

TEAM USA ROSTERS TAKE SHAPE AFTER CHAMPIONS CROWNED AT 2023 TEAM USA TRIALS, U.S. AMATEUR IN LAS VEGAS

LAS VEGAS – Several names - some new, many familiar - were added to the rosters of Team USA, Junior Team USA and Para Team USA 2023 Saturday night after competition ended at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Team USA Trials at Gold Coast Bowling Center inside Gold Coast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

In all, 63 athletes will represent Team USA's various squads on the lanes in 2023, and they all followed unique paths in order to earn that opportunity.

Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, and Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona, claimed spots by winning their respective divisions during Team USA Trials competition, which consisted of 30 games bowled over the course of five days across five challenging oil patterns.

Clemmer, a 25-year-old right-hander who competes as a member of the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour, averaged 221.5 per game for the week and finished in the daily top three during four of the five qualifying rounds to best a field of 149 women.

Butturff averaged 232.2 and collected two first-place finishes and a third-place effort enroute to topping the 174-player men's field.

Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, and Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, also earned titles Saturday night, and they made some history in the process.

Martin and Bohn, both just 18 years old, were crowned the nation's top amateur bowlers by winning their respective divisions at the 2023 National Amateur Bowling Championships, which was contested simultaneously with Team USA Trials using the same qualifying scores.

Their victories marked the first time in tournament history that both U.S. Amateur champions were under the age of 20.

Martin and Bohn earned the top step on the podium after emerging victorious from stepladder finals competition that featured the top three players from each U.S. Amateur division.

In addition to the Team USA Trials and U.S. Amateur champions, six other players earned automatic berths on Team USA 2023 based on their strong performance at Gold Coast this week.

Throughout the event, players earned ranking points based on where they finished in the daily standings. The leader each day received one point, second place earned two

points and so on, with the lowest number of points after the five six-game blocks determining the 2023 Team USA Trials men's and women's champion.

Butturff, a six-time winner and major champion on the Professional Bowlers Association tour, took home the Team USA Trials crown for the second time in his career - he also won the event in 2017.

The 28-year-old left-hander was even more impressive this time around, however, collecting two squad victories, averaging five pins higher per game and lowering his winning ranking-point total from 59 to 44.

Butturff's closest pursuers were Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas (58), A.J. Johnson of Oswego, Illinois (62) and Matthew Russo of Ballwin, Missouri (80). Those three players joined Butturff in earning automatic spots on Team USA.

By earning a spot on this year's team, Butturff will be celebrating seven consecutive years donning the red, white and blue on the lanes; it's not an honor he takes for granted.

"Winning Team USA Trials is just as difficult as winning a title on the PBA Tour, and it's honestly better because it earns you the opportunity to represent your country while doing what you love," Butturff said. "Winning here is one of the best accomplishments a bowler can put on his or her resume. For me to be able to win it twice is really special."

Clemmer's 2023 victory was her first at Team USA Trials; nevertheless, she found the accomplishment no less fulfilling.

"I have a friend who always tells me that I'm the best in the world, but I never really believed it because I always felt like other people were better; I was just here. Now, to win a tournament like this among the best of the best, I'm starting to believe it," Clemmer said. "A tournament like this is just amazing to win. I don't even think I can really describe how I feel right now other than that I'm just really happy."

One of the many things Clemmer is happy about is that she will now have the opportunity to celebrate her tenth year as a member of the Team USA family.

Her international career began with a stint on Junior Team USA from 2014 to 2018. She then made the leap to the adult team in 2019, and she's been a contributor on that level ever since.

This week's victory at Team Trials felt like a fitting next step in Clemmer's career arc as she just seems to be getting better and better with each tournament she bowls.

In an event that tests the versatility and patience of even the most seasoned veterans, Clemmer appeared to be in complete control.

She notched second-place finishes on each of the first two days before taking a small step back with a 24th-place effort in Round 3. She came back strong from there, however, winning Day 4 and collecting a third-place finish during Round 5 to establish a winning total of just 32 points.

Jordan Richard of Maumee, Ohio, and Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, finished with 54 points each, which was enough to guarantee both spots on Team USA 2023.

The final guaranteed position went to 2022 PWBA Rookie of the Year Olivia Farwell of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. Farwell finished with 84 points to secure her first invitation to bowl as a member of Team USA.

Martin and Bohn came into the week already having secured spots on Junior Team USA 2023 based on their outstanding performances at the Junior Gold Championships in Grand Rapids, Michigan in July.

Nevertheless, as the two took to the lanes for their respective U.S. Amateur title matches, it was clear that they had adult team aspirations in mind.

Bohn advanced to the title tilt by defeating Team USA veteran John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, 268-212 during the opening match of the stepladder finals.

Bohn's pace slowed a bit during the championship round against top seed Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, but that was likely due to the final match being contested on the most difficult oil pattern the 2023 Team USA Trials had to offer.

As such, Bohn couldn't recreate the striking power he displayed during his nine-strike victory over Janawicz; nevertheless, he stayed clean, threw a pair of doubles and delivered the mark he needed in the 10th frame to defeat Bonta 211-199 and become the 2023 U.S. Amateur champion.

"I wanted to have a good showing to show people that I belong here, that this is the place for me, but other than that I didn't really have a whole lot of expectations," Bohn said. "To win this and be on the adult team is surreal; I really don't have words for it other than to say that I couldn't have done it without all of the amazing people that I have supporting me."

Martin had plenty of fans cheering her on as well, but that's hardly surprising as she has been a fixture on the elite bowling scene for several years now despite being just 18 years old.

As the women's top seed for the U.S. Amateur stepladder, Martin only needed to win one game in order to take the title.

That game was against Mary Orf of St. Louis, and it was an entertaining game throughout.

Orf stayed clean early and took advantage of a Martin open to establish a 13-pin lead through six frames.

It wouldn't last, however, as Orf opened after leaving a 4-6 split in the eighth frame. Martin, meanwhile, followed up a seventh-frame strike with two more in the eighth and ninth to go around Orf and complete a 199-170 comeback victory.

For Martin, the win was more than just another title; it was a stepping stone that helped her realize a dream that she's been pursuing for quite some time.

"Being on Team USA has been a goal of mine for a while now, so I'm really grateful to make it in my first year out here being eligible," Martin said. "I don't really think that it's hit me yet that I'm the U.S Amateur champion, but it ranks right up there next to being a PWBA champion."

Since the U.S. Amateur champion is automatically placed on Team USA, Martin didn't need the spot that she earned by virtue of her third-place finish in the Team Trials field.

As such, that spot was then passed along to the next-highest finisher, who in this case was current Team USA member Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona.

In addition to the bowlers who earned automatic invitations to join the adult team, two men and three women were selected by the National Selection Committee based on their performances at the 2023 Team USA Trials.

Andrew Anderson of Holly, Michigan, and Janawicz will join the men's team while Mabel Cummins of Hermitage, Tennessee, Rebecca Hagerman of Loves Park, Illinois, and Orf had their names added to the women's roster.

The National Selection Committee also selected five men and five women to join Team USA 2023 based on submitted resumes.

The men's team selections included Kristopher Prather of Romeoville, Illinois; Kyle Troup of Taylorsville, North Carolina; Chis Via of Blacklick, Ohio; Nick Pate of Ballwin, Missouri; and 2022 Team USA Trials champion Darren Tang of Las Vegas.

The National Selection Committee's additions to the women's team were Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York; Julia Bond of Lincoln, Nebraska; Stephanie Zavala of Downey, California; Lauren Pate of Ballwin, Missouri; and Shannon Pluhowsky of Dayton, Ohio.

To be eligible for the adult version of Team USA, bowlers must be at least 18 years old by the end of that year's Team USA Trials.

Those who weren't age-eligible for adult team consideration this time around spent the week trying to secure spots on Junior Team USA 2023 and finish as high up as possible in the U.S. Amateur standings.

Earning automatic spots on the boys team based on their strong 2023 Team USA Trials performances were Bonta, Anthony Neuer of Milton, Pennsylvania; Micah Voorhis of Cherry Hill, New Jersey; and C.J. Petrin of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Zach Greim of Poway, California, and Landin Jordan of Sycamore, Illinois, were chosen by the National Selection Committee to join Junior Team USA 2023 based on their performances at the 2023 Team USA Trials and 2022 Junior Gold Championships.

They join the 12 boys who qualified for Junior Team USA through the 2022 Junior Gold Championships through the U20 and U18 competitions.

U20 – Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; Jeremy Kinealy of St. Louis; Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas; Nathan Smith of Noblesville, Indiana; Justin Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey; and Ryan Barnes of Denton Texas.

U18 – Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey; Jordan Malott of Austin, Texas; Bobby Habetler of Park Ridge, Illinois; Carter Street of Dublin, Ohio; Chris LeSuer of Kent, Ohio; and Andru Blaney of Indian Head, Maryland.

This year's automatic spots on the girls team went to Maggie Thoma of New Braunfels, Texas; Katelyn Abigania of San Diego, Victoria Varano of Stony Point, New York, and Ashtyn Woods of Santa Rosa, California.

Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois, and Jennifer Loreda of Fresno, California, were selected for the girls team based on performance.

They join the 12 girls who qualified for Junior Team USA through the 2022 Junior Gold Championships through the U20 and U18 competitions.

U20 – Mabel Cummins of Hermitage, Tennessee; Jaelle Hamman of Jarell, Texas; Kirsten Moore of Tallmadge, Ohio; Anna Callan of La Crosse, Wisconsin; Lara Kurt of Leland, North Carolina; and Orf.

U18 – Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia; Erin Klemencic of Powder Springs, Georgia; Brooke Salzman of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota; Haley Lindley of Greenwood, South Carolina; Brianna Rogers of Florence, South Carolina; and Martin.

Four boys and four girls from the U15 competition at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships also earned the right to be a part of the Team USA experience in 2023 as members of the Developmental Team.

That list of players includes brothers Landin Jordan and Griffin Jordan, both of Sycamore, Illinois; Keegan Alexander of Killeen, Texas; Kai Strothers of Maplewood, New Jersey; Avery Domaguin of San Diego; Samantha Kanehailua of Pearl City, Hawaii; Kaitlyn Stull of Raleigh, North Carolina; and Abigania.

Bowlers age 20 or younger as of Jan. 1, 2023, were eligible for spots on Junior Team USA this week.

Before the names for the adult and junior teams were read Saturday night, members of Para Team USA got a very pleasant surprise when USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy announced that all eight members of Para Team USA 2022 were being brought back to represent the team again in 2023.

That means that the 2023 Para Team USA roster will once again include George Holscher of Chesapeake, Virginia; Eddy Hutchens of Franktown, Colorado; David Nelson Jr. of Gretna, Nebraska; and Mark Shepherd of Colorado Springs, Colorado, on the men's side and Debra Freed of Framingham, Massachusetts; Jennifer Hooten of Norman, Oklahoma; Emma "Toodie" Perry of Bakersfield, California; and Stacy Sanders of Bakersfield, California, for the women.

The 2023 Team USA trials featured a roster of 323 competitors, all of whom bowled 30 games over five days (six games each day). Each day featured a different lane condition, ranging from 36-47 feet with different volumes of oil for the women and men.

BowlTV (BowlTV.com) provided wire-to-wire coverage of the events, including the announcement of Team USA, Junior Team USA and Para Team USA 2023.

Visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA for more information about the Team USA program.

2023 USBC Team USA Trials At Gold Coast Bowling Center Las Vegas

OVERALL RESULTS

(Position, name, hometown, total points. Points based on finishing position in each round).

MEN

- 1, Jakob Butturff, Tempe, Ariz., 44
- 2, Brandon Bonta, Wichita, Kan., 58
- 3, A.J. Johnson, Oswego, Ill., 62
- 4, Matthew Russo, Ballwin, Mo., 80
- 5, Brandon Bohn, Jackson, N.J., 85

- 6, John Janawicz, Winter Haven, Fla., 88
- 7, Spencer Robarge, Springfield, Mo., 108
- 8, Andrew Anderson, Holly, Mich., 122
- 9, Christopher Via, Blacklick, Ohio, 131
- 10, Kristopher Prather, Romeoville, Ill., 139
- 11, Anthony Neuer, Milton, Pa., 143
- T12, Hayden Stippich, McKean, Pa., 155
- T12, Nick Pate, Inver Grove Heights, Minn., 155
- 14, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 160
- 15, Brett Lloyd, Nightdale, N.C., 173
- 16, Nick Archacki, Cambridge Springs, Pa., 176
- T17, Ryan Barnes, Denton, Texas, 178
- T17, Dean Vargo, Willowick, Ohio, 178
- 19, Darren Tang, Las Vegas, 179
- 20, Dallas Leong, Las Vegas, 180

WOMEN

- 1, Breanna Clemmer, Clover, S.C., 32
- T2, Jordan Richard, Maumee, Ohio, 54
- T2, Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, 54
- 4, Olivia Farwell, Elizabethtown, Pa., 84
- T5, Bryanna Coté, Tucson, Ariz., 99
- T5, Mary Orf, St. Louis, 99
- 7, Katelyn Abigania, San Diego, 100
- 8, Lauren Pate, Ballwin, Mo., 107
- T9, Mabel Cummins, Hermitage, Tenn., 118
- T9, Rebecca Hagerman, Loves Park, Ill., 118
- 11, Caitlyn Johnson, Beaumont, Texas, 121
- T12, Maggie Thoma, New Braunfels, Texas, 125
- T12, Victoria Varano, Stony Point, N.Y., 125
- T12, Chloe Skurzynski, Carlisle, Pa., 125
- 15, Ashtyn Woods, Santa Rosa, Calif., 131
- 16, Danielle McEwan, Stony Point, N.Y., 133
- 17, Caroline Thesier, Mooresville, N.C., 159
- 18, Julia Bond, Lincoln, Neb., 164
- T19, Annalise O'Bryant, Ball Ground, Ga., 169
- T19, Maranda Pattison, Redwood Valley, Calif., 169

U.S. AMATEUR STEPLADDER FINALS

MEN

Semifinal

Brandon Bohn, Jackson, N.J., def. John Janawicz, Winter Haven, Fla., 268-212.

Championship

Bohn def. Brandon Bonta, Wichita, Kan., 211-199.

WOMEN

Semifinal

Mary Orf, St. Louis, def. Katelyn Abigania, San Diego, 256-197.

Championship

Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio, def. Orf, 199-170.

A FUTURE FOR THE SPORT – 2022 RECAP, 2023 PREVIEW

By Chad Murphy, USBC Executive Director

Hi there, hope everyone is safe and healthy as we start 2023. Looking back on 2022, it was a challenging year in some ways, but productive in many others. We saw great success for USBC in its service to bowling as local centers returned to some normalcy, thank goodness.

Let's start with the membership numbers. After finishing the 2020-2021 season with 850,669 members, things bounced back nicely this past season. We ended the 2021-2022 season up 23.8% when combining youth and adult members. The final number came in at 1,053,129. What an incredible year as we bounced back from COVID.

We didn't know what to expect to start the 2021-2022 season. Tremendous thanks to everyone out there in the field that was committed to getting their leagues back. You did outstanding work!

Bowling is showing real signs of resiliency and we should be proud of everyone across our entire industry for that. Our local associations and, specifically, our proprietors' work here is just tremendous.

We also had a nice rebound year with our tournaments. The Open Championships grew from a COVID-depressed number of 7,609 teams in 2021 back to 9,317 teams in 2022. The Women's Championships went from 2,552 teams in 2021 to 3,155 teams in 2022.

When these tournaments kicked off in early 2022, we had just received notification that local mask requirements were lifted. I think we certainly had some bowlers stay home as they just weren't comfortable traveling yet or were unsure about the experience and that's OK. Those that did come got to enjoy the championships as they have for many years, free from COVID regulations. It was a big win for the association.

Thanks to all the bowlers that continue to support these championships. As most know, in addition to awarding eagle trophies, the Open Championships is a fundraiser that helps support all the other tournament subsidies including PWBA, the USBC Masters and senior events.

At the Women's Championships, Jodi Sarney, of Huntley, Illinois, won All-Events in the Diamond Division with 2,194. At the Open Championships, Brian Waliczek, of Frankenmuth, Michigan, won the Regular All-Events with a nine-game score of 2,241. Congrats to these two bowlers and all the 2022 champions.

One more interesting nugget from the tournaments. USBC's No. 1 social media post this year was Glenn Allison's 70th USBC Open Championships appearance. He has now knocked down 122,468 pins in his Open Championships career. The post garnered more than 716,000 impressions and 13,309 reactions.

The PWBA Tour crowned 12 champions this year as the women earned more than \$1.4 million in prize money. A new PWBA Players Committee was elected and is working alongside staff to move the tour forward. Decisions this past year included fewer tournaments with larger prize funds which allowed the women to save on expenses by moving around the country less, while still featuring continued growth in the prize funds. Shannon O'Keefe was once again crowned PWBA Player of the Year. Incredibly, her lowest finish this year was ninth place! Congratulations, Shannon.

Switching from competition to governance, we also had a year to remember in these areas.

The SMART scholarship program implemented some new policies with the goal of increasing scholarship benefits for SMART Recipients. The new Active Recipient Bonus Scholarships kicked off with a big number (an active recipient for 2022 was one that used SMART funds in 2021). About \$3.6 million was awarded via this new scholarship. There were a little more than 3,700 active recipients and each received a \$980 bonus scholarship from SMART in 2022.

The SMART Pell Grant Match Program launched in February and an initial \$1.2 million was awarded by August of 2022. The program was so popular that the SMART Oversight Committee approved an additional \$750,000 to be awarded for the remainder of the year. That's about \$2 million in 2022 awarded to bowlers in need by USBC's SMART program. Truly amazing support in just the first year of a new program!

We also saw success in the new SMART policy (started in October 2021) that allows the transfer of unused SMART funds to a family member. In 2022, 46 requests had been processed to date with more than \$43,000 transferred.

As a byproduct of all the activity, SMART had a record number of "alternative usage requests" (reimbursements, off-campus housing, and student loan payments). It is a program that launched in May of 2020. More than 800 requests were approved for 2022 with slightly less than \$900,000 disbursed.

Lastly, a record number of requests were received through the Recipient SMART Portal to have funds sent directly to schools. In 2022 there were 6,159 requests for a total of \$8.3 million. This was an increase from an average history of about \$5.5 million.

All the credit here goes to our USBC volunteer leaders who were willing to put in the time and look at the data to find a new path forward for the SMART program. Three new committees were created to oversee this program with a focus on financial responsibility and providing more scholarship benefits for SMART Recipients. Past USBC President Frank Wilkinson, BPAA President Elect Kevin Krauss and USBC Legal and Legislative Chair Jay Daryman lead these committees and their work has been tremendous.

The tiered lane certification program was also finalized and rolled out in April at the USBC Convention. It features a new tool for lane measurements called the ACE that streamlines the entire inspection process. The work of conducting inspections will now begin in partnership with our centers. A new team of USBC staff has been hired that will travel the country over the next three years measuring lanes and providing needed information to proprietors about the lane topography within their centers. The program is inclusive. No center gets removed from certification or forced to make repairs they do not want. Centers will be compared with each other in the future through a tiered rating system.

The Equipment Specifications team shared a new ball hardness report in 2022. This was an important culmination of several years of research. The report provided some common facts on what became a controversial topic. 2022 was a tumultuous year for USBC as governing body of equipment as USBC took regulatory action on several ball models involving multiple manufacturers related to ball hardness specifications.

At the end of 2021 USBC proposed preliminary specifications for string pinsetter machines. In 2022, the Equipment Specifications staff spent a portion of the year testing new prototypes from manufacturers. We'll have more information on that work and the next steps for string pinsetters coming in the spring of 2023.

Our local and state associations saw a return to more normal business, activating more than 4,000 tournaments this year. The popular Association Leadership Academy returned with three events in the field and USBC has expanded its use of the new online tournament registration software program which is now featured in 21 states. The program provides an easier registration process for team captains and bowlers during the entry process. This custom solution for bowling, built through USBC's IT department and supported by our USBC Association Services team, registered 348,120 entries for 276 tournaments this past year.

In addition to the tournaments, to improve the safety of our youth bowlers, USBC enhanced our athlete safety portal on BOWL.com. The portal gives easy access for members to stay compliant with SafeSport and the USBC Registered Volunteer Program. We had 20,197 members take SafeSport training across our associations this past year. Many thanks to all the association leaders, working with the Association Services, Rules and IT teams here at the campus who supported them.

Another sign that things were back to "normal" was the return of an in-person USBC Convention in 2022. Convention delegates were "together again" for the first time since the pandemic hit. The event was highlighted by two nights of USBC Hall of Fame inductions. The convention had a wonderful feeling of closeness and camaraderie shared by everyone after two years apart.

Strides forward continue to be made in our youth and collegiate departments. The youth department saw more than 3,100 participants return to Junior Gold, USBC Collegiate set a record for members with 4,290, and the PEPSI Championships awarded a record of more than \$1 million dollars in scholarship dollars. Amazing stuff!

The USBC Team USA program recently returned from Australia where our athletes competed in the 2022 International Bowling Federation World Cup. Kyle Troup, Kris Prather, Jakob Butturff and AJ

Johnson came back with the men's team gold medal. Bryanna Coté captured the singles gold medal for Team USA.

In all for 2022, Team USA collected 12 gold, eight silver and six bronze medals in five events. We're extremely proud of our Team USA athletes and coaches for representing our country in a such a quality way.

The marketing area also had some big wins. If you were paying attention just a little, you likely noticed. Marketing and communications comes in a lot of different ways these days and we continue to try and find the right mix that allows our stakeholders to take the information in efficiently and effectively.

We distributed 15.5 million emails with 860 different messages to communicate with our stakeholder groups and members. Our average email open rate is 37.7%, with more than a 9% click rate, both well above industry averages.

Bowlers Journal International printed and delivered more than 200,000 copies of the magazine in 2022. This circulation number is the highest in more than a decade and comes after relaunching the magazine as a pure bowler-focused publication with stories too numerous to mention. In addition to that, the website for the magazine (bowlersjournal.com) was migrated to BOWL.com. There were nearly two decades worth of historical content preserved as part of that migration.

USBC launched TikTok accounts for USBC, PWBA and the GoBowling brand. And while some of us, including myself, might not know exactly what that means, I'm told it's a good thing. The numbers seem to support our progress in this area as USBC on social media, across all its brands, generated more than 85 million impressions.

Lastly for 2022, our USBC financials again show that we are in a very good position. We are proud to share that in our latest USBC Board meeting, our board, in consultation with the Finance Committee, made the decision to lower USBC's financial reserve target from nine months of operating expenses down to six months. This shift will allow USBC to spend down some of the reserves over the next few years rather than ask for a dues increase right away to offset the membership losses from COVID as so many businesses are doing today. Instead, we plan to push out the next dues increase several years from now. We will talk more about this plan at the convention in the spring.

The bottom line is that USBC ended the year with more than a year of operating expenses in the bank and is well positioned to continue to service our members moving forward.

2023 and beyond

In a word: Service.

Stressing service to bowling and our members is priority No. 1 now that we do not have the uncertainty and disruption of the virus. Returning to our key areas of focus again (see below):

Membership

The trends are good. For only the second time since the inception of USBC (the first being last year) membership is forecast to increase this season. Membership is up 4.4% for the 2022-2023 season year

to date. Considering the fact that we had a dues increase and some loss in the number of centers, the fact that USBC membership is on track to increase is amazing.

How do we explain this? Are there still people coming back that had COVID concerns? Is interest in league bowling growing? These are the questions we will continue to follow and search for answers as best we can.

We do know that about 14% of the bowlers this season are new members. This is another positive trend as the percentage is slightly up over years past.

So, stay tuned. As the song goes, "There's something happening here, what it is, ain't exactly clear."

We will certainly know more by the time we get to the convention in April, and we'll report more at that time.

Tournaments

Last year we set a new baseline, around 9,500 bowlers at the Open Championships and 3,200 at the Women's Championships.

The goal obviously is to beat those numbers in 2023 and we will. Our reporting shows the Open Championships look to be tracking toward 10,000 teams in Reno and the Women's Championships for more than 4,300 teams in Las Vegas. These are positive trends and show a nice rebound after having to cancel the events in 2020. There's still room to continue to grow in 2024.

The 2023 PWBA schedule has been released and features a couple new locations. The structure of the tour and prize funds are the same as 2022 which featured 12 champions and more than \$1.4 million in prize money.

Youth Program Development

Some good news for Junior Gold and USA Bowling as the finals of those events return to CBS Sports Network in 2023 as they were before the pandemic. Junior Gold is also celebrating its 25th anniversary, a testament to the growth and success of the premier youth event in the country. The event this summer is in Indianapolis, where we expect around 3,500 athletes again.

Also be on the lookout for an exciting atmosphere at the Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships in 2023 as those events return to an arena setting for the first time in a while.

On the development side, Bowling Day in the USA kicks off in February.

Marketing/Media:

BowlTV will live up to its name in 2023. With the new agreement between USBC and the PBA, BowlTV will become the exclusive livestream provider for both the PBA and the PWBA tours. This is in addition to our standard programming that includes Team USA Trials, USBC Collegiate and youth events, USA Bowling, TNBA and UBA.

Special thanks to the PBA for having the confidence in USBC to create this partnership. There is no doubt that delivering the PBA, PWBA and all the 2023 content on BowlTV will be a heavy lift for USBC requiring significant resources and effort. Our team is excited to take on the challenge as we see a huge benefit

and value to our members in this service. One price to see all professional bowling instead of two. One price that is now annually lower (significantly lower) than the two were before.

The Sport of Bowling Show will also return this year delivering a bi-weekly video podcast to better inform our members of news, features and reporting.

Another result of our “post-COVID world” will be a new member satisfaction annual survey that will be launched in February.

Technology

Our technology efforts will be continuing to prioritize quality and stability for our members to access USBC’s millions of certified bowler league records and important applications through BOWL.com. The online tournament registration system and WinLabs, and SMART portal will continue to be a focus as well.

We have some new projects on the roadmap for 2023. You will see a new user interface to purchase USBC membership online for 2023-2024 season. When the pandemic hit, some leagues started sending their members to the website and foregoing filling out paper cards. We know many people prefer the ease of online purchases and USBC will be providing a modern experience to purchase league membership directly on BOWL.com.

For decades, bowling has used the same channel of distribution for USBC membership in leagues. Leagues (often through proprietors) send membership cards and final averages to local associations for processing. This is done on paper. USBC is building the technology to support additional options to process membership and averages online. This could include members directly processing to USBC or the proprietor processing. In these models, the USBC local associations would, of course, keep their local dues revenue stream as they currently do. Membership at all three levels (local, state and national) is required. The concept is for online technology to streamline the process for those that want it.

Additional education opportunities on this will take place at the convention for those that are interested.

PWBA fans can look forward to a redesigned website in 2023. BowlTV subscribers should download the new BowlTV mobile app that was recently released. The app makes viewing all the great event content from BowlTV even more convenient.

Equipment Specifications

Our Equipment Specifications team continues with string pinsetter testing and a decision on string pinsetter certification will happen in 2023. Additional conversations also are taking place with the manufacturers relating to approvals and governance of bowling balls. Look for announcements on those items in 2023.

Summary

Our National Governing Body is moving forward and improving in many positive ways, and we can all take pride in the accomplishments.

Thank you to the current USBC Board of Directors in addition to all the committees for their leadership, support and strategic direction.

Having strong volunteer leadership has never been more important. In that light, a huge thanks to the thousands of association volunteers who dedicate countless hours in support of bowling.

Finally, thank you to our entire staff here at the International Bowling Campus for their efforts and passion.

I will close with a friendly reminder as to the mission and promise of USBC. It is certainly an honor and a privilege to serve as your executive director.

USBC is the National Governing Body for the sport.

Our mission is to provide benefits and services, resources and standards for the sport.

Our promise is to celebrate the past, be mindful of the present and ensure bowling's future through thoughtful research, planning and delivery. We will protect and nurture the sport with a mutual admiration and respect for all who enjoy bowling.

Chad Murphy

USBC Executive Director

MLB SUPERSTAR MOOKIE BETTS, COUNTRY MUSIC HEADLINER JIMMIE ALLEN TO PARTICIPATE IN 2023 U.S. OPEN IN INDIANAPOLIS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Bowling Proprietors' Association of America has awarded Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Mookie Betts an exemption into the main field at the 2023 U.S. Open, which will be contested at Royal Pin Woodland (formerly Woodland Bowl) in Indianapolis Jan. 29 – Feb. 5, 2023.

Country music superstar Jimmie Allen will participate in the event's pre-tournament qualifier (PTQ) after being forced to decline his exemption in order to perform at this year's Grammy Awards in Los Angeles on Feb. 1.

Betts and Allen have served as advocates and ambassadors for the sport of bowling for many years, and both still compete in high level events across the country as much as their busy schedules will allow.

Last summer, Allen took part in the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, which was contested at the South Point Bowling Plaza inside South Point Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas from March 12 – July 18, 2022.

The Open Championships is USBC's flagship tournament, an event that has brought thousands of teams to various host cities across the country 118 times since 1901.

Betts, meanwhile, has consistently been an ardent supporter of both USBC and Professional Bowlers Association tournaments. The Dodgers' all-star outfielder has maintained an average of right around 200 during 11 career PBA events.

Betts grabbed headlines in 2017 when he recorded a perfect game during qualifying-round action at PBA World Series of Bowling IX at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.

It's hard to predict whether or not Betts will achieve similar success at the 2023 U.S. Open; nevertheless, scores aside, he's just excited and grateful for being granted the opportunity to compete in Indianapolis.

"I've always enjoyed competing alongside the PBA pros and the other top bowlers in the world. Getting to do so at a major championship with the history and prestige of the U.S. Open is going to make that even more special," Betts said. "I'm grateful to BPAA for giving me this opportunity, and I'm going to try to make the most of it."

Allen was disappointed about having to decline his exemption into the main field; nevertheless, he plans to make the most of his opportunity to compete in this year's U.S. Open PTQ.

"I regret not being able to bowl in the U.S. Open, but I'm still looking forward to the PTQ. It's always an amazing experience when you get to watch the best of the best at work. It doesn't matter whether it's on a stage, in a stadium or on the lanes," Allen said. "By bowling the PTQ, I won't just be watching the best; I'll be on the lanes bowling with them. I never thought that I'd get the chance to do something like this, so I'm very grateful."

Given all the positive attention and support that both Betts and Allen have helped create for bowling over the years, BPAA Executive Director Frank DeSocio thinks the exemptions are well deserved.

"Mookie Betts and Jimmie Allen are strong bowlers and tremendous ambassadors, and the work that they've done has benefitted the sport of bowling and bowlers all across the country for many years now," DeSocio said. "The BPAA is proud to reward them with the opportunity to be a part of the 2023 U.S. Open, and we know that the decision to do so is going to be among the many reasons why this year's tournament is one that competitors and fans will never forget."

Even without Betts' and Allen's participation, this year's tournament will be unlike any other in U.S. Open history.

The 2023 U.S. Open will feature a pair of television shows with a major title and \$100,000 top prize being awarded live on FOX.

The arrangement for the 2023 event came together through cooperation between the PBA, BPAA and USBC.

To allow for the additional TV exposure, the event will have slight adjustments made to its traditional format.

At the U.S. Open, the removal of the fourth qualifying round will allow for a nine-player stepladder over two days, giving on-site fans and the national TV audience even more great bowling action to take in from Royal Pin Woodland, which owns the distinction of being the only center to have hosted every PBA major championship.

The first show, which will air live on FS1 on Feb. 4, will feature the No. 5 through No. 9 seeds in a traditional stepladder format. The advancer will join the top four seeds for the second stepladder Feb. 5 on FOX.

The 2023 event still will feature three eight-game qualifying rounds, but now the field will be cut to the top 24 athletes for round-robin match play after Round 3. Recent editions of the U.S. Open cut to the top 36 athletes after Round 3 with an additional eight-game round determining the top 24 for round-robin match play.

For 2023, 48-game totals, including bonus pins for each win in match play, will determine the nine finalists. Historically, the U.S. Open has featured 56 games.

U.S. Open competitors will battle some of the most challenging lane conditions in the sport while vying for a PBA major title, a spot in the tournament's long and storied history and the chance to wear the green jacket awarded to the winner.

Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas is the defending champion at the U.S. Open and is a four-time major champion on the PBA Tour.

All rounds of qualifying and match play at the 2023 U.S. Open at Royal Pin Woodland will be streamed live on BowITV.

The 2023 event marks the third time Woodland has hosted the U.S. Open, and the famed center is scheduled to host the tournament in 2024 and 2025 as well.

In addition to its history with the U.S. Open, including both the men's and women's event in 1996 (qualifying and match play, before the finals took place at Market Square Arena), Woodland has hosted countless PBA Tour stops and previous editions of the USBC Masters and Junior Gold Championships.

DIANDRA ASBATY AND DAVE FERRARO ELECTED TO USBC HALL OF FAME FOR 2023

ARLINGTON, Texas – Diandra Asbaty of Chicago and Dave Ferraro of Kingston, New York, have been elected to the United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame and are the final additions to a six-person induction class in 2023.

Asbaty and Ferraro were elected in the Superior Performance category and join Jill Weber of Burlington, Wisconsin, and Mike Rose Jr. of Orlando, Florida (Outstanding USBC Performance), Ron Mohr of Las Vegas (Veterans) and Jamie Brooks of Fort Worth, Texas (Meritorious Service), who were elected by the USBC Hall of Fame Committee in November.

The induction ceremony will take place April 26 during the 2023 USBC Convention in Las Vegas.

Asbaty and Ferraro 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 and Hall of Fame Committee members. Though Asbaty and Ferraro fell short of the required 70% of the votes cast needed for election, the USBC Hall of Fame Committee selected the two candidates for induction.

Asbaty, a 42-year-old right-hander, excelled collegiately at the University of Nebraska, internationally with Team USA and collected wins on the professional level, including a victory in the 2012 USBC Queens.

She starred at the University of Nebraska (1998-2002), where she was a two-time National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association first-team All-American and helped her team win a pair of Intercollegiate Team Championships titles.

Asbaty is a two-time U.S. Amateur champion (1999 and 2006) and a 15-time member of Team USA (1999-2013), where she collected more than 50 international medals.

The highlight of her professional career came in 2012 when she won the USBC Queens in Arlington, Texas. That win made up for her second-place finish in the 2007 version of the event. Her second title on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour came in 2022 in the Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles in Houston, where she partnered with PBA star EJ Tackett for the win. Asbaty also collected a pair of professional titles in PBA Women's Series events while the PWBA Tour was on hiatus.

At the USBC Women's Championships, Asbaty has posted 19 top-10 finishes with a best finish of second place in the 2008 Classic Team event. She also had a fifth-place finish in Regular Team at the USBC Open Championships in 2007.

Her other accolades include winning the 1998 Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow Award, being named two-time World Bowling Writers Bowler of the Year (2006 and 2007) and International Bowling Media Association Female Bowler of the Year (2012), and multiple Amateur Bowler of the Year awards from both the IBMA and Bowlers Journal International. She was inducted into the World Bowling Writers Hall of Fame in 2005 and continues to serve the sport as founder of the Elite Youth Tour.

Ferraro, a 63-year-old right-hander, left his mark during a career that saw him collect nine PBA Tour victories, including three majors.

Those majors included a pair of wins at the PBA Players Championship (1988 and 1991) and, in the most important win of his career, a victory in the 1990 Tournament of Champions at historic Riviera Lanes in Fairlawn, Ohio.

