

LOCATIONS CHANGED FOR 2021 USBC MASTERS AND U.S. OPEN

ARLINGTON, Texas - With COVID-19 still impacting event operations, the United States Bowling Congress has decided to adjust the competition locations for the 2021 USBC Masters and U.S. Open.

The two events, both considered majors on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, now will be held in consecutive weeks at the 78-lane National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, allowing competitors planning to bowl in both tournaments to make just one trip, rather than journey to two destinations at different times.

The Masters will be held first, taking place on its original dates from March 29-April 4, now with room for an additional 55 competitors. The field had been limited to 245 entries, but the move to the NBS allows for a capacity of 300 entries.

The U.S. Open will follow, with the 108-competitor field taking to the iconic lanes April 4-11.

Qualifying and match play for both tournaments will be livestreamed on BowlTV, before the action shifts to Fox Sports' FS1 as part of the PBA Tour television schedule. The live TV finals of each event will air from 2-4 p.m. Eastern on April 4 and April 11, respectively.

Prior to the move, the U.S. Open was scheduled to be held at The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley in Green Bay, Wisconsin, from Feb. 21-28, and the Masters was slated to return to the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

"We are committed to running these events in 2021," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "By moving the tournaments to Reno and back in the calendar, we are better positioned to receive approval from health officials to conduct the events, while also adding additional lanes for more competitors."

The Masters traditionally attracts hundreds of bowlers from all over the world and has sold out for the last seven years. The 2019 event at the Gold Coast Bowling Center, won by left-hander Jakob Butturff, featured 450 competitors.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions and best-practice recommendations, however, the Masters field in 2021 initially had to be limited. The event sold out in just a few days, and the waiting list quickly grew to more than 150 eager competitors. USBC will continue to monitor the restrictions and social-distancing recommendations in Nevada and expand the field again, if appropriate.

Masters bowlers will join Butturff on the lanes at the NBS for 15 games of qualifying, before the top 63, plus Butturff, advance to the double-elimination match-play portion of the event.

The 2021 U.S. Open will be a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America, featuring a limited field of the world's best bowlers, most of whom earned their spots in the event based on their recent on-lane performances. The list includes leaders on the PBA Tour points list and top performers at USBC events and PBA majors.

The U.S. Open format features qualifying across multiple oil patterns and round-robin match play, before the top five competitors advance to the TV stepladder, based on their 56-game pinfall totals.

Bowlers who did not receive invitations to compete in the 2021 event can earn spots through an on-site pre-tournament qualifier, which will take place April 4.

The 2020 U.S. Open was held in Lincoln, Nebraska, in February and won by Australia's Jason Belmonte for the 12th of his record 13 major titles.

For more information about the U.S. Open and USBC Masters, visit BOWL.com/Tournaments.

USBC ANNOUNCES \$3.5 MILLION AID PROGRAM TO SUPPORT ASSOCIATIONS AND GRASSROOTS BOWLING

Program includes immediate \$1.5 million in relief for USBC local associations and 10-year, \$2 million support plan for USBC state associations

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announced a \$3.5 million aid program to help support grassroots bowling. The move comes as a response to the unprecedented losses experienced in the sport nationwide due to COVID-19 shutdowns.

As part of the program, the USBC Board of Directors has approved an immediate cash transfer of \$1.5 million from USBC's reserve fund directly to USBC local associations. An additional \$200,000 will be available for USBC state associations in the form of added prize money to their 2021 championship tournaments.

“USBC is forecasting a 40% decline in league membership this season due to COVID-19,” USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. “The situation is devastating financially for many local bowling operators across the country. USBC has cash reserves for an emergency, and we believe now is the time to use some of those funds and provide help back to the grassroots of our sport.”

The local aid program will send at least \$1 per member back to all active standard USBC local associations based on 2018-2019 membership totals. Standard associations with less than 500 members will receive \$500 in aid, and the largest USBC local association will receive about \$40,000.

“USBC is not placing any restrictions on how these funds are used in support of bowling,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. “We know the needs on the ground locally are different everywhere and will trust our local associations to collaborate with their bowlers and proprietors to put the funds to good use for the sport.”

The state association aid program provides \$200,000 in funding for USBC state associations in the form of added sponsorship prize money to USBC state championship tournaments. USBC state associations can choose to opt into the program, with the amount of funding for each state variable depending on the size of their membership. USBC plans to continue offering this annual \$200,000 sponsorship pool to USBC state associations for the next 10 years.

“The state association aid program will further elevate the participation value for USBC state championships for the next decade,” McDaniel said. “The program is designed to drive interest, participation and lineage for USBC state events. Participating states will be asked to add a sponsor name to their events, and in turn, receive a consistent prize-fund subsidy for members for the next 10 years.”

USBC will be contacting state associations to share details on how to receive funding. Additional information about the USBC state association aid program, including the amount of funding available to each state, is published on BOWL.com.

THE ROW RENO NAMED PRESENTING SPONSOR FOR 2021 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress announced Tuesday that longtime partner - THE ROW Reno - will be the presenting sponsor of the 2021 USBC Women's Championships in Reno, Nevada.

THE ROW Reno, which includes three of the Biggest Little City's most iconic downtown resorts - the Eldorado Resort Casino, Circus Circus Reno and Silver Legacy Resort Casino - also will serve as the official host hotels and brackets sponsors of the 2021 event.

The three resorts feature award-winning restaurants, exciting bars and lounges, a luxury wellness escape at The Spa at Silver Legacy, Ruth's Chris Steak House, Ichiban Japanese

Steak House and action-packed gaming, including slots, table games, sports betting and Caesars Rewards promotions.

All same-day brackets payouts will be picked up inside Silver Legacy at THE ROW.

The 2021 Women's Championships will be held at the famed National Bowling Stadium from April 23 to July 3 (last team date). The 2021 event will mark the tournament's 12th visit to Reno and ninth trip to the recently renovated NBS.

"We're thrilled for the opportunity to be the presenting sponsor of the 2021 USBC Women's Championships," said Glenn Carano, Regional President and General Manager of THE ROW Reno. "We've had a great relationship with USBC throughout the years and are eager to show the bowlers the family-style hospitality we pride ourselves on at THE ROW Reno."

As the presenting sponsor, official host hotels and official brackets sponsors of the 2021 Women's Championships, THE ROW Reno will provide USBC members with special offers throughout the tournament and will be prominently featured at the National Bowling Stadium, on BOWL.com, through USBC's social media channels and at MyBowlingVacation.com, the official travel partner of USBC.

"We're excited to once again be partnering with THE ROW Reno to provide the bowlers of the USBC Women's Championships an amazing tournament experience," said Roger Noordhoek, Managing Director of Marketing for USBC. "These resorts always have welcomed our bowlers through their incredible service and accommodations, and we look forward to working together with THE ROW Reno to continue to enhance our partnership."

The Women's Championships last appearance at the NBS in Reno was in 2018, which welcomed 4,334 four-player teams.

Registration for the 2021 Women's Championships is open.

The squad times and capacities for the 2021 event are structured to accommodate for

social distancing, including reducing the number of teams competing per squad and having only one team per pair of lanes.

For more information on the USBC Women's Championships, visit [BOWL.com/WomensChamp](https://www.bowl.com/WomensChamp)

IBC YOUTH CANCELS 2020-2021 USA BOWLING REGIONAL TOURNAMENT EVENTS

[USA Bowling Regional Tournament cancellation FAQ](#)

ARLINGTON, Texas – The International Bowling Campus Youth Development team has canceled the events on the 2020-2021 USA Bowling Regional Tournament schedule due to ongoing public health concerns and local regulations surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

IBC Youth Development already had postponed the first five tournaments on the 16-event schedule, and continuing to postpone additional events was not a viable option, due to local restrictions and the availability of bowling centers.

The 2021 USA Bowling National Championships, which was scheduled to take place July 7-8 and 11 in Indianapolis, also will be canceled.

The cancellation of the USA Bowling Regional Tournament events and USA Bowling National Championships does not affect the 2021 Junior Gold Championships or Bowling.com Youth Open Championships. Both events still are scheduled to take place from July 5-25 in Indianapolis.

Refunds for entries for 2020-2021 USA Bowling Regional Tournament events will be processed by the end of February.

The 2021-2022 USA Bowling Regional Tournament schedule will get underway in October 2021, and more information concerning the dates and locations in each of the regions will be available at a later date.

“The safety and well-being of the athletes, coaches and staff is our top priority, and we felt this was the best decision looking ahead at the rest of the USA Bowling schedule for the 2020-2021 events,” IBC Youth Development Managing Director Gary Brown said. “We are disappointed to not be able to see these young athletes compete this season, but we are looking forward to the launch of the 2021-2022 USA Bowling Regional season.”

USA Bowling Regional Tournament events started in 2013, building the foundation that would lead to the inaugural USA Bowling National Championships in 2016. The national event grew from the USA Bowling program, designed as a team-based youth program to

introduce the sport to children.

USA Bowling Leagues share a team-based structure, similar to all youth sports, where young athletes receive instruction, have regular practices with a coach and compete against other teams during an eight- to 12-week season.

USA Bowling is a product of the Youth Education Services (YES) Fund, a joint initiative of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and the United States Bowling Congress, supported by top bowling brands, including Bowling.com, Brunswick, Columbia 300, Ebonite, Hammer, QubicaAMF, Roto Grip, Storm and Track.

For more information on USA Bowling, visit [BOWL.com/USABowling](https://www.bowl.com/USABowling).

SEVEN SCHOOLS AWARDED BOWLER'S ED KITS TO START 2021

ARLINGTON, Texas - Seven schools have been selected by the International Bowling Campus Youth Development team to receive Bowler's Ed kits and curriculum information through the Bowler's Ed Grant Program.

Through the program, schools, youth groups and other organizations are able to teach students and young athletes about bowling, from the fun to the fundamentals.

Each Bowler's Ed kit provides teachers and staff with all the equipment and tools needed to enjoy the sport in the most convenient way - by bringing a bowling-center-like atmosphere into their classrooms, gyms or recreational spaces.

The schools selected to receive Bowler's Ed kits were determined based on applications that were submitted by a December 2020 deadline. The schools and organizations receiving the kits are:

- * North Barrington Elementary, North Barrington, Ill.
- * Bartlesville Public Schools, Bartlesville, Okla.
- * Bartlesville Gymnastics Club, Bartlesville, Okla.
- * Highland Elementary, Camp Hill, Pa.
- * Hillside Elementary, New Cumberland, Pa.
- * Sandlapper Elementary, Columbia, S.C.
- * Skyland Elementary School, Greer, S.C.

Each kit includes a carpeted mobile bowling lane, rubber bowling ball, plastic pins, step-by-step curriculum and an instructional video on the fundamentals of bowling, etiquette, safety, scoring and fitness activities.

Along with the chance to introduce children in grades K-8 to a sport they can play for a lifetime, bowling in any setting is great exercise and a fun way to build endurance and hand-eye coordination.

The curriculum also includes lessons that put a new spin on math, language arts, social studies, problem solving, geography, computer skills and more.

"The Bowler's Ed kits and curriculum are so valuable and useful because they can turn almost any space into a convenient and affordable bowling center to give a true bowling experience to groups of any size," said Chrissie Kent, chair of the IBC Youth Committee. "Beyond just the health and educational benefits, the program gives students the chance to participate in something that is fun, safe and perfect for social distancing."

IBC Youth Development works with local associations, schools and bowling centers throughout the country to deliver the In-School Bowler's Ed kits. Each kit is valued at \$1,450.

The initiative is supported by the bowling industry and aims to bring bowling centers and associations together with schools in their communities, so physical education teachers can make bowling one of the sports they teach to their students.

Since 2009, the Bowler's Ed Grant Program has awarded more than \$500,000 in the form of Bowler's Ed kits to schools and organizations.

For schools, facilities or organizations interested in applying for a Bowler's Ed grant, the application portal is open once again. The submission deadline for this round is in June, so there's still time. The application can be found at BOWL.com/BowlersEd.

IBC Youth Development is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and the United States Bowling Congress.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHIERY, MARK WILLIAMS ELECTED TO USBC HALL OF FAME

ARLINGTON, Texas - Sandra Jo Shiery of Coldwater, Michigan, and Mark Williams of Beaumont, Texas, have been elected to the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame in the Superior Performance category.

Shiery and Williams were on the ballot of five men and two women voted on by a national panel of USBC Hall of Fame members, veteran bowling writers and USBC Board members.

Though both fell short of reaching the required 70% of the votes cast, the USBC Hall of Fame Committee had the opportunity to select them for induction, and they will complete the four-person 2021 USBC Hall of Fame class.

In late October, husband and wife Bill and Barbara Chrisman of Pleasant View, Utah, the co-founders of Storm Products, Inc., were elected by the committee in the Meritorious Service category. They will be the seventh husband and wife overall to be inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame.

Traditionally, the USBC Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is part of the annual USBC Convention. With the 2021 Convention set to be held virtually, it was decided that the 2020 and 2021 USBC Hall of Fame inductees would be honored in person during the 2022 Convention.

Shiery, a 56-year-old right-hander, is a nine-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion, which includes one major victory at the 1997 USBC Queens. She also had a runner-up finish at the Queens (1989) and three top-five performances at the U.S. Women's Open.

One additional win for Shiery in the PWBA spotlight came in 1989, when she won the South Bend Classic as a non-member.

At USBC's premier event for female members, the storied USBC Women's Championships, the Coldwater USBC and Michigan State USBC Hall of Famer collected eight top-10 finishes, including back-to-back third-place efforts in the team event in 1995 and 1996.

Prior to embarking on her successful professional career, Shiery spent a year on Team USA.

In 1987, she had the opportunity to represent the United States at the International Bowling Federation World Championships, where she earned gold medals in team and all-events and a bronze medal in trios. A Team USA woman would not win the all-events crown again until 2013.

Shiery's stint on Team USA also included a trip to the Lee Evans Tournament of the Americas, which resulted in a five-medal performance - three gold (mixed team, all-events, national all-events) and two bronze (singles, doubles).

After her pro career ended, Shiery found success leading the next generation of stars as the coach of the Coldwater High School girls bowling team, which she helped to three consecutive state championships from 2005-2007.

Shiery's son, Alec Keplinger, was a Junior Gold Championships winner in 2019 and is a member of Junior Team USA for the second consecutive year.

Williams, a 63-year-old right-hander and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer (1999), owns seven PBA Tour titles, including three majors - the PBA Tournament of Champions (1985 and 1988) and the PBA Touring Players Championship (1986). He also has logged a runner-up finish at the USBC Masters and two top-10 finishes at the U.S. Open.

His presence in the PBA spans more than four decades, and his success also includes three PBA50 Tour titles, with the most recent being the 2010 Senior U.S. Open.

In 2018, Williams celebrated turning 60 with a second-place finish at the Super Senior Classic. A year later, he picked up his first PBA60 title. He also owns nearly two dozen wins in PBA/PBA50 regional competition.

In addition to Williams, the men's national ballot included Dave Ferraro of Kingston, New York; Wes Malott of Pflugerville, Texas; Randy Pedersen of Orlando, Florida; and Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas.

Tammy Turner of West Palm Beach, Florida, joined Shiery on the women's ballot.

Along with the 2021 inductees, the six members of the 2020 USBC Hall of Fame class also are awaiting their time in the spotlight.

The six bowlers were slated for induction in 2020, before COVID-19 forced the cancellation of the 2020 USBC Convention in Las Vegas, along with all supporting activities and events.

The 2020 class includes Marianne DiRupo and Patrick Allen in the Superior Performance category, Patrick Healey Jr. (USBC Outstanding Performance), Bob Learn Jr. (Veterans) and Andrew Cain and Jim Zebehazy (both in Meritorious Service).

Through 2019, there were 432 members of the USBC Hall of Fame - 223 in Superior Performance, 120 in Meritorious Service, 51 in Veterans, 22 in Pioneer and 16 in Outstanding USBC Performance.

The USBC Hall of Fame was created in 2005 by merging the former American Bowling Congress and

Women's International Bowling Congress Halls of Fame.

Visit BOWL.com/HallofFame for more information on the USBC Hall of Fame.

USBC DELEGATES TO VOTE ON 19 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS DURING 2021 USBC CONVENTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

ARLINGTON, Texas - Delegates at the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Convention and Annual Meeting will vote on 19 legislative proposals involving bylaws and rules specific to tournaments and leagues.

The 2021 USBC Convention will take place virtually from April 26-29, with the Annual Meeting legislative session and USBC Board elections taking place on the final day.

The agenda for the legislative session will include the 13 proposals from 2020 that were not voted upon because the 2020 Convention was canceled due to the pandemic and six proposals slated for 2021.

Complete details, and a schedule for the week, will be available soon.

Votes will be cast electronically, live, during the Annual Meeting. Full details, and timing for practice voting sessions, will be announced in March.

Due to the virtual nature and verification of voting rights, all delegates must be registered by April 21, 2021. Association delegates must be in WinLABS and transmitted to HQ.

Athlete delegates and USBC Hall of Famers must email convention@bowl.com to register. Invitations will be sent to athlete delegates and hall of famers this week.

Of the 13 proposed amendments that carried over from the 2020 agenda, seven relate to bylaws, five are for tournament rules and one is for a league rule. For the 2021 amendments, five pertain to league rules and one relates to bylaws.

Click [here](#) for the complete list of proposed amendments.

Suggested changes to amendments must be submitted to USBC in writing at convention@bowl.com by March 15, 2021.

Any USBC member may debate a motion by providing an audio or video recording up to two minutes by email to convention@bowl.com by April 15, 2021.

Bylaws proposals require a two-thirds majority vote for adoption, while league and tournament rules require a majority vote to pass.

The USBC Board also would like to announce at this time that the location and venue for the 2022 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting have been selected.

The events will return to Las Vegas and be held at The Orleans, which was scheduled to host the festivities in 2020.

The decision continues the organization's commitment to host its Annual Meeting near a USBC Championship event. The 2022 USBC Open Championships will take place at the nearby South Point Bowling Plaza.

Visit BOWL.com/Convention for more information about the 2021 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting.

REGISTRATION SET TO BEGIN FOR 2022 USBC OPEN AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entry fee increases to improve prize fund-to-expense ratios

2022 FAQ

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress announced Thursday that registration for the 2022 USBC Open Championships and USBC Women's Championships will open as scheduled in the coming weeks, each with a new fee structure that includes a \$15-per-event increase at the Open Championships and \$11 at the Women's Championships.

Of the increase at each tournament, 70% will go directly into the respective prize funds. The new fee structure will be the first change at the Open Championships since 2013 and first at the Women's Championships since 2014.

The changes will increase the prize money across the two events by more than \$2 million, while also improving the prize fund-to-expense ratios. The Open Championships ratio will improve from 56/44 to 59/41, and the Women's Championships will change from 49/51 to 56/44.

For 2022, the Open Championships will return to the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas, as announced in June 2020, and will run from March 12 until July 3.

Coordinators at the Open Championships since 2019 will have the opportunity to reserve spots for 2022, beginning March 1. The registration portal will open to the public March 29.

The Women's Championships will head to Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois, in 2022 and take place April 24-July 11.

Coordinators at the Women's Championships since 2019 will be able to begin selecting their dates and times for 2022 on March 22, and the registration portal will open to the public on April 19.

The entry fees for the 2022 Open Championships will be \$70 per event (team, doubles, singles), plus an optional \$15 for all-events, for a \$225 total, per bowler. As it has since 2017, the Open Championships includes three average-based divisions.

For all-events, while the entry fee won't change, adjusting the payout ratio back to 1:8 will mean bigger prize amounts for those who finish their nine games above the cash line.

All competition at the 2022 Open Championships will take place at the South Point Bowling Plaza. Team squads will be held at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m., and doubles/singles squads will be at 7 a.m., 10 a.m., 5 p.m. and 11:45 p.m.

At the Women's Championships, which features four average-based divisions for team competition and six for doubles, singles and all-events, bowlers will pay \$55 per event and \$15 for the optional all-events, for a \$180 total. Since 2014, the fee structure has been \$44 per event and \$8 for all-events.

Consistent with the Open Championships, 70% of the increase for team, doubles and singles will go to

the prize fund, while the entire increase for all-events entries will be added to the respective all-events prize funds.

Because Addison's Stardust Bowl has 84 lanes, there will be fewer squad times at the 2022 Women's Championships. Team competition will take place at 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., and doubles/singles squads will run at 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Initially, the 5:30 p.m. squad only will be offered on weekends. It will be a team event on Saturday and a doubles/singles squad on Sunday. Other days may be added based on demand.

Even as the attention begins to turn to the 2022 tournaments, there definitely still will be some loose ends due to the cancellation of the 2020 events and the COVID-19-shortened 2021 editions.

Team captains who originally rolled over their entries from 2020 or 2021 to the 2022 events will be provided a credit toward their 2022 entries. USBC will be providing extra time to pay the difference in entry fees. More details are included in the FAQ document.

For all bowlers still scheduled to compete in 2021, both tournaments are set to kick off as planned, though things might look a little different with social distancing and other CDC-recommended restrictions in place.

The 2021 Open Championships will return to South Point in Las Vegas from May 1-July 18, with team competition taking place at the South Point Bowling Plaza, and doubles/singles being contested at the South Point Bowling Center.

The Women's Championships and USBC Queens will return to the iconic National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, in 2021. The Women's Championships will begin April 23 and conclude July 4, taking a break for the Queens, which will borrow the spotlight from May 12-18.

As a reminder, bowlers who were registered to bowl in 2020 and/or 2021, but unable to compete due to the pandemic, will not lose their consecutive streaks at either event.

Details about safety protocols for each event in 2021 will be published and shared in the coming weeks.

For more information on the Open Championships, visit [BOWL.com/OpenChamp](https://www.bowl.com/OpenChamp).

To learn more about the Women's Championships, check out [BOWL.com/WomensChamp](https://www.bowl.com/WomensChamp).

BOWLING AMBASSADOR, LONGTIME USBC CONVENTION ATTENDEE JOHN SIMANELLA DIES AT AGE 97

ARLINGTON, Texas - For six decades, John Simanella of Middleburg Heights, Ohio, has been a staple at the United States Bowling Congress Convention, a nearly flawless participation streak that allowed him to share his passion for the sport, while representing the Cleveland-area and Ohio bowling communities.

He even has been described by USBC Convention organizers and staff as a symbol of the event over the last decade, proudly welcoming delegates to the Convention floor and excitedly celebrating the countdown to his 60th appearance at the event, which happened in 2019.

Sadly, when the virtual 2021 USBC Convention gets underway April 26, Simanella's beaming smile will be noticeably absent from the computer screens of the Convention attendees. He died Friday at age 97.

A 1992 inductee into the Greater Cleveland Bowling Association Hall of Fame and a member of the 1997 Ohio State USBC Hall of Fame class in the meritorious service category, Simanella might be best known for his dedication to the future of the sport.

He spent countless hours teaching bowling as part of the local college curriculum, and his knowledge forever has been immortalized in a book he wrote called "Simplified Bowling," which can be found on BOWL.com.

Anytime the Professional Bowlers Association Tour visited Ohio, you could find Simanella there, volunteering to help with the event.

Simanella also spent time as an ambassador for In-School Bowling and doing all he could to make sure Ohio's youth knew about the sport, often before they even stepped foot in a bowling center. Among his successes in youth bowling was creating Junior Bowling Day in the Cleveland area.

Since the 1960s, Simanella served a variety of roles for the Greater Cleveland Bowling Association and Ohio State USBC, from committee-level positions to chairman roles to serving as president at each level, lastly as Ohio State BA President in 2003 and 2004.

His service to the Greater Cleveland BA and Cleveland USBC spanned more than 50 years.

Simanella also was a great competitor, with a high game of 300 and 48 appearances at the USBC Open Championships from 1960-2012. And, he was a family man - a father of eight and grandfather of nine.

Outside of bowling, he was a music lover, and he often shared his favorite tunes as a disc jockey at local retirement facilities and community centers.

All of the above came well after a stint in the U.S. Army Air Forces, a component of the U.S. Army, where he was a B-24 bomber gunner in World War II. After surviving 30 missions, he was able to return home to complete his college education, start a family and get to work on his bowling legacy.

Funeral services will be held at Middleburg Heights' St. Bartholomew Church and Interment Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery on March 4, beginning at 9 a.m. local time. Friends will be received from 4 p.m.-8 p.m. at the A. Ripepi and Sons Funeral Home.

USBC NATIONAL HIGH AVERAGE, SERIES AWARDS ANNOUNCED FOR 2019-2020 SEASON

ARLINGTON, Texas – Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour champion and Team USA member Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York, again finds herself in the spotlight, this time earning the United States Bowling Congress National High Average Award for recording the highest women’s average during the 2019-2020 season.

Kuhlkin, a 27-year-old right-hander, averaged 240 for 69 games during the Reis Group Kim Brown Memorial league at Schenectady’s Towne Bowling Academy.

The 2018 U.S. Women’s Open champion won the USBC National High Series Award during the 2016-2017 season. Kuhlkin set the national record for the highest three-game series by a woman when she rolled games of 300, 300 and 290 for an 890 series.

The men’s high average winner for the 2019-2020 season is Charles Easton of Sylvania, Ohio, who posted a 256.5 average for 84 games at the Oakie Schroyer III Memorial league at Jug's Bowling Center in Toledo, Ohio.

Easton’s average ranks as fourth on the all-time average list, with Jeff Carter of Springfield, Illinois, holding the record with a 261.7 average during the 2000-2001 season.

To go along with his 256 average, Easton, 29, averaged 252 in 2017-2018 and 249 in 2018-2019 at the Oakie Schroyer III Memorial league.

Both youth USBC National High Average Awards are headed to Pennsylvania, as Zachary Trimmer of Lebanon and Alyssa Breidegam of Sinking Spring collected the 2019-2020 awards in the Youth Male and Youth Female divisions, respectively.

Trimmer, 19, averaged 235.5 for 84 games in the Dutch Majors league at 222 Dutch Lanes in Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Breidegam, 18, finished the season with a 227.5 average for 75 games at the Tuesday Jr. Scholarship league at Sinking Spring’s Berks Lanes.

Former Team USA member Wesley Low Jr. of Palmdale, California, earns the men's USBC National High Series Award for rolling a 900 series during the 44th Annual Ponderosa Singles Classic at Glenfair Lanes in Glendale, Arizona.

Low, a 23-year-old left-hander who uses a two-handed approach, became the 36th bowler to roll a 900 series, and his performance on July 19, 2020 was the 37th USBC-approved 900 overall.

Angi Whitley of Platte City, Missouri, earned the women's USBC National High Series Award after throwing games of 279, 299 and 300 for an 878 series on Jan. 24, 2020 at Gladstone Bowl in Gladstone, Missouri.

Whitley, 48, put together her series during the GL 11 – Northland Mixer league.

The youth USBC National High Series Awards were earned by Madelyn Lathrop of Sycamore, Illinois, and Cody Brunner of Middletown, Pennsylvania.

Lathrop, 18, won the youth female award after posting her first USBC-certified 800 series with games of 299, 249 and 278 for an 826 set at the Pepsi Zone 1 Tournament at The Cherry Bowl in Rockford, Illinois. Lathrop's performance took place Feb. 29, 2020.

Brunner, 19, rolled games of 300, 297 and 269 for an 866 series to win the youth male award. His award-winning series was Feb. 15, 2020, at the North Scratch 2019-2020 league at ABC North Lanes in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

For the list of USBC National High Series and High Average Awards, click [here](#).

The team awards for National High Game and National High Series also have been determined. To see the top team scores for men, women, mixed and youth teams, click [here](#).

EXCITEMENT BUILDS FOR 2021 USBC CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS, COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES NOW AVAILABLE

ARLINGTON, Texas - It has been more than 600 days since the last pins fell at the world's largest participatory sporting events, and competitors and staff alike are eager to get back on the lanes to add to nearly 120 years of history and tradition.

With the start of the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships and USBC Open Championships right around the corner, USBC has announced and published the protocols and procedures that will be in place this year for competitors in Reno, Nevada, and Las Vegas, respectively, to help the tournaments operate smoothly, despite any ongoing challenges of COVID-19.

"Running our Championship Tournaments is one of the most rewarding things we do each year, and we couldn't be more excited about welcoming the bowlers back to these two incredible events and amazing host communities for the ultimate bowling experience," said USBC President Melissa McDaniel. "It's hard to beat the high ceilings and bright lights as a competitor or the pride we feel each year when we get to call and congratulate the newest champions."

Once at the host venue this year, competitors and employees must wear masks at all times. All tournament-related transactions will be cashless. Team competition will feature one team on each pair of lanes, and doubles/singles will include four bowlers per pair. Spectators will not be permitted at the 2021 events.

The complete COVID-19 protocols and procedures document for this year's Championship Tournaments is available on BOWL.com or by clicking [here](#).

About six weeks from now, the pinsetters at Reno's iconic 78-lane National Bowling Stadium will cycle and hum in unison once again, as they prepare to welcome thousands of ladies back to the Biggest Little City in the World for the 2021 USBC Women's Championships.

The tournament is coming off a memorable 100th edition in 2019, and participants are excited to return to the NBS to see all the renovations that have taken place since their last visit in 2018. The 2021 event will run from April 23-July 4.

The Open Championships will celebrate its 117th running with a special milestone, as competition will be held across two venues for the first time in tournament history.

The event will return to the spacious South Point Hotel, Casino & Spa, where 32 bowlers claimed coveted Eagle trophies on the lanes at the South Point Bowling Plaza in 2019.

Some will see if they can continue that momentum during team competition this year at the 60-lane Bowling Plaza, while the doubles and singles events shift to the nearby 64-lane South Point Bowling Center, just a short walk across the sprawling property. The 2021 Open Championships will take place May 1-July 18.

While it may be a little tougher to see everyone smile behind their masks in 2021, appreciative eyes will speak volumes for the staff and bowlers, whose feedback and cooperation have helped make the return to the lanes possible, following numerous date adjustments, flight changes, hotel rebookings and the eventual cancellation of the 2020 events due to the pandemic.

The last time the Championship Tournaments were not contested was 1943-1945 due to World War II.

"Our host cities and venues have been great partners in helping put all the pieces together for the

Championships to run in 2021," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "Solid protocols are in place, and while this year will have a very different look and feel, the same special opportunity to compete for the coveted national titles and spend time with friends will still be there."

Murphy also added some insight about the process and feedback.

"Over the past year, captains and competitors have answered numerous opinion surveys to guide us. For the Open Championships, 84% of the respondents said mask wearing was at least somewhat important for them to compete. This number was 90% for the Women's Championships. More than 90% said they plan to bowl. We have developed protocols to meet our customers' expectations and safety standards. Our team is excited to invite members back to the Championships after a year off and continue one of bowling's finest traditions."

The guidelines will be the same for both events in 2021 and are based on CDC recommendations, as well regulations set forth by state and local health authorities. The procedures may be adjusted during the run of the events based on changes in regulations due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

USBC recommends that all captains and competitors read through the procedures and protocols before traveling to the events. Specific questions can be sent to usbcwomenschampionships@bowl.com or usbccopenchampionships@bowl.com.

A look at the top 10 items to be familiar with from the protocols and procedures document:

- * All staff and competitors must wear a mask at all times, including during competition. The mask must cover the nose and mouth.
- * Spectators will not be allowed, except in the case of a minor who is competing, or guests invited by USBC for a designated purpose.
- * Social distancing will be required and enforced anywhere in the venue there may be a line, face-to-face service or an opportunity to congregate.
- * During team competition, there will be one team per pair of lanes. Doubles/singles will include four competitors per pair. No competitors will be permitted on adjacent approaches at the same time.
- * Sanitizing products will be available throughout the venues, and all counters, bowling areas, lockers, token machines and other shared equipment will be cleaned between guests or uses.
- * USBC transactions will be cashless, including brackets, side events, membership sales, event sales and Bowling Ball Express.
- * All brackets payouts will be in cash and handled by the casinos (Silver Legacy for the Women's Championships in Reno and South Point in Las Vegas for the Open Championships) in designated locations and subject to the property's standard operating procedures.
- * All forms (Pink and Green Sheets) and roster information or changes will be sought electronically in advance, and all membership/average verifications will be done electronically prior to competition date.
- * Kiosks will not be available for 2022 registration, scoresheets, brackets lookup or participation information. Registration can be done on BOWL.com, scoresheets will be made available digitally and brackets/participation information can be obtained by emailing usbcwomenschampionships@bowl.com or usbccopenchampionships@bowl.com.
- * Squad room activities will be optional and tailored to meet the local and state requirements. This includes designated staging areas for bowlers and equipment.

For more information about the Women's Championships, visit BOWL.com/WomensChamp.

To learn more about the Open Championships, visit BOWL.com/OpenChamp.

RECIPIENTS SELECTED FOR 2021 USBC NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The recipients of the 2021 United States Bowling Congress National Recognition Awards have been determined by the USBC Board of Directors.

Polly Maples of Knoxville, Tennessee, was selected to receive the Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service, and John Wing of Mundelein, Illinois, is the USBC Proprietor of the Year.

Each year at the USBC Convention, outstanding bowling leaders are honored for their contributions to the sport. This year's recipients, who were selected from submitted applications, will be recognized in April during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's ceremony will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern. A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

The USBC Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service is named in honor of the fifth president of the Women's International Bowling Congress.

It annually recognizes an outstanding bowling leader who has made invaluable contributions to local and state associations as an innovator, creator and mentor of adult programs.

Maples had been a member of the Smoky Mountain USBC and Tennessee State USBC for 45 years and has served a variety of roles for each organization - director, officer and committee chair - and was instrumental in the merger that resulted in the creation of the Smoky Mountain USBC. She also put in nearly two decades as a director for the Tennessee youth association.

Locally, Maples served as the association manager for 29 years and was a committee chair every year for three decades. Her state service includes a stint as the president of the Tennessee State Women's Bowling Association from 1999-2005, and that time frame includes a role as a director for WIBC from 2002-2005.

Her continued dedication to the sport of bowling earned Maples induction into the Smoky Mountain and Tennessee State USBC Halls of Fame for meritorious service, and she became the namesake of the Polly Maples Leadership Award, which is awarded annually at the Smoky Mountain Hall of Fame banquet.

She was the Tennessee Young American Bowling Alliance Volunteer of the Year in 2003 and also has been awarded the Tennessee State Parks and Recreation Volunteer of the Year Award for her participation in the Pigeon Forge Bowling for a Cure campaign, which helped raise more than \$100,000 in 12 years.

As a competitor, Maples has logged more than 40 years on the lanes at local, state and national events.

"This award absolutely means so much to me because I knew Helen and who she was, and she was someone we all looked up to," Maples said. "Helen motivated all of us to want to do everything we could for the members. And, to get the call from Melissa (McDaniel) a young woman who has done so many amazing things and gone on to become president of USBC, made it all that much more special."

The USBC Proprietor of the Year Award annually recognizes a bowling center proprietor for his/her

outstanding support of USBC local, state and/or national association programs.

Wing, of Mundelein's Lakeside Recreation Center, is esteemed for his dedication to customer service and creating a camaraderie amongst his bowlers, while promoting participation and growth for bowlers of all ages and skill levels.

As the bowling landscape has changed, Wing has used feedback from his customers to make sure his facility offers the best programs, coaching and technology.

He remains focused on the bowling needs of the community, but also has been able to adapt and provide additional entertainment options for families, such as laser tag and electronic games.

The center now includes 24 lanes with automatic scoring, bumper lanes for children, an arcade, laser tag, lounge, video slot machines, a diner and weekly food and drink specials.

As with many aspects of society, the coronavirus pandemic has brought challenges and restrictions, but Wing and his staff have been able to implement the procedures and protocols necessary to provide a clean, safe and comfortable environment for patrons.

Wing also has offered continued support to the Greater Lake County USBC Association and support and flexibility for local youth and high school bowlers.

"I am very honored to be recognized as the USBC Proprietor of the Year," Wing said. "I would like to thank all of the people who have contributed to our success, including my wife, Aileen, and the tremendous staffs at both of our bowling centers. This award comes from those I serve in our bowling community, and I am exceedingly grateful. It is humbling to be added to the prestigious list of previous winners."

Wing previously served a variety of roles with Brunswick, and that's where he learned about running a bowling center and all the things customers find most important.

He and Aileen acquired the first of their two bowling centers, Mockingbird Lanes in Omaha, Nebraska, in 2000 and added Lakeside Recreation Center in 2003.

The Wings have set the highest standards for their venues and staff members and proudly host a well-rounded list of events and fundraisers each year. In 2017, Lakeside earned the local Gold Star Business Award, which was acknowledgement of the center's modernization.

The 2020 winners include Dave Bowers of Cayce, South Carolina (Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service), Teri Haugh of Faribault, Minnesota (Joyce Deitch Unity Award), and JoAnn West of New Braunfels, Texas (USBC Proprietor of the Year).

The USBC Joyce Deitch Unity Award will not be awarded in 2021.

Visit [BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards](https://www.bowl.com/ScholarshipsAwards) for more information on the National Recognition Awards and to learn about past recipients.

LOCATION DETERMINED FOR 2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM AND SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The pinnacle events of the United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season, the Intercollegiate Team Championships and Intercollegiate Singles Championships, will be heading to the Spectrum Entertainment Complex in Wyoming, Michigan, in 2021.

The 2021 ITC and ISC will be held May 3-8 at the 40-lane venue, with the finals to be aired on CBS Sports Network. The dates and times of the broadcasts will be released at a later time.

BowlTV.com will provide livestream coverage of all qualifying and match-play rounds of the 2021 events.

Spectrum Entertainment Complex was scheduled to host the 2020 ITC and ISC before the events were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We are thrilled to be looking ahead to the ITC and ISC and excited to work alongside Spectrum Entertainment Complex and the West Michigan Sports Commission to bring these events back to the Grand Rapids area,” IBC Youth Development Managing Director Gary Brown said. “Collegiate bowling programs across the country are competing every weekend, and we’re looking forward to being able to recognize the top student-athletes and crown national champions once again.”

The ITC also was held at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex in 2001, with Western Illinois and Nebraska winning the men’s and women’s titles, respectively. Spectrum Entertainment Complex worked in conjunction with the West Michigan Sports Commission to bring the event back to the Grand Rapids area.

“We are extremely excited to welcome back USBC and the Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships to Greater Grand Rapids,” West Michigan Sports Commission President Mike Guswiler said. “It is a sign that we are getting past the challenges of this global pandemic by hosting these important sporting events safely. Our region remains a top bowling destination, which can be witnessed in the significant investments that have gone into our host venue, Spectrum Entertainment Complex. On behalf of the West Michigan Sports Commission and Spectrum Entertainment Complex, we welcome these collegiate bowlers and are certain they will enjoy their championship experience.”

The 2022 ITC and ISC will be held at Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois, from April 18-23. The 84-lane center originally was supposed to host the 2021 events but now will welcome the top collegiate bowlers prior to the start of the 2022 USBC Women’s Championships.

The 2022 Women’s Championships is scheduled to take place at Stardust Bowl from April 24-July 11.

Sectional assignments for the 2020-2021 USBC Collegiate season will be announced March 31 live on BowITV.com. The ITC sectional qualifiers will take place April 16-18.

The 2020-2021 USBC Collegiate season was postponed until January 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The regular season will conclude March 28.

For more information on USBC Collegiate, visit BOWL.com/Collegiate.

USBC, BPAA AND STRIKE TEN FOCUSED ON GETTING BOWLERS BACK TO THE LANES

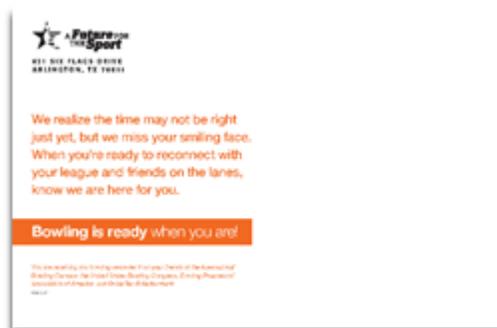
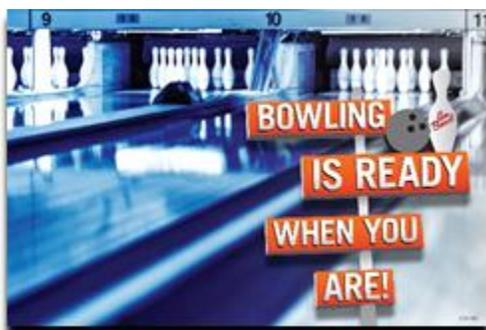
ARLINGTON, Texas – While the steps might be slow and calculated, local and state governments are easing COVID-19 restrictions and allowing people to return to many of the places and activities they enjoy.

As business resumes at bowling centers across the country, and leagues and tournaments begin to come together for the approaching summer or upcoming 2021-2022 season, the United States Bowling Congress, Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and Strike Ten Entertainment are working together to rebuild the sport and help keep bowling on the minds of those who have been away from the lanes.

The three organizations, all headquartered at the International Bowling Campus, have agreed to invest a substantial amount of marketing dollars on an initial six-month communication campaign that will remind bowlers how much they've been missed and offer support and information as they get more comfortable with the idea of returning to competition.

"We know the time may not be right for everyone to get back to league and tournament bowling, but we definitely want all of our members to know we've been thinking about them and will save them a spot in the settee," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "Bowling has given so many of us great friendships and a lifetime of memories, and there have been some inspirational stories over the past year of bowlers helping bowlers through this challenging time. We know rebuilding will take patience and time, and we look forward to seeing everyone reconnect under better circumstances and get back to focusing on the fun."

The joint effort kicked off in February with a postcard to more than 400,000 bowlers, who most likely took the season off due to the uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic, excluding a few states that have been mostly shut down due to government restrictions until recently.



The campaign will reach the bowlers in a variety of creative ways, including direct mail, web ads, email, social media and videos, ultimately creating more than 3 million communication touch points over this initial phase of the campaign.

Monitoring the success of each aspect of the campaign will help direct future efforts, which will continue into the 2021-2022 bowling season.

Whether the bowlers are in it for the camaraderie and a night out or they're the fiercest of competitors, the messages all are designed to be a nostalgic reminder of all the things to love about bowling.

Even for those who may be waiting until the start of the new season to officially return to formal competition, a friendly, bowling-themed reminder could get the ball rolling on getting that game back in shape.

Or, a day on the lanes with friends and family might be the perfect setting for a socially distanced reunion.

"Bowling is making a great comeback after a challenging year, and we want everyone to know the proprietors have been working to create an environment that is safe and encouraging for customers to ease back into the sport and a routine we're all used to," BPAA Executive Director Frank DeSocio said. "Stop by your local center to see how they're doing. Maybe bowl a game or two. Have lunch at the restaurant or take something to go. Bowlers are a resilient group, but it will take some teamwork to help get things back to normal."

The outreach campaign from USBC, BPAA and Strike Ten will work hand in hand with efforts already taking place in bowling communities across the country.

USBC has seen a variety of great activations on a grassroots level from its local and state associations, including developing GoFundMe pages, donating league money to centers, local direct mail campaigns and more.

Also, in December, USBC introduced a financial aid program to help local and state associations minimize some of the losses experienced due to COVID-19 shutdowns.

Local associations can use the money for things that will help them emerge from the pandemic on stable footing, while the state associations will be able to add prize money to their championship tournaments.

To all USBC members who have been bowling this year, you probably noticed your league was missing a few smiling faces. We encourage you to also reach out to your friends and teammates who may have taken some additional time off and invite them to the next tournament or league meeting.

USBC HALL OF FAMER DON ELLIS SR. DIES AT AGE 92

ARLINGTON, Texas - Don Ellis Sr. of Sugar Land, Texas, a member of the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame, died Wednesday. He was 92.

Ellis, elected to the USBC Hall of Fame in 1981 in the Veterans category, was a fixture at the USBC Open Championships. He made his debut at the 1947 tournament in Los Angeles, and though he missed four events early in his career while serving in the U.S. Army, he competed every year from 1955 until 2016.

In 2015, he became the eighth bowler in the event's history to reach 65 years of participation. He also is one of 23 members of the tournament's 100,000-Pin Club.

In 66 years on the championship lanes, he knocked down 115,122 pins, and he's fifth on the career pinfall list through 2020. Ellis was able to maintain a career average at the Open Championships of 190.9.

With the 2021 tournament on the horizon, Ellis still is just one of 14 bowlers to reach 65 years of participation at the Open Championships. Late USBC Hall of Famers Bill Doehrman of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Joe Norris of San Diego, along with the late Sylvester Thiel of Lake City, Minnesota, top the participation list with 71 years.

Ellis' lone Open Championships title came in Classic Doubles at the 1961 event with fellow USBC Hall of Famer Joseph Kristof. Ellis' bowling resume also includes a win at the 1955 Peterson Classic and a runner-up finish at the 1965 USBC Masters.

The right-handed Ellis returned to the spotlight in the 1970s through the Great and the Greatest competition. He teamed with Mark Roth to win the 1979 championship and made the TV finals again in 1980.

A longtime bowling proprietor in the Houston area, Ellis always made sure there was time to compete, too. He won several association titles in Texas and Illinois, including three Greater Houston USBC titles, two Texas State USBC Association wins and two Illinois State USBC victories.

He was inducted into the Greater Houston USBC Hall of Fame in 1974 and Texas State USBC Hall of Fame in 1985.

Ellis passed on his passion for the sport to his family, and one of his favorite Open Championships moments was the time he was able to bowl with his daughter Denise in her first Open Championships, while his son, Don Ellis Jr., has logged 31 years of his own on the tournament lanes.

Ellis and his wife, Jean, who died in February 2020, had four children, 15 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Information about funeral services for Don Ellis Sr. is not yet available.

2021 USBC YOUTH AMBASSADORS OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED

ARLINGTON, Texas - Brooklyn Gagnon of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, have been selected by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee as the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Youth Ambassadors of the Year.

The annual award recognizes one female and one male USBC Youth bowler for exemplary academic accomplishments, community involvement and contributions to the sport of bowling outside of league or tournament play.

Winners are chosen based on submitted applications, and each will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Gagnon, 18, is a senior at Lincoln High School, where she maintains a 3.9 GPA, challenging herself academically with a variety of accelerated and Advanced Placement classes and a focus on mathematics. She is a member of the National Math Honor Society and intends to build upon her classroom skills at Wichita State University, majoring in mathematics/statistics, with a minor in accounting.

"This is a very prestigious award, and I was super excited to be chosen, because it shows that all the work is being recognized, not only in Sioux Falls, but nationally, and that really means a lot," said Gagnon, who also will bowl collegiately for Wichita State. "Heading into college and into the next stage of my career, this definitely will be a boost for my confidence. I hope to continue to learn and potentially get my foot in the door with the IBC Youth Committee. It would be an honor to serve at the highest level."

Gagnon currently serves as a youth director on the Sioux Falls Regional USBC Board of Directors, helping implement ideas for growing and promoting youth bowling in the area.

As part of the Programs Committee, she is responsible for getting the word out about the organization's upcoming events. Her service includes being part of the Audit/Finance, Youth and Publicity Committees.

In 2019, Gagnon put all her skills to use in the facilitation of the Next Big Thing Scholarship Tournament, an event that drew more than 50 youth bowlers from multiple states to Sioux Falls and awarded more than \$5,000 in scholarship money.

