

PWBA OPENS REGISTRATION FOR FIRST FOUR EVENTS; NEW MEMBER BENEFITS, FORMAT IN 2020

ARLINGTON, Texas – Registration for the first four events on the 2020 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule, including the 2020 United States Bowling Congress Queens, now are open along with PWBA member registration, which has added benefits in 2020.

The 2020 PWBA Tour kicks off with three events in the western United States, starting April 23 with the PWBA Tucson Open at Lucky Strike Bowl in Tucson, Arizona. It will mark the second consecutive year the tour makes a stop in Tucson, though in a different center.

The tour makes its first visit to Washington in more than 30 years for the PWBA Spokane Open at Lilac Lanes and Casino, April 30 through May 2, before a return to Steve Cook's Fireside Lanes in Sacramento, California, for the PWBA Sacramento Open on May 7-9.

The USBC Queens, the first major of the season, is set for May 13-19 at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas, site of the 2020 USBC Women's Championships.

PWBA members will have added benefits in 2020, including special offers on bowling balls from PWBA partners. Additional benefits include \$100 entry-fee discount and priority entry to PWBA Standard events, a 30-percent discount on [ShopPWBA](#) merchandise, discounted practice rates at official PWBA Practice Centers, and much more.

PWBA membership is available to any woman who has a bowling average of 190 or higher in a USBC certified league. Bowlers who want to compete in a PWBA Regional event must have a 180 or higher average.

The PWBA format for standard events in 2020 will have 12 games of qualifying (two six-game rounds) before the field is cut to the top 32. Another six-game round will determine the top 12, who will bowl six more games to determine the top four for the stepladder finals. Last season, qualifying rounds consisted of eight games.

Visit [PWBA.com](#) for more information on events, including member and tournament registration.

DORIN-BALLARD, GIANOTTI, BUCKNER ELECTED TO PWBA HALL OF FAME

ARLINGTON, Texas – Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Carol Gianotti and Pam Buckner will form the 2020 Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) Hall of Fame Class, following their election by the PWBA Hall of Fame committee.

All three players were selected in the Performance category.

The 2020 PWBA Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place May 13 in Las Vegas, in conjunction with the 2020 United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Queens, a major event on the PWBA Tour. Details on the ceremony will be announced later.

Dorin-Ballard, 55, of Keller, Texas, captured 20 PWBA titles from 1991 through 2003, including the 2001 USBC Queens. She was the 2001 PWBA Player of the Year after winning a record-tying seven

titles (Patty Costello, 1976). She tied or broke 11 PWBA records that season, setting the record for most TV appearances in a season with 18.

Her 20 PWBA titles is tied for seventh on the PWBA all-time titles list with 2019 PWBA Hall of Fame inductee Wendy Macpherson.

“It’s the icing on the cake for my career,” Dorin-Ballard said. “It’s something I hoped I would be eligible for one day and be most fortunate to get there. But it’s funny because when I bowled, I never really thought about hall of fames and I never thought about the money.

“I always just wanted to win. I always wanted to be the best. I didn’t care what the trophy looked like and I didn’t care what the check was. As I progressed in my career, you get to a certain point and you say, ‘Wow, I got there.’ I met a goal that I had as a little girl.”

Dorin-Ballard was selected to the Bowlers Journal International All-American Team 14 times in her career, including 10 selections to the first team. She also was named the Bowlers Journal International Female Player of the Decade (2000s) and the first woman to be named the publication’s Person of the Year (2001).

In 2001 and 2003, she led the PWBA in earnings and average and was named the International Bowling Media Association Female Bowler of the Year.

Dorin-Ballard was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2008.

Gianotti, 52, 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.

“I’m very grateful and very honored,” Gianotti said. “It’s a dream come true for me because that’s where it all started. I feel very over-whelmed and it tops off my career. I’m looking forward to the night and sharing it with the other inductees.”

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 was named the 1998 International Bowling Media Association (IBMA) Female Bowler of the Year, the 1998 Bowling Digest Female Pro Bowler of the Year and was selected to the Bowlers Journal All-American Team 12 times, including four times as a first-team selection.

She represented Australia at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Bowling Exhibition and is a multi-time member of Team Australia.

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

Buckner, 73, of Reno, Nevada, won her first PWBA title at the 1975 PWBA Championships, and picked up her second major championship at the 1976 USBC Queens. She won seven total PWBA titles between 1975 and 1980.

“It’s an honor,” Buckner said. “It means everything. As an athlete, you go out, you work hard and do the best that you can and that’s the highest honor in my estimation that any athlete can receive. I’m totally elated, very honored and very blessed to be elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame.”

Along with her two major titles, Buckner owns nine career PWBA 300 games, four PWBA 800 series awards, and averaged a career-high 214.5 in 1980. At the 1980 Stroh’s Light Classic, Buckner tossed 30 consecutive strikes during games 8-10 of qualifying. The run featured back-to-back 300 games ahead of a 280 game.

In five U.S. Women’s Open appearances, she finished no lower than fourth and added two fifth-place finishes at the PWBA Championships.

A nine-time Bowlers Journal International All-American selection, Buckner was named a first-team selection three times.

Buckner was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 1990.

The PWBA Hall of Fame committee elected the 2020 PWBA Hall of Fame class based on applications received. The committee is comprised of three PWBA Hall of Fame members, three Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America (BPAA) board members, three USBC board members, and three media members.

Nominees in the PWBA Performance category must be at least 50 years of age and have a minimum of 10 PWBA Tour titles or a minimum of five PWBA Tour titles including two majors.

The inaugural PWBA Hall of Fame class in 1995 included Donna Adamek, Patty Costello, Dorothy Fothergill, Mildred Ignizio, Marion Ladewig, and Betty Morris in the Performance category, LaVerne Carter, Helen Duvall and Shirley Garms in Pioneer, and Georgia Veatch in the Builder category.