In addition to those major wins, Ferraro collected six additional PBA Tour titles between 1986 and 1994. His pair of wins in 1992, while also earning the George Young High Average Award and the Harry Smith Point Leader Award, propelled him to PBA Player of the Year honors.

Ferraro was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame in 1997 and, in 2009, was voted 36th on the list of the PBA's 50 Greatest Players.

In addition to Ferraro, the men's national ballot included Bryan Goebel of Shawnee, Kansas, Wes Malott of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Randy Pedersen of Orlando, Florida, and Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas.

The women's national ballot also included Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California.

Through 2022, there are 446 members of the USBC Hall of Fame – 228 in Superior Performance, 125 in Meritorious Service, 53 in Veterans, 22 in Pioneer and 18 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.

USBC LAUNCHES COACH+ MEMBERSHIP PRODUCT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR USBC-TRAINED COACHES

ARLINGTON, Texas – United States Bowling Congress-trained coaches will have new opportunities for exposure and networking in 2023 as USBC is launching an enhanced coaching membership product.

The new product called Coach+, is available to USBC-trained coaches who have achieved Bronze status or higher and includes a bundle of USBC media products in the membership. Coaches enrolled in Coach+ will receive their own personalized coaching pages on BOWL.com, access to members-only marketing materials such as custom business card and clinic flyer templates, and one-year subscriptions to both Bowlers Journal International magazine (12 issues) and the BowlTV streaming service.

These benefits are available to Coach+ members for \$99.95 per year with subscriptions automatically renewing one year from the sign-up date. In order to be eligible for Coach+, USBC-trained coaches must be up to date with all Registered Volunteer Program and U.S. Center for SafeSport training requirements.

The first 100 Coach+ subscribers will get even more value as each of them will receive a complimentary International Bowling Pro Shop & Instructors Association (IBPSIA) coach membership (\$100 added value) in addition to the other Coach+ subscriber benefits.

Key among those additional benefits is the fact that Coach+ members will be featured prominently any time a USBC member uses BOWL.com's relaunched Find-a-Coach search feature. In addition to having their name and contact information in search results, Coach+ member listings also will include a direct link to that coach's personalized web page on BOWL.com, allowing coaches to publicly share their credentials and experience.

"Providing quality coaching resources is a core function for USBC as the National Governing Body," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "While we stepped back from highlighting coaches on BOWL.com a few years ago, we are now positioned to provide value for coaches and those looking for instruction at a higher level."

USBC's commitment to providing coaches with more benefits is not limited to Coach+ members alone, however.

In addition to the Coach+ product for those Bronze level and above, USBC Coaching will be launching the quarterly USBC Coaching E-Newsletter to its entire coaching database, from Level 1 to Gold.

The E-Newsletter will feature valuable information such as updated class dates, resource center information, training tools and/or tips, as well as Coach+ program updates.

2023 U.S. OPEN TO GET UNDERWAY IN INDIANAPOLIS ON SUNDAY

ARLINGTON, Texas – There is nothing quite like the start of a new bowling season.

That's because whether you're a league bowler or a touring professional, each new season provides the opportunity to catch up with old friends, get back in the swing of competition and pursue challenging goals designed to take your game to the next level.

For members of the Professional Bowlers Association Tour, the season-opener is even more special because it happens to take place at one of the sport's most-prestigious major championships, the U.S. Open.

The 2023 U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!, a major championship on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour schedule, starts Sunday at Royal Pin Woodland (formerly Woodland Bowl) in Indianapolis and will wrap up on Feb. 5.

The week-long tournament is sure to be chock full of intriguing action. With that in mind, here are some unique storylines to keep your eye on during this year's tournament:

Simonsen looks to complete successful title defense

Since all 108 bowlers in this year's U.S. Open field will be looking to reach the top of the mountain, it's probably best to begin by looking at the man who currently resides there.

In this case, that would be Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas.

Simonsen won last year's tournament, which was also held at Woodland, by defeating E.J. Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana, 232-165 during the live TV finals on Fox Sports' FS1.

The victory earned Simonsen the tournament's \$100,000 first-place prize and the distinction of being the youngest player in PBA history to win three majors at just 25 years and 31 days old. USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Dave Davis held the previous mark (25 years, 43 days).

Not one to rest on his laurels, a little over a month later, Simonsen became the fastest to record four PBA major victories when he won the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Masters in Las Vegas.

Simonsen can rewrite the record book once again by capturing major No. 5 in Indianapolis this week. However, to do so, he'd have to complete the first successful U.S. Open title defense since Dave Husted accomplished the feat in 1996.

It's sure to be a tall task, but Simonsen has already proven time and time again that he's more than up to the challenge.

Belmonte aims to break own record

Speaking of being up to a challenge, no bowler in the world has proven himself more capable of rising to the occasion than has Australian superstar Jason Belmonte.

Belmonte has been the consensus pick as the world's No. 1 bowler for the better part of the last decade, and it's easy to understand why as a seven-time PBA Player of the Year and the tour's all-time leader in major championship victories with 14.

The two-hander already has one U.S. Open title under his belt. That win came when he defeated Simonsen (226-201) during the stepladder finals at the 2020 event held at Sun Valley Lanes in Lincoln, Nebraska.

That victory was especially sweet for Belmonte as it allowed him to become just the second player in PBA history to capture the elusive Super Slam, which means a player has won five different major championship titles. PBA Hall of Famer Mike Aulby is the only other bowler to have accomplished the feat.

Belmonte comes to Woodland looking to add to his already-legendary resume by starting the 2023 season with U.S. Open win No. 2 and major title No. 15.

If past history is any indicator of things to come, Belmonte is almost certain to be in the mix all week long at Woodland.

MLB's Mookie Betts, country music's Jimmie Allen to take part in U.S. Open activities

The Bowling Proprietors' Association of America recently awarded Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Mookie Betts and country music headliner Jimmie Allen exemptions into the main field at the 2023 U.S. Open.

Betts and Allen have served as advocates and ambassadors for the sport of bowling, and both still compete in high level events across the country as much as their busy schedules will allow.

Allen will participate in Sunday's pre-tournament qualifier after being forced to decline his exemption in order to perform at this year's Grammy Awards in Los Angeles on Feb. 1.

Betts, meanwhile, will compete in the tournament proper as a member of A Squad, which kicks off this year's event Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. Eastern for the first of three eight-game qualifying blocks.

The Dodgers' all-star outfielder has been an ardent supporter of both USBC and PBA tournaments through the years, maintaining an average of right around 200 during 11 career PBA events.

Betts' crowning PBA achievement to date came in 2017 when he recorded a perfect game during qualifying-round action at PBA World Series of Bowling IX at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.

Regardless of how Betts and Allen perform on the lanes, just having them on site is sure to add even more excitement to an already-thrilling week of action on the lanes in Indianapolis.

Don't overlook the locals

Eight Indiana natives head to Woodland hoping to win the title and keep the 2023 U.S. Open crown in the Hoosier state.

That list includes a pair of past major champions in Wes Malott of Fort Wayne, who won the 2012-2013 Lipton U.S. Open, and Tackett, who secured major victories at the 2016 PBA World Championship in Reno and the 2017 FireLake Tournament of Champions in Owasso, Oklahoma.

Malott's son Jordan, also of Fort Wayne, is in this year's field as well. The younger Malott, a current member of Junior Team USA, is no stranger to success at Woodland as he has authored strong performances there in years past while competing at the Junior Gold Championships.

Nevertheless, fan-favorite honors may very well go to Indianapolis natives Brent Boho and Zach Weidman, who will have the advantage of bowling in their own backyard and being able to sleep at home throughout this year's tournament.

Despite having to travel a bit farther, Kevin McCune of Munster, Ronnie Russell of Marion and Matthew Sanders of Evansville will also feel at home and should garner plenty of support this week at Woodland.

A family affair

Competing for a major title is always a nerve-wracking experience.

As such, it's nice when a bowler can count on the support of family to help weather the storm.

Several 2023 U.S. Open competitors will be able to get that support not just from the stands but from the settee as well since they will have family members bowling right alongside them.

As already discussed, father-son duo Wes and Jordan Malott are in this year's field as are PBA Hall of Famer Chris Barnes and his son Ryan, both of Denton, Texas.

Aside from the father-son pairs, two sets of brothers will compete together this year as well.

The first is Darren Tang of Las Vegas and brother Michael Tang of Pickerington, Ohio, and the second is the Lavery-Spahr brothers, Sean and Anthony, both of Pasadena, Texas.

It remains to be seen how the family units will fare in the final standings, but just being able to share the competition experience is sure to make the 2023 U.S. Open one they won't soon forget.

Tournament action begins Sunday morning when 108 bowlers take to the lanes at Royal Pin Woodland for the eight-game PTQ, which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. Eastern.

A minimum of 21 players will advance out of the PTQ and be added to the tournament's main field, which also will feature a total of 108 bowlers.

Those bowlers will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with each of the tournament's four challenging oil patterns during Monday's practice session, which will run from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

Tournament play will officially begin Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. Eastern when the bowlers on A Squad hit the lanes for their first eight-game qualifying block. B Squad and C Squad will follow at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern, respectively.

All competitors will complete 24 games of qualifying over three days and three lane conditions before the field is cut from 108 to 24 for three rounds of round-robin match play, which will be contested on a fourth oil pattern.

Pinfall totals for 24 games will determine the 24 players for round-robin match play, and 48-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will decide the nine bowlers who advance to the two live televised rounds.

The first round will feature seeds No. 5-9 battling it out on FS1 on Feb. 4 at 4 p.m. Eastern. The bowler who wins that stepladder will join seeds No. 1-4 for the championship round Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. Eastern on FOX.

The 2023 U.S. Open will be a collaborative effort between USBC and BPAA and again will be considered a major on the PBA Tour. The total prize fund for the event will exceed \$275,000.

For more information about the U.S. Open, visit BOWL.com/USOpen.

LOCAL BOWLER NATHAN SMITH WINS PTQ; 2023 U.S. OPEN FIELD FINALIZED

INDIANAPOLIS – Many bowlers competing in this year’s U.S. Open had to fly to Indianapolis from destinations across the country. A few literally traveled from the other side of the world.

Nathan Smith of Noblesville, Indiana, simply made a 20-minute drive.

The home-field advantage paid off in a big way Sunday as Smith won the pre-tournament qualifier at Royal Pin Woodland (formerly Woodland Bowl) in Indianapolis to officially claim a spot in the main field at the 2023 U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!

Smith, a member of Junior Team USA, reached the top of the leaderboard by rolling games of 226, 214, 244, 165, 265, 233, 225 and 228 for an eight-game total of 1,800, which was good for a 225 average.

The strong performance was certainly welcomed by Smith, who did not have his sights set on winning the PTQ; he was simply hoping to make the cut.

“I didn’t do very well when I bowled the U.S. Open PTQ last year, so to make a jump like this is kind of mind-blowing,” Smith said. “It’s been almost 20 minutes since we finished bowling, and it’s still sinking in that I was the leader; it’s surreal to me.”

Another fact that Smith will have to come to grips with quickly is that by earning a spot in the tournament proper, he will now be competing against bowlers he’s grown up watching and idolizing,

bowlers like seven-time Professional Bowlers Association Player of the Year and 14 time major titlist Jason Belmonte of Australia.

Smith didn't try to play it cool when discussing what it will feel like to battle Belmonte and the rest of the PBA's best.

"Bowling against these players is going to be intimidating," Smith said. "For the longest time, I was in the crowd watching the tour players and sort of fanboying. Now, I'm going to be going up against them. Again, it will be intimidating, but I just have to try not to let that affect me in a negative way."

If it's any consolation to Smith, he won't have to go it alone as 20 other competitors advanced through the PTQ to join the tournament's main field with him.

Michael Eaton Jr. of Byron Center, Michigan, used a final-game 247 to finish second in the PTQ at 1,791. Justin Knowles of Okemos, Michigan, led a good portion of Sunday's block, but he finished the day in third place with 1,786.

The final places in the top five went to Bailey Mavrick of Fishers, Indiana, and Ric McCormick of Cincinnati, who came in with identical eight-game totals of 1,735.

Michael Jachcinski of Camden, Michigan (1,711), Jean Perez of Greenwood, Indiana (1,710), Ramsey Basurto of Verdes, California (1,704), Charlie Brown Jr. of Rockford, Michigan (1,703) and Andrew Hall of Westborough, Massachusetts (1,699) claimed spots six through 10, respectively.

Nevertheless, the position all eyes were on was place No. 21 in the standings as that represented the last and final qualifying position.

Joseph Grondin of San Pedro, California, was the bowler holding that coveted spot after the final balls had been thrown. Grondin finished with an eight-game total of 1,652 (a 206.5 average) to capture the final place inside the cut line.

However, not all bowlers were focused on making the cut.

Country music headliner Jimmie Allen participated in Sunday's PTQ simply because of his love for bowling and to gain some valuable competitive experience.

"Going into this, my main goal was just to have fun," Allen said. "I've only really been bowling for about two years now, and I've learned so much in that time. Still, I'm out here going up against the best, guys who have been doing this for many years, so my goal was just to have fun and not finish last."

Allen was successful on both counts.

He plans to bring his bowling equipment with him on the road going forward so that he can continue practicing as much as possible in the hopes of making a run at the top 40 the next time around.

Meanwhile, the 21 players who advanced through Sunday's PTQ joined those who already had spots in the tournament to finalize the 2023 U.S. Open field at 108 bowlers.

All of them will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with each of the tournament's four challenging oil patterns during Monday's practice session, which will run from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

Tournament play will officially begin Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. Eastern when the bowlers on A Squad hit the lanes for their first eight-game qualifying block.

In addition to watching the many talented PBA pros, fans at Woodland also will have the opportunity to watch L.A. Dodgers' all-star outfielder Mookie Betts compete as a member of A Squad as well.

Due to his love and support for bowling, the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America awarded Betts an exemption into the tournament's main field.

Once Betts and his fellow A Squad bowlers finish up on Tuesday, B Squad and C Squad will follow at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern, respectively.

All competitors will complete 24 games of qualifying over three days and three lane conditions before the field is cut from 108 to 24 for three rounds of round-robin match play, which will be contested on a fourth oil pattern.

Pinfall totals for 24 games will determine the 24 players for round-robin match play, and 48-game totals, including 30 bonus pins for each win in match play, will decide the nine bowlers who advance to the two live televised rounds.

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The 2023 U.S. Open is a collaborative effort between the United States Bowling Congress and BPAA and again will be considered a major on the PBA Tour. The total prize fund for the event will exceed \$275,000.

**2023 U.S. Open PTQ
At Royal Pin Woodland
Indianapolis**

**ADVANCERS TO U.S. OPEN MAIN FIELD
(Position, name, hometown, eight-game total)**

- 1, Nathan Smith, Noblesville, Ind., 1,800
- 2, Michael Eaton Jr., Byron Center, Mich., 1,791
- 3, Justin Knowles, Okemos, Mich., 1,786
- 4, Bailey Mavrick, Fishers, Ind., 1,735
- 4, Ric McCormick, Cincinnati, 1,735
- 6, Michael Jachcinski, Camden, Mich., 1,711
- 7, Jean Perez, Greenwood, Ind., 1,710
- 8, Ramsey Basurto, Verdes, Calif., 1,704
- 9, Charlie Brown Jr., Rockford, Mich., 1,703
- 10, Andrew Hall, Westborough, Mass., 1,699
- 11, Timothy Gruendler, St. Louis, 1,695
- 12, Ronnie Fujita, Richmond, Calif., 1,694
- 13, Eric Jones, Edmond, Okla., 1,688
- 14, Cody Shoemaker, Hanover, Pa., 1,686

- 15, Tomas Kayhko, Finland, 1,682
- 16, Peter Fox, West Hartford, Conn., 1,680
- 17, Dwight Adams, Greensboro, N.C., 1,671
- 18, Timothy Foy Jr., Seaford, Del., 1,663
- 19, Christopher Sloan, Ireland, 1,658
- 20, Dan Higgins, Lewis Center, Ohio, 1,656
- 21, Joseph Grondin, San Pedro, Calif., 1,652

2024 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS SHIFTS TO RENO WITH CINCINNATI HOSTING IN 2027

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announced a schedule change for the USBC Women's Championships. The 2024 Women's Championships will shift from Cincinnati's Western Bowl to the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.

Cincinnati now is scheduled to host the event in 2027 at Western Bowl.

"We have some exciting renovation plans in the works to take Western Bowl to the next level as a premier tournament destination," said Strike and Spare Family Entertainment Centers Operations Manager Ron Schmittou. "In order to accommodate our existing business, Hoinke Tournament and the renovation schedule, the best option was for Western Bowl to shift hosting the USBC Women's Championships to 2027. This change will allow us to provide the best possible venue experience for the Women's Championships and our current customers."

The 2024 Women's Championships will take place at the NBS. The venue underwent a \$4.5 million renovation leading up to the 2021 event and will be an opportunity for many bowlers to experience the recently renovated facility for the first time.

"Reno Tahoe is excited to welcome the USBC Women's Championships back to Reno and the National Bowling Stadium in 2024," said Reno Tahoe President and CEO Charles Harris. "We are proud to continue to partner with USBC and know the bowlers will have a fantastic experience."

Registration for the 2024 Women's Championships will open in April 2023.

Go to [BOWL.com/WomensChamp](https://www.bowl.com/WomensChamp) to learn more about the Women's Championships.

MULTI-NATION WORKING GROUP PROPOSES CHANGES TO INTERNATIONAL BOWLING FEDERATION ARTICLES

VANCOUVER, Canada – An international working group representing seven countries is proposing a package of amendments to the International Bowling Federation’s Articles of Association. The proposed changes are intended to improve IBF’s governance practices, so IBF will operate with financial transparency and fair representation.

The package of amendments will be brought forward to IBF member federations for a vote at the next IBF General Meeting. This meeting has not yet been scheduled.

The working group included representatives from Canada, Costa Rica, England, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and the United States. The United States Bowling Congress provided administrative support for the working group, which was facilitated by attorney Scott Beightol of the law firm Michael Best & Friedrich LLP. Beightol is a leading expert in governance best practices, with extensive international business experience.

The working group has published full text of the proposed package of amendments for IBF member federations to review on BOWL.com.

IBF Athlete Representative Francois Lavoie of Canada, who was part of the working group along with Executive Director of the Canadian Tenpin Federation Cathy Innes, will be conducting a series of virtual meetings to present the package of amendments to IBF member federations. Following the presentations, federations are invited to provide comments on the proposed amendments.

Key points of the package of proposed amendments include:

- IBF Executive Board members appointed through zones.
- Increased athlete representation on the IBF Executive Board.
- IBF Executive Board elects the IBF President.
- Term limits for IBF Executive Board members and officers.
- Zone Presidents prohibited from being IBF President or Vice President.
- IBF Executive Board required to meet regularly and publish meeting minutes.
- IBF required to publish financial statements.
- Automatic removal of IBF Executive Board members for failure to attend meetings or publish financial statements.
- Proxy voting at the General Meeting eliminated. Virtual voting will be allowed.
- Creation of Standing Committees, including Finance/Audit, Competitions, Athletes and Governance Committees with members appointed by zones.

- Competition Committee with authority to adopt tournament rules, formats and operating standards.

Based on comments from the member federations, the working group may decide to modify the final proposals presented at the IBF General Meeting.

Federations are invited to sign up to attend one of the virtual sessions at BOWL.com/IBF. The virtual meeting times are scheduled to allow all zones an opportunity to attend a session.

Virtual sessions will take place (all times Eastern):

- Monday, Feb. 6 at 9 p.m. (10 a.m. in Hong Kong, Tuesday, Feb. 7)
- Sunday, Feb. 12 at 6 a.m. (1 p.m. in South Africa)
- Saturday, Feb. 18 at 8 a.m. (1 p.m. in Paris)
- Sunday, Feb. 19 at 11 a.m.
- Monday, Feb. 27 at 5 a.m. (10 a.m. in London and 2 p.m. in Dubai)
- Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 3 p.m.
- Thursday, March 2 at 1 p.m.
- Friday, March 3 at 8 p.m. (10 a.m. in Tokyo, Saturday, March 4)

For additional information, contact IBFgroup@bowl.com.

USBC HALL OF FAMER JEANETTE ROBINSON DIES AT AGE 94

ARLINGTON, Texas – United States Bowling Congress and Professional Women’s Bowling Association Hall of Famer Jeanette Robinson died Jan. 31 at the age of 94.

Robinson was elected to the PWBA Hall of Fame in 1996 in the Pioneer category, and she was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2000 for Meritorious Service.

Born in Flint, Michigan, Robinson developed and shared her passion for the sport as a competitor, instructor, event organizer and administrative figure, which included serving as the president for the PWBA during the 1960s and 1970s. She was elected to the position in 1965 and held the role until 1975.

As a competitor, she found success on the local and state levels across Michigan and earned her time in the national spotlight with her win at the 1974 PWBA Dayton Classic in Dayton, Ohio.

After moving to Las Vegas in the late 1970s to join the staff at the famed Showboat Lanes, she continued to find the winner’s circle in local and state competitions in Nevada.

In addition to her role with the PWBA, Robinson also served on the Greater Flint Area Board of Directors for 10 years, was a director and supervisor of junior bowling programs in Michigan for 20 years and helped organize tournaments and participation programs for the Special Olympics.

In Las Vegas, she helped to develop tournaments for members of the military. In the early 1990s, she set her sights on providing female bowlers ages 50 and over the chance to compete on the national stage and created the National Golden Ladies Classic (now International Golden Ladies Classic), which continues to run each year in Las Vegas.

Robinson coached Team USA in 1967 at the Federation Internationale des Quilleurs (FIQ) World Championships (now International Bowling Federation World Championships) in Sweden, and she traveled across the world helping to conduct clinics as an ambassador of the sport through the AMF Staff of Champions.

She was recognized as the International Bowling Media Association's Rip Van Winkle Award winner in 1995, and her tireless efforts and contributions to the sport helped her earn five additional inductions to local and state halls of fame – Greater Flint Area USBC, Michigan State USBC, Greater Flint Area Sports, Southern Nevada USBC and Nevada State USBC.

More information on services for Robinson will be available at a later date.

REGISTRATION ON THE HORIZON FOR 2024 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN LAS VEGAS

ARLINGTON, Texas – As bowlers look ahead to planning their trips, developing their on-lane strategies and finalizing their off-lane activities for the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships, they also can look forward to securing their spots for 2024 as registration dates have been announced for next year's event in Las Vegas.

The 2024 USBC Open Championships will return to the South Point Bowling Plaza and take place for 136 consecutive days, running from March 2 to July 15.

Members of the Captain's Club will have the first opportunity to secure their spots at the 2024 event, starting Feb. 3. The early registration period will be available to current qualifying members, and captains will receive details and instructions by email.

The online portal will open to all bowlers starting March 2 at 1 p.m. Eastern.

To be eligible for the benefits of the Captain's Club, a captain must have five or more teams registered to bowl for the 2023 event.

The Open Championships will make its fifth visit to the South Point Bowling Plaza and seventh overall trip to Las Vegas for the tournament's 120th edition.

The entry fee at the 2024 tournament will be \$70 per event, plus an optional \$15 for all-events (\$225 total). There also is a \$25 processing fee per team.

The 2023 Open Championships is scheduled to begin March 4 and run through July 24 at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada.

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

TACKETT WINS 2023 U.S. OPEN TO COMPLETE TRIPLE CROWN

INDIANAPOLIS – E.J. Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana, described his second-place finish at the 2022 U.S. Open as a fairytale that ended too quickly.

On Sunday, Tackett authored the storybook ending he was longing for by defeating Kyle Troup of Taylorsville, North Carolina, 221-208 to win the 2023 U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!

The victory gave Tackett his first U.S. Open title and third major overall, earning him the career triple crown.

Tackett won the 2016 Professional Bowlers Association World Championship in Reno and the 2017 FireLake Tournament of Champions in Owasso, Oklahoma.

Now that he's added the green jacket to his trophy case, Tackett just needs a United States Bowling Congress Masters title to achieve the grand slam.

However, that was the furthest thing from his mind after Sunday's hard-fought victory; instead, he was just trying to wrap his mind around how much this U.S. Open title meant to him.

"There's a whole mountain of things that this win means, the U.S. Open, the triple crown, winning at Woodland and getting my banner hung up with all of the others who have won here, winning in the state of Indiana, the list just goes on and on," Tackett said. "This is absolutely incredible; it almost has me at a loss for words."

What was equally incredible was the dramatic fashion in which it happened.

That's because after six days, 48 games and nine frames, this year's U.S. Open title was determined by a single shot.

The championship match was tied at 164 through eight frames, which meant that both Tackett and Troup had the opportunity to strike out to finish at 224.

Troup struck in the ninth and on the first ball in the tenth, but his second shot in the final frame left the Big 4 (4-6-7-10 split).

He was unable to convert, taking two pins to finish with a final score of 208.

Nevertheless, Troup's first strike was crucial as it meant that Tackett would have to match with a strike of his own to start the tenth. If he failed to do so, he would be the U.S. Open runner up for the second consecutive year.

With everything on the line, Tackett stepped up and delivered a flush shot into the 1-3 pocket.

For a fraction of a second, it looked like the 10 pin was going to stand, but it slowly toppled over to keep Tackett's title bid alive.

Now, he needed at least seven pins on his next two balls in order to win the crown.

Leaving nothing to chance, Tackett delivered another flush strike, this one a no-doubter that officially sealed the win, giving Tackett the trophy, the green jacket and the \$100,000 first-place prize.

"I never looked at the scoreboard, so I didn't know exactly what I needed. I just knew that if I stepped up there and threw a really good shot like I had been, the tournament would be mine," Tackett said. "I really thought I had rung the ten on that first shot, but it fell over, and now here I am talking to you."

Tackett was understandably overcome with emotion at various times throughout that talk as the realization that he had accomplished a goal that he's dreamt about for nearly 20 years slowly began washing over him.

"You know, I remember being on the lanes practicing when I was 12 and pretending that I needed a double in the tenth frame to beat Norm Duke for the U.S. Open title," Tackett said. "This morning, Norm texted me and said 'post your shot, post your score; everything else is just fish stories. I love you; go get 'em.' That meant a lot to me.

"I know that there are so many people who live and die on every shot I make. I'm not bowling for just me because so many people want me to be successful and have given up so much to allow me to be here. I'm living in a fairytale."

Troup nearly completed his own fairytale U.S. Open ending, winning Saturday's stepladder battle between seeds No. 5-9 on FS1 and emerging victorious in Sunday's first three matches on FOX before eventually falling to Tackett in the title bout.

Troup began his day with a 207-192 victory over England's Richie Teece, this year's No. 4 seed.

That match was close throughout, but an untimely washout (1-2-4-10) in the eighth by Teece allowed Troup to open Sunday's telecast with a 207-192 victory.

Defending champion Anthony Simonsen of Las Vegas was Troup's Match 2 opponent.

Simonsen was looking to become the youngest player in PBA history to win five major titles and the first player to successfully complete a U.S. Open title defense since Dave Husted accomplished the feat in 1996, one year before Simonsen was born.

Troup held a 21 pin lead through eight frames and appeared to be on his way to victory, but things turned dramatic when he left a 1-2-4-10 washout in the tenth frame.

Troup threw a quality shot at the conversion, but the head pin went around the 10 pin, forcing Troup to settle for 203 and giving Simonsen the opportunity to strike out to beat him by a pin.

It wasn't meant to be for the defending champion, however, as his first ball in the tenth went high and left the 3-4-6-7 split, which gave Troup a 203-177 victory and ended Simonsen's valiant bid for a U.S. Open repeat.

With Simonsen vanquished, Tomas Kayhko of Finland awaited Troup in the semifinals.

Despite coming in with far less TV finals experience than his American counterpart, the two-hander from Finland didn't seem intimidated in the least while taking on Troup.

In fact, it was Kayhko who jumped out front, using an early double to take a six-pin lead at the halfway point in the match.

The tide would turn from there, however, as despite hitting the pocket consistently, Kayhko would record just two more strikes the rest of the way.

Troup, meanwhile, delighted the standing-room-only crowd with a four-bagger in frames five through eight to erase the deficit and go on to a 219-215 win.

With his place in the championship match secured, Troup stood just one victory away from completing a successful run up the stepladder and taking home the U.S. Open title.

That victory would have been all the more impressive when considering that until this year, Troup had never even managed to qualify for match play in a U.S. Open.

However, once the title match started, it was clear that Troup wasn't content just to be there; he had designs on winning.

He fought Tackett hard throughout, using an early turkey in frames two, three and four and a clutch double in the sixth and seventh to tie the match up at 164 with just two frames to go.

But that's when Tackett stepped up and delivered the shots he needed to bring home the title and put Troup's U.S. Open title aspirations on hold for at least another year.

"Kyle is a tremendous competitor, one of the toughest that we have on Tour, but it was just my time," Tackett said. "I tried to keep my emotions inside all week, but you saw it come out when I threw that last shot because of how much more this win means. I can try to play it off, but this one just means so, so much to me."

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

The 2023 U.S. Open was a collaborative effort between the United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Proprietor's Association of America. The total prize fund for the event exceeded \$275,000.

For more information about the U.S. Open, visit BOWL.com/USOpen.

**2023 U.S. Open
At Woodland Bowl
Indianapolis**

Sunday's results

FINAL STANDINGS

- 1, EJ Tackett, Bluffton, Ind., 221 (one game), \$100,000.
- 2, Kyle Troup, Taylorsville, N.C., 837 (four games), \$50,000.
- 3, Tomas Kayhko, Finland, 215 (one game), \$25,000.
- 4, Anthony Simonsen, Las Vegas, 177 (one game), \$16,000.
- 5, Richard Teece, England, 192 (one game), \$10,000.

STEPLADDER RESULTS

- Match No. 1 – Troup def. Teece, 192-187.
Match No. 2 – Troup def. Simonsen, 203-177.
Semifinal – Troup def. Kayhko, 219-215.
Championship – Tackett def. Troup, 221-208.

**FIVE CANDIDATES SLATED FOR USBC BOARD ELECTION,
NINE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO BE DECIDED**

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Nominating Committee has slated five candidates for election to the USBC Board of Directors, and delegates also will vote on nine legislative proposals at the 2023 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting.

The 2023 USBC Convention will take place April 24-27 at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, with the Annual Meeting legislative sessions to take place on the final day.

Delegates will vote to fill three open positions on the USBC Board of Directors. Incumbents Glenda Beckett and Adam Mitchell are among the five slated, as well as current director Mike Cannington who will term out as a Youth Committee member. He is seeking election by the delegates.

The USBC Nominating Committee, which may slate up to two candidates for each opening, set a slate of five candidates:

- Glenda Beckett, Palmetto Bay, Florida
- Brandon Bowman, Mukilteo, Washington
- Mike Cannington, Fort Myers, Florida
- Adam Mitchell, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

- Cheryl Younger, Leavenworth, Kansas

Beckett has been on the USBC Board of Directors since the 2020-2021 season. She currently serves on the Awards and Recognition, Nominating and Legal and Legislative Committees. Beckett has been the Greater Miami USBC Association Manager since 2012 and, on the state level, she has been a Florida State USBC board member since 2018. She was inducted into the Greater Miami USBC Hall of Fame for meritorious service in 2014. Professionally, Beckett retired from AT&T/Lucent Technologies in 2001, having worked as executive assistant to the president for the Caribbean and Latin America region.

Bowman is a 31-year USBC member who currently serves as a director on the boards of Washington State USBC and Snohomish County USBC. As chair of the Youth and Communications Committees for both associations, Bowman has coached youth for four years while managing youth programs, websites and social media platforms. He also serves on the Scholarship and Finance Committees. Professionally, Bowman is a Sustainable Business Consultant and Finance Manager, focusing on strategy, operational efficiency and financial management of corporations.

Cannington has been a member of the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee since 2014. He is the sales and marketing director for Bowling Management Associates, operators of seven bowling centers in southwest Florida. A lifelong bowler, Cannington was captain of the University of South Florida bowling team (1978-1980). He has taken on leadership roles with both business and civic organizations throughout his four decades in business. Cannington served eight years as a member of the Southwest Florida USBC association and currently is working on the Member Events Committee for the Bowling Centers Association of Florida (BCAF).

Mitchell began his second term on the board in the 2020-2021 season. He served as vice president for two seasons, also starting during the 2020-2021 season. He was a board member for Nation's Capital Area USBC from 2014-2020 and continues to serve as a Virginia State Youth Director. He started bowling at age 10 and was a local Youth Leader for the Young American Bowling Alliance (YABA). Off the lanes, he is Chief Executive Officer of Global Solutions Inc., a company he started in 2013 to provide managed security, human capital management, fingerprinting and payroll services to federal contractor clients.

Younger has more than 20 years of USBC membership and serves as second vice president of the Kansas State USBC, where she also serves as co-chair for the Tournament Committee and is a member of the Finance Committee. Younger also serves as a director on the board of Wy-Jon County USBC, where she is chairperson for the Hall of Fame/Bowler of Year Committee and has served on the BVL Committee. Professionally, she worked 45 years in the corporate travel and financial services industry, most recently as senior manager of strategic relationship management for American Express Global Business Travel.

Additional candidates for the USBC Board of Directors may run from the floor, provided they give notice of their candidacy to the committee by March 27, 2023. Go to [BOWL.com/Convention](https://www.bowl.com/convention) for the Nomination from the Floor information.

Full biographies of all the candidates will be published in the coming weeks and included in the USBC Convention program.

Of the nine proposed amendments to be voted on by delegates at the USBC Annual Meeting, five relate to bylaws, two are for league rules and two more are for tournament rules. Bylaws proposals require a

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

Visit [BOWL.com/Convention](https://www.bowl.com/convention) for more information about the 2023 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting, including the proposed legislation.

UV CONTENT NO LONGER A MANDATORY LANE OIL ADDITIVE BUT WILL REMAIN IN OIL USED AT USBC CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress will no longer require UV content as a mandatory additive in USBC-approved lane oils but will continue to use lane oil with the UV additive for its championship tournaments.

The decision comes after USBC received comments from lane oil manufacturers Brunswick and Kegel supporting the change.

The UV additive allows the amount of lane oil applied to the lane to be read by tapes with a Computer Lane Monitor system. While the UV additive is no longer mandatory in all USBC-approved lane oils, manufacturers will be able to electively produce lane oils with the additive.

Due to the continued suspension of the 3-unit rule, less utilization of the technology, and less demand for measuring any lane pattern at any time (a survey of tournament managers across the country revealed 94.7% of local tournaments no longer utilize tapes to regulate their lane conditions), the equipment specifications committee moved to no longer mandate UV additive.

Kegel, as the official lane maintenance provider for USBC Championships, will continue to use lane oil containing UV additive for USBC championship tournaments such as the Open and Women's Championships, USBC Masters, USBC Queens, U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open (among others). Protocols to confirm the lane pattern will remain in place at USBC Championships.

USBC-approved lane oils that continue to include the UV additive must still comply with USBC guidelines as outlined in the equipment specifications manual.

More information on those guidelines can be found in the equipment specifications manual (pg. 50/51) available [here](#).

USBC SMART PROGRAM MAKES \$7 MILLION EARNING ALLOCATION

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress 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 consistent with funding provided in 2022 and matches the largest investment earnings allocation in SMART history.

Due to a new policy adopted in 2021, a portion of the allocation will immediately go to new scholarships for youth bowlers. SMART has seen significant success with more scholarship funds being paid for the benefit of students. In 2022, SMART processed the largest total disbursements in program history, nearly reaching \$9 million.