Along with rallying her fellow youth bowlers to join her on the lanes and at events, or offering tips as a mentor to youth bowlers under 12, Gagnon has been able to help the local community in many ways through the Bowling Volunteer Group. Her volunteering efforts include working with Feeding South Dakota, Rake the Town, the Sioux Falls Marathon, Project Warm Up and the Serve & Learn Student Association.

On the lanes, she was named South Dakota Bowler of the Year in 2018 and 2019. She has a high game of 300 and a high series of 763 and has challenged herself by seeking out top-tier youth events, including local and state scholarship tournaments, the Chicago-area's Elite Youth Tour and Storm Youth Championships.

Gagnon recently helped Lincoln High School to its second girls state bowling championship, a feat she also accomplished twice as a member of the bowling team at Roosevelt High School. She also has been named the 2021 South Dakota Star of Tomorrow.

In the future, Gagnon hopes to build on all the activities and passions that helped her become a 2021 USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year.

"One of my top goals is to be on the PWBA Tour one day, and I know bowling at Wichita State will help with that," Gagnon said. "I also take incredible pride in my schoolwork, and I love numbers, so I hope that allows me to someday work in banking. No matter what, I'll always love bowling and promoting the sport. I plan to continue serving on the local board, and hopefully at the national level, where I can continue to learn and contribute."

Salinas, also 18, is a senior at Churchill Fulshear High School and a 2020 inductee into the National Honor Society. He has a 4.1892 GPA and is ranked 87th in his class of 363 students.

His academic excellence and bowling goals led him to the Savannah College of Art & Design, where he'll bowl collegiately and major in user experience (UX) design, which focuses on how people interact with products and the quality of their experience with those products.

"I was honored just to be nominated for this award," Salinas said. "To find out the news, there was a lot of excitement and some validation in seeing all of the hard work starting to pay off."

Salinas also is a skilled artist and musician, often using his skills or creations to help raise money at fundraisers or charity events.

For the last few years, his artwork has been auctioned off to raise money during a variety of local and regional bowling events, including the annual Professional Bowlers Association/Professional Women's Bowling Association Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles Tournament in Houston.

"Especially with school, I've always tried to make each thing I do my top priority," Salinas said. "I also love being able to give back and use my skills, like art and music, to help others or make a difference in my community. And, I enjoy any opportunity I get to promote the sport, whether it be at school, or in general, to help let people know all the great things that can come from bowling."

Salinas has found continued success on the lanes, as well, collecting wins at a variety of local, regional and state events and finding the spotlight on the national stage with a Teen Masters victory in 2019 and a top-four finish in the U15 division at the Junior Gold Championships in 2018.

He has a high game of 300 and has multiple USBC-certified 800 series to his credit, but Salinas' impact in the bowling community also translates beyond the scoreboard. He also spends time coaching younger bowlers and serves as a league officer.

Whether it's on the lanes or off, Salinas loves supporting the sport and his fellow bowlers. That includes throwing strikes or setting up events, so others can have a memorable tournament experience.

"I've always loved the sport and all the things about it, even if I'm at an event, and I'm not the one bowling," Salinas said. "I just love being in the environment and being involved in every way possible."

Gagnon and Salinas will be recognized in April during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern.

A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

CALIFORNIA BOWLER EARNS ANNUAL ZEB SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2021

ARLINGTON, Texas - Stella Hong of Cerritos, California, has been chosen by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee as the Annual Zeb Scholarship recipient for 2021.

The Annual Zeb Scholarship recognizes a United States Bowling Congress Youth member who has achieved academic success and gives back to his or her community through service. The recipient, who must be a junior or senior in high school, receives a \$2,500 scholarship.

Hong is a senior at Gretchen Whitney High School, where she has challenged herself with a variety of Advanced Placement and honors classes on the way to a 3.9143 GPA and induction into the Science National Honor Society.

Her excellence at the AP level has earned her an AP Scholar Award - AP Scholar with Distinction - granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams.

The 18-year-old's academic success will lead her to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, where she'll major in molecular and cellular biology and continue her journalistic endeavors, while her bowling experience has taught her about teamwork and camaraderie. Medical school, being a physician and ultimately working in volunteer service to help in low-income areas are her long-term plans.

She started bowling in third grade when her local bowling center offered a summer program that allowed her to bowl nearly every day.

"I am very excited to be receiving this award," Hong said. "Bowling has been a really important thing for me since I got a bowling pass at the local center. Bowling has taught me about working with people. Despite any differences in age or gender, it has helped me learn about being a team player. It has helped me learn to pick myself up and know others will support me, even if I make a mistake or miss a pin."

Hong also has excelled at balancing a very busy schedule that includes overseeing a staff of more than 60 in her school's newspaper club, working at The Korea Daily newspaper, serving as president of her school's National History Club, interning for her local congressman, participating in the model United Nations, captaining a team in the CyberPatriot National Youth Cyber Education Program and participating in a variety of other science- and technology-related activities.

She is incredibly active in the local community, with a simple goal to motivate her - give back more to the community than she gains from it.

One of her most rewarding ventures is her role as president of the Buena Park branch of Young Leaders of Orange County, a group focused on tutoring low-income elementary and middle school students. Even with the recent challenges of COVID-19, Hong was able to continue the tutoring virtually.

She also has been instrumental in an annual local book drive, worked numerous roles as a volunteer with BlindStart of America and been a Big Buddy, Little Buddy ambassador for students new to her school.

Her efforts and dedication have earned her many awards. Recently, she earned a Congressional Award Gold Medal. She also has been a recipient of a United Nations Association Ambassador Award and a President's Volunteer Service Gold Award, presented to students who log more than 250 service hours.

"A lot of my motivation comes from working with people who motivate me, but I always make sure to find time for the things I'm most passionate about, like journalism," Hong said. "People joke that I spend more time at school and doing clubs than I do at home, but we use these extra-curricular activities as our way of hanging out, so it doesn't ever feel like work."

Hong's time at The Korea Daily allows her to share her own voice, while also mentoring young journalists. She can help in the creation and editing of their stories and share in the pride of seeing

them in print, while helping to grow the overall voice of Asian Americans in journalism.

Along with adapting her tutoring strategy in light of COVID-19, Hong has done her best to continue doing the physical activities she enjoys, too.

With California's bowling centers being completely closed for most of the last year, she has spent more time running to stay fit. She also has found a way to virtually practice with her school's JAWS dragon boat team, allowing her to keep her form sharp.

Hong will be recognized as the Annual Zeb Scholarship recipient in April during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern.

A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

Hannah Vaughn of Fredericktown, Ohio, was the Annual Zeb Scholarship recipient in 2020.

The scholarship is named for Jim Zebehazy, who served as executive director of the Young American Bowling Alliance (YABA) from 1996-2004 and later as a regional manager for USBC. Zebehazy is a member of the 2020 USBC Hall of Fame class.

Visit BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards to learn more about scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers.

MISSOURI BOWLER BREAKS NINE-GAME USBC SCORING RECORD

ARLINGTON, Texas - Anthony Recsnik of Troy, Missouri, may be a numbers guy with a background in finance, but it's not likely any of his class assignments have included calculating the odds of a performance like the one he turned in this weekend at the Missouri United States Bowling Congress Open Championships presented by BowlTV.

The 21-year-old right-hander not only beat his high series Saturday during the team event at Shrewsbury Lanes, he topped the previous mark two more times in doubles and singles Sunday at Concord Bowl on the way to the national nine-game USBC record. Both centers are in St. Louis.

Recsnik opened the weekend with games of 300, 256 and 269 for an 825 series and added 822 in doubles (289, 264, 269) and 836 in singles (259, 290, 287) for a 2,483 all-events total, a 275.88 average.

His scores, which are pending approval from USBC, topped the previous record of 2,468, rolled by Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion Eugene McCune of Munster, Indiana, in 2010.

"I'm kind of speechless, to be honest," Recsnik said. "My great-grandfather was a veteran in the Navy, and one thing he always told me was to go out and make our last name known in bowling. To be able to do that is so special to me. I think this performance accomplishes that, but I still can't believe it. It's like a dream."

Recsnik is a student at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri, where he recently turned his focus from finance to human resource management, though his long-term goal is to secure a master's degree with an emphasis on HR and finance.

As far as the timing of the memorable weekend, Recsnik also was in the midst of celebrating a career transition. Beyond his school responsibilities, he recently left one job and was scheduled to begin another Monday as an associate banker, now with a great story to share at orientation.

Entering the 2021 MOUSBC Open Championships, Recsnik owned four USBC-certified 300 games. The last one came in 2017. He also had sets of 807 and 813 in 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Now that his scores are posted, he'll wait to see how his performance ranks in the standings of Handicap Singles, Scratch Singles, Handicap All-Events and Scratch All-Events. The tournament kicked off March 13 and will run all but one weekend through April 18.

"I would never have thought I'd beat my high series three times at a state tournament, and I don't know if, or when, it's going to feel real," said Recsnik, who bowled collegiately for Lindenwood from 2018-2020. "I'm just really proud. I told my mom while we were celebrating my job change, that it feels like a nice fresh start. I guess it's a whole new me, starting with my bowling."

For more information on USBC records, visit BOWL.com/Records.

INSPIRED BUTTURFF READY FOR 2021 USBC MASTERS AND U.S. OPEN AT NATIONAL BOWLING STADIUM

ARLINGTON, Texas - In 2019, Jakob Butturff was on top of the bowling world, pocketing more than \$200,000 in Professional Bowlers Association competition and picking up the first major title of his career at the United States Bowling Congress Masters.

A year later, that world was upside down for the young left-hander from Tempe, Arizona, even beyond the global chaos that ensued because of COVID-19.

The seven-time PBA Tour champion lost focus when it came to his health and physical fitness, and the year ended with the loss of his mother, Bridget, after a brave battle with cancer.

Butturff knew there were two ways he could rebound from such a challenging time in his life, and the desire to continue making his mother proud was enough to steer him back to the habits and dedication that made him one of the world's most successful bowlers over the last five years.

Following a progress-proving performance at the recent PBA World Series of Bowling XII in Tampa, Florida, the 26-year-old is ready to bring that momentum to the iconic National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, where he'll finally get to defend his USBC Masters title and look to improve on some heartbreaking finishes at the U.S. Open.

The two tournaments are considered majors on the PBA Tour schedule and will be held consecutively at the 78-lane NBS, starting March 30. The Masters will take the spotlight through April 4, and the U.S. Open will be contested April 6-11.

The qualifying and match-play rounds of both events will be broadcast live on BowlTV.com and simulcast to FloBowling, and both tournaments will conclude live on Fox Sports' FS1 as part of the 2021 PBA Tour television schedule on April 4 and April 11, respectively, from 2-4 p.m. Eastern.

"I woke up after the Players Championship in January and realized the pressure I was putting on my

body, and the decisions I was making, were not good, and I was not the Jakob I wanted to be," said Butturff, who made the PBA West Regional finals for the 2021 PBA Players Championship then finished second in the PBA World Championship and Chameleon Championship, both part of the World Series of Bowling. "I know my mom would want me to be successful and not dwell on things or stay on the path I was on. I want to keep making her proud. Even though she's not physically here, I know I'll always have her support, and she's still watching every shot I throw."

The Masters, which last was held in Reno in 2011, will kick off with three days of qualifying for a field of more than 250 of the best bowlers in the world, and the top 63 bowlers, based on their 15-game qualifying totals, will join Butturff in the event's double-elimination match-play bracket.

Butturff rolled undefeated through the bracket in his hometown of Las Vegas in 2019, defeating eventual PBA Rookie of the Year Mykel Holliman of Collierville, Tennessee, in the title match, 228-196.

Two years later, Butturff is ready to put that title on the line in a one-of-a-kind venue where he has enjoyed past success.

"I feel like one of the hardest things to do in our sport is defend a title, but I enjoy the format at the Masters, I'm in a great place personally and with my bowling, and I've had past success in that building," said Butturff, who finished third in Regular All-Events when the USBC Open Championships visited the NBS in 2016. "I'd say my confidence right now is pretty high up there, and I'm feeling and bowling a lot more like 2019 Jakob."

Another similarity to 2019 is that Butturff also was the runner-up at the PBA World Championship that year, falling to Australia's Jason Belmonte in the final. It wasn't the outcome Butturff hoped for, but he feels it played a role in his Masters win 11 days later.

This year, Butturff lost to Tom Daugherty in a high-scoring final, and though he didn't win that event, there's always the hope history will continue to repeat itself.

The U.S. Open also has provided some deja vu for Butturff in recent years, along with a roller-coaster ride over the last four events, so the idea of redemption at that tournament always is on his mind for a variety of reasons.

He earned the top seed for the TV show in 2017 by more than 600 pins, before losing to fellow left-hander Rhino Page in the title match. In 2018, Butturff again set the pace, claiming the No. 1 seed by a margin of more than 550 pins. Again, he finished as the runner-up, this time losing to England's Dom Barrett.

The 2019 tournament provided a different type of disappointment, as an injury forced Butturff to withdraw during the third round of qualifying, after shooting over 200 just seven times in 19 games.

At the 2020 edition in Lincoln, Nebraska, one of the few events held before COVID-19 shut down all sporting events, he finished in the middle of the pack and failed to make match play once again.

"When I led the U.S. Open by so much those two years, I think my mindset was possibly a little too arrogant, and I think that affected me during the next two years," Butturff said. "The reason I led was because I was patient and focused. The last two years, I feel I was trying to strike on every shot, and I got flustered easily. By realizing what went wrong, I hope I'll be able to take the things I learned and be successful again."

While the 2020 U.S. Open didn't pan out for Butturff, it couldn't have gone better for Belmonte, who finally claimed the title that had eluded him through more than a decade on the PBA Tour.

He earned the coveted green jacket at Sun Valley Lanes for his then-record 12th major title, and the win helped him join USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Mike Aulby as the only players in history to complete the Super Slam, which includes the U.S. Open, USBC Masters, PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship and PBA Players Championship.

Belmonte has since added another couple of titles, including a victory at the 2020 PBA World Championship for his 13th major win, and a sixth PBA Player of the Year Award.

The 37-year-old Australian did make TV at the recent World Series of Bowling, but it only was as a sideline reporter. Making a run or two, in Reno, where he has had past success, would be welcomed way to end his extended road trip.

This stint for Belmonte in the United States marks the longest he has been away from home in a long time.

Due to strict travel protocols, it made more sense for him to remain in the United States during the first portion of the PBA Tour schedule, since returning would mean an automatic 14 days of isolation in a hotel. He arrived in January and will not return home until the end of April.

During the uncharacteristic free time on the road, he has been able to stay busy with various business endeavors, working on his brand, working with sponsors and more - all things he has been able to do digitally, without moving about too much within the United States.

The 25-time PBA Tour champion also recently announced that he and wife, Kimberly, are expecting their fourth child, so the \$30,000 top prize from the 2021 U.S. Open would be a nice start to a new stash of diapers, though the prize money on the PBA Tour never has been the main focus for him.

"Children bring love and excitement and joy, but you've also got to pay for them," Belmonte joked. "One of my main goals always has been to give my children and family a great life, but my time on tour has not been about the financial benefits. Sure, that's a nice reward for success, but that is pressure that does not need to be there. I focus on performing for myself, my family, the fans and my sponsors. As a competitor, I don't want to make it any harder than it already is out there."

Even before the U.S. Open, though, Belmonte will focus on the Masters, where he has found continued success. He won the event three consecutive times from 2013-2015 and got the job done again in 2017 to become the first four-time winner.

While it appears he may feel comfortable in the unique double-elimination format at the Masters or thrive in the long format of the U.S. Open, where 56 games of pinfall, including 24 games of bonus pins from match play, determines the finalists, each year brings a new challenge.

"In my experience at these two events, every single year there's differences, and it's a brand new puzzle to figure out," Belmonte said. "As much as I've enjoyed my success at the Masters and winning last year's U.S. Open, I know this year will be different. I hope I can use my past experience as an advantage, but I also try to treat it like it's my first time bowling. You still have to put in the work and watch ball reaction and be aware of who you're following. You have to make sure you stay focused on every shot."

Qualifying at the U.S. Open will take place over four days and four challenging oil patterns, beginning April 6. All 108 players will bowl during the first three days, before the field is cut to the top 36 for the fourth round.

Total pinfall for 32 games will determine the 24 players who advance to round-round match play.

If Belmonte can become the first bowler since USBC Hall of Famer Dave Husted in 1996 to win the U.S. Open in back-to-back years, he also would become the first bowler to win the Super Slam twice.

Among his 13 major titles are four wins at the Masters, three victories at the PBA Tournament of Champions, three PBA World Championship titles and a pair of wins at the PBA Players Championship.

"Last year, when I won the U.S. Open, it wasn't just about getting the one I hadn't gotten," Belmonte said. "It meant the Triple Crown, Grand Slam and Super Slam. Winning the U.S. Open again would make me the only player to complete the Super Slam twice, which would be incredibly special to me, and it would help achieve my goal of being considered one of the best bowlers of all-time."

The 2021 U.S. Open will be a collaborative effort between USBC and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America, and the limited field will include the sport's best bowlers, most of whom earned their spots in the event based on their recent on-lane performances. The list includes leaders on the PBA Tour points list and top performers at USBC events and PBA majors.

For more information on the USBC Masters or U.S. Open, visit BOWL.com.

OHIO YOUTH BOWLER NAMED CHUCK HALL STAR OF TOMORROW

ARLINGTON, Texas - Zachary Lewis of Medina, Ohio, has been selected as the 2021 Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow Award winner by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee.

The annual award recognizes star qualities in a United States Bowling Congress Youth member, including distinguished bowling performances on the local, state and national levels, academic achievement and community involvement. Applicants must be a male high school senior or college student.

Lewis, 18, receives a \$6,000 scholarship as this year's award recipient.

"The Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow Award is more than just about bowling and academics," Lewis said. "It provides an outlet to bring attention to community service, which often goes unnoticed. I have achieved success in many of the bowling circles I have been part of for the past 10 years, but I am far from being the best bowler. Grades have always taken priority, but there will always be someone smarter. What I am most proud of is being able to serve others. Even the smallest of things can make a big difference. I have been blessed with many opportunities in my life, and this scholarship is one of them."

A senior at Medina High School, Lewis holds a 4.3 GPA, placing him 28th in a class of more than 530 students. He has taken an Advanced Placement course in computer science principles, multiple

College Credit Plus courses and honors classes in language arts, geometry, algebra II/trigonometry, pre-calculus, Spanish IV, American history, world history, physical science, biology and physics.

He has been on the honor roll in each of his four years at Medina High School and has been part of the National Honor Society as a junior and senior. Lewis also is on pace to graduate with an Ohio Academic Honors Diploma.

Lewis has served as an academic tutor at the Joyce B. Ebner Volunteer Tutoring Center at Medina High School during his junior and senior years, helping his fellow classmates with Spanish, math and science. He also has been extremely active in volunteer and outreach programs in his community and is scheduled to travel to Costa Rica in June 2021 to help the Roblealto Child Care Association to work with children in critical situations.

Lewis has bowled since he was 8 years old and joined the newly formed Medina High School bowling team as a freshman. The program went from not winning a match that season to advancing to the district tournament in Lewis' sophomore and junior seasons. During his junior year, he became the first bowler from Medina High School to qualify for the Ohio High School Athletic Association State Bowling Championships, where he finished in 12th place.

He has earned multiple distinctions while competing for Medina High School and was named the 2020 Medina County Athletic Administrators Association All-Tournament Team MVP.

Lewis plans to attend Bowling Green State University in the fall to study criminal justice, with a specialization in forensic investigation.

"Real success is being the best you can be while encouraging others to find their true worth," Lewis said. "Lessons in success learned through academics, bowling and community service has opened doors I never could have imagined."

Lewis will be recognized in April during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern.

A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

Visit [BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards](https://www.usbc.com/ScholarshipsAwards) for more information on scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers.

CHUCK HALL STAR OF TOMORROW AWARD WINNERS

Year, winner, hometown

1980 Chris Whitty, Simonton, Texas

1981 Drew Barthle, Tampa, Fla.

1982 Ricky Corona, Oakland, Calif.

1983 Dan Nadeau, Las Vegas

1984 Robert Beck, Houston

1985 Justin Hromek, Andover, Kan.

1986 Pat Healey, Wichita, Kan.

1987 Mark Fisser, Buena Park, Calif.
1988 Bradley Joinetz, San Antonio, Texas
1989 Lonnie Waliczek, Wichita, Kan.
1990 Jason McCarty, Fultondale, Ala.
1991 Chris Williams, Anchorage, Alaska
1992 Robert Smith, Moorpark, Calif.
1993 Vince Biondo, Hoffman Estates, Ill.
1994 Michael Mullin, New City, N.Y.
1995 John Miller, Wichita, Kan.
1996 David Eisenberg, Kendall Park, N.J.
1997 Todd Filter, Cedarburg, Wis.
1998 James (Eddie) Kirtley, Bowling Green, Ky.
1999 Andrew Cain, Glendale, Ariz.
2000 Scott Norton, Cypress, Calif.
2001 Sean Rash, Anchorage, Alaska
2002 Nathan Bohr, Austin, Texas
2003 Marc D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y.
2004 Patrick Haggerty, Weimar, Calif.
2005 Brandon Temple, Tempe, Ariz.
2006 Eric Helmrich, Saint Leonard, Md.
2007 Jonathan Buckert, Rochester, N.Y.
2008 Kyle Kahlden, Houston
2009 Chris Bardol, Brockport, N.Y.
2010 Andrew Koff, Miami, Fla.
2011 Brent Bowers, Mulvane, Kan.
2012 Kyle Anderson, Lockport, Ill.
2013 Joey Kopera, Orland Park, Ill.
2014 Derick Holmes, Wichita, Kan.
2015 Anthony Sidari, Hazleton, Pa.
2016 Jack Cook, Denville, N.J.
2017 Carson Opela, Rio Rancho, N.M.
2018 Alex Olendorff, St. Louis, Mo.
2019 Trace Nuss of Tampa, Fla.
2020 Ryan Gatton, Owensboro, Ky.
2021 Zachary Lewis, Medina, Ohio

TWELVE YOUTH BOWLERS SELECTED TO RECEIVE GIFT FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The International Bowling Campus Youth Committee has selected 12 United States Bowling Congress Youth members to receive a Gift For Life Scholarship in 2021.

The Gift For Life Scholarships are presented annually to youth bowlers who are in high school and can demonstrate financial need. Applicants are selected based on submitted applications, must have a grade-point average of 2.5 or higher (based on a 4.0 scale) and provide at least two letters of

recommendation.

Each award winner receives a \$1,000 scholarship, managed through the SMART program.

The Gift For Life Scholarship recipients for 2021 are:

- Andrew Chan, Downey, California - A senior at Downey High School, he has taken numerous Advanced Placement and honors courses and has received the Viking Award medallion twice for Advanced College Prep Mathematics. He has been part of Quiz Bowl, Chess and Math Club and Junior States of America, while also competing on the varsity golf team in each of his four years at Downey.
- Kristina Chenevey, North Las Vegas, Nevada - The senior at Ed W. Clark High School was nominated as the Student of the Month in February 2020 and was named the Clark County School District Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services MVP as a sophomore. She has spent every summer since 2012 helping mentor deaf children for No Limits for Deaf Children and is part of both the varsity bowling and golf teams.
- Joshua Curry, Olathe, Kansas - A senior at Olathe South High School, he has excelled in a variety of Advanced Placement and honors courses, while being recognized in the National and Rho Kappa Honor Society. He has been a volunteer for multiple organizations in the past six years and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, while competing in bowling, soccer and tennis.
- Ashtyn Holz, Lynch, Nebraska - The Niobrara Public School senior, who has spent the last four years in drama, band and the Future Business Leaders of America club, has been part of the National Honor Society for three years and was named part of the Niobrara Valley Conference Principal's All-Academic Team as a junior. She also volunteers at the Lynn Theater and has given her time to assist at multiple events in the community to support her church.
- Aubrey Kiddle, Lindenhurst, Illinois - A senior at Lakes Community High School, she has been on the high honor roll every year since 2018 and has taken Advanced Placement courses in psychology and biology. She has been part of the varsity bowling team all four years and has competed in field hockey and tennis, while giving back to the community as a member of the Girls Scouts since 2007.
- Regan Kopesky, Gaines, Michigan - The Byron Area High School senior has collected numerous honors and awards, including honor roll, National Honor Society, Shiawassee Scholar Class of 2021 and selection for the Aspirnaut Fellowship. A four-year member of the Byron Area bowling program, she also has helped coach the middle school team, while participating in multiple clubs, councils and spending time as a tutor.
- Cole Macaluso, Fremont, Nebraska - A senior at Fremont Senior High School, he has earned recognition from the National and Spanish Honor Society as a junior and senior, while also receiving the Academic Achievement Award all four years. He has been captain of the Fremont Senior High School bowling team since his sophomore year, participated in Letter, Key and Physics Clubs and served as a group leader of the Fremont chapter of the Youth Leadership Academy.
- Emilia Nodarse, Homestead, Florida - A senior at Cutler Bay Senior High, she has taken Advanced Placement and honors courses in multiple disciplines and has been named to the National and Spanish Honor Society and honor roll. She has participated in yearbook, Rho Kappa and Quill and

Scroll and has competed on the varsity bowling team.

- Connor Nowak, West Seneca, New York - The West Senior High School senior has collected numerous scholastic honors and awards, including National, Spanish and Science Honor Society and the Kiwanis Award for Social Studies, Science and Physical Education. He has been very involved in volunteer work in the schools and community and also is part of the varsity bowling team.
- Lilu Smith, Gahanna, Ohio - A senior at Gahanna Lincoln High School, she has had a steady schedule featuring Advanced Placement and honors courses, while being recognized for National and Chinese Honors Society and academic excellence. On the lanes, she has helped Gahanna Lincoln capture the 2018 and 2020 Ohio High School Athletic Association Division I team championship and has tutored and volunteered in her community.
- Brooklyn Suzuki, Greenville, Illinois - A junior at Bond County Community Unit No. 2 High School, she has received recognition on the high honor roll each year and has taken an Advanced Placement course in biology. In addition to bowling, she also plays basketball, volleyball and soccer and has been a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for three years, serving as a leader for two years.
- Zeke Tosun, Clark, New Jersey - The Arthur L. Johnson High School senior has taken a multitude of Advanced Placement and honors courses on the way to earning his spot on the honor roll and Spanish Honor Society. He is captain of the bowling team at Arthur L. Johnson and has been very active in French and Key Club and band.

Each year, two of the Gift For Life Scholarships are reserved for the children of fire department, emergency rescue or police personnel. The fathers of Holz and Kiddle serve as fire department and police personnel, respectively.

Visit [BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards](https://www.bowl.com/ScholarshipsAwards) for more information on scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers.

TEXAS BOWLER SELECTED AS ALBERTA E. CROWE STAR OF TOMORROW FOR 2021

ARLINGTON, Texas - Katharina Mente of Keller, Texas, has been chosen by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee as the Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow for 2021.

The prestigious award recognizes the star qualities of a female high school senior or college student, including accomplishments on the lanes, academic achievement and community service. Mente will receive a \$6,000 scholarship as this year's award recipient.

Mente, an 18-year-old senior at Keller High School, exemplifies the above qualities in perfect balance, excelling in the classroom in a variety of Advanced Placement classes, as one of the area's top youth bowlers and in a volunteer role, all while preparing for a career in the medical field.

"I feel very honored, and it means a lot to see everything I've worked for starting to pay off," said Mente, a member of the National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society and German National Honor Society. "This gives me a lot of confidence heading into college and shows there are great

things ahead for me."

Mente's skills on the lanes and pursuit of a career in the medical field have led her to Tulane University in New Orleans. She signed a letter of intent in January and is ready to embark on her career with the Green Wave. She will compete on the bowling team, and her academic focus will be on health and wellness, ultimately putting her on a pre-med track.

Her own experience dealing with psoriasis, an autoimmune disorder that affects 125 million people worldwide, has helped her connect with many people, and it has been influential in setting her career path in motion.

Over the past year, she has come to terms with her condition and realized there are many more people in the bowling community who suffer from it in various degrees, including one of her bowling coaches, past Professional Bowlers Association Tour Rookie of the Year Paul Fleming, who was forced to stop competing professionally because of how it affected his fingers.

Mente hopes her new perspective and future research will help find healthier and more effective treatments for psoriasis.

Within the local bowling community, she has been influenced by a talented group of standouts that includes USBC Hall of Famers Carolyn Dorin-Ballard and Del Ballard, along with Fleming.

She also has worked with the team at Mental Management Systems in nearby Flower Mound, Texas, to make sure her game is as strong mentally as it is physically.

Competitively, she has served as the captain of her high school bowling team, found success at local, regional and national youth events and recently was honored as the 2020 North Central Texas USBC Bowler of the Year, along with induction into the Texas State Hall of Honor, also in 2020.

Mente has been active as a youth director for both the North Central Texas USBC and Texas State USBC Association, contributing many ideas to help promote youth bowling, while also being instrumental in fundraising efforts.

As she prepares to head to New Orleans for the next phase of her bowling and academic careers, Menté is excited to add to the solid foundation she has built.

"I'm going to one of the best schools in the nation, and I am very excited to be a part of that tradition, along with being part of such an up-and-coming bowling program," Menté said. "It's the right place for me, and I'm hopeful and thankful for all the good things that will come as part of the experience."

Mente will be recognized in April during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern.

A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

Caroline Thesier of Mooresville, North Carolina, who won the U17 title at the 2019 Junior Gold Championships, was the 2020 Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow.

USBC Hall of Fame member Betty Kuczynski was the first Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow winner in 1961. Other hall of famers to receive the award are Joy Abel (1962), Judy Soutar (1963), Mildred Ignizio (1967), Susie Reichley (1969), Cheryl Robinson (1970), Donna Adamek (1975), Nikki Gianulias

(1978), Tish Johnson (1980), Lynda (Norry) Barnes (1988) and Liz Johnson (1993).

Visit BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards for more information on scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers.

ALBERTA E. CROWE STAR OF TOMORROW AWARD WINNERS

Year, winner, hometown

1961 Betty Kuczynski, Cicero, Ill.
1962 Joy Abel, Lansing, Ill.
1963 Judy Soutar, Leawood, Kan.
1964 Ann Bosworth, Belleville, Ill.
1965 Karen Linton, El Paso, Texas
1966 Betty Jo Crow, Fairway, Kan.
1967 Mildred Ignizio, Rochester, N.Y.
1968 Pamela Carver, Phoenix, Ariz.
1969 Janice Sue Reichley, Dallas
1970 Cheryl Robinson, Destrehan, La.
1971 Rosalyn Raab, San Antonio, Texas
1972 Karen Gustafson, Sunland, Calif.
1973 Leslie Ferris, Arlington, Va.
1974 Pam Dusek, Ontario, Calif.
1975 Donna Adamek, Apple Valley, Calif.
1976 Regina Loveall, Amarillo, Texas
1977 Kathy Kirst, San Antonio, Texas
1978 Nikki Gianulias, Vallejo, Calif.
1979 Audrey Gable, Whitehall, Pa.
1980 Tish Johnson, Panorama City, Calif.
1981 Shelley Johnson, Toledo, Ohio
1982 Vicki Parker, Pelham, N.H.
1983 Laura Dulisse, Blauvelt, N.Y.
1984 Kristine Gross, Citrus Heights, Calif.
1985 Becky Kregling, Stratford, Conn.
1986 Lori Benge, Wichita, Kan.
1987 Dionne Lee, Modesto, Calif.
1988 Lynda Norry, Concord, Calif.
1989 Stefanie Marek, Wilmington, Del.
1990 Kelly Everding, Arvada, Colo.
1991 Laura Ross, Mahwah, N.J.
1992 Kari Murph, Dayton, Ohio
1993 Elizabeth Johnson, Niagara Falls, N.Y.
1994 Pamela Inloes, Modesto, Calif.
1995 Kassy Hyman, Dyer, Ind.
1996 Michelle Ewald, St. Clair Shores, Mich.
1997 Kimberly Claus, Mesquite, Texas
1998 Diandra Hyman, Dyer, Ind.
1999 Amy Rocco, Phoenix
2000 Robin Crawford, Hendersonville, Tenn.
2001 Melissa Bellinder, Fullerton, Calif.
2002 Anita Manns, Austin, Texas
2003 Lindsey Coulls, Centerville, Ohio
2004 Amanda Burgoyne, Newport, Minn.
2005 Cassandra Leuthold, Blackhawk, S.D.
2006 Josie Earnest, Vandalia, Ill.
2007 Joi Bell, Pflugerville, Texas

2008 Brittni Hamilton, Webster, N.Y.
2009 Ricki Williams, Wichita, Kan.
2010 Heather D'Errico, Rochester, N.Y.
2011 Nicole Mosesso, Centerville, Ohio
2012 Megan Buja, Rockford, Ill.
2013 Melanie Hannon, Cheektowaga, N.Y.
2014 Melanie Crawford, Plano, Texas
2015 Emma Kuhn, Texas City, Texas
2016 Gazmine Mason, Cranston, R.I.
2017 Natalie Koprowitz, Girard, Ill.
2018 Crystal Singh, Coral Springs, Fla.
2019 Mabel Cummins, Elburn, Ill.
2020 Caroline Thesier, Mooresville, N.C.
2021 Katharina Mente, Keller, Texas

NEW YORK COACH SELECTED TO RECEIVE 2021 DAVID DAHMS COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD

ARLINGTON, Texas - Arthur O'Connor of West Hempstead, New York, has been named the 2021 David Dahms Coach of the Year by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee.

The annual award is determined by the IBC Youth Committee based on submitted applications.

The David Dahms Coach of the Year Award recognizes a coach that is trained through the USBC Coaching program who has been actively involved in a USBC Youth program and has demonstrated outstanding commitment to coaching, sportsmanship and knowledge of USBC Youth rules. It is named in honor of Dahms, who was an instrumental leader in the creation of what is now known as the USBC Junior Gold program.

"I'm stunned," said O'Connor, a Silver coach. "This recognition shows that what we're doing here is really working. I'm ecstatic at this because it presents more opportunities for me to help the sport of bowling."

O'Connor bowled through his teenage years but had gotten away from the sport to work in the food and beverage industry, which included owning a restaurant. He picked up the sport again at 40, and after moving back to New York in the late 2000s, found a home at Jib Lanes in Fresh Meadows, where he worked as the food and beverage director.

He soon was tasked with running the youth program at Jib Lanes and started with six youth bowlers in 2011. O'Connor quickly transformed the program, helping it grow to approximately 120 youth bowlers as of last season.

O'Connor has developed a culture that encourages his experienced students to help new bowlers with the basics and improve, and he is focused on helping showcase the scholarship opportunities available to youth bowlers who are looking at colleges.

He also has his own coaching channel on YouTube, Art of Bowling, which has more than 20,000 subscribers and several videos eclipsing more than 100,000 views.

O'Connor noted the 2018 World Bowling Coach Conference at the International Training and Research Center as being one of the watershed moments in his coaching career, which encouraged him to look at coaching on a full-time basis.

"Those were three of the most amazing days in my life," said O'Connor, who also is an administrative assistant for the New York City USBC. "I was like a kid in a candy store. The knowledge I gained from that was phenomenal, and being able to listen to Susie Minshew talk about taking the dive into coaching full-time was big for me. I was wanting to get out of the food and beverage industry, and her speech encouraged me to try coaching full-time. I'm very grateful to the LaSpina family (at Jib Lanes) for giving me the opportunity to do this."

O'Connor will be recognized in April for his efforts during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern.

A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

Learn more about awards for adult youth leaders and scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers at [BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards](https://www.bowl.com/ScholarshipsAwards).

FIVE USBC YOUTH MEMBERS TO RECEIVE EARL ANTHONY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN 2021

ARLINGTON, Texas - Five United States Bowling Congress Youth members were selected to receive an Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship in 2021 in recognition of their academic achievements and contributions to their communities.

Recipients were selected by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee from submitted applications, and each will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. The scholarship is named in honor of the legendary hall of famer who was dedicated to helping youth bowlers.

The five recipients of an Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship are:

- * Kathleen Heady, Richardson, Texas
- * Kyle Holmes, Grand Mound, Iowa
- * Callie Hribar, Hilliard, Ohio
- * Paris Creed King, Starkville, Mississippi
- * Austen Leslie, Perry, Georgia

Heady is a senior at Plano Senior High School, where she has challenged herself with a schedule full of

honors and Advanced Placement classes, while accumulating more than 30 hours of college credit. She has a GPA of 4.250 on a 5.0 scale, is a member of the National Honor Society, has earned the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence three times and will attend Stephen F. Austin University, beginning next fall.

During her high school career, Heady has participated in varsity bowling, student government, yearbook, choir, soccer and track and field. She also has volunteered in a variety of capacities to provide food and various supplies to students and families in her community, as a race volunteer for a local running club and in an administrative role with North Texas Soccer.

Heady, who received a David Dahms Sportsmanship Award at the 2017 Junior Gold Championships, has been on the Greater Dallas USBC Board of Directors and has helped in the facilitation of local tournaments.

Holmes is a senior at Central Dewitt High School, where he has been a fixture on the honor roll, while taking honors and AP classes. He is a member of the National Honor Society, a standout in Odyssey of the Mind and has been part of his school's choir and musicals. He also has participated in bowling, football, baseball and track.

Community service has played a large role in Holmes' high school career, and he has been involved in ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, blood drives, food drives, school functions, church activities and using his musical abilities in performances of the national anthem or holiday caroling throughout his community.

Hribar attends Hilliard Bradley High School, where her success in honors and AP classes has helped her to the National Honor Society, the AP Scholar with Distinction Award, Academic Excellence Award and numerous Scholar Athlete Awards, while participating in bowling, golf and track and field.

Her schedule also includes participating in the chamber orchestra as a cellist and in multiple clubs at her school, all while accumulating more than 200 hours of community service. She has volunteered at the City of Columbus Golf Camp, Purple Stride Columbus, Hilliard Food Pantry, Blanket Buddies Columbus, St. Brendan Church Bagel Squad and Ohio House Rabbit Rescue.

King is on the president's honor roll as a student in the Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine Early Entry Program, which means she will have a guaranteed seat in veterinary school after the completion of her undergraduate degree. One of her goals is to own her own clinic, but doing research and volunteering in countries that rely heavily on animals for work and transportation also are in the plans.

Throughout high school, King stayed busy with activities, projects and sports, including bowling, golf and weightlifting. At MSU, she is an Access Program mentor for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities and is in the Pre-Veterinary Club and Wildlife Club.

King's passion for bowling and community service led her to volunteer to coach a Special Olympics bowling team. Seeing the team members succeed inspired her to continue striving and working toward her own goals, despite any challenges along the way. She also remains active with the Girl Scouts, anti-bullying initiatives and volunteering time at church or mission activities.

Leslie is a senior at Perry High School, where he is an honor student and AP Scholar with Honor, maintaining a 4.0 GPA. He is an active performer in the theatre department, part of Future Business Leaders of America and a member of the varsity swim team.

The longtime Boy Scout has volunteered at the Children's Theatre, Crisis Line & Safe House of Central Georgia, served Christmas dinner at a local church and soon will be volunteering at Women Reaching Our Community.

In addition to being a USBC Youth member, applicants for the Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship must have been a senior in high school or a college student and have a record of strong community involvement and academic achievements, as well as financial need. Applicants must have a minimum

cumulative GPA of 3.0 based on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent).

The group will be recognized in April during the virtual 2021 USBC Convention.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place virtually April 28 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Eastern.

A similar presentation will be held at the same time April 27 for award winners from 2020. The 2020 Convention was canceled due to COVID-19.

Visit BOWL.com/ScholarshipsAwards to learn more about scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers.

DEADLINE FOR \$25,000 FREWING SCHOLARSHIP EXTENDED TO MAY 15

ARLINGTON, Texas - The International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame announced Wednesday that the deadline for high school seniors to submit their applications for the 2021 Daroll & Dee Frewing Scholarship has been extended to May 15.

The change gives potential applicants an additional six weeks to prepare their materials, as many still are working through the transition back to in-person school, following schedule and format adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$25,000 annual scholarship was created by Daroll Frewing, co-founder and CEO of US Bowling Corporation, and his wife, Dolores, to give back to bowling center owners with whom they have built relationships with over the years.

Daroll, who has been involved in the bowling industry for nearly six decades, serves on the IBMHOF Board of Trustees. He and Dolores have played an integral role in the bowling manufacturing and installation business since 1959.

Applicants must be in their senior year of high school and be a son, daughter or grandchild of a Bowling Proprietors' Association of America center owner. The scholarship will be awarded to an applicant based on academic success and service to the community.

The 2021 Daroll & Dee Frewing Scholarship will be awarded during this year's International Bowl Expo, scheduled for June 20-24 in Louisville, Kentucky. Travel and hotel expenses for the award winner and a parent or guardian will be provided by BPAA.

The scholarship was awarded for the first time in 2020, and the recipient was Ohio's Andrew Amoré, the son of bowling proprietors Ron and Diane Amoré.

Visit BowlingMuseum.com for more information about the Daroll & Dee Frewing Scholarship and to apply. The application and documentation must be submitted no later than May 15, 2021.

SECTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The sectional assignments for the 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships were announced Wednesday.

The four sectional qualifiers will take place April 16-18 at Smyrna Bowling Center in Smyrna, Tennessee; Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois; Poelking Lanes South in Dayton, Ohio; and USA Bowl in Dallas.

The top four men's and top four women's teams from each sectional will advance to the ITC, which will be held May 5-8 at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex in Wyoming, Michigan.

The Calumet men and Mount Mercy women finished the 2020-2021 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season as the top-ranked teams in their respective divisions and will be headed to the Addison sectional.

The 2020-2021 season will mark the third time Calumet has finished the regular season in the top spot for the men's division. Mount Mercy finished the regular season as the top-ranked team in the women's division for the first time in program history.

The complete men's and women's Intercollegiate Team Championships Sectional Qualifier field (teams listed in alphabetical order):

MEN

Smyrna Sectional

Adrian, Bethel-Tennessee, Cornerstone, Culver-Stockton, Emmanuel, Hastings, Marian-Indiana, McKendree, Midway, Missouri Baptist, Muskingum, Ottawa-Kansas, Rio Grande, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, Shawnee State, Siena Heights, St. Francis-Illinois, Thomas More, Tusculum, University of the Cumberland, Vincennes, Walsh, Webber International

Addison Sectional

Aquinas, Baker, Calumet, Clarke, Coe, Davenport, Grand View, Hawkeye CC, Indiana Tech, Judson, Lewis, Lincoln Memorial, Mount Mercy, Northwestern Ohio, Saint Xavier, Upper Iowa, Viterbo, Waldorf, Wartburg, William Penn

Dayton Sectional

Bowling Green State, Concordia, Huntington, Lawrence Tech, Lourdes, Madonna, Marian-Wisconsin, Notre Dame-Ohio, Olivet, Pikeville, Robert Morris-Pennsylvania, Rochester, Spring Arbor, St. Ambrose, Tennessee Wesleyan, Trine, Wisconsin-Whitewater, Wright State

Dallas Sectional

Arizona State, Barton CC, Campbellsville, Central Missouri, Drury, Houston, Iowa Central CC, Iowa Western CC, Kansas Wesleyan, Lindenwood, Martin Methodist, Midland, Morningside, Newman, Oklahoma Christian, Spring Hill, Texas-San Antonio, West Texas A&M, Wichita State

WOMEN

Smyrna Sectional

Adrian, Bethel-Tennessee, Emmanuel, Kentucky Wesleyan, Maryville, McKendree, Mount St. Mary's, Muskingum, North Carolina A&T, Ottawa-Kansas, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, Shawnee State, St. Francis-Illinois, Tusculum, University of the Cumberland, Webber International

Addison Sectional

Alma, Aquinas, Baker, Calumet, Clarke, Grand View, Hawkeye CC, Indiana Tech, Judson, Lewis,

Lincoln Memorial, Mount Mercy, Northwestern Ohio, Saint Xavier, Viterbo, Waldorf, William Penn, Wisconsin-Whitewater

Dayton Sectional

Concordia, Delaware State, Duquesne, Huntington, Lawrence Tech, Lourdes, Madonna, Monmouth, Northern Kentucky, Notre Dame-Ohio, Pikeville, Spring Arbor, St. Ambrose, Trine, Union, Wright State

Dallas Sectional

Alabama-Birmingham, Campbellsville, Columbia College of Missouri, Iowa Central CC, Lindenwood, Louisiana Tech, Martin Methodist, Midland, Morningside, Newman, Oklahoma Christian, Stephen F. Austin, West Texas A&M, Wichita State

Sectional assignments are based on Team Ranking System (TRS) points earned during the season. USBC Collegiate attempts to place no more than two of the top eight schools and no more than four of the top 16 schools in a sectional based on the final TRS totals.

The sectional format for 2021 will consist of 20 Baker games each day for a total of 40 games, with total pinfall determining which teams advance to the ITC.

The four hosting centers also will conduct qualifying sessions for the Intercollegiate Singles Championships on April 16. Student-athletes at each of the four sectionals will bowl six games, with 24 men and 24 women - the top four men and top four women at each sectional, plus eight additional individuals based on field size - advancing to the national singles event, which will begin May 3 at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex.

Registration for the ISC sectional qualifier will open Monday, April 5 at 11 a.m. Eastern and close April 12 at 6 p.m. Eastern. Student-athletes can register at BOWL.com/ISC.

Each sectional qualifier and qualifying and match-play rounds at the ITC and ISC will be broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

The start of the 2020-2021 USBC Collegiate season was postponed until January 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2021 sectional qualifiers and ITC and ISC will follow strict procedures and protocols to ensure student-athlete and staff safety. To view the ITC document, click [here](#). For the singles procedures and protocols, click [here](#).

For more information on the Intercollegiate Team Championships, visit BOWL.com/ITC.

USBC INTRODUCES OIL PATTERN BANK AS RESOURCE FOR BOWLERS, PROPRIETORS AND TOURNAMENT OPERATORS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress has compiled its collection of oil patterns used at short- and long-duration events and on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour and created a location for them all to be accessed and downloaded.

The USBC Oil Pattern Bank will give bowlers, proprietors and tournament operators the ability to browse and select oil patterns from nearly every USBC and PWBA Tour national event since 2015.

"This is going to be a great resource for the bowling community," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "If you're preparing for upcoming events or looking to provide a new challenge for your tournament competitors, you can download these patterns and ask your local center to run them for you."

The lane conditions available in the Oil Pattern Bank range from professional events, like the USBC Queens and U.S. Open, to top-tier youth, collegiate and senior events on the USBC event schedule.

The premier events for USBC Adult members, the USBC Open and Women's Championships, also are featured.

This database will give tournament operators a variety of Sport and Challenge conditions to select when planning their next events and allow proprietors the chance to offer various oil patterns for practice sessions and leagues to help bowlers continue to develop their skills.

"USBC's Championship Tournaments are conducted on competitive oil patterns specifically designed for each event, format and bowling center," USBC Pattern Development Lead Nick Hoagland said. "This new resource allows tournament operators and proprietors quick access to their favorite oil patterns from USBC events and the PWBA Tour. These patterns can be used to conduct local and state tournaments or to provide a challenge for competitors of all ages and averages as they work to improve their games."

