tied for 23rd.

Work responsibilities forced McCarthy to skip last week’s Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open, which was won by Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, who became the PWBA’s first three-time winner on tour this season.

Although McCarthy never likes missing tournaments, she believes that being forced to take a week off here and there can actually yield positive results.

“There are some days when I’d love to bowl more and have that be my sole job,” McCarthy said. “At the same time, I enjoy coming back home and having a different type of work environment because it makes it so that I don’t get burned out. If I have one bad event, I can come home, switch my mindset and go back out there with a refreshed outlook.”

Despite coming in as the defending champion, McCarthy’s mindset for this year’s U.S. Women’s Open will remain quite simple.

“Every year at the U.S. Open, I just look at making the top 24 to get into the round-robin match play,” McCarthy said. “Obviously, you want to make the show and win, but, in reality, you can do everything right and still not get there. So, for me, the goal is always just to get into match play to give myself a chance.”

If McCarthy can reach that goal, there’s no reason why she wouldn’t be capable of leaving New York with a green jacket for the second year in a row.

The most recent player to successfully defend a title at the U.S. Women's Open was Liz Johnson, who won four straight editions of the tournament from 2013-2017. There was no event held in 2014.

Marion Ladewig and Dorothy Fothergill are the only other players to have successfully defended a U.S. Women's Open title, and each accomplished the feat when the event still was known as the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America All-Star. The name of the event was changed to the U.S. Women's Open in 1971.

The 2023 event will feature three eight-game qualifying rounds, starting Thursday at 8 a.m. Eastern, to determine the 36 players advancing to a fourth eight-game block. Each of the four rounds will feature a different oil pattern.

After 32 games, 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](http://BowITV.com).

Along with McCarthy and Johnson, additional past U.S. Women's Open champions competing this week include Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee; Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York; Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey; and McEwan.

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

## **NOREIKS, ZAVJALOVA SHARE LEAD AFTER FIRST ROUND AT 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN**

**GATES, N.Y.** – Germany's Birgit Noreiks and Latvia's Diana Zavjalova shared the lead after the first round of qualifying at the 2023 U.S. Women's Open.

Both women fired eight-game scores of 1,768 during B squad Thursday afternoon on the event's first of four lane conditions, a 42-foot oil pattern.

Noreiks and Zavjalova were joined in the top five by Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (1,765); Kerry Smith of Lititz, Pennsylvania (1,762); and Puerto Rico's Estefania Cobo (1,746).

Competition at ABC Gates Bowl will resume Friday at 8 a.m. Eastern with the second of three rounds of qualifying, this time on a 38-foot oil pattern.

A final eight games Saturday, which will be contested on a flat 46-foot oil pattern, will determine the 36 players who advance to the fourth round and face the final oil pattern. Those 36 competitors will bowl an additional eight games before the field is cut to the top 24 athletes. Those players will then bowl 24 games of round-robin match play over two days, 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, including bonus pins, will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](http://BowlTV.com) through Monday night, and the event will conclude live Tuesday on CBS Sports Network at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy, coveted green jacket and \$60,000 top prize.

Success is nothing new for the Round 1 co-leaders as both have bowled well thus far during the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season.

Zavjalova qualified for the stepladder finals at each of the last two tournaments prior to the U.S. Women's Open – the PWBA Great Lakes Classic and PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open – and she has two additional top-10 finishes to her credit this season as well.

Noreiks, the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, has four top 10s of her own, including a second-place finish at the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic.

Although there is still a lot of bowling left to be done, both Noreiks and Zavjalova know the importance of getting off to a good start at a grueling event like the U.S. Women's Open.

"Today, once I was able to play the hold a little bit, I got more comfortable, and then I just tried throwing it faster later on so that I wouldn't see the early friction," Noreiks said. "It's always nice to start strong and have some pins to carry over because you never know how things are going to go on the next two patterns."

Noreiks hopes the strong opening-day effort will propel her to a good week, but she's bowled the U.S. Women's Open enough times to know that she can't let one good day cause her to take anything for granted.

“I’ve had good years and bad years at this tournament,” Noreiks said. “It’s a long format, so you have to stay patient. Of course, I’m happy with the way I started, but anything can happen at the U.S. Open; everybody knows that.”

Zavjalova certainly does, and that’s why she was intent on taking advantage of her good look on Thursday’s 42-foot oil pattern.

“During yesterday’s practice session, this pattern was by far the one that looked the best for me and that I felt most comfortable on,” Zavjalova said. “I knew that I’d have an opportunity to bowl well today, so I just wanted to take it one frame at a time and be sure to throw good shots.”

Zavjalova certainly threw her fair share, which allowed the four-time PWBA Tour champion and two-time major winner to break 200 six times in eight games, including a 275 in Game 3.

As impressive as that score was, it wasn’t the highest of the day.

That honor went to Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, who fired a 300 during Game 6 of B Squad. Boomershine, who won the season’s first major, the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens, finished the day with a score of 1,610, which put her in 30th place.

Nevertheless, Zavjalova wasn’t worried about coming up a bit short in the race for the day’s highest game; she has her sights set on much bigger things.

“I’ve bowled really well the last three years, and I’ve made a lot of shows; I just haven’t won,” said Zavjalova, whose last PWBA Tour title came at the 2018 Pepsi PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open. “I made the show at the U.S. Open two years ago, and that gives me the confidence to know that I can do well this week.”

For more information about the U.S. Women’s Open, visit [BOWL.com/USWomensOpen](https://www.bowl.com/USWomensOpen).



**2023 U.S. Women's Open  
At ABC Gates Bowl  
Gates, N.Y.**

**Thursday's results**

**QUALIFYING  
(Eight games)**

1, (TIE) Birgit Noreiks, Germany, and Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 1,768. 3, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 1,765. 4, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 1,762. 5, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 1,746. 6, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 1,738.

7, Felicia Wong, Canada, 1,715. 8, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 1,708. 9, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 1,703. 10, Ani Juntunen, Finland, 1,702. 11, Iliana Lomeli (n), Mexico, 1,700. 12, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 1,699.

13, Verity Crawley, England, 1,690. 14, (TIE) Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, and Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 1,680. 16, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 1,678. 17, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 1,675. 18, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 1,673.

19, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 1,656. 20, Haley Grabowski (n), Rochester, N.Y., 1,653. 21, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 1,652. 22, (TIE) Sanna Oksanen, Finland, and Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 1,631. 24, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 1,630.

25, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 1,629. 26, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 1,628. 27, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 1,627. 28, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 1,617. 29, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 1,613. 30, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 1,610.

31, Eliana Occhino (n), Fulton, N.Y., 1,609. 32, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 1,608. 33, Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 1,606. 34, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 1,604. 35, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 1,600. 36, (TIE) Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., and

Jenna Williams (n), Homosassa, Fla., and Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 1,599. 39, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,596. 40, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 1,594. 41, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,590. 42, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 1,584.

43, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 1,582. 44, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 1,578. 45, (TIE) Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., and Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 1,575. 47, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 1,573. 48, (TIE) Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., and

Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 1,567. 50, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 1,566. 51, Brooke Roberts (n), Port Orange, Fla., 1,559. 52, (TIE) Eliisa Hiltunen, Finland, and Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 1,557. 54, Victoria Varano (n), Stony Point, N.Y., 1,556.

55, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 1,555. 56, Crystal Shaw-Wesby (n), Pikeville, N.C., 1,545. 57, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 1,540. 58, Daria Pajak, Poland, 1,538. 59, (TIE) Sarah Klassen (n), Bel Aire, Kan., and Elena Carr (n), Hilton, N.Y., 1,526.

61, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1,525. 62, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 1,523. 63, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 1,517. 64, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 1,516. 65, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 1,513. 66, Jaelle Hamman (n), Jarrell, Texas, 1,508.

67, Cassidy Courey (n), Brooklyn Center, Minn., 1,505. 68, Kelly Zapf (n),

Lakewood, Colo., 1,497. 69, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 1,495. 70, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 1,494. 71, (TIE) Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, and Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 1,490.

73, (TIE) Heather Ray (n), Rochester, N.Y., and Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 1,482. 75, (TIE) Saralyne Nassberg, Modesto, Calif., and Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 1,470. 77, Morgan Nunn (n), Oklahoma City, Okla., 1,469. 78, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 1,468.

79, Bella Castillo (n), Odessa, Texas, 1,466. 80, Amber Brunson (n), Miami, Fla., 1,464. 81, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 1,463. 82, (TIE) Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., and Alyssa Ballard (n), Keller, Texas, 1,462. 84, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,460.

85, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,458. 86, (TIE) Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., and Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 1,455. 88, Deanna Kosmoski (n), East Amherst, N.Y., 1,451. 89, Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 1,438. 90, Rebecca Hagerman (n), Loves Park, Ill., 1,431.

91, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 1,426. 92, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,425. 93, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 1,419. 94, (TIE) Tammy Burgstahler (n), Cheektowaga, N.Y., and Sarah Gill, Mandeville, La., 1,418. 96, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 1,416.

97, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 1,413. 98, Jennifer Cutter (n), Penfield, N.Y., 1,407. 99, Laura Branch, Lancaster, Pa., 1,386. 100, Colleen Jump (n), Port Byron, N.Y., 1,385. 101, Jacqueline Evans (n), Greenacres, Fla., 1,376. 102, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 1,371.

103, Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 1,356. 104, Christine Johnston (n), Canada, 1,351. 105, Alexandra Mosquera (n), ARMENIA, \*\*\*\*\*, 1,349. 106, Taylor Lucas (n), Hilton, N.Y., 1,311. 107, Mollie Gizicki (n), Commerce, Mich., 1,291. 108, Katlyn Newberry (n), Rochester, N.Y., 1,266.

## **NOREIKS NOTCHES ANOTHER OUTSTANDING SET, MAINTAINS LEAD AT 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN**

**GATES, N.Y.** – When Germany's Birgit Noreiks shot 1,768 and found herself tied for the lead after Thursday's opening round of qualifying at the 2023 U.S. Women's Open, she said that she was happy to have gotten off to such a good start because, at this tournament, anything can happen.

It turns out Noreiks was right; something dramatic did happen during Round 2. Thankfully for her, it was something dramatically positive.

The 36-year-old right-hander was dominant during Friday's second round of qualifying at ABC Gates Bowl, breaking 230 six times (244, 236, 231, 264, 269 and 251) enroute to an eight-game total of 1,857 (a 232.13 average).

Noreiks' set wasn't the highest shot on Friday. That honor went to Ashly Galante of Palm Harbor, Florida, who fired an 1,859 to move from 86th place after Round 1 all the way up to 25th place at the end of Round 2.

Nevertheless, Noreiks' effort was more than enough to keep her in first place all by herself with a two-day, 16-game total of 3,625 (a 226.56 average).

Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, was second at 3,510 while Round 1 co-leader Diana Zavjalova of Latvia was third with 3,505. The remaining spots in the top five were claimed by Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, and Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, who came in with matching scores of 3,420.

Competition at ABC Gates Bowl continues Saturday at 8 a.m. Eastern with the third round of qualifying on a flat 46-foot oil pattern. Saturday's round will determine the 36 players who advance to the fourth round and final oil pattern.

Those 36 competitors will bowl an additional eight games before the field is cut to the top 24 athletes. Those players will then bowl 24 games of round-robin match play over two days, 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, including bonus pins, will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com) through Monday night, and the event will conclude live Tuesday on CBS Sports Network at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy, coveted green jacket and \$60,000 top prize.

According to Noreiks, at least some of Friday's success can be attributed to having had to attack the lanes in a similar fashion during some of the recent Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour stops she's competed at.

"The last couple of weeks, we kind of had to do this left-to-right thing where I just tried to roll it," Noreiks said. "Today, I saw the right shape that I liked to see where there was a little bit of push, and that helped me get comfortable and stay locked in."

She was particularly locked in during the final three games of Friday's block, closing with scores of 264, 269 and 251 (a 784 series) to finish the day 115 pins ahead of her closest pursuer (Kovalova).

After Friday's round, Noreiks once again reiterated the importance of starting strong at the U.S. Women's Open and having a cushion to work with when facing such challenging oil patterns.

“It’s kind of nice to have some extra pins because tomorrow is going to be the grinding day for everyone,” Noreiks said. “A flat 46-foot pattern is never easy, and our squad will be the third one to bowl on it. It never gets easier the more a pattern is put out, so I know it’s going to be a grind.”

Noreiks’ assessment appears to be spot-on as Saturday’s flat 46-foot oil pattern is expected to be the most challenging condition players will face at this year’s U.S. Women’s Open.

It’s often said that there is no magic bowling ball that a player can turn to when faced with such difficult conditions; consequently, Noreiks is likely to go with one that has treated her quite well so far this week.

“The ball that I’ve used at the end of both rounds so far is one that I didn’t really even expect to have in the bag this week,” Noreiks said. “I just sort of had an open spot to fill, so I tossed it in, and it’s worked really great for me.”

For Round 3, Kovalova may also opt to go with a ball possessing some positive mojo, which in her case would be the one she used to shoot a 300 game and 827 series during the final three games of C Squad qualifying on Friday.

Kovalova’s perfect game was the second of the 2023 U.S. Women’s Open. Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion, shot the first during Thursday’s opening round.

For more information about the U.S. Women’s Open, visit [BOWL.com/USWomensOpen](https://www.bowl.com/USWomensOpen).

**2023 U.S. Women's Open  
At ABC Gates Bowl  
Gates, N.Y.**

**Friday's results**

**QUALIFYING  
(16 games)**

1, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3,625. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 3,510. 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 3,505. 4, (TIE) Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, and Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3,420. 6, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 3,401. 7, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 3,392. 8, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 3,390. 9, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 3,382. 10, Verity Crawley, England, 3,370. 11, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 3,357. 12, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 3,342. 13, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 3,341. 14, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 3,337. 15, Ani Juntunen, Finland, 3,334. 16, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 3,320. 17, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 3,319. 18, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 3,317. 19, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 3,314. 20, (TIE) Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., and Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3,313. 22, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 3,296. 23, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,291. 24, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 3,282. 25, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 3,280. 26, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 3,276. 27, (TIE) Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., and Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 3,267. 29, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 3,246. 30, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3,244. 31, Daria Pajak, Poland, 3,230. 32, Haley Grabowski (n), Rochester, N.Y., 3,228. 33, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 3,217. 34, Felicia Wong, Canada, 3,216. 35, (TIE) Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, and Sanna Oksanen, Finland, 3,214. 37, (TIE) Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, and Iliana Lomeli (n), Mexico, 3,208. 39, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 3,201. 40, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 3,188. 41, Eliana Occhino (n), Fulton, N.Y., 3,186. 42, Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 3,182. 43, Victoria Varano (n), Stony Point, N.Y., 3,174. 44, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 3,171. 45, (TIE) Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., and Jenna Williams (n), Homosassa, Fla., 3,167. 47, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 3,166. 48, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 3,165. 49, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 3,162. 50, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 3,158. 51, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 3,150. 52, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 3,141. 53, Eliisa Hiltunen, Finland, 3,140. 54, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 3,135. 55, Cassidy Courey (n), Brooklyn Center, Minn., 3,129. 56, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 3,124. 57, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 3,112. 58, (TIE) Elena Carr (n), Hilton, N.Y., and Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 3,110. 60, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 3,099. 61, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 3,092. 62, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 3,084. 63, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 3,064. 64, (TIE) Brooke Roberts (n),

Port Orange, Fla., and Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 3,054. 66, (TIE) Alyssa Ballard (n), Keller, Texas, and

Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., 3,053. 68, Rebecca Hagerman (n), Loves Park, Ill., 3,042. 69, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 3,039. 70, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 3,017. 71, (TIE) Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., and Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 3,012.

73, Crystal Shaw-Wesby (n), Pikeville, N.C., 3,002. 74, Jacqueline Evans (n), Greenacres, Fla., 3,001. 75, Heather Ray (n), Rochester, N.Y., 2,998. 76, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,996. 77, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,979. 78, Saralyne Nassberg, Modesto, Calif., 2,978.

79, Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., 2,970. 80, (TIE) Laura Branch, Lancaster, Pa., and Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., and Morgan Nunn (n), Oklahoma City, Okla., 2,969. 83, Jaelle Hamman (n), Jarrell, Texas, 2,965. 84, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 2,964.

85, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,947. 86, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 2,924. 87, Sarah Klassen (n), Bel Aire, Kan., 2,921. 88, Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 2,912. 89, Amber Brunson (n), Miami, Fla., 2,900. 90, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,894.

91, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,893. 92, Kelly Zapf (n), Lakewood, Colo., 2,884. 93, Tammy Burgstahler (n), Cheektowaga, N.Y., 2,876. 94, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,869. 95, Sarah Gill, Mandeville, La., 2,847. 96, Bella Castillo (n), Odessa, Texas, 2,839.

97, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 2,838. 98, Christine Johnston (n), Canada, 2,834. 99, Jennifer Cutter (n), Penfield, N.Y., 2,828. 100, (TIE) Colleen Jump (n), Port Byron, N.Y., and Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 2,825. 102, Alexandra Mosquera (n), ARMENIA, \*\*\*\*\* , 2,814.

103, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,812. 104, Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 2,798. 105, Taylor Lucas (n), Hilton, N.Y., 2,676. 106, Mollie Gizicki (n), Commerce, Mich., 2,653. 107, Deanna Kosmoski (n), East Amherst, N.Y., 2,629. 108, Katlyn Newberry (n), Rochester, N.Y., 2,500.

NOREIKS EXTENDS LEAD AS FIRST

CUTS ARE MADE AT 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

GATES, N.Y. – After three days and 24 games bowled across three different oil patterns, the 108-player field at the 2023 U.S. Women's Open has been cut down to 36 bowlers.

Germany's Birgit Noreiks, who held at least a share of the lead after each of the first two rounds, kept her name atop the standings by making Round 3's extremely challenging flat 46-foot oil pattern look relatively easy, breaking 200 six times (205, 236, 202, 217, 226 and 200) enroute to an eight-game total of 1,652 at ABC Gates Bowl on Saturday night.

That set allowed Noreiks to extend her already sizable lead by posting a three day, 24-game total of 5,277, which put her 175 pins ahead of second-place competitor Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City,

Utah (5,102), and 186 pins clear of Missy Parkin of San Clemente, California, who finished third with 5,091.

The final two spots in the top five went to Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (5,051) and Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan (5,045).

The top 36 players after 24 games advanced to Sunday's fourth round, with the final spot going to Shannon Sellens of Long Beach, New York, with a total of 4,761, a 198.38 average.

Five of the six former U.S. Women's Open champions competing this week were among the 36 bowlers who advanced. That group included three-time winner Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey (eighth with 4,985), six-time champion Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (10th with 4,956), Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee (11th with 4,950), Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (15th with 4,908) and defending champion Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska (34th with 4,767).

Competition at ABC Gates Bowl continues Sunday at 10 a.m. Eastern with the fourth and final qualifying round on a 41-foot oil pattern.

Competitors will bowl an additional eight games before the field is cut to the top 24 athletes. Those players will then bowl 24 games of round-robin match play over two days, 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, including bonus pins, will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com through Monday night, and the event will conclude live Tuesday on CBS Sports Network at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy, coveted green jacket and \$60,000 top prize.

Noreiks will start competition on Sunday 175 pins ahead of Boomershine and more than 400 head of 24th position, which is the lowest she could afford to fall and still make the cut to match play; nevertheless, Noreiks isn't planning on taking it easy during Round 4.

"I still need to bowl well because we aren't even to the halfway point yet," Noreiks said, referring to the fact that she and her fellow competitors have only completed 24 of the 56 games it takes to reach the U.S. Women's Open stepladder finals. "There's still a lot of games to go, so my main goal is still to make it to the top 24 and then see from there."

With such a sizable lead at her disposal and considering that she's out averaged the field by more than seven pins per game over the first three days, Noreiks doesn't just seem likely to qualify for match play; she's the odds-on-favorite to secure the top seed.

In order to do so, Noreiks will have to figure out how to master the demands of yet another new oil pattern, this one a 41-foot condition that will be used throughout all remaining rounds of competition at this year's tournament.

Noreiks didn't spend much time on Pattern 4 during Wednesday's official practice session; however, the intel she did collect left her cautiously optimistic about the rounds to come.

"The next pattern should be okay, but what do I know," Noreiks said. "I mean, I bowled well on the patterns that I didn't feel too comfortable about, so I can't really say that this one will favor me; it's really hard to tell."

One thing that wasn't hard to tell was just how steady Noreiks was on the lanes yet again on Saturday. On a day when many competitors could be seen taking calming breaths and wringing their hands in frustration while trying to solve the challenging oil pattern, Noreiks appeared to be enjoying herself.

Some may have assumed it was because of her position on the leaderboard. That was not the case, however. According to Noreiks, it had more to do with the competitors with whom she was sharing the lanes.

"I had a really good cross with Bryanna (Coté) and Clara (Colombia's Clara Guerrero), and we kind of pushed each other," Noreiks said. "I was just trying to enjoy myself, and bowling with them made it fun."

A great deal of fun was also had by a handful of bowlers who began the day outside the cut line only to use strong performances on Saturday to reach the top 36. That list included Stephanie Schwartz of Racine, Wisconsin (40th to 27th), Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois (37th to 29th), Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri (54th to 33rd), McCarthy (60th to 34th) and Sellens (45th to 36th).

## 2023 U.S. Women's Open

At ABC Gates Bowl

Gates, N.Y.

Saturday's results

### QUALIFYING

(24 games)

1, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 5,277. 2, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 5,102. 3, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 5,091. 4, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 5,051. 5, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 5,045. 6, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 5,039.

7, Shannon O'Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 5,020. 8, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 4,985. 9, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 4,968. 10, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 4,956. 11, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 4,950. 12, Verity Crawley, England, 4,945.



13, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 4,943. 14, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 4,936. 15, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4,908. 16, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 4,905. 17, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 4,886. 18, Sanna Oksanen, Finland, 4,884.

19, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 4,880. 20, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 4,879. 21, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 4,874. 22, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 4,869. 23, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 4,860. 24, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 4,853.

25, Felicia Wong, Canada, 4,845. 26, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 4,827. 27, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 4,819. 28, Ani Juntunen, Finland, 4,815. 29, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 4,814. 30, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 4,803.

31, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 4,795. 32, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 4,791. 33, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 4,781. 34, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 4,767. 35, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 4,763. 36, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 4,761.

#### DID NOT ADVANCE

37, Victoria Varano (n), Stony Point, N.Y., 4,756. 38, Haley Grabowski (n), Rochester, N.Y., 4,754. 39, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 4,741. 40, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 4,737. 41, Laura Plazas, Colombia, 4,734. 42, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 4,720.

43, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 4,713. 44, Anneli Blomqvist, Sweden, 4,692. 45, Kara Mangiola, Spencerport, N.Y., 4,691. 46, Elysia Current, Middletown, Del., 4,688. 47, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 4,652. 48, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 4,644.

49, Iliana Lomeli (n), Mexico, 4,638. 50, Daria Pajak, Poland, 4,630. 51, Eliisa Hiltunen, Finland, 4,629. 52, Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., 4,607. 53, Cassidy Courey (n), Brooklyn Center, Minn., 4,593. 54, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 4,592.

55, Elena Carr (n), Hilton, N.Y., 4,578. 56, Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I., 4,576. 57, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 4,575. 58, Brooke Roberts (n), Port Orange, Fla., 4,573. 59, (TIE) Alyssa Ballard (n), Keller, Texas, and Elise Bolton, Riverview, Fla., 4,561.

61, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 4,560. 62, Eliana Occhino (n), Fulton, N.Y., 4,555. 63, Rebecca Hagerman (n), Loves Park, Ill., 4,554. 64, Jaelle Hamman (n), Jarrell, Texas, 4,521. 65, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 4,507. 66, Jenna Williams (n), Homosassa, Fla., 4,502.

67, Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 4,491. 68, Courtney Ermisch, Big Bend, Wis., 4,483. 69, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 4,476. 70, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 4,469. 71, Sarah Klassen (n), Bel Aire, Kan., 4,462. 72, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 4,457.

73, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 4,436. 74, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 4,428. 75, Morgan Nunn (n), Oklahoma City, Okla., 4,426. 76, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 4,419. 77, Jacqueline Evans (n), Greenacres, Fla., 4,415. 78, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 4,413.

79, Crystal Shaw-Wesby (n), Pikeville, N.C., 4,403. 80, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 4,395. 81, Saralyne Nassberg, Modesto, Calif., 4,394. 82, (TIE) Heather Sterner, Rochester, N.Y., and Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 4,389. 84, Mallory Clark, Auburn, Maine, 4,384.

85, Laura Branch, Lancaster, Pa., 4,374. 86, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 4,349. 87, Jennifer Cutter (n), Penfield, N.Y., 4,348. 88, Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., 4,343. 89, Heather Ray (n), Rochester, N.Y., 4,342. 90, Christine Johnston (n), Canada, 4,330.

91, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 4,326. 92, Alexandra Mosquera (n), ARMENIA, \*\*\*\*\* , 4,324. 93, Shanna Chepelsky, East Rochester, N.Y., 4,309. 94, Kelly Zapf (n), Lakewood, Colo., 4,305. 95, Amanda Naujokas (n), Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., 4,296. 96, Sarah Gill, Mandeville, La., 4,295.

97, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 4,281. 98, Tammy Burgstahler (n), Cheektowaga, N.Y., 4,258. 99, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 4,215. 100, Amber Brunson (n), Miami, Fla., 4,212. 101, Hayley Dann, Okemos, Mich., 4,211. 102, Colleen Jump (n), Port Byron, N.Y., 4,160.

103, Bella Castillo (n), Odessa, Texas, 4,146. 104, Deanna Kosmoski (n), East Amherst, N.Y., 4,029. 105, Mollie Gizicki (n), Commerce, Mich., 3,957. 106, Taylor Lucas (n), Hilton, N.Y., 3,926. 107, Katlyn Newberry (n), Rochester, N.Y., 3,588. 108, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,812 (WD).

#### **ZAVJALOVA GOES 8-0 TO START MATCH PLAY; NOREIKS STILL LEADS 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN**

**GATES, N.Y.** – With one round of match play completed, Germany's Birgit Noreiks still holds the overall lead at the 2023 U.S. Women's Open.

Noreiks went 4-4 during the first eight-game block of round-robin matches at ABC Gates Bowl on Sunday night to remain atop the standings with a 40-game total of 8,605, which includes 30 bonus pins for each match victory.

Just 13 pins back is Colombia's Clara Guerrero, who went 7-1 to finish with an 8,592 total. Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (8,530), Latvia's Diana Zavjalova (8,468), and Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois (8,456), round out the top five.

Although many strong performances were authored on Sunday night, Zavjalova turned in the best effort, going a perfect 8-0 during the first round of matches to move from 10th place after Round 4 all the way up to fourth with two eight-game blocks remaining.

Those two rounds of matches will take place on Monday at 10 a.m. Eastern and 5 p.m. Eastern.

Thirty bonus pins are awarded for each win in match play, and the 56-game pinfall totals, including bonus pins, will determine the five players for the championship stepladder.

The winner will take home the iconic U.S. Women's Open trophy, coveted green jacket and \$60,000 top prize.

All rounds of qualifying and match play are being broadcast live at BowlTV.com through Monday night, and the event will conclude live Tuesday on CBS Sports Network at 7 p.m. Eastern.

Sunday's action began in the morning with 36 players taking to the lanes for the fourth and final round of qualifying, which was contested on a challenging 41-foot oil pattern that will be used throughout all remaining stages of competition.

The top 24 players after Round 4 advanced to match play and were seeded based on their 32-game pinfall totals.

Zavjalova and Guerrero were not the only athletes to post outstanding match-play marks Sunday night; three-time U.S. Women's Open champion Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, and Coté both went 6-2 to pick up 180 valuable bonus pins and bolster their positions in the standings.

Six-time champion Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, started her round 5-1, but a pair of losses to finish slowed her momentum a bit and forced her to settle for a mark of 5-3; nevertheless, the veteran right-hander sits in eighth place just 49 pins behind the fifth and final qualifying spot for the stepladder finals with 16 games remaining.

Johnson and the other 18 players currently outside the top five will be looking to move their way up during the final two rounds; however, that task certainly won't be easy as big games are hard to come by on such a demanding oil pattern.

Despite posting an undefeated record on Sunday night, Zavjalova knows as well as anyone how difficult that pattern truly is.

"This is probably one of the hardest patterns I've ever bowled on," Zavjalova said. "You just can't miss. The amount of 2-10 combinations I've seen all of us leave, even on good shots, is unbelievable. If you miss left, it goes through the face, and if you miss a quarter board to the right, it's a 2-10 combination. It's just hard."

That fact makes Zavjalova's ability to go unbeaten during an eight-game stretch of matches all the more impressive and all the more valuable in her pursuit of a spot in the stepladder finals.

After all, as any experienced U.S. Women's Open competitor will tell you, once match play begins, stacking victories and collecting bonus pins is the name of the game.

"The U.S. Open is such a long format, and with 24 games of match play, anything can happen because of all those bonus pins," Zavjalova said. "The key is always to win matches. I won all my matches tonight, and that's what moved me into the top five."

As a veteran bowler on the international stage and member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour, Zavjalova has bowled countless rounds of match play during her decorated career; nevertheless, even she was a bit taken aback by Sunday night's 8-0 performance.

"I'm pretty sure that's the first time that I've ever gone undefeated in an eight-game block of matches like that," Zavjalova said. "I wish I knew why I was able to win so many games. I guess it was probably because I was very consistent, and I kept grinding."

That approach clearly paid off for Zavjalova on Sunday night, and she's hoping that the momentum will lead to more positive results during Monday's final two rounds.

“It feels really, really good to start match play off like this,” Zavjalova said. “This morning, even though it was the same pattern, I didn’t bowl very well at all, but I learned a lot from what I was doing wrong and what I wasn’t doing right. I applied that for this evening’s matches, and it paid off. Keeping that going will be the key for tomorrow.”

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

## **2023 U.S. Women’s Open**

### **At ABC Gates Bowl**

#### **Gates, N.Y.**

#### **Sunday’s results**

#### **MATCH PLAY**

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

1, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 4-4-0, 8,605. 2, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 7-1-0, 8,592. 3, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 6-2-0, 8,530. 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 8-0-0, 8,468. 5, Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 3-4-1, 8,456. 6, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 4-4-0, 8,438.

7, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 3-5-0, 8,412. 8, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 5-3-0, 8,407. 9, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 5-3-0, 8,368. 10, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 6-2-0, 8,349. 11, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 3-5-0, 8,295. 12, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 4-4-0, 8,266.

13, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 4-3-1, 8,246. 14, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 5-3-0, 8,238. 15, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2-5-1, 8,212. 16, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 3-5-0, 8,207. 17, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 4-4-0, 8,197. 18, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 4-3-1, 8,196.

19, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 3-5-0, 8,096. 20, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3-5-0, 8,072. 21, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 2-6-0, 8,048. 22, Verity Crawley, England, 2-6-0, 8,042. 23, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 2-6-0, 7,973. 24, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2-6-0, 7,863.

#### **ROUND 4**

#### **(32 games)**

1, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 6,880. 2, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 6,772. 3, Shannon O’Keefe, Shiloh, Ill., 6,711. 4, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 6,675. 5, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 6,659. 6, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 6,658.

7, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 6,629. 8, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 6,624. 9, Verity Crawley, England, 6,589. 10, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 6,578. 11, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 6,560. 12, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 6,558.

13, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 6,556. 14, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 6,532. 15, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 6,524. 16, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 6,508. 17, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 6,498. 18, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 6,478.

19, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 6,469. 20, Juliana Franco (n), Colombia, 6,455. 21, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 6,449. 22, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 6,445. 23, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 6,404. 24, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 6,401.

#### **DID NOT ADVANCE**

25, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 6,398, \$2,590. 26, Sanna Oksanen, Finland, 6,392, \$2,520. 27, (TIE) Ani Juntunen, Finland, and Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 6,373, \$2,425. 29, Peppi Konsteri, Finland, 6,369, \$2,350. 30, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 6,356, \$2,300.

31, Felicia Wong, Canada, 6,323, \$2,250. 32, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 6,302, \$2,200. 33, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 6,296, \$2,150. 34, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 6,293, \$2,100. 35, Shannon Sellens (n), Long Beach, N.Y., 6,263, \$2,050. 36, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 6,210, \$2,000.

## **GUERRERO EARNS TOP SEED AS FINALISTS ARE DETERMINED AT 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN**

**GATES, N.Y.** – The U.S. Women's Open is the most demanding major championship in women's bowling.

A bowler hoping to reach the stepladder finals at the hallowed event must conquer an elite field of competitors, four incredibly challenging oil patterns and a grueling 56-game schedule.

The 2023 edition of the event kicked off last Thursday when 108 bowlers took to the lanes at ABC Gates Bowl hoping to take the first steps toward making their major championship dreams come true.

At the conclusion of Monday night's third and final eight-game block of round-robin matches, only five players remained.

Colombia's Clara Guerrero earned the top seed for Tuesday night's stepladder finals after going 16-8 during match play and coming in with a 56-game score of 12,227, which included 30 bonus pins for each match victory.