With the 2020 class, there are 41 members of the PWBA Hall of Fame – 24 in Performance, 10 in Pioneer and seven in Meritorious Service/Builder.

The 2020 PWBA Tour season will have 14 events, kicking off with the PWBA Tucson Open on April 23-25 at Lucky Strike Bowl in Tucson, Arizona.

Visit [PWBA.com](https://www.pwba.com) for more information on the PWBA and the PWBA Hall of Fame.

EXPANDED PWBA SEASON AND NEW TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES PRESENTED BY GO BOWLING HEADLINE 2021 BOWLTV SCHEDULE

Special limited-time subscription offer now available through end of year

ARLINGTON, Texas – [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com) is offering a limited-time annual subscription offer of \$49.95 through the end of the year. Bowling fans who sign up now will lock in this special pricing for an expanded schedule of live coverage on tap for 2021.

The 2021 BowlTV schedule includes the introduction of a new regional team tournament, the Bowlers Journal Team Championship Series presented by Go Bowling, in addition to the full PWBA Tour season, national youth tournaments and much more.

Now is the time to take advantage of a special offer for the subscription-based service, with the opportunity to purchase a one-year subscription for \$49.95 until Dec. 31, 2020. Annual BowlTV subscriptions will return to \$79.95 on Jan. 1, 2021.

The viewer experience on BowlTV will be better than ever in 2021. A new mobile app is in development and scheduled to launch next year.

The new Bowlers Journal Team Championship Series will build on the legacy of the timeless Bowlers Journal Championships, held in conjunction with the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships for more than seven decades, and add in the exhilaration of team bowling.

Three events tentatively are scheduled to take place across three weekends in October and November of 2021, visiting the West, Midwest and Eastern part of the United States.

Registration for these events is scheduled to open in March 2021.

Bowlers will have the chance to represent their hometowns, home centers and favorite leagues, as they look to determine the best teams in their region.

Each team at the Bowlers Journal Team Championship events will consist of five players, all of whom must have been members of the same local USBC association with an established average of 21 games or more during the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 bowling season.

Teams will compete over two days in a unique format that includes a combination of traditional team games, Baker match play and a three-team stepladder.

The top prize at each event, based on a full field of 48 teams, will be \$10,000.

“With the support from our friends at Go Bowling, we are really excited to bring a new team championship series to our members,” USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. “Showcasing the best teams from local associations across the country on a national stage will start a new chapter in bowling’s history and build upon the great tradition of team bowling.”

The 2021 BowlTV schedule will kick off with the USBC Team USA Trials and United States National Amateur Bowling Championships from Jan. 2-7, with the PWBA Tour season getting underway with the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series from Jan. 18-26.

With an expanded PWBA Tour schedule in 2021, all 20 events will feature wire-to-wire coverage on BowlTV, including both the USBC Queens and U.S. Women’s Open. BowlTV coverage will include the live stepladder

finals.

The PWBA Regional schedule will be expanding to 14 events in 2021, with each event being featured on BowlTV.

In addition, BowlTV will add live coverage of the stepladder finals at the Junior Gold Championships and USA Bowling National Championships in 2021.

The U.S. Open, USBC Masters, USBC Senior Queens, USBC Senior Masters, Super Senior Classic and Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships once again will be part of the BowlTV live schedule.

BowlTV also will work with The National Bowling Association and Underground Bowling Association to host various events during the year, in addition to several USBC and NCAA collegiate tournaments.

In all, the 2021 schedule will have approximately 90 live events and 1,600-plus hours of coverage, with many events offering multiple channels to give fans the opportunity to watch more of the action and follow their favorite bowlers.

Recurring monthly subscriptions also will be available at \$9.95 per month.

“BowlTV looks to give bowling fans a full year of top-tier event coverage and the behind-the-scenes reporting everyone has come to enjoy from the comfort of their homes,” USBC Managing Director of Marketing Roger Noordhoek said. “The limited-time offer through the end of the year comes out to just over \$4 a month. This offer provides more content than ever before at the best price. It’s a fantastic deal!”

USBC AND PWBA HALL OF FAME LOA BOXBERGER DIES AT AGE 81

ARLINGTON, Texas – Loa Boxberger, a member of the United States Bowling Congress and Professional Women’s Bowling Association Halls of Fame, died Sunday, Dec. 20 in Carefree, Arizona. She was 81.

Boxberger earned induction into the USBC Hall of Fame in 1984 for Superior Performance, and she joined the PWBA Hall of Fame in the Pioneer category in 1997.

She claimed six professional titles during her career, including one major at the 1978 USBC Queens.

From Russell, Kansas, Boxberger captured her first professional win in 1967. She earned victories in back-to-back editions of the Japan Pearl Cup in Tokyo, winning the coveted event in 1970 and 1971.

Her win at the tour’s season-opening Brunswick Red Crown Classic in 1974 served as a groundbreaking moment in women’s bowling as the first nationally televised PWBA tournament. Boxberger received a then-record \$12,500 for the victory.

Beyond the individual spotlight, Boxberger also found team success at the USBC Women’s Championships, claiming Classic Team titles in 1969 and 1973.

She later served as the first female commissioner of the Ladies Professional Bowlers Tour (now PWBA) after retiring from professional competition.

Boxberger was named to the Bowlers Journal All-American team on three occasions (1967-1968, 1970-1971 and 1973-1974) and was inducted to the Kansas State USBC Hall of Fame in 1976.

Also during her career, she represented multiple manufacturers as a national staff member, helped serve her local bowling community from a bowling supply perspective and even spent some time behind the microphone on bowling telecasts.

There are no funeral services planned at this time.

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