Included in this allocation (approximate numbers):

- \$3.7 million in bonus scholarships to the 5,237 active SMART Recipients. These are students who used SMART funds in 2022. Each student will immediately receive a new \$715 SMART scholarship.
- \$2 million in new SMART deposited unassigned funds for Providers to allocate toward future scholarships. This is in addition to the new \$2.9 million SMART deposited unassigned funds Providers received for allocation in January from expired Recipient accounts.
- \$1.2 million is set aside for the SMART Pell Grant Match Program.
- USBC's SMART Committee intends to maintain the annual earnings allocation at \$7 million or more through at least 2024, unless investment market conditions significantly change. This will allow SMART Providers and Recipients to plan on similar new funds from SMART for future years.

“We are seeing the SMART program impact the lives of more young bowlers in a meaningful way than ever before,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. “USBC will continue with our intention to maintain at least a \$7 million allocation annually for SMART, so SMART Providers should aggressively use their unassigned funds knowing there will be consistent new funding ahead.”

The federal Pell Grant is a national program that helps students and families with the greatest financial need pay for college. The SMART Pell Grant Match maximizes the power of this federal program for bowlers by matching it dollar for dollar. The SMART Pell Grant Match will be available to any student with at least one season of USBC Youth participation and two seasons of overall USBC membership. In 2022, SMART awarded nearly \$2 million in grants through the program.

Students can request the SMART Pell Grant Match by visiting [BOWL.com/SMART](https://www.usbc.com/SMART). Applications for the SMART Pell Grant Match will be accepted through the end of the year or until the \$1.2 million in funding is exhausted.

“The SMART Pell Grant Match has proven to be highly successful and shows we have students in financial need within our bowling community,” said Frank Wilkinson, chair of the USBC SMART Committee. “We encourage everyone involved in USBC programming to help build awareness about SMART, so kids will check their accounts and take advantage of the resources available to them.”

In 2021, the USBC Board of Directors approved a series of policy changes for SMART, designed to increase scholarship benefits for SMART Recipients. The new policy allocates a portion of investment gains to be awarded as new scholarships in SMART Recipient accounts.

For more information on SMART, visit BOWL.com/SMART.

RECIPIENTS SELECTED FOR 2023 USBC NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

ARLINGTON, Texas – Rebecca Cole of Gresham, Oregon, Dalia Keyes of Valrico, Florida, and Brent Prentice of Eagan, Minnesota, were selected by the United States Bowling Congress Board of Directors to receive [**USBC National Recognition Awards**](#).

Cole is the Joyce Deitch Unity Award winner, Keyes is this year’s recipient of the Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service and Prentice has been selected as the USBC Proprietor of the Year.

The annual awards honor outstanding bowling leaders for their contributions to the sport. Selections were made from submitted applications, and the recipients will receive their awards at the [**2023 USBC Convention**](#) in Las Vegas.

The USBC Joyce Deitch Unity Award is named in honor of the seventh president of the Women’s International Bowling Congress. It recognizes organizations and individuals who have made important contributions to the sport of bowling by being motivators, visionaries, leaders and/or innovators.

Cole has been involved in the sport of bowling, either as a competitor and/or volunteer, for more than 30 years and is devoted to growing the sport on multiple levels in the Pacific Northwest region.

She is the current Oregon State USBC Association Manager and also serves as that organization’s chair of the Cooperative Sponsorship Committee for High School Bowling and Youth Committee. In addition, Cole serves on the Hall of Fame Committee and the Youth Committee for the Greater Portland USBC and is assistant general manager and league director at KingPins Portland. She has previously filled roles as a league secretary, vice president and president.

Cole, 41, enjoys sharing her knowledge of organizing, promoting and running leagues and tournaments, conducting fundraisers for events and youth bowlers and is a source of encouragement to bowlers of all ages and skill levels.

Not only is Cole the tournament director for multiple organizations in the region, but she also takes the time to promote and assist tournaments that are run by others. She openly shares her knowledge of tournament formats and ideas with other tournament organizers for the betterment of the sport, and her devotion to fundraising for local centers, associations and youth bowlers has been a constant over the years.

Cole has been praised for her leadership, innovation and humility in her tireless effort to recruit new bowlers to the sport, grow the base of current bowlers and better the lives of all bowlers in her area.

She is a member of the Greater Portland USBC Hall of Fame (Meritorious Service) and was the Oregon State USBC 2017 Volunteer of the Year.

"I feel very honored and blessed to be chosen to receive the Joyce Deitch Unity Award," said Cole. "This game has given me so much over the years, including lifetime friends, amazing adventures and priceless memories. To be recognized with such a special award brings tears to my eyes, and I'm forever grateful for the opportunities to serve and help grow something I am so passionate about."

The USBC Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service is named in honor of the fifth president of WIBC and recognizes an outstanding bowling leader who has made invaluable contributions to local and state associations as an innovator, creator and mentor of adult programs.

Keyes, 71, has been a member of both the Greater Tampa and Florida State USBC for 49 years. At both levels, Keyes has contributed her time and talent in a variety of roles while serving in a number of director, officer and committee positions.

Keyes is the present Greater Tampa USBC Association Manager and a member of the Youth Committee. On the state level, she is the current Sergeant at Arms, Youth Tournament Director and Youth Leader Advisor. On the national level, Keyes is a former director of the Women's International Bowling Congress and the Young American Bowling Alliance.

Her commitment to the sport is noteworthy as Keyes has spent countless hours visiting bowling centers in an effort to inform league members about the benefits of sanctioning with the USBC.

Keyes became a USBC trained coach in 2004 and is a tireless advocate for youth bowling in her area. She has spent years conducting youth lessons and traveling to help organize and assist with youth tournaments.

"I am honored and humbled to be accepting the USBC Helen Baker Award this year, and I'm proud to be among the previous winners who have also contributed so much to bowling," said Keyes. "Although I never met Helen Baker, I have worked with many of

the women and men who worked under her on the local, state and national levels, and I'm fortunate to have learned from some of the sport's great leaders. It is truly an honor to be given an award like this when you are so passionate about the sport of bowling, and I'd like to thank Ruby Johns, former president of the Tampa Women's Bowling Association, for nominating me."

In addition to being honored as this year's USBC Helen Baker Award recipient, Keyes is a Meritorious Service inductee in the Florida State USBC, Tampa Women's Bowling Association and Florida State USBC Youth Halls of Fame and is a two-time recipient of the Youth Leaders Landen Memorial Dedication Award.

The USBC Proprietor of the Year Award annually recognizes a bowling center proprietor for outstanding support of USBC local, state and/or national association programs.

Prentice, 49, started working at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan, Minnesota, 28 years ago when he took a job working the counter while in college. From there, he quickly progressed to assistant bowling center manager, center manager, president, and then, 20 years ago, co-proprietor of the 32-lane venue.

Under his leadership, Cedarvale Lanes added Fitz's Bar and Grill and a space for volleyball. Perhaps most notably, Prentice has made the facility a hub for tournaments of all different levels, from professional to youth.

Cedarvale Lanes played host to Professional Women's Bowlers Association tour stops in 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022, generating excitement for the sport within the community, especially among the younger bowlers who were able to experience the sport at its highest level.

Prentice also has made Cedarvale Lanes available for numerous high school tournaments, hosted Special Olympics events and has created a youth program that quickly built itself to more than 150 participants.

Additionally, he was the catalyst for Minnesota submitting a bid for a future USBC Junior Gold tournament. Community members cite Prentice's "Why Not Us" attitude when noting what makes Cedarvale Lanes the perfect place for tournament organizers and coaches who support growing the sport, especially for youth bowlers.

Prentice started bowling when he was seven years old and has 32 300 games and 31 800 series to his credit. He earned numerous state and local titles before retiring from competitive bowling in 2007 and is a member of the Twin Cities Bowling Association and Minnesota State Halls of Fame in the Superior Performance category.

Prentice is quick to credit his entire staff for their skill and support and notes he couldn't do anything without them.

"I'm so honored to receive this award from the USBC . . . I feel like this is a Super Bowl-type award for myself and the Cedarvale and Fitz's Bar and Grill team," said Prentice. "You can't win a Super Bowl without a great team, and that's what we've had here for many years. So, this is our award, not just mine."

The National Recognition Awards will be presented during the 2023 USBC Convention and Annual Meeting, which is set for April 24-27 at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

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

Visit [BOWL.com/Convention](https://www.bowl.com/Convention) for information about the 2023 USBC Convention.

USBC AND LAS VEGAS EVENTS, SOUTH POINT EXTEND AGREEMENT THROUGH 2039

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress will continue to bring top-tier competition to Las Vegas through 2039 after extending its agreement with Las Vegas Events and the South Point Hotel and Casino.

The extension will continue to bring the USBC Open and Women’s Championships to the South Point Bowling Plaza, a 60-lane tournament venue located on the South Point property, as part of the current three-year cycle.

The Open Championships now will be at the Bowling Plaza in 2024, 2027, 2030, 2033, 2036 and 2039. The Women’s Championships will be hosted at the facility in 2023, 2026, 2029, 2032, 2035 and 2038.

The 2023 Women’s Championships will take place from April 23 to July 2.

The agreement also will bring 16 of USBC’s short-duration events to other properties across Las Vegas between 2023 and 2039.

In addition to the competition in Clark County, the extension also will see the USBC Convention and Annual Meeting be held in venues across Las Vegas four times between 2023 and 2039.

“We’re excited to be able to extend our partnership with Las Vegas Events and the South Point Hotel and Casino,” USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. “Both of these organizations have supported the sport of bowling and our events over the years, and this agreement will help continue the relationship between USBC and the great city of Las Vegas.”

Many of USBC’s short-duration events have been contested in facilities in Las Vegas in recent years, and several tournaments have been regularly held across different venues, including the USBC Team USA Trials, USBC Senior Queens, USBC Senior Masters and Super Senior Classic.

“Las Vegas takes great pride in its rich bowling history, and Las Vegas Events is proud to continue our partnership with USBC through 2039,” LVE President Tim Keener said. “From the first Women’s Championships held in Las Vegas in 1973 and 1983 to the Open Championships in 1986 and then again in 2009, through the multi-tiered agreement that brought top-tier competition since 2015, Las Vegas has become a premier destination for the USBC. Our extension with the USBC includes multiple Open Championships and Women’s Championships at the state-of-the-art South Point Bowling Plaza, as well as short-duration events and USBC Conventions that will allow us to continue to showcase our city to bowlers from around the world.”

The South Point Bowling Plaza first opened its doors to USBC competition at the 2016 Women’s Championships. The facility has hosted the Open Championships four times since 2017.

“When we opened the Tournament Bowling Plaza in 2016, we knew it was going to be an amazing addition to the sports landscape in Las Vegas,” South Point General Manager Ryan Growney said. “However, these events have exceeded all of our expectations, and for that reason, we are excited to continue the partnership with the USBC and Las Vegas Events to host these incredible tournaments until 2039. We are committed to providing a first-class experience for all participants and look forward to continuing to grow and evolve these historic annual traditions.”

To learn more about Las Vegas Events, visit LasVegasEvents.com. To learn more about the South Point Hotel and Casino, visit SouthPointCasino.com.

For more information on USBC short- and long-duration events, visit BOWL.com/Tournaments.

I AM BOWLING RENEWS UNIFORM PARTNERSHIP WITH USBC AND IBC YOUTH, ELEVATES COMPANY TO USBC GOLD PARTNER STATUS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress and I AM Bowling, powered by Logo Infusion, have agreed upon a contract renewal to keep I AM Bowling the official uniform sponsor of USBC and International Bowling Campus Youth staff, the Team USA program and the Junior Gold Championships through 2026.

The extension makes I AM Bowling a Gold Industry Partner at the USBC Open Championships, Women’s Championships, Team USA Trials, Intercollegiate Team Championships, Intercollegiate Singles Championships, Junior Gold Championships and digital programs.

“USBC is very excited to continue its relationship with I AM Bowling, a company that is not only known for producing stylish, high-quality apparel but also for being a major supporter of bowlers and the bowling industry as a whole,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said.

The renewed partnership means that I AM Bowling’s dye-sublimated jerseys will be worn by USBC and IBC staff and competitors at high-level tournaments across the country and will be donned by all levels of the Team USA program, including Junior, Para and Developmental Team, as they compete abroad as well.

USBC’s Team USA and Junior Team USA comprise the top bowlers, professional and amateur, in the United States. The men’s and women’s teams represent the U.S. in international bowling competitions throughout the world, such as the Pan American Games, World and American Zone Championships, World Games and International Bowling Federation World Cup.

Players earn spots on Team USA and Junior Team USA by competing in the annual Team USA Trials, a week-long tournament designed to identify the best, most-versatile men’s and women’s bowlers in the country. Positions on Junior Team USA and the Developmental Team also are awarded based upon standings at each year’s Junior Gold Championships. Members of Para Team USA are chosen by the USBC National Selection Committee.

The elevation to USBC Gold Industry Partner status seats I AM Bowling alongside some of the industry’s most iconic brands such as Brunswick, Motiv and Storm Products, Inc. As such, I AM Bowling will be highly visible, with signage at event venues across the country.

One such event will be the Junior Gold Championships, where I AM Bowling is the official tournament sponsor. Because of this, youth bowlers around the country can pre-order their favorite 2023 “official” Junior Gold jerseys right away.

“I AM Bowling is grateful for the opportunity to continue as USBC’s and IBC’s official uniform sponsor, and we are excited to now be a Gold Industry Partner as well,” said Ken Keegan, founder of I AM Bowling. “It’s amazing to see our jerseys being worn and our logo on display at so many great tournaments all over the world. This contract extension guarantees that will continue to happen for many years, and that is both exciting and humbling.”

Go to IAMBowling.com to learn more about its popular jerseys and other products available from I AM Bowling.

SECTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The focus for the top collegiate programs across the country shifts to postseason play with sectional assignments now determined for the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships.

The sectional assignments were broadcast live on [BowlTV](#) and introduced the 80 men's programs and 64 women's teams moving ahead in the 2022-2023 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season with the opportunity to claim the coveted Helmer Cup.

The sectional qualifiers will be held across four locations March 11-12. The locations include Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois; USA Bowl in Dallas; Poelking Lanes South in Dayton, Ohio; and Smyrna Bowling Center in Smyrna, Tennessee.

The top four teams in each division will advance from their sectional and head to the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas for the 2023 ITC from April 19-22.

With the regular season concluding over the weekend, the top-ranked teams heading into the sectional qualifiers are the Wichita State men and Mount Mercy women.

The Wichita State men have captured a record 12 ITC titles and collected a pair of Tier I wins during the 2022-2023 season (Mid-States Championships and National Collegiate Team Match Games). The Shockers will be heading to USA Bowl in Dallas.

The Mount Mercy women started their season with a win at the Midwest Collegiate Championships. The Mustangs are looking to make their fourth consecutive appearance at the ITC and will compete at Stardust Bowl in Addison.

The Stephen F. Austin women and Wisconsin-Whitewater men will enter their sectional qualifiers as the defending ITC champions. Each program collected its first Helmer Cup in 2022.

The Ladyjacks will start their title defense in Dallas while the Wisconsin-Whitewater men will look for a second consecutive victory starting in Smyrna.

The final Tier I event of the 2022-2023 regular season took place over the weekend at the Hoosier Classic in Indianapolis, and the bracket wins in the 54th edition of the tournament went to the Tennessee Southern men and Wichita State women.

Tennessee Southern will be in Smyrna, and Wichita State will make its way to Dallas.

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

MEN

Addison Sectional

Aquinas, Concordia, Davenport, Drury, Huntington, Iowa Western CC, Judson, Lawrence Tech, Marian-Wisconsin, Mount Mercy, Peru State, Quincy, Rock Valley, Saint Xavier, Spring Arbor, Thomas More, Viterbo, Webber International, Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Wisconsin-Stout

Dallas Sectional

Arizona Christian, Arizona State, Barton CC, California State-Fresno, Calumet, Grand Canyon, Grand View, Hastings, Houston, Iowa Central CC, Lindenwood, Midland, Missouri Baptist, Newman, Oklahoma Christian, Ottawa-Kansas, San Jose State, Texas-San Antonio, Wichita State, William Penn

Dayton Sectional

Adrian, Bowling Green State, Erie CC, Indiana Tech, Madonna, Marian-Indiana, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Northwestern Ohio, Notre Dame-Ohio, Ohio State, Pikeville, Purdue, Rio Grande, Robert Morris-Pennsylvania, Rochester Institute of Technology, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, Saint Vincent, SUNY-Stony Brook, Trine, William Paterson

Smyrna Sectional

Baker, Belmont Abbey, Campbellsville, Central Florida, Emmanuel, Lindsey Wilson, McKendree, Midway, Milligan, Muskingum, Savannah College of Art and Design-Atlanta, Spring Hill, St. Ambrose, St. Francis-Illinois, Tennessee Southern, Tennessee Wesleyan, University of the Cumberland, Walsh, Wisconsin-Whitewater, Wright State

WOMEN**Addison Sectional**

Carthage, Coe, Concordia, Culver-Stockton, Davenport, Delaware State, Huntington, Judson, Lawrence Tech, Louisiana Tech, Lourdes, Marian-Wisconsin, Maryville, Mount Mercy, Rock Valley, Saint Xavier, Spring Arbor, Webber International

Dallas Sectional

Calumet, Grand View, Lindenwood, Midland, Missouri Baptist, Morningside, Newman, Oklahoma Christian, Ottawa-Kansas, Stephen F. Austin, Wichita State, William Penn, Wisconsin-Whitewater

Dayton Sectional

Alma, Duquesne, Indiana Tech, Lewis, Madonna, Marian-Indiana, Molloy, North Carolina A&T, Northwestern Ohio, Notre Dame-Ohio, Ohio State, Pikeville, Sacred Heart, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, Saint Vincent, Trine

Smyrna Sectional

Baker, Campbellsville, Emmanuel, Maryland Eastern Shore, McKendree, Midway, Milligan, Mount St. Mary's, Muskingum, Savannah College of Art and Design-Atlanta, St. Ambrose, St. Francis-Illinois, Tennessee Southern, Union, University of the Cumberland, Walsh, Wright 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.

Final rankings can be found at CollegeBowling.Bowl.com.

All teams advancing to a sectional qualifier will bowl 64 Baker games over two days to determine the four advancers from each location.

In addition to the excitement of team competition, the sectional qualifiers for the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships also will be held at each of the four locations March 10.

Student-athletes at each host center 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 ISC.

The 2023 ISC also will be held at the South Point Bowling Plaza. Competition will begin in Las Vegas on April 18.

Registration for singles competition will open Feb. 24 at 11 a.m. Eastern and close March 3 at 6 p.m. Eastern. The registration portal will be available at BOWL.com/ISC.

Select pairs at each sectional qualifier will be broadcast live on BowITV. The livestreaming platform also will cover all qualifying and match-play rounds at the South Point Bowling Plaza for the ITC and ISC.

The finals of the ITC and ISC will be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network.

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

WINNERS DETERMINED FOR 2023 USBC YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP, ADULT YOUTH LEADER AWARDS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The International Bowling Campus Youth Committee has determined the recipients for the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Youth Scholarship and Adult Youth Leader Awards.

USBC offers several scholarship opportunities for young bowlers to apply for each year. The criteria for these awards can be found at BOWL.com/ScholarshipAwards.

USBC also recognizes several youth leaders who have shown a continued effort and dedication to promote youth bowling within their community and help build the sport for the next generation of athletes.

The award winners were determined by the IBC Youth Committee based on submitted applications.

The 2023 award winners are:

- **Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow:** Katie Heady, Richardson, Texas
- **Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow:** Zachary Andrews, Jacksonville, Fla.
- **USBC Youth Ambassadors of the Year:** Emily Merten, Omaha, Neb.; Kyle Neeley, Granville, Ohio
- **Annual Zeb Scholarship:** William Smith, Smyrna, Tenn.
- **USBC Youth Volunteer of the Year:** Jerry Tarabek, Grand Rapids, Mich.
- **Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship:** Logan Bradley, Springfield, Ore.; Jena Edwards, DeWitt, Iowa; Emily Hawkins, Round Lake Heights, Ill.; Hannah Melone, Addison, Ill.; Isabelle Snyder, Cincinnati
- **Gift For Life Scholarship:** Logan Bradley, Springfield, Ore.; Bryson Butterfield, Gooding, Idaho; Jenessa Hernandez, Gardnerville, Nev.; Lidia Hernandez, Los Angeles; Aidan Mercer, Daphne, Ala.; Weston Metts, Louisville, Ky.; Shaniya Mosely, Morrow, Ga.; Marika Preble, Hermosa, S.D.; Roman Roberts, Norman, Okla.; Luke Schaefer, Oshkosh, Wis.; Cody Underwood, Beverly Hills, Fla.; Dacey Winn, Preston, Idaho

Feature stories on each group of winners will be posted on BOWL.com throughout March and April leading up to the 2023 USBC Convention. The 2023 event will take place April 24-27 at the South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

The award winners for the Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow, Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow, USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year, Annual Zeb Scholarship and USBC Youth Volunteer of the Year will be recognized on-site at the USBC Convention on April 27 during the USBC Annual Meeting.

They will join the winners of the USBC National Recognition Awards, which previously were announced.

Rebecca Cole of Gresham, Oregon, is the Joyce Deitch Unity Award winner, Dalia Keyes of Valrico, Florida, is this year's recipient of the Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service and Brent Prentice of Eagan, Minnesota, has been selected as the USBC Proprietor of the Year.

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

QUALIFIERS DETERMINED AT 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The finalists have been determined for the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships with the conclusion of four sectional qualifying events held throughout the United States on Friday.

The national singles competition will feature 24 female and 24 male student-athletes vying for the title in their respective divisions April 17-22 at South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas.

Friday's sectional qualifiers were contested at Poelking Lanes South in Dayton, Ohio; USA Bowl in Dallas; Smyrna Bowling Center in Smyrna, Tennessee; and Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois.

Competitors at each location bowled six games with the top four women and top four men at each qualifier earning an automatic spot at the ISC. The remaining spots were determined based on field size at each location.

On the women's side, a total of eight student-athletes advanced from Addison, six from Dayton and five each from Dallas and Smyrna. The men's division advanced eight from Addison, six from Smyrna and five each from Dallas and Dayton.

The qualifiers in the men's division include (place, athlete, college, pinfall):

- **Addison** – 1, Nicholas Luther, Davenport, 1,402; 2, Connor Nowak, Lawrence Tech, 1,369; 3, Charles Bostic, Webber International, 1,342; 4, David Schaberg, Concordia, 1,332; 5, Austin Grammar, Webber International, 1,315; 6, A.J. Wolstenholme, Webber International, 1,312; 7, Brett Lloyd, Mount Mercy, 1,274; 8(tie), *Kai Evans, Mount Mercy, and Michael Weber, Lawrence Tech, 1,267
* Evans def. Weber (46-37) in roll-off to advance
- **Dallas** – 1, Vincent Luong, Cal State-Fresno, 1,395; 2, Jayson Miner, William Penn, 1,359; 3, Sidney Schroschk, South Florida, 1,332; 4, Michael Anderson, Lindenwood, 1,322; 5, Terrance (T.J) Rock, Wichita State, 1,319
- **Dayton** – 1, Julian Salinas, SCAD-Savannah, 1,324; 2, Brandon Haney, Indiana Tech, 1,317; 3, Race Lowder, Indiana Tech, 1,303; 4, Matteo Cittadino, Pikeville, 1,289; 5, Henry Hecht, SUNY-Stony Brook, 1,287
- **Smyrna** – 1, Cameron Shockey, Milligan, 1,451; 2, Michael Nape, St. Francis-Illinois, 1,393; 3, Adam Atkins, Webber International, 1,360; 4, Ethan McDonald, Muskingum, 1,348; 5, Brent Shroyer, Wright State, 1,332; 6, Nick Dischinger, Emmanuel, 1,327

The qualifiers in the women's division are (place, athlete, college, pinfall):

- **Addison** – 1, Karine Bouchard, Davenport, 1,293; 2, Rhian Dobinson, McKendree, 1,279; 3, Jazmin Koeberl, Marian-Wisconsin, 1,256; 4, Allyson Sand, Louisiana Tech, 1,226; 5, Jenna Lehrer, Monmouth, 1,222; 6, Cassidy Gerken, Clarke, 1,217; 7, Carly Snyder, Davenport, 1,216; 8, Anna Maxwell, Maryville, 1,208
- **Dallas** – 1, Chloe Skurzynski, Stephen F. Austin, 1,254; 2, Paige Warner, Wichita State, 1,219; 3, Crystal George, Stephen F. Austin, 1,178; 4(tie), Rebecca Howard, Wisconsin-Whitewater, and Karsyn Braasch, Lindenwood, 1,174
- **Dayton** – 1, Lara Kurt, SCAD-Savannah, 1,302; 2, Cristina Acosta, North Carolina A&T, 1,294; 3, Lauren Tomaszewski, North Carolina A&T, 1,266; 4, Kiearra Saldi,

Duquesne, 1,230; 5, Johnna Hill, Morgan State, 1,226; 6, Breana Chewens, SUNY-Stony Brook, 1,210

- **Smyrna** – 1, Rebecca Hagerman, McKendree, 1,264; 2, Maggie Thoma, Arkansas State, 1,248; 3, Maranda Pattison, McKendree, 1,234; 4, Mabel Cummins, Vanderbilt, 1,226; 5, Alexis Ingersoll, Maryland-Eastern Shore, 1,216

Select pairs at each sectional location were broadcast live at BowITV.com.

Team competition will follow at each location Saturday and Sunday for sectional qualifying for the Intercollegiate Team Championships.

Total pinfall for 64 Baker games will determine the four women's teams and four men's teams from each site to advance to the ITC, which also will be held at South Point Bowling Plaza from April 19-22.

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

FIELD SET FOR 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The teams that will compete for the Helmer Cup at the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships in April were determined Sunday after two days of sectional qualifying concluded at four locations across the country.

The top four performers in the men's and women's divisions at each location advanced to the national team competition, which will take place April 19-22 at South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas.

The sectional qualifiers were held at Poelking Lanes South in Dayton, Ohio; USA Bowl in Dallas; Smyrna Bowling Center in Smyrna, Tennessee; and Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois.

Teams bowled a total of 64 Baker games Saturday and Sunday at their respective locations with total pinfall determining the advancers.

The possibility of repeat national champions remains alive in both the men's and women's divisions as the Wisconsin-Whitewater men advanced to nationals by winning the Smyrna Sectional while the Stephen F. Austin women punched their ticket by placing second in Dallas.

While Wisconsin-Whitewater and Stephen F. Austin will be looking to repeat, the men's teams from Saint Xavier, Trine and Ottawa will be making their ITC national finals debuts in Las Vegas this year.

The qualifiers in the men's division include (place, college, pinfall):

- **Addison** – 1, Webber International, 13,835; 2, Mount Mercy, 13,176; 3, Saint Xavier, 13,122; 4, Lawrence Tech, 13,061

- **Dallas** – 1, Lindenwood, 13,730; 2, Wichita State, 13,725; 3, Midland, 12,991; 4, Ottawa, 12,839
- **Dayton** – 1, William Paterson, 13,579; 2, Purdue, 13,493; 3, Trine, 13,423; 4, Pikeville, 13,282
- **Smyrna** – 1, Wisconsin-Whitewater, 13,752; 2, St. Ambrose, 13,742; 3, Tennessee-Southern, 13,480; 4, St. Francis-Illinois, 13,060

The qualifiers in the women’s division are (place, college, pinfall):

- **Addison** – 1, Webber International, 12,693; 2, Mount Mercy, 12,627; 3, Louisiana Tech, 12,489; 4, Maryville, 12,243
- **Dallas** – 1, Wichita State, 12,177; 2, Stephen F. Austin, 11,992; 3, Lindenwood, 11,648; 4, Wisconsin-Whitewater, 11,550
- **Dayton** – 1, North Carolina A&T, 12,398; 2, SCAD-Savannah, 12,316; 3, Duquesne, 12,210, 4, Pikeville, 12,129
- **Smyrna** – 1, McKendree, 13,195; 2, Maryland-Eastern Shore, 12,564; 3, St. Francis-Illinois, 12,315; 4, Tennessee-Southern, 12,054

Select pairs at each sectional location were broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

The finalists for the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships also were determined at the sectional qualifying locations Friday.

Student-athletes rolled six games to determine the advancers out of each location. A total of 24 men and 24 women moved on to the national singles event, which also will take place at South Point Bowling Plaza and run from April 17-22.

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

USBC LAUNCHES COLLABORATION WITH FARMERS INSURANCE

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announces a new relationship with Farmers Insurance® as the official insurance carrier of USBC.

Farmers joins USBC Member Rewards and will provide home and auto insurance options for bowlers through the USBC program. Farmers offers a number of potential discounts on offerings across multiple categories for auto, home, renters, motorcycle, RV, boat and business insurance.

“We’re excited to enter into this relationship with Farmers Insurance,” said USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy. “Farmers is a great national brand and known as a leader in the insurance industry. We’re thrilled Farmers sees bowling as the sport they want to join forces with and provide value for our members.”

As part of the relationship the Farmers brand will be visible on site at USBC Championship tournaments and other events. Bowlers can access offerings from Farmers online and get an insurance quote at Farmers.com/USBC.

Established in 1928, Farmers serves more than 10 million households in all 50 states. The relationship with USBC gives members access to potential savings on products and partner products, and will provide access to Farmers award-winning claims department and dedicated team of service representatives.

USBC welcomes Farmers and will begin activation of the relationship through a number of touchpoints that will allow its member to explore the broad range of Farmers product offerings and available discounts.

MICHIGAN'S TARABEK SELECTED AS 2023 USBC VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

ARLINGTON, Texas – Jerry Tarabek of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who has spent more than 40 years as a volunteer in various areas of bowling, has been selected as the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Youth Volunteer of the Year by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee.

The award recognizes an adult volunteer who has displayed outstanding efforts to foster, organize and promote certified youth bowling programs at the local, state and/or national level. The IBC Youth Committee selects the national award winner from submitted applications.

Tarabek proved to be a little speechless when notified that he had been selected as this year's award recipient.

"Chrissie Kent (IBC Youth Committee Chair) reached out to me," Tarabek said. "She told me I had been nominated, which I didn't even know, and then that I had been selected as the winner. I was kind of just dumbfounded; I didn't know what to say. It's a great honor."

Tarabek, 67, began his volunteer work in 1981 when he began running the Saturday morning youth program at what was then Gold Crown Lanes (now Bowl One) in the Detroit area. Tarabek remembers it was the same year his daughter Briana was born.

"I was running the youth leagues there (Gold Crown) and did that for a few years," said Tarabek. "Then I jumped into actual coaching and got my Silver-level accreditation around 1985 or 86. I was coaching during the Saturday morning leagues at both Bowl One and Sunnybrook Lanes when the league moved out there."

From there, Tarabek was presented with a unique opportunity. In 2000, his son Brandon was bowling at Warren-Mott High School, and the team found itself without a coach.

"My son came to me and said, 'Do you want to coach us?'" Tarabek said. "Well, all the kids I had coached on Saturday mornings were on that team, so it was an easy transition."

Tarabek's time coaching the team at Warren-Mott was a successful one as he coached the boys' varsity team to a pair of state runner-up finishes and the boys' JV team to a state title in 2004. He ran the program until 2004 then turned it over to someone else because his family was moving to Grand Rapids.

It also was in 2004 when Tarabek's next volunteer venture in bowling began.

"My son was bowling in the Michigan Junior Masters Association program, which was run by Dan Ottman at the time," said Tarabek. "I was on the board of directors, and, unfortunately, at the start of our 2004-2005 season, Dan passed away unexpectedly. The program kind of fell in my lap, and I've been running it for the last 19 years."

As director of the MJMA, Tarabek has been pivotal in developing youth bowlers to collegiate bowling standards, has developed Junior Gold champions and members of both Junior Team USA and Team USA. In addition to their physical bowling abilities, MJMA members have been cited for their professional appearance and respectful attitude on and off the lanes, much of which can be credited to Tarabek's guidance.

"The Michigan Junior Masters is geared toward the higher-level athlete who has aspirations of bowling collegiately or even beyond that," said Tarabek. "The satisfaction I get is just seeing these kids excel, and when they go to college, they're prepared for it. But, when I was coaching the Saturday leagues or high school, that was all about giving the kids the right fundamentals and teaching them the right way to bowl and to enjoy the game."

For Tarabek, his volunteer work has been a way to pay back the sport he loves.

"I've never really looked at this for any personal gain or anything like that; it's always been about giving back to the game," said Tarabek. "Both our son (Brandon) and our daughter (Briana) bowled collegiately at Grand Valley State, so we got to travel around and watch them, and that was just so much fun. So, I just feel fortunate and I'm always looking to give back."

Tarabek has been bowling since he was a youngster and was a YABA member by the age of 13 and has been an adult USBC member since joining the ABC at the age of 18. He still bowls one night a week and, just this season, took over as head coach of the bowling teams at Forest Hills Central High School in Grand Rapids.

"Our whole family bowls," said Tarabek. "As a matter of fact, my wife and I met in a bowling alley. My son and his wife met in a bowling alley. My daughter and her husband met in a bowling alley. So, there's a strong history and connection with bowling and the friends you meet along the way are lifetime friends. It's those connections that make it fun. I get a lot of self-satisfaction from seeing kids excel and having fun at what they're trying to do."

Tarabek will be recognized in April for his volunteer efforts during the [2023 USBC Convention](#) at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place during the 2023 USBC Annual Meeting on April 26 and 27. The meeting will be broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

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

USBC HALL OF FAMER DOT WILKINSON DIES AT AGE 101

ARLINGTON, Texas – Dorothy “Dot” Wilkinson of Phoenix, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer and the first woman to be inducted into the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame, died March 18 at the age of 101.

Wilkinson was a two-sport star throughout her life, first excelling on the softball diamond before turning her focus to the lanes.

Considered by many to have been among the best catchers in women’s fastpitch softball history, Wilkinson played for the Phoenix Ramblers from 1933 to 1965, winning three titles in the process (1940, 1948 and 1949) and being named an All-American 19 times.

She retired from softball in 1965 and was inducted into the National Softball Hall of Fame in 1970. Five years later, she became the first woman to earn induction into the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame.

Wilkinson’s bowling career was equally as successful.

She won the 1962 USBC Queens title, earned her way onto the U.S. national bowling team by winning the singles event at the 1963 USBC Women’s Championships and was a multiple-medal winner in the 1963 Federation Internationale des Quilleurs World Championships (now International Bowling Federation World Championships).

For these accomplishments and many more, in 1990, Wilkinson was enshrined in the USBC Hall of Fame in the Superior Performance category.

Wilkinson is survived by six great nieces and nephews, 11 great-great nieces and nephews, and seven great-great-great nieces and nephews.

More information on services for Wilkinson will be available soon.

For more information on the USBC Hall of Fame, visit [BOWL.com/HallofFame](https://www.bowl.com/halloffame).

MERTEN, NEELEY SELECTED AS 2023 USBC YOUTH AMBASSADORS OF THE YEAR

ARLINGTON, Texas – Emily Merten of Omaha, Nebraska, and Kyle Neeley of Granville, Ohio, recently were selected as the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Youth Ambassadors of the Year by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee.

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 on submitted applications, and each will receive a \$1,500 scholarship.