By qualifying first, Guerrero was guaranteed a spot in the championship match and will only have to win once in order to secure her second career major title; her first came at the 2016 GoBowling! PWBA Players Championship in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

The 41-year-old right-hander will be joined in the stepladder at ABC Gates Bowl by Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona (18-6; 12,173); Diana Zavjalova of Latvia (18-6; 12,112); Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York (16-8; 12,102); and Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York (13-11; 12,050).

The finals will be televised live on CBS Sports Network on Tuesday starting at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The winner will take home the second major title of the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour season, the event's coveted green jacket and iconic trophy, and the \$60,000 top prize.

For Guerrero, bowling for the U.S. Women's Open title represents the opportunity to make a lifelong dream come true while also flipping the script on what has so far been a disappointing season.

"It's definitely been a tough season, and I've struggled with a few things" said Guerrero, whose best finish on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour prior to this week was 33rd place at the GoBowling! PWBA Spokane Open back in May. "After missing a few cuts in a row, it gets very mental.

"I know how tough the U.S. Open is, so I came here with a new mindset and tried to keep things simple. Every round, I built a little more confidence and felt better. It's always been a dream to be the top seed and win the U.S. Open, and I've given myself a chance to do it. Now, I just hope everything goes well tomorrow."

As the No. 2 seed, Coté will be coming to Tuesday's night's telecast looking to create some good fortune of her own.

Despite tying Zavjalova for this year's best U.S. Women's Open match-play record at 18-6, Coté may very well need it as the 27-year-old right hander is the only one of this year's finalists without a major title to her name.

Nevertheless, the 2021 PWBA Tour Player of the Year has proven herself more than capable of performing on the big stage, as is evident by her four career PWBA Tour titles and multiple international medals as a member of Team USA.

Those experiences have taught Coté the importance of having patience on the lanes, and that's a quality she expects to have to call upon during Tuesday's stepladder finals.

"I'm going to have to control the pocket and make my spares because they're going to be very, very hard," Coté said. "Still, all season long I've just told myself that if I stick to my plan and keep moving forward, things will fall into place and go my way. That got me to the U.S. Open TV show, and there's no words for that."

Winning a major title has always been one of Coté's biggest career goals. Now that she stands just two wins away from reaching it, her only regret is that a cherished loved one is no longer here to cheer her on.

"At the end of last year, I lost my grandfather, who was the one who taught me bowling," Coté said. "This is kind of emotional for me because it's sad for him not to be here to be able to see this. Still, I'm happy. Winning a major is one of the top goals of my bowling career, and I've earned the opportunity to try to do that. There are no words to describe it."

Zavjalova can probably find the words as she's already done it, win a major that is. In fact, she's done it twice by virtue of her victories at the 2013 and 2017 United States Bowling Congress Queens.

The 31-year-old right-hander has bowled well during the years that followed, yet she hasn't reached the winner's circle since bringing home the title at the 2018 Pepsi PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open in Seminole, Florida.

It hasn't been from a lack of opportunities, however, as Zavjalova has made multiple telecasts since then.

In fact, she qualified for the shows at the last two PWBA Tour stops prior to this year's U.S. Women's Open, finishing fourth at the PWBA Great Lakes Classic on June 6 and fifth at the Bowlers Journal Cleveland Classic on June 10.

Despite coming up a bit short in her bid for titles at those events, Zavjalova knows that as long as she maintains her confidence, she's capable of winning again at any time, including from the No. 3 seed on Tuesday night.

"I just need to keep a good mindset and really believe in myself," Zavjalova said. "I've made a lot of shows the last few years, but on some of them I've misread the lanes. Tomorrow, I need to pay close attention to the lane transition and hope that I see the lanes well on the show.

"Even though the Queens is my favorite tournament because I've won it twice, I've been dreaming about winning the U.S. Open for a very long time. Winning this tournament would be a dream come true."

Johnson doesn't have to dream about it; she's already done it six times, taking home U.S. Women's Open titles in 1996, 2007, 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

The USBC Hall of Famer has four additional majors to go along with 21 standard titles, which pushes her total number of career PWBA Tour victories to 25. Tuesday night's other four stepladder finalists have a combined total of 16.

Still, Johnson knows that at 49 years old and coming in as the No. 4 seed, she'll have her hands full come showtime.

"There are four other amazing bowlers out there, and they've been bowling great all week and all year," Johnson said. "They're all hungry for this title, so I'm going to have to stay patient and make great shots if I want to have a chance to win."

Johnson would certainly relish such a victory as, at this stage in her career, she's not quite sure how many more opportunities will come her way.

"To make shows this late in the game is special because you never know when or if you're going to get that chance again," Johnson said. "I feel good, so maybe I'll keep doing this into my fifties. Who knows? But for now, it just feels really great to be here."

McEwan, who, as the No. 5 seed, will face Johnson in Tuesday night's opening match, knows almost as much as her counterpart does about what it takes to make the TV finals at the U.S. Women's Open.

That's because Tuesday night's telecast will mark McEwan's sixth U.S. Women's Open stepladder finals appearance as prior to this year's event, the 31-year-old right-hander reached the final five in 2013, 2015, 2018, 2019 and 2022.

Her lone title came in 2019 when she defeated Indonesia's Tannya Roumimper, 201-199, in North Las Vegas. Last year, McEwan finished second to Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska.

Although McEwan would love to add U.S. Women's Open title No. 2 to her resume on Tuesday night, she knows that it's an accomplishment just to make the stepladder finals at such a challenging event.

That's especially true of this year's version of the tournament, which McEwan found to be particularly difficult.

"The U.S. Open is always the hardest tournament of the year, and this year seemed like the hardest version of it I've ever bowled," McEwan said. "All of the patterns were challenging in so many different ways, and all of the bowlers were sharp and at the top of their games. To make the top five at this event with this field took a lot of work."

McEwan's work is far from over, however. After all, she isn't just content to have made the stepladder finals again; she wants to win.

While some may look at the No. 5 seed as a disadvantage, McEwan chooses to see it as an opportunity.

"I have the advantage of being the first one out there on the pair," McEwan said. "I get to get out there, see what the lanes are doing and get comfortable, so I'm going to use that to my advantage. My goal is just to throw as many shots as possible because that's what it takes to win when you're the fifth seed."

In order to reach the stepladder finals, McEwan and company had to survive two eight-game blocks of round-robin matches on Monday, one in the morning and one at night.

Thirty bonus pins were awarded for each win during match play, and the 56-game pinfall totals, including bonus pins, determined the five players who advanced to the stepladder.

Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, and Juliana Franco of Puerto Rico withdrew from the event prior to the start of the second round of match play on Monday morning. O'Keefe was replaced by Haley Richard of Tipton, Michigan, and Franco was replaced by Estefania Cobo of Puerto Rico.



All 108 competitors bowled 24 qualifying games over three days to determine the 36 players advancing to Round 4. After eight additional games, the field was cut to the top 24 bowlers for round-robin match play.

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

**2023 U.S. Women's Open  
At ABC Gates Bowl  
Gates, N.Y.**

**Monday's results**

**MATCH PLAY**

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

1, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 16-8-0, 12,227. 2, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 18-6-0, 12,173. 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 18-6-0, 12,112. 4, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 16-8-0, 12,102. 5, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 13-11-0, 12,050.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

6, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 15-9-0, 12,008, \$9,500. 7, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 10-14-0, 11,929, \$8,500. 8, Missy Parkin, San Clemente, Calif., 14-10-0, 11,925, \$7,900. 9, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 10-13-1, 11,667, \$7,400. 10, Verity Crawley, England, 9-15-0, 11,663, \$6,950. 11, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 14-9-1, 11,651, \$6,550. 12, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 10-13-1, 11,619, \$6,150.

13, Kelly Kulick, Union, N.J., 11-13-0, 11,617, \$5,900. 14, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 10-13-1, 11,600, \$5,700. 15, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 10-13-1, 11,573, \$5,500. 16, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 11-13-0, 11,558, \$5,300. 17, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 13-11-0, 11,530, \$5,150. 18, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 11-13-0, 11,493, \$4,900.

19, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 9-15-0, 11,481, \$4,750. 20, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 9-15-0, 11,449, \$4,600. 21, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 11-13-0, 11,448, \$4,450. 22, Haley Richard, Tipton, MI, 7-17-0, 11,404, \$4,300. 23, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 11-13-0, 11,385, \$4,150. 24, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 4-20-0, 11,046, \$4,000.

## **COTÉ WINS 2023 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN FOR FIRST CAREER MAJOR TITLE**

**GATES, N.Y.** – Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, doesn't consider herself a particularly goal-oriented person; nevertheless, she created a list of things she wanted to accomplish during her Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour career.

Not surprisingly, two of the items on that list were to win a major championship and to one day be named PWBA Player of the year.

She checked the second goal off the list after being named Player of the Year at the end of the 2021 PWBA Tour season, and she secured the first Tuesday night by defeating Colombia's Clara Guerrero, 153-142, at ABC Gates Bowl to win the 2023 U.S. Women's Open and capture her first career major title.

The victory earned the 37-year-old right-hander the coveted green jacket, the iconic trophy and the \$60,000 first-place check. Guerrero earned \$30,000 for finishing second.

The U.S. Women's Open was broadcast live on CBS Sports Network, and despite the modest scores, the title match definitely provided the at-home audience and capacity crowd in attendance with plenty of excitement as the bout featured four lead changes and wasn't decided until the 10th frame.

Coté stepped up in the 10th needing nine pins on her first ball to secure the win.

That may seem not seem like very much to ask of a world-class player like Coté, but as anyone who watched this year's U.S. Women's Open could tell you, players were just as likely to get four as they were to get nine on the extremely challenging 41-foot oil pattern used during Round 4 of qualifying, match play and the stepladder finals.

Coté's potential game-winning delivery drifted high on the head pin; she didn't get four, but she didn't get the nine that she needed either; instead, her count was seven as her shot left the 3-6-10 standing.

That meant that the outcome of the 2023 U.S. Women's Open would come down to spare shooting.

If Coté could take two or more pins on the conversion attempt, she'd be a major champion; anything less, and the box next to "major championship" on her list would have to remain unchecked.

Unwilling to let the opportunity to reach that goal slip through her fingers, Coté covered the spare and then counted eight on her fill ball to put the finishing touches on an 11-pin victory.

Like many first-time major champions, Coté struggled to find the right words to describe her feelings in the moments immediately following the match; however, after taking a

little bit of time to decompress, she made it quite clear what the win meant to her and to whom it was dedicated.

“This tournament win is beyond special to me, and I dedicate it to my grandfather, Ray Munguia,” Coté said. “He was the person who taught me how to bowl and was always the first person I’d call after I won. We lost him recently, which was really heartbreaking, but I know that he was there with me and that he’d be proud of me. This win is for him.”

Coté should be plenty proud of herself as well; after all, at this point, she’s established quite the bowling resume.

Tuesday night’s victory was the fifth of her PWBA Tour career. She’s also the reigning International Bowling Federation World Cup women’s singles champion and a 12-time gold medalist for Team USA.

Nevertheless, a bowler’s first major title will always be special, and Coté’s U.S. Women’s Open victory is no different.

“You’re an “it person” when you win a major title, especially the U.S. Open because it’s so hard,” Coté said. “This ranks up there with anything that I’ve ever accomplished. I’m grateful, and this is a win that I’ll cherish for a very long time.”

Coté earned her spot in the title match by stopping the run of No. 5 seed Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, who was attempting to run the stepladder to collect her second U.S. Women’s Open title – she won the 2019 event in North Las Vegas.

McEwan opened Tuesday night’s stepladder finals with a hard-fought 212-201 victory over No. 4 seed Liz Johnson of Niagara Falls, New York, who was seeking her seventh title at the hallowed tournament.

The win gave McEwan the opportunity to take on two-time United States Bowling Congress Queens champion Diana Zavjalova of Latvia in Match 2.

McEwan got the better of that matchup as well, downing Zavjalova 227-192 to collect her second win of the night and punch her ticket to the semifinals.

That’s where McEwan’s ride would end, however, as she fell to Coté by a final score of 248-199. That sent Coté through to the title match while sending McEwan home with third place and \$22,000.

Zavjalova and Johnson took home \$17,000 and \$13,000, respectively.

All 108 competitors at the 2023 U.S. Women’s Open bowled 24 qualifying games over three days to determine the 36 players advancing to Round 4. After eight additional games, the field was cut to the top 24 bowlers for round-robin match play.

The five finalists were determined by total pinfall, including bonus pins, for 56 games.

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

**2023 U.S. Women's Open  
At ABC Gates Bowl  
Gates, N.Y.**

**Tuesday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 401 (two games), \$60,000.
- 2, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 142 (one game), \$30,000.
- 3, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 638 (three games), \$22,000.
- 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 192 (one game), \$17,000.
- 5, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 201 (one game), \$13,000.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – McEwan def. Johnson, 212-201.  
Match No. 2 – McEwan def. Zavjalova, 227-192.  
Semifinal – Coté def. McEwan, 248-199.  
Championship – Coté def. Guerrero, 153-142.

**OWENS WINS 2023 PWBA PINEHURST REGIONAL FOR FIRST CAREER TITLE**

**ABERDEEN, N.C.** – For quite some time, Najah Owens of Raleigh, North Carolina, has had people urging her to take a shot at competing on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour.

The 29-year-old right-hander has always been interested in doing so, but she was hesitant to jump right in; instead, her plan was to take things slow and test the waters.

She must have liked how they felt because she dove right in on Sunday, leading the 59-player field during qualifying and then topping Kerry Smith of Lititz, Pennsylvania, 212-201, during the stepladder finals to win the 2023 PWBA Pinehurst Regional, which was held at Sandhills Bowling Center.

With the victory, Owens walked away with her first career title, the \$1,700 first-place check and a spot in the season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown, which will be held at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida, from Dec. 7-9.

Smith, who entered Sunday's stepladder in search of her second career PWBA Regional title – she won the 2022 PWBA Twin Cities Regional – earned \$850 for finishing second.

Owens and the other regional champions from 2023 will automatically be seeded for match play at the Regional Showdown. The remaining spots in the 16-person field will be awarded based on the results of an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.

The top 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals.

Every player who qualifies for match play will cash at the Regional Showdown. If the number of entries is high enough, additional cash spots outside the top 16 will be paid at a ratio of 1:3 as is done for PWBA National Tour prize funds.

The winner of the 2023 Regional Showdown will not only receive a cash prize, but she will also have her entry fees covered for all 2024 PWBA National Tour singles events as well.

All Regional Showdown competitors are longing to secure that prize, but the possibility of attaining it is particularly exciting for Owens as it would mean proving all of her supporters right.

“I’ve had people around me who have helped me get to this point, and they all believed in me,” Owens said. “I’m finally believing in myself, and now to know that the possibility of bowling full time on the PWBA Tour could become available just seems crazy.

“I have so many people to thank because there are just a lot of great people in the bowling community who want to see me out here.”

Owens certainly proved that she belonged during the title match, staying clean and carding clutch doubles in the fourth and fifth and seventh and eighth frames to keep Smith at arm's length.

However, as chance would have it, it was the spare that Owens converted to end her game that mattered most it guaranteed her no worse than a tie.

With Owens already in with a final score of 212, Smith stepped up for her 10th frame needing all three strikes to get to that same total and force a roll-off.

She delivered the first strike, but her second ball only counted nine, ending her bid for her second title and allowing Owens to officially lock up her first.

The win was especially gratifying for Owens because reaching the winner's circle was the furthest thing from her mind at the start of the day.

"All I wanted to do today was execute," Owens said. "I didn't care about where I finished as long as I knew that I threw great shots. I just wanted to let the ball do the work and make my spares, and I was able to do that."

That approach paid off as it allowed Owens to lead qualifying with an eight-game score of 1,581 (a 197.63 average) on the Pinehurst Regional's very difficult 42-foot oil pattern.

Summer Jasmin of Beckley, West Virginia, a two-time PWBA Regional champion, was second with 1,566. Smith was third with 1,539 while Amber MacLeod of Conway, South Carolina (1,524) grabbed the final spot in Sunday's stepladder by qualifying fourth.

Smith opened the stepladder by topping MacLeod by a final score of 216-144. One match later, Smith dispatched Jasmin, 224-205, to earn her title tilt with Owens.

Jasmin walked away with \$700 for finishing third. MacLeod's fourth-place finish was worth \$525.

The next PWBA Regional event will be July 22 at the PWBA Greater Pittsburgh Regional. The tournament will be held at Nesbit's Lanes in Pittsburgh.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com). For more information on the PWBA Regional competition, visit [PWBA.com/Regionals](http://PWBA.com/Regionals).