To explore the Oil Pattern Bank and download oil patterns, visit [BOWL.com/OilPatternBank](https://www.bowl.com/OilPatternBank).

USBC, BOWLING RECOGNIZED ALONGSIDE OTHER USOPC NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES IN YOUTH SAFETY VIDEO

ARLINGTON, Texas - The sport of bowling and the United States Bowling Congress recently were featured as part of a national video campaign about safety in youth sports.

The video, which recognizes USBC, USA Wrestling and USA Artistic Swimming for their commitment to keeping youth athletes safe, was produced by SportsEngine and aired across NBC Universal channels, including the Olympic Channel and Golf Channel.

Since debuting in November 2020, the piece has aired more than 300 times and tallied more than 8 million impressions worldwide.

"We are incredibly proud and grateful to see USBC and bowling recognized with other United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee national governing bodies," USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. "We are deeply committed to athlete safety, and seeing our youth athletes alongside competitors from other Olympic family sports in a national media campaign is something to celebrate."

SportsEngine, Inc., part of the NBC Sports Group, is the parent company of the National Center for Safety Initiatives, which provides background screenings for USBC's Registered Volunteer Program.

To learn about USBC's Athlete Safety Program, a combination of the U.S. Center for SafeSport Policies and USBC's Registered Volunteer Program, visit [BOWL.com/RVP](https://www.bowl.com/RVP).

To view the campaign spot, click [here](#).

DATES CHANGED FOR 2021 SUPER SENIOR CLASSIC AND USBC SENIOR MASTERS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress and Professional Bowlers Association announced Friday that the dates have been changed for the 2021 Super Senior Classic and USBC Senior Masters.

The events will be held consecutively in the fall as part of the West Coast swing on the 2021 PBA50 Tour schedule and still will take place at the Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas as previously scheduled.

The Super Senior Classic will be contested first, taking place Sept. 9-13. The Senior Masters then will take the spotlight from Sept. 13-19.

The two tournaments have been held together in the same host city each year since 2015 and went on to find a long-term home at Sam's Town, beginning in 2016.

Since settling in at the Sam's Town Hotel & Gambling Hall, the premier events for USBC members age 60 and older and 50 and older, respectively, have been held in early June and scheduled to coincide with other nearby PBA50 events.

That tradition will remain alive in 2021, as the shift in timing also includes the 2021 Suncoast PBA Senior U.S. Open, which will be held Aug. 29-Sept. 3 at the Suncoast Bowling Center in Las Vegas and the PBA50 Northern California Classic in Brentwood, California, from Sept. 5-8.

"In working with the PBA and our host centers in Las Vegas, moving the event to the fall makes sense because of the progress we're seeing in terms of improving conditions for event operations," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "We also have seen a great response to holding these tournaments close together, both in timing and location, and we want to continue to make it as convenient as possible for our members to bowl in all the top-tier events."

For more information about the Super Senior Classic or USBC Senior Masters, visit BOWL.com.

USBC AND BPAA PARTNER TO BRING BOWLTV TO EVERY BPAA MEMBER CENTER

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America will bring BowlTV, the USBC's livestreaming platform, to BPAA member centers starting in April 2021.

The partnership will allow every BPAA member center to receive a complimentary subscription to BowlTV, giving proprietors the ability to broadcast live events from the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour and USBC short-duration tournaments, pull from thousands of hours of archived coverage or select on-demand videos to display on television monitors throughout their centers.

"We believe this is a great opportunity for BPAA member centers to showcase the sport during open play, leagues and tournaments," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "We are hoping the additional exposure to these events being broadcast at the center will highlight the opportunities for bowlers of all skill levels to compete and encourage them to want to take their games to the next level."

Proprietors will receive an access code to activate their subscriptions, with technical support provided by the BowlTV staff.

The BPAA Education and Training team will begin rolling out this complimentary subscription immediately to coincide with the second swing of the 2021 PWBA Tour season, which starts April 22-24 at the PWBA Twin Cities Open in Eagan, Minnesota.

"We are really excited to be able to offer BowlTV complimentary to BPAA centers," BPAA Executive Director Frank DeSocio said. "BowlTV is a premium product for our sport, and we hope it's something that enhances the experience for each bowler walking into those centers."

For more information on BowlTV, visit BOWL.com/BowlTV or BowlTV.com.

FINALISTS DETERMINED AT 2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The field is set for the 2021 Intercollegiate Singles Championships after four qualifying events were held Friday throughout the United States.

The 2021 ISC will feature 24 women and 24 men vying for individual national titles May 3-8 at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex in Wyoming, Michigan.

In each of the four sectional locations Friday, competitors bowled six games, with the top six men and top six women in each event earning a spot at the national tournament. All four sectionals featured livestream coverage on BowlTV.com.

At Poelking Lanes South in Dayton, Ohio, Delaware State's Katie Robb fired 279 in her fifth game on the way to a 1,282 total and claimed the top spot in the women's division. She'll be joined by Monmouth's Jenna Lehrer (1,233); Pikeville's Emily Tull (1,202), Lawrence Tech's Victoria Giardina (1,188); St. Ambrose's Megan Hess (1,183); and Duquesne's Allison Hresko (1,180).

In the men's field in Dayton, Andrew Gross of Wisconsin-Whitewater finished at the top of the leaderboard with 1,280. He'll be joined at the ISC by Bowling Green State's Steven Kocher (1,246); St. Ambrose's Zach Denton (1,242); Bowling Green State's Tyler Lowenstein (1,239); Notre Dame-Ohio's Conner Novak (1,239); and Pikeville's Ryan Taylor (1,230).

Clarke's Brooke Allen rolled the highest six-game set of the four sectional qualifiers, posting a 1,325 total at Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois. She was followed in the standings by Saint Xavier's

Hannah Bond (1,276); Mount Mercy's Cassidy Courey (1,267); Marian-Wisconsin's Samantha Mueller (1,242); Indiana Tech's Maryssa Carey (1,222); and Mount Mercy's Ayra Aminuddin (1,213).

Calumet's Pete Vergos won the men's division at the Addison sectional by a single pin, rolling a 1,305 total to edge Indiana Tech's Cory Hersha (1,304). They'll be joined in Western Michigan by St. Ambrose's Jordan Monnens (1,294); William Penn's Aleksander Kostric (1,277); Calumet's Shaun Quinn (1,261); and Lincoln Memorial's Michael Rachal (1,259).

At USA Bowl in Dallas, Prairie View A&M's Patricia Rosales claimed the top spot in the women's division, finishing with a 1,281 total. The athletes advancing alongside Rosales were Stephen F. Austin's Dakota Faichnie (1,225); Martin Methodist's Emily Crone (1,223); Iowa Western Community College's Shalee Bradley (1,206); Arkansas State's Brooklyn Boudreau (1,201); and Wichita State's Madison Janack (1,181).

The men's division in Dallas featured Wichita State's Alec Keplinger at the top of the leaderboard with 1,277. He'll be joined next month at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex by Newman's Tyler Synovec (1,271); Texas-San Antonio's Seth Gossen (1,242); Lindenwood's Andrew Sacks (1,233); Oklahoma Christian's Joshua Imhoff (1,222); and Lindenwood's Troy Owens (1,210).

Strong finishes in the final game highlighted the top of the leaderboard at Smyrna Bowling Center in Smyrna, Tennessee, as McKendree's Isabel Allen finished with 253 to lead the event with 1,262. She was followed in the standings by Vanderbilt's Mabel Cummins (1,241); North Carolina A&T's Ana Olaya (1,236); Tusculum's Jordan Mundt (1,222); North Carolina A&T's Lauren Tomaszewski (1,212); and Rebekah Loker of Ottawa-Kansas (1,209).

Webber International's Ronnie Huff earned the top spot in Smyrna for the men's field, finishing with a 1,242 total. He'll be joined at the ISC by Tusculum's Tyler Moore (1,234); Siena Heights' Ryan Reid (1,219); Webber's Wyatt Smith (1,212); Rio Grande's Nathan Burns (1,207); and Thomas More's Jacob Toelke (1,203).

Sectional competition will transition to team qualifying Saturday. The Intercollegiate Team Championships qualifying events will take place Saturday and Sunday and be streamed live on BowlTV.

Total pinfall for 40 Baker games will determine the four men's teams and four women's teams from each site that will advance to the ITC, which also will be held at Wyoming's Spectrum Entertainment Complex from May 5-8.

For more information on the Intercollegiate Singles Championships, visit [BOWL.com/ISC](https://www.bowl.com/isc). For complete standings, click [here](#).

FIELD SET FOR 2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The teams competing at the 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships were determined this weekend through four sectional qualifying events.

The ITC will welcome 16 men's teams and 16 women's teams to the Spectrum Entertainment Complex in Wyoming, Michigan, to determine the champions in each division for the 2020-2021 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season. The 2021 edition will be held May 5-8.

The teams advancing to the ITC were determined through four sectionals held Saturday and Sunday in Addison, Illinois; Dayton, Ohio; Smyrna, Tennessee; and Dallas. The top four teams in each division, based on total pinfall for 40 Baker games, earned the chance to compete for the Kerm Helmer Cup awarded to the team champion at the ITC.

Each sectional qualifier was broadcast live on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

In Addison, Calumet rolled to the top of the men's standings after a dominant performance Sunday at Stardust Bowl, averaging more than 223 per game to jump from fourth place to the lead with an 8,376 total. William Penn finished second with 8,211, Indiana Tech placed third with 8,090 and Mount Mercy earned the final spot with 7,958.

In the women's division, Mount Mercy captured the sectional title with a 7,819 total. They'll be joined in Western Michigan by Baker (7,632), Lincoln Memorial (7,608) and Wisconsin-Whitewater (7,587).

The Dayton sectional was contested at Poelking Lanes South, with Wisconsin-Whitewater recording the win with an 8,066 total. Pikeville (7,805), Lawrence Tech (7,777) and St. Ambrose (7,676), which started Sunday's round in seventh place, also advanced.

Delaware State claimed the women's title in Dayton, finishing with a 7,821 total. Monmouth was second with 7,607, and Lawrence Tech and St. Ambrose earned the final advancing spots with 7,512 and 7,410, respectively.

In Smyrna, Webber International, the defending ITC champion, posted the largest winning total of the four sectionals, earning the top spot in the men's field by 289 pins with an 8,301 total. Emmanuel (8,012), McKendree (7,854) and St. Francis-Illinois (7,634) also advanced from Smyrna Bowling Center.

The final spot in the men's division in Smyrna came down to the wire, as St. Francis-Illinois overcame a 19-pin deficit entering the final game to advance past Marian-Indiana by 14 pins (7,620).

McKendree claimed the top spot in the women's division in Smyrna, finishing with a 7,928 total. Mount St. Mary's was second with 7,685, North Carolina A&T was third with 7,656 and Maryville earned the final spot with 7,493.

The Dallas sectional featured a tie at the top of the leaderboard in the men's division, with Midland and Wichita State each finishing with a 7,956 total. Martin Methodist was third with 7,768, and Lindenwood was fourth with 7,519.

The women's division at USA Bowl saw Wichita State cruise to the top spot, finishing with an 8,041 total. Stephen F. Austin (7,763), Louisiana Tech (7,482) and Newman (7,352) also earned spots at the ITC.

The week's top individual competitors also qualified for spots at Spectrum Entertainment Complex in May and will have the chance to win a national title at the Intercollegiate Singles Championships. The ISC will be held May 3-8.

The singles event was contested at each of the sectional sites Friday, with the top 24 men and top 24 women advancing based on six-game pinfall totals. Each sectional took the top six players from each division.

For more information on the Intercollegiate Team Championships, visit [BOWL.com/ITC](https://www.bowl.com/ITC).

USBC RECEIVES APPROVAL FOR SPECTATORS

AT 2021 OPEN AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

Click [here](#) to read the procedures and protocols for the 2021 USBC Open and Women's Championships.

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress has received approval from state and local officials to allow limited spectators at the 2021 USBC Open Championships in Las Vegas and 2021 USBC Women's Championships in Reno, Nevada.

The Open Championships will be hosted at the South Point Bowling Plaza for team competition and the South Point Bowling Center for doubles and singles. Each of the South Point venues have been approved for 150 spectators. The Women's Championships will be contested at the National Bowling Stadium and also is approved for 150 spectators.

Staff at the venue will consistently monitor occupancy at each location and count spectators. If the venue approaches approved limits, additional spectator entry will be limited. USBC will not be issuing spectator passes or tickets.

USBC expects the capacity limit will sufficiently accommodate spectators wanting to view the events, based on historical numbers and team squads operating with one team per pair of lanes.

All tournament participants and spectators will be required to wear face coverings while in the host venue. USBC has updated its published procedures and protocols for each event to account for this change.

Other changes to the procedures and protocols include returning scoresheet kiosks to the venue.

This policy change does not impact PWBA or USBC Collegiate protocols, which will continue to include required participant COVID-19 testing and no spectators.

For more information on the Open Championships, visit [BOWL.com/OpenChamp](https://www.bowl.com/openchamps). For more information on the Women's Championships, visit [BOWL.com/WomensChamp](https://www.bowl.com/womenschamps).

2021 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS UNDERWAY IN RENO

RENO, Nev. – The sound of pins crashing and teams cheering filled the National Bowling Stadium on Friday as the opening squad of the 2021 United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships featured the first of more than 2,700 teams.

The 2021 tournament is the 101st edition of the USBC Women's Championships and marked the comeback of the event after the 2020 tournament was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last time the Women's Championships was not held prior to 2020 was from 1943-1945 due to World War II.

Friday's squad was preceded by an opening ceremony, which featured welcomes from several local dignitaries and representatives from THE ROW Reno, the presenting sponsor of the 2021 Women's Championships.

Reno Vice Mayor Bonnie Weber rolled the ceremonial first ball to help kick off the competition, and the ceremony was capped by the famed Mass Ball Shot, which featured one member of each of the 28 teams on the opening squad rolling a ball down the lane at the same time.

The 2021 event marks the tournament's 12th visit to Reno and ninth trip to the 78-lane NBS.

One of the four-player teams to hit the lanes Friday was Rock N' Rowdy Rollers of Gun Barrel City, Texas, which also bowled on the opening squad at the 2019 Women's Championships in Wichita, Kansas.

"We were very excited to be out here, and it's always a privilege to come out on the first day," Dina Feld said. "We always like to do big things in Texas, and there's nothing bigger than the first day."

The team included Feld, Connie Harlan, Kaye Walker and Debbie Hammack and put up a big number for the Sapphire Division. The group finished its team event with a 1,868 total, seven pins short of the winning Sapphire total from the 2019 event.

Harlan led a consistent team effort with a 489 series and helped the group to games of 581, 686 and 601. Walker had 482, Hammack added 452 and Feld finished with 445.

Teams in the Sapphire Division have combined entering averages of 544 and below.

The Women's Championships features four average-based divisions for team competition and six divisions for doubles, singles and all-events. All-events titles are awarded to the bowlers with the

highest nine-game totals at the event, made up of three games of team, doubles and singles competition.

The members of Rock N' Rowdy Rollers credited their team unity and ability to pick each other up in helping put together the big score.

"What really makes it fun and encourages us is when one of us is doing bad, we hold each other up," Feld said. "We're really good about that. I think we all cheered each other on tonight and did that, which made it easier. We're a team, and we're very excited about how we bowled."

The 2021 Women's Championships will run for 73 days, with the final doubles and singles squad taking place July 4. During the course of the event, the Women's Championships will take a break in May to welcome the USBC Queens to the NBS.

The Queens, the first major on the 2021 Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour schedule, is scheduled to take place May 12-18.

USBC ANNOUNCES GOVERNANCE ADJUSTMENTS, INCLUDING MINIMUM AGE FOR ADULT MEMBERSHIP AND INCREASED TEAM USA ATHLETE REPRESENTATION ON NATIONAL BOARD

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Board of Directors has approved a series of governance policy amendments for next season.

The amendments include an increase in the number of Team USA athletes on the USBC Board of Directors to meet new requirements from the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

As part of that change, USBC received approval from USOPC to expand its definition of a Team USA athlete eligible for board service to include team members who earned their status through the USBC Team USA Trials.

Other amendments impact youth governance, including limiting USBC Adult membership to individuals 18 and older. This change is designed to better align with U.S. Center for SafeSport policies related to adult and minor participation.

An amendment removing the requirement for designated youth directors from USBC local and state boards also was approved. Starting next season, all state and local board members will be referred to as directors.

The USBC Board of Directors has authority in the USBC bylaws to adopt changes to the USBC General Playing Rules and amend bylaws in regard to athlete and youth issues.

The new amendments will go into effect Aug. 1, 2021. Click on each item to read the full proposal of the amendment:

A new addition to Rule 16 in the USBC General Playing Rules, which limits adult membership to individuals 18 and older and creates a clear line between USBC Youth and USBC Adult membership.

The removal of youth directors from the bylaws of merged local and state USBC associations. All participants on local and state boards of directors will be referred to as directors.

A change to the number of board members for the USBC Board of Directors to comply with USOPC bylaws, which now require 33.3% of the members to be considered athlete representation.

An increase in the number of Team USA athletes

Changes “Other Directors” to an “Amateur Sports Organization Director” with specific requirements

Decreases the number of at-large directors

An expansion of the definition of a Team USA athlete.

To learn more about USBC, visit BOWL.com/About.

USBC SMART PROGRAM MAKES \$7 MILLION EARNING ALLOCATION; PROPOSES POLICY REVISIONS TO DELIVER MORE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS TO YOUTH BOWLERS

[Read the FAQ](#)

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins (SMART) program is making an investment earnings allocation of \$7 million to provide additional scholarships for youth bowlers. The \$7 million allocation is the largest investment earnings allocation in SMART history and will be designated as Unassigned funds for Providers to use for scholarships.

In addition to announcing the \$7 million allocation for SMART Provider use, the USBC SMART Committee is proposing a series of policy changes designed to increase scholarship benefits for SMART Recipients. No policy changes are final, and all proposals will have a comment period until June 30.

The proposed policy revisions include the portion of future investment gains and expired scholarships to SMART Recipient accounts, adding bonus scholarships for those actively using SMART funds and creation of a new SMART Recipient grant program.

Proposed policy revisions for SMART Providers include requiring Providers use Unassigned funds received from SMART within two years.

“The SMART program was established to safeguard and manage the scholarships awarded to USBC Youth bowlers and has been successful in those goals with the fund growing to nearly \$100 million,” said Frank Wilkinson, chair of the USBC SMART Committee and the former president of USBC. “But we are seeing too small a percentage of the dollars in SMART actually being used by bowlers for their education. These policy revisions will provide more scholarships to youth bowlers, especially those actively using their SMART scholarships, so they can pursue their educational goals.”

The SMART fund has grown from \$39 million to more than \$96 million since 2010. Earnings on investments allocations for Provider usage have increased as well, however many of those funds remain unassigned and unused.

In 2015, Unassigned funds were \$4.7 million but have grown to more than \$18 million today. While the SMART fund is approaching \$100 million, each year Recipients only request about \$5 million in scholarships annually. Data shows many Recipient scholarships are not used, expire and recycle and, based on an ongoing research project and SMART historical trends, USBC projects 40% of the SMART fund never will be used under the current policy.

Currently, when a USBC Youth athlete (Recipient) earns a scholarship in a competition, the event operator (Provider) deposits the funds in SMART and, when the Recipient attends college, he or she will request the funds be paid directly to the school. SMART places the largest portion of the scholarships in conservative securities, with remaining assets invested in a diversified portfolio expected to yield larger returns, and each year any investment earnings plus expired Recipient scholarships are available for Provider as Unassigned funds to be used for new scholarships.

The proposed policy revisions include splitting future allocations of investment gains and expired Recipient scholarships between new Unassigned funds for Providers use and added scholarship funds directly to Recipients.

The allocation to Recipients will send 50% of additional funds to active Recipients who have requested funds during the calendar year while 25% will be added to all Recipient accounts as new scholarships, with the percentage based on the amount in the account. The remaining 25% will go toward grants with the criteria, including eligibility, established by the SMART Oversight Committee.

The USBC SMART Committee also is seeking to have the annual expiration date of funds not used by Recipients be moved from the end of the year to Feb. 14, so those funds can be allocated with any possible income distribution. It also has proposed allowing Recipients, after they reach age 21 and before the funds expire, the ability to transfer their scholarship funds to another family member who meets the IRS definition of a 529 plan family member beneficiary. To qualify, transfer Recipients must have at least four (4) years of USBC bowling history and they may not surpass eight-years from their high school graduation date.

[Click here to learn more about The Future of SMART proposed policy revisions.](#)

2021 USBC VIRTUAL CONVENTION AND ANNUAL MEETING COME TO A CLOSE

ARLINGTON, Texas – United States Bowling Congress delegates elected three board members and voted on 19 legislative proposals from 2020 and 2021, as the 2021 USBC Virtual Convention and Annual Meeting came to a close Thursday.

The ballot for the USBC Board of Directors election had five candidates slated by the USBC Nominating Committee – Jay Daryman of York, Pennsylvania; Dennis Hacker of Longtown, Missouri; Johnny Harris of Lynchburg, Virginia; Chrissy Lee of Tampa, Florida; and Jonathan Van Hees of Hope Valley, Rhode Island – with candidate Sue Schreiber of Medford, Wisconsin, running from the floor.

On the first ballot, Lee (437 votes), Hacker (378) and Daryman (351) were elected, with Schreiber receiving 333 votes, Van Hees receiving 232 votes and Harris receiving 158 votes.

A candidate had to receive a majority of votes from the 642 votes cast to be elected. The newly elected board members will begin their three-year terms on Aug. 1, 2021.

The delegates also ratified the 2020 appointments of Adam Mitchell of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, Glenda Beckett of Palmetto Bay, Florida, and Tina Williams of Pflugerville, Texas, to the USBC Board.

Becky Young of McDonough, Georgia, and Dicki Ward of Oklahoma City will be joining the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee, which also returns current members Blair Blumenscheid of Harrisville, Utah, and Chad Estes of Statesville, North Carolina.

In addition to the board elections, delegates voted on proposals from 2020 and 2021 amendments, with six related to league rules, five for tournament rules and eight proposals for bylaws.

The 2020 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting were canceled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Delegates approved of a league rule amendment that allows a league officer to authorize practice if a game or series is interrupted. One amendment to national bylaws was approved, which provides for the board to make emergency decisions, in extreme situations, to temporarily suspend bylaws and rules.

Two local associations also were recognized and celebrated based on their outstanding performance and service to their members. The Sioux Falls Regional USBC of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Fort Collins USBC of Fort Collins, Colorado, were selected for the USBC Association Excellence Awards for 2020 and 2021, respectively.

The presentation of national awards for 2020 and 2021 also were conducted during the week, including the recognition of the Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow Award winners Caroline Thesier of Mooresville, North Carolina (2020), and Katharina Mente of Keller, Texas (2021). Ryan Gatton of Owensboro, Kentucky, and Zachary Lewis of Medina, Ohio, were recognized as the 2020 and 2021 Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow Award winners, respectively.

USBC President Melissa McDaniel and USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy presented their annual reports, and delegates heard reports from the USBC Strategic Planning Committee and from the International Bowling Campus Youth Development team.

During this week's convention, which kicked off April 26, delegates attended virtual educational seminars. The convention also featured video presentations from USBC charity partners Bowlers to Veterans Link, which provides recreational and therapeutic programs and services to America's active duty and veteran service men and women, and Bowl for the Cure®, the year-round fundraising initiative sponsored by USBC in partnership with Susan G. Komen®.

In 2022, the USBC Convention will head to The Orleans in Las Vegas, with the event scheduled to run from April 27-30.

Visit [BOWL.com/Convention](https://www.bowl.com/convention) to learn more about the USBC Convention and Annual Meeting.

RESULTS OF 2021 USBC ANNUAL MEETING LEGISLATIVE SESSION

2020 LEGISLATION

League Rules (majority needed)

Amendment No. LR 1 – Rejected (214 accept, 516 reject)

Rule 105, Absentee and Vacancy Scores

Requires the use of a vacancy score until the person actually bowls.

Tournament Rules (majority needed)

Amendment No. TR 1 – Adopted (552 accept, 87 reject)

Rule 309a, Cash, Bonds or Merchandise Prizes

Requires tournament managers to provide copies of prize lists and financial statements to tournament participants.

Amendment No. TR 2 – Rejected (51 accept, 586 reject)

Rule 319c, Average Adjustments (Rerating)

Limits the ability of a tournament manager to adjust a player's average upward for future events.

Amendment No. TR 3 – Rejected (61 accept, 569 reject)

Rule 319c, Average Adjustments (Rerating)

Allows the player who has had their average adjusted in a commercial tournament to appeal this adjustment to USBC.

Amendment No. TR 4 – Rejected (24 accept, 600 reject)

Rule 319c, Average Adjustments (Rerating)

Eliminates the reporting requirement of average adjustments.

Amendment No. TR 5 – Rejected (31 accept, 603 reject)

Rule 319c, Average Adjustments (Rerating)

Limits the reporting period for average adjustments to 12 months.

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Amendment No. B 1 – Rejected (136 accept, 492 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article III, Membership and Dues

Section B, Dues

Makes the payment of state dues optional.

Amendment No. B 2 – Rejected (142 accept, 482 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article III, Membership and Dues

Section B, Dues

Waives all dues (national, state and local) for those age 80 and over.

Amendment No. B 3 – Rejected (167 accept, 449 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article III, Membership and Dues

Section B, Dues

Allows membership bought in a summer league to extend through July 31 of the following year.

Amendment No. B 4 – Adopted (574 accept, 49 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article IV, Board of Directors

Section A, Eligibility

Requires an individual who intends to run for a position on the USBC Board of Directors to meet eligibility requirements prior to nomination.

Amendment No. B 6 – Adopted (588 accept, 29 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article VII, Committees

Section A, Standing Committees, Item 1

Allows the Chair of the Nominating Committee to be appointed by the USBC President.

Amendment No. B 7 – Adopted (553 accept, 51 reject)

USBC State Association Bylaws

Article V, Board of Directors – Management

Section C, Election of Directors

Allows the state to adopt a deadline for the submission of qualifications for nominations to be submitted at least 24 hours, but no more than seven days, prior to the opening of the annual meeting.

Amendment No. B 8 – Adopted (559 accept, 35 reject)

USBC State Association Bylaws

Article VI, Officers

Section B, Election

Allows the state to adopt a deadline for the submission of qualifications for nominations to be submitted at least 24 hours, but no more than seven days, prior to the opening of the annual meeting.

2021 LEGISLATION

League Rules (majority needed)

Amendment No. LR 1 – Rejected (39 accept, 557 reject)

Rule 100g, Handicap

Mandates adult leagues use handicap based on 100% of 300.

Amendment No. LR 2 – Rejected (25 accept, 553 reject)

Rule 100g Handicap

1. Defaults handicap to 100% of 300 if no league rule.
2. Mandates negative handicap if not using 100% of 300.

Amendment No. LR 3 – Adopted (511 accept, 75 reject)

Rule 106c, Interrupted Game/Series

Allows a league officer to authorize practice.

Amendment No. LR 4 – Rejected (126 accept, 466 reject)

USBC Playing Rules

Rule 113a, Definitions

Allows leagues to adopt a rule to allow total pinfall to break ties.

Amendment No. LR 5 – Rejected (15 accept, 570 reject)

Rule 122, Meetings

Requires rule changes to be handled the prior season, and any changes for the new season requires written and unanimous consent of all team captains, with exception to “league cap” and “average handicap.”

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Amendment No. B 1 – Adopted (545 accept, 35 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article IV, Board of Directors

Section E, Authority and Duties

Provides for the board to make emergency decisions, in extreme situations, to temporarily suspend bylaws and rules.

NATIONAL TITLES UP FOR GRABS AT

2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM AND SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

WYOMING, Mich. – The top student-athletes are on their way to Western Michigan this week to compete in the 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships and Intercollegiate Singles Championships.

The journey to take home the top team and individual titles of the 2020-2021 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season begins Monday at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex with the official practice session for the 24 male and 24 female qualifiers for the ISC.

The week will wrap Saturday with four taped televised finals, which will air on Tuesdays in May and June on CBS Sports Network.

The women's ISC final will air May 11 at 8 p.m. Eastern, with the men's ISC final following May 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern. The first ITC show will be the women's title match May 25 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern, and the run of collegiate broadcasts will close June 1 at 8 p.m. Eastern with the men's ITC finals.

All qualifying and match-play rounds at the ISC and ITC will be broadcast on BowITV.com.

Competition at the ISC kicks off Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. Eastern with a six-game qualifying block to determine seeding for the single-elimination bracket. The top eight qualifiers in both the men's and

women's divisions will receive first-round byes, with the first three rounds of match play featuring a three-game total-pinfall format to determine which player advances.

The final four players in each division after three rounds will advance to the semifinals, with one-game matches determining the 2021 champions.

There will be two new champions joining the storied list of ISC winners in 2021, with 2019 women's champion Breanna Clemmer of McKendree concluding her collegiate career in 2020 and 2019 men's champion Tom Hankey Jr. of Webber International missing the cut from the sectional qualifier in Smyrna, Tennessee, in April.

The ITC will welcome the top 16 men's and 16 women's collegiate programs to Spectrum Entertainment Complex, starting Wednesday for the official practice session, before qualifying begins Thursday at 7 a.m. Eastern in the men's division.

Qualifying will consist of 12 Baker games to determine seeding for the double-elimination match-play bracket. All matches leading up to the title match will be contested in a best-of-seven Baker format.

The championship round will feature a best-of-five Baker final in each division.

The Webber International men will have the opportunity to defend their ITC title from the 2019 event in Dayton, Ohio, after earning their spot through the sectional qualifier in Smyrna. There will be a new ITC champion in the women's division in 2021 after Robert Morris-Illinois (now Roosevelt) elected not to participate in the 2020-2021 season.

The 2020 ISC and ITC were canceled due the COVID-19 pandemic.

Teams and individuals qualified for the ITC and ISC through four sectional qualifiers held in April. The sectionals were contested in Smyrna; Addison, Illinois; Dayton; and Dallas.

To qualify for the ISC, student-athletes had to finish in the top six in their respective sectional based on six-game pinfall totals.

Teams qualifying for the ITC had to finish in the top four of their sectional based on 40-game Baker pinfall totals.

Nine teams qualified for their first ITC appearances this season. Nearly half of the 16 teams in the women's division are making their first ITC appearance, including Baker, Lawrence Tech, Lincoln Memorial, Louisiana Tech, Maryville, Monmouth and Mount St. Mary's. Indiana Tech and Martin Methodist are making their ITC debuts in the men's division.

For more information on the Intercollegiate Team Championships, visit BOWL.com/ITC. To learn more about the Intercollegiate Singles Championships, visit BOWL.com/ISC.

OPENING DAY COMPLETE AT

2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

WYOMING, Mich. – The first day of qualifying and match play at the 2021 Intercollegiate Singles Championships wrapped up Tuesday at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex, with 16 student-athletes in the men's and women's divisions still in contention for the national singles titles.

The 2021 ISC started with 24 male and 24 female competitors who advanced from four sectional qualifiers held across the United States in April. They all bowled six qualifying games Tuesday to determine the seeding for this week's single-elimination bracket, with the top eight players in each division receiving a first-round bye.

At the conclusion of three rounds of three-game total-pinfall matches, the four semifinalists in each division will be known and will battle for the titles on CBS Sports Network.

The finals of the ISC will be taped Saturday, with the women's final airing May 11 at 8 p.m. Eastern. The men's ISC final will air May 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

Earning the top seed in the women's division after six games Tuesday was Vanderbilt's Mabel Cummins, who fired 259 in her final game to edge Wichita State's Madison Janack for the top spot with a 1,270 total, a 211.66 average. Janack finished second with 1,268.

"My strategy coming into today was to control the pocket and make my spares," said Cummins, who started the block with games of 195, 234, 210, 172 and 200. "I really tried to pay attention to what was happening on the lanes and keep an eye on the transition, which I struggled with in my fourth and fifth games. Once I realized how much the lanes were hooking and moved far enough left, I was able to finish strong. I'm going to try and focus on the same things tomorrow."

Cummins will face Arkansas State's Brooklyn Boudreau in the second round of match play. Boudreau bested Shalee Bradley of Iowa Western Community College, 640-610, to advance.

The other players in the women's division earning first-round byes were Delaware State's Katie Robb, Tusculum's Jordan Mundt, Mount Mercy's Ayra Aminuddin, Prairie View A&M's Patricia Rosales, Stephen F. Austin's Dakota Faichnie and Indiana Tech's Maryssa Carey.

Wichita State's Alec Keplinger started qualifying Tuesday with nine consecutive strikes and a 279 game on his way to leading the men's division with a 1,318 total, a 219.66 average.

Keplinger used Monday's practice session to try a couple different bowling balls, and he thought using urethane would give him the most favorable reaction Tuesday.

"I started the practice session with urethane, but I got away from it to try some other equipment," said Keplinger, who finished Tuesday's qualifying set with games of 221, 237, 211, 177 and 193. "It seemed like using urethane was going to give me the best look, and I was able to stay in it all day."

Qualifying hasn't always been my strong suit, so it's great to start strong, and I'm really looking forward to the head-to-head matches."

Keplinger will be matched up against Indiana Tech's Cory Hersha in the second round. Hersha rolled the highest three-game total in the first round in either division to eliminate Webber International's Wyatt Smith, 692-602.

Joining Keplinger with first-round byes in the men's division were Calumet's Pete Vergos, St. Ambrose's Jordan Monnens and Zack Denton, Wisconsin-Whitewater's Andrew Gross, Notre Dame-Ohio's Conner Novak, Thomas More's Jake Toelke and Oklahoma Christian's Joshua Imhoff.

The next match-play round will begin Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. Eastern. Qualifying and match play at the ISC and Intercollegiate Team Championships is being broadcast on BowlTV.com.

The ITC will kick off Wednesday evening with the official practice sessions for the 16 men's and 16 women's qualifiers. Competition at the ITC will begin Thursday at 7 a.m. Eastern with the men's qualifying block.

For more information on Intercollegiate Singles Championships, visit BOWL.com/ISC.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Spectrum Entertainment Complex, Wyoming, Mich.

Tuesday's Results

Men's match play, first round (winner advances, loser is eliminated)

Cory Hersha, Indiana Tech, def. Wyatt Smith, Webber International, 692-602

Tyler Moore, Tusculum, def. Ryan Taylor, Pikeville, 590-579

Troy Owens, Lindenwood, def. Ryan Reid, Siena Heights, 632-614

Andrew Sacks, Lindenwood, def. Michael Rachal, Lincoln Memorial, 642-632

Nathan Burns, Rio Grande, def. Tyler Synovec, Newman, 547-523

Steven Kocher, Bowling Green State, def. Ronnie Huff, Webber International, 691-630

Shaun Quinn Jr., Calumet, def. Aleksander Kostric, William Penn, 597-583

Seth Gossen, Texas-San Antonio, def. Tyler Lowenstein, Bowling Green State, 588-528

First-round byes: Alec Keplinger, Wichita State; Pete Vergos, Calumet; Jordan Monnens, St. Ambrose; Zack Denton, St. Ambrose; Andrew Gross, Wisconsin-Whitewater; Conner Novak, Notre Dame-Ohio; Jake Toelke, Thomas More; Joshua Imhoff, Oklahoma Christian

Women's match play, first round (winner advances, loser is eliminated)

Brooklyn Boudreau, Arkansas State, def. Shalee Bradley, Iowa Western CC, 640-610

Allison Hresko, Duquesne, def. Samantha Mueller, Marian-Wisconsin, 644-484

Cassidy Courey, Mount Mercy, def. Brooke Allen, Clarke, 545-463

Ana Olaya, North Carolina A&T, def. Hannah Bond, Saint Xavier, 550-494

Isabel Allen, McKendree, def. Megan Hess, St. Ambrose, 588-520

Jenna Lehrer, Monmouth, def. Emily Tull, Pikeville, 521-502

Rebekah Loker, Ottawa-Kansas, def. Lauren Tomaszewski, North Carolina A&T, 540-530

Victoria Giardina, Lawrence Tech, def. Emily Crone, Martin Methodist, 593-511

First-round byes: Mabel Cummins, Vanderbilt; Madison Janack, Wichita State; Katie Robb, Delaware State; Jordan Mundt, Tusculum; Ayra Aminuddin, Mount Mercy; Patricia Rosales, Prairie View A&M; Dakota Faichnie, Stephen F. Austin; Maryssa Carey, Indiana Tech

FINALISTS DETERMINED AT 2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

WYOMING, Mich. – The four finalists in the women’s and men’s divisions are set at the 2021 Intercollegiate Singles Championships.

The finalists advanced through the single-elimination bracket Wednesday at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex to earn their spots in the semifinals. The semifinals and finals at the 2021 ISC will take place Saturday and be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network.

The women’s ISC final round will air May 11 at 8 p.m. Eastern, and the men’s ISC show will be May 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

In the women’s semifinals, Indiana Tech’s Maryssa Carey will face Ana Olaya of North Carolina A&T, in the opening match. The second semifinal will feature Delaware State’s Katie Robb taking on McKendree’s Isabel Allen.

The opening match in the men’s semifinal will be Calumet’s Pete Vergos against St. Ambrose’s Jordan Monnens. The second semifinal will be top qualifier Alec Keplinger of Wichita State versus Lindenwood’s Andrew Sacks.

The 2021 ISC started with 24 male and 24 female competitors who advanced from four sectional qualifiers held across the United States in April. The advancers bowled six qualifying games Tuesday to determine seeding for the brackets, with the top eight players in each division receiving a first-round bye.

The first three rounds of bracket matches were contested in a three-game total-pinfall format.

Carey earned a first-round bye in the women’s division after qualifying eighth and defeated Duquesne’s Allison Hresko (662-567) and Arkansas State’s Brooklyn Boudreau (563-553) to earn her

spot on CBS Sports Network.

The senior needed a mark in her final frame to advance to the semifinals against Boudreau and delivered a strike to clinch the win.

The three-time National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association All-American put additional pressure on herself heading into the ISC after Indiana Tech was unable to qualify for the women's Intercollegiate Team Championships field. Carey now hopes to bring the title back home for her teammates.

"I put a lot of pressure on myself coming into this event, because it was really hard for us when we didn't advance," Carey said. "I really wanted to give my teammates something to look forward to, and they're all rooting me on back home. I've gotten so many messages of support, and if I'm able to win singles, it's a win for the whole team."

Sacks, a sophomore, had a back-and-forth road to the semifinals. After qualifying as the No. 12 seed Tuesday, he built an early lead against Lincoln Memorial's Michael Rachal but quickly saw the match evened up after two games. Sacks delivered in the final frame to move on to Wednesday's second round, 642-632.

The 2019-2020 NCBCA honorable mention All-American was down early in his second match against Wisconsin-Whitewater's Andrew Gross, before mounting a comeback to collect a 592-573 win to set up a third-round match against his teammate, Troy Owens.

Sacks defeated Owens, 669-614, to advance to CBS Sports Network.

"I had some pretty big ups and downs," Sacks said. "I was up 100 after Game 1 in my first match, and it ended up coming down to the first shot in the 10th frame. I was down 60 after Game 1 in my second match but was able to even it up and get the win in the final frame. Troy's a good friend of mine, so it was tough to have to bowl him for the TV show, but we were happy about it, and I know he is supporting me. That's what's important. I think it would be very special to bring another title to Lindenwood."

The Intercollegiate Team Championships will kick off Wednesday evening with the official practice sessions for the 16 men's and 16 women's qualifiers. Competition at the ITC will begin Thursday at 7 a.m. Eastern with the men's qualifying block.

All qualifying and match-play rounds at the ISC and ITC are being broadcast on [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

For more information on Intercollegiate Singles Championships, visit [BOWL.com/ISC](https://www.bowl.com/ISC).

INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS
At Spectrum Entertainment Complex, Wyoming, Mich.
Wednesday's Results
(Three games, total pins)

MEN'S RESULTS

Second Round (winner advances, loser is eliminated)

Alec Keplinger, Wichita State, def. Cory Hersha, Indiana Tech, 585-550

Tyler Moore, Tusculum, def. Joshua Imhoff, Oklahoma Christian, 600-544
Troy Owens, Lindenwood, def. Zack Denton, St. Ambrose, 640-618
Andrew Sacks, Lindenwood, def. Andrew Gross, Wisconsin-Whitewater, 592-573
Pete Vergos, Calumet, def. Nathan Burns, Rio Grande, 653-549
Steven Kocher, Bowling Green State, def. Jake Toelke, Thomas More, 630-579
Jordan Monnens, St. Ambrose, def. Shaun Quinn Jr., Calumet, 694-585
Conner Novak, Notre Dame-Ohio, def. Seth Gossen, Texas-San Antonio, 559-517

Third Round (winner advances, loser is eliminated)

Keplinger def. Moore, 568-556
Sacks def. Owens, 669-614
Vergos def. Kocher, 686-607
Monnens def. Novak, 591-464

Semifinals (taped Saturday, airs May 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network)

Keplinger vs. Sacks
Vergos vs. Monnens

WOMEN'S RESULTS

Second Round (winner advances, loser is eliminated)

Brooklyn Boudreau, Arkansas State, def. Mabel Cummins, Vanderbilt, 586-585
Maryssa Carey, Indiana Tech, def. Allison Hresko, Duquesne, 662-567
Jordan Mundt, Tusculum, def. Cassidy Courey, Mount Mercy, 644-609
Ana Olaya, North Carolina A&T, def. Ayra Aminuddin, Mount Mercy, 628-567
Isabel Allen, McKendree, def. Madison Janack, Wichita State, 609-575
Dakota Faichnie, Stephen F. Austin, def. Jenna Lehrer, Monmouth, 551-499
Katie Robb, Delaware State, def. Rebekah Loker, Ottawa-Kansas, 603-573
Victoria Giardina, Lawrence Tech, def. Patricia Rosales, Prairie View A&M, 590-574

Third Round (winner advances, loser is eliminated)

Carey def. Boudreau, 563-553
Olaya def. Mundt, 518-501
Allen def. Faichnie, 628-558
Robb def. Giardina, 616-607

Semifinals (taped Saturday, airs May 11 at 8 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network)

Carey vs. Olaya
Allen vs. Robb

COLLEGIATE ALL-AMERICA TEAMS ANNOUNCED FOR 2020-2021 SEASON

ARLINGTON, Texas – Marian-Indiana's Jeffery Mann and Wichita State's Madison Janack have been named the Most Valuable Players of the 2020-2021 collegiate bowling season by the National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association (NCBCA).

The announcement of Mann and Janack earning the top honor for the United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season, along with the recognition of the All-America teams for the NCBCA and several other collegiate associations, was broadcast Wednesday on BowlTV.com.

The Storm/International Bowling Media Association (IBMA) Collegiate Award winners also were announced, with Mann and Janack being named Bowlers of the Year.

The other collegiate associations recognized during the announcement included the National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA), National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and Club Team Bowling Coaches Association (CTBCA).

Mann, a senior, earned his first appearance on an NCBCA All-America team after leading the nation in average (226.51) and average differential (38.02). In six regular season events, he collected a pair of wins, four top-five finishes and five top-10 placements.

Joining Mann on the men's NCBCA All-America first team this season was Oklahoma Christian's Joshua Imhoff, Calumet's Kevin McCune, Trine's Austin Robison and St. Ambrose's Nathan Stubler.

The NCBCA Rookie of the Year in the men's division was Webber International's AJ Wolstenholme, who also was named part of the All-America second team.

Janack, a junior, finished the season second in average (211.75) and fourth in average differential (34.945). She recorded two victories, four top-five finishes and five top-10 rankings in seven events.

Janack was joined on the women's NCBCA All-America first team by Martin Methodist's Lindsay Brown, Pikeville's Kristina Catoe, Lawrence Tech's Victoria Giardina and McKendree's Hope Gramly.

Catoe also was recognized as the women's NCBCA Rookie of the Year.

The NCBCA Gordon Vadakin and Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year awards went to Wisconsin-Whitewater's Shawn Wochner and Mount Mercy's Andy Diercks, respectively. The Gordon Vadakin Coach of the Year award recognizes the top coach in the men's division, and the Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year award is given to the top coach in the women's division.

NAIA's Ron Damron was recognized with the Gordon Teigen Meritorious Service Award. The annual award recognizes an individual for outstanding service to collegiate bowling.

For more information on USBC Collegiate, visit BOWL.com/Collegiate.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BOWLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

2020-2021 ALL-AMERICA TEAMS

MEN

First team - Joshua Imhoff, Oklahoma Christian; Jeffery Mann, Marian-Indiana; Kevin McCune, Calumet; Austin Robison, Trine; Nathan Stubler, St. Ambrose

Second team - Dylan Dobran, Calumet; Romeo Patrick-Holmes, Notre Dame-Ohio; Michael Rachal, Lincoln Memorial; Nicholas Sommer, Wichita State; AJ Wolstenholme, Webber International

Honorable mention - Nicholas Graveel, Marian-Indiana; David Hooper, Emmanuel; Alec Johnson, Arizona State; Alec Keplinger, Wichita State; Steven Kocher, Bowling Green State; Marcus McClain, Indiana Tech; Joshua Molloy, Grand Canyon; Pete Vergos, Calumet; Michael Weber, Lawrence Tech; Raymond Wiegand, Iowa Central Community College

Most Valuable Player - Jeffery Mann, Marian-Indiana

Rookie of the Year - AJ Wolstenholme, Webber International

Gordon Vadakin Coach of the Year - Shawn Wochner, Wisconsin-Whitewater

WOMEN

First team - Lindsay Brown, Martin Methodist; Kristina Catoe, Pikeville; Victoria Giardina, Lawrence Tech; Hope Gramly, McKendree; Madison Janack, Wichita State

Second team - Sarah Gill, Stephen F. Austin; Addie Herzberg, Wichita State; Hannah Jaros, St. Ambrose; Melanie Katen, North Carolina A&T; Taishaye Naranjo, Webber International

Honorable mention - Ayra Aminuddin, Mount Mercy; Cassidy Anschutz, Lincoln Memorial; Sierra Ciesiolka, Wichita State; Britni Hosterman, Bowling Green State; Makayla Lancioni, Concordia; Madison McCall, Tulane; Britaney Myers, McKendree; Kayla Smith, McKendree; Cameron Strombeck, North Carolina A&T; Jenna Williams, Mount Mercy

Most Valuable Player - Madison Janack, Wichita State

Rookie of the Year - Kristina Catoe, Pikeville

Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year - Andy Diercks, Mount Mercy

Teigen Meritorious Service Award - Ron Damron, NAIA

STORM/INTERNATIONAL BOWLING MEDIA ASSOCIATION

2020-2021 COLLEGIATE AWARDS

MEN

Bowler of the Year - Jeffery Mann, Marian-Indiana

Runners-up - Joshua Imhoff, Oklahoma Christian; Kevin McCune, Calumet; Nicholas Sommer, Wichita State; Nathan Stubler, St. Ambrose

Honorable mention - Alec Keplinger, Wichita State; Romeo Patrick-Holmes, Notre Dame-Ohio; Michael Rachal, Lincoln Memorial

WOMEN

Bowler of the Year - Madison Janack, Wichita State

Runners-up - Lindsay Brown, Martin Methodist; Kristina Catoe, Pikeville; Victoria Giardina, Lawrence Tech; Hope Gramly, McKendree

Honorable mention - Ayra Aminuddin, Mount Mercy; Britni Hosterman, Bowling Green State; Hannah Jaros, St. Ambrose

2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS UNDERWAY IN MICHIGAN

WYOMING, Mich. – The 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships kicked off Thursday, and eight men's teams and eight women's teams still are undefeated in their respective brackets.