Merten, 17, is a senior at Millard North High School in Omaha, Nebraska, is an influential member of her community and has been an impactful member of her school's bowling team for four years.

Merten has been a member of the school's unified bowling team (consisting of students with and without intellectual disabilities) for four years and a member of the varsity girls' team since its inception three years ago.

She received the NCPA Academic All-State Award three consecutive years for unified bowling and both of her eligible years for varsity. To earn the award, a bowler needs to have a GPA of 3.7 or higher and display great sportsmanship and leadership.

Winning the USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year Award, however, was something of a surprise to Merten.

"I was really shocked," said Merten. "I didn't have any idea this would be something I could win, especially with it being a national award and only awarded to two people. It was just really exciting to know that other people see the value of what I was trying to do with being an ambassador for the sport and trying to bring kids into it."

Merten, who started bowling in a league in fifth grade and by sixth grade was bowling competitively in different tournaments, has hit her stride with her high school bowling teams.

She started with the unified bowling team in eighth grade and has continued that into high school. Merten thrives as a leader and has been selected captain of the unified team for two years and of the varsity team for three.

Millard's Unified Bowling Team Head Coach Tricia Rohde knows she can put any player with Merten, and she will make that player feel included and confident in their abilities. Also, she will encourage them to have a positive attitude no matter their level of skill or experience.

"Bowling on the unified team is a really cool experience because it reminds me every day to just have fun in the sport," said Merten. "Bowling can easily become super

competitive and frustrating at times, but our unified bowlers always find a way to find the joy in it no matter their results. When I bowl unified, I really try to focus on the experience for them and what I can provide for them and the experience I can help give them.”

Merten also has made an impact on the girls’ varsity program, which was started just three years ago, serving as a mentor and positive influence on other team members and helping the team to a district runner-up finish in her senior year. She did all of this while having to recover from a recent shoulder surgery, using that time to focus on the other bowlers on her team.

Outside of high school, Merten has been on the board of the USBC Greater Omaha Area Bowling Association since 2021. She was the first youth to serve on the board and the association’s Youth Committee.

“That’s been a really cool experience to be able to talk about youth bowling from a different perspective,” said Merten. “I’m able to relate the experiences I’ve had on the lanes and the experiences my friends have had, so it’s a different perspective from what adults might have.”

Additionally, Merten earned her Bronze-level coaching certification on her 16th birthday.

“Getting my bronze coaching certificate was not only helpful to me as a bowler in learning different tips and tricks, but also made it so I could help others,” said Merten. “It allows me to give back to the people who have given so much to me.”

Merten’s other hobbies and interests include playing the alto sax, power lifting and participating in the University of Nebraska Medical Center High School Alliance. She has spent time volunteering at various bowling events and tournaments, including coaching in the Kids Bowl for Free program at her local bowling center, Maplewood Lanes, in 2020 and 2021.

After she graduates, Merten plans to bowl, play in the band and major in nursing at Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

It’s Merten’s passion and love for the sport that make her such a great ambassador, and she’s grateful for the opportunity.

“I’ve had a lot of people who helped me along the way to get where I am,” said Merten. “I know there’s not as many resources for bowling compared to other sports, so I’ve tried to advocate for different people to get them the resources they need to continue in their bowling journey.”

Neeley, 18, is a freshman at Harvard University, where he plans to double major in molecular biology and economics.

Neeley was named captain of the 2022 Dexter High School All-American Team and has earned other honors such as two-time Licking County Player of the Year and two-time

first team all-conference; nevertheless being named as USBC Youth Ambassador of the Year is special for Neeley.

"It's really awesome to win this award," said Neeley. "It was definitely unexpected, and I'm very honored. This award is super, super special because it encapsulates everything that I've worked towards as a bowler for the past 10 years or more, from performance in certain tournaments to leadership to my dedication to bowling off the lanes."

Neeley first picked up a bowling ball at age 5 and by the time he was 7, he was bowling in leagues. He entered his first tournament when he was 8 years old. He is a two-time Columbus City Tournament champion, the 2017 Ohio Pepsi State champion and has qualified for the Junior Gold Championships eight times.

He earned his Bronze-level coaching certification as well, and that's when the sport took on a new meaning.

"Once I turned 16, bowling opened up for me as more than just a competitive outlet," said Neeley. "It became something I could help other people with. I kind of took on a role as an assistant coach for my high school team because a lot of the kids on my high school team weren't necessarily experienced bowlers, so I just wanted to give them more of a passion for the sport. Since then, it's just been continuing to bowl in competition, continuing to serve more of a role as a coach and just talking to people a lot about the sport and encouraging them to pick up a ball and see where it takes you."

Academically, he graduated from Granville High School with a 4.25 GPA (weighted) and was a 2021 National Merit Finalist. He was the Granville Education Foundation Fall 2020 Grant winner, in which he helped obtain technology for remote learning throughout the school district.

And, while his accomplishments in the classroom and on the lanes are numerous, Neeley cites bowling as the one interest in his life that has been the most impactful. He credits the sport for allowing him to grow as a leader, a competitor, a friend, a coach and more.

"I really, really love the sport in all aspects," said Neeley. "Bowling has become a huge part of my identity. It really built me as a competitor, first and foremost, because I love the competitive aspect, but it also impacted me socially through relationship building. I've gained a lot of mentors and friends through the sport, and some of those friends became a lot of my closest friends."

Neeley has done volunteer work with The Salvation Army, served on the Granville Union Cemetery Board and has continued his community service by volunteering at a homeless shelter run by Harvard students.

He credits his parents and the various coaches he's had throughout his bowling career – Julie Wells, Al Sowards and Ron Hatfield – for shaping him as a bowler, coach and person.

Neeley enjoys coaching youth bowlers, taking the time to talk to and bowl with younger kids to help them learn more about the sport, and his passion to promote the sport hasn't stopped just because he's in college.

"I've definitely helped spread the word about the sport a little bit here at school," said Neeley. "There have been murmurs about potentially starting up a club team at the university. If that were to happen, I would probably take a leadership role in that. If that's something I could help accomplish by the end of my senior year, that would be really cool."

The sport will be part of Neeley's future as he plans to continue to bowl, coach youth bowlers and spread the "good word" of bowling to as many people as he can.

"I always tell people that bowling is so much deeper than what everyone thinks it is," said Neeley. "So many people don't even know the lanes are oiled or the difference between a house ball and one you might purchase. I try to emphasize that bowling has so much more nuance and beauty than it might first appear. I just try to get people interested in the sport."

Merten and Neeley will be recognized in April during the [2023 USBC Convention](#) at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place during the 2023 USBC Annual Meeting on April 26 and 27. The meeting will be broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](#).

Learn more about awards for adult youth leaders and scholarship opportunities for youth bowlers at [BOWL.com/ScholarshipAwards](#).

REGISTRATION SET TO BEGIN FOR 2024 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS IN RENO

ARLINGTON, Texas – With the excitement building for the start of the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships in April, bowlers also can look ahead to putting together their teams for next year's event in Reno, Nevada, as registration dates have been determined for the 2024 tournament.

The 2024 USBC Women's Championships will take place at the National Bowling Stadium and run from April 27 to June 30.

The 104th edition of the Women's Championships originally was slated to be held at Cincinnati's Western Bowl in 2024, but the 68-lane center now will host the 2027 event as part of a recent announcement by USBC.

Members of the Captain's Club will have the chance to lock up their dates for the 2024 event starting March 24. The early registration period will be available to current qualifying members, and captains will receive details and instructions by email.

To be eligible for the benefits of the Captain's Club, a group coordinator must have five or more teams registered to bowl for the 2023 event.

Registration will be available to the public starting April 21 at 1 p.m. Eastern.

The Women's Championships will visit Reno for the 13th time in 2024 and mark the tournament's 10th overall trip to the National Bowling Stadium. The NBS last hosted the event in 2021.

The cost to compete at the 2024 Women's Championships will be \$55 per event, plus an optional \$15 for all-events (\$180 total). There will be a \$20 processing fee per team.

The 2024 event will feature a new average structure and go from six to four divisions in doubles, singles and all-events based on a recommendation from the USBC Championship Tournaments task force. Learn more by clicking [here](#).

The 2023 Women's Championships is running from April 23 to July 2 at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas.

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

COMPETITION SET TO GET UNDERWAY AT 2023 USBC MASTERS

ALLEN PARK, Michigan – The 2023 United States Bowling Congress Masters will get underway Monday at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Michigan, with a sold-out field of 390 athletes hitting the lanes beginning at 8 a.m. Eastern.

Qualifying will feature 15 games over three days with all competitors bowling two five-game blocks on the fresh 2023 USBC Masters lane condition and one squad on the burn. The top 63 players, based on total pinfall, will join defending champion Anthony Simonsen in the double-elimination bracket beginning Thursday at 10 a.m. Eastern.

Simonsen, of Las Vegas, captured the 2022 Masters title by defeating USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer Norm Duke of Clermont, Florida, 219-216 during the live TV finals on FOX.

Not only did the victory allow Simonsen to walk away with the \$100,000 first-place check, but it also allowed him to continue rewriting the bowling record book by becoming the youngest player – at 25 years and 87 days old – to claim his fourth major championship.

Also, it was Simonsen's second win at the Masters – his first came in 2016 – making him one of just nine players to have won the tournament twice.

Simonsen will look to author another strong performance this year, and if how he has bowled so far during the 2023 PBA Tour season is any indication of what is to come this week in Allen Park, then it would be foolish to bet against him.

Through the first seven events this season, Simonsen has one title – the PBA Wichita Classic back in February – and five top-five finishes and has placed no worse than 10th in any tournament he's bowled.

Due to that consistency, Simonsen currently sits second in PBA Tour points (18,800) and average (223.56) and third in earnings (\$104,500).

The only player off to a better start than Simonsen so far this season is E.J. Tackett of Bluffton, Indiana, who currently leads the PBA Tour in points (25,150), average (225.83) and earnings (\$215,100).

Tackett has three wins already this season, none of them bigger than the victory he secured at the season-opening 2023 U.S. Open presented by Go Bowling!

That win gave Tackett his third major title and the career triple crown as he has now won the U.S. Open, PBA World Championship and PBA Tournament of Champions.

A win at this week's USBC Masters would give Tackett his fourth major championship and put him into truly elite company as one of just four players to achieve the grand slam.

One of the bowlers who has already accomplished that feat is Jason Belmonte of Australia, who also is in the field at the 2023 Masters.

Belmonte is the PBA's all-time leader in major victories with 15, the most recent of which came one week ago at the 2023 PBA Tournament of Champions in Fairlawn, Ohio.

The Australian superstar has had more than his fair share of success at the USBC Masters as well having won the event four times already (2013, 2014, 2015 and 2017). He is the only player to have won four Masters titles.

Belmonte will have to navigate a slightly different path if he hopes to secure Masters title No. 5 as the format for this year's event has been slightly modified from that of years past.

Qualifying and match play will remain consistent with previous editions of the event prior to the introduction of TV on March 31. The double-elimination bracket will be retained, and all matches leading up to the final eight competitors will feature three-game total-pinfall contests.

However, once the Elimination Bracket is down to the final eight, television matches will start with four single-game matches replacing the final three-game head-to-head round and four-player shootout to determine the finalists for the stepladder. These matches will be broadcast live on FS1.

These TV matches will implement a knockout-style format with the winners of the first two games advancing to the finals of the Elimination Bracket. The advancers then will take on players who lost in the semifinals of the Winners Bracket with each winner earning a spot in the opening match of the stepladder on April 2.

The two players who emerge victorious from the semifinals of the Winners Bracket will earn automatic spots on the April 2 broadcast with a three-game total-pinfall match determining the top seed. This match will be broadcast at BowlTV.com.

With only four players advancing to the stepladder, the top seed will need to be defeated twice on FOX to be denied the title.

The stepladder at the 2023 event will be April 2 at 1 p.m. Eastern on FOX, with the champion taking home a spot in the tournament's storied history, a major title on the PBA Tour and the \$100,000 top prize.

TEXAS BOWLER SELECTED AS 2023 ALBERTA E. CROWE STAR OF TOMORROW

ARLINGTON, Texas – Katie Heady of Richardson, Texas, has been chosen by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee as the 2023 Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow.

The award recognizes the star qualities of a female high school senior or college student, including accomplishments on the lanes, academic achievement and community service. Along with the prestigious honor, Heady will receive a \$6,000 scholarship as the 2023 recipient.

Heady represents all the qualities listed above as a 19-year-old college student at Stephen F. State Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Heady has been at the university for two years, so one would assume she is a sophomore. While that is true athletically, Heady is actually a senior in academic standing.

That's because by the time she graduated Summa Cum Laude from Plano Senior High School, where she received both National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society recognition, Heady had already taken enough advanced placement and honors classes to allow her to enter college with 39 credit hours under her belt, giving her a head start academically at SFA.

Over her first two years at SFA, she was able to shoulder enough of a college workload to become a senior. Heady has been accepted to the Overlap Program at SFA for this year's fall semester, meaning she will be in graduate school while taking her last two undergraduate classes toward her degree in Rehabilitation Services.

It's that kind of dedication and determination that helped make Heady an outstanding choice as the recipient for this award, and it was an emotional moment for Heady when she learned she had been selected.

"I was having a really bad day that day and, honestly, I cried when I got the call from USBC letting me know that I had won," said Heady. "Hearing that news just made my day so much better. Winning this award is an incredible honor because only one person

wins it each year. To me, it means that all my hard work, all of the hours I've spent bowling, all of that, has added up to something pretty incredible."

Heady came to the sport a bit later than many of her peers. She first picked up a bowling ball in fifth grade and didn't start bowling in league until the summer prior to her eighth-grade year. Growing up, Heady tried other sports including soccer, basketball and track and field, but it was bowling that struck a chord with her.

"Once I picked it up, it was just fun for me," said Heady. "When I went to bowl, it got my mind off of everything else that was going on in my life because I've always been a super-busy, super-hecktic person. Bowling has such a great community of people. I was able to connect with so many different people through bowling, and I felt like that was a fun thing. There was always like 20 people I could text and say, 'Do you want to go bowling?'"

Although Heady was having fun, she also worked hard, and with the help of some great coaching and a self-professed desire to "not be bad at things," she started seeing positive results.

"I bowled out of Plano Super Bowl, and they have so many great opportunities for youth bowlers and just incredible coaches," said Heady. "I took every chance I could get to work with those great coaches. My first coach was Mickie Tate, and I would stay late every Saturday after our morning league and work with him. I attribute a lot of my success to working with him in my first few years of bowling."

Heady's successes on the lanes have been numerous. She qualified for the Junior Gold Championships each year it was conducted from 2017-2022. She won the singles title in the 2018 Texas USBC State Tournament and capped her high school bowling career with a team first-place finish in the 2021 Texas State Tournament.

Heady was chosen for the 2021 Dexter High School All-American Team and was a 2021 USBC Earl Anthony Scholarship recipient.

In addition to those accomplishments, Heady cites a win in the 2020 Amateur Bowlers Tour of Texas event at the age of 17 as her most memorable bowling achievement prior to college.

"It was an adult tournament, and it was the first adult tournament I had ever bowled," said Heady. "I shot 277 to win and I had all these adults standing around watching me and cheering me on. It was during winter break of my senior year, and I was the only youth bowler in the field and the only woman to make the finals. It was just super cool and very memorable to me having all those adult bowlers cheering for me."

Her time in the sport of bowling hasn't all been spent on the lanes. Heady also served as a board member with the Greater Dallas USBC from 2017-2020.

"I was the only younger person on the board, so I felt like I stuck out like a sore thumb at our meetings" recalled Heady. "But the board did a really good job of integrating me

into everything they did and allowed me to use my voice and listened to my point of view, which was sometimes a different outlook from theirs since I was a youth bowler.”

Success in the classroom and on the lanes has followed Heady to SFA. In addition to the accelerated pace with which she will achieve her undergraduate degree, Heady has earned a place on the President’s Honor Roll (4.0 GPA) from 2021 to the present.

On the lanes, Heady was part of the 2022 Intercollegiate Team Championships national championship team and the 2022 NCAA national runner-up team.

“When I got to SFA, I had so many things about my game that I wanted to work on and needed to work on,” said Heady. “So, I’ve been able to put in the time and the work with our coaches to completely change my game. It looks astronomically different from when I got here. We broke down my whole entire game, and I didn’t bowl well for months. But finally, closer to the end of year, everything clicked.”

In addition to the strides she’s made in her game, Heady also enjoys the camaraderie she’s found on the bowling team.

“We have such a great team,” said Heady. “I’ve found some of my closest friends on this team, and they’re just so supportive of me. We’re serious, but we can also joke around in practice, and you can be yourself. That’s refreshing and important to me.”

In addition to her exemplary performance in the classroom and on the lanes, Heady has strived to complete 30 hours or more of community service each year, which has included involvement in organizations like the Plano Heritage Farmstead Museum, North Texas Food Bank and filling bags for “The School Supply Project” which benefits the Children’s Advocacy Center of Collin County.

Heady also serves as a volunteer intern for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Deep East Texas in Nacogdoches.

“I specifically want to be a substance abuse counselor, so this is an incredible experience,” said Heady. “I get the chance to work with so many people from so many backgrounds who are dealing with these issues. It’s super interesting to see, and I really love this work because I feel like alcoholism and drug abuse are widely misunderstood by the general population, and I think being able to work with people who are dealing with these issues and seeing how they progress is just a super cool and interesting experience.”

Through bowling, Heady notes she has learned teamwork, patience, leadership and the value of being a well-rounded person, which are all valuable lessons as she completes her undergraduate degree and then moves on to graduate school for a degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling with the goal of becoming a licensed professional counselor with a focus on substance abuse.

Heady will be recognized in April during the 2023 USBC Convention at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place during the 2023 USBC Annual Meeting on April 26 and 27. The meeting will be broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

For a list of past Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow winners, click [here](#).

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FLORIDA'S ZACHARY ANDREWS HONORED AS 2023 CHUCK HALL STAR OF TOMORROW

ARLINGTON, Texas – Zachary Andrews of Jacksonville, Florida, has been selected by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee as the 2023 Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow.

The award recognizes the 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.

Along with the prestigious honor, Andrews will receive a \$6,000 scholarship as the 2023 recipient.

"To put it simply, I was shocked," said Andrews, when describing his emotions when he received the news that he was the award recipient. "I applied for several of the scholarships from USBC, and this was by far the one I was NOT expecting to get. It was sheer and utter shock, but also at the same time there was excitement in the realization that all the work I'd put into my bowling and my schoolwork, that all of that was worth it."

Despite being pleasantly surprised and shocked, the meaning of the award was not lost on Andrews.

"This award means so many different things. It encompasses each and every area of my life, including the bowling I've worked so hard at since I was a child and that I'm so closely connected with through my family. Then you also have my academic work and volunteer work all coming together in one place at one time in this award."

Andrews, 16, has already established himself as a force to be reckoned with in the classroom, on the lanes and in the community.

A senior at Duncan U. Fletcher High School in Neptune Beach, Florida, Andrews has maintained a 4.0 GPA (4.942 weighted), is at the top of his graduating class and is the current president of his school's National Honor Society chapter.

His considerable academic prowess and motivation to continue developing his skills led Andrews to pursue and gain acceptance into the Stanford Pre-Collegiate University program, which has allowed him to take college-level coursework while still in high school in order to jumpstart his pursuit of a degree in mechanical engineering.

"From a young age, I've had a love for mathematics," said Andrews. "My mom, who is a math teacher, instilled a drive in me to always look for more in mathematics, to always look for that next level of complexity, so, I made it my goal to get ahead in math as much as I could and eventually, last year, I ran out of math courses to take in high school. That was when we found the Stanford Pre-Collegiate program, and that allowed me to continue on my mathematical journey."

While a love for math was instilled in Andrews at a young age, a love for bowling was as well.

"I've been bowling pretty much since I was able to pick up a ball," said Andrews. "My family, all of us bowl. My grandparents run a local youth league here in Jacksonville. My mother and her sisters bowled all the time, including now, so bowling has always been this experience of family."

Andrew has distinguished himself on the lanes in the same manner as he has in the classroom, capturing multiple top-10 finishes at high-level tournaments across the state of Florida. And, although many of those were individual honors, Andrews cites a win in a team event as one his most memorable in bowling.

"One of my first big, proud moments in the sport was with the USA Bowling tournament," said Andrews. "As a U12 team in 2017, we ended up winning our first tournament in the Coastal South Region and qualified for the national tournament. One of the nice things about that tournament is that it's a Baker-style format, so it really emphasizes teamwork, cooperation and cohesion. The fact that we were able to come together and win that was one of my proudest moments. It was great having all of us together, and we got to travel to Junior Gold together, so it was just a wonderful experience."

The USA Bowling tournament introduced Andrews to Junior Gold, and he has qualified for the Junior Gold Championships three times (2017, 2018 and 2021). He also has won Riptide Bowler of the Year honors twice (2021 and 2022) and was the 2018 Beach Bowl Youth Bowler of the Year.

Additionally, Andrews is the current vice president of the Florida State USBC Youth Leaders where he's had the opportunity to function in a variety of roles, including working with various tournaments and collaborating with the Ways and Means Committee on fundraisers and scholarships the association awards and distributes.

“Being able to give back to the bowling community that has served me throughout my life as sort of a second family has been a great experience with the Youth Leaders,” said Andrews.

Andrews notes he’s had the privilege of being involved in a number of community service projects, including a variety of tutoring programs that he’s been able to participate in throughout his high school career. He joined his school’s chapter of Mu Alpha Theta – a national mathematics honor society – during his freshman year and has been president of that chapter for the last two years.

“As part of membership in Mu Alpha Theta, we have a tutoring program,” said Andrews. “That was how I was introduced to tutoring other students in math. One of my favorite things about being able to tutor, especially with mathematics, is that it’s a way for me to put my mathematical skills to use in service to others. Then, through National Honor Society and through the college board and a website called Schoolhouse.world, I’ve been able to expand my outlets for tutoring to areas outside my school.”

As Andrews continues to grow as a young man, bowling remains an impactful part of his life.

“I’ve learned some great life lessons through bowling,” said Andrews. “Like the concept of average score for example. One bad game doesn’t ruin your entire average or your entire tournament, so why let one bad thing ruin your entire week or month or year? Being able to keep that positivity in experiences has been one of the most valuable things I’ve been able to bring with me into other aspects of life.”

Andrews has already been accepted to the Honors Program at the University of Florida, but he is waiting for news on his applications to other universities including Princeton, Yale and Duke. No matter where Andrews attends college or where his career path takes him, he sees bowling as part of his future as well.

“I’m definitely going to keep bowling well into the future,” said Andrews. “It will always be a part of my life. If there’s a bowling center within driving distance of me, I will definitely be paying it plenty of visits. Whether it’s just recreationally or whether there ends up being room for more, it’s important for me to continue having that aspect of my life that has been so influential to me up to this point.”

Andrews will be recognized in April during the 2023 USBC Convention at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

This year’s award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place during the 2023 USBC Annual Meeting on April 26 and 27. The meeting will be broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

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TENNESSEE BOWLER SELECTED AS 2023 ZEB SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER

ARLINGTON, Texas – William Smith of Smyrna, Tennessee, has been chosen by the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee as the Annual Zeb Scholarship recipient for 2023.

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.

Smith, 17, is a junior at Oakland High School in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and holds a 3.865 GPA. He is currently in the Mechatronics Engineering Pathway, which he plans to continue in college.

Fittingly, Smith had just finished bowling when he received the news that he had been selected as the scholarship recipient.

"I had just finished a bowling tournament; it was a sweeper, and me and my mom were in the mall when we got the call," said Smith. "We were both just yelling right there in the mall. We were very excited, and I was surprised as well."

Through the first quarter of his junior year, Smith has made the school's Principal's List or Honor Roll each quarter while taking numerous dual enrollment, advanced honors and honors classes.

Smith made some history in earning the scholarship, and it was something he mentioned immediately when asked what it meant to him.

"It's very humbling, especially being the first from Tennessee to ever win it," said Smith. "It's also a little bit of validation for me because it shows that other people see the work I've been putting in, and that's rewarding."

In addition to his accomplishments in the classroom, Smith also has had his share of successes on the lanes. His path in bowling was inspired by his family.

"My grandparents and my mom bowled, and they got me started in it," said Smith. "I bowled on a fourth-grade team in elementary school, but I didn't start bowling tournaments until about seventh grade. I ended up picking bowling over baseball because it's something I know I can do for the rest of my life."

The choice was a good one as Smith has won a number of local and state tournaments and has qualified for the Junior Gold Championships each year since 2019. He was a three-time captain and MVP at Rock Springs Middle School, and thereafter he earned those same honors during his freshman, sophomore and junior years at Oakland High School.

He was named to the Daily News Journal's All-Area Team for his freshman and sophomore years and was the 2021 recipient of the Mr. Bowler Award (Top 3) presented by the Tennessee State BPAA and Tennessee USBC. Smith also has been the USBC Heart of Tennessee Youth Representative since November of 2021.

Smith, who has one certified 300 game to his credit, has already earned his Bronze-level coaching certification.

"I wanted to get my certification so I could give back to other youths in the sport," said Smith. "I've been able to use my coaching skills to help my high school team understand the sport better and further develop their talents. I also have been able to serve as an assistant coach for my former middle school team."

That willingness to help others is reflected in Smith's volunteer work and community service where he has completed more than 290 hours of community service since 2017. Smith is active in the Boy Scouts where he is an Eagle Scout and Senior Patrol Leader. He has donated his time and effort to numerous church and school projects and has volunteered for organizations like local parks, shelters and food pantries.

"Over the years, I've been involved in many service projects," said Smith. "I've done river clean-ups; I've helped out food banks and cleaned up trash in parks. I've also been involved in giving back to the scouting community because I'm the SPL (Senior Patrol Leader), and through that I help newer scouts fit in and show them how to be involved in more service projects."

Like scouting, Smith enjoys the friendships he's been able to make through bowling.

"I really love the camaraderie in the sport," Smith said. "It's different from other sports because whenever you're done in a bowling competition, you can still have good relationships with the people you bowled against. Even though you're bowling against those people, you're high fiving each other and joking around together. You get to share experiences and form bonds with those people."

Smith is always looking for ways to improve youth bowling and strives to help give it the recognition he feels it deserves. He credits bowling for having had a positive effect on every aspect of his life and with teaching him patience and dedication, among other life skills.

"Bowling has taught me to keep my head and keep my cool," said Smith. "Whenever you're bowling, it's easy to get aggravated or frustrated. The best way to bowl good in stressful situations is to clear your head and think about the next shot. If you throw a bad shot, you erase that from your mind and move on. Attitude is more important than ability, and I try to apply that to other things."

Smith would love to continue bowling in college where he will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering with the goal of returning for a masters in robotics. His dream job would be to work as a robotics engineer for SpaceX or NASA and have a chance to work on machines like the Mars rover or to help develop colonies in space.

Smith will be recognized this month during the 2023 USBC Convention at South Point Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

This year's award ceremony, which includes a variety of awards for youth and adult bowlers, will take place during the 2023 USBC Annual Meeting on April 26 and 27. The meeting will be broadcast live at [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

For a list of past Annual Zeb Scholarship recipients, click [here](#).

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

IBC YOUTH COMMITTEE SELECTS FIVE YOUTH MEMBERS FOR EARL ANTHONY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN 2023

ARLINGTON, Texas – Five United States Bowling Congress Youth members were selected to receive an Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship in 2023 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:

- * Logan Bradley, Springfield, Oregon
- * Jena Edwards, De Witt, Iowa
- * Emily Hawkins, Round Lake Heights, Illinois
- * Hannah Melone, Addison, Illinois
- * Isabelle Snyder, Cincinnati

Bradley is a senior at Springfield High School, where he has maintained a 4.0 GPA despite challenging himself with several Advanced Placement and honors classes. He has been on the honor roll every semester of his high school career, is currently ranked first in his graduating class of 268 students and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Not all of Bradley's time is spent on academics, however; his schedule is chock full of extracurricular activities as well, including cross country, track – where he is a team captain – Advanced Audition Choir, the nationally-renown school magazine and the Rotary Youth Leadership Program.

On the lanes, Bradley currently has a high game of 277 and a high series of 666, and he recorded an 11th-place finish in U18 Singles at the 2022 Oregon State USBC Youth Championship.

Edwards currently is completing her senior year at Central De Witt High School; however, she has been taking classes at Clinton Community College at the same time, which means she is on track to attain her associate's degree at the same time as her high school diploma. Despite taking on a course load filled with college-level, dual-credit and honors-level classes, Edwards has maintained a 4.0 GPA and has earned the distinction of being the No. 1-ranked student in her graduating class (138 students).

Outside the classroom, Edwards is involved in multiple extracurricular activities. She has been a four-year member of the bowling team, Future Business Leaders of America, student council and concert/marching band, a three-year participant in jazz band, speech team and the Drama Department's set crew and a two-year contributor to both the National Honor Society and the Dance Marathon Planning Committee.

As a bowler, Edwards has authored outstanding performances at tournaments such as the 2021 Iowa State Youth Championship Tournament, where she took first place in Division I Singles and All-Events. Also, she qualified for the national finals at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships.

Hawkins is a senior at Grant High School in Fox Lake, Illinois, where she has established a 5.010 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) thanks to her success in multiple AP and honors courses. She has been on Grant's honor roll every semester of her high school career, and her strong academic prowess allowed her to gain acceptance into the National Honor Society during her sophomore year – NHS membership invitations are more commonly extended to juniors and seniors.

A long list of extracurricular activities occupies Hawkins' time when she isn't hitting the books. Some of those activities include varsity bowling, the Principal's Advisory Council, marching band – where she has earned section leader status – the Student Athletic and Activities Leadership Team and the Big Dog Freshman Mentoring Program.

Hawkins' bowling resume currently boasts a high game of 246 and a high series of 631. She took third place at the 2022 Northern Lake County Conference tournament and fifth place at the Illinois High School Association Regionals.

Melone, a senior at Addison Trail High School, has put together an impressive academic record, maintaining a 4.429 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) and remaining on honor roll despite taking on a schedule filled with AP and honors classes, ranking in the top 30 of her graduating class of nearly 450 students and earning Illinois State Scholar and AP Scholar status.

Melone's extracurricular involvement is just as impressive as she takes part in myriad activities, including bowling, Key Club, student council, Business Professionals of America, basketball, volleyball and softball, among others.

During the 2022-23 bowling season, Melone helped lead the Addison Trail Varsity Girls' Bowling Team to its first IHSA State Tournament appearance since 2005. Melone has excelled individually as well, recording multiple top-10 finishes in high level events such as Pepsi USBC Youth Championship qualifiers.

Snyder is a senior at Colerain High School, where she has maintained a 4.0 GPA thanks to straight A report cards throughout her high school career. That feat is made more impressive when examining Snyder's transcript, which has been consistently loaded with every AP and honors class that Colerain has to offer. For her academic efforts, Snyder has been rewarded with Honor Roll 4.0 and National Honor Society status.

Aside from being a standout student, Snyder has impressed many with her extracurricular involvement as well. She has participated in a long list of activities throughout her high school career, including varsity bowling, show choir, drama club, book club, Spanish club, dance, chamber singers and more.

Snyder's list of individual bowling accomplishments includes a high game of 289, a high series of 673 and a first-place finish in Singles at the USBC Greater Cincinnati Youth Championship. While bowling for Colerain, Snyder has notched multiple all-tournament team selections, and she helped the Cardinals to their first ever state tournament berth.

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).

[Click here](#) to view a list of past Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship winners.

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

SPRING RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2023 BOWLER'S ED KITS

ARLINGTON, Texas – With the 2022-2023 school year soon coming to a close, four schools, one school district and one non-profit organization will have the chance to incorporate bowling into their educational plans for this summer and the 2023-2024 school year.

Six recipients 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.

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.

Through the program, schools, youth groups and other organizations are able to teach students and young athletes about bowling in an educational, yet fun, setting.

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.

The schools selected to receive Bowler's Ed kits were determined based on applications submitted by the Dec. 31, 2022, deadline. The kits will be received by:

- Amy Belle Elementary School, Colgate, Wis.
- Canadochly Elementary School, East Prospect, Pa.
- Del Rio Elementary School/Cocke County Schools, Newport, Tenn.
- Lotus Elementary School, Fox Lake, Ill.
- Northend Elementary School, New Britain, Conn.
- Project C.A.M.P. Inc. (The Center for Courageous Kids), Scottsville, Ky.

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 different twist on math, language arts, social studies, problem solving, geography, computer skills and more.

"It means a great deal to our Youth Development team to provide these Bowler's Ed kits to another round of recipients," said Chrissie Kent, chair of the IBC Youth Committee. "These kits provide a fun and accessible way to enjoy the sport of bowling while also sharpening the participants' classroom skills in many areas. The portable nature of the kits allows them to be used almost anywhere, giving the teachers and instructors the flexibility to introduce the basics of bowling indoors or outside."

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, allowing physical education teachers and other instructors the opportunity to make bowling one of the sports they teach to their students.

Since 2009, the Bowler's Ed Grant Program has awarded 323 grants valued at \$710,606. More than 3.5 million students from 46 states and provinces across the United States and Canada have been positively impacted by the program. Within the six schools/organizations awarded this session, more than 11,000 students will be provided access to 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 June 30, 2023. Information on the Bowler's Ed program can be found at [BOWL.com/BowlersEd](https://www.bowl.com/bowlersed) and applications for the Bowler's Ed grant can be found at [ibc.smapply.net](https://www.ibc.smapply.net).

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

PAIR OF NATIONAL TITLES UP FOR GRABS AT 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM AND SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – The top student-athletes are on their way to Las Vegas this week to compete in the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships and Intercollegiate Singles Championships.

The journey to take home the top team and individual titles of the 2022-2023 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season begins Monday at the South Point Bowling Plaza 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 at 7 p.m. Eastern in April and May on CBS Sports Network.

The women's ISC final will air April 25 with the men's ISC final following on May 2. The first ITC show will be the women's title match, which will air on May 9, and the run of collegiate broadcasts will close May 16 with the men's ITC finals.

All qualifying and match-play rounds at the ISC and ITC will be streamed live on BowlTV.com.

Competition at the ISC kicks off Tuesday at 1:30 p.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 2023 champions.

There will definitely be a new men's national champion this year as 2022 winner Brandon Vallone of William Paterson placed ninth and failed to advance out of the Dayton Sectional in March.

The possibility of a repeat champion still exists on the women's side, however, as Stephen F. Austin senior Chloe Skurzynski, a former Team USA member and the 2022 U.S. Amateur champion, won the Dallas Sectional to earn the right to defend her 2022 ISC title.

The ITC will welcome the top 16 men's and 16 women's collegiate programs to South Point Bowling Plaza starting Wednesday for the official practice session before qualifying begins Thursday at 11 a.m. Eastern.

Qualifying will consist of 24 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 Wisconsin-Whitewater men and Stephen F. Austin women will have the opportunity to defend their ITC titles from the 2022 event in Addison, Illinois.

Whitewater punched its ticket back to nationals by winning this year's men's sectional qualifier in Smyrna, Tennessee, while Stephen F. Austin made it back to ITCs by taking second place at the women's sectional in Dallas.

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

To qualify for the ISC, women's competitors needed to finish in the top five at the Dallas and Smyrna sectionals based on six-game pinfall totals. The Dayton Sectional took the top six women, and eight ladies advanced out of Addison.

Men's qualifiers had to finish no worse than fifth in Dayton and Dallas in order to advance to ISCs while the top six moved on from Smyrna and the top eight from Addison.