**2023 PWBA Pinehurst Regional  
At Sandhills Bowling Center  
Aberdeen, N.C.**

**Sunday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Najah Owens, Raleigh, N.C., 212 (one game), \$1,700.
- 2, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 641 (three games), \$850.
- 3, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 205 (one game), \$700.
- 4, Amber MacLeod, Conway, S.C., 144 (one game), \$525.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Smith def. MacLeod, 216-144.  
Semifinal – Smith def. Jasmin, 224-205.  
Championship – Owens def. Smith, 212-201.

**QUALIFYING  
(8 games)**

1, Najah Owens, Raleigh, N.C., 1,581. 2, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.Va., 1,566. 3, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 1,539. 4, Amber MacLeod, Conway, S.C., 1,524.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

5, Brianna Rogers (n), Florence, S.C., 1,522, \$365. 6, Elizabeth Weeks (n), Florence, S.C., 1,519, \$360.

7, Cayla Hicks (n), Salem, Va., 1,509, \$355. 8, Kristina Catoe (n), Mooresville, N.C., 1,508, \$350. 9, Mallory Clark, Lewiston, Maine, 1,503, \$345. 10, Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, 1,501, \$340. 11, Kimberly Brown (n), Lynchburg, Va., 1,492, \$335. 12, Emily Kyle, Creedmoor, N.C., 1,489, \$330.

13, Morgan Cooper (n), Gloucester Point, Va., 1,481, \$325. 14, Rose Gowanlock (n), Charlotte, N.C., 1,479, \$320. 15, (TIE) Lindsay Brown (n), Pulaski, Tenn., and Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 1,477, \$312. 17, (TIE) Farrand Schneider (n), Simpsonville, S.C., and Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 1,476, \$302.

19, (TIE) Jennifer Nusbaum, Leonardtown, Md., and Dana File, Camby, Ind., 1,473, \$285. 21, Jenny Wonders (n), Roscoe, Ill., 1,471. 22, Denise Kurek, Leland, N.C., 1,454. 23, Sarah Boothe, North Augusta, S.C., 1,452. 24, Michaela Clardy, Little River, S.C., 1,447.

25, Haley Youker, Clermont, Fla., 1,443. 26, Janelle Griffin (n), Upper Marlboro, Md., 1,442. 27, Anna Groce, Morrisville, N.C., 1,440. 28, Haley Swindle (n), Sharpsburg, Ga., 1,438. 29, Danielle Perdue (n), Fairlawn, Va., 1,435. 30, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 1,433.

31, Heidi Henry, Fayetteville, N.C., 1,430. 32, Chloe Newberry (n), Lumberton, N.C., 1,422. 33, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 1,419. 34, April Stone-Mills, Trinity, N.C., 1,414. 35, Caroline Thesier (n), Mooresville, N.C., 1,411. 36, Savanna Razor, Columbia, S.C., 1,409.

37, Laura Branch, Lancaster, Pa., 1,408. 38, Katrina Jockers, Raeford, N.C., 1,405. 39, Diamond Hunter (n), Copiague, N.Y., 1,403. 40, (TIE) Courtney Jacques, Albany, Ga., and Jadeyn Mabry, Queen Creek, Ariz., 1,393. 42, Paige Nelson, Greer, S.C., 1,390.

43, Madison Beck (n), Altamonte Springs, Fla., 1,388. 44, Towanda Smith, new bern, N.C., 1,375. 45, Hilary Aycocock, Clayton, N.C., 1,356. 46, Aliyah Alleyne, Winter haven, Fla., 1,351. 47, Tameka Jackson (n), Lithonia, Ga., 1,340. 48, (TIE) Ashlyn Henry, Fayetteville, N.C., and

Wendy Mann, South Elgin, Ill., 1,332. 50, Emily Sallee, McKinney, Texas, 1,331. 51, Paige Barkley (n), Canandaigua, N.Y., 1,302. 52, Megan Matasy (n), Austintown, Ohio, 1,301. 53, Kathryn Montgomery (n), Aberdeen, Md., 1,293. 54, Dominique Cook, Saratoga Springs, N.Y., 1,281.

55, Jordan Linkous (n), Blacksburg, Va., 1,279. 56, Chelsea Wardley, Pikeville, N.C., 1,277. 57, Amber Hoots, East Bend, N.C., 1,232. 58, Jacqueline Evans, Greenacres, Fla., 354 (WD). 59, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 950 (WD).

## **RICHARD LOOKS TO CAP OFF DOMINANT SEASON WITH STRONG EFFORT AT PWBA CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK - WATERLOO**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, dominated the early portion of the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule, winning three of the first eight events to more than double her career win total and firmly establish herself at the front of the pack in the 2023 PWBA Player of the Year race.

The only downside to Richard's run was that it was interrupted by a scheduled break in the PWBA Tour schedule that began when the 2023 U.S. Women's Open concluded on June 20 and ended when action kicked off at the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles tournament on July 27.

Richard was hardly idle during the downtime, however, as she could frequently be found on the practice lanes or competing in local events to stay sharp.

Now, the 27-year-old right-hander is hoping to finish what she started by authoring another strong performance during the final three events on the 2023 PWBA Tour schedule, which will be contested at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center from Aug. 9-15 and livestreamed at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

"My hopes and goals for Waterloo are just to keep doing what I've been doing," Richard said. "Of course, I'd like to win again to end the season, but I've accomplished quite a bit this season; there's nothing that I can hang my head about."

On the contrary, Richard has every reason to hold her head up with pride after reaching the winner's circle at the PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open on May 13, the PWBA Great Lakes Classic on June 6 and the PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open just four days later on June 10.

That dominant run gave Richard three titles in a span of 29 days, which was noteworthy since, up to that point, she'd won two times since joining the PWBA Tour in 2018.

Nevertheless, Richard's focus for the 2023 season had little to do with outcomes; it was all about the process.

"My main goal for this season was enjoying my time out here on tour," Richard said. "Of course, I always want to win, but I tried focusing more on smaller goals to get me to accomplish the bigger things like winning. It feels pretty amazing to have been so successful so far this season, and I'm hoping to continue that this week."

Competitors will begin arriving at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center this afternoon for the tournament's official practice session, which will take place from 4-6 p.m. Eastern.



Following the official practice session, a select group of PWBA Tour stars will take to the lanes for the Bowl with the Pros event starting at 8 p.m. Eastern. This event gives local bowlers the opportunity to bowl alongside their favorite PWBA players in a fun and exciting environment.

Competition begins Wednesday with the first of two rounds of qualifying for the PWBA Waterloo Open. Participants will bowl two six-game blocks, starting at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern, with the top 12 competitors making the cut for match play.

The top 12 will return to Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center on Thursday and bowl two six-game rounds of round-robin match play starting at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Eastern. After the second round of match play is completed, the top five players will advance to the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 7:30 p.m. Eastern on Friday and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Waterloo Open. The finals will be broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

The same format will be followed for the PWBA Pepsi Open with qualifying starting on Friday at 11 a.m. Eastern and concluding with the stepladder finals on [BowITV](http://BowITV.com) Saturday starting at 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

The final tournament of the week will be the PWBA Tour Championship, the final major of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field will be filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship.

All players will be seeded into the round-robin match play schedule according to their position on the season points list after the last tournament preceding the Tour Championship.

Those 24 players will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play starting Sunday at 6 p.m. Eastern. Additional eight-game blocks of matches will be contested on Monday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 7 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday, Aug. 15, and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship. The finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

All rounds leading up to the CBS Sports Network broadcast will be livestreamed at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

## **PLUHOWSKY LEADS QUALIFYING AT 2023 PWBA WATERLOO OPEN**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – After the conclusion of the 2023 U.S. Women's Open on June 20, the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour took a scheduled break of more than a month.

While some players returned to the lanes July 27-30 in Houston for the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles tournament, many hadn't had the chance to compete in a high-level event until qualifying began Wednesday morning at the PWBA Waterloo Open, the kickoff event of PWBA Championship Week – Waterloo.

Any notion that players would be rusty from the layoff was quickly put to rest during Wednesday's pair of six-game qualifying blocks at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center, during which five 300 games were recorded and an average of 228 was needed to reach the top 12 and advance to match play.

Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, started the final PWBA Tour stop of the 2023 season off in style by grabbing the lead after qualifying at the Waterloo Open.

The 41-year-old left-hander moved to the top of the standings by finishing Wednesday's 12-game block with a 2,912 total, which was good enough for a 242.67 average and first place in the field of more than 80 bowlers.

Pluhowsky's total included four games of 260 or higher (267, 267, 260 and 289) and a low score of 203.

Every player has her own preference regarding scoring pace with some enjoying days when strikes come in bunches while others prefer having to grind by controlling the pocket and making spares.

At this point in her career, Pluhowsky, who has two PWBA Tour titles to her credit, has seen plenty of both. As such, she simply adapts to whatever the pace is calling for.

"When the scoring pace is high, you have to strike more, which means making quicker ball changes and maybe not having to be as patient," Pluhowsky said. "When the conditions are lower scoring, you can sort of ride the nine-spares for a while and not really have to try to strike."

Pluhowsky certainly did more than her fair share of striking on Wednesday, notching four games of 260 or higher (267, 267, 260 and 289) and ending the day with a low of 203.

Nevertheless, Pluhowsky wasn't the only one who had her striking shoes on during qualifying.

Sandra Gongora of Mexico qualified second with a 12-game score of 2,900, and Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, the PWBA Tour's only three-time winner this season, qualified third with 2,891.

In addition to qualifying near the top of the leaderboard, Richard also wowed the fans at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center by notching back-to-back 300 games to close out Round 1 of qualifying on Wednesday afternoon. That gave Richard a PWBA Tour-best three perfect games this season.

Diana Zavjalova of Latvia (2,790) and PWBA Tour Rookie of the Year candidate Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas (2,779), rounded out the top five in the Day 1 standings.

Gramly also shot 300 on Wednesday, as did No. 8 qualifier Ashly Galante of Palm Harbor, Florida, and two-time PWBA Tour titlist Diandra Asbaty of Chicago, who narrowly missed the cut, finishing 18th.

The top 12 athletes advanced to match play at the Waterloo Open and will bowl a pair of six-game round-robin blocks starting Thursday morning at 10 a.m. Eastern. Total pinfall, including bonus pins for wins in match play, will determine the five finalists for Thursday evening's stepladder finals.

All rounds of competition at the Waterloo Open will be broadcast live at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com). The stepladder will air at 7:30 p.m. Eastern, and the champion will take home \$10,000.

The final qualifying spot at the Waterloo Open went to Daphne Tan of Singapore, who tallied a 12-game total of 2,736, which was good for a 228 average and the final ticket to match play.

Despite enjoying her position as qualifying leader, Pluhowsky knows that the Waterloo Open will likely be won by the player who bowls the best on Day 2.

With that in mind, she's looking to hit the ground running as soon as match play kicks off Thursday morning.

"I've got to win some matches because there are a lot of bonus pins out there tomorrow," Pluhowsky said. "I think I'm going to be the only lefty again, which isn't foreign territory; that happens quite a bit. I'm just going to stick to the same game plan, and hopefully things go well and end with me only having to win one game on TV."

PWBA Championship Week - Waterloo includes the PWBA Waterloo Open, PWBA Pepsi Open and PWBA Tour Championship, the final major of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

The Pepsi Open is taking place Aug. 11-12, and the Tour Championship will be Aug. 13-15.

Once the Waterloo Open has concluded, the Pepsi Open will feature the same format. The finals of the Pepsi Open also will air on BowITV. The stepladder will be Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

If Pluhowsky can bring home the Waterloo Open title, not only would it allow her to claim her first standard PWBA Tour title – the two titles currently on her resume were both majors – but it would also guarantee her a spot in the Tour Championship.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field will be filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which will be the Pepsi Open.

All Tour Championship competitors will be seeded into the round-robin match play schedule according to their position on the season points list after the Pepsi Open.

Those 24 players will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play starting Sunday at 6 p.m. Eastern. Additional eight-game blocks of matches will be contested on Monday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 7 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday, Aug. 15, and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship and its \$50,000 first-place prize. The finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

All rounds leading up to the CBS Sports Network broadcast will be livestreamed at BowITV.com.

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

**2023 PWBA Waterloo Open  
At Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center  
Waterloo, Iowa**

**Wednesday's Results**

1, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,912. 2, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,900. 3, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,891. 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,790. 5, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 2,779. 6, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,774.

7, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 2,767. 8, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,762. 9, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,760. 10, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 2,759. 11, Katie Ann Sopp-Schroeder (n), Lino Lakes, Minn., 2,757. 12, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 2,736.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

13, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,719, \$1,200. 14, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,708, \$1,190. 15, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 2,707, \$1,180. 16, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 2,703, \$1,170. 17, Madyson Marx (n), Maplewood, Minn., 2,699, \$1,160. 18, (TIE) Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., and Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 2,696, \$1,145. 20, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,693, \$1,130. 21, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,684, \$1,120. 22, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,664, \$1,110. 23, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,655, \$1,100. 24, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,653, \$1,090. 25, Juliana Botero (n), Colombia, 2,652, \$1,080. 26, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2,636, \$1,070. 27, (TIE) Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, and Bernice Lim, Singapore, 2,614, \$1,055. 29, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,613. 30, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,612. 31, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 2,609. 32, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2,588. 33, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 2,578. 34, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,571. 35, (TIE) Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., and Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, and Hui Fen New, Singapore, 2,559. 38, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 2,557. 39, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 2,552. 40, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,544. 41, Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 2,543. 42, (TIE) Clara Guerrero, Colombia, and Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,541. 44, (TIE) Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., and Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., 2,536. 46, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 2,532. 47, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,528. 48, Paige Wagner (n), Great Bend, Kan., 2,527. 49, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 2,519. 50, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,513. 51, Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, 2,499. 52, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,497. 53, Verity Crawley, England, 2,491. 54, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,490. 55, Brittany Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 2,486. 56, (TIE) Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., and Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 2,484. 58, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,483. 59, Caitlyn Johnson (n), Beaumont, Texas, 2,480. 60, Jenny Wonders (n), Roscoe, Ill., 2,457. 61, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 2,453. 62, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 2,452. 63, Sarah Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 2,438. 64, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,434. 65, Stephanie Martins (n), Brazil, 2,421. 66, Mary Orf (n), St. Louis, Mo., 2,404. 67, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,395. 68, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 2,392. 69, Daniela Gonzalez (n), Babson Park, Fla., 2,386. 70, Laura Lopez Botero (n), Colombia, 2,377. 71, (TIE) Roberta Rodrigues (n), Brazil, and Whitney Morse (n), Muscatine, Iowa, 2,374. 73, Mallory Clark, Lewiston, Maine, 2,367. 74, Samantha Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 2,354. 75, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 2,328. 76, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,308. 77, (TIE) Rachel Moore (n), Keokuk, Iowa, and Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,295. 79, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 2,294. 80, Erin Novak (n), St Paul Park, Minn., 2,262. 81, Molly Novak (n), Hugo, Minn., 2,219. 82, Chloe Ciecko (n), Wichita, Kan., 2,216. 83, Ainslee McConaughy (n), Hudson, Iowa, 2,183. 84, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 1,184 (WD). 85, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 1,125 (WD).

## **ZAVJALOVA RUNS STEPLADDER TO WIN 2023 PWBA WATERLOO OPEN FOR FIFTH CAREER TITLE**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Diana Zavjalova of Latvia began Thursday night as the No. 4 seed in the five-player stepladder finals at the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Waterloo Open, which was contested at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center and streamed live at BowlTV.com.

By night's end, Zavjalova was No. 1 as she rattled off four consecutive victories to take home her first title of the 2023 PWBA Tour season and the fifth of her career.

The 32-year-old right-hander reached the winner's circle by topping top seed Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio, 279-244, during a thrilling title match that saw the two competitors combine to strike 20 times in 24 opportunities.

Zavjalova collected 11 of those strikes with only a solid 9-pin in the eighth frame keeping her from perfection.

Pluhowsky was equally impressive, striking on nine of her final 10 shots; however, a spare in the first frame and an open in the second allowed Zavjalova to grab the early lead and never look back.

The victory earned Zavjalova the \$10,000 first-place check, a beautiful trophy and a berth in the season's final major, the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship, which begins Sunday night at Cadillac Xtreme.

Pluhowsky walked away with \$5,000 for her runner-up finish.

Even though Zavjalova was more than happy to take home the cash and prizes, Thursday night's win was special for another reason, that being that it allowed her to finally answer the very nagging question: When are you going to win again?

Zavjalova faced that question many times over the past few seasons because, prior to her win at the Waterloo Open, she hadn't recorded a PWBA Tour title since her victory at the 2018 St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open in Seminole, Florida.