The 2021 ITC, which is taking place at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex, features the top 16 men's and women's bowling programs coming together for the premier event of the United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season.

All teams bowled 12 Baker games Thursday to determine seeding for the double-elimination bracket, which features best-of-seven Baker matches leading into the finals. The first round of bracket matches also took place Thursday, with half the field getting one step closer to advancing to the televised finals on CBS Sports Network.

The finals, which will be taped Saturday, will air on Tuesdays in May and June. The women's ITC show will air May 25 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern, while the men's ITC final will air June 1 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

In the men's division, Wichita State recorded a first-round victory over Pikeville, 4-1, after earning the top seed in qualifying with a 2,672 total, a 222.66 average. The Shockers will face Wisconsin-Whitewater in the second round Friday.

The other winners-bracket matches in the men's division Friday will feature Calumet versus Emmanuel, St. Ambrose against St. Francis-Illinois and defending ITC champion Webber International taking on Mount Mercy.

The opening round in the women's division featured six of the eight matches going the distance, with Mount St. Mary's, Mount Mercy, McKendree, Louisiana Tech, Wichita State and Monmouth each winning the deciding game.

Mount St. Mary's victory was over Stephen F. Austin, which led qualifying with a 2,493 total, a 207.75 average. Mount St. Mary's will take on Mount Mercy in the second round.

The other second-round matches in the winners bracket will include North Carolina A&T against McKendree, Louisiana Tech taking on Wichita State and Wisconsin-Whitewater versus Monmouth.

Friday's competition will begin at 7 a.m. Eastern with the men's second round, featuring both winners- and elimination-bracket matches. The women's second round will get underway at 10 a.m. Eastern.

Match play will continue through Friday to determine the winner of each side of the bracket. If a team in the elimination bracket is able to defeat a team that previously was undefeated, a second match will be held Saturday at 7 a.m. Eastern.

Teams qualified for the ITC through four sectional qualifiers held throughout the country in April. Teams had to place in the top four in their respective sectional over 40 Baker games to advance.

For more information on Intercollegiate Team Championships, visit BOWL.com/ITC.

INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS
At Spectrum Entertainment Complex, Wyoming, Mich.
Thursday's Results

MEN'S RESULTS

First Round (winner advances, loser goes to elimination bracket)

Wichita State def. Pikeville, 4-1
Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Indiana Tech, 4-0
Calumet def. William Penn, 4-3
Emmanuel def. Lindenwood, 4-1

Webber International def. McKendree, 4-1
Mount Mercy def. Martin Methodist, 4-3
St. Ambrose def. Lawrence Tech, 4-2
St. Francis-Ill. def. Midland, 4-2

WOMEN'S RESULTS

First Round (winner advances, loser goes to elimination bracket)

Mount St. Mary's def. Stephen F. Austin, 4-3
Mount Mercy def. Delaware State, 4-3
North Carolina A&T def. St. Ambrose, 4-2
McKendree def. Newman, 4-3

Louisiana Tech def. Lawrence Tech, 4-3
Wichita State def. Baker, 4-3
Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Maryville, 4-1
Monmouth def. Lincoln Memorial, 4-3

THREE OF FOUR FINALISTS DETERMINED

AT 2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

WYOMING, Mich. – The title match in the women’s division is set at the 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships, while one more round is necessary to complete the men’s final.

Wichita State will bowl North Carolina A&T in the women’s title match Saturday at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex, while Wichita State and Emmanuel will compete for the final spot in the men’s title tilt to join St. Ambrose in the quest for the Helmer Cup.

The women’s and men’s title matches will be taped Saturday and air on Tuesdays in May and June on CBS Sports Network. The women’s ITC show will air May 25 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern, while the men’s ITC final will air June 1 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

Both Wichita State and North Carolina A&T went undefeated in match play on Thursday and Friday to advance to the finals.

Wichita State defeated Wisconsin-Whitewater for a second time in the double-elimination bracket to make its first trip to the finals since 2016, 4-2. The Shockers will be looking for the women’s program’s 10th ITC title.

North Carolina A&T followed a similar path, besting McKendree for a second time to advance to the finals, 4.5-1.5. The Aggies won the ITC in 2015 in their lone championship-round appearance.

In the men’s division, St. Ambrose collected four victories on its way to the title match and eliminated McKendree in Friday’s final round, 4-1. The Fighting Bees are looking for the program’s first ITC title.

Emmanuel was undefeated heading into Friday’s final round, but lost to Wichita State, 4-1, to set up an additional match Saturday at 7 a.m. Eastern. The winner in the final best-of-seven Baker match before the championship round will face St. Ambrose for the title.

The title match will be a best-of-five Baker match.

The 2021 event kicked off Thursday, with a 12-game Baker block determining seeding for the bracket for the top 16 men's and 16 women's teams in the country. The opening round of match play took place Thursday, with all teams returning Friday to the Spectrum Entertainment Complex.

Teams qualified for the ITC through four sectional qualifiers held throughout the country in April. Teams had to place in the top four in their respective sectional over 40 Baker games to advance.

For more information on the Intercollegiate Team Championships, visit BOWL.com/ITC.

INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Spectrum Entertainment Complex, Wyoming, Mich.

Friday's Results

MEN'S RESULTS

Second Round

Winners Bracket

Wichita State def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-1

Emmanuel def. Calumet, 4-3

Mount Mercy def. Webber International, 4-2

St. Ambrose def. St. Francis-Illinois, 4-3

Elimination bracket

Indiana Tech def. Pikeville, 4-0

William Penn def. Lindenwood, 4-3

McKendree def. Martin Methodist, 4-0

Midland def. Lawrence Tech, 4-3

Third Round

Elimination bracket

Indiana Tech def. Calumet, 4-2

William Penn def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-0

McKendree def. St. Francis-Ill., 4-3

Midland def. Webber International, 4-2

Fourth Round

Winners bracket

Emmanuel def. Wichita State, 4-0

St. Ambrose def. Mount Mercy, 4-1

Elimination bracket

Indiana Tech def. William Penn, 4-0

McKendree def. Midland, 4-3

Fifth Round

Elimination bracket

Wichita State def. Indiana Tech, 4-3

McKendree def. Mount Mercy, 4-0

Sixth Round

Bracket finals

Wichita State def. Emmanuel, 4-1

St. Ambrose def. McKendree, 4-1

Seventh Round

(will take place Saturday at 7 a.m. Eastern)

Emmanuel vs. Wichita State

Title Match

(will be taped Saturday and air on CBS Sports Network on June 1 at 8 p.m. Eastern)

St. Ambrose vs. Emmanuel/Wichita State

WOMEN'S RESULTS

Second Round

Winners Bracket

Mount Mercy def. Mount St. Mary's, 4-2

North Carolina A&T def. McKendree, 4.5-2.5

Wichita State def. Louisiana Tech, 4-3

Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Monmouth, 4-2

Elimination bracket

Stephen F. Austin def. Delaware State, 4-2

Newman def. St. Ambrose, 4-2

Baker def. Lawrence Tech, 4-1

Maryville def. Lincoln Memorial, 4-1

Third Round

Elimination bracket

McKendree def. Stephen F. Austin, 4-1

Newman def. Mount St. Mary's, 4-1

Baker def. Monmouth, 4-3

Louisiana Tech def. Maryville, 4.5-3.5

Fourth Round

Winners bracket

North Carolina A&T def. Mount Mercy, 4-2

Wichita State def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-1

Elimination bracket

McKendree def. Newman, 4-0

Louisiana Tech def. Baker, 4-0

Fifth Round

Elimination bracket

McKendree def. Mount Mercy, 4.5-3.5

Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Louisiana Tech, 4-2

Sixth Round

Bracket finals

North Carolina A&T def. McKendree, 4.5-1.5

Wichita State def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-2

Title Match

(will be taped Saturday and air on CBS Sports Network on May 25 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern)

North Carolina A&T vs. Wichita State

CHAMPIONS DETERMINED AT 2021

INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM AND SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

WYOMING, Mich. – The titles at the 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships and Intercollegiate Singles Championships were decided Saturday at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex.

The championship rounds in the men's and women's divisions in each event were taped for broadcast on Tuesdays in May and June on CBS Sports Network.

The women's ISC finals will air May 11 at 8 p.m. Eastern, with the men's ISC show airing May 18 at 8 p.m. Eastern. The women's ITC finals will be May 25 at 6:30 p.m. Eastern, and the excitement will conclude with the men's ITC title match June 1 at 8 p.m. Eastern.

The Wichita State women and men swept the ITC titles for the third time in program history (1994, 2009) and became the first team since Webber International in 2012 to win both titles in the same season. The wins Saturday marked Wichita's 12th men's title and 10th women's title at the ITC, which both are records.

The 2021 ISC winners are Pete Vergos of Calumet and Katie Robb of Delaware State.

The title match in the women's team final finished in dramatic fashion, with Wichita State junior and National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association Most Valuable Player Madison Janack delivering three strikes in the 10th frame of the deciding game of the best-of-five Baker format to shut out North Carolina A&T, 247-217.

Wichita State and North Carolina A&T had exchanged victories through the first four games to set up the excitement in the finale. In Game 5, the Shockers delivered three consecutive strikes, starting in the seventh frame, before handing the ball to Janack for the 10th.

North Carolina A&T, which was looking for its second ITC title, rolled four consecutive strikes in the middle of Game 5, and a strike in the ninth frame forced Janack to get two strikes and one pin to lock up the title.

The 2021 championship team for Wichita State featured Janack, Sierra Ciesiolka, Madisyn Hansen, Addie Herzberg, Sydney Hollinger, Sarah Klassen and Olivia Komorowski.

Janack also was named the women's ITC Most Valuable Player. She was joined on the all-tournament team by North Carolina A&T's Cameron Strombeck, Mount Mercy's Cassidy Courey, McKendree's Hope Gramly and Louisiana Tech's Allie Leiendecker.

The men's team title also came down to the fifth game between Wichita State and St. Ambrose in a low-scoring championship round. Through the first four games, only one team had reached the 200 mark (Wichita State in a 200-167 victory in Game 3).

In Game 5, the Shockers started with three consecutive strikes and maintained an advantage as St. Ambrose opened in four of its first six frames. Wichita State claimed the game, and title, with a 188-146 win.

The Wichita State roster this week featured Brandon Biondo, Briley Haugh, Cameron Hurwitz, Alec Keplinger, Richard Paul III, TJ Rock and Nick Sommer.

St. Ambrose's Cameron Crowe was named the men's ITC Most Valuable Player. He was joined on the all-tournament team by teammate Nathan Stubler, Wichita State's Biondo and Keplinger, and Emmanuel's David Hooper.

Crowe also was recognized as the winner of the Chris Stoehr Sportsmanship Award in the men's division. Newman's Leanne Vastbinder earned the award in the women's division.

Vergos claimed the first national championship for Calumet with a 205-167 victory over Wichita State's Alec Keplinger.

Vergos, a senior, started strong in the title match. After a spare in the first frame, he rolled three consecutive strikes to build an early lead over Keplinger, who was struggling with his ball reaction after switching from urethane to reactive.

The two-time NCBCA All-American briefly opened the window for Keplinger with a missed 10 pin in the fifth frame, but Vergos stayed clean for the remainder of the game to roll to the title. Keplinger rolled a double in the fifth and sixth frames but followed with opens in the seventh and eighth frames.

Vergos rolled seven consecutive strikes to start his semifinal match against St. Ambrose's Jordan Monnens on the way to a 254-192 win to advance to the finals. Keplinger advanced to the championship round by defeating Lindenwood's Andrew Sacks, 212-183.

Robb also is bringing home the first United States Bowling Congress national title to Delaware State after recording a 186-166 win over North Carolina A&T's Ana Olaya.

Robb, a junior for the Hornets, was down by 12 pins through four frames in the title match after back-to-back opens in the third and fourth frames. She made her move in the seventh and eighth frames, rolling a double after Olaya opened in the seventh to take the advantage.

With Olaya finishing the title tilt first, Robb stepped up in the final frame needing nine pins to claim the victory and rolled a strike to secure the win.

The ISC title also allows Robb to join Delaware State head coach Elysia Current in the winner's circle at the national singles event. Current captured the 2007 ISC title while competing for Wichita State.

Robb advanced to the title match by defeating McKendree's Isabel Allen in the semifinals, 215-195. Olaya earned her spot in the finals with a 204-189 win against Indiana Tech's Maryssa Carey.

All qualifying and match-play rounds held prior to the televised finals were broadcast on BowlTV.com.

Teams and individuals competing at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex this week earned their spots at the ITC and ISC through four sectional qualifiers held throughout the country in April.

Teams had to place in the top four after 40 Baker games in their respective sectionals to advance to the ITC, while individuals needed to finish in the top six at their sectionals based on six-game pinfall totals.

For more information on the Intercollegiate Team Championships, visit BOWL.com/ITC. To learn more about the Intercollegiate Singles Championships, visit BOWL.com/ISC.

2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Spectrum Entertainment Complex, Wyoming, Mich.

Saturday's Results

Men's Championship

Wichita State def. St. Ambrose, 3-2 (197-196, 171-190, 200-167, 174-182, 188-146)

Women's Championship

Wichita State def. North Carolina A&T, 3-2 (182-158, 194-202, 211-169, 178-200, 247-217)

2021 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Spectrum Entertainment Complex, Wyoming, Mich.

Saturday's Results

Men's Semifinals

Pete Vergos, Calumet, def. Jordan Monnens, St. Ambrose, 254-192

Alec Keplinger, Wichita State, def. Andrew Sacks, Lindenwood, 212-183

Men's Final

Vergos def. Keplinger, 205-167

Women's Semifinals

Ana Olaya, North Carolina A&T, def. Maryssa Carey, Indiana Tech, 204-189

Katie Robb, Delaware State, def. Isabel Allen, McKendree, 215-195

Women's Final

Robb def. Olaya, 186-166

USBC TO MAINTAIN CURRENT COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress will continue enforcing published COVID-19 protocols at the 2021 USBC Women's Championships and Open Championships, both being held in Nevada.

USBC is aware of evolving guidelines on mask requirements from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state and local regulators.

The championship tournaments have been underway for weeks, and participants registered with an expectation of consistent enforcement of published protocols for the duration of each event.

Adjusting mask requirements for vaccinated persons mid-event would create a different playing-field standard for competitors, including those who already have bowled for score.

The 2021 Women's Championships is taking place at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, from April 23-July 4, and the Open Championships is being contested at the South Point Bowling Plaza and South Point Bowling Center in Las Vegas from May 1-July 18.

For more information on the Open Championships, visit [BOWL.com/OpenChamp](https://www.bowl.com/openchamp).

For more information on the Women's Championships, visit [BOWL.com/WomensChamp](https://www.bowl.com/womenschamp).

Visit us on Facebook at the official Women's and Open Championships Facebook pages.

BRYAN O'KEEFE NAMED HEAD COACH OF TEAM USA

ARLINGTON, Texas - Bryan O'Keefe, who has more than 10 years of coaching experience within the Team USA program, has been selected as the head coach for Team USA, after leading Junior Team USA since 2017.

He will replace longtime Team USA head coach Rod Ross, who retired in December 2020 after nearly

two decades with the program.

"My time with Junior Team USA, first as an assistant and then as the head coach, has been incredibly memorable and rewarding," said O'Keefe, who served as a Junior Team USA assistant coach from 2010-2017. "I am proud of the success we've had and all that the players have gone on to accomplish, but I'm even more proud of the people they've become."

O'Keefe is the director of bowling for McKendree University and will continue in that role, while also leading Team USA.

Prior to his time with McKendree, O'Keefe was the on-site manager for Arlington's International Training and Research Center, the home of Team USA and Junior Team USA, so he's very familiar with the layout and capabilities of the state-of-the-art facility used for training Team USA.

O'Keefe earned USBC Gold status from United States Bowling Congress Coaching Certification and Development in 2014. Gold is the highest certification level a bowling coach can achieve.

The 46-year-old will remain based in Shiloh, Illinois, where he lives with his wife, Professional Women's Bowling Association and Team USA standout Shannon O'Keefe, though he'll make regular trips to the ITRC for meetings and training camps, plus traveling with the men's and women's teams to international events.

He will recuse himself from involvement in all subjective selection processes related to the Team USA women's program, while Shannon O'Keefe is part of the program.

"Bryan has become one of the premier coaches in our sport, finding continued success at the international and collegiate levels, and we look forward to seeing him continue that while coaching the best adult bowlers in the world," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "He also has a great history with the Team USA program and vision for the future. We expect a seamless transition and the chance to build on those established relationships, while building new ones, too."

During O'Keefe's time with the Team USA program, athletes have earned more than 120 medals, including more than two dozen gold medals.

He most recently helped Junior Team USA to the top of the podium at the 2019 International Bowling Federation World Junior Championships in France and the 2019 PANAM Bowling Youth Championships in the Dominican Republic.

The Team USA program was on hiatus in 2020 due to COVID-19, and O'Keefe is eager to get the teams back on the lanes for training and competition.

"The last 12-15 months certainly were challenging in many regards, but as things continue to improve, we get more optimistic that it won't be much longer before we can get the athletes back together and doing what we love," O'Keefe said. "There's nothing like getting to represent our country on the lanes, and I'm excited for this year's team members to get that experience."

During O'Keefe's tenure at McKendree, the men's team captured the Intercollegiate Team Championships title in 2016 and 2018, while the women's team claimed the school's first NCAA championship by winning the 2017 NCAA Bowling Championship. The women's team also won the ITC

title in 2017, becoming the second team in history to win both events in the same season.

Long before he was a collegiate coach, O'Keefe competed for the University of Nebraska, earning first-team All-America honors, while helping the Huskers to a national title in 1996.

He also had the opportunity to represent the United States at the 1991 Lee Evans Tournament of the Americas in Florida, where he picked up five gold medals and one silver medal.

O'Keefe will begin his responsibilities immediately, and that includes working with a roster of top-level assistant coaches, featuring Mark Baker, Andy Diercks, Del Warren and a quartet of USBC Hall of Famers in Kim Kearney, Kelly Kulick, Mike Shady and Bill Spigner.

With O'Keefe's selection, the hiring process for a new Junior Team USA head coach will get underway.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

GRAND RAPIDS AREA TO HOST 2022 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, EXCITEMENT GROWS FOR 2021 EVENT

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Junior Gold Championships will return to Michigan in July 2022, with competition taking place across eight centers in the Grand Rapids area.

In addition to the Junior Gold Championships, the USA Bowling National Championships and Bowling.com Youth Open Championships also will be conducted in western Michigan in 2022.

United States Bowling Congress Youth members will have the opportunity to compete at these national events from July 11-31.

The 2022 Junior Gold Championships will be conducted July 11-23, with U20 competition kicking things off July 11-15. The USA Bowling National Championships is scheduled for July 13-15, and the Youth Open Championships will take place July 13-15, 22-24 and 30-31.

The Junior Gold Championships previously traveled to Michigan in 2008, 2013 and 2019, with the Detroit area serving as the host for the premier national events for USBC Youth members.

"We're excited to bring the Junior Gold Championships back to Michigan in 2022," International Bowling Campus Youth Development Managing Director Gary Brown said. "We're visiting a new part of the state, which also holds a rich tradition and history in the sport. We've enjoyed the opportunity to work with the West Michigan Sports Commission and the bowling centers in the Grand Rapids area to prepare for next year's events."

The West Michigan Sports Commission recently worked with the IBC Youth Development team to host the 2021 Intercollegiate Team Championships and Intercollegiate Singles Championships at the Spectrum Entertainment Complex in Wyoming.

The other centers scheduled to host in 2022 include Northway Lanes and Sherman Bowling Center in Muskegon; Royal Scot Golf & Bowl and Spare Time Entertainment Center in Lansing; Westgate Bowl in Comstock Park; Fairlanes Bowling Center in Grandville; and AMF Eastbrook Lanes in Grand Rapids.

“We look forward to hosting the top female and male youth bowlers at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships,” West Michigan Sports Commission President Mike Guswiler said. “We’ve partnered with our best regional bowling centers and know the many families and bowlers who attend the Junior Gold Championships will experience first-class facilities and staff. When bowling is complete, families will find many other activities throughout West Michigan, whether they’re competing in Lansing, Kalamazoo, Muskegon or any of the other Junior Gold centers within the Greater Grand Rapids area.”

The 2021 Junior Gold Championships is less than a week from getting underway across six centers in the Indianapolis area. More than 3,500 bowlers have qualified for the 2021 event, which runs from July 5-17.

The U20 division will kick things off July 5 with its official practice session. Competition will take place from July 6-9.

There will be a product demonstration day available to Junior Gold competitors at Woodland Bowl on July 8. Athletes will have the opportunity to throw and test different bowling balls from multiple brands, and spots still are available.

Junior Gold merchandise and spectator passes will be available at the Indiana State Fairgrounds starting July 9, with the Junior Gold Trade Show and athlete registration officially getting underway July 10. This year’s trade show will feature more than 90 total vendors, including 60 colleges/universities.

There will be no opening ceremony for the 2021 Junior Gold Championships.

The official practice sessions for the U12, U15 and U18 divisions will take place from July 9-11, with competition getting underway July 12.

2020-2021 DEXTER HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AMERICAN TEAM DETERMINED

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Dexter High School All-American Team has been announced for the 2020-2021 school year, with two student-athletes earning spots on the team for a second consecutive season.

The teams were selected by Dexter Bowling in consultation with the International Bowling Campus Youth Development staff. Each team is comprised of five student-athletes who had to participate on a recognized interscholastic high school bowling team during the 2020-2021 school year.

Applicants were required to have at least a 3.0 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) and submit a resume of their bowling and academic achievements, along with an essay, to be considered for the team. They also were required to provide recommendation letters from their coaches or athletic directors and at least one additional letter of recommendation.

“Dexter Bowling is excited and honored to recognize these student-athletes for their tremendous achievements on and off the lanes,” said Paul Sylvia, Dexter Bowling Vice President. “We had many great applicants for the team this year, which shows the strength of high school bowling and the dedication these student-athletes exhibit toward their academics, community and the sport of bowling.”

Seniors Victoria Lazo of Houston and Blake Martin of Oakdale, Minnesota, are making their second appearances on the Dexter High School All-American Team after earning spots as juniors in the 2019-2020 season.

Each team member will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

The girls team includes:

Kathryn Bowman (Peru, New York) – The junior is carrying a 4.74 GPA (weighted) and is the first student to achieve a perfect score on the NYS Region Exam in Geometry for Peru Central High School. She is on track to graduate with a Regents Diploma with Honors. On the lanes, she has recorded victories at numerous local and regional events and qualified for match play at the 2019 Junior Gold Championships (U15). She holds the Champlain Valley Athletic Conference records for high game (289) and high series (753) and was named the most outstanding bowler at the 2019 and 2020 CVAC Section VII Championships.

Brooklyn Gagnon (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) – The senior was selected as the 2021 USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year in March. She recorded a 3.99 GPA (weighted) at Lincoln High School, while taking a variety of accelerated and Advanced Placement classes, with a focus on mathematics. She was named South Dakota Bowler of the Year in 2018 and 2019, and she recently helped Lincoln High School to its second girls state bowling championship. Gagnon also earned recognition by being named the 2021 South Dakota Star of Tomorrow.

Kathleen Heady (Richardson, Texas) – The senior was one of five USBC Youth members selected to receive an Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship in 2021, and she earned the David Dahms Sportsmanship Award at the 2017 Junior Gold Championships. She carried a 4.31 GPA (on a 5.0 scale) at Plano Senior High School, is a member of the National Honor Society and earned the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence three times. She anchored the girls bowling team for three years and joined the boys team as a senior. She helped the team win the 2021 Texas High School Bowling Association state title and was voted the Dallas North A District Bowler of the Year.

Kaylee Hitt (Cold Spring, Kentucky) – The senior held a 5.2 GPA (weighted) through 2020 at Campbell County High School and was named the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Student-Athlete of the Year for bowling in 2021. She’s also a member of the Economics Club, National Society of High School Scholars and BETA Honor Society. She helped Campbell County win the 2020 KHSAA state title and was named Northern Kentucky Bowler of the Year three times.

She recorded top-20 finishes at the Junior Gold Championships in 2018 and 2019 and was part of the team that finished as runner-up at the 2018 USA Bowling National Championships.

Victoria Lazo (Houston) – The senior was enrolled in a variety of pre-Advanced Placement and AP courses, while carrying a 4.41 GPA at Dobie High School. She has served as captain for the school's bowling team in each of the past three seasons and has helped coach the varsity and junior varsity teams. In addition to being part of the Dexter High School All-American Team in 2020, she also was awarded the Bowl4Life Scholarship. She has recorded numerous victories on the lanes and has given back to the sport as a youth leader for the Greater Houston USBC.

The boys team features:

Antonio Garrido (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) – The senior took multiple Advanced Placement courses at Western High School on the way to a 5.2 GPA (weighted). He helped establish the school's bowling program as was named the Miami Herald and Sun Sentinel All-County High School Bowler of the Year in 2018. He also was named to the first-team All-County for the Miami Herald and Sun Sentinel in 2019 and 2020.

Silas Limes (Wichita, Kansas) – The senior carried a 4.0 GPA and was the top-ranked student at Wichita Heights High School. In addition to a multitude of Advanced Placement courses, he also spent four years in band. He claimed back-to-back team wins at the USA Bowling National Championships in 2017 and 2018 in the U15 division. He advanced as an individual to the Class 6A state finals his junior and senior years, finishing third and fifth, respectively, and helped his team to a runner-up finish in 2021.

Cole Macaluso (Fremont, Nebraska) – The senior was selected as one of 12 USBC Youth members to receive a Gift For Life Scholarship in 2021. He earned recognition from the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society as a junior and senior, while also receiving the Academic Achievement Award all four years to record a 3.95 GPA at Fremont High School. On the lanes, he has been captain of the bowling team for the last three years, helping the school win the 2021 Nebraska School Activities Association team title, while also claiming the individual championship.

Blake Martin (Oakdale, Minnesota) – The senior returns to the Dexter High School All-American Team with a 4.15 GPA (unweighted), while attending St. Croix Lutheran Academy. He has received the Norman Borlaug Science Achievement and Arizona Distinction Awards. He was named first-team all-conference in each of his four years and was a first-team all-state selection in 2020. He also was one of 10 finalists at the 2020 Professional Bowlers Association Junior National Championships.

Joseph Mathews (Dallas) – The senior posted a 4.0 GPA at Bishop Lynch High School, taking accelerated courses in history, mathematics, physics and science. He is a National Hispanic Scholar and part of the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society. He also earned the Dominican Heritage Scholarship Award. He competed on Bishop Lynch's bowling team all four years, served as team captain and also was named the team's most valuable player.

The captain for both teams will be announced on-site at the 2021 Junior Gold Championships in Indianapolis. Both captains will receive an additional \$500 scholarship and take home the Bud Clapsaddle Award, named for the former Dexter Bowling vice president who oversaw selection of the first 12 teams.

For more information on high school bowling, including the Dexter High School All-American Team and grant initiatives to assist high school programs, visit BOWL.com/HighSchool.

2020-2021 DEXTER HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AMERICAN TEAM

Name, Year, High School, HometownGirls Team

Kathryn Bowman, Junior, Peru Central High School, Peru, N.Y.

Brooklyn Gagnon, Senior, Lincoln High School, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Kathleen Heady, Senior, Plano Senior High School, Richardson, Texas

Kaylee Hitt, Senior, Campbell County High School, Cold Spring, Ky.

Victoria Lazo, Senior, Dobie High School, Houston

Boys Team

Antonio Garrido, Senior, Western High School, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Silas Limes, Senior, Wichita Heights High School, Wichita, Kan.

Cole Macaluso, Senior, Fremont High School, Fremont, Neb.

Blake Martin, Senior, St. Croix Lutheran Academy, Oakdale, Minn.

Joseph Mathews, Senior, Bishop Lynch High School, Dallas

2021 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SET TO GET UNDERWAY IN INDIANAPOLIS

INDIANAPOLIS – The top young bowlers from across the country are making their way to Indianapolis for the 2021 Junior Gold Championships.

The 2021 event started Monday with the official practice session in the 20-and-under division, and this year's edition will run until July 17. More than 3,500 bowlers have qualified for the 2021 event, which is being held across six centers in the Indianapolis area.

Bowlers in four age-based divisions for boys and girls – U12, U15, U18 and U20 – will be competing for part of the largest scholarship fund in tournament history – \$500,000 – with additional money be added from unassigned funds in the International Bowling Campus Youth Development SMART

account.

Spots on Junior Team USA and Junior Team USA's Developmental Team also will be up grabs in Indianapolis.

BowlTV.com will provide livestream coverage of every round of the 2021 event, including the stepladder finals in each division. Coverage will be limited to four of the six centers during the qualifying rounds for the U12, U15 and U18 divisions.

The centers being used for the 2021 Junior Gold Championships include All Star Bowl, Championship Lanes, Expo Bowl, Strike Force Lanes, Western Bowl and Woodland Bowl. The stepladder finals for each division will take place at Expo Bowl.

The U20 division will compete from July 6-9, with all competitors bowling four four-game qualifying blocks over two days to determine the players moving on to the advancers round.

Advancers will bowl an additional five games before a second cut is made, and a final five-game block will determine the 16 athletes in the boys and girls divisions advancing to the double-elimination match-play bracket.

Bracket matches will consist of two games, with total pinfall determining the winner. Three players will emerge from bracket play to compete in the stepladder finals to determine the champion. The two finalists in the match-play bracket will bowl to determine the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds for the stepladder, while the winner of the Elimination Bracket will be the No. 3 seed.

With the finals in each division being broadcast on BowlTV.com, the top overall seed for the stepladder would have to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

The championship rounds in the U20 division will be held July 9 at 1 p.m. Eastern.

With the maximum age for United States Bowling Congress Youth membership changing to 18 with the start of the 2020-2021 season, the U20 division was moved to the first week of the event to break away the adult competitors from the youth divisions (U12, U15 and U18).

The Junior Gold Trade Show and registration for U12, U15 and U18 athletes will take place July 10 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. This year's trade show will feature more than 90 total vendors, including 60 colleges and universities.

I Am Bowling, powered by Logo Infusion, is serving as the official jersey provider for the 2021 Junior Gold Championships. They will be giving competitors the chance to pick up their jerseys July 9 and 10 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

There will be no opening ceremony for the 2021 Junior Gold Championships.

The three youth divisions will have their official practice sessions from July 9-11, with competition running from July 12-17.

The U15 and U18 divisions will feature the same format as the U20 division. The qualifying rounds will be contested over four days, however, compared to two days for U20.

The U12 division also will have four four-game qualifying rounds over four days, before the first cut is made, and advancers will bowl an additional four games to determine the top eight competitors for double-elimination match play.

The stepladder finals in the U12 (10 a.m. Eastern), U15 (2 p.m. Eastern) and U18 (6 p.m. Eastern) divisions all will take place July 17.

In addition to the Junior Gold Championships, the Bowling.com Youth Open Championships also will be taking place in Indianapolis at All Star Bowl.

The Youth Open Championships, a non-qualifying tournament open to all USBC Youth bowlers, has competition in singles, doubles and four-person team. Squads will be held July 7-9, 16-18 and 24-25. U18 will be the oldest division for the event.

ROBERTS AND CROWE WIN U20 TITLES AT 2021 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Gene J. Kanak

INDIANAPOLIS – The first national champions at the 2021 Junior Gold Championships have been crowned as Brooke Roberts of Port Orange, Florida, and Cameron Crowe of Orland Park, Illinois, walked away with the titles in the 20-and-under division Friday at Expo Bowl.

Roberts earned the title in the girls division by defeating Morgan Nunn of Oklahoma City, 188-140. Crowe secured his position as champion in the boys division by dispatching defending U20 champion Alec Keplinger of Coldwater, Michigan, 232-226.

The stepladder finals for each division was broadcast live on BowlTV.com.

By qualifying as the top seeds for the stepladder finals as the only undefeated bowlers through the tournament's double-elimination bracket in their respective divisions, both Roberts and Crowe would have needed to have been beaten twice by their opponent in the true double-elimination format.

Crowe, the 2020 U.S. Amateur champion, nearly found himself in the position of needing a second game.

In the tightly contested match against Keplinger, both players had the chance to roll a 258 game with three strikes in the final frame. Stepping up first, Keplinger left a 6-10 combination and only knocked over the 6 pin on the spare attempt.

The open from Keplinger gave Crowe the opportunity to step up in the 10th frame and lock up the win with a mark. Crowe left and converted the 3-6-9 and recorded seven pins on his final shot to secure a six-pin victory and national title.

"Alec is one of my good friends, so I knew that I'd have to bowl really well and take advantage of any opportunities I was given if I was going to beat him," Crowe said. "When he gave me that opening, I knew I had to make the most of it. I threw a pretty good shot, left a makeable spare, and the rest is history."

Keplinger, who claimed the 2019 U20 title in Detroit, defeated Tristin Davis of Woodstock, Georgia, in the opening match of the stepladder, 207-191.

The championship match in the girls division saw Roberts get out to an early lead with strikes in four of the first five frames as Nunn struggled to find a consistent ball reaction.

That allowed Roberts to focus on making quality shots and leaving makeable spares. Still, it wasn't until the final frames that she allowed herself to accept the realization that she was going to win the title.

"It probably wasn't until around the eighth or ninth frame that I truly realized that I was going to win it," Roberts said. "But even then, I wanted to keep myself composed so that I could throw good shots in those final few frames. I didn't want to take any chances or give anything away."

Nunn advanced to the title match by defeating defending U20 champion Patricia Rosales of Orlando, Florida, in the semifinal, 190-175.

Roberts entered match play as the No. 7 seed after 26 games of qualifying, but she gave little away once bracket play got underway Thursday. She averaged more than 211 in her four wins on the way to earning the top seed. All matches leading up to the stepladder featured a two-game total-pinfall format to determine which player advanced.

For Roberts, the key to success was about staying in the moment and never looking too far back or too far ahead.

"I've had problems with that in the past, so I've worked on staying in the moment, staying positive and hoping everything turns out great," Roberts said. "It's great to win, especially since this is my last chance to bowl Junior Gold. Winning here will bring me more confidence going into big tournaments in the future. Honestly, this win still hasn't really hit me yet. It's definitely overwhelming."

Speaking of overwhelming, Crowe was just that from the moment qualifying ended. He averaged more than 218 for his 26 games leading into match play to earn the top position for the bracket, while averaging nearly five pins better than anyone else in the field.

Although his scoring pace went down in match play, Crowe was able to find ways to win each of his matches and posted the top two-game score in the winners bracket in the boys division to secure his spot in the stepladder against Jarin Kurashige of Mililani, Hawaii (444-386), before earning the top seed by defeating Davis, 352-303.

Although, on paper, Crowe's path to victory may appear to have been rather easy, he was quick to indicate that this national title only came as a result of lots of hard work and the support of family, friends and coaches along the way.

"I want to thank everyone who was there for me – my family, coaches, teammates and everyone. We did it. This isn't a 'me' victory; it's a 'we' victory for all of them," Crowe said. "This is obviously one of the biggest victories of my career, and it's a testament to all of the hard work that I've put in over these years. It shows that hard work pays off."

“Junior Gold is one of the greatest tournaments in the world for young bowlers. It’s all about who can be the most patient, most versatile and most consistent. The best bowlers are pretty much always the ones who make it to the end here. Winning Junior Gold proves that I can hang with the best of the best, and that is something that’s going to push my confidence even higher.”

The final two spots from the U20 division at the 2021 Junior Gold Championships for Junior Team USA also were determined Friday.

In the girls division, Roberts and Nunn earned their spots on the 2022 team by advancing to the title match. They will join the four players that earned spots Thursday based on their 26-game totals through qualifying – Mabel Cummins of Elburn, Illinois; Jenna Williams of Homosassa, Florida; Caroline Thesier of Mooresville, North Carolina; and Jordan Mundt of Arlington, Tennessee.

In the boys division, Keplinger also earned an additional year on Junior Team USA by advancing to the title match. He’s been part of the team since 2020.

The final spot went to Michael Marmolejo of Fullerton, California, who earned his spot by finishing qualifying in fifth place. With Crowe already securing his third appearance on Junior Team USA by leading qualifying, his spot from advancing to the title match went to the next highest finisher from the standings, based on 26-game totals.

Keplinger, Marmolejo and Crowe also will be joined on Junior Team USA by Tyrell Ingalls of Loganville, Georgia; William Clark of Montgomery, Illinois; and Brett Lloyd of Knightdale, North Carolina.

With the U20 competition completed, the stage will be turned over to youth bowlers from the U12, U15 and U18 divisions.

The Junior Gold Trade Show and registration for U12, U15 and U18 athletes will take place Saturday at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. This year’s trade show will feature more than 90 total vendors, including 60 colleges and universities.

There will be no opening ceremony for the 2021 Junior Gold Championships.

The first of three days of official practice sessions for the three youth divisions got underway Friday and will conclude Sunday. Competition for the U12, U15 and U18 divisions will take place from July 12-17.

The stepladder finals in the U12 (10 a.m. Eastern), U15 (2 p.m. Eastern) and U18 (6 p.m. Eastern) divisions all will take place July 17.

For more information on the 2021 Junior Gold Championships, visit BOWL.com/JuniorGold.

2021 Junior Gold Championships - U20 Division

At Expo Bowl

Indianapolis

Friday’s results

STEPLADDER RESULTS - U20 GIRLS

Semifinal – Morgan Nunn, Oklahoma City def. Patricia Rosales, Orlando, Fla., 190-175

Championship – Brooke Roberts, Port Orange, Fla., def. Nunn, 188-140

STEPLADDER RESULTS - U20 BOYS

Semifinal – Alec Keplinger, Coldwater, Mich., def. Tristin Davis, Woodstock, Ga., 207-191

Championship – Cameron Crowe, Orland Park, Ill., def. Keplinger, 232-226

CHAMPIONS DETERMINED IN U12, U15 AND U18 DIVISIONS AT 2021 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Gene J. Kanak

INDIANAPOLIS – The 2021 Junior Gold Championships came to a close Saturday as champions emerged from the stepladder finals in the 18-and-under, 15-and-under and 12-and-under divisions at Expo Bowl.

This year's winners included Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey (U18), Landin Jordan of Sycamore, Illinois (U15), and Matteo Quintero of Smyrna, Tennessee (U12), in the boys divisions. The champions on the girls side were Jaelle Hamman of Jarrell, Texas (U18), Savannah Taillon of Concord, North Carolina (U15), and Baylie Massingill of Troy, Ohio (U12).

More than 2,900 United States Bowling Congress Youth members competed across six centers in the Indianapolis area in an attempt to take home part of the largest scholarship fund in tournament history (\$502,100), make their run at the coveted titles and earn spots on Junior Team USA.

[BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com) livestreamed competition throughout qualifying and the double-elimination brackets from four of the six centers, along with Saturday's stepladder finals.

With the finals in each division being broadcast by BowlTV, the top overall seed for the stepladder had to be defeated twice in the true double-elimination format.

Hamman captured the U18 title with a 225-163 win against Victoria Varano of Stony Point, New York.

She made it clear during the title match why she had earned the top seed for the stepladder finals. Hamman was in control from start to finish, locking in on the pocket from the very first shot and never making mistakes Varano could capitalize on.

Hamman started with a pair of doubles in her first five frames and stayed clean to go up by 23 pins halfway through the game. Varano stayed clean and tried to stay in the match, but a 1-2-4-6-10 combination in the eighth frame allowed Hamman to close out the victory.

"I really try to keep my eyes down and not really pay attention to what my opponent is doing, but

it's hard to do that in a setting like this, with the crowd and everything," Hamman said. "I sort of knew I'd won when I stepped up for my ninth frame. Still, I just tried to close it out and make my shots."

Hamman's ability to make those shots and come away victorious was thanks in large part to a solid game plan established during practice.

"My plan coming in was to play the gutter and just roll the ball, because that would keep me away from splits," Hamman said. "Junior Gold is always such a demanding and mentally exhausting tournament, but it's worth it. Even if I hadn't won, it would still be worth it. I'm just really happy right now. This is surreal."

Varano, who made the stepladder and finished third in the U15 division at the 2019 Junior Gold Championships, earned the right to take on Hamman for the title after she got past Elena Carr of Hilton, New York, 211-168, during the opening match.

Carr was in the pocket throughout the match, but poor pin carry allowed Varano to get ahead and stay ahead. After she connected for a four consecutive strikes in frames five through eight, she had locked Carr out and secured her position in the championship match.

Bohn defeated Edgar Burgos of St. Charles, Illinois, in a battle of previous Junior Gold champions, 232-200, to win the U18 title in the boys division.

Bohn captured the 2017 U12 title, while Burgos won the U12 trophy in 2016.

As championship matches often do, the contest came down to the final frame. Bohn had a chance to shut out Burgos with a double, but a 10 pin on a slightly high hit on his second delivery left the door open for Burgos to strike out to win by one pin and force a second game.

Burgos got his ball to the pocket, just as he had on the previous shots that struck, but the result was different, as the 7 pin didn't fall, giving Bohn the game and his second Junior Gold title.

"Winning Junior Gold once was great, but to win it twice now is unbelievable," Bohn said. "This one was for my grandma and for my uncle. We lost them a couple months back, and this is for them. I know they'd be happy right now."

Bohn was happy in victory, but he was quick to point out that he was anything but happy during the early stages of this year's tournament.

"I started out badly, I had no confidence at all and my patience was low, but then something clicked on Day 3," Bohn said. "Once that happened, I just took it and ran with it. To be standing here today with the trophy in my hand now is surreal. This was really just a whirlwind."

Whirlwind is a good way to describe Burgos' pin carry during his semifinal win over Silas Limes of Wichita, Kansas. Burgos threw five consecutive strikes, starting in the second frame, before closing with four of the last five en route to a 263 game.

Limes threw eight strikes of his own in the semifinal, but costly opens in the fourth and fifth frames put him too far behind. The final score was 263-212, and Burgos was on his way to the title match.

Despite Burgos' best effort in the final, the day belonged to Bohn.

"I had to expect Edgar to strike out and force the last game, so I was getting myself ready for that," Bohn said. "But as I sat there, I was happy with the shots I had thrown, so I would've had nothing to be disappointed about no matter what happened. I made all of the shots I wanted to make."

The U18 division featured 558 girls and 1,166 boys at the 2021 event.

Six boys and six girls from the U18 division also earned spots on Junior Team USA for 2022 based on their performances this week at the Junior Gold Championships.

The boys team will feature Bohn, Jordan Malott of Austin, Texas; Zach Greim of Poway, California; Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas; and Solomon Salama of Beverly Hills, California.

Hamman and Varano will be joined on the girls team in 2022 by Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio; Amanda Naujokas of Ronkonkoma, New York; Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia; and Lyndsay Ennis of Conway, South Carolina.

In the girls division for U15, Savannah struck in her ninth frame and on her first delivery in the 10th frame of the deciding game to lock up the victory over Kayla Starr of Crofton, Maryland, 212-169.

The final score may appear a bit lopsided, but the title match was anything but dull.

Early on, it appeared as if Savannah, the top seed for the stepladder, would secure the title in the first game, as she led Kayla by 13 pins in the latter stages of the game. A 4-6-7-10 split in the ninth frame and 1-2-4-10 in the 10th resulted in back-to-back opens, which allowed Kayla to roll a double in her final frame to record a 193-187 win to force a second match.

Undaunted, Savannah kept her composure and went back to work, staying clean and using a pair of doubles to keep Kayla at a distance to emerge with the title.

"My second games were significantly better than my first throughout match play this week, so to shoot in the 180s was actually better than what I expected in that first game," Savannah said. "Obviously, I didn't like the way that game ended, but having that track record of shooting 230s to 250s during the second game all week kept me pretty confident in myself."

Confidence is no issue for Savannah, who admitted that as recently as two weeks ago she doubted whether she truly had the talent to compete at an event of the magnitude of Junior Gold. Now having left the 2021 event as a national champion, she is realizing she has the potential to do a lot of great things.

"I have big plans for college and things that I want to do in the future, so winning this makes me feel so good about where I am going," Savannah said. "This lets me know I've got what it takes to make my dreams come true."

Kayla earned her spot in the title match by defeating Sydney Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, in the opening match, 209-131.

Kayla recorded three doubles, while Sydney left three 7-10 splits on the left lane to allow Kayla to jump ahead and never look back.

Landin also took advantage of being the top seed in the boys division for U15 and rallied from an opening loss to Trevor Ashby of Rawlings, Maryland, with a 248-182 win to claim the title.

Trevor won the first game in the battle of two-handers, rolling seven consecutive strikes, starting in the third frame, to force a second game, 257-209.

Realizing the first game was going to be won by Trevor, Landin used the final frames to make a ball change on the right lane. The experiment worked, as he struck on his last four shots on that lane and continued riding the improved pin carry during Game 2 on his way to the national title.

"I knew that I was mathematically out of the first game, so I needed to make a change and try to find something on the right lane for Game 2," Landin said. "The ball change that I made went back to something I saw during practice. I made the move, and, thankfully, it worked."

Other than an errant shot in the second frame, Landin was dialed in on both lanes during the final match. He took advantage of an open from Trevor by connecting on four consecutive strikes, starting in the third frame, to jump out to a 34-pin advantage through six frames.

Trevor tried his best to fight his way back into the match, but a 9 pin in the seventh frame and 10 pin in the eighth, which he was unable to convert, put any hopes of a comeback to rest.

"It was probably in the ninth frame of the last game when I looked up and realized I had it won, and it felt amazing," Landin said. "Winning is a big relief. It shows that all my hard work and dedication is paying off. Everything I've been doing has been for this moment. It's the best feeling ever."

Trevor's road to the finals began in thrilling fashion with a 222-193 victory over Ethan Caruso of Channahon, Illinois.

Caruso stepped up in the 10th frame needing a strike on his first delivery for the chance to advance to the title match, but his shot came in high on the head pin, resulting in a 3-4-6-7-10 split to end his run.

The girls division for U15 featured 298 competitors this week in Indianapolis, and the boys division had 630 bowlers.

Four boys and four girls earned spots on the Junior Team USA's Developmental Team from U15 competition.

In addition to the three stepladder finalists in the boys division, Landin, Trevor and Ethan will be joined by Keegan Alexander of Killeen, Texas.

Savannah and Kayla will represent the Developmental Team, along with two-time Junior Gold champion Katelyn Abigania of San Diego and Erin Klemencic of Powder Springs, Georgia.

Most bowlers making their Junior Gold debut would be happy just making it past the first cut, but Baylie set the bar a bit higher as she recorded the win against Larielle Tharps of Orlando, Florida, 201-184.

It took her a little bit of time to get comfortable under the BowlTV lights, as her first strike didn't come until the fifth frame. Nevertheless, she managed to stay clean up to that point, which allowed her to establish a 10-pin lead after Larielle had an early open.

"I pay attention to the score when I bowl so that I always know what I need," Baylie said. "I was shaking in the beginning, but I was just trying to keep making spares and make it like regular bowling. I tried to ignore the fact that I was on TV and just kept doing the things that I needed to do."