Teams qualifying for the ITC had to finish in the top four of their sectionals based on 64-game Baker pinfall totals.

The men's teams from Saint Xavier, Trine and Ottawa will be making their first ITC appearances this season. Each will have its work cut out as there are several perennial powerhouses among the remaining 13 teams in the men's field.

No first-time qualifiers made it through sectionals on the women's side this year; instead, 14 of the 16 spots were taken by teams ranked in the top 25 of either the USBC Collegiate or NCAA rankings, which should make the battle for the national title fierce from start to finish.

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

MORGAN STATE'S HILL, WEBBER'S GRAMMAR LEAD QUALIFYING AT 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – Morgan State freshman Johnna Hill posted the highest qualifying score of the day to lead the women's division at the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships while Webber International junior Austin Grammar paced the men's field as competition began Tuesday at South Point Bowling Plaza.

The 24 men and 24 women, who earned spots in the event through sectional qualifying, bowled six games of qualifying Tuesday morning to determine the bracket for match play. The top eight qualifiers received a first-round bye while the remainder of the field started match play Tuesday afternoon.

Hill was solid throughout her run to the women's No. 1 seed, firing games of 213, 223, 222, 263, 244 and 248 for a six-game total of 1,413 (a 235.5 average), which put her more than 40 pins ahead of second-place qualifier Rhian Dobinson of McKendree (1,370).

Considering the fact that she is a freshman and was making her ISC debut, it would have been completely natural for Hill to experience some nervousness during Tuesday's qualifying round.

That wasn't the case, however, as the right-hander looked comfortable from the moment the first balls were thrown.

"At any event I go to, I just lock in and cancel out everything around me so that it's just me and the lanes," Hill said. "I felt very at ease and was 100 percent locked in today. Pair to pair, I felt like the shot was for me, and I took advantage of it."

Hill will square off against Carly Snyder of Davenport when the second round of match play begins Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Eastern.

Match play is single elimination, and all bracket matches consist of three games, with total pinfall determining the winner.

Snyder won her opening match against Maranda Pattison of McKendree, 590-562, on Tuesday to advance.

Also winning their opening matches in the women's division were Maryland-Eastern Shore's Alexis Ingersoll, Crystal George of Stephen F. Austin, SCAD-Savannah's Lara Kurt, Jenna Lehrer of Monmouth, Kiearra Saldi of Duquesne, Maryville's Anna Maxwell and Cristina Acosta of North Carolina A&T.

Defending ISC women's champion Chloe Skurzynski of Stephen F. Austin is still alive in the women's field as well. She qualified seventh with 1,267 and will open match play against Saldi.

In the men's division, Grammar, who also qualified for the ISC national finals in 2022, chalked up Tuesday's strong performance to patience.

"I didn't have a great look at the beginning, so I just tried to grind and wait for the lanes to come to me," Grammar said. "Once that happened and things started setting up better for me and my game, I took advantage of two good pairs and ran down the field."

It was clear that Grammar matched up best with the final two pairs he encountered as he closed his qualifying block with games of 265 and 247 to establish the top men's total at 1,333 (a 222.17 average).

Grammar will battle Jayson Miner of William Paterson in Round 2 of match play on Wednesday morning. Miner earned his place in the bout by defeating Lawrence Tech's Connor Nowak, 636-597, to advance.

Also advancing in the men's division were Brandon Haney of Indiana Tech, Davenport's Nicholas Luther, Charles Bostic of Webber International, South Florida's Sidney Schroschk, Mount Mercy's Brett Lloyd, Michael Nape Jr. of St. Francis-Illinois and Stony Brook's Henry Hecht.

BowlTV.com will have all qualifying and match-play rounds of the ISC leading up to the televised finals.

Visit BOWL.com/ISC for more information on the Intercollegiate Singles Championships.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

At South Point Bowling Plaza, Las Vegas

Tuesday's Results

Men's match play, first round

Jayson Miner, William Paterson def. Connor Nowak, Lawrence Tech, 636-597.
Brandon Haney, Indiana Tech def. Brent Shroyer, Wright State, 712-584.
Nicholas Luther, Davenport def. David Schaberg, Concordia, 614-518.
Charles Bostic, Webber International def. Michael Anderson, Lindenwood, 648-604.
Sidney Schroschk, South Florida def. Race Lowder, Indiana Tech, 572-498.
Brett Lloyd, Mount Mercy def. Cameron Shockey, Milligan, 641-526
Michael Nape Jr., St. Francis-Illinois def. Matteo Cittadino, Pikeville, 656-554.
Henry Hecht, Stony Brook def. Julian Salinas, SCAD-Savannah, 665-598.

First-round byes: Austin Grammar, Webber International; Ethan McDonald, Muskingum; Nick Dischinger, Emmanuel; Vincent Luong, Fresno State; Kai Evans, Mount Mercy; Adam Atkins, Webber International; A.J. Wolstenholme, Webber International; T.J. Rock, Wichita State.

Women's match play, first round

Carly Snyder, Davenport def. Maranda Pattison, McKendree, 590-562.

Alexis Ingersoll, Maryland-Eastern Shore def. Karine Bouchard, Davenport, 570-499.

Crystal George, Stephen F. Austin def. Breana Chewens, Stony Brook, 585-583.

Lara Kurt, SCAD-Savannah def. Karsyn Braasch, Lindenwood, 553-537.

Jenna Lehrer, Monmouth def. Rebecca Howard, Wisconsin-Whitewater, 593-550.

Kiearra Saldi, Duquesne def. Cassidy Gerken, Clarke, 519-501.

Anna Maxwell, Maryville def. Allyson Sand, Louisiana Tech, 638-606.

Cristina Acosta, North Carolina A&T def. Jazmin Koeberl, Marian-Wisconsin, 646-571.

First-round byes: Johnna Hill, Morgan State; Rhian Dobinson, McKendree; Mabel Cummins, Vanderbilt; Maggie Thoma, Arkansas State; Lauren Tomaszewski, North Carolina A&T; Rebecca Hagerman, McKendree; Chloe Skurzynski, Stephen F. Austin; Paige Warner, Wichita State.

FINALISTS DETERMINED FOR 2023

INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – The eight finalists for the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships were determined Wednesday at South Point Bowling Plaza, and the roster includes three men from one team and the defending women's singles champion.

The ISC semifinals and title matches, which will be one-game matches, will take place Saturday and be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network.

On the women's side, 2022 ISC champion Chloe Skurzynski of Stephen F. Austin will face Maryville's Anna Maxwell in one semifinal match while Paige Wagner of Wichita State and Lara Kurt, who bowls for the Savannah College of Art and Design – Savannah, will square off in the other.

Skurzynski authored a memorable performance during her opening match on Wednesday, recording her second 300 game and first 800 series during an 805-596 Round 2 victory over Duquesne's Kiearra Saldi.

The defending champ followed it up with a solid 621 in Round 3, which was more than enough to push her past Monmouth's Jenna Lehrer (576) and into Saturday's TV finals.

There, Skurzynski will have the opportunity to become just the second repeat champion in ISC history and the first to accomplish the feat since Emily Eckhoff of Hastings College won back-to-back titles in 2015 and 2016.

Nevertheless, Skurzynski isn't focusing on history; instead, she's just trying to enjoy the here and now.

"I'm just grateful to be able to go through the whole process again," Skurzynski said. "There's a lot of good people here that I'm bowling against, good bowlers and good people. I just need to keep my head in it, use what I've learned and hope the hits go my way."

Skurzynski will need those hits in order to get past Maxwell, who spent the first three rounds playing the role of spoiler.

Maxwell's first opponent Wednesday morning was Vanderbilt's Mabel Cummins, a Team USA member who recently helped the Commodores secure the 2023 NCAA national title.

However, that didn't intimidate Maxwell, who found a way to deliver clutch shots throughout their Round 2 matchup and wound up emerging with a 659-639 victory.

It was more of the same during Round 3 when Maxwell squared off against No. 6 seed Rebecca Hagerman of McKendree.

Once again, the match came down to the 10th frame of Game 3. Maxwell recorded a double to start her final frame, which meant that Hagerman would need to strike on the first ball in the 10th in order to win the match.

Hagerman delivered a quality shot, but only nine pins would fall, allowing Maxwell to come out on the winning end of a 645-634 decision and sending her through to the finals.

Now that she's there, Maxwell is hoping to make the most of the opportunity not only for herself, but also for the Maryville bowling program and the university as a whole.

“It’s a pretty great feeling to make it on TV and to have such a big accomplishment for our school; I’m very happy to represent them,” Maxwell said. “I don’t even think words can describe how amazing it would be to be the one holding up the trophy at the end, but I hope I can do it.”

Maxwell’s first task will be to get past Skurzynski; if she can do that, she’ll earn herself a title tilt with either Kurt or Wagner, both of whom performed valiantly on Wednesday as well.

Kurt’s road to the TV finals was just as challenging as Maxwell’s as she was forced to get past a pair of top-five seeds in order to punch her ticket to the finals.

Kurt opened Wednesday’s action with a hard-fought 629-614 victory over fifth seed Lauren Tomaszewski of North Carolina A&T during Round 2, and she followed it up with a 635-548 win over No. 4 Maggie Thoma of Arkansas State in Round 3.

Kurt displayed incredible poise while securing the two victories; nevertheless, after the final balls had been thrown, she was having some trouble believing that she had just earned a spot on Saturday’s show.

“Frame by frame, shot by shot, I tried to keep myself very present and focused on what I needed to do; I just sort of stayed inside my bubble, so, right now, it feels pretty surreal that I was able to come this far,” Kurt said. “Now that I’m there, I need to just make sure I’m not too timid, have some fun and work my way through whatever is in front of me.”

The first person in front of Kurt on Saturday will be Wichita State’s Wagner, who earned her own berth in the TV finals thanks to victories over Maryland Eastern Shore’s Alexis Ingersoll (709-534) and Davenport’s Carly Snyder (668-603).

Like Kurt, Wagner attributed a lot of Wednesday’s success to finding the ability to block out distractions and stay focused on her own game. She knows that ability will be called upon again if she hopes to be at her best once the TV lights come on.

However, no matter what happens on Saturday, Wagner will walk away proud of what she has accomplished at this year’s tournament.

“Honestly, I already feel like I’ve been really successful here,” Wagner said. “I’m thankful that I’ve gotten to have this experience; it’s a great experience to have. Whatever happens, happens.”

On the men’s side, one thing that will happen for sure is that a bowler from Webber International University will compete for the title.

That’s because three Warriors – Adam Atkins, Austin Grammar and A.J. Wolstenholme – are among the final four bowlers left in this year’s men’s field. The lone non-Webber bowler in the final four is Vincent Luong of Fresno State.

Luong and Grammar will match up in the men’s first semifinal on Saturday with teammates Atkins and Wolstenholme battling it out in Semifinal No. 2 for the right to face the winner.

Atkins’ road to the semifinals included wins Wednesday over Henry Hecht of Stony Brook (646-576) and Emmanuel’s Nick Dischinger (618-551).

Some bowlers might find it difficult having to face a teammate during a semifinal or championship match; nevertheless, to Atkins, it’s just going to be business as usual.

“We bowl each other all the time, so I don’t think bowling against A.J. (Wolstenholme) or Austin (Grammar) on TV will be any easier or any harder for me,” Atkins said. “I need to treat this just like any other tournament and not let the moment get too big. It would feel great to be the guy holding the trophy at the end, but we’ll cross that bridge when we get there.”

Wolstenholme wants that trophy just as badly, but part of him wishes that the path to getting it didn’t have to go through a fellow Warrior.

“It’s awesome that we’re all on the show, but it sort of sucks at the same time,” Wolstenholme said. “It’s going to be difficult to take the fact that we’re teammates out of it and just look at it as just another person or name on the scoreboard.”

Nevertheless, once competition begins on Saturday, Wolstenholme will be forced to do just that because he wants to walk away the 2023 ISC men’s national champion just as much as the other three semifinalists do.

“I don’t know what it would feel like to win, but I know it would feel good because there’s been a lot of time, a lot of work and a lot of help that have gone into just getting me to this point,” Wolstenholme said. “My goal coming in was to make the TV show; everything after that was just icing on the cake, so I’m just excited to have the opportunity.”

Wolstenholme earned that opportunity by delivering clutch strikes in the 10th frame to eliminate Mount Mercy’s Brett Lloyd (632-628) during a thrilling match in Round 2 and then going on to cruise past South Florida’s Sidney Schroschk (659-608) in Round 3.

Grammar – the only 2022 ISC men’s national finalist to qualify again this year – took an even easier path.

After leading the men’s field during qualifying with a six-game total of 1,333 (a 222.17 average) on Tuesday, Grammar entered match play as the men’s No. 1 seed.

It was clear why during his two matches on Wednesday as he methodically dispatched Jayson Miner of William Penn (641-611) in the second round and Wichita State’s T.J. Rock (688-613) in the third to stake his claim to a semifinal berth.

Once there, Grammar will have the good fortune of not having to face a Webber teammate right away; however, even if he had, that would have been more than fine with him.

“It’s awesome to have those guys on the show too; I wish there were four of us, but we got three, which is still pretty good,” Grammar said. “I can’t focus on that though. I just need to focus on me and keep doing what I’ve been doing because it’s worked pretty well so far.”

He’ll need it to keep working in order to get past Luong, who has turned in some strong performances of his own during the first two days of competition.

After qualifying fourth on Tuesday with a score of 1,293 (a 215.5 average), Luong wasted no time getting back to work on Wednesday, defeating Davenport’s Nicholas Luther (612-581) during Round 2 and then punching his ticket to the finals with a 659-606 win over Mount Mercy’s Kai Evans in Round 3.

For Luong, qualifying for the finals is just a continuation of the good feelings he's been riding since the tournament began.

"I woke up feeling great, and it just carried on. I had success today, and I'm super stoked to have made the final four," Luong said. "I know it's going to take a lot to win because I'm bowling an opponent who has had a really great week, but if I bowl my game, I might have a shot.

"It's going to be a little bit weird being the only non-Webber bowler on the show, but I'm up for the challenge. I get to represent myself and my school on TV, and that's great."

The 24 men and 24 women competing at the Intercollegiate Singles Championships qualified through one of four sectional events held throughout the country in March.

The national event consisted of six qualifying games to determine seeding for the single-elimination match-play bracket. The bracket matches were three games, with total pinfall determining the winner.

CBS Sports Network will televise the semifinals and finals of the women's division on April 25 at 7 p.m. Eastern while the men's division will air May 2 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The Intercollegiate Team Championships, in which the top 16 men's and top 16 women's teams in the nation will compete for the Helmer Cup, starts Thursday at 11 a.m. Eastern at South Point Bowling Plaza.

BowlTV.com will provide live coverage of the ITC leading up to the televised finals.

Visit BOWL.com/ISC for more information on the Intercollegiate Singles Championships.

INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

At South Point Bowling Plaza, Las Vegas

Wednesday's Results

(Three games, total pins)

MEN'S RESULTS

Second Round

Austin Grammar, Webber International def. Jayson Miner, William Penn, 641-611.

T.J. Rock, Wichita State def. Brandon Haney, Indiana Tech, 676-618.

Vincent Luong, Fresno State def. Nicholas Luther, Davenport, 612-581.

Kai Evans, Mount Mercy def. Charles Bostic, Webber International, 622-597.

Sidney Schroschk, South Florida def. Ethan McDonald, Muskingum, 602-553.

A.J. Wolstenholme, Webber International def. Brett Lloyd, Mount Mercy, 632-628.

Nick Dischinger, Emmanuel def. Michael Nape Jr., St. Francis-Illinois, 677-667.

Adam Atkins, Webber International def. Henry Hecht, Stony Brook, 646-576.

Third Round

Grammar def. Rock, 688-613.

Luong def. Evans, 659-606.

Wolstenholme def. Schroschk, 659-608.

Atkins def. Dischinger, 618-551.

Saturday's semifinals pairings

(Single-game matches)

Grammar vs. Luong

Wolstenholme vs. Atkins

WOMEN'S RESULTS

Second Round

Carly Snyder, Davenport def. Johnna Hill, Morgan State, 650-530.

Paige Wagner, Wichita State def. Alexis Ingersoll, Maryland Eastern Shore, 709-534.

Maggie Thoma, Arkansas State def. Crystal George, Stephen F. Austin, 579-566.

Lara Kurt, SCAD-Savannah def. Lauren Tomaszewski, North Carolina A&T, 629-614.

Jenna Lehrer, Monmouth def. Rhian Dobinson, McKendree, 595-590.

Chloe Skurzynski, Stephen F. Austin def. Kiearra Saldi, Duquesne, 805-596.

Anna Maxwell, Maryville def. Mabel Cummins, Vanderbilt, 659-639.

Rebecca Hagerman, McKendree def. Cristina Acosta, North Carolina A&T, 717-552.

Third Round

Wagner def. Snyder, 668-603.

Kurt def. Thoma, 635-548.

Skurzynski def. Lehrer, 621-576.

Maxwell def. Hagerman, 645-634.

Saturday's semifinals pairings

(Single-game matches)

Wagner vs. Kurt

Skurzynski vs. Maxwell

ROBARGE, KOLBERG NAMED MVPS

FOR 2022-2023 USBC COLLEGIATE SEASON

LAS VEGAS – Wichita State's Spencer Robarge and Mount Mercy's Megan Kolberg have been named the Most Valuable Players of the 2022-2023 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season by the National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association (NCBCA).

The awards were presented during the Night of Champions banquet Wednesday at the South Point Hotel and Casino. The NCBCA All-America teams and several other award winners also were recognized during the ceremony.

The ceremony was broadcast live at BowlTV.com.

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

Robarge, the 2022 NCBCA Rookie of the Year, averaged more than 227 over nine events and posted an average differential of 42.35 to lead the nation in both categories as a sophomore. He also led both categories in Tier I competition (227.72 and 39.47) to help the Shockers to the top of the team rankings for the regular season.

He collected three individual wins and had six top-five finishes during the year. During the fifth Southwest Intercollegiate Bowling Conference (SWIBC) event of the season in January, the two-hander rolled a pair of 300 games on the way to a five-game set of 1,309 (261.8 average).

Robarge was joined on the NCBCA All-America first team for the 2022-2023 season by Alex Acosta of Saint Xavier, Brandon Bohn of Mount Mercy, Bryce Oliver of Pikeville and CJ Petrin of Oklahoma Christian.

Bohn also was named the NCBCA Rookie of the Year after recording three individual wins and averaging more than 224 during the season.

Kolberg, a junior for the Mustangs, finished the regular season fifth in average (208.57) and third in average differential (33.98) over 10 events. She also finished in the top 10 in both statistics across five Tier I events.

She posted four individual wins and five top-five finishes to lead Mount Mercy to the top team ranking for the regular season.

Kolberg earned her first NCBCA All-America nomination and was joined on the first team by Kaylee Back of Oklahoma Christian, Caitlin Lucas of Baker and McKendree's Hope Gramly and Maranda Pattison.

Back also earned NCBCA Rookie of the Year honors after leading the nation in average differential (37.77) and collecting three individual wins on the way to a 207.29 average.

The NCBCA Gordon Vadakin and Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year awards were presented to Tennessee Southern's Bob Learn Jr. and Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah's Katie Thornton, respectively.

Learn earned the award for the first time in his career. The USBC Hall of Famer helped the Firehawks to the No. 2 ranking for the 2022-2023 regular season and a pair of Tier I victories.

Thornton claims the Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year after being named the Gordon Vadakin Coach of the Year for the 2021-2022 season. She helped the Bees finish the regular season ranked No. 5 overall.

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.

Bobby Brown was recognized as the Gordon Teigen Meritorious Service Award winner for 2023. Brown, the women's head coach at Pikeville, runs several tournaments each season, has served as a region director for the NCBCA and helped to create the Collegiate Club Championships and Club Teams Bowling Coaches Association (CTBCA).

The annual award is presented to an individual for outstanding service to collegiate bowling.

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

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE BOWLING COACHES ASSOCIATION

2022-2023 ALL-AMERICA TEAMS

MEN

First Team – Alex Acosta, Saint Xavier; Brandon Bohn, Mount Mercy; Bryce Oliver, Pikeville; CJ Petrin, Oklahoma Christian; Spencer Robarge, Wichita State

Second Team – Brandon Bonta, Wichita State; Alec Keplinger, Wichita State; Eli Mayberry, Pikeville; Jorge Rodriguez-Rosas, McKendree; Hayden Stippich, Tennessee Southern

Honorable Mention – Noah Akiona, Newman; Drake Bazy, Wisconsin-Whitewater; Tyler Betz, Tennessee Southern; Daniel Chin, McKendree; Devin Flowers, Northwestern Ohio; Tyrell Ingalls, SCAD-Savannah; Nick Larsen, Webber International; Dylan Mollo, Marian-Indiana; Joseph Ocello, Calumet; Julian Salinas, SCAD-Savannah

Most Valuable Player – Spencer Robarge, Wichita State

Rookie of the Year – Brandon Bohn, Mount Mercy

Gordon Vadakin Coach of the Year – Bob Learn Jr., Tennessee Southern

WOMEN

First Team – Kaylee Back, Oklahoma Christian; Hope Gramly, McKendree; Megan Kolberg, Mount Mercy; Caitlin Lucas, Baker; Maranda Pattison, McKendree

Second Team – Isabel Allen, McKendree; Lindsay Brown, Tennessee Southern; Bailey Delrose, St. Francis-Illinois; Brianna Rogers, Pikeville; Chloe Skurzynski, Stephen F. Austin

Honorable Mention – Carlene Beyer, Stephen F. Austin; Juliana Botero, Wichita State; Karine Bouchard, Davenport; Kasey Eaton, Davenport; Madison Janack, Wichita State; Allie Leiendecker, Louisiana Tech; Lindsay Manning, Louisiana Tech; Cassidy Potter, Rochester Institute of Technology; Hailey Triske, Tennessee Southern; Haley Youker, Mercyhurst

Most Valuable Player – Megan Kolberg, Mount Mercy

Rookie of the Year – Kaylee Back, Oklahoma Christian

Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year – Katie Thornton, SCAD-Savannah

Gordon Teigen Meritorious Service Award – Bobby Brown, Meritorious Service

STORM/INTERNATIONAL BOWLING MEDIA ASSOCIATION

2022-2023 COLLEGIATE AWARDS

MEN

Bowler of the Year – Spencer Robarge, Wichita State

Runners-Up – Alex Acosta, Saint Xavier; Bryce Oliver, Pikeville; CJ Petrin, Oklahoma Christian; Hayden Stippich, Tennessee Southern

Honorable Mention – Brandon Bohn, Mount Mercy; Brandon Bonta, Wichita State; Alec Keplinger, Wichita State

WOMEN

Bowler of the Year – Megan Kolberg, Mount Mercy

Runners-Up – Kaylee Back, Oklahoma Christian; Hope Gramly, McKendree; Caitlin Lucas, Baker; Maranda Pattison, McKendree

Honorable Mention – Lindsay Brown, Tennessee Southern; Bailey Delrose, St. Francis-Illinois; Chloe Skurzynski, Stephen F. Austin

EIGHT TEAMS REMAIN UNDEFEATED AFTER FIRST DAY OF 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – The 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships got underway Thursday at the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas, and eight teams, including both defending champions, went undefeated and have put themselves in prime position to make a run at this year's titles.

The ITC is the culminating event of the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Collegiate season and features the top 16 men's and women's bowling programs from across the country.

All teams bowled 24 Baker games Thursday to determine seeding for the double-elimination bracket, which features best-of-seven Baker matches leading into the finals.

The finals, which will be taped Saturday, will air on Tuesdays in May. The women's ITC show will air May 9 at 11 p.m. Eastern while the men's ITC final will air May 16 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

Leading the men's division in qualifying was defending champion Wisconsin-Whitewater with a 5,365 total, a 223.54 average. They were followed by Webber International (5,281), Wichita State (5,199), St. Ambrose (5,037) and Tennessee Southern (4,998).

Whitewater began its quest for back-to-back titles with a 4-1 victory over No. 16 Trine, which is making its ITC national finals debut. The Warhawks then defeated No. 9 Ottawa, another ITC first-timer, 4-2, in Round 2 to set up a quarterfinal match with fourth-seeded St. Ambrose.

The Fighting Bees needed all seven games to get past No. 13 William Paterson, 4-3, in Round 1, but things went much smoother during Round 2 as St. Ambrose breezed past No. 12 Lawrence Tech, 4-1, to earn a Friday afternoon bout with the defending champs.

On the other side of the men's bracket, No. 3 Wichita State advanced to the quarterfinals by securing a 4-3 victory over No. 14 Pikeville during Round 1 and then going on to top No. 6 Purdue by the same margin in Round 2.

They will face No. 7 St. Francis-Illinois, which won two nailbiters of its own. The Fighting Saints slipped past No. 10 Lindenwood, 4-3, in the opening round and then used clutch shot-making down the stretch to topple No. 2 Webber International, 4-3, during another thrilling battle in Round 2.

Pacing the women's qualifying field was McKendree (5,243), followed by Louisiana Tech (5,061), Maryville (5,033), North Carolina A&T (4,959) and Wisconsin-Whitewater (4,942).

McKendree opened match play with a 4-2 victory over No. 16 Webber International. From there, the Bearcats only got stronger, quickly dispatching St. Francis-Illinois, 4-1, during Round 2 to move into the quarterfinals.

There, McKendree is likely to encounter a considerably tougher challenge as it will face defending ITC women's champion Stephen F. Austin, which earned its two victories on Thursday by getting past No. 5 Wisconsin-Whitewater (4-3) and No. 4 North Carolina A&T (4-2).

Third-seeded Maryville advanced in the winners bracket by collecting a come-from-behind victory over No. 14 Mount Mercy (4-3) in Round 1 and a 4-2 win over No. 6 Lindenwood during Round 2. The Saints will be back in action Friday afternoon with a quarterfinal matchup against No. 7 Wichita State.

The Shockers earned their spot in the match by defeating No. 10 Duquesne, 4-1, in Round 1 and No. 15 Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah during the second round (4-1) to remain undefeated.

Competition at South Point Bowling Plaza resumes at 10:45 a.m. Eastern on Friday with elimination matches. Another round of elimination matches will follow at 12:45 p.m. Eastern. Winners bracket matches will resume at 4 p.m. Eastern.

Match play will continue Friday until the teams for Saturday's title matches are determined.

Teams earned their way into the ITC field in March by finishing in the top four at one of four sectional events held throughout the country.

BowlTV.com has live coverage of all qualifying and match-play rounds of the Intercollegiate Team Championships leading up to the televised finals.

Visit BOWL.com/ITC for more information on the Intercollegiate Team Championships.

INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

At South Point Bowling Plaza, Las Vegas

Thursday's Results

MEN'S DIVISION

QUALIFYING

(24 Baker games)

1. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 5,365.
2. Webber International, 5,281.
3. Wichita State, 5,199.
4. St. Ambrose, 5,037.
5. Tennessee Southern, 4,998.
6. Purdue, 4,924.
7. St. Francis-Illinois, 4,900.
8. Saint Xavier, 4,875.
9. Ottawa-Kansas, 4,875.
10. Lindenwood, 4,845.
11. Mount Mercy, 4,819.
12. Lawrence Tech, 4,807.
13. William Paterson, 4,729.
14. Pikeville, 4,714.
15. Midland, 4,553.
16. Trine, 4,543.

MATCH PLAY

Double-elimination, best-of-seven Baker format

ROUND 1

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

Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Trine, 4-1.

Ottawa def. Saint Xavier, 4-2.
Lawrence Tech def. Tennessee Southern, 4-2.
St. Ambrose def. William Paterson, 4-3.

Webber International def. Midland, 4-1.
St. Francis-Illinois def. Lindenwood, 4-3.
Purdue def. Mount Mercy, 4-3.
Wichita State def. Pikeville, 4-3.

ROUND 2 – WINNERS BRACKET

Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Ottawa, 4-2.
St. Ambrose def. Lawrence Tech, 4-1.
St. Francis-Illinois def. Webber International, 4-3.
Wichita State def. Purdue, 4-3.

WOMEN'S DIVISION

QUALIFYING

(24 Baker games)

1. McKendree, 5,243.
2. Louisiana Tech, 5,061.
3. Maryville, 5,033.
4. North Carolina A&T, 4,959.
5. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4,942.
6. Lindenwood, 4,904.
7. Wichita State, 4,881.
8. St. Francis-Illinois, 4,837.
9. Tennessee Southern, 4,827.
10. Duquesne, 4,807.
11. Pikeville, 4,801.
12. Stephen F. Austin, 4,790.
13. Maryland Eastern Shore, 4,739.
14. Mount Mercy, 4,630.
15. SCAD-Savannah, 4,625.
16. Webber International, 4,596.

MATCH PLAY

Double-elimination, best-of-seven Baker format

ROUND 1

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

McKendree def. Webber International, 4-2.
St. Francis-Illinois def. Tennessee Southern, 4-1.
Stephen F. Austin def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-3.
North Carolina A&T def. Maryland Eastern Shore, 4-1.

Savannah College of Art & Design-Savannah def. Louisiana Tech, 4-3.
Wichita State def. Duquesne, 4-1.
Lindenwood def. Pikeville, 4-2.
Maryville def. Mount Mercy, 4-3.

ROUND 2 – WINNERS BRACKET

McKendree def. St. Francis-Illinois, 4-1.
Stephen F. Austin def. North Carolina A&T, 4-2.
Wichita State def. Savannah College of Art & Design-Savannah, 4-1.
Maryville def. Lindenwood, 4-2.

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 2023.

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 2023 are as follows:

Logan Bradley, Springfield, Oregon – Bradley is a senior at Springfield High School, where he has maintained a 4.0 GPA despite challenging himself with several Advanced Placement and honors classes. He has been on the honor roll every semester of his high school career, is currently ranked first in his graduating class of 268 students and is a member of the National Honor Society. Bradley also participates in cross country and track and is a member of the Rotary Youth Leadership Program. In addition to receiving the Gift For Life Scholarship, Bradley also is among five USBC Youth members receiving the 2023 Earl Anthony Memorial Scholarship.

Bryson Butterfield, Gooding, Idaho – Butterfield's academic prowess is well known to the teaching and administrative staff at North Valley Academy as is evident by his 3.9 GPA. He has also proven himself to be a standout athlete while competing for North Valley's bowling, football and tennis teams. Butterfield also was a Boy Scout and has spent time volunteering at the Helping Hearts and Hand Food Drive, at a local soup kitchen and at a plethora of other charitable organizations.

Jenessa Hernandez, Gardnerville, Nevada – Jessica Hernandez is a senior at Douglas High School, where she has maintained a steady 3.1 GPA and is in the top half of her graduating class. Hernandez has been heavily involved in Douglas' Junior ROTC program, where she has ascended to the rank of Command Sergeant Major. She also is

a member of the JROTC rifle team, raider team and color guard. Clearly intending to put her early military training to good use, Hernandez has already enlisted in the United States Army National Guard.

Lidia Hernandez, Los Angeles – Lidia Hernandez is a senior at Francisco Bravo Medical Magnet High School, where her 4.22 GPA (on a 4.0 scale) has her ranked in the top 15 in her graduating class of 362 students. When she isn't hard at work on her studies in several AP and honors courses, Hernandez participates in extracurricular activities such as bowling, math club, cross country and the School Site & Leadership Council. Also, she has logged more than 450 hours of volunteer work – the most of any student at Francisco Bravo – while serving organizations such as the Lupus Foundation of America.

Aidan Mercer, Daphne, Alabama – Mercer is a senior at Daphne High School where he has maintained a 3.9574 unweighted GPA (4.5319 weighted) and maintained a ranking inside the top 25 in his graduating class of 411 students. The rigors of multiple honors and AP classes take up a good deal of Mercer's time; nevertheless, he has stayed involved in multiple extracurricular activities as well, including bowling, chess club, scholars bowl and art club. He also has completed community service work for Alabama Coastal Clean-up and Fairhope Unitarian Universalist Fellowship since 2015 and for Daphne Beautification Committee and for his local USBC association since 2021.

Weston Metts, Louisville, Kentucky – Metts is currently completing his senior year at Saint Xavier High School in Louisville, where he has been a standout student throughout his high school career. During his time at Saint Xavier, Metts has established a 3.99 unweighted GPA (5.01 weighted) while never earning anything less than an A minus. During the Fall of 2022, Metts scored a perfect composite score of 36 on his ACT. Outside the world of academia, Metts has competed as a member of the Saint Xavier Varsity Bowling Team, Swimming Team and Cross Country Team among other activities, and he has given back to his community by volunteering as a unified partner and coach for Special Olympics Bowling competitions and at the Veterans' Wheelchair Games.

Shaniya Mosely, Morrow, Georgia – Mosely is a senior at Creekside Christian Academy in McDonough where she is ranked in the top 15 in her graduating class by virtue of having maintained a 4.0 GPA while taking on a schedule filled with honors-level classes. Mosely also has helped Creekside's athletic programs as a member of the varsity track and field team and basketball team. She has been bowling for 11 years as well. To give back, Mosely has volunteered her time to help Toys for Tots, Operation Christmas Child, Golden Crest Nursing Home and various food pantries.

Marika Preble, Hermosa, South Dakota – Preble is approaching the conclusion of her senior year at Custer High School in Custer, South Dakota, where she has been a positive presence both inside and outside the classroom. She has maintained a 3.65 GPA (4.0 scale) while enrolled in several challenging honors and dual-credit classes. In addition to bowling, Preble has participated in 4H, where she was named Custer SD 4H Queen, Northern Hills Honors Band, Lifeways Art Competition and Spearfish Marching Competition. She also has been completing community service tasks for more than 10 years, donating her time and talents to help organizations such as the Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels and Harvest Hills Church.

Roman Roberts, Norman, Oklahoma – Roberts is a senior at Norman High School and has been a straight A student throughout his high school career. That isn't due to a lack of challenging coursework as mostly honors and AP classes comprise Roberts' transcript. His high level of scholarship led to his acceptance into the National Honor Society as well as honor societies for math, social studies and Spanish. Roberts also has put in a great deal of time helping his community while working for the United Way, Salvation Army, Younlife Work Crew and several other charitable organizations.

Luke Schaefer, Oshkosh, Wisconsin – Schaefer is finishing up his senior year at Oshkosh West High School, where he has maintained a 3.806 GPA (4.0 scale) and is ranked in the top 15 percent of his graduating class. In addition to his time spent on the lanes and volunteering at his local bowling center, Schaefer has been a member of Oshkosh West's Spanish Club, Chess Club and Global Academy. Also, he founded his own community service organization – Teens Clean Machines – which was designed to help individuals perform yard maintenance and other household cleaning tasks.

Cody Underwood, Beverly Hills, Florida – Underwood is a senior at Lecanto High School in Lecanto, Florida, where he has established a 4.09 weighted GPA and been a member of the AB Honor Roll thanks to his high marks in multiple honors classes. He's been heavily involved in extracurricular activities while at Lecanto as well, participating on the bowling team, yearbook committee and school newspaper. Underwood also has served his community by working as a volunteer bowling coach for Special Olympics athletes and local youth bowlers, working for the Children's Miracle Network and the Green Dot Volunteer Program.

Dacey Winn, Preston, Idaho – Winn is completing her senior year at Preston High School and is the No. 1 student in her graduating class of 186 students. She has established a 4.0 GPA, has maintained perfect attendance and is a member of the National Honor Society. Winn has competed as a member of Preston's bowling and softball teams and has been active in Key Club and Business Professionals of America. She also has spent time doing volunteer work for the Global Connections Greek Refugee Project and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Each year, two of the Gift For Life Scholarships are reserved for the children of fire department, emergency rescue or police personnel. The families of Jenessa Hernandez, Butterfield and Roberts serve in those respective areas.