That wasn't due to a lack of opportunities, however, as Zavjalova had made several stepladder finals appearances in recent years; in fact, Thursday night's berth marked her fourth trip to the TV finals during the 2023 season alone.

Nevertheless, while getting there is nice, winning is much nicer, and Zavjalova felt a great deal of relief after finally reaching the top again on Thursday night.

"This has been a very long time coming," Zavjalova said. "I've been knocking on this door for a long time. I've made a lot of TV shows and talked to a lot of people asking

'hey, how do I win again?' Everyone told me to just keep knocking on the door and to keep being myself, and that's what I did. I'm just happy."

It would've been hard for Zavjalova to be anything but after Thursday night's performance.

That's because she didn't just win; she won in extremely impressive fashion.

Zavjalova opened the stepladder finals with a 244-204 victory over No. 5 seed Kerry Smith of Lititz, Pennsylvania, a two-time PWBA Regional champion who was making her first championship-round appearance on the PWBA Tour this season.

The victory pushed Zavjalova through to Match 2 where she would face No. 3 seed Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio.

Smith, meanwhile, ended her night with a fifth-place finish and \$2,000.

Two years ago, to the day, Martin, then just 17 years old, became the youngest player to ever win a PWBA Tour title when she defeated England's Verity Crawley, 221-188, to win the 2021 PWBA BowlTV Classic in Arlington, Texas.

Nevertheless, Zavjalova got the better of Martin on Thursday night, finishing with a seven-bagger to erase an early deficit and emerge with a 249-223 victory that ended Martin's bid for PWBA Tour title No. 2 and pushed Zavjalova through to the semifinals.

Martin finished the Waterloo Open in fourth place and earned a check for \$2,500.

Zavjalova, meanwhile, advanced to face 2023 PWBA Player of the Year frontrunner Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, who was making her fifth stepladder finals appearance of the season and was vying for her tour-best fourth title of the year.

Unfortunately for Richard, the striking power that had propelled her to the winner's circle three times already this season failed to materialize during Thursday night's match with Zavjalova.

Despite staying locked in on the 1-3 pocket all match long, Richard was only able to record three strikes.

Zavjalova, on the other hand, began the match with three strikes in a row and then used a clutch double in the ninth and 10th to hold Richard off and punch her ticket to the title match, where she would go on to defeat Pluhowsky.

Richard was forced to settle for a third-place showing and \$3,500.

To some degree, Zavjalova felt fortunate to have walked away as champion.

“I felt very lucky today,” Zavjalova said. “The last three shows I’d made, I threw the ball really well, but I just wasn’t lucky enough by maybe choosing the wrong ball or something like that. Today, I felt good and happy, I got the breaks and the pins fell my way.”

Luck had little to do with it, however, as Zavjalova had the pins falling in bunches throughout the Waterloo Open.

For the tournament, Zavjalova averaged 235.75 over the course of 28 games, which was certainly bolstered by the 984 (244, 249, 212 and 279) she authored during her four games in the stepladder finals.

Zavjalova will see if she can maintain the hot hand when qualifying for the PWBA Pepsi Open begins Friday morning at 11 a.m. Eastern at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center.

Some bowlers may have preferred having some downtime and being able to celebrate a bit more before jumping into the next event; however, that wasn’t Zavjalova’s preference.

“I like that I have the opportunity to keep the momentum going,” Zavjalova said. “I feel very comfortable in this bowling center, so even though it’s a new tournament, I like that I get to go back in and try to continue. I think it’s a good thing.”

The Waterloo Open was the first tournament of PWBA Championship Week – Waterloo, which also will include the Pepsi Open and PWBA Tour Championship, the final major of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

The Pepsi Open will feature the same format as the Waterloo Open.

All rounds of the Pepsi Open, including the stepladder finals, will be livestreamed on BowITV. The stepladder will be Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

The season’s final event, the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship, will begin the next evening.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field will be filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which will be the Pepsi Open.

All Tour Championship competitors will be seeded into the round-robin match play schedule according to their position on the season points list after the Pepsi Open.



Those 24 players will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play starting Sunday at 6 p.m. Eastern. Additional eight-game blocks of matches will be contested on Monday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 7 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship and its \$50,000 first-place prize. The finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

**2023 PWBA Waterloo Open  
At Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center  
Waterloo, Iowa**

**Thursday's Results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 984 (four games), \$10,000.
- 2, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 244 (one game), \$5,000.
- 3, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 192 (one game), \$3,500.
- 4, Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, 223 (one game), \$2,500.
- 5, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 204 (one game), \$2,000.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Zavjalova def. Smith, 244-204.  
Match No. 2 – Zavjalova def. Martin, 249-223.  
Semifinal – Zavjalova def. Richard, 212-192.  
Championship – Zavjalova def. Pluhowsky, 279-244.

**MATCH PLAY**

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

- 1, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 8-4-0, 6,140. 2, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 8-4-0, 6,008. 3, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 9-3-0, 5,859. 4, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 6-6-0, 5,797. 5, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 5-7-0, 5,754.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 6, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 7-5-0, 5,732, \$1,720. 7, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 6-6-0, 5,667, \$1,670. 8, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 4-8-0, 5,632, \$1,620. 9, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 5-7-0, 5,600, \$1,570. 10, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 4-8-0, 5,583, \$1,520. 11, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 4-8-0, 5,519, \$1,470. 12, Katie Ann Sopp-Schroeder (n), Lino Lakes, Minn., 6-6-0, 5,483, \$1,420.

## **BEAUMONT'S JOHNSON USES PAIR OF PERFECT GAMES TO LEAD QUALIFYING AT 2023 PWBA PEPSI OPEN**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, has never particularly enjoyed tournaments with a very high scoring pace as she feels she's at her best when scores are low and she's able to grind out steady games by controlling the pocket and making spares.

Well, the scoring pace was high at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center on Friday, and if the performance Johnson authored wasn't her best, then the opposition better watch out.

That's because Johnson looked fairly dominant during Friday's 12 games of qualifying at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Pepsi Open, recording a pair of 300 games en route to a 2,928 total (a 244 average) that allowed her to grab first place in the field of more than 80 competitors.

The 24-year-old right-hander broke 230 eight times (248, 248, 236, 300, 259, 300, 238 and 245) in 12 games during qualifying with her lowest score of the day coming in Game 12 when she fired a 205.

Johnson was reasonably certain scores would be high when competition got underway at the Pepsi Open, but she didn't necessarily expect hers to be the highest.

"Usually, the flatter the pattern, the better it is for me, so it's kind of shocking that I say that after I just led on a very high scoring day like today," Johnson said. "That's never happened before. Also, I'd never shot two 300s in one day before, and I hadn't shot a PWBA 300, so that's another first, times two."

Johnson was not, however, the only bowler to achieve perfection on Friday.

Latvia's Diana Zavjalova, who won the PWBA Waterloo Open on Thursday night to claim her fifth career PWBA Tour title, was perfect during the first game of Round 2, while Colombia's Clara Guerrero connected for 12 strikes in a row during Game 4 of the second round.

England's Verity Crawley didn't shoot 300 on Friday, but she started two of her final three games with 10 strikes in a row, which allowed her to come in with scores of 289, 234 and 287 to record an 810 series (a 270 average) to close out qualifying.

Crawley finished the night in third place with a 12-game total of 2,837, which put her 27 pins behind the 2,864 recorded by second-place qualifier Birgit Noreiks of Germany.

Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio (2,810), and Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan (2,805), grabbed the final two spots in the top five – Both Martin and Richard took part in Thursday night's Waterloo Open stepladder finals with Richard finishing third while Martin claimed fourth.

Colombia's Juliana Botero finished 12th during Friday night's Pepsi Open qualifying and was the final bowler to make the cut to match play. Botero finished with a mark of 2,769 (a 230.75 average).

Botero and the other 11 match-play qualifiers will bowl a pair of six-game round-robin blocks starting Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Eastern. Total pinfall, including bonus pins for wins in match play, will determine the five finalists for Saturday night's stepladder finals.

All rounds of competition at the Pepsi Open will be broadcast live at BowlTV.com. The stepladder will air at 7:30 p.m. Eastern, and the champion will take home \$10,000.

Johnson would certainly love to be the one holding that check come Saturday night; however, to do so would put her in uncharted waters as a 10th-place effort is Johnson's best PWBA Tour finish to date.

Nevertheless, Friday's performance proved that she has more than enough firepower to be competitive on bowling's biggest stage, so she'll be looking to keep the momentum going come Saturday morning.

"There's at least 12 more games coming tomorrow, so I need to keep sticking to the process like I did today," Johnson said. "The only time I got a little flustered was when I was in the 10th frame of that first 300. I got so nervous there that my knees were shaking, and I was freaking out. After that though, I went back to being cool, calm and collected, and that's how I'll need to be again tomorrow."

A winning performance on Saturday would earn Johnson the right to bowl in the final event of PWBA Championship Week – Waterloo, which is the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship.

However, Johnson would likely have to decline that opportunity even if it arose as her full-time job as a bowling center general manager would not allow for her to remain in Waterloo long enough to participate.

PWBA Championship Week - Waterloo includes the recently-completed PWBA Waterloo Open, the PWBA Pepsi Open and the PWBA Tour Championship, which is the final major of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

The Pepsi Open will wrap up on Saturday night, and the Tour Championship will be contested Sunday through Tuesday.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field will be filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which will be the Pepsi Open.

All Tour Championship competitors will be seeded into the round-robin match play schedule according to their position on the season points list after the Pepsi Open.

Those 24 players will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play starting Sunday at 6 p.m. Eastern. Additional eight-game blocks of matches will be contested on Monday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 7 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship and its \$50,000 first-place prize. The finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

**2023 PWBA Pepsi Open  
At Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center  
Waterloo, Iowa**

**Friday's Results**

1, Caitlyn Johnson (n), Beaumont, Texas, 2,928. 2, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 2,864. 3, Verity Crawley, England, 2,837. 4, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 2,810. 5, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,805. 6, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 2,804.

7, Hui Fen New, Singapore, 2,801. 8, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 2,785. 9, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 2,783. 10, Roberta Rodrigues (n), Brazil, 2,781. 11, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 2,779. 12, Juliana Botero (n), Colombia, 2,769.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

13, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 2,764, \$1,200. 14, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 2,758, \$1,190. 15, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 2,746, \$1,180. 16, (TIE) Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., and Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 2,742, \$1,165. 18, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 2,731, \$1,150.

19, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 2,729, \$1,140. 20, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 2,715, \$1,130. 21, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 2,704, \$1,120. 22, Sandra Gongora, Mexico, 2,696, \$1,110. 23, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,688, \$1,100. 24, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 2,685, \$1,090.

25, Taylor Bailey, Jonesboro, Ark., 2,683, \$1,080. 26, Daria Pajak, Poland, 2,681, \$1,070. 27, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 2,679, \$1,060. 28, Katie Ann Sopp-Schroeder (n), Lino Lakes, Minn., 2,669, \$1,050. 29, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 2,658. 30, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 2,653.

31, Shayna Ng, Singapore, 2,647. 32, Bernice Lim, Singapore, 2,645. 33, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2,620. 34, (TIE) Paige Wagner (n), Great Bend, Kan., and Diandra Asbaty, Chicago, Ill., and Stephanie Martins (n), Brazil, 2,619.

37, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 2,613. 38, Mary Orf (n), St. Louis, Mo., 2,607. 39, Daphne Tan, Singapore, 2,603. 40, Maria Bulanova, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 2,600. 41, Daniela Gonzalez (n), Babson Park, Fla., 2,598. 42, (TIE) Estefania Cobo, Puerto Rico, and

Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 2,596. 44, Brittany Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, 2,591.

45, Sydney Brummett, Fort Wayne, IN, 2,588. 46, Kerry Smith, Lititz, Pa., 2,583. 47, (TIE) Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., and Carlene Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wis., 2,564. 49, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 2,563. 50, Abby Ragsdale, Aurora, Ill., 2,538. 51, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 2,533. 52, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 2,532. 53, Mallory Clark, Lewiston, Maine, 2,530. 54, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 2,523. 55, Haley Richard, Tipton, Mich., 2,522. 56, Jen Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 2,519. 57, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 2,517. 58, Heather Erdei, Omaha, Neb., 2,500. 59, Laura Lopez Botero (n), Colombia, 2,492. 60, Kayla Bandy, Wichita, Kan., 2,488. 61, Taylor Bulhuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 2,468. 62, Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., 2,463. 63, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 2,447. 64, Samantha Kriner, Killeen, Texas, 2,440. 65, Chloe Ciecko (n), Wichita, Kan., 2,430. 66, Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., 2,429. 67, Felicia Wong, Canada, 2,426. 68, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 2,425. 69, Correen Acuff, Surprise, Ariz., 2,415. 70, Jenny Wonders (n), Roscoe, Ill., 2,405. 71, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,359. 72, Melissa Kammerer, Staten Island, N.Y., 2,353. 73, Kaylene Bishop, Medical Lake, Wash., 2,346. 74, (TIE) Sarah Smith (n), Van Meter, Iowa, and Erin Novak (n), St Paul Park, Minn., 2,340. 76, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 2,328. 77, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 2,311. 78, Molly Novak (n), Hugo, Minn., 2,297. 79, Kayla Smith (n), Salem, Ill., 2,295. 80, Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W. Va., 2,288. 81, Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 2,268. 82, Whitney Morse (n), Muscatine, Iowa, 2,255. 83, Isabel Tetmeyer (n), Ankeny, Iowa, 2,100.

## **JOHNSON WINS 2023 PWBA PEPSI OPEN FOR FIRST PWBA TOUR VICTORY**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, is not a Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour member.

She used to be, but she let her membership lapse because her position as a bowling center general manager doesn't typically afford her enough time off to travel to tournaments on a weekly basis throughout the season.

Nevertheless, Johnson's desire to test herself against the best female bowlers in the world never went away, and it likely won't anytime soon because now the 24-year-old right-hander has proven that she belongs among them.

That fact was made quite clear Saturday night when Johnson struck on seven of her final nine shots to complete a thrilling 197-181 come-from-behind victory over Latvia's Diana Zavjalova to win the 2023 PWBA Pepsi Open, which was contested at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center.

Because she was bowling the event as a non-member, Johnson wasn't credited with a PWBA Tour title; she was, however, still able to collect the \$10,000 first-place prize.

What was perhaps even more valuable to Johnson though was the realization that she has what it takes to go up against and beat the best.

"I definitely feel a lot more comfortable and confident in my abilities after a win like this," Johnson said. "I hadn't bowled a PWBA tournament in two years, so I came out here this week to sort of get my name back out there and be able to test what I've been seeing back home. Based on what happened out here these last two days, I'd say it's working pretty good."

Johnson certainly enjoyed a great deal of success during those two days, rolling a pair of 300 games, leading the field after Friday's 12 games of qualifying and continuing to stay out front throughout match play on Saturday en route to earning the No. 1 seed for the stepladder finals.

But for as smoothly as Johnson navigated the first two phases of the Pepsi Open, the championship match proved to be a significantly bumpier ride.

That's because Johnson managed just one strike during the first five frames of her bout with Zavjalova, which came as something of a surprise seeing as how Johnson had thrown more strikes than just about anyone in the field during the course of her first 24 games.

Worse yet was the fact that not only was Johnson not striking, but she was also leaving splits, three in the first five frames to be exact.

Johnson's misfortune started when her ball sailed wide and left the 2-4-10 in the second frame. She skillfully converted that split, but she was unable to do the same with the 4-7-9 she left in the third frame or the 4-6-7-10 she was saddled with in the fifth.

Zavjalova, meanwhile, shook off two early splits of her own and notched a turkey in frames four through six to grab a 27-pin lead halfway through the championship match.

At that point, it looked like it just wasn't going to be Johnson's night and that despite having led the Pepsi Open wire to wire, she was going to have to settle for second.

In some ways, had things turned out that way, Johnson wouldn't have been terribly surprised.

"I've always seen myself as the person who doesn't win; I get second," Johnson said. "I've finished second multiple times in big events, so I've always sort of seen myself as the queen of second."

But that moniker didn't hold up on Saturday night; instead, she became the comeback queen.

Unwilling to let the early struggles get her down, Johnson went to work, throwing a turkey of her own in the sixth, seventh and eighth frames.

Those clutch strikes didn't just get Johnson close; they actually allowed her to retake the lead after Zavjalova suffered a 6-7-10 split and opened in the eighth.

When Johnson stepped up for her final two frames, she had the opportunity to lock Zavjalova out and guarantee victory.

That wouldn't happen, however, as her pocket shot in the ninth frame left a 10 pin, which she converted.

Even though the chance to shut Zavjalova out was gone, the opportunity to apply a great deal of pressure to her was not.