After Larielle rolled a clutch strike on her fill ball to finish with 184, she forced Baylie to record a mark to take the game and title. Like champions do, Baylie saved her best shot for when it mattered most and delivered a strike to clinch the match.

"When I saw those pins go down, all the nerves went away, and I knew I did it," Baylie said. "In that moment, everything just went away – the nerves, the energy, everything. I'm just shocked and so excited right now. To win this in my first time is just mind-blowing."

Larielle earned the right to take on Baylie for the title by defeating Bella Castillo of Odessa, Texas, in the semifinal match, 172-156.

In the boys division for U12, Matteo did what champions do best. He took advantage of an opportunity and delivered clutch shots when they were needed most to defeat Kai Strothers of Maplewood, New Jersey, in their second match, 157-148.

The decisive game was exciting throughout, with Kai starting strong by striking on three of his first four shots to build a 25-pin lead midway through the match. The powerful left-hander ran into trouble shortly thereafter, splitting in four of the next five frames to sit with 140 in the ninth frame.

Kai's misfortune provided Matteo with an opening, and he made sure to take full advantage of it. Quintero rolled a strike in his ninth frame and had the opportunity to double in the 10th frame to shut out his opponent.

Matteo went high on his first shot of the 10th, however, leaving a 3-6-9-10 combination.

If Matteo failed to convert, Kai would only have needed pin count in the 10th frame to win the title. The two-hander was able to convert, though, and struck on his fill ball to finish with 157, forcing Kai to record an 18-pin fill in his final frame.

It was not meant to be for Kai, as his ball hooked through the head pin, leaving another split (2-4-6-10). Needing to convert the spare, Kai only toppled two pins, allowing Matteo to emerge victorious.

"As the last game was coming to an end, I realized I still had a chance, and I just took advantage of that opportunity and made a few clutch shots," Matteo said. "It feels amazing, just really, really awesome."

Kai had forced a second game after winning the first match, 166-161. Matteo made the most of the advantage he had earned during match play by regrouping and coming through in the clutch.

"Knowing I had another game if I lost the first one helped me relax and stay in it," Matteo said. "I was hoping not to have to go to that final game, but, once we did, I just refocused and put it all on the line. I'm still nervous even as I sit here right now, but it's starting to sink in. I feel great."

Kai advanced to the title match by defeating Anthony Swanson of Evanston, Illinois, in the semifinals, 256-182.

The U12 division featured 92 girls and 195 boys at the 2021 Junior Gold Championships.

The 2021 event kicked off July 6 with U20 competition. Cameron Crowe of Orland Park, Illinois, and Brooke Roberts of Port Orange, Florida, won the titles in their respective divisions.

For more information on the Junior Gold Championships, visit [BOWL.com/JuniorGold](https://www.bowl.com/juniorgold).

GO BOWLING'S PARTNERSHIP WITH MACY'S, NASCAR, NATIONAL

BOWLING DAY ON FOX AND A NATIONAL AD CAMPAIGN LEAD MAJOR

INDUSTRY MARKETING INITIATIVES FOR SECOND HALF OF 2021

FOX & Friends' to Shine the Spotlight on National Bowling Da,

Marking the Fifth Time the Holiday Has Been Celebrated on National TV

ARLINGTON, Texas – On Saturday, Aug. 14, the country will commemorate National Bowling Day, and the bowling industry is ready to make this the biggest celebration yet. Strike Ten Entertainment, via the Go Bowling platform, is rolling out an unprecedented marketing effort to build upon the momentum of a revitalized industry, post pandemic.

On tap to help raise awareness and drive consumers to the lanes are five major tent-pole activations in quarters three and four of this year that will entertain millions of Americans:

The "Go Bowling at The Glen" NASCAR race

The new "Reunite With Your Team" national ad campaign

An exclusive "FOX & Friends" live broadcast appearance

The "Go Bowling 250" NASCAR Race

Go Bowling's return to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

"Each year, Go Bowling features our sport in the brightest light across the country," said John Harbuck, President of Strike Ten Entertainment, the consumer marketing arm of the bowling industry. "Last year had its challenges for everyone, but as the industry rebounds so impressively from the pandemic, we're doing everything we can to showcase bowling to the 67 million people who bowl each year. What better way to accomplish that than with our NASCAR events at Watkins Glen (New York) and Richmond (Virginia), a unique nationally televised celebration of bowling on National Bowling Day, the launch of our biggest advertising campaign in years and by marking the beginning of the holidays with an encore appearance in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade?"

Go Bowling supports National Bowling Day with numerous activities that drive families and friends to the lanes around the country. On Aug. 8, Go Bowling returns to Watkins Glen for the Go Bowling at The Glen race and then moves on to Richmond on Sept. 11 for the Go Bowling 250. At both tracks, Go Bowling will have a special car-wrap for the #10 and the #98 Go Bowling Ford Mustangs, driven by Aric Almirola and Riley Herbst, respectively. Each event will have bowling-themed fan engagement activations in the track's Fan Midway areas for race attendees to have fun and a chance to win NASCAR and Go Bowling prizes.

Go Bowling will roll out a new national advertising campaign beginning on Aug. 9. Under the theme of "Reunite With Your Team," the commercial spot will air across national broadcast and national cable TV through the end of September to encourage people of all ages to get back on the lanes. The Go Bowling media schedule, developed by Horizon Media, ensures that the ads are running during high-traffic time slots in August and September, including during NASCAR races, key baseball matchups, Major League Soccer matches, and across other major non-sports networks such as FOX News, Food Network, Comedy Central and others.

Go Bowling then returns to New York City for bowling's big close-up on national TV, when Bowling Proprietors' Association of America President Jim Decker and other bowling personalities join the hosts of "FOX & Friends" to celebrate National Bowling Day on Aug. 14. Plans include Decker presenting the "FOX & Friends" hosts with their very own custom bowling equipment so they can show off their form on a portable lane on the FOX Square in Manhattan.

"National Bowling Day isn't just a single day — it's a celebration to showcase how much the bowling world has evolved and grown over the past year," said Decker. "Go Bowling will leverage our NASCAR and Macy's partnerships, the 'FOX & Friends' appearance, and our new national ad campaign to boost the industry even more and help bring the fun back to the nearly 70 million people who go bowling annually."

Later in 2021, Go Bowling will be back on national airwaves, as its partnership with Macy's has been extended through 2023. The bigger-than-life bowling ball and pin balloonics, along with the size 15½ bowling shoes, will be back on the parade route in front of millions of adoring fans in attendance and billions more viewing from home during the 2021 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City.

On behalf of the International Bowling Campus, Strike Ten Entertainment is fully supporting the National Bowling Day initiative. Digital marketing support materials are being created for all member centers to assist in promoting National Bowling Day to drive business locally.

THREE NEW TEAM USA ATHLETES JOIN USBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FOUR INCUMBENT DIRECTORS RETURN

ARLINGTON, Texas – Kendra Cameron-Curry, Brittini LaGeorge and Ron Mohr have been elected as new athlete representatives to the United States Bowling Congress Board of Directors.

The three new board members will start their terms Aug. 1, 2021. They fill newly created seats for Team USA athletes on the USBC Board of Directors to meet new requirements from the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

Cameron-Curry's initial term is for one year, while LaGeorge and Mohr will serve three-year terms.

Cameron-Curry, from St. Cloud, Florida, is a USBC Hall of Famer and spent five years as a Team USA member (1995-1998, 2010). She captured a gold medal in team competition and bronze in trios at the 1997 PANAM Bowling Adult Championships and was the runner-up at the 1995 QubicaAMF Bowling World Cup.

She is a two-time Professional Women's Bowling Association champion, four-time USBC Women's Championships titlist and currently works as the Regional Director of Bowling for Aloma Bowling Centers.

LaGeorge, from Nashville, Tennessee, is a five-time Team USA member (2011, 2013-2016) and three-time member of Junior Team USA (2009-2011). She won two gold medals (doubles and team) at the 2009 PANAM Bowling Youth Championships and a silver medal in singles at the 2010 International Bowling Federation Youth Championships. She won the 2014 USBC Team USA Trials and finished third later that year at the World Cup.

The 2008 Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow serves as the Assistant Director of Student Services at Vanderbilt University, where she was a four-time National Tenpin Coaches Association All-American from 2009-2012.

Mohr, from Las Vegas, is a three-time Team USA member (1989, 1991, 1998) and has represented Senior Team USA in each of the four editions of the International Bowling Federation Senior Championships, collecting 14 medals, including eight golds.

The Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer is an 11-time PBA50 titlist and two-time PBA60 champion. Before joining the PBA50 Tour, Mohr had a 25-year career as an Air Traffic Control Specialist for the Federal Aviation Administration in Anchorage, Alaska.

In addition to the three new members, Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, was reelected to a second three-year term as a Team USA Director. Barnes is a current and nine-time Team USA member and serves as the associate head coach for Vanderbilt's women's bowling team.

USBC Bylaws, in accordance with USOPC requirements as the National Governing Body of the sport, state at least 33.3% of the USBC Board of Directors must be comprised of Team USA athletes, who are to be elected by Team USA athletes.

Three additional incumbents also will rejoin the USBC Board of Directors starting Aug. 1, 2021.

USBC President Melissa McDaniel of Raleigh, North Carolina, was elected to return by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee. McDaniel is the youth director and head coach for Buffalo Lanes Family Bowling Centers.

The National Bowling Association reappointed Cornell M. Jackson of Kilmarnock, Virginia, to serve a three-year term on the USBC Board of Directors. Jackson worked professionally as a computer systems analyst with the University of District Columbia before retiring and is a Life Member and TNBA Hall of Fame member.

The Bowling Proprietors' Association of America reappointed BPAA President Jim Decker of Rohnert Park, California, to the USBC Board of Directors. Decker owns and operates Double Decker Lanes and is a second-generation proprietor with more than 45 years of experience in the industry.

TEAM USA ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR 2021 IBF PARA BOWLING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS AND IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The Team USA program is accepting resumes from eligible senior bowlers and para bowlers interested in representing the United States at the 2021 International Bowling Federation World Championships in November.

Bowlers of all ages and skill levels will converge on the Dubai International Bowling Center in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from Nov. 3-26 for the IBF Super World Championships (adult men and women), IBF Para Bowling World Championships and IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships.

Participants for the Super World Championships (Nov. 6-15) will be chosen from the 2021 Team USA roster, but representatives for the inaugural Para Bowling World Championships (Nov. 12-16) and Masters World Championships (Nov. 18-26) will be selected by the National Selection Committee from the submitted applications, which will be accepted through Sept. 6.

The committee will select two men and two women to compete in the W1 category of the Para World Championships. Participants will compete for medals in singles, doubles, mixed team and most valuable (formerly all-events).

The W1 Para/Amputee Classification incorporates all wheelchair classifications. It includes leg amputees, cerebral palsy (with functional hands), and Les Autres athletes with mobility disfunction. All must compete from a wheelchair and follow the rules of play and modified rules established for this discipline.

The committee will select four men and four women, age 50 and older, to compete in the 50+ division of the Masters World Championships. Medals will be awarded for singles, doubles, team, mixed team and most valuable athlete/federation.

To be eligible for this opportunity with Senior Team USA, athletes must be, or turn, 50 years old during the 2021 calendar year.

The Masters World Championships also will include a 65+ category, but the United States will not field a team.

Those selected will receive a paid entry into the events, airfare, lodging and official uniforms.

Use the following links to apply:

[Women's Para Application](#)

[Men's Para Application](#)

[Senior Women's Application](#)

[Senior Men's Application](#)

CHAMPIONS ANNOUNCED FROM 2021 [BOWLING.COM](#) YOUTH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The winners in each of the four age-based divisions at the 2021 Bowling.com Youth Open Championships have been determined by the International Bowling Campus Youth Development team.

The 2021 Youth Open Championships, a non-qualifying tournament open to all United States Bowling Congress Youth members, was contested at All Star Bowl in Indianapolis and held July 7-9, 16-18 and 24-25.

Bowlers in the 18-and-under, 15-and-under, 12-and-under and 10-and-under divisions competed for scholarship prizes and national titles in four-player team, doubles, singles and all-events.

Each discipline featured a scratch and optional handicap division, with 830 bowlers and 174 teams participating in the 2021 edition.

Breaking down the numbers from All Star Bowl, the 2021 tournament was highlighted by a group of young athletes finding success in several events, with 22 players claiming multiple titles. From that group of champions, six recorded victories in three events and a pair of bowlers each won four titles.

Additionally, 13 bowlers captured a win at the Youth Open Championships for the second consecutive time, with five of those competitors now having claimed at least one victory in each of their last three visits to the event.

The 2020 tournament was canceled due to COVID-19.

The members of Here Comes Trouble, this year's U12 Handicap Team champion, took home the most hardware in 2021, combining for 14 wins in Indianapolis.

Lindsay Greim of Poway, California, and Jon Verde of Las Vegas each recorded four victories, while Bella Castillo of Odessa, Texas, and Macey Bates of Fremont, Nebraska, each won three titles.

Along with the team win with a 2,652 handicap total, Lindsay paired with Bella to win U12 Scratch Doubles (1,142) and added victories in the girls division of U12 Scratch Singles (540) and U12 Scratch All-Events (1,668).

Bella also was the co-champion in U12 Handicap All-Events with a 2,217 total, which gives the pair 11 wins in their last two appearances at the Youth Open Championships. They won a doubles title in 2019 (U10 Scratch Doubles), while Lindsay captured the top spot in U10 Scratch Singles and Bella won U10 Scratch All-Events.

Jon added a pair of doubles titles with Macey in 2021, winning the scratch (1,028) and handicap (1,430) titles in U10. Jon's fourth title came in U10 Scratch All-Events, leading the way in the boys division with a 1,740 nine-game total.

Other bowlers claiming three victories at the 2021 Youth Open Championships included teammates Alia Sharif of Berea, Ohio (U15 Handicap Team, U10 Girls Handicap Singles and U10 Girls Handicap All-Events), and Cole Florack of Middleburg Heights, Ohio (U15 Handicap Team, U12 Boys Handicap Singles and U12 Boys Handicap All-Events), Isabella Rock of Phenix City, Alabama (U12 Girls Handicap Doubles, U12 Girls Handicap Singles and U12 Girls Handicap All-Events), and Kimberlyn Hamlin of Ponca City, Oklahoma.

Kimberlyn paired with Jessica Hamlin, also from Ponca City, to win U18 Girls Handicap Doubles with a 1,422 total and added wins in U15 Handicap Singles (780) and U15 Handicap All-Events (2,248).

Kimberlyn has recorded five victories in her last three appearances at the Youth Open Championships, also winning U15 Girls Handicap Singles in 2019 and U15 Girls Handicap Doubles in 2018.

Youth athletes joining Kimberlyn in the winner's circle for a third consecutive appearance at the Youth Open Championships are Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio (won U18 Girls Scratch All-Events in 2021); Avery Domaguin of San Diego (U15 Girls Scratch All-Events); Sebastian Huffman of Las Vegas (U15 Scratch Team); and Donaven Kline of Jackson, New Jersey (U12 Boys Scratch Singles).

The top overall score in the team event at the 2021 Youth Open Championships also is in position to be the highest three-game series for USBC Youth members during the 2020-2021 season.

The members of The Storm Troopers averaged more than 243 as a group to win the U18 Scratch

Team title with a 2,922 total.

Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, led the effort with a 781 series and was joined by Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri (732), Silas Lira of Tampa, Florida (717), and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas (692). The team rolled games of 960, 961 and 1,001.

Bonta, Robarge and Lira were part of the group that won the U20 Scratch Team title in 2019, and Lira added a second win in 2021 by claiming the boys U18 Scratch All-Events crown with a 2,095 total.

In addition to the winning performances, a pair of bowlers etched their names in the tournament's record book with perfect games.

Daniel Robertson of Jackson, New Jersey, connected for the first 300 of the 2021 event during his team competition July 7 on the way to a 729 series. The following day, Kory Driver of Ormond Beach, Florida, recorded 12 consecutive strikes during his team event to finish with a 780 series.

Bowling.com awards a \$100 scholarship to any competitor who rolls a 300 game or 800 series during the Youth Open Championships.

The 2022 Youth Open Championships is scheduled to take place July 13-15, 22-24 and 30-31 near Grand Rapids, Michigan.

For more information on the Bowling.com Youth Open Championships, visit [BOWL.com/YouthOpen](https://www.bowl.com/youthopen).

2021 [BOWLING.COM](https://www.bowl.com) YOUTH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

July 7-9, 16-18, 24-25

At All Star Bowl, Indianapolis

U18 TEAM

Scratch – The Storm Troopers (Brandon Bonta, Wichita, Kan.; Silas Lira, Tampa, Fla.; Spencer Robarge, Springfield, Mo.; Julian Salinas, Richmond, Texas), 2,922

Handicap – Hawaii Bowlers Tour (Noah Akiona, Waimanalo, Hawaii; Shaine Fujii, Honolulu; Samantha Kanehailua, Pearl City, Hawaii; Chaysen Pojas, Wahiawa, Hawaii), 2,935

U18 DOUBLES

Scratch – Dylan Esterle, Wadsworth, Ohio, and Joshua Maslanich, North Royalton, Ohio, 1,433

Handicap – Caleb Qumburji and Kayla Qumburji, Bronx, N.Y., 1,546

Girls Scratch – Alyssa Ballard, Keller, Texas, and Lara Kurt, Leland, N.C., 1,273

Girls Handicap – Jessica Hamlin and Kimberlyn Hamlin, Ponca City, Okla., 1,422

U18 SINGLES

Boys Scratch – Justin Kennedy, St. Louis, 760

Boys Handicap – Jaxon Small, Byron, Mich., 788

Girls Scratch – Paige Peters, Toms River, N.J., 728

Girls Handicap – Emily Childress, Terre Haute, Ind., 729

U18 ALL-EVENTS

Boys Scratch – Silas Lira, Tampa, Fla., 2,095

Boys Handicap – Jaxon Small, Byron, Mich., 2,224

Girls Scratch – Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, 2,062

Girls Handicap – Kayla Qumburji, Bronx, N.Y., 2,151

U15 TEAM

Scratch – The Back Row (Rylan Breese, Wilmington, N.C.; Sebastian Huffman, Las Vegas; Elias O'Hollaren, San Diego; Micah Voorhis, Cherry Hill, N.J.), 2,591

Handicap – Southland Lanes Team 2 (Jonathan Amsden, Middleburg Heights, Ohio; Cole Florack, Middleburg Heights, Ohio; Wesley Lapsevich, Middleburg Heights, Ohio; Alia Sharif, Berea, Ohio), 2,869

U15 DOUBLES

Scratch – Gabe Castro, Orland Park, Ill., and Tyler Williams, Richton Park, Ill., 1,324

Handicap – Dakota Kaina, Kapolei, Hawaii, and Connor Miyake, Lakeside, Calif., 1,609

Girls Scratch – Katelyn Abigania, San Diego, and Kayla Starr, Crofton, Md., 1,325

Girls Handicap – Caylin Campbell, Savannah, Ga., and Haley Swindle, Newnan, Ga., 1,463

U15 SINGLES

Boys Scratch – Micah Voorhis, Cherry Hill, N.J., 720

Boys Handicap – Dakota Kaina, Kapolei, Hawaii, 910

Girls Scratch – Karina Capron, Fremont, Neb., 676

Girls Handicap – Kimberlyn Hamlin, Ponca City, Okla., 780

U15 ALL-EVENTS

Boys Scratch – Gabe Castro, Orland Park, Ill., 2,019

Boys Handicap – Chaysen Pojas, Wahiawa, Hawaii, 2,354

Girls Scratch – Avery Domaguin, San Diego, 1,906

Girls Handicap – Kimberlyn Hamlin, Ponca City, Okla., 2,248

U12 TEAM

Scratch – Creslanes Lives On! (Lucas Clark, Waterloo, Iowa; Dawson Kohl, Dyersville, Iowa; Kinnick Robinson, Palo, Iowa; Rush Steen, Cedar Falls, Iowa), 2,151

Handicap – Here Comes Trouble (Macey Bates, Fremont, Neb.; Bella Castillo, Odessa, Texas; Lindsay Greim, Poway, Calif.; Jon Verde, Las Vegas), 2,652

U12 DOUBLES

Scratch – Matteo Quintero, Smyrna, Tenn., and Jos Weems, Chicago, 1,250

Handicap – Ezra Bentkowski and Koby Shinogi-Ling, Aiea, Hawaii, 1,506

Girls Scratch – Bella Castillo, Odessa, Texas, and Lindsay Greim, Poway, Calif., 1,142

Girls Handicap – Isabella Rock, Phenix City, Ala., and Sara Tregaskes, Fort Mitchell, Ala., 1,486

U12 SINGLES

Boys Scratch – Donaven Kline, Jackson, N.J., 666

Boys Handicap – Cole Florack, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 768

Girls Scratch – Lindsay Greim, Poway, Calif., 540

Girls Handicap – Isabella Rock, Phenix City, Ala., 746

U12 ALL-EVENTS

Boys Scratch – Jos Weems, Chicago, 1,864

Boys Handicap – Cole Florack, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, 2,311

Girls Scratch – Lindsay Greim, Poway, Calif., 1,668

Girls Handicap – Bella Castillo, Odessa, Texas, and Isabella Rock, Phenix City, Ala., 2,217

U10 TEAM

Scratch – Friendship Team 1 (Aaron Cabiness, Columbus, Ohio; Lydia Gordon, Columbus, Ohio; Jackson Mansfield, Keyser, W.Va.; Asa Wilson-Perry, Columbus, Ohio), 1,650

Handicap – Friendship Team 1 (Aaron Cabiness, Columbus, Ohio; Lydia Gordon, Columbus, Ohio; Jackson Mansfield, Keyser, W.Va.; Asa Wilson-Perry, Columbus, Ohio), 2,658

U10 DOUBLES

Scratch – Macey Bates, Fremont, Neb., and Jon Verde, Las Vegas, 1,028

Handicap – Macey Bates, Fremont, Neb., and Jon Verde, Las Vegas, 1,430

Girls Scratch – Savannah Aldridge, Bellwood, Ill., and Naekel Butler, Maywood, Ill., 769

Girls Handicap – Savannah Aldridge, Bellwood, Ill., and Naekel Butler, Maywood, Ill., 1,279

U10 SINGLES

Boys Scratch – Zachary Desentz, Dunn, N.C., 627

Boys Handicap – Riley Bogard, Burlington, Wis., 803

Girls Scratch – Giana Brown, Bismarck, Ill., 441

Girls Handicap – Alia Sharif, Berea, Ohio, 736

U10 ALL-EVENTS

Boys Scratch – Jon Verde, Las Vegas, 1,740

Boys Handicap – Vernon Maesch, Brazil, Ind., 2,209

Girls Scratch – Bryonna Camp, Brick, N.J., 1,328

Girls Handicap – Alia Sharif, Berea, Ohio, 2,158

USBC HALL OF FAMER HARRY SMITH DIES AT AGE 91

ARLINGTON, Texas - Harry Smith of Akron, Ohio, a member of the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame, died recently. He was 91.

His career included success during the heyday of team bowling, the famed "beer team" era, and then individually during the early years of the Professional Bowlers Association, of which he was a charter member.

Having found the spotlight across both platforms, Smith was elected to the charter class of the PBA Hall of Fame in 1975 and then the USBC Hall of Fame in 1978 in the Superior Performance category.

He grew up in the Cleveland area and was just coming into his prime when the PBA was created in 1958. He previously had moved to Detroit (1955) to compete as part of the Pfeiffers and then

relocated to St. Louis to compete with the Falstaffs.

Smith, who earned the nickname "Tiger" for his fierce competitive spirit, earned four titles at the USBC Open Championships from 1958-1967 and averaged just under 200 in 25 years on the championship lanes. He added a coveted USBC Masters title in 1963 and logged five additional top-eight finishes at the Masters.

He is credited with 12 titles on the PBA Tour, including the 1960 Bowling Proprietors' Association of America All-Star, which later became known as the U.S. Open. It remains one of the majors on the PBA Tour.

His success as a competitor also earned him the No. 28 spot on the list of the 50 greatest players in PBA history, published in 2009.

Smith forever will be known as one of the PBA Tour's greatest contributors. When his competitive days were over, he remained with the PBA as the assistant tournament director, working under longtime tournament director Harry Golden.

The multi-time All-American again was honored by the PBA with the creation of the Harry Smith Point Leader Award, given to the overall points leader on the PBA Tour during a given season.

Though much of his life was spent on the road, Smith's roots were in Ohio. He was able to win the Cleveland City Match Games on two occasions and was inducted into the Greater Cleveland Sports Hall of Fame in 1978.

SAM'S TOWN IN LAS VEGAS READY TO WELCOME 2021 SUPER SENIOR CLASSIC AND USBC SENIOR MASTERS

ARLINGTON, Texas - In recent years, Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas has become synonymous with top-tier senior bowling, and the venue is preparing to host a reunion of the world's top talent, age 50 and older, for 10 action-packed days of competition.

The two-event extravaganza will bring the Super Senior Classic and United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters back to the 56-lane center for the fifth time, a familiar routine that began in 2016 and resumes after a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Super Senior Classic, for USBC members 60 and over, will kick things off Sept. 9-13, while the USBC Senior Masters, for bowlers age 50 and up, will take the spotlight from Sept. 13-19.

BowlTV.com will provide wire-to-wire coverage of each event, including the stepladder finals.

Ty Dawson of Sunnyvale, California, and Amleto Monacelli of Venezuela were the champions in 2019, and they have waited 27 months for the chance to put those titles on the line.

Dawson was the top seed for the championship round of the 2019 Super Senior Classic, and the right-hander, now 68, piled on the strikes early in his match against Hugh Miller of Mercer Island, Washington, to help make sure his tournament debut ended with a trophy and winner's-circle photo

shoot.

After winning, Dawson was understandably emotional, and that will be amplified when he returns to the lanes for the 2021 tournament.

It wasn't widely known, but a year before his 2019 victory, Dawson underwent brain surgery to correct a nerve issue that was affecting his left eye. Logically, there were potential complications, ranging from losing his sight to paralysis.

Following the operation, he spent four days in the hospital and had to learn to walk again, and hearing that makes his win against nearly 200 of the best super seniors in the world even more noteworthy.

While bowlers and fans beyond the West Coast may not yet have been familiar with Dawson, he wasn't a newcomer to many of those with whom he shared the lanes.

In the mid-1980s, he enjoyed a brief stint on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, before torn tendons forced him to return home and take a more traditional job.

He still had the PBA50 Tour to look forward to, even if it was a few years away, and he was able to enjoy local and regional success in the meantime.

"There was a time when I had a big decision to make - did I want to quit bowling all together, or did I want to compete when I could and enjoy all the aspects that made it so much fun," Dawson said. "I've had some success at different levels, and I've had to make some changes along the way to keep competing, but the decisions were easy. It all has been worth it because I love the sport."

Dawson said one of the best parts about his win at the Super Senior Classic was the response, recognition and respect from his fellow competitors.

There also was a boost of confidence that helped lead to a regional win the next week, along with him being selected as the 2019 Pat Patterson Award recipient for the PBA West Region. The award recognizes bowlers for contributions to the regional program, and winners are selected by the PBA's regional managers.

Following his 227-214 win over Miller and the hoisting of the Super Senior Classic trophy, Dawson was careful to remain humble and focused.

He'll head into the 2021 tournament with the same mindset, and he'll have a little extra motivation. His father, who got to hear all about the 2019 victory, died recently, so this year's performance will be dedicated to him.

"I'm excited about coming back to defend the title, and hopefully, I'll do it well," Dawson said. "After the win, the publicity was good, but I didn't want to let it go to my head. I prefer to let my ball do the talking."

Among the bowlers looking to dethrone Dawson at the Super Senior Classic is Monacelli, who with the shifting of the competition dates from June to September, now is eligible to compete in both tournaments. He turned 60 on Aug. 27.

"I'm excited in a way, but at the same time, wow, I just turned 60," Monacelli said. "I do feel good mentally and physically. Even though I haven't bowled as much recently because I was away coaching, I've kept up with my workouts, and I feel strong. I also spend a lot of time going over my process in my mind."

The Super Senior Classic, which debuted in 2013 with just 28 entries, will feature a field of more than 160 entries, competing for a \$7,500 top prize.

Qualifying will begin Friday and include 12 games over two days, six games each day, before the field is cut to the top 25% for the six-game Cashers' Round on Sunday morning.

The top 12 bowlers after the Cashers' Round, based on 18-game pinfall totals, will advance to round-robin match play and have a chance to advance to the unique group-stepladder portion of the event.

The group stepladders will take place Monday at noon Eastern, and those winners will claim the final spots in the championship stepladder, which will be broadcast live on BowlTV, beginning at 2 p.m. Eastern.

At the Senior Masters, considered a PBA50 major championship, a field of nearly 250 competitors will bowl 15 games of qualifying over three days, starting Sept. 14, to determine the 63 bowlers joining Monacelli in match play.

As the defending champion, Monacelli is guaranteed the No. 64 spot in the double-elimination bracket but can improve his seeding through qualifying.

The USBC and PBA Hall of Famer, earned every bit of his \$20,000 top prize at the 2019 Senior Masters, averaging more than 246 over five games, while climbing the stepladder from the No. 5 spot.

He defeated top seed Stoney Baker of Canton, Georgia, twice to claim the coveted title for the second time. Monacelli first won the event in 2015, also requiring a pair of wins against the undefeated leader. That time, it was fellow hall of famer Pete Weber of St. Ann, Missouri.

Match play at the 2021 Senior Masters, which features three-game total-pinfall contests, will take place Sept. 17-18, with the stepladder finals concluding the action at Sam's Town on Sept. 19 at 1 p.m. EDT. The champion again will earn \$20,000.

In topping Baker to win the 2019 Senior Masters, Monacelli became the event's eighth two-time winner. He's now looking to become the first bowler to win three times, along with being the first to win in back-to-back events since fellow hall of famer Tom Baker of King, North Carolina, achieved the feat in 2007.

While he'll enter the upcoming event fresh off his Super Senior Classic debut, his on-lane time recently has been limited due to his coaching obligations. He just returned from Guatemala, where he was on-site with the bowlers from the Dominican Republic.

However, his fitness routine is top-notch, his experience is hard to rival and his versatility is proven. Even when he's not on the lanes actually throwing the ball, he's able to use visualization techniques to stay in-tune.

"The Senior Masters is a tournament that is very difficult because anything can happen in that format, so I'll just focus on my physical game, making good shots and being extra careful on my spares," said Monacelli, who owns 10 PBA50 titles and 20 PBA Tour victories. "There's also a lot you don't know until you get there and see what the lanes are giving you. Then you come up with the best strategy."

The Super Senior Classic and Senior Masters will follow the PBA50 Senior U.S. Open, which is underway in Brentwood, California. They're the final three events on the 2021 PBA50 Tour schedule.

FIVE SCHOOLS AWARDED BOWLER'S ED KITS IN SUMMER OF 2021

ARLINGTON, Texas - The 2021-2022 school year is getting started across the country, and five schools will have the opportunity to make bowling part of their plans for the new year.

The schools have been selected by the International Bowling Campus Youth Development team to receive Bowler's Ed kits and curriculum information through the Bowler's Ed Grant Program.

Through the program, schools, youth groups and other organizations are able to teach students and young athletes about bowling, from the fun to the fundamentals.

Each Bowler's Ed kit provides teachers and staff with all the equipment and tools needed to enjoy the sport in the most convenient way - by bringing a bowling-center-like atmosphere into their classrooms, gyms or recreational spaces.

The schools selected to receive Bowler's Ed kits were determined based on applications that were submitted by a June 2021 deadline. The schools and organizations receiving the kits are:

- * Creston Elementary School, Creston, Ill.
- * KIPP Comunidad Elementary, Austin, Texas
- * Oswego County BOCES, Mexico, N.Y.
- * River Trail Elementary School, Fort Mill, S.C.
- * Wm. S. Gussner Elementary, Jamestown, N.Y.

The kit includes a carpeted mobile bowling lane, rubber bowling ball, plastic pins, step-by-step curriculum and an instructional video on the fundamentals of bowling, etiquette, safety, scoring and fitness activities.

The recipients each receive six complete kits, a total value of \$2,200.

Along with the chance to introduce children in grades K-8 to a sport they can play for a lifetime, bowling in any setting is great exercise and a fun way to build endurance and hand-eye coordination.

The curriculum also includes lessons that put a new spin on math, language arts, social studies, problem solving, geography, computer skills and more.

"With the new school year getting underway, and students returning to their classrooms and activities,

we're excited and proud to be able to help make bowling a part of the experience," said Chrissie Kent, chair of the IBC Youth Committee. "Bowling is a great physical activity, but it also requires participants to use math and other classroom skills. Most importantly, it's fun and something that can be done indoors or out with a versatile Bowler's Ed kit."

IBC Youth Development works with local associations, schools and bowling centers throughout the country to deliver the In-School Bowler's Ed kits.

The initiative is supported by the bowling industry and aims to bring bowling centers and associations together with schools in their communities, so physical education teachers can make bowling one of the sports they teach to their students.

Since 2010, the Bowler's Ed Grant Program has awarded 305 grants valued at \$671,000. More than 2.9 million students from 46 states and provinces across the United States and Canada have been impacted by the program.

For schools, facilities or organizations interested in applying for a Bowler's Ed grant, the application portal is open once again. The submission deadline for this round is in December, so there's still time. The application can be found at BOWL.com/BowlersEd.

IBC Youth Development is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and the United States Bowling Congress.

USA BOWLING REGIONAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED FOR 2021-2022 SEASON

ARLINGTON, Texas – Youth athletes ready for team competition and the opportunity to advance to the USA Bowling National Championships can register for upcoming regional tournaments for the 2021-2022 season.

The 16-event regional schedule for the USA Bowling program will get underway in October, with the first event being held in the Southeast region at Buffaloe Lanes North in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Oct. 16-17.

Teams competing in the 12-and-under (U12) and 15-and-under (U15) divisions will have the chance to qualify for the 2022 USA Bowling National Championships, which is scheduled to take place July 13-15 during the Junior Gold Championships near Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The winning team in each age-based division will earn a spot at the national event.

The schedule of USA Bowling Regional events with dates, region, center and city:

- Oct. 16-17 - Southeast, Buffaloe Lanes North, Raleigh, N.C.

- Oct. 24 - Ohio Valley, Poelking Lanes South, Dayton, Ohio
- Oct. 30-31 - Atlantic East, Murfreesboro Strike & Spare, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
- Nov. 6-7 - Upper Midwest, Bowlerama Lanes, Des Moines, Iowa
- Nov. 21 - Lower Great Lakes, Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl, Lafayette, Ind.
- Dec. 11-12 - Northeast, Rab's Country Lanes, Staten Island, N.Y.
- Jan. 8-9 - Coastal South, Aloma Bowl, Winter Park, Fla.
- Jan. 22-23 - Heartland, Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington, Ill.
- Jan. 30 - Southwest, Mira Mesa Lanes, San Diego
- Feb. 12-13 - Upper Great Lakes, Concord Lanes, S. St. Paul, Minn.
- Feb. 27 - South Central, Sooner Bowling Center, Norman, Okla.
- March 6 - Pacific, Paradise Lanes, Tacoma, Wash.
- March 20 - New England, Walnut Hill Bowl, Woonsocket, R.I.
- March 27 - Mountain, King Pin Lanes, Colorado Springs, Colo.
- April 2-3 - Midwest, West Acres Bowling Center, Wichita, Kan.
- April 9-10 - South, Vestavia Bowl, Birmingham, Ala.

To register teams for a regional event, visit BOWL.com/USABowling and select Regional Tournaments.

Teams will bowl eight round-robin Baker matches to determine seeding for the double-elimination bracket at each regional competition. Bracket matches will be decided through a best-of-three Baker format, until a champion is determined in each division.

Single-day events will include both the seeding and match-play rounds. Two-day events will have the seeding round on the first day, with all teams returning on the second day for bracket play.

With team lineups during USA Bowling competition consisting of just four players, the events will feature a modified Baker format. The first two bowlers in the lineup each bowl three frames (1-5-9 and 2-6-10, respectively), while the other two team members each bowl two frames (3-7 and 4-8).

Team rosters can feature up to six players, giving each coach the opportunity to bring in substitutes during competition.

USA Bowling Regional tournaments started in 2013, building the foundation of what would lead to the inaugural USA Bowling National Championships in 2016. The national event grew from the USA Bowling program, designed as a team-based youth program to introduce the sport to children.

USA Bowling Leagues share a team-based structure, similar to all youth sports, where young athletes receive instruction, have regular practices with a coach and then compete against other teams during a season of 8-12 weeks.

USA Bowling is a product of the Youth Education Services (YES) Fund, a joint initiative of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and the United States Bowling Congress, supported by top bowling brands, including Bowling.com, Brunswick, Columbia 300, Ebonite, Hammer, QubicaAMF, Roto Grip, Storm and Track.

USBC HALL OF FAMER JOYCE DEITCH DIES AT AGE 90

ARLINGTON, Texas – Joyce Deitch of Boulder City, Nevada, a member of the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame, died Monday. She was 90.

Deitch was inducted for meritorious service in 2003 after nearly 30 years of service for the Women's International Bowling Congress.

She got her start on the national level in 1973 when she was elected to the WIBC Board of Directors and ascended through the organization, leading up to her election as the seventh president of WIBC in 1993. Deitch served three three-year terms as president, before retiring in 2002.

During her time with WIBC, Deitch was involved in helping establish Bowling Inc., Team USA and the Young American Bowling Alliance. She also held leadership roles with the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame, National Bowling Council and what now is the International Bowling Federation.

Deitch's legacy to the sport of bowling, however, will be tied to her push to bring the multiple membership organizations within bowling together to create a single organization.

The United States Bowling Congress officially launched Jan. 1, 2005, resulting from the merger of the American Bowling Congress, WIBC, YABA and USA Bowling.

"In her 29 years of WIBC service at the national level, Deitch held a variety of positions and made numerous key contributions," Bowlers Journal International magazine wrote in November 2002. "But her single biggest contribution may have been to pave the way for the ultimate merger of the various membership groups."

Deitch received numerous accolades for her dedication and work, including the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America V.A. Wapensky and Lifetime Achievement Awards. She also is a member of the Southern Nevada USBC and Nevada State USBC Halls of Fame for meritorious service.

Her contributions to the sport also earned her the distinction of having one of USBC's National Recognition Awards named after her.

The USBC Joyce Deitch Unity Award (previously WIBC Joyce Deitch Trailblazer Award) recognizes organizations and individuals who have made important contributions to the overall sport of bowling by being motivators, visionaries, leaders or innovators.

On the lanes, Deitch was a 46-time participant at the USBC Women's Championships. She started her career on the championship lanes at the 1956 event in Miami, and she competed every year from 1968 until her final tournament appearance in 2005.

Information about funeral services for Deitch is not yet available.

For more information on the USBC Hall of Fame, visit BOWL.com/HallOfFame.

USBC PUBLISHES UPDATED RESEARCH REPORT ON STRING PINSETTERS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress is sharing additional data and findings from research as part of a comprehensive scoring study of string pinsetters. [A full data report is published on BOWL.com.](#)

Based off the collective data USBC has seen from the tests to date, a certification for string pinsetters to be used alongside free-fall machines for standard American Tenpins bowling would not be reasonable at this time. However, if significant changes were or would be made to string pinsetters and data supported these machines being used for standard American Tenpins bowling, USBC would consider it in the future.

USBC is investigating the possibility of certifying string pinsetters and string pin bowling as an independent category of equipment and competition, separate from free-fall machines and standard American Tenpins bowling.

After publishing a preliminary report in January 2021, the USBC Equipment and Specifications team continued its research, completing a series of comparative tests with more than 86,000 shots being made on multiple string pinsetters and free-fall machines.

The research featured testing using USBC's Bowlscore machine and Enhanced Automated Robotic Launcher (E.A.R.L.) to track pinfall and pin flight, a league simulation, analysis of string types and length, and pin testing.

Some of the key findings from these tests include:

- Pinfall is significantly different between free-fall machines and string pinsetters.
- String lengths and pit-end dimensions play a crucial role in the difficulty of split conversions as well as strike percentages.
- Scoring is different between the string pinsetters tested. More data is needed to fully understand the variables and how they interact.
- Several key issues have been identified where lack of standardization has resulted in differences that could be brought together with standardized specifications. These issues include:
 - String length
 - Pin consistency impact from drilling/affixing string
 - Curtain/backstop – layout in the pit in pin deck
 - Split-conversion percentage
 - String tension

String pinsetters currently are non-approved equipment and may not be used in USBC-certified competition, including USBC-certified leagues and tournaments.

If USBC does explore a certification standard for string pinsetters in the future, many of the manufacturing inconsistencies outlined in the report will need to be addressed and standardized for those seeking certification.

This could mean a wide range of equipment or installation specifications as well as potential rule changes to consider. An independent category of certification would be a meaningful step toward bringing string pinsetters into certified competition, while allowing time to continue research into the possibility of using them alongside free-fall machines in the future.

USBC will continue to publish updates as key milestones are reached, with the conclusion of the project scheduled for 2022.

TEAM USA ROSTER SELECTED FOR IBF PARA BOWLING AND IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – Athletes for the inaugural 2021 International Bowling Federation Para Bowling World Championships and IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships have been selected by the United States Bowling Congress National Selection Committee.

The events will take place at the Dubai International Bowling Center in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in November in conjunction with the IBF Super World Championships.

The committee selected two men and two women to represent Team USA in the W1 category of the IBF Para World Championships (Nov. 12-16). Team USA representatives will be Eddy Hutchens of Franktown, Colorado; Shawn Beam of Burleson, Texas; Emma (Toodie) Perry of Bakersfield, California; and Debra Freed of Framingham, Massachusetts. These participants will compete for medals in singles, doubles and mixed team.

The W1 Para/Amputee Classification incorporates all wheelchair classifications. It includes leg amputees, cerebral palsy (with functional hands), and *Les Autres* athletes with mobility disfunction. All must compete from a wheelchair and follow the rules of play and modified rules established for this discipline.

Representing Team USA on the men's side at the IBF Masters World Championships will be Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas; Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; and Bob Learn Jr. of Columbia, Tennessee. The women's roster will include Debbie Ayers of La Mesa, California; Tracy Calfee of Flat Rock, North Carolina; Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado. Medals will be awarded for singles, doubles, team, mixed team and most valuable athlete/federation.

USBC HALL OF FAMER ELAINE HAGIN DIES AT AGE 92

ARLINGTON, Texas - United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Elaine Hagin of Castro Valley,

California, died Sunday. She was 92.

Hagin dedicated her life to the sport of bowling and was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2000 for meritorious service.

Her introduction to bowling came as a young competitor, but over more than half a century, she served a multitude of roles, from the local level to the national stage, and she was a key contributor for a variety of bowling-industry entities.

In 1973, Hagin joined the Women's International Bowling Congress Board of Directors to begin a run of more than 30 years with the organization. During her time with WIBC, she served as seventh vice president, sixth vice president, fourth vice president, second vice president and first vice president.

Her influence as a leader then earned her a spot on the first USBC Board of Directors when USBC officially launched Jan. 1, 2005, as the organization to serve adult and youth bowlers in the United States. It resulted from the merger of the American Bowling Congress, WIBC, Young American Bowling Alliance and USA Bowling.

Hagin also was instrumental in the sport's future and global reach, serving as the president of the YABA from 1991-1993 and USA Bowling from 1996-1998. Her total time with YABA lasted more than a decade, and her efforts on the international bowling scene were important in bowling's ongoing journey toward Olympic inclusion.

Her local and state service with the Alameda County Women's Bowling Association and the California Women's Bowling Association began in the late 1940s with a spot on the ACWBA board and eventually earned her entrance into their halls of fame in 1975 and 1988, respectively. It was a springboard to her success at the national level.

Beyond the membership sector of bowling, Hagin was active with many of the sport's most visible committees and foundations. She was a historian, leader, pioneer and cheerleader.

She served as national chair of the Bowling to Veterans Link and as vice president of the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame. Her contributions for the IBMHOF helped the museum thrive in its original home of St. Louis and now as part of the International Bowling Campus in Arlington.

Through her work, travels and passion for bowling, Hagin became one of game's best-known promoters. She was a director for the International Bowling Media Association and was a member of the advisory board for the Women's Sports Foundation.

Along with induction into the three halls of fame, Hagin earned many industry awards.

During the 1986-1987 season, she earned the National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association Gordon Teigen Meritorious Service Award.

From the National Women Bowling Writers, she received a trio of awards - the Mary Janetto Award (1987), given for outstanding promotion of local bowling exclusive to the host city of the USBC Women's Championships (previously the WIBC Championship Tournament); the Jo Ettien Lieber Award (1988), for distinguished service to the game of American tenpins; and the AMF - Helen Duval Award (1992), for outstanding service to YABA.

In 1999, she received the Women's Sports Foundation President's Award.

In 2009, she received the Sam Levine Flowers for the Living Award, which is given to people in the bowling industry who have made exceptional contributions to enhance the growth, welfare and image of bowling and are alive and able to accept and enjoy the recognition.

On the lanes, Hagin competed in the Women's Championships 47 times from 1958-2010.

Information about funeral services for Hagin is not yet available, but the Hagin family did request that

in lieu of flowers, she be remembered with a contribution to BVL or the IBMHOF.

For more information on the USBC Hall of Fame, visit BOWL.com/HallofFame.

TEAM USA HEADED TO COLOMBIA FOR 2021 PANAM BOWLING EVENTS

ARLINGTON, Texas - Matt Russo of Manchester, Missouri, has a perfect record in international competition as a member of Team USA, and he'll look to maintain that streak this week in Cali, Colombia, nearly three years removed from his memorable debut with the team.

The 24-year-old left-hander will be one of 12 athletes representing the United States at the 2021 PANAM Bowling Adult Championships, which will get underway Friday with official practice.

Bowlers from across North America, Central America, South America and the Caribbean will compete for medals in singles, doubles, trios, team and all-events, as they traditionally would at the PANAM Championships, but this year's visit to the 20-lane Bolera Departamental will offer a multi-layer competitive experience.

Competitors in Cali will be making the most of the trip and return to international competition, with their scores also being used for this year's edition of the PANAM Bowling Champion of Champions event and in qualifying for the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup and 2022 World Games.

The 2018 Champion of Champions event in Rio De Janeiro marked Russo's breakout performance and included four gold medals in four opportunities.

The time since has been a mix of ups and downs for Russo, who will return to Team USA competition as a far different player than he was in Brazil.

"Just because you've won doesn't mean you don't need to practice and can't get better," Russo said. "I won't say I was complacent after some of my success, but it wasn't until my first season on (the Professional Bowlers Association) tour that I realized I needed to get better at pretty much everything. Now, I think my mental game is better, I'm more open to suggestions and more open-minded when it comes to equipment."

Unlike the traditional Champion of Champions tournament, which includes just two men and two women from each country, the PANAM Adult Championships will have Russo surrounded by a talented cast of teammates that includes his fiancée, future brother-in-law and best friend.

The men's roster will feature Andrew Anderson, Cameron Crowe, Nick Pate, Kristopher Prather and Kyle Sherman, and the women's team will include Julia Bond, Sydney Brummett, Breanna Clemmer, Bryanna Coté, Gazmine Mason and Lauren Pate.