Click [here](#) to view a list of past Gift For Life Scholarship winners.

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

WOESSNER WILL LOOK TO DEFEND TITLE AT 2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS IN LAS VEGAS

LAS VEGAS – Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, didn't feel much pressure heading into the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Senior Queens.

Instead, she and her fellow competitors were just happy to be back on the lanes after the COVID-19 pandemic forced the event's cancellation in 2020 and 2021.

Free from the weight of expectations, Woessner's Senior Queens debut was one to remember as she authored a dominant performance at the Gold Coast Bowling Center in Las Vegas, averaging more than 225 over 31 games of qualifying, match play and stepladder competition.

Woessner capped things off with a 238-223 victory over USBC Hall of Famer Lucy Sandelin of Tampa, Florida, to collect the tiara awarded to the champion and the \$8,000 top prize.

The 53-year-old right-hander will look to make it two for two and secure those top prizes once again when the 2023 Senior Queens kicks off Saturday at Gold Coast with the tournament's official practice session before the first round of qualifying gets underway Sunday at 11 a.m. Eastern.

This year's field features more than 90 of the top female USBC members age 50 and older, including past Senior Queens champions Sandelin (2017, 2013 and 2007), USBC and PWBA Hall of Famer Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado (2018), Paula Vidad of Sun City, California (2011), and Char Hammel of Las Vegas (2010).

Nevertheless, as reigning champion, Woessner has to be considered the favorite.

That isn't the way that she is looking at things, however; in fact, she claims to be under more pressure now than she was heading into her Senior Queens debut.

"Last year, even though I had a lot of people telling me that I should win it because I was a rookie and one of the younger bowlers out there, I didn't really have any expectations," Woessner said. "Now, coming in here trying to defend the title, I feel a lot more pressure, so I need to pay attention to my emotions and not take anything for granted."

One thing that Woessner doesn't intend to take for granted is the tournament's qualifying round.

All competitors at the 2023 Senior Queens will bowl 15 games of qualifying over two days. The top 32 players, based on total pinfall, will advance to the double-elimination match-play bracket.

Woessner is guaranteed a position in the bracket as the defending champion based on her qualifying total; nevertheless, she isn't downplaying the importance of those first 15 games.

"It would be easy to look at those qualifying games as practice since I'm already seeded into match play, but I don't want to give any pins away," Woessner said. "I want to use those games to try to get a higher seed and gain as much knowledge as I can heading into match play."

Match play begins Monday at 4 p.m. Eastern and will feature three-game matches with total pinfall determining who advances. The five players who make their way through the bracket will advance to the stepladder finals. The event features a true double-elimination format, so the No. 1 seed for the stepladder finals would have to lose twice in the championship match.

Last year, Woessner earned that top seed and walked away with the title. Although she would obviously love to do the same this time around, she knows that the Senior Queens' match-play format always makes things a bit unpredictable.

"Matching up with one person on one pair is tough because you could shoot 750 and they shoot 751, or you shoot 500 and they shoot 501," Woessner said. "That makes the Senior Queens a much more difficult tournament to win, but it makes it exciting too."

"I just hope that I can get that same calmness that I had last year. You can't force something like that; it just came to me last year, and it was just one of those tournaments when everything just sort of matched up well. If it doesn't, then I'll have to turn to Plan B, Plan C and Plan D."

Fans will be able to watch Woessner and the rest of the field put those plans into action from start to finish as BowITV.com will provide livestream coverage of each round of competition, including the stepladder finals, which will take place Tuesday at 9 p.m. Eastern.

FINALISTS SET AT 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – Spectators who came out to South Point Bowling Plaza on Friday to watch the final rounds of match play at the 2023 Intercollegiate Team Championships were treated to more than 12 hours of heart-stopping action with several matches coming down to the final shot.

When the dust settled, just two men's teams and two women's remained, and those squads will be the ones battling it out for national titles on Saturday.

On the women's side, 2017 champion McKendree will take on Maryville, which will be seeking its first ITC national title.

The men's title bout will be a rematch of the 2021 ITC final with perennial powerhouse Wichita State taking on St. Ambrose.

Wichita State will be looking to break its own record by recording its 13th national championship. St. Ambrose will be looking for its first.

Both title matches will be taped Saturday and air on Tuesdays in May on CBS Sports Network. The women's ITC show will air May 9 at 11 p.m. Eastern while the men's ITC final will air May 16 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The title matches will be best-of-five Baker matches.

Maryville had to dig itself out of an early hole to earn its shot at the title after it fell to Wichita State (4-1) during Friday afternoon's quarterfinal round.

The Saints wouldn't stay down for long, however, as they rebounded with a 4.5-2.5 victory over Louisiana Tech to earn themselves a rematch with the Shockers.

Since Wichita State entered the round undefeated, Maryville would have to top the Shockers in two best-of-seven matches in order to make it through to the finals.

Things certainly didn't appear to be moving in that direction early on as Wichita State jumped out to a 3-0 lead and appeared poised to eliminate the Saints once and for all.

Maryville wasn't about to go down that easily, however, and before Wichita State knew what had happened, the Saints hadn't just avoided the sweep; they had rallied all the way back and beaten the Shockers 4-3 to force a final winner-take-all best-of-seven match.

Fueled by the momentum of the comeback, this time it was Maryville jumping out to a 3-0 lead and appearing destined to reach the finals.

However, the Saints missed makeable spares in the ninth and 10th frames to lose Game 4 and keep Wichita State's hopes alive.

That was the lifeline the Shockers needed, and they took full advantage of it, heating up to win Game 5 and Game 6 to tie up the match and force a decisive Game 7, one that will be talked about for years to come.

Maryville came out swinging, striking on its first seven shots to grab the lead.

That lead wasn't very big, however, as Wichita State stayed clean and put together its own string of strikes to keep things close as the match headed to the 10th frame.

Maryville's anchor bowler had a chance to seal the victory with a strike on her first ball, but a stubborn 10 pin refused to go down. Undaunted, she converted the spare and finished with a strike to help the Saints post a score of 256.

Incredibly, that gave Wichita State's anchor bowler the opportunity to step up and win the match with a double.

Her first shot in the 10th frame was a high-flush pocket hit that resulted in a strike. Her next shot looked just as good entering the 1-3 pocket; however, that one failed to topple the 10 pin, which allowed Maryville to emerge with another hard-fought victory (4-3) and move into the finals.

For Maryville Head Coach Lauren Pate and assistant coach Matt Russo, it didn't take long for the emotions to pour out after watching their team capture the all-important victory.

"I immediately turned and hugged Matt (Russo) because he and I have both been in this position before, so to be able to give back to these girls and see what they've accomplished, it just means so much," Pate said. "He instantly started crying; I still can't cry, but if we hold the trophy up at the end of the day tomorrow, I think I might just cry a little bit."

Earning the right to hold the trophy will not be easy as not only will the Saints have to battle an incredibly talented McKendree team, but they'll also likely have to battle their own jitters.

"In order for us to be successful, I think it's going to come down to containing emotions and easing our nerves," Pate said. "This will be our first time on TV. Obviously, expectations are there, but as long as they're having fun and enjoying what they're doing, that's a win for us."

McKendree certainly knows a thing or two about winning. In fact, that's all the Bearcats have done so far at this year's ITC as they set a new 24-game qualifying record with a

score of 5,243 (a 218.46 average) and then went 4-0 during match play to advance to the finals.

They opened Friday's action by defeating 2022 ITC champion Stephen F. Austin (4-2) in the quarterfinals. Later, they held off a courageous charge and got past North Carolina A&T (4-3) in yet another match that came down to the very last shot.

McKendree Head Coach Shannon O'Keefe was certainly pleased with her team's ability to grind out another hard-fought victory; however, she was hardly surprised by it.

"This team is resilient; they've been that way the whole year," O'Keefe said. "We got knocked out early in the NCAAs, and that was tough, but for our girls to then come in here, break the all-time scoring record, march through match play and stand tough when North Carolina A&T was firing at them like that was really cool to watch."

Saturday's women's title match will certainly be cool to watch not only because it pits two outstanding teams against one another, but also because it will be a battle of teacher versus student.

That's because O'Keefe coached Pate at McKendree during Pate's collegiate career, one that saw her earn All-American status three times and help the Bearcats to both the ITC and NCAA national titles in 2017.

The men's title match won't be able to draw upon the teacher vs. student storyline, but it could definitely be promoted as an underdog story.

That's because in one corner there is Wichita State, which holds multiple ITC records including most tournament appearances (40), most finals appearances (24) and most championships (12), and in the other there is St. Ambrose, which is making its seventh tournament appearance and just its second trip to the finals.

Nevertheless, despite the disparity in resumes, it's the Fighting Bees who come to the title match undefeated, and they appeared to have very little trouble staying that way.

St. Ambrose won eight of its 10 games on Friday as it defeated defending champion Wisconsin-Whitewater (4-1) during the quarterfinals before going on to eliminate Tennessee Southern by the same margin in the bracket finals.

Although he is supremely confident in his team's abilities, St. Ambrose Head Coach Eric Littig could hardly believe that his squad was going to have the opportunity to bowl for a national title for the second time in three years.

"I don't know if it's really sunk in yet. We made the show two years ago, and I still can't believe we're going back," Littig said. "This team has taken me on a lot of amazing journeys, and this is just another one."

But Littig and his team aren't going to be content to just take the ride; they want it to lead all the way to the top.

"We've been bowling as well as anybody in the building this whole week, so we just need to keep doing what we've been doing," Littig said. "We know that Wichita is going to be confident, but we're a very confident team too. We're deep and we've been there before, so we just need to come out and show what we're capable of."

Collegiate bowling fans already know all too well what Wichita State is capable of as the Shockers' legacy speaks for itself.

Nevertheless, Wichita's path to the title match wasn't as smooth as some might have predicted.

That's because after soundly defeating St. Francis-Illinois (4-0) during the quarterfinals, Wichita State found itself on the short end of a 4-2 decision to that same Fighting Saints squad just a couple hours later during the opening round of the bracket finals.

The loss forced the Shockers to regroup and go up against St. Francis one more time, this time with both teams' seasons hanging in the balance.

Wichita State quickly seized control, winning the first two games before the Fighting Saints rebounded to take Game 3.

That's as far as the Shockers would allow things to go, however, as they won the next two games to eliminate USF and push themselves through to the TV finals.

For programs like Wichita State, competing for national titles isn't just a goal; it's an expectation.

Still, Shockers Head Coach Rick Steelsmith made it clear that he and his team find it very special whenever they get the opportunity to compete for the ITC crown.

"Our goal, and probably every team's goal in college bowling, is to get to this point and put yourself in position to bowl for a championship," Steelsmith said. "We know what it takes to get there, but it's definitely not something we take for granted. A lot of hard work and dedication go into it.

"I'm happy for these guys; they work their tails off. If people actually saw how hard they work, I think they'd be surprised. I'm super happy for them, and it's awesome that I get to be a part of trying to help them chase their dreams."

Those national championship dreams will become a reality for two squads on Saturday; the others will have to take pride in having gotten this far and turn the page to next year.

The 2023 event kicked off Thursday with a 24-game Baker block determining seeding for the bracket for the top 16 men's and 16 women's teams in the country. The opening rounds of match play took place Thursday evening with all teams returning Friday to South Point Bowling Plaza.

Teams qualified for the ITC through four sectional qualifiers held throughout the country in March. Teams had to place in the top four in their respective sectionals to advance.

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

INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

At South Point Bowling Plaza, Las Vegas

Friday's Results

MEN'S DIVISION

MATCH PLAY

Double-elimination, best-of-seven Baker format

ROUND 3 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

Trine def. Saint Xavier, 4-3.

Tennessee Southern def. William Paterson, 4-3.

Lindenwood def. Midland, 4-1.

Pikeville def. Mount Mercy, 4-2.

ROUND 4 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

Trine def. Lawrence Tech, 4-1.

Tennessee Southern def. Ottawa, 4-0.

Lindenwood def. Purdue, 4-1.

Webber International def. Pikeville, 4-2.

ROUND 5 - WINNERS BRACKET

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

St. Ambrose def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-1.

Wichita State def. St. Francis-Illinois, 4-0.

ROUND 5 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

Tennessee Southern def. Trine, 4-3.

Webber International def. Lindenwood, 4-2.

ROUND 6 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

Tennessee Southern def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4-3.
St. Francis-Illinois def. Webber International, 4-0.

ROUND 7 - BRACKET FINALS

(If undefeated team wins, they advance to finals and loser is eliminated. If undefeated team loses, both teams move to Round 8).

St. Ambrose def. Tennessee Southern, 4-1 (Tennessee Southern eliminated).
St. Francis-Illinois def. Wichita State, 4-2

ROUND 8

(Winner advances to finals. Loser is eliminated).

Wichita State def. St. Francis-Illinois, 4-1.

TITLE MATCH

Wichita State vs. St. Ambrose

WOMEN'S DIVISION

MATCH PLAY

Double-elimination, best-of-seven Baker format

ROUND 3 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

Webber International def. Tennessee Southern, 4.5-2.5.
Wisconsin-Whitewater def. Maryland Eastern Shore, 4-2.
Louisiana Tech def. Duquesne, 4-2.
Mount Mercy def. Pikeville, 4-2.

ROUND 4 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

North Carolina A&T def. Webber International, 4-2.
Wisconsin-Whitewater def. St. Francis-Illinois, 4-3.
Louisiana Tech def. Lindenwood, 4-2.
Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah def. Mount Mercy, 4-2.

ROUND 5 - WINNERS BRACKET

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

McKendree def. Stephen F. Austin, 4-2.
Wichita State def. Maryville, 4-1.

ROUND 5 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

North Carolina A&T def. Wisconsin-Whitewater, 4.5-3.5.
Louisiana Tech def. Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, 4-0.

ROUND 6 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated)

North Carolina A&T def. Stephen F. Austin, 4-1.

Maryville def. Louisiana Tech, 4.5-2.5.

ROUND 7 - BRACKET FINALS

(If undefeated team wins, they advance to finals and loser is eliminated. If undefeated team loses, both teams move to Round 8).

McKendree def. North Carolina A&T, 4-3 (North Carolina A&T eliminated).

Maryville def. Wichita State, 4-3

ROUND 8

(Winner advances to finals. Loser is eliminated).

Maryville def. Wichita State, 4-3.

TITLE MATCH

McKendree vs. Maryville

TITLES DETERMINED AT 2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM AND SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – The Wichita State men and McKendree women captured team championships, and Wichita State's Paige Wagner and Webber International's A.J. Wolstenholme claimed singles titles at the 2023 Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships at South Point Bowling Plaza.

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

The women's ISC finals will air April 25 at 7 p.m. Eastern with the men's ISC show airing May 2 at 7 p.m. Eastern. The women's ITC finals will be May 9 at 11 p.m. Eastern, and the excitement will conclude with the men's ITC title match May 16 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

The men's team final was a highly anticipated bout between Wichita State and St. Ambrose, the same two teams who battled it out for the ITC title two years ago in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Wichita State won the 2021 contest by a margin of 3-2 to collect its 12th men's national title.

As such, St. Ambrose came into Saturday's match hoping for some payback and looking to do whatever was within its power to keep the Shockers from collecting their 13th ITC crown.

But much to the disappointment of the St. Ambrose faithful, the Fighting Bees just never got on track during Saturday's title match.

Instead, it was Wichita State that was stringing the strikes and bringing the energy during a 3-0 sweep of St. Ambrose.

The Shockers struck on six of their first seven shots and nine times overall to take the opening game of the match by a score of 234-199.

The teams switched lanes prior to Game 2, but the results were the same as a combination of Wichita State strikes and St. Ambrose opens allowed the Shockers to cruise to a 211-152 victory and a 2-0 lead in the match.

The Fighting Bees did their best to hang tough and begin the process of mounting a comeback, but it just wasn't meant to be.

The two squads were tied after six frames of Game 3, but a St. Ambrose split and open in the eighth coupled with Shocker strikes in the seventh, eighth, ninth, and 10th ended the match and allowed Wichita State to secure its second ITC title in the last three seasons.

That gives the Shockers 13 men's national titles. Saginaw Valley State is next on the all-time list with four.

Wichita State Head Coach Rick Steelsmith is proud that this year's team was able to add another chapter to the storied history of Shocker bowling; he feels like it was a fitting way for some of his players to end their WSU bowling careers.

"The guys worked really hard for this day in and day out, and they were able to send the seniors out the way that they needed to be sent out, which is really cool for them," Steelsmith said. "Our program is blessed with some of the best kids in the country, and I'm just so proud of them all."

Steelsmith also knows just how talented St. Ambrose's roster is. As such, he was elated that his team was able to take down such a worthy foe enroute to this year's title.

"We have total respect for St. Ambrose; they're a terrific group, and they were in this match for a reason," Steelsmith said. "We just tried to stay focused on us and get as much as we could get, hoping it would be enough at the end."

“When that final strike was thrown, that’s the best moment of all because that’s when you get to see your guys run out there and jump up and celebrate with one another. That’s the reward for all the hard work that they put in for this whole year.”

The 2023 Wichita State championship team included Ryan Barnes, Brandon Bonta, Brandon Caruso, David Hayes, Alec Keplinger, Spencer Robarge, T.J. Rock and Nick Sommer.

In addition to the rewards Steelsmith spoke of, a couple of his bowlers earned some individual honors as well at tournament’s end.

Bonta earned this year’s Chris Stoehr Sportsmanship award in the men’s division, and Keplinger was named to the 2023 ITC All-Tournament team and was named its men’s most valuable player.

Joining Keplinger on the men’s all-tournament team were Tyler Betz of Tennessee Southern, St. Ambrose’s Cameron Crowe, Wisconsin-Whitewater’s Garrett Meadows and Michael Nape Jr. from St. Francis-Illinois.

In the women’s title match, McKendree took advantage of a late Maryville open to take Game 1 by a final score of 205-201.

The momentum then shifted in Maryville’s direction during the next two games as the Saints rode an opening seven bagger to a 232-220 win in Game 2 and then capitalized on four McKendree opens to come out on top 225-171 during Game 3.

That put Maryville up 2-1 and just one win away from securing the first ITC title in program history.

But as champions always seem to do, McKendree responded.

The Bearcats started Game 4 with a four bagger and would go on to strike 10 times in total during a 234-180 victory that evened the match 2-2 and left the 2023 national title up to a fifth and deciding game.

Both teams came out strong during the finale with McKendree starting with another four bagger and Maryville responding with spare-four bagger of its own to keep the match tied through five frames.

Disaster struck the Saints in the sixth frame, however, as they were unable to convert a 10 pin. Not only did that halt Maryville’s string of strikes, but it also allowed McKendree to take an eight-pin lead with just four frames remaining.

The Saints bounced back strong with a strike in the seventh frame, but they were only able to muster spares during frames eight and nine.

McKendree, meanwhile, spared in the seventh and eighth, but fourth bowler Rebecca Hagerman delivered a crucial strike in the ninth.

That put the Bearcats in position to win. If anchor bowler Hope Gramly could go strike-seven in the 10th frame, McKendree would be national champions once again.

Showing the poise and shot-making ability that caused her to be named a 2023 National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association First Team All-American, Gramly calmly stepped up and delivered a flush strike.

Needing seven pins to officially secure the title, Gramly hit the pocket again in the 11th, toppling nine pins to officially eliminate Maryville and earn McKendree its second ITC crown – the Bearcats won their first in 2017 – to go along with its pair of NCAA championships.

For Gramly, who was named the 2023 ITC women's most valuable player shortly after the title match concluded, being asked to deliver in crunch time is nothing new.

"I've been in lots of close Baker matches that have come down to me needing to really execute my best shot, so it wasn't a situation that I was new to," Gramly said. "Still, I was nervous. My legs were shaking, but I knew that if I did my job and hit my line, my ball would take care of the rest."

Gramly did just that, and McKendree Head Coach Shannon O'Keefe wasn't surprised in the least.

"Hope (Gramly) had some weird breaks throughout our matches this week, but I'm always confident that she's going to step up and throw a good one when she needs it," O'Keefe said. "She's shown it over and over again over the years; she's the best player in college bowling for a reason."

But McKendree didn't win the title because of one bowler; it won because of the hard work and dedication of every player and coach and the support of all members of Bearcat Nation.

"Anytime you can win and bring it back to a school that has belief in you as coaches and players, that's very special," O'Keefe said. "We're just a small school in southern Illinois, so to be able to have this program on the national stage year in and year out is truly humbling and a blessing.

"As coaches, we pour ourselves into our kids, so to be able to take a step back and watch them make their dreams come true and know that we played a small part in that is something I'm in awe of every time we get to do it. This feels awesome; there's no other words for it."

McKendree's 2023 championship team featured Isabel Allen, Keyla Covarrubias, Angelique Dalesandro, Gramly, Rebecca Hagerman, Maranda Pattison, Kayla Smith and Anna Warkel.

Joining Gramly on the all-tournament team were Allen, Wichita State's Juliana Botero, Maryville's Natalie Heltne and Lauren Tomaszewski of North Carolina A&T.

The Chris Stoehr Sportsmanship award went to Lara Kurt of Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah.

In the women's singles title tilt, Wagner beat Maryville's Anna Maxwell, 211-203, to win the ISC crown.

Wagner seized control of the title match from the word go, starting with a four bagger and striking on six of her first seven shots to establish a 42-pin lead through seven frames.

Things got a bit dicey from there, however, as Wagner left a pocket 7-10 split in the eighth and chopped a 4-7 in the ninth to give Maxwell new life.

If the Maryville sophomore could strike out in the eighth, ninth, and 10th, she could shoot 223, which would best Wagner's max of 222 and complete an improbable come-from-behind victory for the national title.

Maxwell took the first step, making a ball change and delivering a flush strike on the right lane; unfortunately, that's as far as the string would go as the following delivery resulted in a 10 pin.

She converted the spare easily, but the damage was done as not striking lowered her max score down to 203.

Wagner sat at 192 through nine frames, meaning that a mark of any kind and two pins in the 10th would get her the victory.

The Wichita right-hander's first shot in the final frame crept high, but the 4 pin was all that was left standing.

For a player of Wagner's caliber, converting a 4 pin is usually a low-stress proposition.

However, considering that she had missed that very pin while chopping the 4-7 one frame earlier, it was clear that the Wichita right-hander could not afford to take the shot for granted.

She didn't; instead, she took her time, covered the spare without any concern and moved herself just one shot and two pins away from the winner's circle.

Nevertheless, that last shot wasn't stress free either because Wagner needed to be sure to stay behind the foul line.

During her semifinal matchup with Kurt, Wagner appeared to have the match won, but a foul on her fill-ball suddenly brought the outcome back into question.

Thankfully for Wagner, the misstep didn't cost her, and with that memory fresh in her mind, she wasn't about to let the foul line trip her up again.

Instead, she stayed well clear of it and delivered another pocket shot, knocking down nine pins to finish at 211 and officially secure the 2023 ISC title.

Maxwell finished strong, striking out during her 10th frame to make the final score 211-203.

When asked to describe how it felt to be a national champion, Wagner could only come up with one word.

"It's awesome. Honestly, I'm speechless right now and don't even really know what to say," Wagner said. "I'm so happy that my family was supporting me from back home even though they couldn't be here and that my teammates were here to watch."

Those teammates were front and center offering hugs, smiles and words of congratulations as Wagner walked around displaying the first-place trophy, one that will be added to the many that Wichita State bowlers have earned over the years during collegiate competition.

Wagner was proud to add to that storied history, but it wasn't something that came as a surprise; she felt all along like Saturday could be her day.

"I felt really good this morning; I wasn't nervous at all," Wagner said. "I knew this could happen, so I just continued to focus, stay present and make great shots."

Wagner certainly made her fair share of great shots throughout her two matches during the TV finals.

She started her day with an eight-strike performance – nine if it weren't for the foul on the last shot – to eliminate Kurt (235-226) before putting up seven strikes in her title-clinching defeat of Maxwell.

Wagner finished the day with 14 strikes and an average of 223 for her two games.

In the other women's semifinal, Maxwell defeated Stephen F. Austin's Chloe Skurzynski by a score of 238-223, ending Skurzynski's bid to become just the second bowler to complete a successful ISC women's title defense – Emily Eckhoff of Hastings College accomplished the feat by notching back-to-back titles in 2015 and 2016.

In the men's final, Wolstenholme jumped ahead of Fresno State's Vincent Luong early and never looked back.

The Webber International two-hander used three strikes and a spare to establish a 29-pin lead after just four frames.

Luong tried to cut into the lead by firing a double in the sixth and seventh frames, but it wasn't nearly enough as Wolstenholme closed the match with a seven bagger to breeze to a 259-170 victory and the 2023 ISC men's title.

Considering the fact that three of the four men's finalists were from Webber International – Adam Atkins and Austin Grammar also competed on Saturday's ISC men's show – Wolstenholme had teammates nearby and a sizable cheering section in his corner, and that was not something he took for granted.

"I was so happy to have my teammates next to me keeping me loose and supporting me when I needed them," Wolstenholme said. "It was awesome; I couldn't have done it without them."

There was, however, another person to whom Wolstenholme felt compelled to give credit, a person who, sadly, passed away before getting to see the two-hander raise this year's ISC trophy in triumph.

That person was Webber International Women's Head Coach Randy Stoughton, who passed away in January.

As did so many others, Wolstenholme had a great deal of respect for Stoughton, and he wanted to be sure the late coach's role in Saturday's victory did not go unmentioned.

"If it weren't for Randy (Stoughton), I wouldn't even be bowling in college," Wolstenholme said. "I ended up on a Zoom lesson with him during the COVID year, and he asked if I still had college eligibility because he liked the way I process things. He thought I would fit in well here, and once I came for a visit, I knew it was where I needed to be.

"Losing Randy was a big deal, and we feel the lack of his presence every day. I don't know; for some reason it just sort of felt like this was meant to happen. This one was for Randy."

If that's the case, then Wolstenholme certainly authored an impressive tribute.

He struck on six of his first eight shots during his semifinal match with fellow Warrior Atkins, who suffered two opens during that same stretch. That allowed Wolstenholme to cruise to a 224-173 victory and earn his place in the finals.

On the day, Wolstenholme struck 17 times in 23 chances and maintained an average of 241.5.

In the other semifinal, Luong defeated Grammar by a final score of 204-169.

Only one pin separated the pair after six frames, but Luong struck on three of his final five shots while Grammar opened the 10th to give the decision to the right-hander from Fresno State.

All qualifying and match-play rounds held prior to the televised finals were broadcast on BowlTV.com.

Teams and individuals competing at South Point Bowling Plaza this week earned their spots at the ITC and ISC through four sectional qualifiers held throughout the country in March.

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

2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

At South Point Bowling Plaza, Las Vegas

Saturday's Results

Men's Championship

Wichita State def. St. Ambrose, 3-0 (234-199, 211-152, 217-195).

Women's Championship

McKendree def. Maryville, 3-2 (205-201, 220-232, 171-225, 234-180, 233-214).

2023 INTERCOLLEGIATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

At South Point Bowling Plaza, Las Vegas

Saturday's Results

Men's Semifinals

A.J. Wolstenholme, Webber International def. Adam Atkins, Webber International, 224-173.

Vincent Luong, Fresno State def. Austin Grammar, Webber International, 204-169.

Men's Final

Wolstenholme def. Luong, 259-170.

Women's Semifinals

Paige Wagner, Wichita State def. Lara Kurt, Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, 235-226.

Anna Maxwell, Maryville def. Chloe Skurzynski, Stephen F. Austin, 238-223.

Women's Final

Wagner def. Maxwell, 211-203.

JOHNSON LEADS AFTER FIRST DAY AT 2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS

LAS VEGAS – Oftentimes, when an athlete makes a reference to not wanting to stub their toe, they are being figurative and implying that they don't want to make any silly mistakes.

Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado, didn't make many mistakes on Sunday, and that allowed her to secure the lead after two rounds of qualifying at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Senior Queens.

The 60-year-old left-hander averaged more than 222 for her 10 games Sunday at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino, finishing with a 2,224 total to lead the 92-player field made up of the top female USBC members age 50 and older.

Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado, was second with 2,147, and Lucy Sandelin of Tampa, Florida, was third with 2,109. Sandelin is a three-time Senior Queens champion (2007, 2013 and 2017).

Leanne Hulsenberg of Pleasant View, Utah (2,102), and Beth Owen-Cipielewski of Bradenton, Florida (2,098), round out the top five.

All competitors will return to Gold Coast on Monday at 11 a.m. Eastern for the final five-game qualifying block. After 15 games, the top 32 players will advance to the double-elimination match-play bracket.

After 10 games, Karen Morris of Nelsonville, Ohio, is 32nd with a 1,927 total, a 192.7 average.

Defending champion Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, is guaranteed no worse than 32nd position in the bracket as the defending champion, but she can improve her seed by qualifying higher.

Woessner currently sits in eighth place after putting up a score of 2,059 on Sunday (a 205.9 average).

Although Johnson hopes to continue avoiding silly mistakes during Monday's final five games of qualifying, the USBC and Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Famer also needs to worry about not literally stubbing her toe; it's banged up enough as it is.

"Last week, I was bowling match play, and a lady actually dropped a bowling ball on my big toe," Johnson said. "I don't know if it's broken, but I had to cut a hole out of my new shoes because the seam kept hitting it.

"I've been icing it multiple times each day, soaking it in Epsom salt and wrapping it up. I hope that it holds up until the end of this week because it's done okay so far. As long as I can slide, I have a chance."

Johnson was able to lead the field by more than 75 pins on Sunday despite being nowhere near full strength. If her foot starts feeling better over the next two days, the 2018 champion should have more than just a chance.

She was the block leader during Round 1, authoring a five-game total of 1,114 thanks to four games of 226 or better (237, 226, 255 and 239).

Owen-Cipielewski shot the top score of Round 2 with 1,149, but Johnson wasn't far behind, finishing that set with a second-place total of 1,110 (206, 227, 240, 213 and 224) to easily maintain the overall lead.

Johnson certainly threw plenty of strikes on Sunday, but she identified a couple other factors as being bigger contributors to her Day 1 success.

"I was picking up my spares today compared to last week," Johnson said. "Also, I had a better sense of what the ball was going to do, when it was going to hook and when it wasn't, and that allowed me to get into a good rhythm."

That rhythm will need to continue for Johnson to make a push for another tiara because as the veteran knows as well as anybody, there is still a lot of bowling left to be done.

"This is a long format. Plus, when you get to match play, you can bowl the 32nd bowler on a good pair, and she can kick your butt," Johnson said. "My experience helps because I've been a pro bowler for so many years, but I just need to stay tough, execute and keep doing what I'm doing."

Bracket matches will get underway Monday at 4 p.m. Eastern and continue through Tuesday afternoon until the top five are determined for the stepladder finals. The Senior Queens features a true double-elimination format, so the No. 1 seed for the stepladder would have to lose twice in the championship match.

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder will be three games with total pinfall determining who advances.

BowlTV.com is providing livestream coverage of each round of competition. The stepladder finals will take place Tuesday at 9 p.m. Eastern with the champion taking home the tiara presented to winner and an \$8,000 top prize.

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

2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS
At Gold Coast Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas

Sunday's Results

QUALIFYING - ROUND 2
(10 games)

1, Tish Johnson, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,224. 2, Sharon Powers, Lakewood, Colo., 2,147. 3, Lucy Sandelin, Tampa, Fla., 2,109. 4, Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah, 2,102. 5, Beth Owen Cipielewski, Bradenton, Fla., 2,098. 6, Jessica Diso, Lake Forest, Calif., 2,096.

7, Chong Dodson, Panama City, Fla., 2,084. 8, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 2,059. 9, Kristin McEntee, Homewood, Ill., 2,055. 10, Camille Kohner, Bloomington, Minn., 2,044. 11, Penny Fentiman, Sweet Home, Ore., 2,041. 12, Dana Ausec, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,040.

13, Devera Buckley, St Louis, Mo., 2,038. 14, Lauri Cohrs, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,024. 15, Crystal Shaw-Wesby, Pikeville, N.C., 2,005. 16, Michele Carter, National City, Calif., 1,997. 17, Sandra Schultz, Macomb, Mich., 1,993. 18, Raelyn Hazen, Roy, Utah, 1,987.

19, (TIE) Jennifer Hernandez, Land O Lakes, Fla., and Paula Vidad, Sun City, Calif., 1,980. 21, Linda Walbaum, Brighton, Colo., 1,977. 22, Julie Harrison, Australia, 1,976. 23, Jill Friis, Canada, 1,973. 24, Christina Niles, Avondale, Ariz., 1,972.

25, Della Kallenback, Fairfield, Calif., 1,964. 26, Lori Schultz, Hutto, Texas, 1,957. 27, Laurie Lanfier, Muscatine, Iowa, 1,949. 28, Edissa Andrade, Panama, 1,947. 29, Ann Sperling, Byram Twp, N.J., 1,939. 30, Kathy Ledford, Boise, Idaho, 1,935.

31, Dena Buxton, Melbourne, 1,932. 32, Karen Morris, Nelsonville, Ohio, 1,927. 33, Krista Sandt, Bethlehem, Pa., 1,922. 34, Kimberly Power-DeFer, Hayward San Leandro, Calif., 1,920. 35, Cindy Mattingly, Puyakkup, Wash., 1,915. 36, Robyn Flynn, Australia, 1,914.

37, Barbara Batt, Jacksonville, Fla., 1,913. 38, Pamela Pancoast, Lomita, Calif., 1,911. 39, Dee Conrad-Frerich, Omaha, Neb., 1,897. 40, Yolanda Payton, Frisco, Texas, 1,894. 41, Bianca Voelkl-Brandt, Germany, 1,885. 42, Lana Mink, Kapolei, Hawaii, 1,879.

43, Karen Barcal, Albuquerque, N.M., 1,870. 44, Tracey Magnuson, Lakeville, Minn., 1,863. 45, Tracey Distel, Lansing, Mich., 1,858. 46, Sharyn Crouchen, Australia, 1,857. 47, Donna Smith, Middleburg, Fla., 1,856. 48, Tina LaCroix, Southampton, Mass., 1,854.

49, Tracy Calfee, Flat Rock, N.C., 1,851. 50, Angie Brown, England, 1,850. 51, Carmen Aguilar, Venezuela, 1,849. 52, (TIE) April Lord-Wittig, Steilacoom, Wash., and Sabrina Duncan-Rose, Manvel, Texas, 1,847. 54, Karen Rowe, Columbiana, Ala., 1,846.

55, Sylvia Villalobos, Costa Rica, 1,844. 56, (TIE) Jenny Burton-Douglas, Australia, and Pam Lawrence, Hutto, Texas, 1,843. 58, Carole Jones, Ocoee, Fla., 1,834. 59, (TIE) Denise Massey, Posen, Ill., and Karen Medalen, Monterey, Calif., 1,831.

61, Kim Crompton, Birmingham, Ala., 1,824. 62, Debbie Ayers, La Mesa, Calif., 1,823. 63, Judith Leroux, Meraux, La., 1,819. 64, Ann Coleman, Fairborn, Ohio, 1,809. 65, Heather Robertson, Australia, 1,803. 66, Linda Newman Henson, Renton, Wash., 1,799.