That's precisely what Johnson did, delivering three flush strikes in the 10th frame to post a final score of 197.

It was the second-lowest game Johnson recorded all tournament long – her lowest was the 193 she notched during the final game of Saturday morning's opening round of match play – but it was still enough to force Zavjalova to have a big finish of her own in the 10th.

The math was simple.

Zavjalova needed a double and six pins to tie. Anything more, and she'd win her second PWBA Tour title in two days – she won the Waterloo Open at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center on Thursday night. Anything less, and Johnson would be the tournament champion.

Zavjalova has proven herself to be a tremendous pressure performer many times throughout her career, but things didn't go her way this time around as her first ball in the 10th drifted high, leaving the 3-10 baby split and officially ending the match in Johnson's favor.

In that moment, Johnson needed a second or two to fully grasp what had just transpired.

“It actually took until Diana (Zavjalova) went to shoot her spare for me to realize that I’d just won,” Johnson said. “My first thought was ‘did that really just happen?’ Honestly, it was more like ‘did this last two days really just happen; did I just shoot 300 twice and basically lead wire-to-wire?’

It most certainly did, and because of that, Johnson is already beginning to think about when she might be able to get back out and bowl on tour again.

“I’ve really missed being out here competing and seeing my friends, so I’m going to really study the 2024 season schedule a bit more to see what I can and can’t show up to,” Johnson said.

Despite finishing second on Saturday night, Zavjalova certainly showed up in a big way once again.

Making her fifth consecutive stepladder finals appearance, Zavjalova recorded wins over Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio (260-205), and England’s Verity Crawley (235-214) before falling to Johnson in the title match.

Not only did the second-place finish earn Zavjalova \$5,000, but it also moved her even closer to Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, in the 2023 PWBA Player of the Year race, which will be determined at the Tour Championship.

Martin took home \$3,500 for finishing third on Saturday night; Crawley placed fourth and earned a check for \$2,500.

Jasmine Snell of Papillion, Nebraska, fell to Crawley by a final score of 246-202 during Saturday night’s opening stepladder match. Snell placed fifth and walked away with \$2,000.

The Pepsi Open was the second tournament of PWBA Championship Week – Waterloo, which included the PWBA Waterloo Open, Pepsi Open and Tour Championship, the final major of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

The Tour Championship will begin Sunday evening at 6 p.m. Eastern.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field will be filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which was the Pepsi Open.

All Tour Championship competitors will be seeded into the round-robin match play schedule according to their position on the season points list after the Pepsi Open.



Those 24 players will bowl three eight-game rounds of round-robin match play starting Sunday evening. Additional eight-game blocks of matches will be contested on Monday at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

The stepladder finals will start at 7 p.m. Eastern on Tuesday and determine which player wins the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship and its \$50,000 first-place prize. The finals will be broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

All rounds leading up to the CBS Sports Network broadcast will be livestreamed at [BowITV.com](http://BowITV.com).

To learn more about the PWBA Tour, visit [PWBA.com](http://PWBA.com).

**2023 PWBA Waterloo Open  
At Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center  
Waterloo, Iowa**

**Saturday's Results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 197 (one game), \$10,000.
- 2, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 676 (three games), \$5,000.
- 3, Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, 205 (one game), \$3,500.
- 4, Verity Crawley, England, 460 (two games), \$2,500.
- 5, Jasmine Snell, Papillion, Neb., 202 (one game), \$2,000.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Crawley def. Snell, 246-202.  
Match No. 2 – Zavjalova def. Crawley, 235-214.  
Semifinal – Zavjalova def. Martin, 260-205.  
Championship – Johnson def. Zavjalova, 197-181.

**MATCH PLAY**

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

- 1, Caitlyn Johnson (n), Beaumont, Texas, 7-5-0, 5,932. 2, Jillian Martin (n), Stow, Ohio, 8-4-0, 5,883. 3, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 5-7-0, 5,871. 4, Verity Crawley, England, 7-5-0, 5,800. 5, Jasmine Snell (n), Papillion, Neb., 8-4-0, 5,799.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 6, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 8-4-0, 5,779, \$1,720. 7, Hui Fen New, Singapore, 5-7-0, 5,757, \$1,670. 8, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 4-8-0, 5,721, \$1,620. 9, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 5-7-0, 5,720, \$1,570. 10, Juliana Botero (n), Colombia, 6-6-0, 5,703, \$1,520. 11, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 5-7-0, 5,560, \$1,470. 12, Roberta Rodrigues (n), Brazil, 4-8-0, 5,535, \$1,420.

## **RICHARD LEADS AFTER FIRST ROUND AT 2023 PWBA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, averaged 237.75 and posted a 6-2 match-play record to lead the field Sunday night at the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour Championship.

Richard, who is the tournament's top seed largely due to the fact that she's the only bowler to have won three times on the PWBA Tour this season, finished her day at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center with a 2,082 total, which included 30 bonus pins for each victory in the round-robin format for the third and final major of the 2023 season.

Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York, who earned the 24th and final berth into the Tour Championship field, went 5-3 and recorded a 2,063 total to finish Round 1 in second place.

Defending champion Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California (1,981); Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan (1,980); and Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska (1,968), also are in the top five after the opening round.

All competitors will return to Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center for two more eight-game blocks of matches on Monday with rounds starting at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern.

At the conclusion of the final eight-game block, the top five bowlers, based on total pinfall and bonus pins, will advance to Tuesday's stepladder finals and compete for the \$50,000 top prize.

BowlTV.com will broadcast the final two match-play rounds, and the stepladder finals will air Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern live on CBS Sports Network.

Richard was happy with her opening-round performance, especially since it didn't get off to the smoothest of starts.

"I struggled early on during the first game because I wasn't seeing the picture clearly, but once I saw it, I dialed in and got to stay where I was comfortable," Richard said. "From that point forward, even when I changed pairs, I got to stay in the same part of the lane and didn't have to move very much."

That level of comfort allowed Richard to win her first four matches of the night with the streak only coming to an end when Ashly Galante of Palm Harbor, Florida, defeated Richard 300-222 in Game 5.

Richard rebounded quickly, however, picking up wins during each of the next two games before falling to Colombia's Maria Jose Rodriguez, 231-209, to end the night.

The loss in Game 8 didn't dampen Richard's spirits, however, as she knows that a 6-2 match-play record is more than respectable and that the 180 bonus pins she earned while authoring it are sure to come in handy as the race for the top five heats up on Monday.

"Winning matches is usually what ends up making the difference as the tournament goes on," Richard said. "When this many bonus pins are available, one extra win here or there can be huge, so I just want to keep trying win as many matches as I can to try to stay on top."

The Tour Championship is the final event of PWBA Championship Week – Waterloo, which included three events, the PWBA Waterloo Open, PWBA Pepsi Open and Tour Championship.

Latvia's Diana Zavjalova won the Waterloo Open on Thursday for her fifth PWBA Tour title, and Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, reached the winner's circle two days later, topping Zavjalova by a score of 197-181 on Saturday night to win the Pepsi Open.

## **MATCH PLAY**

### **(8 games, 30 bonus pins for a win, 15 bonus pins for a tie)**

1, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 6-2-0, 2,082. 2, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 5-3-0, 2,063. 3, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 5-3-0, 1,981. 4, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 5-3-0, 1,980. 5, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 5-3-0, 1,968. 6, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 5-3-0, 1,936.

7, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 4-4-0, 1,925. 8, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 5-3-0, 1,902. 9, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 3-5-0, 1,888. 10, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 4-3-1, 1,885. 11, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 5-3-0, 1,859. 12, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 4-4-0, 1,855.

13, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 5-3-0, 1,840. 14, (TIE) Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 5-3-0, and Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 4-4-0, 1,827. 16, Verity Crawley, England, 4-4-0, 1,808. 17, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 4-3-1, 1,775. 18, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 4-4-0, 1,773.

19, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 3-5-0, 1,769. 20, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 3-5-0, 1,762. 21, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 3-5-0, 1,741. 22, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 2-6-0, 1,706. 23, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 2-6-0, 1,663. 24, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 0-8-0, 1,634.

## **2018 CHAMPION RODRIGUEZ EARNS TOP SEED FOR STEPLADDER FINALS AT 2023 PWBA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Colombia's Maria Jose Rodriguez knows what it takes to be successful at the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour Championship.

After all, the 34-year-old right-hander won the event in 2018 to collect her second career PWBA Tour title and major – Rodriguez's first title came at the 2014 United States Bowling Congress Queens – and she finished third at last year's tournament at USA Bowl in Dallas.

As such, it should come as no surprise to learn that Rodriguez bested the 24-player field and worked her way to the top of the standings to earn the No. 1 seed for the stepladder finals at the 2023 Tour Championship at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center.

What may turn heads, however, is just how she did it.

Rodriguez went 4-4 and sat 12th after Sunday night's opening eight-game block of round-robin matches, but she flipped the script in a big way on Monday, going an incredible 14-2 to vault to the top of the leaderboard with a 24-game total of 6,055, which included 30 bonus for each match victory.

The victories came early and often on Monday, which was bound to happen given the fact that Rodriguez averaged 236.25 for her 16 games on the day. She broke 240 six times (254, 256, 244, 279, 247 and 245) and had a low game of 200.

She will be joined in the stepladder by Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan (6,011); Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan (5,959); Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska (5,758); and England's Verity Crawley (5,717).

All qualifiers for the Tour Championship bowled three eight-game rounds of match play Sunday and Monday at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center. Total pinfall for 24 games, including bonus pins for each victory in match play, determined the five finalists.

The stepladder finals will be Tuesday at 7 p.m. Eastern and broadcast live on CBS Sports Network. The winner will take home the \$50,000 top prize and third major of the 2023 season.

For as dominant as Rodriguez's 14-2 match-play mark was on Monday, she had her sights set even higher.

"I wanted to win 16," Rodriguez said. "It's not like I really had that in mind, but you always want to win matches. It's hard because things are different pair to pair, and it's a matter of whether you catch the other person when they're bowling well or not. Still, I always want to win."

And she did plenty of that on Monday, going 7-1 during each of the eight-game blocks and collecting 420 out of a possible 480 bonus pins available on the day.

Rodriguez was understandably pleased with Monday's performance as it demonstrated what can happen when a good game plan and terrific execution come together.

"You come with a mission, and you always want to lead the tournament," Rodriguez said. "You plan for your ball selection to work, and it's pretty cool when it does. The hardest part is over, and I'm happy so far; however, it's not over yet."

That's what the other four stepladder finalists will be telling themselves as well, and what a talented group of four it is that will try to unseat Rodriguez.

Kovalova led after two rounds of Tour Championship match play and is looking for her sixth title overall and second major; her first came back in 2019 when she defeated Malaysia's Li Jane Sin, 226-216, to win the USBC Queens.

Richard's stepladder finals appearance at the Tour Championship will be her sixth of the season, which is tops on the 2023 PWBA Tour. She's already won three times this year to run her career title count to five; however, she's yet to win a major, which is precisely what she'll be looking to change on Tuesday night.

McCarthy, on the other hand, has won a major as she was the 2022 U.S. Women's Open champion. She hasn't reached the winner's circle yet this season, but she's been close, finishing second to Richard at the 2023 PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open on May 13.

Crawley has had an up-and-down season, missing the cut at four tour stops but balancing it out by winning the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic – her second career PWBA Tour title – and making three additional stepladder finals appearances, including the Tour Championship.

Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, failed to make it to the Tour Championship stepladder finals, finishing 21st, but just by earning her way into the tournament, she locked up 2023 PWBA Rookie of the Year honors.

Richard took home Player of the Year after leading the 2023 PWBA Tour in wins (3), championship-round appearances (6) and PWBA Tour points. This marks Richard's first time earning the award; however, she was the 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year.

The Tour Championship was the third event of PWBA Championship Week - Waterloo. Latvia's Diana Zavjalova won the PWBA Waterloo Open on Thursday for her fifth PWBA Tour title, and Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, won the Pepsi Open on Saturday night to capture her first PWBA Tour tournament victory.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player must have been a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field was filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which was the Pepsi Open.

All Tour Championship competitors were seeded into the round-robin match play schedule according to their position on the season points list after the Pepsi Open.

Those 24 players bowled three eight-game rounds of round-robin matches on Sunday and Monday to determine the top five for the stepladder finals.

All rounds leading up to the CBS Sports Network broadcast were livestreamed at BowITV.com.

**2023 PWBA Tour Championship  
At Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center  
Waterloo, Iowa**

**Monday's results**

**MATCH PLAY**

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

1, Maria Jose Rodriguez, Colombia, 18-6-0, 6,055. 2, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Mich., 15-9-0, 6,011. 3, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Mich., 15-9-0, 5,959. 4, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Neb., 15-9-0, 5,758. 5, Verity Crawley, England, 15-9-0, 5,717.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

6, Bryanna Cote, Tucson, Ariz., 14-10-0, 5,708, \$7,250. 7, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 14-9-1, 5,702, \$6,250. 8, Lindsay Boomershine, Brigham City, Utah, 14-10-0, 5,689, \$5,500. 9, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, SC, 12-12-0, 5,633, \$5,000. 10, Stephanie Zavala, Downey, Calif., 13-11-0, 5,615, \$4,500. 11, Cherie Tan, Singapore, 14-9-1, 5,583, \$4,000. 12, Stefanie Johnson, McKinney, Texas, 10-14-0, 5,565, \$3,800. 13, Shannon Pluhowsky, Dayton, Ohio, 12-12-0, 5,518, \$3,600. 14, Birgit Noreiks, Germany, 11-13-0, 5,511, \$3,400. 15, Julia Bond, Aurora, IL, 8-14-2, 5,496, \$3,200. 16, Diana Zavjalova, Latvia, 11-13-0, 5,488, \$3,100. 17, Taylor Bulthuis, New Port Richey, Fla., 12-12-0, 5,444, \$3,000. 18, Liz Kuhlkin, Schenectady, N.Y., 8-15-1, 5,406, \$2,900. 19, Liz Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y., 12-12-0, 5,366, \$2,800. 20, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 11-13-0, 5,346, \$2,700. 21, Hope Gramly, Aubrey, Texas, 9-14-1, 5,256, \$2,650. 22, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 7-16-1, 5,213, \$2,600. 23, Ashly Galante, Palm Harbor, Fla., 8-15-1, 5,152, \$2,550. 24, Josie Barnes, Hermitage, Tenn., 6-18-0, 5,129, \$2,500.

## **RODRIGUEZ WINS 2023 PWBA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THIRD CAREER MAJOR TITLE**

**WATERLOO, Iowa** – Colombia's Maria José Rodriguez wants to win every tournament she enters, but she's willing to concede that majors mean a bit more.

In that case, every Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title Rodriguez has won to date must mean a lot to her because they've all been majors.

The 34-year-old right-hander's latest triumph came Tuesday night when she defeated Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, 234-200, to win the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship at Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center.

The stepladder finals were contested in front of a standing-room only crowd and broadcast live on CBS Sports Network.

The win gave Rodriguez her second Tour Championship crown – she won the 2018 event in Richmond, Virginia – and third major victory overall; her first came at the 2014 United States Bowling Congress Queens, which was held at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.

It also allowed her to take home the trophy and \$50,000 first-place check. Kovalova earned \$25,000 for her runner-up finish.

Rodriguez can't explain why things just seem to click for her at majors, but it's not something she's complaining about either.

"I think maybe I'm lucky that I've just won the majors," Rodriguez said. "I don't know why that's happened because, obviously, my goal is to win a regular event as well. You put more emphasis and preparation into the majors because they're cool to win, but I can't really explain why it's worked out that way."

One thing that was easy to explain was how Rodriguez reached the winner's circle Tuesday night; she simply did what she'd done all tournament long, which was to pepper the pocket and record lots of strikes.

After her opening shot of the championship match went high and left the 3-6-10, which she converted, Rodriguez got down to business, striking on her next five shots to grab a 16-pin lead over Kovalova at the halfway point.

Kovalova, a five-time PWBA Tour titlist and past major champion herself, did her best to hang tough, but a 2-4-8-10 split in the sixth and a pocket 7-10 in the seventh proved to be too much to overcome.

Rodriguez stayed clean, and by the time she stepped up to bowl her 10th frame, the title was already hers.

Even though Rodriguez already felt herself to have had a solid season, she had to admit that winning the season's final tournament, and major, was a nice way to close out the 2023 PWBA Tour campaign.

"Obviously, it was a good season because I won," Rodriguez said. "You always want to do better. I mean, I would've loved to have had Jordan's season – referring to 2023 PWBA Tour Player of the Year Jordan Richard – but I don't want to sound like I don't appreciate the season I had. I just have really high standards for myself."