Russo and Lauren Pate got engaged during a memorable week at the 2020 United States Bowling

Congress Team USA Trials, just before Russo won the event to earn a spot on Team USA after a one-year hiatus, and Pate made the team for the first time.

Her older brother, Nick, is a four-time Team USA member and three-time gold medalist.

Russo and Anderson, a four-time Team USA member and reigning trios world champion, have developed a special friendship, and Anderson has been instrumental in Russo's recent success on the PBA Tour.

"I'm excited to get back out there and hopefully continue what I started back in 2018," said Russo, now a four-time member of Team USA. "The biggest difference heading into this is that there's a whole group of us and a team event to focus on. We've got a young team, but we're experienced at different levels. We're all great friends, we're bowling well, we trust each other and we bring out the best in one another. On top that, I get to experience this with my family."

Russo and Lauren Pate met at Junior Team USA training camp in 2017, so red, white and blue are the core colors of the fabric of their relationship.

Following Russo's success in Brazil, he failed to retain his spot on Team USA for 2019. It was both disappointing and motivating and something Lauren was there to see him through.

He rebounded with a win at the 2019 Intercollegiate Team Championships with Webber International, collegiate player-of-the-year honors, a victory at the 2020 Team USA Trials and a PBA regional title.

While waiting for another chance to represent his country on the lanes, an opportunity delayed by COVID-19, Russo also was able to collect his first PBA Tour title, a win at the 2021 PBA Jonesboro Open in August.

"A lot has happened in the last three years, from winning the medals to going back to college and winning a national title to my first season on tour to winning Team Trials to my first PBA Tour title," Russo said. "To that point, almost my entire career had been about Team USA. Winning at the highest level was indescribable, and I hope there's still more to come. It has been an incredible ride, but there's still a lot more I want to accomplish."

Team USA's return to the lanes this week will be under the guidance of new head coach, Bryan O'Keefe, who has been a part of the program for more than a decade and was at the helm of Junior Team USA prior to taking on the elevated role in June.

Not only is O'Keefe familiar with the program and the players, he also has past knowledge of Bolera Departamental, which he visited when the facility hosted the combined PANAM Championships in 2016, before the women headed to the Dominican Republic in 2018 and the men competed in Peru in 2019.

"It has been more than two years since Team USA has competed internationally, but the players are sharp and excited and ready to get back out there," O'Keefe said. "We've had success in Cali, and we're familiar with the venue, both of which we hope will work to our advantage. There's also a lot of moving parts to the week, so we'll be very focused on taking it one day and one event at a time."

Beyond the medals up for grabs at the PANAM Adult Championships, each country will select two men

and two women, whose scores will be used for the 2021 Champion of Champions. They will be bowling to earn their respective nations a spot in the upcoming edition of the World Games, which will take place in Birmingham, Alabama, in July 2022.

Their combined scores (separate for men and women) over the 24 games will be used to determine the four men's teams and four women's teams that will represent PANAM Bowling in Birmingham.

Additionally, total pinfall for all six bowlers, in their respective gender classifications, will determine the four men's countries and four women's countries that will head to the 2022 IBF World Cup.

The World Cup previously featured one man and one woman from each country, but a change to the format will allow more competitors to become part of a tradition that spans more than five decades.

As a final step in the preparation for the Cali trip, and 2021 IBF Super World Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in November, all Team USA members selected to participate in the two events are at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington for two days of training and team building.

The mini-camp concept proved to be successful when used for the 2019 PANAM Bowling Men's Championships. It helped immensely with team chemistry, communication and equipment selection.

"Being able to get together for a few days is a great chance for us to shake off any rust, work on our communication and just get comfortable around each other in this team environment," O'Keefe said. "We're able to get a look at everyone's equipment, bowl on some different patterns and utilize the great resources at the ITRC before leaving for the events."

The list of men selected to represent Team USA at the World Championships (Nov. 6-15) includes Anderson, Jakob Butturff, AJ Johnson and Prather. Butturff and Johnson helped Team USA to the team gold medal at the 2017 World Championships.

The women's team will include Kelly Kulick, Danielle McEwan, Missy Parkin and Jordan Richard. All four have won gold medals at the World Championships.

The run of the World Championships in Dubai also will include the inaugural IBF Para Bowling World Championships (Nov. 12-16) and IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships (Nov. 18-26).

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

CANADA'S FELICIA WONG WINS SINGLES AT 2021 PANAM BOWLING ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia - The singles event at the PANAM Bowling Elite Championships often serves as an opportunity for competitors to continue getting comfortable with a new venue, format or even international competition in general.

It marks the start of a long week that builds toward the coveted team event, with each day being a chance to learn about the lane condition, while also battling for a spot at the top of the podium in a variety of disciplines.

Canada's Felicia Wong will be the first competitor to hear her national anthem this week at Bolera Departamental, where she outdistanced the 58-player women's field Saturday to win the singles title.

The 35-year-old left-hander averaged nearly 209 for six games on the 38-foot Los Angeles oil pattern and claimed the first gold medal of the 2021 PANAM Bowling Elite Championships with a 1,252 total.

She was followed by Colombia's Juliana Franco (1,238), while Aruba's Kamilah Dammers-Naddall finished with a 224 game to surge from sixth place to the bronze medal with 1,211.

"I didn't look along the way, to be honest," Wong said. "My intention for this event is to stay in the moment, be present and see what's in front of me. It's also such a long week that it doesn't feel like singles is its own thing. You're just going along and pacing yourself and figuring out the approaches and the lanes and how they play from pair to pair. It has been surreal. I was just doing the work, then it was over."

Gazmine Mason, who made her debut as a member of the adult version of Team USA, was passed by Dammers-Naddall in the final game and finished fourth with a 1,206 total.

Team USA's Julia Bond and Breanna Clemmer finished tied for 10th place with 1,159, Lauren Pate was 14th with 1,152, Bryanna Coté was 17th (1,128) and Sydney Brummett finished 26th (1,080).

Coté earned the bronze medal in singles in Cali in 2016, while Team USA's Missy Parkin took the gold medal.

"Some of the other players have been here and had some insight to offer about the center, then I used practice to find characteristics or trends or patterns I saw that would help us this week," Mason said. "I had them in my mind but treated today like a new day and bowled how the lane was telling me to bowl. I did my best to make good decisions and move from there with the help of my teammates and coaches."

As a member of Junior Team USA in 2015 and 2016, Mason had the opportunity to compete in the 2015 PANAM Bowling Youth Championships in Panama and the 2016 International Bowling Federation World Youth Championships in Lincoln, Nebraska, where she resided for college.

She earned 10 medals in those two events, including three golds.

"I felt more comfortable today because of my past experience with Junior Team USA, and it wasn't too much different beyond just being in a new bowling center and atmosphere," said Mason, a 26-year-old right-hander. "At the end of the day, it's just bowling. I'm always going to do the best I can and make my shots. No matter where I am, bowling is bowling, and that helps to stay focused. We learned a lot today about the lanes and progression, and that will help us make the moves as the week goes on."

Saturday's win was not the first for Wong on the PANAM stage, but it was her first since helping Canada to the trios title at the 2010 event in Las Vegas.

That victory came early in her long career with Team Canada and was followed by a bronze medal in the team event, also in 2010.

There have been some close calls at other events in recent years, along with added top-tier competition on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour, and Wong is excited to see the hard work pay off.

"It has been since 2010 since I've won a medal at this event, so it feels kind of validating," Wong said. "I've worked really hard and put in a lot of time, and it clicked. This is motivation to keep doing the things. Looking ahead, it's interesting how it can be different each day, so I'm going to stay open-minded, have fun and keep it light, while focusing on each day and event."

The Elite Championships features bowlers from across North, Central and South America, plus the Caribbean, competing at the 20-lane center for medals in singles, doubles, trios, team and all-events.

Men's singles also kicked off Saturday, with more than half of the 84 players bowling their six games.

Armando Batres of Guatemala is the man to beat after posting a 1,219 total Saturday night.

Defending champion Francois Lavoie of Canada is second with 1,216 and followed by Team USA's Matt Russo (1,214).

Russo was looking to stay perfect in international competition. He claimed four gold medals in four opportunities in his Team USA debut at the PANAM Champion of Champions event in 2018.

The rest of the men's field, including Team USA's Andrew Anderson, Nick Pate, Kristopher Prather and Kyle Sherman, will take the lanes at 10:30 a.m. Eastern to see if they can catch the leaders. Total pinfall for the six games will determine the medalists.

Sunday afternoon at Bolera Departamental will feature the first of two women's doubles squads.

There also is some motivation to perform this week in Cali, beyond just the medals and prestige that come with the Elite Championships.

For two men and two women from each country, their scores also are being used toward this year's edition of the Champion of Champions event, traditionally a standalone tournament.

The top four countries, based on the combined 24-game pinfall totals in each gender classification, plus the United States, will qualify for the 2022 World Games. Because that event is being held in Birmingham, Alabama, the United States gets an automatic spot as the host nation.

The Team USA representatives for the Champion of Champions event are Anderson, Russo, Bond and Coté.

Additionally, total pinfall for all six bowlers in Elite Championships competition, in their respective gender classifications, will determine the four men's countries and four women's countries that will head to the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup.

The World Cup previously featured one man and one woman from each country, but a change to the format will allow more competitors to become part of a tradition that spans more than five decades.

For complete standings, visit PANAMBowling.com.

PUERTO RICO MAKES HISTORY AT 2021 PANAM BOWLING ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia - Puerto Rico's Cristian Azcona and Israel Hernandez found a way to strike on the challenging oil pattern at the 2021 PANAM Bowling Elite Championships, and they came away with the gold and silver medals Sunday in the tournament-opening singles event.

The historic performance at the 20-lane Bolera Departamental marked Puerto Rico's first singles gold medal at the PANAM Elite Championships, which added the discipline to the roster of events for the first time in 1981.

The Puerto Rican men went on to win a bronze medal in singles in 1997, and the women claimed silver and bronze medals in 1985 and 1989, respectively.

Azcona and Hernandez both started Sunday's six-game block in the 220s, and games of 246 and 245 along the way helped Azcona separate himself from the field heading into the final game.

Though he finished with 192, the 27-year-old right-hander had more than enough cushion to secure the victory with a 1,291 six-game total, a 215.17 average.

Hernandez was able to throw a strike on the first shot of his last frame for enough momentum to remain in second place, though a six-count on his second offering made the homestretch a little more interesting.

He finished with a 1,247 total, which ended up being one pin better than Colombia's Oscar Rodriguez, who opened in his final frame and finished with 1,246.

"We knew coming in this was going to be a hard pattern and a tough tournament, and to win what we thought is the first singles gold medal for Puerto Rico feels really, really good," Azcona said. "It's a great start to what we know will be a long week, and we hope to continue to find success in the other events."

Azcona and Hernandez have proven to have great chemistry on the lanes and at the Elite Championships, where they claimed the doubles gold medal at the 2015 event on their home turf in Puerto Rico.

Azcona has made history for Puerto Rico before.

His victory at the Professional Bowlers Association Xtra Frame Wilmington Open in 2018 made him the first bowler from there to win a PBA Tour title. His recent bid to become the first to win a PBA Tour major ended with a fourth-place finish at the 2021 U.S. Open.

At the Elite Championships, he previously collected seven medals, including two silvers and a bronze medal in Peru in 2019. The doubles win with Hernandez was his lone gold medal at the event, which features competitors from North, Central and South America, as well as the Caribbean.

The women's singles medal went to Canada's Felicia Wong on Saturday, and the rest of the week will include doubles, trios and team competition. All-events medals also will be handed out to the top performers over the 24 games.

"We're still wearing masks and following protocols, but it actually feels really good to be able to compete and have everyone from the entire American Zone here," Azcona said. "It's awesome to have this level of competition again."

Canada's Francois Lavoie, the defending singles champion this week, finished fifth with a 1,216 total.

For the first time since 1989, the Team USA men did not medal in singles at the Elite Championships. The last time the women did not earn a singles medal was 1993.

Matt Russo, who bowled his six games Saturday night, was the high finisher for the United States, landing in sixth place with a 1,214 total.

Kyle Sherman finished 10th with 1,198, Kristopher Prather was 18th with 1,174, Andrew Anderson and Nick Pate tied for 19th place with 1,172 and newcomer Cameron Crowe was 52nd with 1,090. The men's singles field included 84 bowlers.

Though Team USA did not reach the podium in either classification, head coach Bryan O'Keefe and the players tried to collect as much information as they could about the venue, lanes, lane condition (38-foot Los Angeles), traffic patterns and equipment options based on what they saw during practice and the week's first six games.

"We experienced many of the typical bowling-related challenges, including a few missed spares that came early and left us fighting an uphill battle, not finishing games, flipping ends of the center, seeing differences pair to pair, the transition of the pattern based on who we're following - all the traditional things," O'Keefe said. "Now, we need to use the things we learned to make quicker decisions and be more aware of the little things that will help us minimize mistakes. We also need to take advantage when we have opportunities."

A full day of doubles competition Monday will reveal this year's medalists. Doubles got underway Sunday night with a squad that included women and men.

Team USA's Julia Bond and Bryanna Coté set the bar with a 2,380 six-game total and were followed by Mexico's Aseret Zetter and Sandra Gongora (2,290) and Puerto Rico's Kristie Lopez and Estefania Cobo (2,217).

Team USA's Gazmine Mason and Sydney Brummett also competed on the first squad and finished

ninth with 2,032.

On the men's side, Mexico's Sergio Barajas and Jesus Lecona used a 458 final game to pace the field with a 2,470 total. They were followed by Team USA's Anderson and Prather (2,365) and Colombia's Juan Rodriguez and Felipe Gil (2,319).

The remaining duos for Team USA are Breanna Clemmer and Lauren Pate, Matt Russo and Cameron Crowe, and Nick Pate and Kyle Sherman.

"Our players this week have a mix of experience with Team USA, and especially with the newer ones, I'd expect there to be some nerves," O'Keefe said. "Anytime you put USA on your back, there probably will be nerves, but I think everyone is handling their emotions very well so far. We'll focus on executing what we're trying to accomplish, and whatever the ball does after that is what it is. If we can do that and manage our reaction to whatever happens, I think we'll be OK in the long run here."

The Team USA men (AJ Johnson and Sean Wilcox) won doubles at the 2019 PANAM Bowling Men's Championships with a record 3,062 total, and the Team USA women swept the doubles medals at the 2018 PANAM Bowling Women's Championships.

For two men and two women from each country this week, their scores also are being used toward the 2021 edition of the Champion of Champions event, traditionally a standalone tournament.

The top four countries, based on the combined 24-game pinfall totals in each gender classification, plus the United States, will qualify for the 2022 World Games. Because that event is being held in Birmingham, Alabama, the United States gets an automatic spot as the host nation.

The Team USA representatives for the Champion of Champions event are Anderson, Russo, Bond and Coté.

Additionally, total pinfall for all six bowlers in Elite Championships competition, in their respective gender classifications, will determine the four men's countries and four women's countries that will head to the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup.

The World Cup previously featured one man and one woman from each country, but a change to the format will allow more competitors to become part of a tradition that spans more than five decades.

To see the complete standings, visit PANAMBowling.com.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

TEAM USA, PATE FAMILY SWEEP DOUBLES GOLD MEDALS AT 2021 PANAM BOWLING ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia - There may not be a better way to celebrate your birthday than doing it with loved ones, cake, chocolates, flowers and jewelry - especially when your new necklace is your first gold medal as a member of Team USA.

As Lauren Pate and Breanna Clemmer put the finishing touches on their dominant doubles performance Monday at the 2021 PANAM Bowling Elite Championships, Pate's fiance, fellow Team USA member Matt Russo, looked on from the stands, and her older brother, Nick, also a member of the team, gave her one final present.

The elder Pate stood in the front row of the stadium seating with outstretched arms, cell phone in hand, allowing their mother Debbie the chance to share in the memorable moment from thousands of miles away. Having her parents there in person is the only thing that could've made her 25th birthday better.

A few hours later, Lauren had the opportunity to return the favor, as Nick and Kyle Sherman locked up the doubles gold medal on the men's side of the prestigious competition, which features bowlers from North, Central and South America, plus the Caribbean.

Clemmer and Lauren Pate, former collegiate teammates at McKendree, averaged more than 215 at the 20-lane Bolera Departamental and outdistanced the women's field by 144 pins over six games.

Clemmer set the pace with a 1,296 total, and Pate was close behind with 1,290 for a 2,586 total. The win was the second consecutive for the Team USA women in doubles competition on the PANAM Bowling stage. They won all three doubles medals at the last edition in 2018.

Two teams from Mexico gave chase Monday, but the effort ultimately turned into a race for the silver medal.

Lili Robles and Iliana Lomeli trailed Tannya Lopez and Paola Limon by a pin heading into the final game but managed to pull ahead. Robles and Lomeli finished second with a 2,442 total, and Lopez and Limon claimed the bronze medal with 2,404.

"From looking at how the guys were bowling this morning, the lanes definitely looked hard, but we can't compare ourselves to them," Lauren Pate said. "Going in, we had a game plan about what we were going to do, and it worked out well for us. So far, yes, this is the best birthday ever."

Nick Pate (1,311) and Sherman (1,281) also were in sync on the way to their win, and their 2,592 total was 122 pins ahead of Mexico's Sergio Barajas and Jesus Lecona (2,470).

The bronze medal came down to the final frame, with Team USA's Russo and Cameron Crowe both leaving splits they were unable to convert, and Canada's Mitch Hupé tossing a 10th-frame strike to lift him and Francois Lavoie to the final medal by just seven pins.

Hupé and Lavoie ended with a 2,437 total, and Crowe (1,218) and Russo (1,212) finished with 2,430.

Team USA's final duo, Kris Prather (1,192) and Andrew Anderson (1,173), finished sixth with 2,365.

"We made the decision for my mom not to come down because of the uncertainty with COVID and us not knowing the area, but she was happy to be able to watch Lauren over FaceTime," Nick Pate said. "Then, I was able to add to the Pate legacy, I guess you could say, by going out and getting gold myself with Kyle. We worked really well as a duo and bought into coach (Bryan) O'Keefe's game plan, and it paid off."

Nick Pate is a four-time Team USA member, and he now has earned a gold medal at all three international events he has attended as a member of the team.

The 27-year-old right-hander rolled a perfect game to help the United States to the team win at the 2019 PANAM Bowling Men's Championships in Peru, then returned to the same bowling center three months later to claim a pair of gold medals at the 2019 Pan American Games.

Like Lauren Pate, Sherman made his Team USA debut this week, too.

After failing to medal in singles in either gender classification, doubles gave all of the Team USA bowlers a chance at redemption and to put the things they've learned this week into action.

Sherman, a 27-year-old right-hander, knows that while Monday's success was a sign of progress, there's still a lot of work to do before it's time to celebrate.

"We're starting to understand the lanes and pattern better, and we're going to continue to work and hopefully improve even more," said Sherman, who was a Junior Team USA member in 2015. "Today means everything, but I don't think it has sunk in yet, since I'm already focused on tomorrow. We still have a job to do here, with trios and team. I know when I get back and rest and reflect on the week it'll hit me, but right now, we still have work to do."

The Team USA men also were the defending champions this week, after winning the doubles title (AJ Johnson and Sean Wilcox) at the 2019 PANAM Men's Championships with a record 3,062 total.

Clemmer, a 23-year-old right-hander, and Lauren Pate have been working together for a few years, and as they progress in their bowling careers, they forever will be tied together by their continued success.

O'Keefe also is part of that equation, as he serves as McKendree's director of bowling, along with his place at the helm of Junior Team USA and now Team USA.

"We won two (collegiate) national championships together in 2017, but right now, I don't think anything can top this," Clemmer said. "I got to do it with someone I've been able to grow with, and she continues to make me a better person. Thinking about all of it makes me emotional. To get to see her accomplish her dream is incredible, and to share it with her makes it even more special. She said she doesn't know if she can cry anymore, but I'm going to cry now and probably will cry more tonight."

Clemmer and Lauren Pate both averaged below 200 in singles this week, finishing tied for 10th and 14th, respectively, but the things they learned helped devise a successful game plan for doubles.

They started farther right Monday on the 38-foot Los Angeles oil pattern and worked together to improve by a combined 275 pins. They also made sure to keep their attention on the task at hand.

"I think being far away from the TVs with the standings really helped us stay focused, but I had a feeling going into the last game that we were pretty far ahead of second place," Lauren Pate said. "Either way, we weren't going to stop there. We were going to keep doing the same thing, whether it was 10 pins or 300 pins. We stuck to our game plan, we had great ball reaction and it all worked out really well."

The Team USA women swept the doubles medals at the 2018 PANAM Bowling Women's Championships.

Doubles competition this week in Colombia was spread over two days, and the other four Team USA women got to bowl their six games Sunday night.

Bryanna Coté (1,206) and Julia Bond (1,174) were the leaders heading into Monday's squad, and their 2,380 total ended up fourth overall.

Sydney Brummett (1,052) and Gazmine Mason (980) finished 23rd with 2,032. The women's field featured 28 doubles teams.

Clemmer and Lauren Pate both are competing in their first events as members of the adult version of Team USA, but Clemmer brings the experience of five years on Junior Team USA, during which, she claimed 18 medals in international competition. Among them, a team gold medal at the 2018 International Bowling Federation World Youth Championships.

Pate was a member of Junior Team USA in 2017. She didn't get to bowl for any medals, but the team's training camp is where she met Russo, her soon-to-be husband.

Competition at the 2021 PANAM Elite Championships resumes Tuesday with three squads of trios competition. All teams will bowl six games over two days, and total pinfall again will determine the medalists.

In addition to the main event in Cali, the Elite Championships, two men and two women from each country will have their scores used toward the 2021 edition of the Champion of Champions event, traditionally a standalone tournament.

The top four countries, based on the combined 24-game pinfall totals in each gender classification, plus the United States, will qualify for the 2022 World Games. Because that event is being held in Birmingham, Alabama, the United States gets an automatic spot as the host nation.

The Team USA representatives for the Champion of Champions event are Anderson, Russo, Bond and Coté.

Additionally, total pinfall for all six bowlers in Elite Championships competition, in their respective gender classifications, will determine the four men's countries and four women's countries that will head to the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup.

The World Cup previously featured one man and one woman from each country, but a change to the format will allow more competitors to become part of a tradition that spans more than five decades.

To see the complete standings, visit PANAMBowling.com.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

UNITED STATES, PUERTO RICO WIN TRIOS AT 2021 PANAM BOWLING ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia - The momentum and progress continued for Team USA at the 2021 PANAM Bowling Elite Championships on Wednesday as the team picked up four more medals - one gold, one silver and two bronze - this time in trios competition.

The Team USA women entered the day first and second in the standings, and Julia Bond, Bryanna Coté and Sydney Brummett were able to bounce back from a slow start Wednesday morning to take the title by a 70-pin margin.

The men's title came down to the final bowler, and singles winner, Cristian Azcona, was able to fill his 10th frame to give Puerto Rico a three-pin victory over the United States. Team USA's Nick Pate, Kristopher Prather and Kyle Sherman had a five-pin advantage heading into the last game, and Mexico was 14 pins back.

Trios included six games over two days at the 20-lane Bolera Departamental, and teams were paired up Wednesday based on their performances during the first three games Tuesday.

Bond (1,263), Coté (1,236) and Brummett (1,071) averaged 198.33 on the way to a 3,570 total, which included a 546 start to Wednesday's set on the week's 38-foot Los Angeles oil pattern. They rebounded with games of 629 and 623.

Mexico's Lili Robles, Aseret Zetter and Paola Limon were able to hang on for the silver medal with a 3,500 total, outlasting a determined Team USA team led by doubles gold medalist, Breanna Clemmer.

Clemmer (1,277) ended the day with a 244 game, but it wasn't quite enough. She teamed with doubles partner Lauren Pate (1,118) and Gazmine Mason (1,099) for a 3,494 total and the bronze medal.

"It was great to come in today as the leaders and stay there, which we weren't able to do in doubles," said Coté, a 35-year-old right-hander and six-time Team USA member. "The lanes have been a little different every day, and we had a game plan to hit the 1-3 pocket and make our spares. Sometimes, those got away from us, but we also stepped up and made some really good shots when we needed them. We did everything we could to win gold, and it's a great feeling to win."

The victory Wednesday meant the first gold medal for each as a member of the adult version of Team USA.

Coté won a silver (team) and two bronze (singles, trios) medals in Cali in 2016, and Brummett took home three silver medals (doubles, trios, team) from the 2018 PANAM Bowling Women's Championships in the Dominican Republic. This week marked Bond's international debut with the adult

team.

"I think we have good momentum going into the team event and a good picture of what's going on, depending on what the lanes are giving us," Coté said. "We have six great minds and two amazing coaches, and we'll get it done."

The last team title for the Team USA women in PANAM Bowling competition came in Cali in 2014, and Colombia enters this year's tournament as the two-time defending champion (2016 and 2018).

The final game of trios on the men's side featured a four-team scramble for the three medals, with Canada quietly making a run from well down the standings to nearly claim the bronze medal.

Team USA's Pate (1,286), Prather (1,241) and Sherman (1,145) lost some important count late in the game, and Puerto Rico was able to keep the pressure on to give Azcona a chance to deliver.

Puerto Rico finished with a 3,675 total, led by singles silver medalist Israel Hernandez, who posted a 1,284 total. He was followed by Azcona (1,199) and Jorge Rodriguez (1,192). It was the first trios win for Puerto Rico, and third medal overall, since trios was added to the PANAM Championships landscape in 1981.

Pate, Prather and Sherman finished with a 3,672 total.

Because Team USA's two men's teams were third and fourth after Tuesday's three games, they got to bowl together all day for the second half of trios.

The other group - Matt Russo (1,317), Cameron Crowe (1,217) and Andrew Anderson (1,117) - rallied in the final game on the strength of a 246 game from Russo. Their 628 finish erased a 42-pin deficit and allowed them to surge past Mexico. They locked up the bronze medal with a 3,651 total. It was the first medal in international competition for Crowe.

Canada's Francois Lavoie, Darren Alexander and Mitch Hupé closed with 685 and catapulted into fourth place, nearly denying Russo and Crowe medals for the second consecutive event. They finished trios with 3,649. Lavoie and Hupé got the job done in doubles, however, taking the bronze by seven pins.

"I feel like I finally settled in, even though I can't seem to get my spare ball going," said Russo, a 24-year-old left-hander and four-time Team USA member. "I figured out something physically and was able to find some good ball reaction. The lanes are hard, but we're working well together. One thing I also realized is that I was feeling some pressure and thinking I had to medal, rather than just bowling. I'm glad we were able to get it done now, and we'll be ready to go for the team event."

Team USA head coach Bryan O'Keefe was satisfied with the trios outcome, even if it wasn't gold and silver medals in both classifications.

Both groups showed progress, chemistry and grit and got to experience many emotions together, from excitement to nerves to pressure to disappointment. They gave themselves opportunities to be successful, and if it didn't work out, it was a chance to learn something.

The tournament includes the best bowlers from North, Central and South America, as well as the

Caribbean, and will continue Thursday with team competition throughout the day.

All teams will bowl three games Thursday and return to Bolera Departamental for three more Friday. Total pinfall for the six games will determine the team and all-events medalists.

Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the top individuals based on their 24-game pinfall totals from singles, doubles, trios and team.

Due to restrictions from COVID-19, each country will get its own pair of lanes each game during team competition, and all six players will bowl together, with five designated scores counting toward the team total.

It is the ideal environment for communication and strategy, and it's something Team USA got to experience by coincidence Wednesday, based on the trios standings after the first day.

O'Keefe had similar thoughts about the men and women after seeing them work together for the second half of trios, though their on-lane strategies likely will be different Thursday simply based on their strengths, physical games and things that worked well, or didn't, throughout the week.

"With us having both teams on the same pair because of our finishes yesterday, it almost was like a dress rehearsal for the team event, and it gave us a chance to see how the lanes would transition with all of us trying to do the same thing," O'Keefe said. "We do still have some things to work on, and that includes our ability to finish games. We're turning good games into mediocre ones too many times. There are a lot of great bowlers on both sides, so we're not going to be able to be on our C-game and still win. We'll have to bring everything we have."

In addition to this week's PANAM Elite Championships, two men and two women from each country are having their scores used toward the 2021 edition of the Champion of Champions event, traditionally a standalone tournament.

The top four countries, based on the combined 24-game pinfall totals in each gender classification, plus the United States, will qualify for the 2022 World Games. Because that event is being held in Birmingham, Alabama, the United States gets an automatic spot as the host nation.

The Team USA representatives for the Champion of Champions event are Anderson, Russo, Bond and Cot.

Additionally, total pinfall for all six bowlers in Elite Championships competition, in their respective gender classifications, will determine the four men's countries and four women's countries that will head to the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup.

The World Cup previously featured one man and one woman from each country, but a change to the format will allow more competitors to become part of a tradition that spans more than five decades.

To see the complete standings, visit PANAMBowling.com.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA

FINAL POLICY REVISIONS TO USBC SMART PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress has approved final policy revisions for its Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins (SMART) program. The policy includes revisions based on a comment period earlier this year.

In April 2021, the USBC proposed a series of policy changes designed to increase scholarship benefits for SMART Recipients. All proposals were open for a comment period until June 30. After reviewing the feedback from webinars and submitted comments, the final policy was approved by the Oversight Committee and USBC Board of Directors.

The final policy maintains the proposed concept of allocating a portion of future investment gains and expired scholarships directly to SMART Recipient accounts by providing additional scholarships for those actively using SMART funds and creating a new SMART Recipient grant program.

The primary revision from the policy proposed in April 2021 is an adjustment that maintains the current practice of returning expired Recipient scholarships to the assigning Provider as new unassigned funds. This allows Providers to keep their expired Recipient funds in their local program.

“The goal of these revisions was to provide more scholarships to youth bowlers, while maintaining a good structure for successful SMART Providers,” said Frank Wilkinson, chair of the USBC SMART Committee. “We feel these adjustments, based on feedback from our stakeholders, meet the needs of the Providers and Recipients and encourage youth bowlers to actively use their SMART scholarships.”

The overall funding model will maintain a 50-50 split for expired funds and earnings between Provider and Recipient accounts as originally proposed. However, a change in the final policy shifts a greater portion of new bonus scholarships to active Recipients requesting SMART funds.

As previously proposed, Providers will be required to use unassigned funds received from SMART within two years, starting with expiration of unassigned funds beginning in 2024.

Also included in the final policy is the ability for a Recipient to transfer their scholarship funds to another family member.

Minor policy adjustments also were made to each of the four SPM proposals. Changes made to SPM No. 1, No. 2 and No. 4 will become effective immediately. Changes made to SPM No. 3 will become effective as of Aug. 1, 2023.

Complete language of the new SMART policies and [FAQ](#) are published on BOWL.com.

For more information on SMART, visit [BOWL.com/SMART](https://www.bowl.com/SMART).

TEAM USA SWEEPS TEAM, ALL-EVENTS GOLD MEDALS AT 2021 PANAM BOWLING ELITE CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia - Team USA may have been slow out of the gates this week at the 2021 PANAM Bowling Elite Championships, but the tournament ended perfectly, with the men and women sweeping the team and all-events gold medals.

Both teams entered the second half of the team event at the top of the standings, and both faltered early in Friday's three-game block, before regaining their composure and momentum to earn their spots atop the podium.

The Team USA men were the first to strike gold Friday at the 20-lane Bolera Departamental. They outlasted Canada to secure the title for the third consecutive time, this time averaging more than 207 as a team over the six games.

After Thursday's three games, Team USA held a 27-pin advantage over the Canadians but lost the lead after the opening game Friday, shooting 969 to Canada's 1,088.

Led by left-hander Matt Russo, who posted a 1,335 total for his six team games, Team USA bounced back with 1,082 and 1,028 for a 6,212 total. Canada finished with 6,052 to take the silver medal, and Costa Rica earned the bronze with 5,845. The event included 13 men's teams.

Russo was joined in the victory by Kristopher Prather (1,255), Kyle Sherman (1,241), Nick Pate (1,227) and Andrew Anderson (1,154). Cameron Crowe also joined Team USA on the lanes, but his 1,210 total did not count toward the team score.

"I knew it all wouldn't really hit us until we got up there on the podium and heard the start of the national anthem," Russo said. "This whole trip has been a lot of fun. I truly enjoy bowling with these guys. We're great friends, too, and I think that really helped with the communication. We also know each other's games well, and that definitely made it easier. It has been a dream of mine since I can remember to be out here winning medals, and there's nothing like it."

The Team USA women had a clearer path to the gold medal.

They led the eight-team field by 241 pins after Thursday's three games and extended that to 362 after six games. They topped the standings with a 6,093 total. They won the team title in Cali in 2014 and finished second to Colombia in 2016 and 2018.

Bryanna Coté had the hot hand for the United States, leading the way with a 1,286 total. She was followed by Breanna Clemmer (1,259), Lauren Pate (1,224), Julia Bond (1,168) and Gazmine Mason (1,156). Sydney Brummett also was on the lanes for Team USA, but her 1,028 total did not count

toward the team score.

Mexico closed with a 1,025 game to surge into second place, earning the silver medal with a 5,731 effort. Puerto Rico took the bronze with 5,683.

The end of the team event also determined this year's all-events medalists, as well as which countries qualified for the 2022 World Games and 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup.

Russo, who is engaged to Lauren Pate, averaged nearly 212 across the four events (singles, doubles, trios, team) and 24 games to claim the top spot in the all-events standings with a 5,078 total.

The silver medal went to Russo's future brother-in-law Nick Pate (4,996), and Canada's Mitch Hupé took home the bronze medal (4,928).

Team USA's Sherman finished fifth (4,865), Prather was sixth (4,862), Crowe was 12th (4,735) and Anderson was 24th (4,616).

Clemmer set the pace on the women's side, averaging 207.96. She claimed the all-events gold medal with a 4,991 total. She also won doubles this week with Lauren Pate and grabbed a bronze medal in trios with Pate and Mason.

Mexico's Iliana Lomeli shot 280 in her final game to catapult herself to the silver medal with a 4,910 total. The bronze medal went to Coté with 4,856.

Team USA's Pate finished fifth (4,784), Bond was sixth (4,764), Mason was 21st (4,441) and Brummett was 33rd (4,231).

"This was my first tournament with adult Team USA, and I was pretty nervous, but I just tried to stick to my process and be with the girls as much as possible," said Clemmer, who also enjoyed a decorated career with Junior Team USA. "In a sense, I was a veteran in the group, but I tried to learn from each and every one of my teammates along the way. I had trust in them and believed in them, and I know they felt the same way about me. It truly was a team effort all week."

Additionally, the week included the 2021 edition of the PANAM Bowling Champion of Champions event, traditionally a standalone event that last was held in 2018. Due to the pandemic and uncertainty of the competitive schedule, it was held simultaneously with the PANAM Elite Championships and utilized some of the same scores.

Two men and two women from each country were designated by the coaches to have their scores used toward the 2021 edition of the Champion of Champions.

The top four countries, based on the combined 24-game pinfall totals in each gender classification, plus the United States, qualified for the 2022 World Games. Because that event is being held in Birmingham, Alabama, the United States automatically gets spot as the host nation.

The Team USA representatives for the Champion of Champions event were Anderson, Russo, Bond and Coté.

The countries that qualified for the World Games from the men's field were Puerto Rico, Colombia,

Costa Rica and Canada. For the women, Colombia, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Aruba advanced.

Competitors initially thought a spot in the World Games was all that was on the line for this year's Champion of Champions, but the top performers also were awarded gold medals based on their 24-game totals.

Russo claimed the prize on the men's side, marking his fifth Champion of Champions gold medal. He won four in four opportunities during his Team USA debut in 2018. He now has seven gold medals in 10 events.

The Champion of Champions gold medal for the women went to Lomeli.

The qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup were determined by total pinfall for all six bowlers in Elite Championships competition, in their respective gender classifications.

Qualifiers on the men's side were the United States, Canada, Colombia and Puerto Rico. For the women, it was Team USA, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Colombia.

The World Cup previously featured one man and one woman from each country, but a change to the format will allow more competitors to become part of a tradition that spans more than five decades.

The tournaments this week at Bolera Departamental included the best bowlers from North, Central and South America, as well as the Caribbean.

There were 30 medals up for grabs at the Elite Championships and two available for the Champion of Champions.

Team USA picked up 13 medals and was followed by Mexico (7), Puerto Rico (4), Canada (4), Colombia (2), Aruba (1) and Costa Rica (1).

"It was my first official event as the head coach for Team USA, and it was a roller coaster, for sure, but we had a great time and were able to take home some medals, which always is the goal," Team USA head coach Bryan O'Keefe said. "We learned a lot, everyone did their best, they gave it their all, they worked together and they're happy. That makes me happy, too. It definitely was a memorable week."

To see the complete standings, visit PANAMBowling.com.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

USBC, KEGEL EXTEND LANE MAINTENANCE PARTNERSHIP

ARLINGTON, Texas – Kegel and the United States Bowling Congress extended their partnership agreement to have Kegel as the official lane maintenance provider for USBC Championship Tournaments and a USBC Gold Product Partner.

Since 2006, Kegel has provided lane maintenance equipment and supplies, along with technical and on-site support, for USBC events from the youth to professional level. Kegel also handles lane maintenance for the Professional Women's Bowling Association, which is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and USBC.

"USBC is honored to continue and grow its long-standing relationship with Kegel," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "Kegel's lane machines, lane care products, expertise and on-site processes help provide quality conditions and integrity for USBC Championship Tournaments."

The USBC Open and Women's Championships, the premier events for USBC adult members, the Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships, plus the four sectional qualifiers, and the Junior Gold Championships and Survivor tournament are among the events Kegel supports with its latest lane machines and cleaners.

"Kegel and USBC have a shared mission to provide bowlers with a fair and reliable playing field in championship events," Kegel CEO Chris Chartrand said. "We appreciate USBC for entrusting Kegel with the responsibility as the official lane maintenance partner at its national events."

Under the direction of Nick Hoagland, who has led pattern development for USBC for the last five years, USBC staff closely works with the Kegel team. USBC determines lane conditions for every USBC national event, while Kegel provides equipment maintenance and technical support.

Other events in which Kegel provides on-site lane maintenance include the USBC Team USA Trials, USBC Masters, USBC Queens, U.S. Open, U.S. Women's Open, USBC Senior Masters, USBC Senior Queens, Super Senior Classic, USBC Senior Championships, Bowlers Journal Championships and the Bowling.com Youth Open Championships.

Founded in 1981, Kegel is based in Lake Wales, Florida, where it has a 74,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility and 12-lane training center.

Visit Kegel.net to learn more about Kegel and visit BOWL.com/Tournaments to learn more about USBC Championship Tournaments.

U.S. OPEN HEADED TO INDIANAPOLIS IN 2022, USBC MASTERS RETURNS TO LAS VEGAS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America have selected Woodland Bowl in Indianapolis as the host center for the 2022 U.S. Open and Gold Coast Hotel & Casino as the location for the USBC Masters.

The U.S. Open is scheduled for Jan. 30-Feb. 6, with invitations going out this week. Registration for

the pre-tournament qualifier, an on-site event that will give those who did not earn direct entry into the tournament a chance to make the elite field, is open.

The Masters will take place March 28-April 3, and online registration will open Nov. 2.

The dates and locations are subject to change based on recommended best practices, social-distancing protocols and other COVID-19 restrictions.

Both events are considered majors on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, will feature a top prize of \$100,000 and will conclude live on Fox Sports' FS1/FOX as part of the 2022 PBA Tour television schedule.

All rounds of competition leading up to the TV finals will be broadcast live on BowITV.

"We've been fortunate to visit some amazing bowling centers in recent years, and they've become a special part of the continuing history of our sport's most prestigious events," BPAA Executive Director Frank DeSocio. "Woodland Bowl, the Indianapolis bowling community and all of great facilities we visit in the Las Vegas area are top-notch, and we know the experience at both events will be memorable for the bowlers and fans."

The U.S. Open again will include 108 of the world's best bowlers, most of whom earned their spots in the event based on recent on-lane performances.

The tournament will begin with a pre-tournament qualifier Jan. 30 and conclude with a live stepladder on FS1 on Feb. 6 at 5 p.m. Eastern.

Woodland Bowl has been home to many top-tier events and PBA Tour competition, including past editions of the U.S. Open. It last was held there in 2010, won by Bill O'Neill, and was where Dave Husted became the last player to successfully defend a U.S. Open title in 1996.

The 70-lane venue was one of six Indianapolis-area centers that hosted the Junior Gold Championships in 2021, and the facility earned a place in bowling history in 2016 when Anthony Simonsen won the USBC Masters to become the sport's youngest major champion at age 19.

The list of competitors expected to compete for the coveted green jacket and iconic trophy at the 2022 U.S. Open includes the leaders on the PBA Tour points list, Team USA and Junior Team members and top performers at USBC events and PBA majors.

The U.S. Open format features qualifying across multiple oil patterns and round-robin match play, before the top five competitors advance to the TV stepladder, based on their 56-game pinfall totals.

The 2021 U.S. Open was held in Reno, Nevada, in April and won by Ohio's Chris Via for his first PBA Tour title. He defeated Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona, 214-213 at the famed National Bowling Stadium.

Via's 2021 also included a pair of televised 300s in PBA Tour competition and the Regular All-Events title at the storied USBC Open Championships.

The operation of the U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open is a collaborative effort by USBC and BPAA

and jointly funded by the two organizations.

The Masters last was held at Gold Coast Bowling Center in 2019, with Butturff winning the tournament for his first major title. The left-hander defeated fellow southpaw Mikel Holliman of Collierville, Tennessee, in the title match, 228-196.

The 2019 edition featured 450 competitors, who participated in 15 games of qualifying over three days, before the field was cut to the top 63, plus the defending champion, for the unique double-elimination match-play competition.

The Masters bracket features three-game matches, with total pinfall determining the winner of each match. The event first was held in 1951.

After not being held in 2020 due to the pandemic, the Masters returned to action in 2021 and visited the National Bowling Stadium in conjunction with the 2021 U.S. Open.

Right-hander Thomas Larsen became the first player from Denmark to win the event. He defeated top seed Jesper Svensson of Sweden, 197-176, for the first major title of his career, which also earned him a guaranteed spot in the 64-player bracket in 2022.

Qualifying at the 2022 Masters will get underway March 29, and the new champion will hoist the trophy live on FOX on April 3 at 1 p.m. Eastern.

The total prize fund at the Masters will be based on entries, and the cash ratio will be 1:4. The U.S. Open will pay out \$260,000.

USBC and BPAA announced in August that the four major championships they present each year - the U.S. Women's Open, U.S. Open, USBC Queens and USBC Masters - will be awarding \$100,000 to each champion through 2023.

Team USA's Josie Barnes of Hermitage, Tennessee, won the record \$100,000 first-place prize at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open in August for her first major title and fourth Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title overall.

"There are few events in the world that offer the challenge, excitement and prestige of bowling's U.S. Open or the head-to-head drama of the Masters, and we can't wait to see them unfold in these two venues that have been home to so many great moments," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "We also look forward to the added excitement of awarding \$100,000 to each winner."

More information about the U.S. Open can be found at [BOWL.com/USOpen](https://www.bowl.com/USOpen).

To learn more about the USBC Masters, visit [BOWL.com/Masters](https://www.bowl.com/Masters).

USBC BOARD APPROVES RESOLUTIONS TO MAINTAIN PRE-PANDEMIC DELEGATE COUNTS FOR ANNUAL MEETINGS

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress Board of Directors approved two resolutions that allow delegate representation for annual association meetings to be based on membership from the 2018-2019 season.

The first resolution for the 2022 USBC Annual Meeting maintains historical representation across the country by using membership totals from the 2018-2019 season for delegate counts.

The second resolution allows USBC state associations the option to use either 2018-2019 or 2020-2021 membership totals to determine delegate counts at their annual meetings.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, significantly varying standards of federal, state and local orders impacted bowling center operations. As a result, USBC membership in the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 seasons does not accurately reflect the historical membership for some USBC associations.

These resolutions were passed to accurately and fairly determine delegate representation for 2022 annual meetings.

The USBC Board has authority to temporarily suspend or amend the USBC Bylaws to address issues related to a pandemic.

The 2022 USBC Annual Meeting will be held at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas from April 25-28.

Full text of the resolutions and the schedule for the meeting are available at BOWL.com/Convention.

USBC HALL OF FAMER NICHOLAS MORMANDO DIES AT AGE 93

ARLINGTON, Texas – Nicholas Mormando of Boca Raton, Florida, a member of the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame, died Oct. 13. He was 93.

Mormando, originally from Brooklyn, New York, was inducted into the meritorious service category of the USBC Hall of Fame in 2003, highlighted by his work in the sport as a proprietor and his service to the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame.

His journey in the sport began in 1948 with the purchase of his first bowling center in New Rochelle, New York. He went on to own nine centers across three states.

In the early 1960s, Mormando expanded his role as an active member of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and served as the organization's president from 1974-1976.

He received the BPAA President's Award in 1981 and was elected to the BPAA Hall of Fame in 1987.

Mormando held a major role in the formative stages of the creation of the IBM/HOF in its original location in St. Louis. The IBM/HOF now is part of the International Bowling

Campus in Arlington, Texas.

He helped land financial support for the construction of the original venue in St. Louis and served on the site-selection, design and construction committees.

Mormando went on to serve on the IBM/HOF Board of Directors and as president from 1990-1992.

He helped with the creation of the IBM/HOF Salute to Champions, an annual fundraising event, and was selected as the event's honoree in 1994.

In addition to his work within bowling, Mormando also spent 40 years as an independent restaurateur in New York, Connecticut and Illinois.

Services for Mormando were held Oct. 19 in Westbury, New York.

For more information on the USBC Hall of Fame, visit [BOWL.com/HallofFame](https://www.usbc.com/halloffame).

TEAM USA SET TO DEPART FOR 2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DUBAI

ARLINGTON, Texas - Though the formats may be a little different in 2021, Team USA's goal for the upcoming International Bowling Federation Super World Championships is unchanged, and that is to win as many medals as possible against the best bowlers in the world.

Eight members of the team are hours away from departing for Dubai, United Arab Emirates, where competitors from dozens of countries will meet to compete for medals in singles, doubles, trios, mixed team and team competition.

The IBF Super World Championships will be the first of three events being held at the Dubai International Bowling Center, taking place from Nov. 6-15, and it will be followed by the inaugural IBF Para Bowling World Championships and the IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships.

IBF will provide livestream coverage of each event at strikecloud.com, and results will be available at bowling.sport.

The list of women selected to represent the United States at the Super World Championships includes a quartet of world champions - Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey; Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York; Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California; and Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio.

Kulick picked up the first of her five titles at the event in 1999, while McEwan is the defending singles champion. Parkin and Richard will look to defend the trios crown they claimed in 2019 with Liz Kuhlkin.

The men's team will include three world champions and a first-timer - Andrew Anderson of Holly, Michigan; Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona; AJ Johnson of Oswego, Illinois; and Kristopher Prather of Plainfield, Illinois.

Butturff and Johnson helped Team USA to the team gold medal at the 2017 World Championships, and Anderson was a trios gold medalist at the 2018 World Men's Championships.

Prather made his Team USA debut at the recent PANAM Bowling Elite Championships in Colombia and picked up a pair of medals, including gold in the team event. Anderson also was one of the six Team USA men in Colombia.