67, (TIE) Diane Marget, Mesquite, Nev., and Shirley Stahl, Germantown, Wis., 1,796. 69, Susan Condeff, Fremont, Calif., 1,787. 70, Pat Garner, Gardena, Calif., 1,775. 71, Linda Andrews, Highlands Ranch, Colo., 1,771. 72, Kathy Allen, Las Vegas, Nev., 1,767.

73, Lee Booth, Australia, 1,760. 74, Shandy Simchen, Tacoma, Wash., 1,740. 75, Janet Baker, Australia, 1,731. 76, Lauraine Fast, Canada, 1,728. 77, Karen Smith, Australia, 1,718. 78, Pamela Watson, Orlando, Fla., 1,709.

79, Patricia Sikes, Wasilla, Alaska, 1,693. 80, Alba Mendoza, Colombia, 1,687. 81, Dora Nettleman, Eaton Rapids, Mich., 1,677. 82, Debbie Colby, Frisco, Texas, 1,666. 83, Milka Vargas, Sun City Center, Fla., 1,655. 84, Jacqueline Delawski, Williston Park, N.Y., 1,654.

85, Kim Morris, Fargo, N.D., 1,651. 86, Elizabeth Wong, Canada, 1,629. 87, Tina Hohmuth, Australia, 1,627. 88, Jennifer McLean, Seattle, Wash., 1,611. 89, Gean Olin, Apopka, Fla., 1,597. 90, Joan Harnish, Apache Junction, Ariz., 1,583.

91, Maria Miller, Las Vegas, Nev., 1,518. 92, Filomena Arenas, Chile, 1,485.

EIGHT BOWLERS STILL UNDEFEATED HEADING INTO FINAL DAY OF COMPETITION AT 2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS

LAS VEGAS – Match play began Monday afternoon, and eight players went undefeated to remain in the Winners Bracket at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Senior Queens, which is being contested at Gold Coast Bowling Center.

That list includes Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Crystal Shaw-Wesby of Pikeville, North Carolina; Pamela Pancoast of Lomita, California; Della Kallenback of Fairfield, California; Sandra Schultz of Macomb, Michigan; Kathy Ledford of Boise, Idaho; Dana Ausec of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Beth Owen-Cipielewski of Bradenton, Florida, all of whom went 2-0 on the day.

Another eight players remain alive in the Elimination Bracket after going 2-1 on Monday. Those players are defending champion Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio; Raelyn Hazen of Roy, Utah; Leanne Hulsenberg of Pleasant View, Utah; Chong Dodson of Panama City, Florida; Jill Friis of Canada; Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado; Jessica Diso of Lake Forest, California; and three-time champion Lucy Sandelin of Tampa, Florida.

Although 16 players remain in the field, one bowler clearly stood out during the first two days of action, and that is Johnson.

The 2018 champion led qualifying with a 15-game total of 3,326 (221.73 average), which put her 160 pins ahead of her closest pursuer – Owen-Cipielewski qualified second with 3,166.

Johnson's dominance continued once match play began as she won her opening bout by 113 pins (701-588) over Kimberly Power-DeFer of Hayward San Leandro, California, before going on to top second-round opponent Diso by 132 pins (634-502).

Competitors who won their first two matches were done for the day, so Johnson, a USBC and Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Famer, earned the rest of the night off and more time to nurse an ailing big toe on her slide foot.

She will be back in action Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. Eastern taking on No. 9 seed Shaw-Wesby, who kept herself undefeated by taking down Lauri Cohrs of Colorado Springs, Colorado (631-572) and Jennifer Hernandez of Land O Lakes, Florida (606-575).

Johnson's place among the final eight unbeaten is hardly a surprise; after all, she was the tournament's top qualifier.

However, some may have been taken aback to see Ledford's name still occupying a line in the Winners Bracket after two rounds.

After all, at just 50 years old, the right-hander from Boise, Idaho, is a Senior Queens rookie, and her qualifying total (2,912) was more than 400 pins behind Johnson's, which put her in 27th place.

But as anyone who has bowled the Senior Queens will tell you, the tournament doesn't start until match play begins, and Ledford showed herself to be more than ready once bracket action got underway.

She opened the afternoon with a 601-587 victory over No. 6 seed Powers, and then, for an encore, she sent 2022 champ Woessner into the Elimination Bracket after coming out on the winning end of a 701-653 decision.

Ledford closed out her win over Woessner in style by starting Game 3 with 10 strikes in a row before leaking the 11th shot a bit to the right and leaving a six count to end her run at 300. Still, the 285 she recorded was more than enough to lock up the match and move her to 2-0 for the day.

While Ledford certainly would've liked to have finished off the perfect game, the disappointment was minimal as she accomplished the more important goal of staying in the Winners Bracket.

"Winning my first two matches today was huge because now I get to rest and put three less games on my body," Ledford said. "I feel very fortunate to be in this position and be able to come back tomorrow morning refreshed because that's what I need."

Although Ledford is competing with the seniors for the first time, she doesn't lack experience as she competed in the USBC Queens multiple times before turning 50 and becoming eligible for the Senior Queens.

Those past experiences included some deep runs through the bracket, so Ledford knows that she's more than capable of having success when she gets back on the lanes Tuesday morning. In order to do so, she plans to keep things simple.

"I need to keep clean, make my spares and keep myself close enough to or far enough ahead of my competition to take advantage of what's given to me," Ledford said. "I saw my opponent today, and I know that she throws it really well. That match is going to be tough."

The opponent about whom Ledford was speaking will be Sandra Schultz of Macomb, Michigan, who qualified 14th (3,017) before going on to defeat Michele Carter of National City, California (636-605), during Round 1 and Hazen (727-681) in Round 2.

If Ledford can get past Schultz, she will need just one more win to guarantee herself a spot in the stepladder finals.

When asked what it would mean to her to make it to the finals and win the tiara, Ledford was overcome with emotion. After a long pause, with tears running down her cheeks, she simply said that it would be the greatest bowling accomplishment of her life.

She'll set her sights on accomplishing that goal when play resumes Tuesday morning as matches will continue until the top five are determined for the stepladder finals.

All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder will be three games with total pinfall determining who advances. The Senior Queens features a true double-elimination format, so the No. 1 seed for the stepladder would have to lose twice in the championship match.

BowlTV.com is providing livestream coverage of each round of competition. The stepladder finals will take place Tuesday at 9 p.m. Eastern with the champion taking home the tiara presented to the winner and an \$8,000 top prize.

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

2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS At Gold Coast Hotel and Casino Las Vegas

Monday's Results

QUALIFYING - ROUND 3 (15 games)

1, Tish Johnson, Colorado Springs, Colo., 3,326. 2, Beth Owen Cipielewski, Bradenton, Fla., 3,166. 3, Raelyn Hazen, Roy, Utah, 3,154. 4, (TIE) Kristin McEntee, Homewood, Ill., and Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah, 3,120. 6, (TIE) Lucy Sandelin, Tampa, Fla., and

Sharon Powers, Lakewood, Colo., 3,090. 8, Linda Walbaum, Brighton, Colo., 3,075. 9, Crystal Shaw-Wesby, Pikeville, N.C., 3,068. 10, Dana Ausec, Colorado Springs, Colo., 3,060. 11, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 3,055. 12, Chong Dodson, Panama City, Fla., 3,054.

13, Christina Niles, Avondale, Ariz., 3,024. 14, Sandra Schultz, Macomb, Mich., 3,017. 15, Devera Buckley, St Louis, Mo., 2,999. 16, Jessica Diso, Lake Forest, Calif., 2,976. 17, Dena Buxton, Melbourne, 2,966. 18, Bianca Voelkl-Brandt, Germany, 2,956.

19, Michele Carter, National City, Calif., 2,951. 20, Della Kallenback, Fairfield, Calif., 2,947. 21, Pamela Pancoast, Lomita, Calif., 2,939. 22, Camille Kohner, Bloomington, Minn., 2,938. 23, Penny Fentiman, Sweet Home, Ore., 2,935. 24, (TIE) Jennifer Hernandez, Land O Lakes, Fla., and

Lauri Cohrs, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2,934. 26, Cindy Mattingly, Puyallup, Wash., 2,929. 27, Kathy Ledford, Boise, Idaho, 2,912. 28, Paula Vidad, Sun City, Calif., 2,905.

29, Laurie Lanfier, Muscatine, Iowa, 2,903. 30, Jill Friis, Canada, 2,895.
31, Julie Harrison, Australia, 2,883. 32, Kimberly Power-DeFer, Hayward
San Leandro, Calif., 2,879.

DID NOT ADVANCE

33, Edissa Andrade, Panama, 2,870. 34, Lana Mink, Kapolei, Hawaii, 2,861. 35,
Karen Morris, Nelsonville, Ohio, 2,850. 36, Karen Barcal, Albuquerque, N.M., 2,838.
37, (TIE) Dee Conrad-Frerich, Omaha, Neb., and Lori Schultz, Hutto, Texas, 2,827.
39, Krista Sandt, Bethlehem, Pa., 2,814. 40, Barbara Batt, Jacksonville, Fla., 2,792. 41,
Tracey Distel, Lansing, Mich., 2,787. 42, Ann Coleman, Fairborn, Ohio, 2,784.
43, Diane Marget, Mesquite, Nev., 2,783. 44, Karen Rowe, Columbiana, Ala., 2,782.
45, Ann Sperling, Byram Twp, N.J., 2,778. 46, Tina LaCroix, Southampton, Mass.,
2,770. 47, Robyn Flynn, Australia, 2,760. 48, Carole Jones, Ocoee, Fla., 2,758.
49, Donna Smith, Middleburg, Fla., 2,756. 50, (TIE) Angie Brown, England, and
Yolanda Payton, Frisco, Texas, 2,749. 52, Linda Newman Henson, Renton, Wash.,
2,747. 53, Debbie Ayers, La Mesa, Calif., 2,734. 54, Pam Lawrence, Hutto, Texas,
2,731.
55, Lee Booth, Australia, 2,725. 56, Denise Massey, Posen, Ill., 2,723. 57, Tracy
Calfee, Flat Rock, N.C., 2,717. 58, Tracey Magnuson, Lakeville, Minn., 2,711. 59,
Carmen Aguilar, Venezuela, 2,708. 60, (TIE) Heather Robertson, Australia, and
Judith Leroux, Meraux, La., 2,702. 62, Shirley Stahl, Germantown, Wis., 2,699. 63,
April Lord-Wittig, Steilacoom, Wash., 2,698. 64, Pat Garner, Gardena, Calif., 2,695. 65,
Sylvia Villalobos, Costa Rica, 2,693. 66, (TIE) Kim Crompton, Birmingham, Ala., and
Karen Medalen, Monterey, Calif., 2,692. 68, Kathy Allen, Las Vegas, Nev., 2,679. 69,
Linda Andrews, Highlands Ranch, Colo., 2,677. 70, Sabrina Duncan-Rose, Manvel,
Texas, 2,658. 71, Janet Baker, Australia, 2,657. 72, Jenny Burton-Douglas, Australia,
2,656.
73, Shandy Simchen, Tacoma, Wash., 2,655. 74, Sharyn Crouchen, Australia,
2,624. 75, Lauraine Fast, Canada, 2,619. 76, Susan Condeff, Fremont, Calif., 2,613. 77,
Gean Olin, Apopka, Fla., 2,581. 78, Pamela Watson, Orlando, Fla., 2,576.
79, Karen Smith, Australia, 2,543. 80, Patricia Sikes, Wasilla, Alaska, 2,540. 81,
Jennifer McLean, Seattle, Wash., 2,535. 82, Jacqueline Delawski, Williston Park, N.Y.,
2,525. 83, Alba Mendoza, Colombia, 2,503. 84, Dora Nettleman, Eaton Rapids, Mich.,
2,474.
85, Elizabeth Wong, Canada, 2,453. 86, Milka Vargas, Sun City Center, Fla., 2,449.
87, Tina Hohmuth, Australia, 2,421. 88, Joan Harnish, Apache Junction, Ariz., 2,403.
89, Debbie Colby, Frisco, Texas, 2,400. 90, Filomena Arenas, Chile, 2,324.
91, Kim Morris, Fargo, N.D., 2,320. 92, Maria Miller, Las Vegas, Nev., 2,297.

MATCH PLAY

Double elimination, three-game matches decided by total pinfall

ROUND 1

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

- (1) Tish Johnson, Colorado Springs, Colo., def. (32) Kimberly Power-DeFer, Hayward San Leandro, Calif., 701-588.
(16) Jessica Diso, Lake Forest, Cali., def. (17) Dena Buxton, Melbourne, 661-601.
(9) Crystal Shaw-Wesby, Pikeville, N.C., def. (24) Lauri Cohrs, Colorado Springs, Colo., 631-572.
(25) Jennifer Hernandez, Land O Lakes, Fla., def. (8) Linda Walbaum, Brighton, Colo., 726-594.
- (28) Paula Vidad, Sun City, Calif., def. (5) Kristin McEntee, Homewood, Ill, 661-598.
(21) Pamela Pancoast, Lomita, Calif., def. (12) Chong Dodson, Panama City, Fla., 635-534.
(20) Della Kallenback, Fairfield, Calif., def. (13) Christina Niles, Avondale, Ariz., 640-568.
(29) Laurie Lanifer, Muscatine, Iowa, def. (4) Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah, 628-625.
- (3) Raelyn Hazen, Roy, Utah., def. (30) Jill Friis, Canada, 644-588.
(14) Sandra Schultz, Macomb, Mich, def. (19) Michele Carter, National City, Calif., 636-605.
(11) Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, def. (22) Camille Kohner, Bloomington, Minn., 629-531.
(27) Kathy Ledford, Boise, Idaho, def. (6) Sharon Powers, Lakewood, Colo., 601-587.
- (26) Cindy Mattingly, Puyallup, Wash., def. (7) Lucy Sandelin, Tampa, Fla., 513-504.
(10) Dana Ausec, Colorado Springs, Colo., def. (23) Penny Fentiman, Sweet Home, Ore., 731-527.
(18) Bianca Voelkl-Brandt, Germany, def. (15) Devera Buckley, St. Louis, 621-511.
(2) Beth Owen-Cipielewski, Bradenton, Fla, def. (31) Julie Harrison, Australia, 587-506.

ROUND 2 - WINNERS BRACKET

Johnson def. Diso, 634-502
Shaw-Wesby def. Hernandez, 606-575
Pancoast def. Vidal, 621-575
Kallenback def. Lanifer, 567-530

Schultz def. Hazen, 727-681
Ledford def. Woessner, 701-653
Ausec def. Mattingly, 695-560
Owen-Cipielewski def. Voelkl-Brandt, 579-529

ROUND 1 - ELIMINATION BRACKET (Losers eliminated, finish tied for 25th, earn \$700)

Power-DeFer def. Buxton, 641-615
Walbaum def. Cohrs, 584-539

Hulsenberg def. Niles, 643-569
Dodson def. McEntee, 604-574

Friis def. Carter, 615-597
Powers def. Kohner, 622-579
Buckley def. Harrison, 553-542
Sandelin def. Fentiman, 651-544

ROUND 2 - ELIMINATION BRACKET
(Losers eliminated, finish tied for 17th, earn \$800)

Woessner def. Power-DeFer, 665-568
Hazen def. Walbaum, 612-553
Hulsenberg def. Mattingly, 640-632
Dodson def. Voelkl-Brandt, 629-607

Friis def. Hernandez, 641-575
Powers def. Diso, 629-618
Buckley def. Vidad, 643-583
Sandelin def. Lanifer, 599-530

AUSEC WINS 2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS IN TOURNAMENT DEBUT

LAS VEGAS – Many people dread turning 50, but that wasn't the case for Dana Ausec of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Instead, she looked forward to it because once she celebrated that milestone birthday back in August, she became eligible to compete in the United States Bowling Congress Senior Queens.

Ausec certainly made the most of her debut performance as she defeated top seed Tish Johnson, also of Colorado Springs, 211-157 and 190-184 Tuesday night at Gold Coast Bowling Center to become the 2023 USBC Senior Queens champion.

The victory allowed Ausec to leave Las Vegas with the coveted tiara awarded to the champion and the \$8,000 top prize. Johnson earned \$6,150 for the runner-up finish.

All rounds of competition at the 2023 Senior Queens were broadcast live at BowITV.com, and the at-home audience and capacity crowd in attendance Tuesday night were certainly treated to a thrilling title match.

Because Johnson entered the bout as the only undefeated player from the tournament's double-elimination bracket, Ausec had to beat her twice in the finals in order to win the tournament.

Nobody in attendance expected that to be an easy task as Johnson had dominated the field since competition began on Sunday, leading qualifying by more than 160 pins and breezing through most of her bracket matches enroute to a 5-0 record and the top seed for the stepladder finals.

Nevertheless, Ausec wasn't intimidated heading into the title match. Perhaps that's because Johnson wasn't just another opponent; she's also a teammate and friend.

Johnson and Ausec are doubles partners and league teammates in the Colorado Springs area, and that helped take a bit of the edge off for the Senior Queens rookie heading into the finals.

"Twenty years ago, when Tish (Johnson) moved to Colorado Springs, I was in awe when she came to sub during a league that I bowled in," Ausec said. "Now, we bowl doubles and leagues together, so that intimidation factor that she holds over a lot of people probably isn't there for me anymore."

Ausec made that fact quite clear during the title match.

She and Johnson were tied midway through the first game of the championship bout, but after Johnson suffered back-to-back opens in the seventh and eighth frames, Ausec pounced, striking on four of her last five shots to secure a 211-157 victory that forced the second and deciding game.

The final 10 frames of this year's tournament definitely lived up to the hype as Ausec jumped out to a 12 pin lead after four frames only to open twice and allow Johnson to erase the deficit and establish a 14 pin advantage of her own after seven.

That's when the excitement really ratcheted up.

Johnson's ball crept high in the eighth frame, leaving the 2-4 standing, which she easily converted.

That's when Ausec, who had only struck once up to that point in the game, got a fortunate break by carrying very light mixer strikes in both the eighth and ninth frames.

Despite Ausec's double, Johnson stepped up for her last two frames with a chance to lock up the win.

If the USBC and Professional Women's Bowling Association Hall of Famer could strike in the ninth, 10th and 11th and take eight or better on her fill ball, she would claim her second Senior Queens title – she won her first in 2018.

Johnson delivered a quality shot in the ninth frame, but the 7 pin refused to fall. She converted the spare and then proceeded to strike in the 10th and 11th before her last shot went high for an eight count.

Still, the double brought Johnson's score to 184, which meant that Ausec had to throw a double of her own in the 10th frame or else she'd lose the tiara to her doubles partner and league teammate.

Despite being a Senior Queens rookie, Ausec showed the poise of a seasoned veteran as she stepped up and calmly delivered the two strikes she needed and then took seven on her fill ball to emerge with a hard-fought 190-184 title-clinching victory.

"When I carried that second strike, I just thought, 'oh, my god; I just won the Senior Queens,'" Ausec said. "Bowling in this tournament was the main reason I was excited about turning 50. This feels amazing."

Ausec was pretty amazing in her own right during her three days of Senior Queens competition, averaging more than 215 over 33 games through qualifying, match play and the stepladder on the event's 42-foot oil pattern.

She finished bracket play with a 4-1 record with her only loss coming during a 706-697 heartbreaker to Johnson during the battle for the top seed for the stepladder.

Ausec had a golden opportunity to win that match, but a vicious pocket 7-10 during the 10th frame of Game 3 allowed Johnson to hang on for the No. 1 spot.

Many bowlers would have dwelled on the unfairness of that missed opportunity, but not Ausec.

"I took about 10 to 15 minutes to be upset, frustrated and mad because that was a bad break at a really bad time; however, I had gotten some good breaks during that match as well," Ausec said. "After I wrapped my head around that, I thought maybe it was better to be the second seed so that I would get more than one game to get comfortable on the lanes."

It didn't take long for Ausec to look comfortable during her semifinal victory over Sandra Shultz of Macomb, Michigan, as Ausec stayed clean and recorded two doubles and a turkey to cruise to a 235-202 win.

Up to that point, it looked like maybe Schultz was going to have a memorable night of her own by running the ladder.

She kicked off the finals with an easy 247-164 win over No. 5 seed Pamela Pancoast of Lomita, California, before eliminating reigning Senior Queens champion Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, (212-202) during Match 2.

Nevertheless, it was Ausec's night, and once she hit the lanes, Schultz's run came to an end, and shortly thereafter, so did Johnson's seemingly inevitable march to the title.

Despite coming out on top on this night, Ausec still has tremendous respect for Johnson. Also, she expects to possibly get a little bit of grief from her teammate the next time they hit the lanes together back in Colorado Springs.

“My husband wasn’t a bowler when he was a kid, so he didn’t know who Tish was or anything about her. I grew up watching Tish, so I told him about all about her accolades and how incredible she is,” Ausec said. “She drills all my bowling balls now, so I’m sure I’m going to hear about it the next time we see each other.”

All competitors at the 2023 Senior Queens bowled 15 games of qualifying over two days to determine the top 32 players advancing to the bracket. As defending champion, Woessner was guaranteed no worse than 32nd position in the bracket; however, she improved her seed by qualifying 11th.

Advancers bowled match play Monday and Tuesday to determine the five athletes for the stepladder finals. All bracket matches leading up to the stepladder were three games with total pinfall determining who advances.

The final three earned their way into the finals by battling through the Elimination Bracket and then surviving a four-bowler, three-game shootout Tuesday afternoon. The top three advanced to the stepladder and were ranked based on their series totals.

Woessner earned the No. 3 seed with a 620 set while Schultz and Pancoast advanced to the first match of the stepladder with totals of 591 and 550, respectively.

Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado, was fourth in the shootout with a 526 series and was eliminated, finishing in sixth place.

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

United States Bowling Congress

The United States Bowling Congress serves as the national governing body of bowling as recognized by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC). USBC conducts championship events nationwide including the largest participation sporting events in the world – the USBC Open and Women’s Championships – and professional events such as the USBC Masters and USBC Queens.

Founded in 1895, today USBC and its 1,493 state and local associations proudly serve more than a million members. USBC is headquartered in Arlington, Texas, working toward a future for the sport. The online home for USBC is BOWL.com.

2023 USBC SENIOR QUEENS
At Gold Coast Hotel and Casino
Las Vegas

Tuesday’s Results

Final standings

- 1, Dana Ausec, Colorado Springs, Colo., 636 (three games), \$8,000.
- 2, Tish Johnson, Colorado Springs, Colo., 341 (two games), \$6,150.
- 3, Sandra Schultz, Macomb, Mich., 661 (three games), \$5,000.
- 4, Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio, 202 (one game), \$4,000.
- 5, Pamela Pancoast, Lomita, Calif., 164 (one game), \$3,000.

Stepladder results

Match 1 – Schultz def. Pancoast, 247-164.

Match 2 – Schultz def. Woessner, 212-202.

Semifinal – Ausec def. Schultz, 235-202.

Championship – Ausec def. Johnson, 211-157; 190-184

MATCH PLAY

Double elimination, three-game matches decided by total pinfall

ROUND 3 - WINNERS BRACKET

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

(1) Tish Johnson, Colorado Springs, Colo., def. (9) Crystal Shaw-Wesby, Pikeville, N.C., 750-547.

(21) Pamela Pancoast, Lomita, Calif., def. (20) Della Kallenback, Fairfield, Calif., 575-551.

(14) Sandra Schultz, Macomb, Mich., def. (27) Kathy Ledford, Boise, Idaho, 603-564.

(10) Dana Ausec, Colorado Springs, Colo., def. (2) Beth Owen-Cipielewski, Bradenton, Fla., 640-574.

ROUND 3 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, finish tied for 13th, earn \$1,000)

(11) Jodi Woessner, Oregon, Ohio., def. (3) Raelyn Hazen, Roy, Utah, 659-569.

(4) Leanne Hulsenberg, Pleasant View, Utah., def. (12) Chong Dodson, Panama City, Fla., 588-525.

(6) Sharon Powers, Lakewood, Colo., def. (30) Jill Friis, Canada, 654-535.

(15) Devera Buckley, St. Louis, def. (7) Lucy Sandelin, Tampa, Fla., 562-515.

ROUND 4 - WINNERS BRACKET

Johnson def. Pancoast, 662-621.

Ausec def. Schultz, 659-640.

ROUND 4 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, finish tied for ninth, earn \$1,400)

Woessner def. Kallenback, 699-508.
Shaw-Wesby def. Hulsenberg, 595-538.
Powers def. Owen-Cipielewski, 617-524.
Buckley def. Ledford, 706-659.

ROUND 5 - WINNERS BRACKET

(Winner earns No. 1 seed for stepladder finals; loser is No. 2 seed)

Johnson def. Ausec, 706-697.

ROUND 5 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Losers eliminated, finish tied for seventh, earn \$1,900)

Woessner def. Shaw-Wesby, 572-566.
Powers def. Buckley, 665-631.

ROUND 6 - ELIMINATION BRACKET

(Three highest scores advance to stepladder finals, high score is No. 3 seed, second high is No. 4, third high is No. 5, lowest score is eliminated, earns \$2,500).

Woessner 620, Schultz 591, Pancoast 550, Powers 526.

USBC LAUNCHES NEW BRAND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN – “WHY I CERTIFY”

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announced a new multi-faceted brand awareness campaign featuring current USBC certified bowlers.

USBC reached out to current members and asked them to discuss their thoughts on why bowling certified in USBC competition was important. The resulting campaign, titled “Why I Certify,” features USBC members talking about the importance of USBC certification and what bowling certified means to them.

“Through this campaign, our goal is to talk to bowlers about USBC’s membership and why they choose to certify,” said Melissa McDaniel, USBC President. “As most know, USBC’s value goes well beyond traditional benefits; this campaign demonstrates that a vote for USBC certification is a vote for fair play, a vital component in ensuring a future for our sport.”

As part of the campaign, USBC has created a new landing page at WhyICertify.com. The page allows you to get to know the USBC certified bowlers who participated in the campaign through videos, graphics and quotes.

Included in that group were the father/daughter duo of Justin and Addison Crumley. Justin summed up the importance to him of certifying with the USBC by saying, "Bowling is a part of my history. I want it to be a part of her future."

When visiting [WhyICertify.com](https://www.whyicertify.com), bowlers are encouraged to share their own stories by filling out the form with their own "Bowling Is . . ." thoughts and stating what it means to them. The quotes will update weekly with new submissions.

Many of the interviews became emotional as participants described how being a USBC certified bowler has impacted their lives. The participants consistently conveyed the sentiment that "If you're for bowling, then bowling certified is for you."

Other elements of the campaign will include posts and videos on USBC social media platforms and [BOWL.com](https://www.bowl.com), print and digital ads, and posted assets at USBC event sites.

For more information on the campaign, head to [WhyICertify.com](https://www.whyicertify.com).

CLASS OF 2023 OFFICIALLY INDUCTED INTO USBC HALL OF FAME

LAS VEGAS – The six members of the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame class were celebrated during their induction ceremony Wednesday at South Point Hotel and Casino.

Diandra Asbaty of Chicago and Dave Ferraro of Kingston, New York, were inducted in the Superior Performance category. Jill Albrecht-Weber of Burlington, Wisconsin, and Mike Rose Jr. of Orlando, Florida, were inducted in the USBC Outstanding Performance category. Ron Mohr of Las Vegas was inducted in the Veterans category and Jamie Brooks of Fort Worth, Texas, was inducted in the Meritorious Service category.

Five of the six members of the 2023 were in attendance for the ceremony Wednesday, with Ferraro unable to attend after coming down with an illness just prior to the event that prohibited him from traveling.

Asbaty, 42, excelled collegiately at the University of Nebraska, internationally with Team USA and collected wins on the professional level, including a victory in the 2012 USBC Queens.

The right-hander starred at Nebraska (1998-2002), where she was a two-time National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association first-team All-American and helped her team win a pair of Intercollegiate Team Championships titles.

Asbaty is a two-time U.S. Amateur champion (1999 and 2006) and a 15-time member of Team USA (1999-2013), where she collected more than 50 international medals.

Success at the collegiate and amateur level led to the professional ranks and a career that was highlighted by her victory in the 2012 Queens in Arlington, Texas. That win

made up for her second-place finish in the 2007 edition of the event and came at a very unique time in Asbaty's life.

"Winning the USBC Queens was really a turning point in my career," Asbaty said. "I had a 14-month-old boy at home, and I went to that event and proved to myself I could still do this on my terms. To be able to step up in the 10th and strike to win against a hall of famer – Carolyn Dorin-Ballard – that was obviously a highlight of my whole career. It proved to me that I could be a great mom and I could still be a great bowler."

Her second title on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour would come 10 years after her first when she captured the 2022 Professional Bowlers Association/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles in Houston, partnering with PBA star EJ Tackett for the win. Asbaty also collected a pair of professional titles in PBA Women's Series events while the PWBA Tour was on hiatus.

At the USBC Women's Championships, Asbaty has posted 19 top-10 finishes with a best finish of second place in the 2008 Classic Team event. She also had a fifth-place finish in Regular Team at the USBC Open Championships in 2007.

Her other accolades include winning the 1998 Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow Award, being named a two-time World Bowling Writers Bowler of the Year (2006 and 2007) and International Bowling Media Association Female Bowler of the Year (2012), and multiple Amateur Bowler of the Year awards from both the IBMA and Bowlers Journal International. She was inducted into the World Bowling Writers Hall of Fame in 2005.

Asbaty continues to inspire the next generation and serve the sport by providing lessons at her home center and as co-founder of the Elite Youth Tour.

"I imagine a little girl and her family walking through the hall of fame," Asbaty said. "And I imagine her seeing my picture, and the little girl stops and she says, 'That's the bowler that was a world champion, a mom, a change maker.' I want my legacy to be that I left bowling better than I found it."

Ferraro, a 63-year-old right-hander, left his mark during a career that saw him collect nine PBA Tour victories, including three majors.

Those majors included a pair of wins at the PBA Players Championship (1988 and 1991) and, in the most important win of his career, a victory in the 1990 Tournament of Champions at historic Riviera Lanes in Fairlawn, Ohio.

In addition to those major wins, Ferraro collected six additional PBA Tour titles between 1986 and 1994. His pair of wins in 1992, while also earning the George Young High Average Award and the Harry Smith Point Leader Award, propelled him to PBA Player of the Year honors.

Ferraro was inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame in 1997 and, in 2009, was voted 36th on the list of the PBA's 50 Greatest Players.

Although unable to attend in person, Ferraro passed along some sentiments that he asked to be shared.

"I'd like to thank the USBC for this prestigious award," said Ferraro. "When I looked at all the other nominees in my category, there wasn't anyone on that list that wasn't deserving of this award. Congratulations to all the other inductees, the honor is well deserved. For someone who grew up in the bowling business and has co-owned several bowling centers with my brother Steve, this award means the world to me. So, thank you."

Albrecht-Weber, a 54-year-old right-hander, is a three-time champion at the USBC Women's Championships.

Her first title came in 2002 when her team, High Roller-Cherry Hill, N.J., won the Classic Team title with a then-record score of 3,327. Albrecht-Weber contributed 741 to that total.

Two years later, the same team won the same title with a nearly identical total. This time, High Roller-Cherry Hill, N.J., totaled 3,320, with Weber contributing 706.

The last of Albrecht-Weber's trio of Women's Championships victories came in 2008 as she teamed with Gina Daroszewski to win the Classic Doubles title. Albrecht-Weber rolled a 697 series, while Daroszewski added 748. The team's total of 1,445 was 29 pins better than their nearest competitor.

"All the titles with my friends throughout the years, that's what's special," Albrecht-Weber said. "Those experiences were great. We had such good camaraderie. We were very honest with each other. We would help each other. We had such good experiences on the lanes and off the lanes. You need to enjoy the whole journey, the whole adventure. But then when the lights came on, we were there to bowl. We were there to win. We were all competitors."

In addition to her three Women's Championships wins, she owns 10 more top-10 finishes in her 27 appearances at the event. Albrecht-Weber also collected one professional title on the then Ladies Professional Bowlers Tour (now PWBA) and also finished sixth in the 1993 USBC Queens.

Although Albrecht-Weber has retired from competitive bowling, she continues to give back to the sport whenever she can and understands the importance bowling has played in her life.

"I feel like being part of bowling, and the successes and failures that I've had within the sport, helped me get to where I am now in so many different ways," Albrecht-Weber said. "I'm very proud of who I am and the people that I've become friends with because of bowling. This hall of fame is an accumulation of everything I've put into bowling."

Rose earned induction in his first year on the ballot on the strength of four Eagles won at the USBC Open Championships.

Rose, a 51-year-old right-hander, collected his first Open Championships victory in 2007, when he totaled 2,198 to capture the title in Regular All-Events. Rose shot 687 in team, 724 in doubles and 787 in singles (where he finished seventh).

Eagle No. 2 came in 2015 as part of Team NABR. The group captured the title in Regular Team with a 3,368 total. Rose's contribution to that was 697.

Rose's third and fourth wins at the Open Championships came in 2017, as Team NABR won titles in both Regular Team (3,266 with Rose contributing 602) and Team All-Events (9,957 with Rose adding 1,865).

"We've had such a great time together, bowling on these teams at the Open Championships," Rose said. "We're like brothers; we love each other. We talk all the time, and we have a text thread that we're on all the time with each other. So, everybody knows about each other's lives; we pay attention to each other's children. I had two sisters growing up, so it's like having a bunch of brothers now."

He owns a 219.1 average at the Open Championships over his 22 years of competition, good for second on the 20-year average list. In addition to his four Eagles, he owns 10 other top-10 finishes at the event and was runner-up for Rookie of the Year during the 1993 PBA Tour season.

For Rose, his induction represents the pinnacle of the sport.

"This is the highest honor I could receive," Rose said. "This is something I've worked my entire life for. For myself, I don't think there's anything better than this in bowling. I've always wanted to be in the hall of fame; I've dreamed about it since I was a little kid. I just kept working and practicing and was patient. I've tried to be diligent, and I've worked hard to get to where I am. Now, to get to the point in my career where I can say I'm a hall of famer, I can't think of anything better."

Mohr, a 66-year-old right-hander, owns two Open Championships titles, a senior major win at the 2011 Senior U.S. Open that is one of 11 PBA50 Tour titles, four PBA60 titles and a pair of Super Senior Classic titles.

In addition to his professional and Open Championships titles, Mohr owns numerous medals in international competition as a multi-time Team USA and Senior Team USA member.

Mohr talked about his time with Team USA being instrumental in his development as a bowler, especially the time he got to spend with legendary coach Fred Borden.

"Just to be around Fred Borden and his passion was tremendous," Mohr said. "It's not just about the game with Fred, it's about life once you get to know him. We would spend hours in the classroom with Team USA, and with Fred, and that was probably more valuable for me than the time I spent on the lanes."

Mohr's two Open Championships wins span more than 20 years, with his first win coming in 2001 as a member of Team USA Support No. 2. The group captured the Team All-Events title with a 9,807 total (Mohr's pinfall was 2,008).

His most recent win at the event came just last year as part of Storm Products Inc. 1. The team earned the championship in Regular Team with a 3,486 total. Mohr's contribution was 603.

From 2009-2019, Mohr collected 11 PBA50 Tour titles, highlighted by his win at the 2011 Senior U.S. Open where he defeated Walter Ray Williams Jr., 246-189, for his lone major title.

He is a two-time PBA50 and four-time PBA60 Player of the Year. Mohr was inducted into the Greater Anchorage Hall of Fame in 1993, the Alaska State USBC Hall of Fame in 2008 and was a 2018 inductee into the PBA Hall of Fame.