Rodriguez's standards have always been high, but not too long ago, it was unclear whether or not it was even worth setting performance goals anymore because there was no guarantee she was going to be able to continue competing.

That's because a host of foot and ankle injuries had Rodriguez struggling to walk without pain let alone being able to bowl at an elite level.

There were moments when she questioned whether or not she'd ever make it back to competition strength, which is a fact that made Tuesday night's win even more special.

"I questioned every day whether or not I'd be able to do this again," Rodriguez said. "It's amazing that this has happened. A lot of people have come back from things like that, and a lot of people haven't, so you don't take anything for granted. It just feels awesome."

Kovalova earned her spot in the title match by taking down 2022 U.S. Women's Open champion Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, 211-173 in the semifinals.

That match was close until McCarthy was unable to convert a 1-2-4-6-10 washout in the seventh frame.

Nevertheless, despite failing to reach the winner's circle, McCarthy authored some of the night's most thrilling moments.

First, she defeated England's Verity Crawley 10-7 in a roll-off after the two finished Match 1 tied at 268.

Next, she converted a 3-4-6-7 split in the 10th frame of Match 2 to top Richard by a final score of 228-217. Richard was vying for her first career major title and fourth win of the season.

However, McCarthy's bid to run the stepladder was stopped one match later by Kovalova, which forced McCarthy to settle for a third-place finish and \$15,000.

Richard earned \$12,000 for placing fourth, while Crawley finished fifth and walked away with \$9,000.



The Tour Championship was the final event of the season-ending PWBA Championship Week – Waterloo, which featured three events – PWBA Waterloo Open, PWBA Pepsi Open and Tour Championship – and kicked off Wednesday with 85 athletes.

In order to qualify for the Tour Championship, a player had to be a current PWBA member in good standing and have won a National Tour title during the 2023 season. The remainder of the field was filled from the PWBA season points list through the most recent tournament preceding the Tour Championship, which was the Pepsi Open.

The Tour Championship consisted of three eight-game rounds of match play Sunday and Monday. Total pinfall for 24 games, including bonus pins for each victory in match play, determined the five finalists for Tuesday's championship round.

Latvia's Diana Zavjalova won the Waterloo Open on Thursday for her first title of the 2023 season and fifth career title. Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas, won the Pepsi Open Saturday night to claim her first PWBA Tour tournament victory.

The 2023 PWBA Tour schedule featured 12 events during the season and began in May at the PWBA Stockton Open at Pacific Avenue Bowl in Stockton, California.

Richard was the only player to win multiple titles during the season, reaching the winner's circle three times – PWBA GoBowling! Spokane Open; PWBA Great Lakes Classic; PWBA Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open – while Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, collected her first major at the USBC Queens.

Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas, won PWBA Rookie of the Year for the 2023 season. She secured the postseason honor after accumulating enough points to qualify for the Tour Championship.

## **2023 PWBA Tour Championship At Cadillac Xtreme Bowling Center Waterloo, Iowa**

### **Tuesday's results**

#### **FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Maria José Rodriguez, Colombia, 234 (one game), \$50,000.
- 2, Dasha Kovalova, Muskegon, Michigan, 411 (two games), \$25,000.
- 3, Erin McCarthy, Elkhorn, Nebraska, 669 (three games), \$15,000.
- 4, Jordan Richard, Tipton, Michigan, 217 (one game), \$12,000.
- 5, Verity Crawley, England, 268 (one game), \$9,000.

## **STEPLADDER RESULTS**

Match No. 1 – McCarthy def. Crawley, 268(10)-268(6).

Match No. 2 – McCarthy def. Richard, 228-217.

Semifinal – Kovalova def. McCarthy, 211-173.

Championship – Rodriguez def. Kovalova, 234-200.

## **PWBA RELEASES COMPLETE 2024 REGIONAL SCHEDULE**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – Professional Women’s Bowling Association members and aspiring female bowlers looking to try their hand at professional competition now know where and when they’ll have the opportunity to compete next season as the 2024 PWBA Regional schedule has been released.

The 10-event regional season will kick off with the Myrtle Beach Regional, which will be contested at Myrtle Beach Bowl in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on Jan. 21, and it will wrap up with the 2024 PWBA Regional Showdown, which will take place at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida, from Dec. 5-7.

“The PWBA Regional program continues to provide aspiring female bowlers with a golden opportunity to test the waters in professional competition before making the leap to bowling full time on the PWBA National Tour,” PWBA Players Committee Chairperson Bryanna Coté said. “Many successful up-and-coming players cut their teeth by bowling regionals first. The 2024 PWBA Regional schedule will allow that pipeline to continue and ensure the bright future of the PWBA Tour for years to come.”

The PWBA Regional Tour will contest tournaments in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Ohio, Colorado and New York during the 2024 regional season, visiting a combination of past tournament sites and first-time hosts.

Returning host centers on the 2024 schedule include ABC Gates Bowl, Aloma Bowl, The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley, East Providence Lanes, Highland Park Lanes and Yorktown Lanes, while Myrtle Beach Bowl, Sooner Bowling Center, Steel City Bowl & Brews and Victory Lanes will be welcoming PWBA action for the first time.

Operating events in so many states means that female bowlers from all across the country will have the opportunity to experience PWBA competition.

Those bowlers will be hoping to emerge from those events with titles in order to earn their way into the Regional Showdown, which will serve as the official end to the 2024 PWBA Tour season.

Each regional champion will automatically be seeded for match play at the Regional Showdown. The remaining spots in the 16-person field will be awarded based on the results of an eight-game qualifying round that will be open to all PWBA Regional-eligible bowlers.

The top 16 players will compete in round-robin match play before the field is cut to the final four bowlers for the stepladder finals.

Every player who qualifies for match play will cash at the Regional Showdown. If the number of entries is high enough, additional cash spots outside the top 16 will be paid at a ratio of 1:3 as is done for PWBA National Tour prize funds.

The winner of the 2024 Regional Showdown will not only receive a cash prize, but she will also have her entry fees covered for all 2025 PWBA National Tour singles events as well.

To be eligible to enter a PWBA Regional event, a female competitor must average at least 180. PWBA Tour national champions, regardless of membership status at the time of their win, will not be eligible to compete in any PWBA Regional event.

These one-day tournaments feature eight games of qualifying followed by a cut to the top four for the stepladder finals. This format and the reduced entry fees charged at regional events allow players to keep costs down by making it possible to compete without having to stay in the host city for multiple days and incur lodging expenses.

The cost to enter a PWBA Regional event is \$100 for a member and \$150 for a non-member.

### **2024 PWBA REGIONAL SCHEDULE**

**With dates, event, center, location and broadcast channel (subject to change):**

- **Jan. 21, PWBA Myrtle Beach Regional, Myrtle Beach Bowl, Myrtle Beach, S.C., BowITV**
- **Feb. 4, PWBA Mooresville Regional, Victory Lanes, Mooresville, N.C., BowITV**
- **March 9, PWBA Eastern Pennsylvania Regional, Steel City Bowl & Brews, Bethlehem, Pa., BowITV**
- **April 20, PWBA Rhode Island Regional, East Providence Lanes, East Providence, R.I., BowITV**
- **July 14, PWBA Oklahoma Regional, Sooner Bowling Center, Norman, Okla., BowITV**
- **Aug. 24, PWBA Green Bay Regional, The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley, Green Bay, Wis., BowITV**
- **Sept. 15, PWBA Cleveland Regional, Yorktown Lanes, Parma Heights, Ohio, BowITV**
- **Oct. 26, PWBA Northern Colorado Regional, Highland Park Lanes, Greeley, Colo., BowITV**
- **Nov. 3, PWBA Rochester Regional, ABC Gates Bowl, Rochester, N.Y., BowITV**
- **Dec. 5-7, PWBA Regional Showdown, Aloma Bowl, Winter Park, Fla., BowITV**

**Athletes will be able to purchase their 2024 PWBA memberships starting January 2024.**

### **MACLEOD WINS 2023 PWBA ROCKFORD REGIONAL FOR FIRST PWBA TOURNAMENT VICTORY**

**ROCKFORD, Illinois** – Amber MacLeod of Conway, South Carolina, topped Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois, 289-209, on Sunday to win the 2023 Professional Women's Bowling Association Rockford Regional at The Cherry Bowl.

The win earned MacLeod her first PWBA tournament victory, the \$2,000 first-place prize and an automatic berth into the match-play portion of the season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown, which will be held at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida, from Dec. 7-9.

The 27-year-old right-hander planned on bowling the Regional Showdown all along, but she figured she'd have to battle her way through qualifying if she hoped to reach the final 16.

That's no longer the case, however, as Sunday's win in Rockford, which was broadcast live on BowlTV, allowed MacLeod to add her name to the list of 2023 regional champions who will automatically be seeded for match play at the Regional Showdown.

"It's crazy that I'm already in the match-play portion of the Regional Showdown now," MacLeod said. "I don't even know how to put the value of that into words other than to say that I'm grateful."

MacLeod more than proved that she deserved the spot, however, as she was stellar throughout Sunday's competition.

She earned the top seed for the stepladder finals by leading the 75-player field with an eight-game qualifying score of 1,761 (a 220.13 average), which included games of 246, 267, 208, 204, 235, 215, 202 and 184.

MacLeod saved her best for last, however, using a 10-bagger in frames two through 11 to put up 289 – the highest game of the tournament – in the title match against Brandolino.

Some spectators may have been surprised to see such a big number during the title tilt, but MacLeod knew the potential was there all along.

"I had a good look the first two games of qualifying this morning, so, honestly, I knew 280 was going to be out there during the stepladder as well," MacLeod said. "I made a good ball choice, had some miss room and just made good shots. The only thing that was different was that I did more breathing during the title match."

Brandolino, a Junior Team USA member and the tournament's youngest competitor at just 16 years old, did her best to do her own breathing, as in breathing down MacLeod's neck.

The young right-hander shook off a 2-10 split and open in the second frame by striking on six of her next seven shots, which allowed her to keep MacLeod within striking distance as the final frames drew near.

Nevertheless, MacLeod just wouldn't let up, and when she struck in the ninth frame to run her string to eight in a row, it was clear that Brandolino wouldn't be collecting her first PWBA win on this day.

Instead, she walked away with a second-place finish and \$1,000 in scholarship money.

MacLeod, meanwhile, took the winner's check and the added confidence that comes with knowing that she has what it takes to win at the professional level.

"I work six days a week as a physical therapist and waitress, and I'm saving to buy a house, which means being out here bowling full time isn't really an option for me right now," MacLeod said. "It's nice to know that I'm still able to keep up with everybody out here. Honestly, it's surreal."

What's even more surreal is the fact that if MacLeod were to win the Regional Showdown, she wouldn't just have the opportunity to bowl more regional events; she'd be able to take a shot at the national level by competing full time on the PWBA Tour.

That's because the winner of the 2023 Regional Showdown will not only receive a cash prize, but she will also have her entry fees covered for all 2024 PWBA National Tour singles events as well.

Still, MacLeod wasn't looking that far ahead in the moments following Sunday's victory; instead, she was trying to enjoy the moment.

"I still have no words for this right now other than to say that it's amazing," MacLeod said. "I don't really look at the scores too closely when I bowl, so it wasn't until around the eighth frame that I knew I was going to win."

"I've felt really good physically for the last few months, so it's great to see it finally pay off. I've wanted this for a very long time."

So did Brandolino, but the 2023 Junior Gold Championships 18-and-Under division girls' national champion will have to wait at least a little bit longer.

Brandolino earned her shot at MacLeod by topping Jessica Earnest of Hermitage, Tennessee, 238-210, in the semifinals, which forced Earnest to settle for third place and \$800.

One match earlier, Earnest kicked off the stepladder by defeating No. 3 seed Kayla Pashina of Otsego, Minnesota, by a final score of 218-183. The fourth-place finish earned Pashina \$600.

The next PWBA Regional event will be Sept. 24 at the PWBA Twin Cities Regional. The tournament will be held at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan, Minnesota.

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

**2023 PWBA Rockford Regional  
At The Cherry Bowl  
Rockford, Illinois**

**Sunday's results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Amber MacLeod, Conway, S.C., 289 (one game), \$2,000.
- 2, Gianna Brandolino, Channahon, Ill., 447 (two games), \$1,000.
- 3, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 428 (two games), \$800.
- 4, Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 183 (one game), \$600.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

- Match No. 1 – Earnest def. Pashina, 218-183.  
Semifinal – Brandolino def. Earnest, 238-210.  
Championship – MacLeod def. Brandolino, 289-209.

**QUALIFYING  
(8 games)**

- 1, Amber MacLeod (n), Conway, S.C., 1,761. 2, Gianna Brandolino (n), Channahon, Ill., 1,755. 3, Kayla Pashina, Otsego, Minn., 1,737. 4, Jessica Earnest, Hermitage, Tenn., 1,728.

**DID NOT ADVANCE**

- 5, Sagirah Wheeler (n), Baltimore, Md., 1,715, \$400. 6, Stephanie Schwartz, Racine, Wis., 1,709, \$370.  
7, Dana File, Camby, Ind., 1,706, \$365. 8, Olivia Komorowski, Oshkosh, Wis., 1,703, \$360. 9, Mallory Clark, Lewiston, Maine, 1,687, \$355. 10, Victoria Giardina (n), Shelby Twp, Mich., 1,684, \$350. 11, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 1,677, \$345. 12, Angel West (n), Huber Heights, Ohio, 1,675, \$340.  
13, Terysa Wojnar (n), New Lenox, Ill., 1,666, \$335. 14, Megan Buja (n), Rockford, Ill., 1,659, \$330. 15, Chloe Siezega (n), Lockport, Ill., 1,642, \$325. 16, (TIE) Mary Conneely (n), Des Plaines, Ill., and Marissa Allison, Painesville, Ohio, and Samantha Kelly (n), Racine, Wis., 1,634, \$315.  
19, Shannon Grimm, Fenton, Mo., 1,631, \$305. 20, Amanda Warwick (n), Swansea, Ill., 1,629, \$300. 21, Jenny Applewhite (n), Kokomo, Ind., 1,628, \$295. 22, Kelly Whipple (n), Sheboygan, Wis., 1,619, \$290. 23, Rachel Nelson (n), Poplar Grove, Ill., 1,611, \$285. 24, Megan Ashley (n), Miamisburg, Ohio, 1,608, \$280.  
25, (TIE) Samantha Knight, Kalamazoo, Mich., and Serenity Quintero (n), Aurora, Ill., 1,607, \$138. 27, Carly Kenney (n), Greenwood, Mo., 1,602. 28, Chelsey Klingler, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,596. 29, Sue Cabello (n), Rockford, Ill., 1,580. 30, (TIE) Rogue Foppe (n), Illinois, Ill., and Kimberly Jensen (n), Rockford, Ill., 1,568.  
32, Giselle Poss, Montgomery, Ill., 1,565. 33, Natalie Heltne (n), O'Fallon, Ill., 1,562. 34, (TIE) Jacqueline Evans (n), Greenacres, Fla., and Summer Jasmin, Beckley, W.

Va., 1,561. 36, Sue Walter (n), Ringle, Wis., 1,560.

37, Rochelle Blake (n), Buffalo Grove, Ill., 1,552. 38, Tamera Stanton (n), Baltimore, Md., 1,549. 39, Bailey Delrose (n), Crest Hill, Ill., 1,546. 40, Elizabeth Payeur (n), Ann Arbor, Mich., 1,529. 41, Kayla Crawford, Ossian, Ind., 1,528. 42, (TIE) Gracie Wyatt (n), Cynthiana, Ky., and Brianna Andrew, Grand Rapids, Mich., 1,526.

44, Gabrielle Silva (n), Lindenhurst, Ill., 1,521. 45, Alyssa Pierson (n), Waukesha, Wis., 1,520. 46, Maryssa Carey (n), Hobart, Ind., 1,518. 47, Courtney Burris (n), Columbus, Ohio, 1,516. 48, Jenny Wonders (n), Roscoe, Ill., 1,505.

49, Lindsey Siegel (n), Buffalo Grove, Ill., 1,502. 50, Melanie McDaniel, Joliet, Ill., 1,501. 51, Jennifer Mauerman (n), Tremont, Ill., 1,497. 52, Sasha Uchwal (n), Lawrenceburg, Ky., 1,495. 53, (TIE) Sandra Toole, Galesburg, Mich., and Linda Burns (n), Indianapolis, Ind., 1,485.

55, Rebecca Gresko (n), Inverness, Ill., 1,479. 56, Brooke Allen, Potosi, Wis., 1,461. 57, Jen Medon (n), Darien, Ill., 1,459. 58, Olivia Clark, Jackson, Mich., 1,458. 59, Margaret Ventrella (n), Lagrange Park, Ill., 1,454. 60, Adrienne Kissane, Anderson, Ind., 1,453.