"It's always an honor to bowl with the USA on your back, and even though I didn't have the best week in Colombia, it was really cool to be a part of the team gold medal and see the other guys do so well, especially the ones getting to experience it for the first time," Anderson said. "Now, we're going to shift gears and make the 15-hour flight to Dubai for the World Championships. Even though the stage may be different, the goal is the same, and that is to win the team gold medal, along with as many medals as possible along the way."

The Team USA men had a heartbreaking loss to Italy in the gold-medal match at the 2018 World Men's Championships, but it was as much a learning opportunity for Anderson as his trios win with EJ Tackett and Kyle Troup.

All three were first-timers at the event, which is noteworthy and memorable on its own, but they also had the chance to share the lanes with two of the most decorated bowlers in Team USA history. Anderson hopes he can use all the things he learned there to help Team USA find success in 2021.

"Thankfully, my first trip to the World Championships came alongside two of the greatest players in our sport or country - Tommy Jones and Chris Barnes," said Anderson, the 2018 Professional Bowlers Association Player of the Year. "I was able to learn a lot from them, and I hope to use that experience to help lead the Dubai team to more success for Team USA."

As part of the new design of the event, team competition will shift from five players to four, while everything after the tournament-opening singles event will be contested using a variation of Baker scoring.

In the traditional Baker format, each member of a five-player team bowls two frames, and the team members work together to complete a game. The leadoff bowler bowls the first and sixth frames, the next team member completes the second and seventh frames and so on.

In Dubai, the concept will be adapted for doubles, trios and the two team events, with strategy determining which players in the lineup will bowl extra frames, where applicable.

"More than anything, we're just looking forward to being back on the lanes and competing against the best bowlers from across the globe," Team USA head coach Bryan O'Keefe said. "It may take a little time to get used to the changes, but we expect the new formats and pace of competition to up the intensity and excitement for the bowlers and fans. There also will be a lot more strategy involved in setting the lineups, and that will be a fun challenge."

In recent years at the IBF World Championships, six games of total pinfall determined the four players or teams that advanced to the semifinals in each event, where they were seeded into a bracket-style championship round. Semifinal losers earned bronze medals, and the winners advanced to bowl for the gold and silver medals.

Prior to that, medals were awarded based on total pinfall.

Since the inception of the World Championships in the 1950s, formats have changed, and there even was a time when the team event included as many as eight bowlers, but many aspects of the event are timeless.

The pressure, pride and prestige involved in competing for your country are unparalleled. Kulick expects to feel some of the same excitement she felt in 1999 during the first of her six appearances at the World Championships.

Her debut came just over an hour away in Abu Dhabi, and she left that event with a singles gold medal, the lone gold for the United States that year. Her return to Abu Dhabi in 2015 ended with gold medals in doubles and team.

"I recall the 1999 event very vividly because we were going to be in Abu Dhabi for three weeks, it was over Thanksgiving, which is my favorite holiday, there were some big life pieces that needed to move around to make it work and it was my first opportunity as an adult representative of Team USA to experience bowling on the world stage," Kulick said. "It definitely was a highlight for me before starting my professional career, and any chance to be back in that environment is special."

Official practice for the 2021 Super World Championships will take place Thursday and Friday, with singles competition getting underway Saturday.

Singles will consist of 10 qualifying games over two days, after which the field in each gender classification will be cut to the top 32 for group match play. Each group will include eight players, and they'll all bowl seven games of round-robin match play.

Points will be awarded for each win in match play, and the top two players in each group, based on points, will advance to the bracket-style quarterfinals. The quarterfinals and semifinals will be one-game matches, and the championship match will be a best-of-two battle, with a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off being used if a third game is needed.

Doubles, trios and team competition will be contested similarly, but utilizing a variation of the Baker format. The top 32 in doubles and top 16 for trios and both team competitions will advance to match play.

Along with Team USA's singles and trios wins at the 2019 World Women's Championships in Las Vegas, Sweden won doubles, Colombia won team and all-events and Singapore won the tournament-ending Masters event.

The rest of the medals at the World Men's Championships in Hong Kong went to Malaysia (singles, doubles), all-events (United States) and Masters (Canada).

Competitors at the 2021 Super World Championships will face a 44-foot IBF Emirates 21 oil pattern.

"We recently had a short training camp to get ready for this event, and all of the team members have been staying sharp at other tournaments, whether it was locally, in Colombia or on the (Professional Women's Bowling Association) Tour in Reno (Nevada)," O'Keefe said. "I know we're ready to compete

at this level again, and our time together really helped with the chemistry and trust. We're really looking forward to every aspect of the World Championships."

Team USA representatives for the Para Bowling World Championships will be Eddy Hutchens of Franktown, Colorado; Shawn Beam of Burleson, Texas; Emma (Toodie) Perry of Bakersfield, California; and Debra Freed of Framingham, Massachusetts. They will compete for medals in singles, doubles and mixed team.

Representing Team USA on the men's side at the IBF Masters World Championships will be Barnes, who is from Denton, Texas; Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; and Bob Learn Jr. of Columbia, Tennessee.

The women's roster will include Debbie Ayers of La Mesa, California; Tracy Calfee of Flat Rock, North Carolina; Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado.

Medals at the Masters World Championships will be awarded for singles, doubles, team, mixed team and most valuable athlete/federation.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

TEAM USA SET FOR INAUGURAL IBF PARA BOWLING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates – The four competitors representing Team USA at the inaugural International Bowling Federation Para Bowling World Championships have completed their journey to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and are ready to represent the red, white and blue on the lanes at the Dubai International Bowling Centre.

While the team will look to collect gold medals in singles, doubles, mixed team and most valuable athlete (formerly all-events) from Nov. 13-16, the opportunity to help usher in a new era for para bowlers and create additional exposure through international competition is just as important for each team member.

The team competing in Dubai will feature Shawn Beam of Burleson, Texas; Eddy Hutchens of Franktown, Colorado; Debra Freed of Framingham, Massachusetts; and Emma (Toodie) Perry of Bakersfield, California.

The group was selected by the United States Bowling Congress National Selection Committee to represent Team USA in the W1 category of the IBF Para Bowling World Championships.

The W1 Para/Amputee Classification incorporates all wheelchair classifications. It includes leg amputees, cerebral palsy (with functional hands), and Les Autres athletes with mobility disfunction. All must compete from a wheelchair and follow the rules of play, along with modified rules established for this discipline.

The foursome will join the teams currently competing at the IBF Super World Championships, which started Nov. 6 and will conclude Nov. 15. The IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships will follow the Para Bowling World Championships and take place Nov. 18-26.

Prior to their 8,000-mile trip to Dubai, the new teammates made their way to the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas, for a day of team building and orientation, before beginning the journey.

The time and dedication over the years to make the opportunity a reality between USBC and the American Wheelchair Bowling Association was not lost on the team as they came together to train and prepare at the home of Team USA, crediting the work of Gary Ryan, who serves as secretary on the AWBA Board of Directors.

"Gary Ryan started working with the USBC in trying to get wheelchair bowling into the Paralympics," said Hutchens, who is the chairman of the AWBA Board of Directors and the top-ranked athlete in the scratch division of the AWBA Ranking System. "He worked on it for probably eight years, and I was with him for four or five of those years. When we got the call, everybody was ecstatic that wheelchair bowling was going to be recognized.

"I had goosebumps (when I found out I had made the team). I've never had goosebumps in my life. It was awesome to know I was going to get to represent the United States in Dubai. To get to Dubai wearing the red, white and blue is the greatest honor."

Freed was able to celebrate her 64th birthday training at the ITRC before heading to the airport for Dubai.

She is no stranger to international travel and is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, but this will be her first time competing on the global stage.

"It's pretty amazing being allowed to go and represent the USA," Freed said. "It's an opportunity at my age to still be a part of something. Having been in the military, it really is amazing."

Perry will return to international competition after representing the United States in basketball prior to the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain.

She hopes this experience also encourages other women to become active in the sport.

"It's really important to get the bowling out there for wheelchair bowlers," Perry said. "We have a lot of tournaments, but to be in the Paralympic area shows there's no limits. There are no limits in anything that anybody can do. I'm really excited to be one of the first women to represent the United States. That's even more important. We don't have a lot of women who bowl. Hopefully, this is going to help women bowlers get out there."

Beam earned national attention when he became the first to bowl a USBC-certified 300 game in a wheelchair in 2012. The correlation to being an inspiration to other athletes in that moment, and now being part of the inaugural team competing at the Para Bowling World Championships, is a humbling experience for him.

"It's really hard to put into words, and just thinking about it can make me a bit emotional," Beam said. "To again be able to do something nobody else has done before and having the honor to represent this country for the first time as a para bowler is an amazing feeling. Our goal as an organization is to spread knowledge and let people know this is a possibility. We want to get it out there, and this type of exposure could help so many people."

Beam also is looking forward to learning from the other countries in the field, and he hopes to be able to share some of the things he has learned while competing in AWBA tournaments to help grow wheelchair bowling on a global scale.

The experience will be a great opportunity for all the team members to learn and promote the sport, but the goal remains the same when it's time to compete at the Dubai International Bowling Centre.

"We want to come back with medals," Beam said. "I want to go there and win in everything we compete in. I want to soak everything in, because this is a once in a life opportunity. To be on this team, I want to enjoy it all. But once I get on the lanes and am wearing our colors, I'm going to be 100% focused on doing what I need to do to lock in and try to bring home that gold."

LITHUANIA, GERMANY WIN DOUBLES AT 2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - With the outdoor venue that was created for the medal rounds of this year's International Bowling Federation Super World Championships, there have been opportunities, and there have been challenges.

There is the potential for being both starlit and starstruck simultaneously.

On Saturday night, however, the brightest stars were the ones being born on the two lanes constructed earlier this week under the desert sky at Expo 2020 Dubai.

Not only did Lithuania's Aidas Daniunas and Laurynas Narusis conquer the elements and win the first gold medal for their country at the IBF Super World Championships, they did it against some of the hottest players in the world.

Janin Ribguth and Martina Shutz of Germany also outlasted two of Europe's top players on the way to the women's title, Germany's first since 2005.

In the two-player version of the Baker format, one team member bowls the odd frames, and the other

team member bowls the even frames. They were required to alternate through the day during qualifying.

The semifinals and finals took place on an open-air two-lane setup and were broadcast live at StrikeCloud.com.

The custom venue was created specifically for the medal rounds of the 2021 IBF Super World Championships and built in the Sports, Fitness and Wellbeing Hub at Expo 2020 Dubai, a multicultural event that includes exhibits from more than 190 countries and will last six months.

The prime location means the ability to showcase bowling to tens of thousands of Expo visitors each day.

Ribguth and Shutz were the first to claim their gold medals Saturday. They defeated Sweden's Sandra Andersson and Joline Persson Planefors, 2-0 (193-181, 234-161), and denied Sweden a second consecutive win in women's doubles.

The Germans started the first game of the best-of-two title tilt with four consecutive strikes, and they needed every bit of the early cushion, as unconverted splits in their final three frames nearly let the game slip away.

Andersson and Planefors almost erased the deficit with three consecutive strikes, starting in the seventh frame, but a pair of missed single pins in the match, one in the first frame and one in the 10th frame, proved to be their undoing in the 193-181 loss.

Spare miscues and footing issues plagued the Swedish players in the deciding game, while Ribguth and Shutz struck eight times and cruised to a 234-161 victory.

The Germans started the night with another big game, striking nine times in a 254-194 semifinal win over Finland's Ani Juntunen and Peppi Konsteri. Andersson and Planefors earned their spot in the final by defeating Denmark's Cecilie Dam and Mika Guldbaek, 211-145.

Daniunas, a left-hander, and Narusis, a 16-year-old two-hander on the other side of the lane, appeared unfazed by the moment and surroundings, as they dispensed of top qualifiers Jesper Svensson and Pontus Andersson, 2-0 (224-223, 237-176), in the best-of-two gold-medal match.

The first game again had a dramatic finish, with Andersson stepping up in his final frame with a chance to win it for Sweden.

He needed a strike and at least an eight-count and a spare to take the game. He delivered the strike, but his second offering drifted high and left the 3-6-7-10 combination. Though he converted the split, it wasn't enough.

The Lithuanians were clean in the win, while a missed 7 pin from Svensson in the third frame played a role in the loss.

In the second game, Daniunas and Narusis used a string of six strikes from the fourth frame to put the game out of reach.

To get to the final, Daniunas and Narusis topped Sweden's other duo, William Svensson and James Blomgren, 243-226. Blomgren earned the singles gold medal on the same lanes Friday night.

Svensson and Andersson earned their shot at the title with a 244-187 win over Team USA's Andrew Anderson and Kristopher Prather.

The appearance marked the second consecutive doubles medal round for Anderson at the World Championships, but he and Prather, a first-timer at the event, couldn't get any momentum going after strikes in their first two frames.

"We had good ball reaction in practice and started with a couple of good shots, but a few unfortunate breaks and 10 pins allowed the momentum to shift, and we just couldn't regain it," Anderson said. "I'm feeling pretty defeated at the moment, but the trios team has another shot at it tomorrow. We'll try to bounce back and hopefully hear our anthem on the podium."

Anderson and Prather, along with Svensson and Blomgren, earned bronze medals for reaching the semifinals. Anderson teamed with EJ Tackett for the silver medal at the 2018 event in Hong Kong.

Anderson and Team USA rebounded from that loss by taking the trios gold medal, with help from Kyle Troup.

The scenario is possible again in 2021, as Anderson and Prather are headed for the trios medal round Sunday night, where they'll be joined by Jakob Butturff and AJ Johnson.

"Right now, I'm a little disappointed in myself and feel like I let Andrew down, and I'm not yet sure what I need to do to reset for tomorrow and refocus for trios and the other events," Prather said. "I feel like I had a lot of expectations, instead of being in the moment, and it showed. I just have to be better."

They'll return to the custom venue in Dubai, and the round is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. local time (9 a.m. Eastern). The women's trios semifinals and final also will take place.

The Team USA women entered the week in Dubai as the two-time defending trios champions, but they were eliminated in the quarterfinals.

Prior to Saturday's doubles conclusion, all 64 men's teams and the 45 women's duos completed 10 Baker games of qualifying at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, before the respective fields were cut to the top 32 for match play.

The advancing teams were divided into four groups, each with eight tandems, and they all bowled seven games of round-robin match play Tuesday night.

Points were awarded for each win in match play, and the top two teams in each group, based on points, advanced to the bracket-style quarterfinals.

Once trios ends Sunday night, only team and mixed team will remain on the schedule at the 2021 Super World Championships. Both will finish Monday. Doubles, trios and both team events all feature variations of the Baker format from start to finish.

Additional medals will be awarded in Dubai to the most valuable athletes and top-performing federations.

Competition at the Super World Championships will resume early Monday with the match-play portion of the team event, followed by the quarterfinal matches to determine the four teams headed to the outdoor venue for the semifinals.

The Colombia women and Italy men are the reigning team champions.

The IBF Super World Championships is the first of three events being held in Dubai. The inaugural Para Bowling World Championships is sharing the stage through the weekend, with singles getting underway Saturday night. The IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships will help wrap up the visit to the United Arab Emirates.

IBF is providing livestream coverage and complete results at StrikeCloud.com.

For more information about IBF, visit bowling.sport.

To learn more about Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.2

2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Expo 2020 Dubai

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Saturday's results

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Sandra Andersson/Joline Persson Planefors, Sweden, def. Cecilie Dam/Mika Guldbaek, Denmark, 211-145.

Janin Ribguth/Martina Shutz, Germany, def. Ani Juntunen/Peppi Konsteri, 254-194.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Ribguth/Shutz def. Andersson/Planefors, 2-0 (193-181, 234-161).

MEN'S DOUBLES

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Aidas Daniunas/Laurynas Narusis, Lithuania, def. James Blomgren/William Svensson, Sweden, 243-226.

Jesper Svensson/Pontus Andersson, Sweden, def. Andrew Anderson/Kristopher Prather, United States, 244-187.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Daniunas/Narusis def. J. Svensson/P. Andersson, 2-0 (224-223, 237-176).

TEAM USA SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDS TRIOS TITLE AT IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DUBAI

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - Individually, Andrew Anderson, Jakob Butturff, AJ Johnson and Kristopher Prather are some of the best bowlers in the world, and they've all proven they can deliver in the most pressure-packed situations.

On Sunday night, it was up to first-year Team USA head coach Bryan O'Keefe to decide which of those players would shoulder the responsibility for the team's gold-medal hopes in trios at the 2021 International Bowling Federation Super World Championships.

The entire event came down to a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off with Korea, after the teams each won one game in the best-of-two final, and O'Keefe's instincts helped Team USA successfully defend its trios title with a 57-49 win.

It was a split-second decision that forced him to consider countless factors, including who had the best look at that moment, whose look may be going away and how one player may feel after a missed spare moments before.

O'Keefe made the call and immediately got 100% buy-in from the four players. Two frames later, they were celebrating Team USA's second consecutive trios title on the sport's biggest stage.

"Sometimes, gut moves are the best ones to go with," O'Keefe said. "I just had a weird feeling. AJ has been clutch the whole time, and even though I think he was the only one who didn't strike to start, I just had a feeling. His last couple shots were pure and no-doubters. We put Jakob first, so he could strike and not feel as much pressure, and then turned it over to AJ."

Butturff and Johnson struck on three of their four opportunities, but a 2-4-8 leave on Johnson's final delivery meant Korea's Kang Heewon could win the title with two strikes and eight pins. Kang struck on his first shot but crossed over and left a 6 pin on his second offering.

The championship round of the trios event took place on an open-air two-lane setup inside Expo 2020

Dubai, which is hosting the semifinals and finals of each discipline at the 2021 IBF Super World Championships. It all is being broadcast live at StrikeCloud.com.

In the opening game of the final, Team USA struck four times in the first five frames, while Korea suffered two open frames. The defending champions took the game, 235-203.

Kang did not bowl in the first game, but he was inserted into the lineup for Game 2 and helped Korea to a 269-236 victory. Both teams started with a spare and six consecutive strikes, before Butturff left, and missed, a 7 pin in the eighth frame.

In a team environment, trust and commitment can be as important as talent, and the teammates sent Butturff and Johnson onto the approach with the utmost confidence.

"Coach Bryan looked at us and asked us how we were feeling, and we all looked him and told him we felt confident," Johnson said. "He made the decision to go with Jakob and I, and there was 100% total trust and commitment from the group, which was incredible."

Team USA advanced to the final with a clean 200-178 win over the Czech Republic, and Korea got there with a 265-222 win against Sweden.

The event started at the nearby Dubai International Bowling Centre, where all teams bowled 10 games of qualifying, three games of round-robin match play and single-elimination quarterfinal matches.

For the first time at the World Championships, trios utilized a modified Baker format, which puts an emphasis on teamwork and strategy.

The format called for the leadoff bowler to also bowl the fourth, seventh and 10th frames, while the next team member handled the second, fifth and eighth frames. That left the third, sixth and ninth frames for the final team member.

Johnson, who also excelled in the team environment at McKendree University, is motivated by how much closer the team has become over the last two weeks, especially while navigating the variety of Baker formats.

"This team, all week, has been easy to bowl for," Johnson said. "We've all shown up in moments and done what we needed to, and I was fortunate to have the ball in my hand at the end. I don't know if I can describe all the feelings. There are moments you live for or look forward to as a kid, and that's it right there."

The women's trios title also was decided Sunday night, and the Korean women were able to come away with the gold medal.

They cruised past Guatemala in the championship match, 2-0 (223-195, 246-206).

In the women's semifinals, Guatemala topped Colombia, 222-189, and Korea eased past Singapore, 244-196.

Team USA was the two-time defending champion in women's trios but was eliminated in the

quarterfinals this week.

The Korea men and Guatemala women claimed silver medals Sunday, while the Sweden and Czech Republic men and Colombia and Singapore women earned bronze medals for making the semifinals.

The custom venue used to determine the champions at the 2021 Super World Championships was built in the Sports, Fitness and Wellbeing Hub at Expo 2020 Dubai, a multicultural event that includes exhibits from more than 190 countries and will last six months.

Thousands of curious Expo 2020 visitors have been able to get a closer look at the sport of bowling and some of its top competitors.

Prior to Sunday's trios conclusion, all 31 men's teams and the 20 women's teams completed the 10 games of qualifying, before the respective fields were cut to the top 16 for match play.

The advancing teams were divided into four groups, each with four teams, and they all bowled three games of round-robin match play Thursday night.

Points were awarded for each win in match play, and the top two teams in each group, based on points, advanced to the bracket-style quarterfinals.

Due to the late finish of the trios event, the medal ceremony was postponed until Monday afternoon.

Anderson won the event in 2018 with EJ Tackett and Kyle Troup.

Johnson and Butturff were part of the Team USA squad that won the team event in 2017. Prather is competing in the World Championships for the first and also teamed with Anderson this week for a bronze medal in doubles.

The medal ceremony will be followed by the women's, men's and mixed team semifinals and finals, which will close the door on this year's tournament in Dubai.

The Colombia women and Italy men are the reigning team champions, but neither advanced to the medal round this week. The mixed team event is new in 2021.

Doubles, trios and both team events all featured variations of the Baker format from start to finish.

Additional medals will be awarded in Dubai to the most valuable athletes and top-performing federations.

The IBF Super World Championships is the first of three events being held in Dubai.

The inaugural Para Bowling World Championships is sharing the stage this week, with the event's first singles champions being crowned Sunday night during the trios coverage.

The IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships is up next and will help wrap up the visit to the United Arab Emirates. Competition is scheduled to get underway Nov. 18.

IBF is providing livestream coverage and complete results for all three events at StrikeCloud.com.

For more information about IBF, visit bowling.sport.

To learn more about Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Expo 2020 Dubai

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Sunday's results

WOMEN'S TRIOS

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Ana Morales/Ana Bolanos/Sofia Rodriguez/Claudia Barrios, Guatemala, def. Juliana Franco/Laura Plazas/Catalina Gomez/Sara Duque, Colombia, 222-189.

Ka Yunmi/Baek Seungja/Jeon Yeran/Yang Sujin, Korea, def. Shayna Ng/Cherie Tan/New Hui Fen/Iliya Syamim, Singapore, 244-196.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Ka/Baek/Jeon/Yang, Korea, def. Morales/Bolanos/Rodriguez/Barrios, Guatemala, 2-0 (223-195, 246-206).

MEN'S TRIOS

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Kang Heewon/Ka Sooyeong/Go Jaehyeok/Ji Geun, Korea, def. Jesper Svensson/William Svensson/Pontus Andersson/James Blomgren/Markus Jansson, Sweden, 265-222.

Andrew Anderson/Jakob Butturff/AJ Johnson/Kristopher Prather, United States, def. Jan Macek/Jaroslav Lorenc/Lukas Jelinek/Ondrej Mlynar, Czech Republic, 200-178.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Anderson/Butturff/Johnson/Prather, United States, def. Kang/Ka/Go/Ji, Korea, 2-1 (235-203, 236-269, 57-49).

TEAM USA WINS GOLD IN WOMEN'S TEAM, SILVER IN MIXED TEAM AS 2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS CONCLUDES

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - If there are two things Kelly Kulick and the members of Team USA have proven, it's that you don't want to bowl them in a roll-off, and they love bowling in the United Arab Emirates.

For the second consecutive night, Team USA found its way to the top of the medal podium by way of a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off, this time claiming the coveted women's team gold medal at the 2021 International Bowling Federation Super World Championships.

The extended period Monday was necessary after the United States and Malaysia each won a game in the best-of-two championship match. Malaysia took the first game, 190-170, and Team USA was clean on the way to a 215-171 victory in the second game.

Kulick struck to start the roll-off, and Danielle McEwan added a spare and a strike for a total of 40 for the two frames.

Malaysia began with a spare, which meant Natasha Roslan would have to strike on her first shot to keep Malaysia's hopes alive. She left a 4 pin on her first offering.

The win was the first women's team title for the United States since 2015, when the event visited nearby Abu Dhabi. Malaysia last won in 2017.

Kulick and McEwan were joined in the effort by another pair of world champions, Missy Parkin and Jordan Richard, who were trios gold medalists in 2019.

"We were there all week long, and all of us bowled well enough to make it to every medal round, but at times, the format wasn't to our advantage, and the way we qualified, or the number of pins we knocked over, weren't really factors," Kulick said. "But, for all the years I've been on this team, we've always said the gold medal we wanted to walk away with most was the one in the team event. We came together as a team today and made that happen, and it was incredibly special."

The championship round of each discipline at the 2021 IBF Super World Championships took place on an open-air two-lane setup inside Expo 2020 Dubai, a multicultural event that includes exhibits from more than 190 countries and will last six months.

The custom venue was built in the Sports, Fitness and Wellbeing Hub at Expo 2020 Dubai, and all of the action was broadcast live at StrikeCloud.com.

New in 2021, all doubles, trios and team competition at the World Championships featured variations of the Baker format from start to finish.

In the traditional five-player Baker format the leadoff bowler bowls the first and sixth frames, the next competitor bowls the second and seventh frames, and so on. The format was adapted for two, three and four players during the Super World Championships.

In the four-player events, also new in 2021 from five players in the past, the leadoff bowler bowled the first, fifth, ninth and 10th frames. The other team members bowled the second and sixth, third and seventh and fourth and eighth frames, respectively.

Team USA women's road to the gold was a little bumpy to start and included two opens in the first three frames of their semifinal match against Finland. The team then struck on six of its last seven opportunities to secure a 203-183 win. Malaysia topped the Philippines in the other semifinal, 279-180.

In the men's team event, Korea cruised to a 2-0 (198-136, 248-196) win over Singapore and earned some redemption for Sunday night, when the Koreans fell to Team USA in a roll-off for the trios gold medal.

Korea earned its spot in the team final with a near-perfect performance against Malaysia, winning their semifinal matchup 299-184. Anchor Ji Geun left a 6 pin on the final shot of their bid for 300. Singapore reached the final with a 247-228 win over the Philippines.

Each team that lost in the semifinals Monday received a bronze medal. The Malaysian women and Singapore men earned silver medals.

The victory Monday marked Kulick's sixth win in six appearances at the team-based World Championships, four of which have come in the United Arab Emirates - singles in Abu Dhabi in 1999 and doubles and team (with McEwan) in Abu Dhabi in 2015.

"Every time we've come back to this area - UAE, Abu Dhabi and Dubai - the atmosphere has been more and more welcoming and warm," Kulick said. "Going through this Expo, they talk about unity amongst their people and warmly welcome all visitors. I enjoy bowling in such a safe and peaceful environment, and I've done really well here."

Kulick and Parkin also made a run at perfection Monday night, and it came in the semifinals of the new mixed team event, which debuted this year at the Super World Championships.

They teamed with Jakob Butturff and Kristopher Prather in the effort and strung together nine consecutive strikes against Singapore, before a 10 pin from Butturff ended the run. Team USA won the game 278-246.

The other semifinal featured two Swedish foursomes facing off for a shot at the inaugural gold medal, and it was southpaw standout Jesper Svensson who was able to lift his team to a 232-177 win. He was joined by Sandra Andersson, Joline Persson Planefors and William Svensson.

The best-of-two mixed team title tilt was every bit as exciting as you'd expect from two powerhouse teams, and it nearly resulted in another championship roll-off.

A late rally in the opening game from Team USA forced Sweden to mark in its final frame, which Planefors was able to do for a 225-215 win.

Sweden then opened the second game with four consecutive strikes, but Team USA was there nearly every strike of the way. The difference in the match was one pin through seven frames.

A double from Sweden in the eighth and ninth frames increased the lead, but a spare and a seven-count on the fill ball meant Kulick would have a chance to extend the match with two strikes and eight pins. She pulled the first shot and left a 3 pin to fall short, 236-226.

"Even though we didn't win the mixed event, it still was a positive experience, and we bowled well to keep it close the whole way," Team USA head coach Bryan O'Keefe said. "There were a couple key moments in the match and a few in-between shots that were the difference. Sometimes, the pins don't fall your way. I'm proud of everyone. No, we didn't win, but I don't think we lost. We just got

out-bowled by a great team."

Each event at the 2021 Super World Championships included 10 qualifying games, all at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, before a cut was made to the top 32 for singles and doubles and the top 16 for trios and the team events.

The advancing bowlers or teams were divided into four equal groups for round-robin match play within that group. Points were awarded for each win in match play, and the top two in each group, based on points, advanced to the single-elimination bracket-style quarterfinals.

Quarterfinal winners advanced to the semifinals and got to experience the custom venue at Expo 2020 Dubai.

Because of the location of the installation, tens of thousands of Expo visitors passing by had the opportunity to see the one-of-a-kind setup and the best players in the world.

Getting there, however, was frustrating at times, as all pinfall from qualifying was dropped before match play.

"It was an up-and-down week, and one where we had some trouble picking up the wins in the quarterfinal round," O'Keefe said. "We had a lot of big scores shot at us, and I guess maybe that's a compliment. People know they have to step up their games when they're bowling a one-game match against Team USA, and many times, they did. Overall, I'm proud of how we fought to put ourselves in that position and how we took advantage when we made it through."

The finals of team and mixed team marked the conclusion of the 2021 Super World Championships. In all, 36 medals were up for grabs - four for each gender in singles, doubles, trios and team, and four in mixed team.

Sweden left with the most medals, seven overall, followed by Singapore (five), Korea and the United States (four), Finland (three), Guatemala (two), Malaysia (two), Philippines (two), Canada (one), Colombia (one), Czech Republic (one), Denmark (one), Germany (one), Italy (one) and Lithuania (one).

The other medals for the United States were a gold medal in men's trios and bronze in men's doubles. The roster included Andrew Anderson, Butturff, AJ Johnson and Prather. It was Anderson and Prather who advanced to the doubles medal round.

In four visits to UAE (1999, 2014, 2015, 2021), Team USA won 19 medals.

There also were supposed to be medals for the most valuable athletes and top-performing federations, but they have not yet been awarded.

"I couldn't be prouder of this team," O'Keefe said. "We came here and represented the United States like true champions. Everyone communicated well and bowled great the entire time. The best part of it, is that everyone is going home with a gold medal from the World Championships, and that's all you can ask for."

The IBF spotlight in Dubai now will shift to the final day of competition at the inaugural IBF Para

Bowling World Championships, which will conclude Tuesday.

The IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships is up next and will help wrap up the visit to the United Arab Emirates. Competition is scheduled to get underway Nov. 18.

IBF is providing livestream coverage and complete results for all three events at StrikeCloud.com.

For more information about IBF, visit bowling.sport.

To learn more about Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Expo 2020 Dubai

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Monday's results

WOMEN'S TEAM

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Malaysia def. Philippines, 279-180.

United States def. Finland, 203-183.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

United States def. Malaysia, 2-1 (170-190, 215-171, 40-38).

MEN'S TEAM

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Singapore def. Philippines, 247-228.

Korea def. Malaysia, 299-184.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Korea def. Singapore, 2-0 (198-136, 248-196).

MIXED TEAM

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Sweden 1 def. Sweden 2, 232-177.

United States def. Singapore, 278-246.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Sweden 1 def. United States, 2-0 (225-215, 235-226).

2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SET TO BEGIN IN DUBAI

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - Representing Team USA on the lanes always has been a dream for Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa.

He has participated in the United States Bowling Congress Team USA Trials to gain experience, test his skills against the best bowlers in the United States and to see if he could have a strong enough week to earn a spot on Team USA.

Turning 50 in 2019 doubled his chances of competing with USA across his back, as he also became eligible to submit his resume to be considered for selection to the senior version of the team.

He just missed the opportunity to compete in the International Bowling Federation Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships in 2019, but he was hopeful his credentials were enough to earn him a spot on the team that would travel to Dubai for the 2021 event.

The 51-year-old right-hander confidently submitted his resume and turned his focus to the 2021 Professional Bowlers Association 50 Tour season, where he was part of an ultra-talented rookie class.

The status of his application remained in the back of his mind during his rookie campaign on the PBA50 Tour, and in case his credentials, which include being the 2011 USBC Masters champion weren't enough, his success in 2021 likely made the decision much easier for the selection committee.

Whether the decision already was made, or his two PBA50 major titles on the way to the PBA50 Player and Rookie of the Year awards pushed things in his favor, Hess was chosen to be one of the eight players to represent Team USA at this week's IBF Masters World Championships.

He's now at the Dubai International Bowling Centre ready to be a rookie for the second time in 2021, but this time, he will share the lanes with teammates Chris Barnes, Parker Bohn III and Bob Learn Jr.

Bohn and Learn are past participants and world champions, while Barnes, one of the most decorated bowlers in Team USA history, also will be making his debut as a senior.

The women's team in Dubai this week includes veterans Tish Johnson and Sharon Powers and newcomers Debbie Ayers and Tracy Calfee.

"When I found out I was picked for this trip, it was surreal," Hess said. "I felt I deserved it because of the season I had and because I was bowling as well as anyone, but I know there's a lot more that goes into such an important decision. It's an honor to have been selected, and I'll never forget how real it started to feel the day the jerseys arrived."

The PBA50 Tour season concluded in September with Hess beating Barnes in back-to-back title matches at the 2021 PBA Senior U.S. Open and USBC Senior Masters, which also locked up the postseason awards.

Hess became the fourth player in history to win both the Masters and Senior Masters and third to win both the Senior U.S. Open and Senior Masters in the same season.

In the weeks since, Hess has been focused on preparing for the Masters World Championships, knowing expectations - his own and others - are higher after his recent success.

He said he hasn't always been one for practicing too much, but he made sure to spend extra time learning to navigate the high-scoring 44-foot oil pattern they're facing in Dubai.

"It has been an amazing year, but I can't let it rest there," Hess said. "I'm still out there bowling regionals and other events and doing all I can to stay sharp. I've been very focused on Dubai and making sure I'm at my best for my team and Team USA. My confidence is high, and I'm really looking forward to spending time with such a great group, on and off the lanes."

Two dozen countries will be represented at the 2021 Masters World Championships, and they'll compete across two age classifications - 50 and older and 65 and above, though Team USA only will compete in the 50-and-older division.

IBF is providing livestream coverage and results at StrikeCloud.com, and additional information can be found at bowling.sport.

Officially practice for the Masters World Championships is taking place Wednesday, and competition will get underway Thursday morning with singles squads throughout the day. The tournament will conclude Nov. 26.

The tournament also will include doubles, mixed team and team competition, with gold, silver and bronze medals being awarded in each discipline.

As part of the tournament's new format, everything after singles will be contested using a variation of Baker scoring.

In the traditional Baker format, each member of a five-player team bowls two frames, and the team members work together to complete a game. The leadoff bowler bowls the first and sixth frames, the next team member completes the second and seventh frames and so on.

In Dubai, the concept has been adapted for doubles and the two team events, with strategy determining which players in the lineup will bowl extra frames, where applicable.

The same structure was used for the recent IBF Super World Championships, the first of the three events being held in Dubai this month. The inaugural IBF Para Bowling World Championships shared the spotlight.

Each event will feature 10 games of qualifying, after which, the field in each gender classification will be cut to the top 32, 16 or eight, depending on the event.

Advancing players and teams will move on to round-robin group match play.

Points will be awarded for each win in match play, and the top two players or teams in each group, based on points, will advance to the bracket-style quarterfinals.

The quarterfinals and semifinals will be one-game matches, and the championship match will be a

best-of-two battle, with a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off being used if a third game is needed.

This week, Team USA will look to defend the men's singles, men's doubles and men's team titles, as well as doubles and team on the women's side.

The United States has swept the team gold medals for the last three editions of the event (2019, 2017, 2015).

Team USA also won the women's all-events and Masters gold medals in 2019, but those events no longer are part of the agenda. Instead, medals are expected to be awarded to the most valuable athletes and top-performing federations.

For more information about IBF, visit bowling.sport.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

TEAM USA EXCELS AT INAUGURAL IBF PARA BOWLING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DUBAI

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - American Wheelchair Bowling Association Chairman Eddy Hutchens said one of the main focuses of the AWBA is getting people out of their homes and onto the lanes.

Hutchens used this week as the ultimate lead-by-example opportunity by traveling nearly 8,000 miles from Franktown, Colorado, to Dubai to represent Team USA at the inaugural International Bowling Federation Para Bowling World Championships from Nov. 13-16.

The AWBA's top-ranked scratch player led a contingent of four bowlers into the Dubai International Bowling Centre, and all four team members will return to the United States with countless memories and at least one gold medal.

He was joined in the trailblazing effort by Shawn Beam of Burleson, Texas, Debra Freed of Framingham, Massachusetts, and Toodie Perry of Bakersfield, California, and they were among 21 bowlers from four countries competing for medals in singles, doubles, mixed doubles and mixed team.

The participating nations included Hong Kong, India, Thailand and the United States.

Team USA won eight of the 20 medals available, and Hutchens was the first of the group to strike gold, taking home the men's singles title to kick off the tournament.

He was the top seed after six games of qualifying at the Dubai International Bowling Centre and defeated Thailand's Suphan Sinthusuwan, 165-116, to claim his place in the record book.

Not only was the accomplishment noteworthy from a historic perspective, it also was special because the gold-medal match took place on a one-of-a-kind stage under the Dubai night sky.

The custom two-lane venue was created for the medal rounds of the 2021 IBF Super World Championships and also hosted the men's and women's singles finals of the Para Bowling World

Championships.

The setup was built outside in the Sports, Fitness and Wellbeing Hub at Expo 2020 Dubai, a multicultural event that includes exhibits from more than 190 countries and will last six months.

"To represent the United States this week, and to be the first ever to bring back a world championship - there are no words to describe it," Hutchens said. "It's right up there with when my boys were born. It's tears in the eyes. It was a national anthem like never before. There were goosebumps, and I don't get goosebumps, but I did when I got the call that I was going to be on Team USA, and then last night, it was goosebumps and smiles galore."

Hong Kong's Wong Mei-Lan, the top qualifier on the women's side after six games, defeated Thailand's Chantira Hutinan, 101-70, to become the first Para Bowling world champion in history.

Hutchens went on to medal in every discipline, collecting three gold medals and one silver medal.

He teamed with Beam to win the inaugural doubles event, which featured the same Baker format competitors experienced during the Super World Championships. In Baker doubles, the teammates alternate frames to complete one game.

The duo qualified second overall and earned one of four spots in the bracket-style semifinals.

They dispensed of Thailand's Kampa Pongtao and Choochat Sukjarern, 178-135, before topping their teammates, Sawai Padpong and Samsak Ruamsab, in the final, 159-146.

"It's an amazing feeling to win a gold medal at the inaugural event," said Beam, who in 2012, became the first bowler in a wheelchair to roll a USBC-certified perfect game. "Hearing the phrase world champion is incredible, and there's all kinds of emotions going into that, but it's still very surreal. I hear it, and I know it, but it doesn't register yet. I think once everything is done and we get some time to not worry about competition anymore, it'll hit me."

Beam's 300 game came nearly a decade ago and brought a lot of attention to him, bowling and the AWBA. Even all these years later, the feelings and emotions of that night still are fresh for him, and he tried to compare the two accomplishments.

"This is actually way better, and that's something I was thinking about this morning, before it even happened," Beam said. "The 300 is a very personal thing, but this is for Team USA. It's for our country. It's for an event that has never happened before and is one we want to promote and grow. The magnitude of all that makes it mean so much more. They're both right up there, but this definitely is the best feeling I've ever had."

Beam's week started with a bronze medal in singles. He finished qualifying five pins shy of an opportunity to bowl against Hutchens for the gold medal.

Freed and Perry also made the podium in singles, each earning a bronze medal, and their collective effort in doubles helped them improve to silver. They finished behind Thailand's Hutinan and Paramee Panyachaem.

Hutchens and Perry added a silver medal in mixed doubles, but that only served as a warmup for the

coveted team event, where Team USA cruised to the gold medal, outdistancing Thailand, 358-338, in the three-game total-pinfall match. Team also featured a modified Baker format.

"This has been the most amazing thing I've ever done," Perry said. "Being a world champion feels and sounds really, really good."

All of the players admitted they weren't sure what to expect about the event, spotlight and experience, and Hutchens even mentioned being apprehensive about the travel aspect of the opportunity. The pride after it was over was unanimous.

"I really didn't think I'd make it this far, but we did, and it feels incredible," Freed said. "To participate in something that was held for the first time, and to represent the United States - it doesn't get any better than that."

The four newest Team USA members were selected by the United States Bowling Congress National Selection Committee to represent Team USA in the W1 category of the IBF Para Bowling World Championships.

The W1 Para/Amputee Classification incorporates all wheelchair classifications. It includes leg amputees, cerebral palsy (with functional hands), and Les Autres athletes with mobility disfunction. All must compete from a wheelchair and follow the rules of play, along with modified rules established for this discipline.

In future Para Bowling World Championships, there also will be a W2 classification for wheelchair users with quadriplegia. All participants in 2021 chose to compete in the W1 category.

Beyond the competition and the medals is what the event means to the para bowlers and their efforts to grow the sport.

The pins don't know how you get to the foul line, and bowling is something anyone can do.

"People think life is over, and it's not, as I've proven," Hutchens said. "There are babies to be had and families to raise, and the possibilities are endless, as long as you give it a try. It's especially easy in bowling to include everyone."

The Super World Championships was the first event to get going in Dubai and then shared the spotlight with the Para World Championships.

The 2021 IBF Masters (formerly Senior) World Championships got underway Thursday and will be the final event of IBF's stint in the United Arab Emirates. The Masters World Championships will run through Nov. 26.

IBF is providing livestream coverage and complete results for all three events at StrikeCloud.com.

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To learn more about Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

SENIOR TEAM USA'S TOM HESS WINS SINGLES AT 2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN DUBAI

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - Tom Hess said being selected to represent Senior Team USA at the International Bowling Federation Masters World Championships was a dream come true.

In the event he still was dreaming Monday night when he delivered a 10th-frame strike to lock up the singles gold medal, the window-rattling roar he let out definitely would've woken him up to enjoy the first international medal of his career.

Hess is known in bowling circles for being transparent with his emotions, and his reaction at the Dubai International Bowling Centre was the logical and expected culmination of his hard work and passion.

The 51-year-old right-hander defeated Sweden's Martin Paulsson, 2-0, in the best-of-two gold-medal match, winning by scores of 226-222 and 236-229.

In the opening game of the title tilt, Hess missed a 10 pin in the fourth frame and trailed by more than 30 pins halfway through the game.

Paulsson failed to convert the 2-4-8 combination in the seventh frame and then left a 10 pin on the first shot of his final frame to give Hess the opportunity to win.

The reigning Professional Bowlers Association 50 Tour Player of the Year rallied with strikes on six of his last seven shots to steal the game and momentum.

Hess started the deciding game with three consecutive strikes, while a missed 4 pin for Paulsson in the first frame created a deficit from which he could not rebound.

Back-to-back 2 pins from Hess in the sixth and seventh frames opened the door slightly for Paulsson. The Swedish right-hander piled on the strikes to keep the pressure on, but Hess tossed three strikes of his own to put the game and match out of reach.

"This is the ultimate," said Hess, also the 2021 PBA50 Rookie of the Year and a two-time winner during the 2021 season. "I just won gold while representing my country. The feeling is indescribable. I'd say it would be hard to top, but winning again with my teammates later this week would do it."

The road to the gold medal included 10 qualifying games over two days, seven games of round-robin match play and one-game quarterfinal and semifinal matches.

As much as the run was individual, it was a collaborative effort for Senior Team USA, supporting each other and collecting information about the venue and 44-foot oil pattern along the way.

Hess is joined on the men's team this week by Chris Barnes, Parker Bohn III and Bob Learn Jr. Bohn and Learn are past champions at the IBF Masters World Championships, while Barnes, one of the most decorated bowlers in Team USA history, also is making his senior debut this week in Dubai.

"Chris and Parker and Bob all were a big part of my success, and Chris was down there the whole time with coach Stephen (Padilla) just talking me through it," Hess said. "Chris and I have bowled together all week, and it has been a great pairing. I'm looking forward to going out and trying to win a gold medal with him in doubles tomorrow."

Hess earned his way into the championship match with a 246-192 semifinal win over Finland's Kimmo Lehtonen. Hess started the game with four consecutive strikes, while Lehtonen opened twice in the first three frames to fall behind.

Paulsson, who rolled the third perfect game of the week in a three-player roll-off for two spots in the quarterfinals, claimed his place in the final when his teammate and semifinal opponent, Peter Ljung, withdrew due to an arm injury.

The Team USA men also won the singles gold medal in 2019 (Lennie Boresch Jr.) and 2017 (Ron Mohr).

The women's gold medal Monday went to Germany's Antje Materne, who defeated Sweden's Susanne Olsson, 2-0 (209-193, 216-202).

It was the first Masters World Championships gold medal for Materne, who earned bronze medals in doubles and team at the 2019 event in Las Vegas. Monday's silver medal marked the second consecutive in women's singles for Olsson.

To reach the final, Materne defeated Senior Team USA's Tish Johnson, who has competed in all five editions of the Masters World Championships and earned singles bronze medals in her most recent two visits.

Johnson started the match with three consecutive strikes to build an early lead, but a 6-7 split in the eighth frame, which she was unable to convert, and a 7 pin in the ninth frame, were the difference, as Materne threw four consecutive strikes in the second half of the game to roll to a 239-216 victory.

Olsson downed Finland's Reija Lunden in the other women's semifinal, 202-182.

"Am I happy, no," Johnson said. "But, I threw the ball well today, and I felt very good about what I was doing. I wasn't able to put the pressure on her late in the game. I thought if I could strike out after the split, I'd have a chance, but I left the 7 pin. That let her stay loose, and she closed it out. I'll take the medal, considering I haven't bowled anything for two years, but I'm ready to go for the gold, and we'll get another chance tomorrow in doubles."

The singles medal ceremony will take place Tuesday morning at the bowling center.

All 79 men and 61 women competing at the Masters World Championships bowled 10 games over two days - five games on Thursday and five games on Saturday - before the respective fields were cut to the top 32 for match play.

The advancing players were divided into four groups, each with eight competitors, and they all bowled seven games of round-robin match play Monday.

Points were awarded for each win in match play, and the top two bowlers in each group, based on points, advanced to the bracket-style quarterfinals.

Learn also advanced to the singles quarterfinals for Senior Team USA, where he fell to Paulsson, 187-177. Powers was denied a spot in the quarterfinals, falling to Canada's Deborah Lee in a roll-off for the second available spot in their group.

Competition at the Masters World Championships will resume Tuesday with the doubles medal round, beginning at noon local time (3 a.m. Eastern).

Team USA will be represented on the men's side by Hess and Barnes, and Johnson and Powers will look to get the job done on the women's side.

The other semifinal participants for the men will represent Denmark, Kuwait and Finland. The women's semifinals will include Malaysia, Germany and Sweden.

All doubles teams bowled 10 qualifying games Friday at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, before the field was cut to the top 16 teams for round-robin match play and the quarterfinals Sunday.

The IBF Masters World Championships is the last of three events being held in Dubai. The schedule this week also will include mixed team and team competition.

The IBF Super World Championships kicked off the stint in the United Arab Emirates and was joined by the inaugural Para Bowling World Championships.

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For more information about IBF, visit bowling.sport.

2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Dubai International Bowling Centre
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Monday's results

WOMEN'S SINGLES

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Antje Materne, Germany, def. Tish Johnson, United States, 239-216.

Susanne Olsson, Sweden, def. Reija Lunden, Finland, 202-182.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Materne def. Olsson, 2-0 (209-193, 216-202).

MEN'S SINGLES

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Martin Paulsson, Sweden, def. Peter Ljung, Sweden, 248-0.

Tom Hess, United States, def. Kimmo Lehtonen, Finland, 246-192.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Hess def. Paulsson, 2-0 (226-222, 236-229).

SENIOR TEAM USA FALLS SHORT IN DOUBLES AT 2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - Sometimes in bowling, you can do everything right and get the wrong result.

Senior Team USA's Chris Barnes and Tish Johnson stepped onto opposite ends of the approach Tuesday at the Dubai International Bowling Centre looking to lift their teams into the doubles finals at the 2021 International Bowling Federation Masters World Championships, and they both threw the shots they envisioned.

Barnes and Tom Hess, the singles gold medalist, were looking to fight their way back from an early deficit against Kuwait's Ayad Al Amiri and Yacoub Alshatti in the one-game Baker semifinal, but a 2-8-10 split from Barnes in the ninth frame slowed any momentum they'd gained late in the game.

The Kuwaiti bowlers had opened the match on the week's 44-foot oil pattern with seven consecutive strikes, before leaving the 3-6 combination in the eighth frame. Missing the spare gave Barnes and

Hess an opportunity, as they'd struck in seven of the first eight frames.

"Kuwait had a great strategy, and they bowled fantastic," Barnes said. "I don't think our lane was bad. We were moving right as the game went on and making the right decisions based on what we saw. My shot in the ninth didn't feel like it was firm, but it obviously was. When I threw it, I thought it was flush. It kind of pushed, which we saw on some shots, so I thought maybe a shaker. All of a sudden, it missed the pocket. Off my hand, I didn't see a 2-8-10 coming."

Kuwait won the match, 246-226 and advanced to the gold-medal match. Barnes and Hess earned a bronze medal for reaching the semifinals.

Experience and tendency told Barnes, a longtime Team USA member and 19-time Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion, what he needed to do in that situation, and he confidently executed.

"It doesn't really matter why it happened," Barnes said. "We knew what was happening, so it's not like we got fooled by it. My general move is to just grab at it a little harder. I got it to what I thought was the friction, and it missed, costing us the match. We had an opportunity there to put the ball in Tom's hands in the 10th. Every time he's had the chance, he's been bang, bang, bang. That one's on me."

The story was similar for Johnson, a left-hander and 25-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour titlist. She felt comfortable in the situation and knew what move to make based on her experience in pressure-packed moments.

Johnson and Sharon Powers held a 26-pin lead over Malaysia's Michelle Wong and Sandra Periasamy after seven frames of their semifinal but failed to strike in the second half of the game.

Four consecutive single-pin leaves for Team USA, starting in the sixth frame, were followed by a 3-7 split from Johnson in the final frame. She was unable to convert the spare, while the Malaysians closed with five consecutive strikes to win, 211-192.

"I don't think I could've thrown the ball any better today, and the breaks didn't go our way," Johnson said. "I thought I made the right move in the 10th frame, and I guess it was the wrong one. I tried to go light, because putting it in the pocket wasn't working, but it just wiggled and never read the lane. Whenever I really need it and I'm amped up, I make a one-and-one move, and that's exactly what I did. It just never read."

Kuwait went on to bowl for the men's title against Finland's Petri Mannonen and Kimmo Lehtonen, who defeated Lars Nielsen and Kenneth Ankerdal of Denmark in the other semifinal, 247-203.

After opening their quarterfinal win over Italy with 10 consecutive strikes and their semifinal against Team USA with seven more, the pace slowed for Al Amiri and Alshatti in the championship match.

Lehtonen and Mannonen rolled to the victory in the best-of-two showdown, 2-0 (225-191, 257-167). Lehtonen also earned a bronze medal in singles, falling to Hess in the semifinals Monday night.

The win gave Finland its first gold medal in the five editions of the IBF Masters World Championships. The silver was the first medal of any kind for Kuwait at the event.

Malaysia's victory over Johnson and Powers set up a meeting with Germany's Elke Grawe and Sabine Sonnenschein, semifinal winners against Sweden's Susanne Olsson and Christina Dahlgren, 167-162.

The women's final came down to the final shot of a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off, with Periasamy delivering a strike to secure the gold for Malaysia.

The Germans won the opening game of the best-of-two title match, 187-165, and the Malaysians rallied in Game 2, winning 202-173 to force a tie-breaking roll-off.

Both teams struck three consecutive times, but the 4-7 remained after Germany's final offering, giving Periasamy a chance to get nine for the win.

It was the first win for Malaysia at the Masters World Championships. Grawe was a doubles bronze medalist at the 2019 event in Las Vegas.

The doubles semifinals and finals Tuesday were broadcast live at StrikeCloud.com.

Each event beyond singles this week at the Masters World Championships will feature a variation of the Baker format, where multiple players contribute to a single score.

In the two-player version of the Baker format, one team member bowls the odd frames, and the other team member bowls the even frames. They were required to alternate through the day during qualifying and match play.

Senior Team USA entered the week in Dubai as the defending champions in both men's and women's doubles. The men's title in 2019 went to Lennie Boresch Jr. and Ron Mohr, while Johnson teamed with fellow United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Leanne Hulsenberg to win on the women's side.

Prior to Tuesday's doubles conclusion, all 35 men's teams and the 31 women's duos completed 10 Baker games of qualifying at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, before the respective fields were cut to the top 16 for match play.

The advancing teams were divided into four groups, each with four tandems, and they all bowled three games of round-robin match play Sunday.

Points were awarded for each win in match play, and the top two bowlers in each group, based on points, advanced to the bracket-style quarterfinals.

The quarterfinals and semifinals each featured one-game Baker matches, while the finals both were best-of-two.

Competition at the Masters World Championships will resume Wednesday with the start of the mixed team event and continue throughout the day with 10 games of qualifying, match play, quarterfinals, semifinals and the gold-medal matches.

Two dozen countries are represented at the event, and they're competing across two age classifications - 50 and older and 65 and above, though Team USA only is competing in the 50-and-older division.

The IBF Masters World Championships is the last of three events being held in Dubai. The schedule this week also will include mixed team and team competition.

The IBF Super World Championships kicked off the stint in the United Arab Emirates and was joined by the inaugural Para Bowling World Championships.

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2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dubai International Bowling Centre

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Tuesday's results

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Michelle Wong/Sandra Periasamy, Malaysia, def. Tish Johnson/Sharon Powers, United States, 211-192.

Elke Grawe/Sabine Sonnenschein, Germany, def. Susanne Olsson/Christina Dahlgren, Sweden, 167-162.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Wong/Periasamy def. Grawe/Sonnenschein, 2-1 (165-187, 202-173, *60-58).

*Ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off

MEN'S DOUBLES

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Ayad Al Amiri/Yacoub Alshatti, Kuwait, def. Chris Barnes/Tom Hess, United States, 246-226.

Kimmo Lehtonen/Petri Mannonen, Finland, def. Lars Nielsen/Kenneth Ankerdal, Denmark, 247-203.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Lehtonen/Mannonen def. Al Amiri/Alshatti, 2-0 (225-191, 257-167).

WISCONSIN BOWLER CONNECTS FOR 900 SERIES

ARLINGTON, Texas – To say Cody Schmitt of Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, feels at home at Anchor Lanes may be an understatement.

The 26-year-old right-hander grew up bowling at the 12-lane center in Elkhart Lake before his family took over ownership of the facility in 2013, and he has been running the pro shop inside the center — Firehouse Pro Shop — since the summer of 2019.

He's surrounded by family and longtime friends each day he walks in, which made his experience of rolling three consecutive 300 games for a 900 series on Nov. 16 something he'll never forget.

Schmitt's perfect evening in the Tuesday GFL at Anchor Lanes has been approved by the United States Bowling Congress, making him the 37th bowler in history to achieve the feat.

The set is the 38th USBC-approved 900 overall and first since former Team USA member Wesley Low Jr. of Palmdale, California, rolled 900 to start a tournament in Glendale, Arizona, in July 2020.

Schmitt had put together a couple of big sets at Anchor Lanes prior to his run of 36 consecutive strikes last Tuesday, including an 859 series in 2018 and 879 in 2020.

His 879 also started with back-to-back 300 games, before a 4 pin early in Game 3 ended his streak. He leaned on what he learned in that experience as he approached his final few frames.

"I got to the fourth frame, I believe, before the ball checked up a little and I left a 4 pin," Schmitt said. "I think that experience helped me Tuesday night, too. Once I got past the fourth frame of the third game, I thought maybe I do have a chance at this."

As he got to the 10th frame of Game 3, a Facebook Live video from the Anchor Lanes account turned its attention to lanes 11 and 12, as Schmitt looked to roll three more strikes.

His second shot in the 10th was left of target but was able to hold line to the pocket, but his final shot left little doubt, earning him a spot in the USBC record book.

"I don't really think there's a way to prepare your mind for going up for a chance at 900," said Schmitt, who had 22 USBC-approved 300s and 18 800s prior to his 900 series. "I just focused on having good mechanics and throwing the shots I needed to make. The second ball in the 10th definitely was not my best pitch. I missed inside, but I had that miss room. When you shoot a big series, there has to be some amount of luck that goes into throwing it. I got the lucky breaks, and the pins were going the right way for me."

Schmitt became the fourth bowler to roll 900 in Wisconsin, joining Tony Roventini (1999), Mark Wukoman (2006) and PJ Giesfeldt (2007).

He needed every pin to set the house record at Anchor Lanes, as well. John Reiss rolled 899 on the same pair of lanes in January 2000.

Through social media, Schmitt has received countless well wishes and congratulations for the achievement, highlighted by six-time Professional Bowlers Association Player of the Year Jason Belmonte and PBA Tour commissioner Tom Clark.

"It has been extremely overwhelming," Schmitt said. "So many people have reached out to wish me congratulations, and I'm the kind of person that wants to thank every single person. Even if I don't get to everybody, I really do appreciate all the well wishes. It's something that's really humbling and cool."

While his hot streak continued with an 853 series (289-287-277) just two days after his 900 set, Schmitt is most appreciative of the individuals he was able to share the moment with at Anchor Lanes, including his parents, Dan and Linda.

"It certainly is special to do this at your home center in front of everybody you grew up with," Schmitt said. "My dad was the one filming the Facebook Live video, and my mom was there working. It's cool to have your family there for sure. One of the first things I did was hug my dad. There's not a lot of people that get to do that with their family present, and it's something that's really special for me."

The first USBC-approved 900 occurred Feb. 2, 1997, when Jeremy Sonnenfeld rolled three consecutive perfect games in Lincoln, Nebraska.

For more information on any USBC records, visit BOWL.com/Records.

USBC-Approved 900 Series (38)

Jeremy Sonnenfeld (R), Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 2, 1997
Tony Roventini (L), Greenfield, Wis., Nov. 9, 1998
Vince Wood (R), Moreno Valley, Calif., Sept. 29, 1999
Robby Portalatin (L), Jackson, Mich., Dec. 28, 2000
James Hylton (R), Salem, Ore., May 2, 2001
Jeff Campbell II (R), New Castle, Pa., June 12, 2004
Darin Pomije (R), New Prague, Minn., Dec. 9, 2004
Robert Mushtare (R), Fort Drum, N.Y., Dec. 5, 2005 and Feb. 19, 2006
Lonnie Billiter Jr. (R), Fairfield, Ohio, Feb. 13, 2006
Mark Wukoman (R), Greenfield, Wis., April 22, 2006
PJ Giesfeldt (R), Milwaukee, Dec. 23, 2006
Rich Jerome Jr. (R), Baltimore, Dec. 22, 2008
Chris Aker (L), Winnemucca, Nev., Oct. 30, 2009
Andrew Teall (R), Medford, N.J., Nov. 2, 2009
Andrew Mank (R), Belleville, Ill., March 18, 2010
William Howell III (L), Middletown, N.Y., Oct. 21, 2010
Matt Latarski (R), Medina, Ohio, Nov. 28, 2010
Bob Kammer Jr. (R), Crown Point, Ind., Jan. 8, 2011
John Martorella Sr. (R), Greece, N.Y., April 12, 2012
Jimmy Schmitzer (R), Riverside, Calif., April 20, 2012
James Williams (R), Pawcatuck, Conn., (bowled in Wakefield, R.I.), April 16, 2013

Joe Scarborough (R), Charlotte, N.C., (bowled in The Villages, Fla.), April 21, 2013
Todd James (R), East New Market, Md., (bowled in Laurel, Del.), March 18, 2014
Amos Gordon (R), Colorado Springs, Colo., April 11, 2014
Earon Vollmar (R), Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 19, 2015
Hakim Emmanuel (R), Stoughton, Mass., Feb. 19, 2015
David Sewesky (L), Dearborn, Mich., Jan. 10, 2016
Dale Gerhard (R), Mill Hall, Pa., Jan. 12, 2016
Sean Osbourn (R), Houston, Nov. 21, 2016
John Buchanan III (R), Evansville, Ind., Jan. 11, 2017
Sam Esposito (R), Homer Glen, Ill., Feb. 3, 2017
Brady Stearns (R), St. Cloud, Minn., March 28, 2017
Joe Novara (R), East Patchogue, N.Y., Oct. 16, 2017
Jonathan Wilbur (R), North Clarendon, Vt., Jan. 14, 2019
Jeremy Milito (L), Holbrook, N.Y., April 25, 2019
Wesley Low Jr. (L), Palmdale, Calif. (bowled in Glendale, Ariz.), July 19, 2020
Cody Schmitt (R), Elkhart Lake, Wis., Nov. 16, 2021

UNITED STATES EARNS BRONZE MEDAL IN MIXED TEAM AT 2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - Team USA members often say there's nothing like the pride and excitement that come with competing with the letters U-S-A on their backs, and North Carolina's Tracy Calfee now has the numbers to prove it.

Calfee said her heart rate generally resides around 90 or just below, but during the semifinals of the mixed team event at the 2021 International Bowling Federation Masters World Championships, the number reached into the 170s, according to the smart devices she uses to track it.

The 53-year-old right-hander teamed with three world champions in the newest discipline added to the IBF landscape, and the quartet came within a few pins of getting to bowl for the inaugural gold medal Wednesday at the Dubai International Bowling Centre. They fell to Sweden, 232-224, in the one-game semifinal.

Calfee, Parker Bohn III, Bob Learn Jr. and Sharon Powers opened the game with three consecutive strikes, but Sweden's Christina Dahlgren, Susanne Olsson, Martin Paulsson and Stefan Yngstrom matched the effort and added two more to take the early lead, before a 2-10 split ended the run.

With an opportunity to take control of the game, a series of unfortunate breaks halted any momentum

for Senior Team USA. Learn left a 9 pin in the eighth frame, and Bohn left a 6-8 split immediately after, which he was unable to convert.

In the four-player version of the Baker format, the leadoff bowler bowls the first, fifth, ninth and 10th frames. The other team members bowls the second and sixth, third and seventh and fourth and eighth frames, respectively.

That meant Bohn had a chance for redemption in the final frame, but his first shot resulted in a 10 pin that seemed to tip as far as it could without falling.

Paulsson, the silver medalist in singles this week, struck in the ninth frame, and on the first shot of the 10th frame, to seal the victory.

"My heart felt like it was beating 1,000 miles a minute, and I had to remind myself to take a deep breath each time I got up there to bowl," Calfee said. "The difference from the rest of the week to today was that there were medals involved in this round. I started to feel it in match play and definitely in the semifinals."

Sweden went on to claim the gold medal with a 2-0 (227-207, 216-203) win over Finland in the best-of-two championship match. A split conversion from Olsson and a pair of strikes from Paulsson in the ninth and 10th frames of the second game locked it up.

The Finnish foursome included doubles gold medalists Kimmo Lehtonen and Petri Mannonen, who were joined by Reija Lunden and Tuula Tamminen.

They earned their spot in the final by defeating the other half of the Finland contingent in the semifinals, 204-190. That team featured Jaana Anttas, Jaana Taavitsainen, Ari Halme and Kai Virtanen.

While there was some disappointment for the Team USA members, Bohn was able to put their experience into perspective. The semifinals appearance meant the first medals for him and Learn at this year's event and the second bronze for Powers in as many days. She reached the semifinals in doubles with Tish Johnson.

"I told Tracy after we won the game to get to the medal round that she now will have a memory that will absolutely last forever because it's something she'll always be able to look at," Bohn said. "No matter what happened the rest of the way, she'd be taking something home she can cherish. I get chills thinking about it, because on this stage, anything any of us have done in the sport of bowling isn't close to as significant as bowling in the red, white and blue. That says it all and means it all."

The mixed team event Wednesday featured 29 teams.

All teams completed 10 Baker games of qualifying at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, before the field was cut to the top eight for match play.

The advancing teams were divided into two groups, each with four teams, and they all bowled three games of round-robin match play.

Points were awarded for each win, and the top two teams in each group, based on points, advanced to

the bracket-style semifinals.

The semifinals each featured one-game Baker matches, while the final was a best-of-two bout.

The other mixed team for the United States included singles gold medalist Tom Hess, Chris Barnes, Debbie Ayers and Johnson. Their run at the medal round ended in the final frame of match play.

Both Senior Team USA squads ended up in the same group, which was based on qualifying position.

All four teams were tied with three points after two games, which meant the two winners in the third game would advance to the semifinals.

As the anchor of his team, Hess had the opportunity to lift his team into the medal round.

He struck in the ninth frame of the last game and added two more in the 10th. He needed a strike on the fill ball to win. Nine would mean a tie and a roll-off. He left the 2-8 combination, and the team was eliminated. The game was against the Finland team that went on to bowl for the title.

The spotlight at the Dubai International Bowling Centre now will shift to the coveted team event. Qualifying will take place throughout the day Thursday and again feature 10 Baker games.

Match play for advancing teams, and the medal round, will take place Friday, and that will be the final competition of the 2021 IBF Masters World Championships.

Representing Team USA on the lanes has been special for Calfee, who made a career serving her country in the U.S. Army and then the Department of Homeland Security.

She even had the chance to bowl for the United States in the World Police and Fire Games, a multi-sport biennial athletic event, where she won three gold medals in two appearances (2015, 2017), but the stage this week has taken her to a whole new level of competition.

The team event is something she has been looking forward to experiencing.

"I am feeling a lot more comfortable than I did at the beginning, and everyone really has helped me along the way," Calfee said. "I never expected this caliber of players out here, but I feel a lot more confident going into these matches day by day. I've learned a lot, and I'm sure I'm not done. I'm really looking forward to tomorrow, and I hope we can pull out a medal in the women's team event."

The Senior Team USA members all have advanced to match play in each discipline - singles, doubles and mixed team.

Each event beyond singles this week at the Masters World Championships features a variation of the Baker format, where multiple players contribute to a single score.

Two dozen countries are represented at the event, and they're competing across two age classifications - 50 and older and 65 and above - though Team USA only is competing in the 50-and-older division.

The Masters World Championships is the last of three events being held in Dubai.

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2021 IBF SUPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Dubai International Bowling Centre
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Wednesday's results

MIXED TEAM

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Sweden def. United States, 232-224.

Finland 1 def. Finland 2, 204-190.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Sweden def. Finland 1, 2-0 (227-207, 216-203).

FRANCE, DENMARK WIN TEAM GOLD MEDALS AT 2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, USA TAKES BRONZE

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - For the first time since 2015, there are new team champions at the International Bowling Federation Masters World Championships.

France and Denmark claimed the women's and men's titles, respectively, Friday at the Dubai International Bowling Centre, each defeating Canada to earn the gold medals.

The championship matches featured a best-of-two format. All competition at the IBF Masters World Championships was broadcast live on StrikeCloud.com.

The United States entered the tournament as the three-time defending team champion in both divisions. The Senior Team USA women earned a bronze medal in the team event Friday, and the men failed to advance to the medal round.

In the women's final, France only struck seven times, but the strikes came at all the right times for a 2-1 (187-185, 156-179, 50-26) victory.

France didn't strike until the 10th frame of the opening game, but a double and eight pins was enough to take the early advantage in the match. Canada finished the game first, and a six-count on the fill ball allowed France to win outright.

In the second game, France's only strikes came in the seventh and eighth frames, and a 10th-frame split allowed Canada's Lisa Morabito to strike in the final frame to even the match.

The 1-1 tie meant the title would be decided by a ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off.

France delivered a spare and three strikes for the win, while Canada posted a strike and a 2-4-10 split. Morabito was unable to convert.

The roster for France included Nathalie DiMartino, Pepita Jacques, Valerie Murat and Francoise Wisniewski. Canada was represented by Morabito, Lauraine Fast, Deborah Lee and Jill Friis.

The men's final also was decided by a roll-off, after Canada let the title slip away with three consecutive open frames at the close of the second game.

The Canadians handily won the opener, 244-170, and started Game 2 with strikes in five of the first six frames.

An unconverted 3-6-7-10 split in the eighth frame, a chopped 2-4-5 combination in the ninth frame and a missed 4 pin in the 10th frame, allowed Denmark anchor John Guldbaek to collect two strikes and seven pins in his final frame to steal the game, 191-186.

In the roll-off, Denmark opened with a strike, and Guldbaek left the 3-6-9-10 combination on his first attempt. He converted the spare and knocked down eight pins on the fill ball.

Canada's first two shots resulted in a 10 pin and a 4 pin. They converted both, and Joe Ciach stepped up needing a strike to win the gold medal. Nine would've forced a tie and an additional roll-off.

Ciach, who was competing in his final event for Canada after two decades with the team, left a 6-7-9-10 split to fall short.

Denmark's roster included Guldbaek, Lars Nielsen, Kenneth Ankerdal and Michael Sorensen. Canada's lineup included Ciach, Michael Snow, Doug Schatz and Conn Casey.

Denmark advanced to the final with a 212-189 win over France, and Canada earned its spot by defeating the Czech Republic, 214-206.

Each event beyond singles this week at the Masters World Championships featured a variation of the Baker format, where multiple players contribute to a single score.

In the four-player version, the leadoff bowler bowls the first, fifth, ninth and 10th frames. The other team members bowl the second and sixth, third and seventh and fourth and eighth frames,

respectively.

The team competition this year included 20 men's teams and 15 women's teams.

All teams bowled 10 games of qualifying, and total pinfall determined the eight men's teams and eight women's teams that advanced to Friday's match-play round.

The advancing teams were divided into two groups, each with four teams, and they all bowled three games of round-robin match play.

Points were awarded for each win, and the top two teams in each group, based on points, advanced to the bracket-style semifinals. The semifinals featured one-game Baker matches.

The Senior Team USA women and men both won the team gold medals in 2015, 2017 and 2019. Sweden was the only other country to win the team event, sweeping the titles at the inaugural Masters World Championships in 2013.

The quest for a fourth consecutive team title for the Senior Team USA women ended at the hands of Canada in the semifinals, 206-179.

The teams exchanged fifth-frame splits, and Team USA held a seven-pin advantage halfway through the match.

Team USA anchor Tish Johnson left a 6-7 split in the ninth frame and struck to start the 10th frame, before leaving a 7 pin on her second shot. Canada's Morabito closed the game with four consecutive strikes to secure the win.

Johnson was joined in the effort by Debbie Ayers, Tracy Calfee and Sharon Powers.

"I threw a good one in the first frame, had a little trouble with my footing and just came around it on the two bad shots, instead of staying up the back of it like I did all week," said Johnson, who has bowled in all five editions of the tournament. "I feel bad for my team. The coach put me in that position to do it, and I usually do, or at least put it there. I threw two pretty good shots in the 10th. If I carry the second one, it puts a little pressure on her. I guess it just wasn't meant to be."

In the other women's semifinal, a missed 3-10 split in the final frame from Finland allowed France to double in the 10th frame on the way to a 233-224 victory.

The run for the Senior Team USA men ended in match play Friday morning, as they posted a 1-2 record, despite averaging 239 in the three matches.

Chris Barnes, Parker Bohn III, Tom Hess and Bob Learn Jr. started the day with a 279-250 win over the Czech Republic but fell to Norway (244-218) and Denmark (244-220) to earn the early exit from the event.

Entering the final game, all four teams in the group were 1-1, meaning the two winners would represent the group in the semifinals.

Heading into the last two frames against Denmark, Team USA had a max score of 258, while the best

Denmark could do was 246.

Hess missed the headpin in the ninth frame and left the 1-2-10 washout, which he was unable to convert. Denmark took advantage of the opportunity and struck three consecutive times for the victory.

"Right now, I'm feeling absolute heartache," said Hess, the 2021 Professional Bowlers Association 50 Tour Player and Rookie of the Year. "I don't think failure is the right word, but to not come through hurts. The team believed in me and put me in that spot for a reason. It is a team effort, but to be in that situation and not come through is so hard. If I could give up my gold medal to get four for the team, I absolutely would. The ending was so hard, but I just have to remember all the amazing things that happened this week. "

Hess picked up the lone gold medal for the United States, winning singles to start the tournament. He added a bronze medal in doubles with Barnes.

The journey to the Masters World Championships for the Senior Team USA members was one that began with resume submissions and a selection process.

Hess, Barnes, Calfee and Ayers all participated in the event for the first time, while Bohn, Learn, Johnson and Powers were part of the team's past success on the world stage.

Since being notified of his selection, Hess has talked about the opportunity being a dream come true. With the way it ended, he's even more motivated to work toward a return trip.

"It'll drive me, for sure," Hess said. "I'll work hard to get the opportunity to represent the country again. It got my heart going like no other. It meant the world to me to come bowl with this team in this venue and represent the country, and I absolutely want to be back to do it again."

Johnson also reached the medal round in singles but fell in the semifinals, claiming the first of her three bronze medals for the week. She and Powers reached the doubles semifinals.

In the new mixed team event, Bohn, Learn, Calfee and Powers were bronze medalists.

With the Senior Team USA women reaching the medal round in the team event, Ayers earned her first career medal, and all eight team members will go home with at least one.

"Senior Team USA worked hard to prepare and perform during this competition," said Stephen Padilla, USBC Director of Coaching/Team USA High Performance. "Though we did not reach all of our goals, everyone is bringing home at least one medal and priceless memories. We represented ourselves and our country proudly during this event, and we're already looking forward to the next opportunity."

Two dozen countries were represented at the Masters World Championships, and they competed across two age classifications - 50 and older and 65 and above - though Team USA only competed in the 50-and-older division.

In the 50+ categories, the United States and Finland topped the medal table with six medals apiece. They were followed by Sweden (five), Canada (two), Denmark (two), France (two), Germany (two), Czech Republic (one), Kuwait (one) and Malaysia (one).

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2021 IBF MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Dubai International Bowling Centre
Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

Friday's results

WOMEN'S TEAM

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Canada def. United States, 206-179.

France def. Finland, 233-224.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

France def. Canada, 2-1 (187-185, 156-179, *50-26).

*Ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off.

MEN'S TEAM

SEMIFINALS

(Winners advance, losers each earn bronze)

Denmark def. France, 212-189.

Canada def. Czech Republic, 214-206.

CHAMPIONSHIP

(Best-of-two; Winner earns gold, loser gets silver)

Denmark def. Canada, 2-1 (170-244, 191-186, *38-35).

*Ninth- and 10th-frame roll-off.

USBC HALL OF FAMER MARK ROTH DIES AT AGE 70

ARLINGTON, Texas – United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Mark Roth of Fulton, New York, died Friday. He was 70.

The 34-time Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion, also a member of the PBA Hall of Fame, had been battling ongoing heart and health issues since suffering a massive stroke in 2009 that left him partially paralyzed on his left side.

Roth changed the game of bowling in the 1970s and 1980s with his powerful, high-revolution style, and his success on the PBA Tour was fast and flashy.

In 1978, he won eight PBA Tour titles, a record that still stands. The effort helped him to one of his four PBA Player of the Year honors, which came in 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1984.

Two years later, he earned notoriety for becoming the first bowler in history to convert the 7-10 split on a PBA Tour telecast, a feat that only has been accomplished four times, including this year by PBA Tour rookie Anthony Neuer during the finals of the 2021 U.S. Open.

Roth's influence and success earned him the No. 5 spot on the list of the 50 greatest players in PBA history, published in 2009, and he was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame the same year in the Superior Performance category.

Among Roth's PBA Tour titles were two major victories – the 1984 U.S. Open and PBA Touring Players Championship. He also went on to collect a pair of victories on the PBA50 Tour.

One of Roth's biggest rivals on the lanes was fellow hall of famer Marshall Holman, but the two also were one of the sport's most revered doubles teams.

They won three doubles titles together, and the PBA Tour schedule currently includes an event named in their honor – the PBA Roth/Holman Doubles Championship.

Roth also is a member of the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Information about funeral services for Roth is not yet available.

For more information on the USBC Hall of Fame, visit [BOWL.com/HallofFame](https://www.bowl.com/halloffame).

USBC HALL OF FAMER MAX SKELTON DIES AT AGE 89

ARLINGTON, Texas - United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Max Skelton of Ada, Oklahoma, died Nov. 20 at the age of 89.

Skelton ascended quickly through the bowling ranks locally and nationally, and he gained additional notoriety for his efforts on the international front and in promoting bowling for inclusion in the Olympics.

He served more than 20 years on the USBC (then American Bowling Congress) Board of Directors, a journey that began in 1979 and culminated in his serving as the organization's president in 1990.

Skelton also went on to serve as the president of the United States Tenpin Bowling Federation (later USA Bowling), which served as the bridge between bowling in the United States and the international governing body, known today as the International Bowling Federation.

His lifetime of service was honored with induction into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2002 for meritorious service.

Skelton was a avid bowler from the age of 5 and went on to become one of the top bowlers in Oklahoma.

When he wasn't on the lanes winning local and regional events, he was off the lanes serving his local and state bowling associations.

His lifetime of service began in 1958 as a local association volunteer in Oklahoma City. He eventually moved on to become president of the Oklahoma City Men's Bowling Association and the Oklahoma State Bowling Association.

Skelton was honored as a charter member of both the Oklahoma State Bowling Association Hall of Fame (1965) and the Oklahoma City Men's Bowling Association Hall of Fame (1978).

He was inducted by those associations, and the Ada Bowling Association Hall of Fame, for superior performance.

Skelton's administrative career at the local level started at a time when the sport and society were changing, and he often is recognized for his efforts to integrate bowling after ABC eliminated its Caucasian-only membership clause in 1950.

When others would not bowl with African American teams in the Oklahoma City Men's Bowling Association tournament, Skelton volunteered his teams to compete with them.

Beyond bowling, Skelton made a career as an educator, serving as the superintendent of the Ada City Schools from 1967-1980 and later as the assistant superintendent for the Little Axe school district.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Central on Saturday, Dec. 4 and take place at the Criswell Funeral Home in Ada.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Alzheimer's Association or the American Cancer Society.

USBC HALL OF FAMER TEATA SEMIZ DIES AT AGE 87

ARLINGTON, Texas – United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Anthony “Teata” Semiz of Hopatcong, New Jersey, died Nov. 23. He was 87.

Semiz earned his spot in the USBC Hall of Fame in 1991 in the Superior Performance category, and the talented right-hander was inducted into the Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Fame in 1998 in the Veterans/Senior category.

He captured the first of his three PBA Tour titles in 1968 and excelled on the PBA50 Tour, winning eight titles.

His final PBA50 Tour victory came at the 1997 PBA Showboat St. Petersburg Senior Open, which he won at the age of 63. The victory helped him become the oldest player at the time to win an event on the PBA50 Tour.

Prior to his win at the Showboat St. Petersburg Senior Open, Semiz made a run at the 1997 USBC Masters and advanced to the stepladder finals at the event for the second time in his career, finishing in fifth place.

He placed fourth at the 1973 Masters.

Semiz also found success at the USBC Open Championships, winning two titles at the 1972 event in Long Beach, California. He captured the Classic Singles title with a 754 series, which helped him also win Classic All-Events (1,994).

He made 33 appearances at the Open Championships, finishing with a lifetime average at the event of 195.6.

Semiz continued to stay competitive in the sport after retiring from the PBA50 Tour, rolling an 803 series in 2014 at Sparta Lanes in Sparta Township, New Jersey, at the age of 80.

In addition to his induction into the USBC and PBA Halls of Fame, Semiz also is a member of the New Jersey State and Bergen County USBC Halls of Fame.

There will be a military service for Semiz on Dec. 11 at noon Eastern at the North New Jersey Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Sparta Township.

For more information on the USBC Hall of Fame, visit [BOWL.com/HallofFame](https://www.bowl.com/halloffame).

WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR USBC NATIONAL HIGH AVERAGE, SERIES AWARDS FOR 2020-2021 SEASON

ARLINGTON, Texas – Charles Easton of Sylvania, Ohio, has earned the men's United States Bowling Congress National High Average Award for a second consecutive season after putting together a near-record effort during the 2020-2021 season.

Easton, 30, posted the second-highest average in USBC history in the Toledo New Bath/Sparks Concrete league at Jug's Bowling Center in Toledo, Ohio, finishing with a 259.56 average for 75 games.

Jeff Carter of Springfield, Illinois, holds the record with a 261.7 average during the 2000-2001 season.

Easton earned the award during the 2019-2020 season after averaging 256.5 in the Oakie Schroyer III Memorial league, also held at Jug's Bowling Center. His performance during the 2019-2020 season ranked fourth on the all-time list at the time.

Easton averaged 251.48 for 93 games last season in the Oakie Schroyer/Generations Pro Shop league.

Team USA member Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, was the women's high average winner for the 2020-2021 season, also competing at Jug's Bowling Center. The two-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion averaged 242.02 for 69 games in the Florian Insurance Classic league.

Richard, 25, recently helped Team USA win the gold medal in team competition at the International Bowling Federation Super World Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Junior Team USA member Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri, and Cassidy Potter of Webster, New York, have earned USBC National High Average Awards in the Youth Male and Youth Female divisions, respectively.

Robarge, 19, recorded a 250.67 average for 78 games in the Junior/Majors league at Springfield's Sunshine Lanes.

Robarge, the 2015 U12 Junior Gold Championships winner, made headlines earlier in 2021 after advancing to the stepladder finals at the USBC Masters in April, finishing in third place.

Potter, 18, earned her award by averaging 222.06 for 78 games in the Fairview Fri Juniors league at AMF Fairview Lanes in Fairport, New York.

Brent Bowers of Bel Aire, Kansas, and Richard Wagner of Stafford, New York, will share top honors in the men's division for the USBC National High Series Award after each rolled an 899 series during the 2020-2021 season.

Bowers, 33, started his set on Oct. 6, 2020, in the Bud Light Invite league at Northrock Lanes in Wichita, Kansas, with a 299 game before rolling back-to-back 300s to set the state record.

Wagner, 38, started his run Feb. 11, 2021, with 35 consecutive strikes during the Toyota of Batavia-Thursdays 5-Man league at Mancuso Bowling Center in Batavia, New York. The left-hander was unable to get the 6 pin out on his final delivery.

The women's USBC National High Series Award will go to Brandi Kordelewski of Belleville, Illinois, after she set the women's state record in Illinois with an 868 series on Nov. 18, 2020.

Kordelewski, 31, was competing in the Wednesday Night Ball league at Belleville's Bel-Air Bowl when she rolled games of 290, 279 and 299.

Jacob Hartman of Camanche, Iowa, and Mikayla Blair of Springfield, Ohio, will take home the Youth Male and Youth Female USBC National High Series Awards, respectively, for the 2020-2021 season.

Hartman, 18, rolled games of 289, 279 and 299 for an 867 series on March 6, 2021, in the Jr. Elite league at Camanche's Imperial Lanes.

Blair, 18, put together games of 300, 267 and 257 for an 824 set on March 28, 2021, during the Spring 21 Youth/Adult Scholarship Travel league at Bowl 10 in Fairborn, Ohio.

For the list of USBC National High Series and High Average Awards, click [here](#).

The team awards for National High Game and National High Series also have been determined. To see the top team scores for men, women, mixed and youth teams, click [here](#).

USBC PROPOSES PRELIMINARY SPECIFICATIONS FOR STRING PINSETTERS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress is sharing additional data and proposing preliminary specifications to the manufacturers of string pinsetters.

The USBC Equipment and Specifications team has been taking part in a comprehensive research study on string pinsetters, looking at the scoring and pinfall variables between string pinsetters and free-fall machines.

USBC is investigating the possibility of certifying string pinsetters and string pin bowling as an independent category of equipment and competition, separate from free-fall machines and standard American Tenpins bowling.

String pinsetters currently are non-approved equipment and may not be used in USBC-certified competition, including USBC-certified leagues and tournaments.

After the most recent report in September 2021, the USBC Equipment and Specifications team identified several factors affecting pinfall. These factors included the string length, pin curtain, ball stop cushion and kickback thickness.

Adjustments were made to the string length, pin curtain location and ball stop cushion until results approached those of free-fall machines, and a design of experiment was

conducted to identify the best combination of these properties to reduce the rate of splits being converted due to interference from the strings.

Based on testing, the following settings reduced the number of split conversions and rebounding of pins to an acceptable limit:

- The string length has a minimum limit of 65 inches, measured from the ball cup to the point the string enters the pin.
- Placing the pin curtain between 12 to 16 inches from the end of the lane, measured from the back of the tail plank.
- Placing the ball stop cushion a minimum of 33 inches from the end of the lane, measured from the back of the tail plank.
- Assuring the kickback walls on both sides of the lane have a minimum thickness of 2 3/4 inches.

The preliminary specifications do not take into account variables that have not been submitted for testing to date, including the effects of different construction material or design elements related to string pinsetters.

USBC is encouraging manufacturers to design string pinsetters that meet the preliminary specifications to submit for additional testing, with USBC evaluating the data with a goal of establishing final specifications.

For more information on equipment specifications, visit [BOWL.com/EquipAndSpecs](https://www.usbc.com/EquipAndSpecs).

THREE ELECTED TO USBC HALL OF FAME FOR 2022

ARLINGTON, Texas - The United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame will have at least three new members when the 2022 class is inducted April 27 during the USBC Convention in Las Vegas.

The USBC Hall of Fame Committee recently elected Bo Goergen of Midland, Michigan, in the Outstanding USBC Performance category, Bill Allen of Orlando, Florida, in the Veterans category and Roger Zeller of San Antonio in Meritorious Service.

In addition to the three electees, the USBC Hall of Fame Committee selected six bowlers - five men and one woman - for the Superior Performance ballot that will be distributed to a national panel of USBC Hall of Fame members, USBC Board members and veteran bowling writers.

Selected for the men's national ballot are Dave Ferraro of Kingston, New York; Bryan Goebel of Shawnee, Kansas; Wes Malott of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Randy Pedersen of Orlando, Florida; and Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas.

Named to the women's national ballot was Tammy Turner of West Palm Beach, Florida.

Goergen, a 61-year-old right-hander and current USBC Board member, is a two-time champion at the USBC Open Championships.

He won the 2009 Regular Singles title with a record score of 862, which included games of 299, 299 and 264 and still is the highest series ever rolled in Open Championships competition.

Goergen returned to the tournament lanes in 2010 as a defending champion, and though he was not able to repeat in singles, he posted a 2,031 all-events total and helped Northern Lanes Pro Shop of Sanford, Michigan, to the Team All-Events title with a 10,284 total, the ninth-highest total since the category was added in 1947.

In 42 years on the tournament lanes, Goergen has maintained a 205 average and collected five additional top-10 finishes. He also earned a pair of titles at the 2015 Bowlers Journal Championships.

Allen and Zeller both will be inducted posthumously, as they died in 1992 and 1997, respectively.

Allen was a 13-time Professional Bowlers Association Tour champion, with all of those wins coming between 1963 and 1968. During the same time frame, he collected three top-10 finishes at the U.S. Open.

He was a regular on the USBC and Bowlers Journal All-America teams in the 1960s and claimed seven top-10 finishes at the Open Championships between 1966 and 1976.

Allen was inducted into the Florida State USBC Hall of Fame in 1970, the Orlando USBC Hall of Fame in 1982, the PBA Hall of Fame in 1983 and the Central Florida Sports Hall of Fame in 1984.

Zeller helped leave his mark on the sport as the owner, president and chief executive officer of Columbia Industries, which he purchased in 1960. He initially focused on the creation and distribution of plastic and polyester bowling balls.

After selling the company in 1964, he bought it back in 1967, serving as the majority owner for approximately 30 years.

As the sport hit its highest participation points in the 1970s and 1980s, Columbia 300 produced more than 5,000 bowling balls a day, and the company sold more than 1 million bowling balls for the first time in 1976. Through the 1990s, Columbia was the largest manufacturer of bowling balls and even produced balls for AMF and Track.

Columbia 300 served as the title sponsor for many professional events on both the men's and women's tours over the years, and Zeller was elected to the PBA Hall of Fame for meritorious service in 1995.

Zeller also spent time as a proprietor, served as a National Bowling Council board member and as trustee for the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame.

He was inducted into the San Antonio Bowling Council Hall of Fame in 1977 and received the Billiard and Bowling Institute of America Industry Service Award in 1988.

Zeller established the John Jowdy Scholarship Fund and created the Roger L. and Laura D. Zeller

Charitable Foundation, which funded a wing of the Cancer Therapy & Research Center in San Antonio.

Along with the 2022 inductees, the six members of the 2020 class and the four members of the 2021 USBC Hall of Fame class also are awaiting their inductions.

The 2020 class will take the spotlight in Las Vegas on the night of April 26, and the inductees for 2021 and 2022 will celebrate with a separate ceremony April 27. Both will take place at The Orleans Hotel & Casino as part of the 2022 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting.

The 10 waiting bowlers were slated for induction in 2020 and 2021, before COVID-19 forced the cancellation of the 2020 Convention in Las Vegas, along with all supporting activities and events. The 2021 Convention was held virtually, and inductions were delayed to 2022.

The 2020 class includes Marianne DiRupo of Succasunna, New Jersey, and Patrick Allen of Garfield, New Jersey, in the Superior Performance category, Patrick Healey Jr. of Niagara Falls, New York (USBC Outstanding Performance), Bob Learn Jr. of Erie, Pennsylvania (Veterans), and Andrew Cain of Phoenix and Jim Zebehazy of Leesburg, Florida (both in Meritorious Service).

The 2021 class includes Sandra Jo Shiery of Coldwater, Michigan, and Mark Williams of Beaumont, Texas, in the Superior Performance category and the husband-and-wife duo of Bill and Barbara Chrisman of Pleasant View, Utah, the co-founders of Storm Products, Inc., who were elected by the committee in the Meritorious Service category. They will be the seventh husband and wife overall to be inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame.

Through 2019, there are 432 members of the USBC Hall of Fame - 223 in Superior Performance, 120 in Meritorious Service, 51 in Veterans, 22 in Pioneer and 16 in Outstanding USBC Performance.

The USBC Hall of Fame was created in 2005 by merging the former American Bowling Congress and Women's International Bowling Congress Halls of Fame.

KULICK NAMED JUNIOR TEAM USA HEAD COACH

ARLINGTON, Texas - Most bowling fans know Kelly Kulick of Union, New Jersey, as one of the world's top competitors or even as a personality on various bowling telecasts, but they'll get to see her in a new capacity in 2022 as the head coach for the Junior Team USA bowling program.

Kulick, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer and USBC Silver coach, will assume the position vacated by Bryan O'Keefe, who was named head coach of Team USA in June. The two have worked together for the past four years and will continue to do so in their new positions.

Since 2017, Kulick has been one of seven assistant coaches for Team USA, offering her expertise at a variety of camps and international events.

Her new role puts her at the helm of the expanding junior program that now includes more than two dozen Junior Team USA members and the members of the developmental team.

Kulick will begin her tenure at the upcoming USBC Team USA Trials, an event she won in 2019 and

2020.

"There are few things more special and rewarding than standing on the podium and hearing our national anthem, but helping others experience that for the first time might be one of those things," Kulick said. "I'm extremely proud of my career with Team USA, and I'm excited to continue that by helping the next generation of champions reach their dreams."

For more than two decades, Kulick has been a standout on the lanes for Team USA, earning dozens of medals across the globe. She is a 17-time member of the team and was a Junior Team USA member in 1998 and 2000.

The 44-year-old right-hander won her first international medal in 1998 and most recently took home a pair of medals and co-Most Valuable Player honors at the 2021 International Bowling Federation Super World Championships in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The years in between have been filled with success on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour and as a pioneer on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, where she became the first woman to win a PBA Tour title. She won the PBA Tournament of Champions in 2010.

Kulick also has been involved in the administrative side of the sport, serving three terms on the USBC Board of Directors. Her stint concluded at the end of the 2019-2020 season, but she continues to serve as a member of the USBC Hall of Fame Committee.

When not competing or carrying out her committee responsibilities, Kulick has been passionate about helping others improve and succeed - in bowling and in other areas of life and fitness.

Coaching bowling is a journey that started close to home as a student, and later as an instructor, for New Jersey's Dick Ritger Bowling Camps. She has been a Level 3 Master Dick Ritger coach since 1995.

Kulick's coaching endeavors have taken her as far as Australia for regular clinics and appearances, and her official debut as part of the Team USA coaching staff came at the 2018 IBF World Youth Championships in the Detroit area.

"Kelly has been a huge part of Team USA's on-lane success over the last 20 years, and she has been a great influence for the Junior Team USA players through her role as an assistant coach," O'Keefe said. "Her transition to this new opportunity is a logical next step in her career, and I know it will be seamless due to her experience as a player and coach and because of her familiarity with international competition. I respect Kelly as a competitor and as a colleague, and I know she will be a great leader for the next generation of young standouts."

While bowling became Kulick's career since graduating from Morehead State University in 2000, her bachelor's degree in physical and health education has served her well for her own fitness goals and in helping others.

She is part of the National Exercise Trainers Association and certified in kettlebell and foam rolling. She also teaches line dancing and group exercise classes and can offer advice as a nutrition specialty coach. The latter stemmed from a passion for food and cooking.

For more information on Junior Team USA, visit BOWL.com/JuniorTeamUSA.

USBC SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS HEADING TO KENTUCKY IN 2022

ARLINGTON, Texas – The 2022 edition of the United States Bowling Congress Senior Championships will be taking place in August at Executive Strike and Spare in Louisville, Kentucky.

The USBC Senior Championships is a national event for bowlers who have qualified through their state's or province's senior tournament, and the 2022 event will be held Aug. 9-12.

Executive Strike and Spare originally was slated to host the 2020 Senior Championships, prior to its postponement to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2020 and 2021 Senior Championships were held in August 2021 at Sunset Station in Henderson, Nevada.

State and province association officials will have the opportunity to register their qualifiers beginning the week of Feb. 7, 2022. Travel information also will be available at this time for qualifying participants.

The Senior Championships features competitors in two divisions — Mixed and Women's — in six age-based classifications — 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75 and older.

The qualifying rounds will include two three-game sets over two days. After six games, the top six scores in each division, including handicap, will advance to a medal round on the third day.

Pinfall will drop for the medal round, but bowlers will be awarded bonus pins based on their qualifying positions (50 bonus pins for first, 40 pins for second, etc.).

More than 400 competitors typically travel to the event year each from the United States and Canada in hopes of taking home a national title and part of a prize fund expected to approach \$40,000.

For more information on the USBC Senior Championships, visit [BOWL.com/SeniorChamp](https://www.bowl.com/seniorchamp).