61, Wendy Mann, South Elgin, Ill., 1,441. 62, Karsyn Biondo (n), Mount Prospect, Ill., 1,437. 63, Taylor Ellison (n), Richton Park, Ill., 1,434. 64, Lauren Sellers (n), Creve Coeur, Ill., 1,428. 65, Kathryn Montgomery (n), Aberdeen, Md., 1,423. 66, Maria Kreke, Berea, Ohio, 1,403.

67, Afton Lords (n), Herriman, Utah, 1,398. 68, Brigitte Jacobs (n), Rockford, Ill., 1,395. 69, Allison Stump (n), Whitestown, Ind., 1,393. 70, Alexis Cloud (n), Cleveland, Ohio, 1,381. 71, Allyson Lakota (n), Shorewood, Ill., 1,361. 72, Danielle Young (n), Loves Park, Ill., 1,356.

73, Victoria Catarozoli (n), Eagle, Wis., 1,329. 74, Kylie Wright (n), Cuba City, Wis., 1,278. 75, Lisa Burlile (n), independence, Mo., 1,236.

## **COLLEGIATE STANDOUT GRAMLY WINS 2023 PWBA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – Some rookies are relatively unknown when they begin competing on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour.

That wasn’t the case for Hope Gramly of Aubrey, Texas.

On the contrary, the 23-year-old right-hander was already on the radar of most PWBA bowlers and fans long before she ever threw her first shot as a professional.

That’s not surprising since Gramly made two stepladder finals appearances while competing as a non-member during the 2022 PWBA Tour season and authored one of the most decorated collegiate bowling careers in recent memory.

With so much success already under her belt, big things were expected of Gramly during her rookie season, and she didn’t disappoint, notching four top-10 finishes –

including three stepladder finals appearances – and cashing eight times in 11 events en route to capturing 2023 PWBA Rookie of the Year honors.

The PWBA Rookie of the Year award is presented to the top rookie each season, based on points earned during the year.

Gramly wasted no time setting the bar among rookies once the 2023 PWBA Tour season kicked off in May, finishing in a tie for 14th place at the season-opening PWBA Stockton Open and following it up with a stepladder finals appearance and eventual fourth-place finish the following week at the GoBowling! Spokane Open.

She missed the cut at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens in Las Vegas during Week 3, but she bounced back strong by reaching the stepladder finals at each of the next two tournaments – the PWBA Grand Rapids Classic and BowlTV Classic – and collecting two more fourth-place finishes.

The three-time National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) Division II Player of the Year's last top-10 finish of the season would come at the PWBA Waterloo Open in August, and it was a big one as it punched Gramly's ticket to the 2023 PWBA Tour Championship and officially secured her rookie-of-the-year honors.

Carlene Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin, was second in points among rookies; Correen Acuff of Surprise, Arizona, finished third.

Gramly didn't have the award on her mind when the season began; nevertheless, winning it was an accomplishment she certainly won't take for granted.

"I'm honored to now be included on the list of great bowlers who have won rookie of the year," Gramly said. "It wasn't really a goal of mine throughout the season, but it was still an amazing feeling once it was officially announced, and Robyn (PWBA Brand Manager Robyn Graves) handed me that trophy."

Gramly got to hold her fair share of trophies while helping McKendree University to national titles at the 2022 NCAA Bowling Championship and the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships.

But while she will always cherish the memories of winning with her teammates, there is just something different about reaching the top as an individual competitor.

"Those national championships were a team effort, and they're something that I'll always be proud of and brag about as long as I'm able to," Gramly said. "But I'll never take credit for those myself because I had my girls there with me."

"Winning rookie of the year is finally something I can say 'It was me; I did this.' Of course, I had help from my ball reps, my parents and many others, but they couldn't



throw the ball for me. This is really my first individual award in a while that I'm very proud of, so that puts it right at the top of my list of what I've accomplished so far."

Gramly wants to accomplish a great deal more in the years to come, and she knows that she'll have to keep her foot on the gas in order to do so because bowling timidly is the quickest way to get lapped on the PWBA Tour.

"One of the things I learned at the first couple of stops is that I have to be aggressive with my moves on the lane so that I can keep up and keep my name toward the top of the standings," Gramly said. "In college, it was easy to be more conservative and wait for the lanes to come to me. On tour, you don't really have that luxury and time, so you have to go after those pins rather than waiting."

Another valuable lesson Gramly picked up during her rookie season was that for as fierce as the competition gets on tour, the friendships are equally intense.

"I knew a lot of the ladies were good friends because they spend so much time traveling and bowling together, but I didn't really realize how deep those friendships went until we got to the Tour Championship," Gramly said. "Most of these ladies want their friends to succeed just as much as they want to be successful themselves, and that's the attitude I want my competitors to see in me even more next year; I want them to know that I want them to bowl their best even if it's against me."

Gramly was able to lean upon some close friends of her own while navigating her first professional season.

She gave particular credit to her tour roommate, 2022 PWBA Rookie of the Year Olivia Farwell of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, and three-time PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, who in addition to being a fellow competitor was Gramly's collegiate coach at McKendree.

According to Gramly, the duo's support and that of her parents, ball reps and friends helped make sure the pressure didn't outweigh the pleasure during her first year on tour.

That pressure is likely to climb even higher next season since, as reigning rookie of the year, Gramly will have to contend with the elevated expectations that come with being one of the PWBA Tour's marquee players.

"I've wanted to be on tour since fifth grade, and there wasn't even a tour to be on back then," Gramly said. "So, to be out here competing week in and week out with these ladies is a dream come true.

"To be considered among the best and have my name mentioned as someone who can win any week of the season is a little intimidating because I still want it to be fun and not put too much pressure or big expectations on myself. It's an honor to be talked about in

the same breath as these ladies, but I just have to stick to what I do and keep my head down.”

Having the proper mindset will be crucial in that regard, and that’s something Gramly thinks is important for any up-and-coming players who aspire to compete on the PWBA Tour.

“If I were talking to someone who wants to be on tour in the future, I would tell them that bowling is very hard and that there are going to be bad days where you have to stay patient,” Gramly said. “Even if you don’t win a title or do anything great in your mind, that doesn’t mean it’s not coming. Believe in yourself, believe in all the people who are behind you and you’ll achieve your goals eventually.”

## **RICHARD USES BREAKOUT SEASON TO WIN 2023 PWBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** – Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, has been a well-known and well-respected competitor on the Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour ever since her rookie season in 2018.

It’s easy to understand why as Richard made her presence felt almost immediately during her debut campaign, winning a title – the 2018 PWBA Greater Harrisburg Open – and walking away with 2018 PWBA Rookie of the Year honors.

Richard reached the winner’s circle again during her sophomore season – at the 2019 PWBA Lincoln Open – and put her name at or near the top of the standings at multiple PWBA Tour stops and international competitions with Team USA during the 2021 and 2022 seasons – the 2020 PWBA Tour season was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As such, had you asked PWBA fans to name possible player of the year candidates prior to the start of the 2023 season, it’s likely that Richard’s name would have come up.

Nevertheless, it would have been hard for anyone, herself included, to predict just how dominant the 27-year-old right-hander would be during her fifth year on tour.

Dominant is precisely what Richard was this season, however, as she led the tour in wins (3), stepladder finals appearances (6), average (219.69), cashes (11) and perfect games (3), which allowed her to emerge as the 2023 PWBA Player of the Year.

Latvia's Diana Zavjalova – winner of the 2023 Waterloo Open – finished second while 2023 United States Bowling Congress Queens champion Lindsay Boomershine of Brigham City, Utah, was third.

The accomplishment allowed Richard to become just the fourth player in PWBA history to win both rookie of the year and player of the year honors, joining USBC Hall of Famers Anne Marie Duggan, Wendy Macpherson and Liz Johnson.

Days after securing this year's player of the year award, it was hard for Richard to express how it felt to be joining such hallowed company.

"It hasn't fully sunk in yet, and I don't think it will for a while," Richard said. "Player of the year is something that everybody dreams about and wants to win in their career, but some of the greatest players in our sport have never won it.

"At the Tour Championship, they have a wall that lists the names of every player who has won player of the year. To think that my name will now be up there forever is surreal; it's really an honor."

It's an honor that was certainly well-deserved as Richard established herself as the player to beat from the very first week of the 2023 season.

She opened the year with a second-place finish to Singapore's Cherie Tan at the season-opening PWBA Stockton Open.

One week later, Richard reached the top of the podium by defeating 2022 U.S. Women's Open champion Erin McCarthy of Elkhorn, Nebraska, 234-153, to win the GoBowling! Spokane Open.

After a disappointing tie for 49th place at the USBC Queens, the season's first major, Richard bounced back by finishing tied for 14th at the Grand Rapids Classic and eighth at the BowITV Classic.

Those finishes were just a precursor to Richard's best stretch of the year, however, as she would win the Great Lakes Classic (241-171 over England's Verity Crawley) on June 6 and the Bowlers Journal Cleveland Open (247-219 over Stefanie Johnson of McKinney, Texas) just four days later to collect her third title in the first seven events of the 2023 PWBA Tour season.

Richard followed that magical run with a ninth-place finish at the U.S. Women's Open before the tour took a scheduled break from June 20-July 27.

The layoff did little to halt Richard's momentum, however, as once action resumed, she recorded top-10 finishes at three of the last four events of the season, including stepladder finals appearances at the Waterloo Open, where she finished third, and the Tour Championship, where she took fourth.

Richard's performance at the Waterloo Open included back-to-back perfect games, which came during Game 5 and Game 6 of qualifying.

That gave Richard three 300s for the season, which moved her ahead of Ashly Galante of Palm Harbor, Florida; Caitlyn Johnson of Beaumont, Texas; and Zavjalova, all of whom had two.

However, as impressive as Richard's consecutive perfect games in Waterloo were, her first 300 of the season was actually the one that meant the most to her.

That one came during Game 6 of qualifying at the Cleveland Open, just three games after she carded a season-low score of 124.

"The 300 in Cleveland was really important because it got me back into the tournament, but it also helped me prove to myself that I can do anything," Richard said. "To have such a bad game like that and then turn around a couple games later and shoot 300 meant a lot because it showed me what I can overcome; that was definitely one of the highlights of my season."

While that highlight demonstrated Richard's ability to battle through adversity, the majority of the 2023 season was simply a display of stellar bowling on her part.

So that begs the question: how was Richard able to be so strong so consistently this season?

While outstanding execution was certainly on one side of the equation, she pointed to factors outside the bowling center as contributing heavily to the other.

"Moving home grounded me a little bit more and had me focusing more on the things I was doing in my life instead of everybody else's life, so that helped," Richard said. "I was more level-headed this year."

"It sounds silly, but I really just tried focusing more on the baby steps. I started to realize that I can't win the tournament in one game, so I just looked at making the first cut and then making the second cut. Once I started doing that instead of trying to be at the top every time, I started accomplishing more because I wasn't putting pressure on myself to be at the top constantly."

But the top is precisely where Richard found herself more often than not throughout the season, and since that was the case, that's exactly where fans and fellow competitors will expect her to be moving forward.

Richard would certainly like to live up to those expectations; however, she knows how difficult it is to win week in and week out on the PWBA Tour. As such, she will be careful not to put any undue pressure upon herself during the 2024 season and beyond.

“Now that I’ve won player of the year, that’s where I want to set the bar going forward, but I have to be realistic with myself,” Richard said. “I would like to win three titles every year and be at the top every week, but is that realistic? Probably not. There are so many great players on tour, and the same players don’t usually win all the time. That being said, this year proved to me that I’m capable of being at the top and can do just as much as anybody else can.”

That’s something Richard’s family has always known about her, and that’s part of the reason why they’ve supported her so enthusiastically throughout her bowling career.

That support is not something Richard takes for granted.

“I want to dedicate this year to my family,” Richard said. “Ever since my brother Matt passed away, we’ve been trying to fill that void in our lives, and nobody really knows what that’s like unless they’ve been through it. So, this season was for them and the hardships that we face every day. We’ve always been a close-knit family, and they’ve always been the ones who have pushed me. Even on their weakest days, they still stand by my side. I dedicate this to them.”

## **SMITH ENDS DOMINANT DAY WITH 2023 PWBA TWIN CITIES REGIONAL WIN**

**EAGAN, Minn.** – Brittany Smith of Van Meter, Iowa, took home the 2023 PWBA Twin Cities Regional title with a 196-183 victory over Tamera Stanton at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan, Minnesota, on Sunday.

Smith led all bowlers during qualifying, rolling an eight-game block of 1,846 thanks to games of 244, 200, 210, 234, 246, 222, 223 and 267.

That effort was made more impressive by the fact that Sunday’s challenging 39-foot oil pattern only allowed eight players to average over 200 for the eight-game qualifying block.

Smith, meanwhile, finished qualifying with an average just under 231 and a low game of 200 to lead the field by more than 150 pins and easily capture the top seed for the stepladder finals.

Joining Smith in the stepladder were Stanton, Alexis Runk of Milton, Pennsylvania, and Summer Jasmin of Beckley, West Virginia.

Despite the low scoring pace during qualifying, the stepladder’s first match between Jasmin and Runk was high-scoring affair that Jasmin won by a final score of 248-226.

Runk took \$550 for finishing fourth.

The win allowed Jasmin to advance to the semifinals to face Stanton.

Scores were lower during that match as Stanton took advantage of an open frame in the 10th by Jasmin to win 210-191. The victory moved Stanton to the title bout while forcing Jasmin to settle for third place and \$650.

The final match was a grind as splits and poor pin carry kept both Stanton and Smith from gaining any momentum.

It didn't take long for the aforementioned splits to occur as Stanton left a 7-10 in the first frame, and Smith left one of her own shortly thereafter in the fifth.

The left lane was the main obstacle for the competitors, showing signs of transition that kept both bowlers guessing; nevertheless, by the fifth frame, Smith held a 12 pin lead.

Stanton tried to cut into the advantage by throwing the match's only double in frames six and seven.

Undaunted, Smith stayed focused on her game and what the lanes were doing, and that's when she made the adjustment that would ultimately lead her to the winner's circle.

"By that time, there was a big puddle in the middle of the left lane, and I tried to get around it, which caused the ball to read early," Smith said. "I moved back right to go through the puddle. It took four frames to figure it out, but it was the right move."

Although the move was a good one, Smith chopped a 3-6 conversion attempt to give Stanton an opportunity to take control of the match.

She couldn't quite capitalize on the opening, however, going light in both the eighth and ninth frames, leaving the 2 pin and 2-8 combination.

Stanton successfully converted both spares, which meant she could still force Smith to double by striking out in the 10th frame.

She collected the first strike, but her second delivery left the 10 pin, which she spared to end with a final score of 183.

That meant that Smith only needed a strike and eight pins to seal the victory.

Smith did not one but two better by striking on all three shots to shoot 196 and take home the win.

"There's really no words for it; it's like getting the monkey off your back after being back in competition for only a little bit now," said Smith, who had taken a three-year hiatus

from bowling to focus on starting a family with her wife, Sarah. “It means a lot to have my family here with me; my kids are everything to me.”

Her grandfather is another big supporter of hers.

“He never misses a tournament, big or small, but he’s visiting family in Texas right now, so, of course, the one he misses, I win,” Smith joked.

Smith took home \$1,600, the trophy, and an automatic berth in the match-play portion of the PWBA Regional Showdown, which will happen Dec. 7-9 at Aloma Bowl in Winter Park, Florida.

Stanton took home \$800 for finishing second.

With her Regional Showdown berth locked up now, Smith has her sights set on making a run at the title as the winner of the Regional Showdown will have all of their entry fees covered for 2024 PWBA National Tour stops.

The next PWBA Regional stop will be the PWBA Northern Colorado Regional on Nov. 11 at Highland Park Lanes in Greeley, Colorado.

For more information on PWBA Regional competition, visit [PWBA.com/Regionals](http://PWBA.com/Regionals).

**2023 PWBA Twin Cities Regional  
At Cedarvale Lanes  
Eagan, Minnesota  
Sunday’s results**

**FINAL STANDINGS**

- 1, Brittany Smith, Van Meter, Iowa, 196 (one game), \$1,600.
- 2, Tamera Stanton, Baltimore, 393 (two games), \$800.
- 3, Summer Jasmine, Beckley, West Va., 439 (two games), \$650.
- 4, Alexis Runk, Milton, Pa., 226 (one game), \$550.

**STEPLADDER RESULTS**

Match No. 1 – Jasmine def. Runk, 248-226.  
Semifinal – Stanton def. Jasmine, 210-191.  
Championship – Smith def. Stanton, 196-183.