Mohr still competes regularly, and is still a threat to win, at the age of 67.

"I decided to try my career, for the most part, at a later age," Mohr said. "I did the best I could with what I had, and I think it's the greatest honor when someone says, 'What he did, that's impressive.'"

Brooks has left his mark on the sport as a bowling center proprietor, past president of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America, tournament organizer and host, and accomplished bowler.

As a proprietor, he has put his creativity and ingenuity into action with a variety of formats and concepts. In Houston, he hosted the 1974 USBC Women's Championships at his 72-lane Stadium Lanes, and two U.S. Opens at his 74-lane Big Texan, as well as other PBA national and regional events.

He founded the Senior All-Star Bowling Association in 1990, and more than 30 events are held annually.

Brooks was recognized in 2010 as the USBC Proprietor of the Year for his longtime support of various programs, such as hosting charity events for Bowl for the Cure and developing SASBA.

In 2019, the BPAA recognized Brooks as its President's Award Winner.

"The one thing I learned after owning and running 44 bowling centers is customer service," Brooks said. "I talked to the league bowlers every night. I got to know them and made friends with them. That's what I do, I go and talk to the bowlers, and I make them my friends. And the funny thing about it is, your friends bring their friends."

Brooks has been very active at the local, state and national levels. He was one of the founders of the Texas State Bowling Council, he supported the start of the Texas Grand Prix Scholarship Program, and he has served on countless task forces and committees.

As BPAA President from 1984-1986, he hosted numerous summit meetings to solve bowling's lane-conditioning challenges.

Brooks also is an accomplished bowler having won the 1961 Texas State All-Events title and earning a title at the 1973 Open Championships when he captured the doubles championship with partner Jimmy Paine. Brooks joined the 100,000 Pin Club at the Open Championships in 2021 and is one of 26 bowlers to accomplish the feat. He has 62 appearances at the Open Championships.

In addition to his USBC Proprietor of the Year Award and his BPAA President's Award, Brooks has been honored with the Joyce Deitch Award (2016) and the Flowers for the Living (2018) award. He was inducted into the Houston USBC Hall of Fame in 1974 and the Texas State USBC Hall of Fame in 1982.

But it's not the accolades that mean the most to Brooks.

"The best part of bowling is getting together with your friends," Brooks said. "I mean it's truly amazing. The friends that you meet from all over the world. It's great. I love it."

Now including the 2023 class, there are 452 members of the USBC Hall of Fame – 230 in Superior Performance, 126 in Meritorious Service, 54 in Veterans, 22 in Pioneer and 20 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](https://www.bowl.com/HallofFame) for more information on the USBC Hall of Fame.

USBC CERTIFIES STRING PIN BOWLING AS INDEPENDENT COMPETITION EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2023

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress released a new research report on string pinsetters and the USBC Equipment Specifications Committee has approved final specifications based on the research. USBC will certify string pinsetters and string pin bowling as an independent category of equipment and competition effective August 1, 2023. The final specifications reduce the string length to a minimum of 54 inches.

Under those final specifications, key findings of this 2023 report include:

- USBC's lab data indicates strike percentage on string pin bowling will be 7.1% less than when using free-fall pinsetters.
- This could result in average differences as large as 10 pins or more.
- Unusual spare conversion rates have been nearly eliminated.

- Additional testing is needed to determine if a conversion between string pinsetter competition and free-fall is reasonable.

This 2023 report follows up on previous USBC string pinsetter research that began in 2020. Results from an initial study were published in December of 2020 and another research report on the subject was made public in September of 2021.

In the 2021 report, USBC released the results of its initial phase of research on string pinsetters along with preliminary specifications that were developed to help promote similarity between the performance of the different pin setters and more closely align with free-fall performance.

Based on the results from the latest round of research, USBC has outlined the following next steps regarding string pinsetters:

- USBC will certify string pinsetters and string pin bowling as an independent category of equipment and competition separate from free-fall machines effective August 1, 2023, for the 2023-2024 season.
- USBC will conduct additional testing with an objective of determining whether string averages can be used the same as free fall or whether a conversion can be created.
- USBC will provide an update on the additional testing and potential for conversion in advance of the 2024-2025 season.

The full 2023 report can be found on the [BOWL.com/Stringpinsetters](https://www.bowl.com/stringpinsetters).

2023 USBC CONVENTION CONCLUDES

LAS VEGAS – Delegates elected three board members and voted on nine legislative proposals at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Convention and Annual Meeting, which concluded Thursday at South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa.

The ballot for the USBC Board election had five candidates slated by the USBC Nominating Committee – Glenda Beckett of Palmetto Bay, Florida; Brandon Bowman of Mukilteo, Washington; Mike Cannington of Fort Myers, Florida; Adam Mitchell of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; and Cheryl Younger of Leavenworth, Kansas.

On the first ballot, incumbents Cannington (497 votes) and Beckett (417 votes) were re-elected, with Bowman also gaining election (392 votes). Younger received 385 votes, and Mitchell received 325. A candidate had to receive a majority of the 689 votes cast to be elected.

Team USA athletes re-elected Nick Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, to a second term and elected Kris Prather of Plainfield, Illinois.

The newly elected board members begin their three-year terms Aug. 1, 2023.

Robert Cincotta of Massapequa Park, New York, and Elizabeth DeWerth of La Vista, Nebraska, are joining the International Bowling Campus Youth Committee, which also

returns current members Matthew Orvis of Green Bay, Wisconsin, and Allen Soloman of Neptune Beach, Florida.

Additionally, on March 6, 2023, IBC Youth Chairperson Chrissie Kent appointed Brooklyn Gagnon of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to the Youth Committee. The Youth Committee met and approved the recommendation. Gagnon will serve out the remaining term of a vacant position, and her term will expire on July 31, 2024.

In addition to the board elections, delegates voted on five proposed bylaw amendments and four proposed rules amendments (two league and two tournament).

Delegates rejected a bylaw proposal to allow remote electronic voting for future USBC Annual Meetings. Voting results for all the proposals are noted below.

In other news, North Texas USBC was awarded the Association Excellence Award. Beckett, who also serves on the USBC Awards Committee, surprised the North Texas USBC delegates as part of the USBC Convention awards ceremony.

The presentation of national awards, including the Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow Award to Katie Heady of Richardson, Texas, and the Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow Award to Zachary Andrews of Jacksonville, Florida, also took place.

USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy introduced a new multi-faceted brand awareness campaign featuring current USBC certified bowlers. The campaign, titled "Why I Certify," features USBC members talking about the importance of USBC certification and what bowling certified means to them. The campaign features its own website at [WhyICertify.com](https://www.usbc.com/WhyICertify.com).

Murphy and USBC Senior Director of Equipment Specifications Tom Frenzel delivered a presentation detailing the USBC's most recent research on string pinsetters and announced USBC will certify string pinsetters and string pin bowling as an independent category of equipment and competition effective August 1, 2023. More information can be found at [BOWL.com/equipment-specifications/string-pinsetter-research](https://www.usbc.com/equipment-specifications/string-pinsetter-research).

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

During Convention week, delegates attended a variety of educational seminars. The agenda also featured presentations from USBC charity partners Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL), 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 2024, the USBC Convention will return to South Point Hotel, Casino and Spa in Las Vegas in conjunction with the USBC Open Championships, with the event scheduled to run from April 22-25.

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

RESULTS OF 2023 USBC ANNUAL MEETING LEGISLATIVE SESSION

2023 LEGISLATION

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Bylaws Proposal No. NB 1 – Rejected (283 approve, 402 reject)

USBC National Bylaws

Article VI, Meetings Section A. Annual Meeting

Allows for offsite voting at the USBC Annual Meeting

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Bylaws Proposal No. SB 1 – Approved (508 approve, 177 reject)

USBC State Bylaws

Article VII, Meetings Section B. Board Meeting

Authorizes the board to utilize mail, email or teleconference for voting.

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Bylaws Proposal No. LB 1 – Approved (604 approve, 61 reject)

USBC Local Bylaws

Article V, Board of Directors – Management Section C. Election of Directors

Allows the board to adopt a requirement for the submission of qualifications of up to 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting where director elections will be held.

Note: Proposal amended to be effective immediately (587 approve, 84 reject)

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Bylaws Proposal No. LB 2 – Approved (619 approve, 42 reject)

USBC Local Bylaws

Article VI, Officers Section B. Election

Allows the board to adopt a requirement for the submission of qualifications of up to 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting where officer elections will be held.

Note: Proposal amended to be effective immediately (614 approve, 54 reject)

Bylaws (two-third votes needed)

Bylaws Proposal No. LB 3 – Approved (563 approve, 115 reject)

USBC Local Bylaws

Article VII, Meetings Section B. Board Meetings

Authorizes the board to utilize mail, email or teleconference for voting.

League Rules (majority needed)

Rules Proposal No. LR 1 – Rejected (17 approve, 660 reject)

USBC Playing Rules

Chapter 4, League Rules

Rule 108b. Averages – How Established

Allows the player to utilize deliveries executed with either hand during the same game to establish an average.

League Rules (majority needed)

Rules Proposal No. LR 2 – Rejected (47 approve, 626 reject)

USBC Playing Rules

Chapter 4, League Rules

Rule 119c. Forfeits – Procedure for Bowling

In all forfeiture situations, the non-forfeiting team will receive all contested points.

Tournament Rules (majority needed)

Rules Proposal No. TR 1 – Rejected (75 approve, 592 reject)

USBC Playing Rules

Chapter 6, Tournament Rules

Rule 319a. Averages – Conditions that Apply

Requires the use of composite averages for tournament entry unless the tournament rules state otherwise.

Tournament Rules (majority needed)

Rules Proposal No. TR 2 – Rejected (via voice vote)

USBC Playing Rules

Chapter 6, Tournament Rules

Rule 328. Changing Delivery

Allows the player to utilize deliveries executed with either hand during all tournament competition.

KAMMERER SETS RECORD WITH 818 SERIES AT 2023 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

LAS VEGAS – Melissa Kammerer of Staten Island, New York, rolled the highest series in the 103-year history of the United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships during her singles event Thursday with an 818 series.

She put together games of 280, 238 and 300 at the South Point Bowling Plaza to set the record and take the lead in Diamond Singles at the 2023 event.

The previous record of 816 was shared by Michelle Feldman of Auburn, New York (2009 – singles), and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio (2010 – doubles).

Kammerer recorded the 12th 800 series and 40th 300 at the USBC Women's Championships, and she is just the fourth bowler in tournament history to have both an 800 series and 300 game on the championship lanes.

On top of that, she was making her debut this week at the Women's Championships.

Starting her set with 19 strikes on her first 23 deliveries through two games, the 34-year-old right-hander needed 228 in Game 3 to take the outright lead in Diamond Singles from Julie Vickers of Pittsburg, Kansas, who had held the top spot with 745.

The strikes kept on coming in Game 3 for Kammerer, as she became the second bowler at the 2023 event to achieve perfection. Alice Efendic of Thornton, Colorado, had rolled the first 300 at the 2023 event May 7 during doubles competition.

"It is just an amazing accomplishment," said Kammerer, who bowled collegiately at Wichita State University and currently is the head coach of the women's bowling program at Long Island University. "I was nervous the whole time."

Kammerer is a new bowler to the Women's Championships, but she previously has competed at the USBC Open Championships, with her last appearance taking place in 2018. After a car accident, however, she took some time off to recover, and the COVID-19 pandemic made her break even longer.

For her first appearance back at a national USBC long-duration event, she certainly made a splash.

"It has been my dream to win one of these tournaments," said Kammerer, who also competes on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour. "Hopefully I can when it's all said and done."

Kammerer had kicked off her 2023 appearance with sets of 625 in team and 604 in doubles to also move into third place in Diamond All-Events with a 2,047 total. USBC and PWBA Hall of Famer Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of Keller, Texas, currently leads Diamond All-Events with 2,097.

The Diamond Division features bowlers with entering averages of 175 and above.

The 2023 Women's Championships started April 23 and will conclude July 2. The event will run for 71 consecutive days at the South Point Bowling Plaza and feature more than 4,200 four-player teams and nearly 17,000 bowlers.

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

U20 DIVISION TO SHIFT OUTSIDE OF JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TO NEW EVENT STARTING IN 2024

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress will shift the U20 division historically included in the Junior Gold Championships to a new event outside the structure of the Junior Gold program beginning in 2024.

The 2023 Junior Gold Championships in Indianapolis will be the last year for the U20 division to be conducted at Junior Gold. Starting at the 2024 Junior Gold Championships in Detroit, the event will be a youth-only event with U18 being the oldest division.

A new event will be launched in 2024 for young adults to continue competing on the national level. The new event will include a U20 division and introduce a U22 division.

The creation of this new event allows the Junior Gold Championships to retain its identity as the premier youth bowling event in the country, while creating a new opportunity and event experience designed specifically for young adults in the collegiate age range.

The new event will feature a direct buy-in feature for all competitors.

"For the last 25 years, Junior Gold has been the premier event for youth members to showcase their talents," said Gary Brown, Managing Director of USBC Short-Duration Tournaments and Collegiate. "The goal is to continue that tradition of Junior Gold, while providing a new opportunity for our U20 and U22 adult members to compete in a premier event of their own."

More detailed information about the new event will be provided at a later date.

Qualifying for the 2024 Junior Gold Championships began on May 1, and Spectator Passes for the 2023 Junior Gold Championships will be available beginning May 16.

The 2023 Junior Gold Championships will be contested from July 10-14 (U20) and July 14-22 (U12, U15 and U18) with competition for boys and girls in each division.

For more information on the Junior Gold Championships, head to [BOWL.com/JuniorGold](https://www.bowl.com/JuniorGold).

NOREIKS LOOKS TO DEFEND TITLE AT 2023 USBC QUEENS

LAS VEGAS – Birgit Noreiks of Germany has been a standout bowler for many years. The 36-year-old right-hander has captured more than a dozen medals in international competition and is a six-time German Player of the Year.

As such, when Noreiks joined the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour in 2016, everyone knew that she could be counted on to be at or near the top of the standings on a regular basis.

Noreiks has lived up to those expectations, establishing herself as a steady competitor week in and week out over the last six seasons.

She broke through for her first title in 2017, which came when she teamed up with Professional Bowlers Association player Jason Sterner to win the PBA/PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles tournament in Houston.

After a bit of a dry spell, Noreiks got back in the winner's circle again in 2021 when she defeated Dasha Kovalova of Muskegon, Michigan, 228-177, to claim first place at the PWBA GoBowling! Classic in Arlington, Texas.

At that point, the one thing missing from Noreiks' resume was a major title.

She wouldn't take very long to cross that off the list, however, as one season later, she broke through to win the 2022 United States Bowling Congress Queens, which was contested at Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois.

Now, Noreiks will return to the event this week at Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas looking to make another long run through the tournament's double-elimination bracket.

The 2023 USBC Queens begins Wednesday with the tournament's official practice sessions. The first of three five-game qualifying rounds will start Thursday before the field is cut to the top 63 players and Noreiks, who is guaranteed a spot in the bracket as the defending champion.

Three-game total-pinfall matches will determine which players advance through the bracket leading up to the stepladder finals on May 23 at 7 p.m. Eastern on CBS Sports Network.

All qualifying and match-play rounds leading up to the live televised finals will be broadcast at BowITV.com.

The winner of the Queens will take home a \$60,000 top prize and the tiara awarded to the champion.

Noreiks averaged just shy of 215 across six matches enroute to earning the No. 2 seed for the stepladder finals last year in Addison.

She went 5-1 during that stretch, taking down defending champion Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, 721-689, in the process. Her only loss came during the battle for the top seed, which came out in favor of Clara Guerrero of Colombia.

Noreiks got the better of Guerrero when it mattered most, however, collecting a 187-158 victory during the title match to capture the tiara and her first career major title.

Now, as the 2023 Queens is set to begin, Noreiks must get acquainted with a new feeling, which is what it feels like to come to a major as the defending champion.

Thankfully, she will have 15 games of qualifying to get comfortable, which is an advantage that she isn't taking for granted.

"There are more than 200 girls bowling, so it's kind of nice to know that I'm already qualified for match play; it's a good situation to be in," Noreiks said. "Still, I want to do my best and bowl well during qualifying so that I'll feel comfortable when match play begins."

Many Queens competitors will tell you that the tournament doesn't truly start until the bracket is filled in and matches start.

Noreiks is inclined to agree, but that format is one of the things that she enjoys the most about bowling the Queens.

"I really like Queens match play because it's three games, so you just can't ever give up," Noreiks said. "It's a nice, different format than everything else; I really like the way that this tournament is run."

Speaking of runs, that is precisely what Noreiks hopes to start with a strong performance at this year's Queens as, so far, her 2023 PWBA Tour season has been a bit up and down.

She kicked things off with a very good showing at the PWBA Stockton Open, where she finished sixth and missed the cut to the stepladder finals by just two pins.

She took a step backward last week in Spokane, however, just never getting comfortable, which led to a 49th-place finish and missed cut at the GoBowling! Spokane Open.

Nevertheless, Noreiks loves match play, and she knows that she can turn things around and give her season a boost with a good effort this week at Sam's Town.

“I’m confident because I like match play, and I know what I’m capable of doing,” Noreiks said. “I just want to physically throw it better during qualifying so that I can get lined up and have a good feeling going into match play. That’s what I plan to do, and we’ll just see what happens.”

This year’s field will feature more than 200 players competing across two squads during qualifying. Match play will begin Sunday and go into Monday before the top five players are determined for Tuesday’s stepladder finals.

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

TEAM USA MEN SET TO COMPETE IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ARLINGTON, Texas – When assembling a team, it’s never a bad idea to try to combine young talent with veteran experience and leadership.

That combination is precisely what Team USA coaches Bryan O’Keefe and Andy Diercks will have on their roster when they travel to the Dominican Republic for the 2023 PANAM Bowling Male Championships, which will be contested at Sebelén Bowling Center in Santo Domingo from May 21-28.

The American squad will feature Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey; John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida; Nick Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota; Matt Russo of Ballwin, Missouri; Darren Tang of Las Vegas; and Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio.

Practice sessions will take place at Sebelén Bowling Center on May 21-22 before tournament action officially gets underway with singles on May 23.

Doubles will follow on May 24, and trios will come one day later on May 25. Team competition will be conducted over the course of two days and will take place May 26-27.

At just 18 years old, Bohn will be the youngest Team USA player competing in Santo Domingo while Janawicz, 50, will be the oldest.

Bohn knew months ago that he would be traveling outside the U.S. in late May; he just thought he would be headed to a different location.

“Over the past few years, my family has tried to come up with a vacation without bowling balls because we go places all the time, but it’s always to bowl a tournament,” Bohn said. “About three hours before I got the call from Bryan (O’Keefe) telling me that I had been selected to compete in the Dominican Republic, I’d told my mom that I was in and ready to go for a family vacation to Mexico to celebrate my cousin’s graduation.

“I was shell-shocked when I got the call telling me I’d been selected; I didn’t expect that at all. I had to call my mom right away and tell her that I had good news and bad news.

The bad was that I wouldn't be able to go to Mexico after all, but the good was that it was because I was going to the Dominican Republic to compete for Team USA for the first time."

Bohn has always dreamed of having the opportunity to represent his country on the lanes just as his father, USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III, did for a number of years; nevertheless, now that it has become a reality, the young left-hander is having a hard time wrapping his mind around it.

"It's pretty surreal," Bohn said. "I always thought that if this happened, I'd come up through the junior stages first, bowling for Junior Team USA and then on the PBA Tour before being fortunate enough to compete for Team USA.

"My road has been different because I haven't competed for Junior Team USA or made it to the tour yet, and now I'm going to debut as a Team USA member. It's surreal to think that I'm 18 and doing all this."

But anyone who knows bowling knows that Bohn has more than enough talent to make up for anything he lacks in age or experience.

Bohn is a three-time titlist at the USBC Junior Gold Championships and is the reigning U.S. Amateur champion.

In addition, during his freshman year bowling for Mount Mercy, he earned 2023 National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association (NCBCA) First Team All-American honors and was named the 2023 NCBCA Rookie of the Year.

Still, Bohn knows that international competition is a new ballgame. As such, he's being careful not to get ahead of himself when it comes to setting expectations for his week in Santo Domingo.

"Obviously, everyone wants to go out and win a gold medal, but not every time you go out there is going to be your best outing. I learned that pretty quickly from watching my father over the years, so I don't have a lot of expectations," Bohn said. "I just want to make sure to enjoy the experience and not take anything for granted."

Janawicz is approaching the PANAM Bowling Male Championships in a similar fashion; he's just approaching it from the other end of the timeline.

"I don't know how many years I have left," Janawicz said. "Honestly, it wouldn't surprise me if this might be one of my last trips for the team, so I'm looking forward to going out there to try to win some more gold medals.

"There's quite a mix of different levels of experience on this team, so I'm anxious to try to contribute and maybe share some of my past experiences on the lanes and with travel with the rest of the team."

But make no mistake, Janawicz will be in Santo Domingo for more than wisdom and moral support.

The veteran right-hander has been among the most decorated amateur bowlers in the world for many years, and he doesn't appear to be slowing down, as was proven yet again when he secured a third-place finish at the 2023 U.S. National Amateur Bowling Championships.

Pate, Russo, Tang and Via have established similarly impressive resumes in both international and PBA competition. As such, the six-man American squad is expected to be a major factor in the chase for medals from start to finish at Sebelén Bowling Center.

For more information on Team USA, visit [BOWL.com/TeamUSA](https://www.bowl.com/teamusa).

TEAM USA'S VIA PLACES FOURTH IN SINGLES AT 2023 PANAM BOWLING MALE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, narrowly missed out on a medal after finishing fourth in singles on the first day of competition at the PANAM Bowling Male Championships, which is being contested at Sebelén Bowling Center in Santo Domingo.

Via averaged 229.67 for his six games (270, 214, 235, 259, 233 and 167) to come in with a 1,378 total, which was tops among the six Team USA bowlers who competed on Tuesday.

Unfortunately, it still left Via one pin short of reaching the singles medal stand, which was occupied entirely by bowlers from Puerto Rico.

Cristian Azcona used a 299 in Game 4 and 266 in Game 5 to propel himself to the gold medal with a winning total of 1,409. Israel Hernandez took silver with 1,387, and Edgar Burgos earned bronze with 1,379.

Team USA Head Coach Bryan O'Keefe was understandably disappointed to see his bowlers shut out of the medals on Day 1, but he is optimistic that things will improve in the days to come.

"It would've been nice to come away with a medal in singles, but we are gathering information that will help us during the upcoming events," O'Keefe said. "The game plan is the same each day, so if we learn a little each day and make our adjustments a little quicker, the medals will come."

After Via's fourth-place effort, John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, turned in the best performance among the Americans on Tuesday, placing seventh in the 86-bowler field with a six-game total of 1,354 (a 225.67 average).

Prior to leaving for Santo Domingo, Janawicz talked about wanting to play the role of mentor to his younger teammates.

During singles, the 50-year-old right-hander opted to lead by example instead.

Janawicz was the picture of consistency throughout his block, firing games of 224, 215, 207, 247, 247 and 214 to put up the third-best score on his squad.

Nick Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, joined Janawicz on the lanes Tuesday morning.

Unfortunately, Pate's round was a little more of an up-and-down affair with the right-hander starting quickly with games of 256 and 238 only to take a step back shortly thereafter with scores 192 and 197.

He rebounded with a nice 235 in Game 5, but he couldn't sustain the momentum, finishing with 179 to come in with a 1,297 total (a 216.17 average) that put him into a tie for 21st place.

Matt Russo of Ballwin, Missouri, finished six spots back after recording a final score of 1,260 for his six games on Tuesday.

Russo got off to a solid start, going over the 200 mark during each of his first five games (236, 211, 208, 246 and 212).

Sadly, that's when things took a turn for the worse as a closing 147 erased Russo's progress and quickly dropped him down to 28th place in the overall standings.

Darren Tang of Las Vegas wasn't far behind.

Tang fought hard to move his name toward the top of the leaderboard, but the right-hander just couldn't seem to string big games together.

He broke 200 during four of his six games (223, 200, 236 and 221), but a 179 in Game 3 and 189 in Game 5 kept Tang from making a substantial move upward. When all was said and done, he finished the day with a 1,248 total to settle into 31st place.

While two of the Americans came out of the gate strong only to struggle late, the opposite situation occurred for Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey.

The 18-year-old left-hander took a while to get going during his Team USA debut, starting his set with games of 158 and 168.

The rookie showed no quit, though, rebounding with solid scores of 223, 192, 211 and 203 to overcome the unfortunate start and end the day with a six-game total of 1,155 (a 192.5 average).

All six Team USA bowlers will be back in action for doubles competition on Wednesday. The first duo will hit the lanes at 8 a.m. Eastern with the remaining pairs starting at 12:30 p.m. Eastern and 5 p.m. Eastern.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

TEAM USA'S TANG, VIA FINISH FOURTH IN DOUBLES AT 2023 PANAM BOWLING MALE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – Team USA bowlers Darren Tang of Las Vegas and Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, authored an outstanding performance but fell one pin short of medaling in doubles at the 2023 PANAM Bowling Male Championships on Wednesday.

Via, who finished fourth in singles on Tuesday, contributed games of 266, 209, 179, 238, 204 and 276 for a 1,372 six-game total (a 228.67 average) while Tang added 1,329 (a 221.5 average) by shooting 196, 221, 223, 279, 179 and 231.

That effort pushed the American total to 2,701, which put them in fourth place one pin behind the bronze-medal-winning 2,702 posted by Canada's Graham Fach (1,373) and Austyn Ducharme (1,329).

The gold medal went to Venezuela's Luis Rovaina (1,486) and Rogelio Felice (1,318), who ran away from the field with a winning total of 2,804. Puerto Rico's Israel Hernandez (1,417) and Cristian Azcona (1,287) took home the silver with 2,704.

Despite failing to medal, Team USA did manage to put all three of its doubles pairs in the top 10 on Wednesday.

Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, and Matt Russo of Ballwin, Missouri, came away with seventh place thanks to a six-game total of 2,590.

Bohn, who is making his Team USA debut this week in Santo Domingo, led the way with a score of 1,320 (199, 198, 245, 211, 211 and 256) while Russo contributed 1,270 (193, 184, 221, 265, 201 and 206).

Team USA's final duo, John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, and Nick Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, placed eighth with a score of 2,589.

Pate put up a six-game total of 1,364 (223, 226, 277, 209, 204 and 225). Janawicz added 1,225 by tallying games of 273, 206, 167, 168, 209 and 202.

The six Americans will be back on the lanes Thursday for trios before team competition brings the tournament to a close on Friday and Saturday.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

HIGH DEMAND LEADS TO EXTRA WEEK OF COMPETITION AT 2024 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The 2024 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships will be extended by a week and now conclude July 22 for the 120th edition of the event.

The 2024 event is headed to the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas and originally was scheduled to run from March 2 to July 15. With the extension, the 2024 event now will last for 143 consecutive days and can accommodate more than 10,700 five-player teams.

More than 8,000 teams already are registered for the 2024 tournament, and the current demand to get teams together has the 2024 event trending ahead of the 2023 pace to register during the same time frame by more than 34%.

Teams interested in registering can visit BOWL.com/OpenChamp to sign up.

Team competition will be scheduled daily at 2 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., while doubles and singles squads will take place at 7 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The 9:30 p.m. squad will be a combination squad with up to 30 lanes for team and 30 lanes for doubles and singles at the 60-lane venue.

The USBC Open Championships will be contested at the Bowling Plaza for the fifth time in 2024 and mark the tournament's seventh visit to Las Vegas.

The 2023 Open Championships is past its halfway point at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada. The 2023 event also is running for 143 consecutive days and concludes July 24.

For more information on the USBC Open Championships, visit BOWL.com/OpenChamp.

TEAM USA TRIOS TAKE GOLD, BRONZE AT 2023 PANAM BOWLING MALE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – Shaking off the disappointment of two days' worth of near misses, Team USA rebounded in fine fashion on Thursday by

capturing two of the three available medals during trios competition at the 2023 PANAM Bowling Male Championships.

John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida; Matt Russo of Ballwin, Missouri; and Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, authored the top score at Sebelén Bowling Center, capturing gold with a six-game total of 4,005.

The Americans needed every bit of it to hold off the Canadian trio of Graham Fach, Austyn Ducharme and Jordan Jung, who earned silver with a score of 3,956.

Team USA's second trio, Darren Tang of Las Vegas; Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio; and Nick Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, reached the podium and secured bronze by posting a total of 3,903.

Russo led all competitors on Thursday with a six-game total of 1,417 (a 236.17 average) thanks to games of 279, 258, 203, 257, 211, and 209.

The lefty two-hander has won medals for Team USA in the past; nevertheless, Thursday's gold-medal performance isn't something he'll take for granted.

"I've been fortunate enough to win some gold medals before, but this never gets old," Russo said. "To do this with a first timer like Brandon (Bohn), who's like a brother to me, and with J.J (Janawicz), who I've admired for a long time, there's just no better feeling."

Janawicz gave Russo plenty to admire on Thursday, contributing a score of 1,304 (193, 194, 237, 210, 191 and 279) to the trio's winning total.

At age 50, Janawicz is the elder statesman on the American squad, so being able to work alongside two players at or near the start of their Team USA careers and winning gold is something he won't soon forget.

"If you add up Brandon and Matt's ages, they still don't equal mine," Janawicz said. "I'm very happy to have played a part in helping Brandon get his first gold medal. Like Matt said, being able to stand on the podium and win medals never gets old."

Up until now, Bohn has had to take his teammates' word for it because, as a Team USA rookie, he'd never had the opportunity to stand on the podium and listen to the National Anthem with a medal around his neck.

Thursday's victory means that the dream is about to become a reality, and, understandably so, Bohn was having a hard time expressing what that means to him.

"I have no emotions; I don't even know what I'm thinking right now," Bohn said. "I'm just super excited that I got to do this with my brother and one of the greatest amateur bowlers to ever live. Tonight is going to be a really fun night, and I'm looking forward to what tomorrow will bring."

Pate, Via and Tang were sure to be in good spirits Thursday night as well after walking away with bronze.

Pate led the group with a six-game total of 1,308 (a 218 average). He got there by firing games of 193, 245, 204, 255, 213 and 198.

Via wasn't far behind, using games of 236, 212, 254, 223, 193 and 186 to come in at 1,304.

Tang's block was on par with those put up by his playing partners; the right-hander contributed 1,291 (196, 224, 237, 234, 178 and 222) to the team's third-place total.

Team USA will look to keep the momentum going on Friday during the first of two days' worth of team competition.

TEAM USA IN FIRST PLACE HEADING INTO FINAL DAY AT 2023 PANAM BOWLING MALE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – Team USA's first three games of team competition at the 2023 PANAM Bowling Male Championships is difficult to evaluate.

On the one hand, the American squad's three-game total of 3,242 led the 14-team field at Sebelén Bowling Center on Friday, meaning Team USA sits just three games away from winning the coveted team gold medal.

On the other hand, if it weren't for some terrible pin carry during the early stages of Friday's block, the Americans would likely have had a much bigger cushion to work with.

As it stands, Team USA will start Saturday morning's final three-game block with three teams – Puerto Rico (3,238); Venezuela (3,236) and Guatemala (3,227) – lurking within 15 pins of the top spot.

Team USA Head Coach Bryan O'Keefe has been around the sport a long time and has seen many things, but even he was having difficulty believing his eyes during the early stages of Friday's set.

"The first game today was some of the worst tough-luck bowling I've seen in a really long time," O'Keefe said. "The execution was great, but one way or another, we just couldn't knock them all over, and it happened throughout the entire team."

The scores definitely support O'Keefe's assessment as all five members of the American squad scored within a 20-pin range.

Darren Tang of Las Vegas and Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio, led the way in Game 1 with matching scores of 212.

Nicholas Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, and John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, were close behind with 209 and 203, respectively.

That left Matt Russo of Ballwin, Missouri, as the low man after the first 10 frames, but not by much as he came in with a steady 192.

All told, that gave Team USA a score of 1,028 to start the day despite staying locked in on the pocet well enough to have scored much higher.

Nevertheless, the Americans refused to let frustration get the better of them, and the grit paid off as the numbers climbed during each of the final two games.

Team USA pushed its total up to 1,094 in Game 2 thanks to scores of 226 (Russo), 224 (Via), 219 (Janawicz), 213 (Tang) and 212 (Pate).

The best was yet to come, however, as the group closed the day with 1,120 to get to the top of the overall standings.

Pate led the way that time with 258 and was followed closely by Tang, who finished with 245. Via, Russo and Janawicz added 222, 201 and 194, respectively.

Even though he would have liked to have seen his team's strong performance yield bigger results on Friday, O'Keefe was happy with how the group persevered, and he likes the position it's in heading into Saturday morning's final round of competition.

"After that first game, we righted the ship, and more natural bowling started to happen," O'Keefe said. "We overcame all that and still find ourselves at the top of the leaderboard, so we're just going to take it one shot at a time tomorrow and see if we can come out on top."

The final three games of team competition kick off from Sebelén Bowling Center Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Eastern.

TEAM USA TAKES TEAM GOLD MEDAL ON FINAL DAY AT 2023 PANAM BOWLING MALE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – The 2023 PANAM Bowling Male Championships didn't start off the way Team USA bowlers and coaches were hoping for as the Americans missed out on medals in both singles and doubles by just a single pin.

At that point, it would've been easy for Team USA to allow the disappointment of the first two days to derail its goals for the rest of the tournament.

Nevertheless, the Americans did the opposite, rebounding to capture gold and bronze during trios on Thursday and then leading the 14-team field during the first day of team competition on Friday.

Saturday was the final day of action at Sebelén Bowling Center, and Team USA closed things out in style, adding games of 1,185, 1,154 and 938 to the 1,028, 1,094 and 1,120 it authored on Friday to win the team gold medal with a six-game total of 6,519.

Puerto Rico took silver with 6,415, and Guatemala grabbed bronze with 6,378.

John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, the oldest player on the squad at age 50, led the American effort with a score of 1,336 (a 222.67 average) thanks to games of 203, 219, 194, 268, 248 and 204.

Despite coming in with the highest score on the team, Janawicz was quick to point out that every Team USA players and coaches deserved equal credit for the gold-medal performance.

"It was a really great team effort," Janawicz said. "The communication was really good, and I think that's what helped catapult us during the second half of the last game to make sure we pulled it out."

Darren Tang of Las Vegas certainly seemed to get the message as he used games of 212, 213, 245, 237, 243 and 183 to come in just behind Janawicz with a six-game total of 1,333 (222.17).

Tang considered the team gold medal to be the No. 1 goal for this trip, so he was in high spirits once the final balls had been thrown and the prize had been captured.

"The goal all along was team gold, and we achieved it," Tang said. "I'm really happy; this feels good."

Nick Pate of Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota (209, 212, 258, 226, 215 and 199) and Chris Via of Blacklick, Ohio (212, 224, 222, 226, 225 and 191), were plenty happy themselves after coming in with 1,319 and 1,300, respectively.

“Winning gold never gets old,” Pate said. “I can’t wait to hear the National Anthem and feel that medal around my neck; it feels incredible.”

Via’s sentiments were largely the same.

“It’s always incredible to be able to get up on that podium as a team; that’s always our goal,” Via said. “The other events are always bonus medals, but this is the one that we all want; I’m glad that we were able to get it done.”

Matt Russo of Ballwin, Missouri, helped the Americans get it done, contributing 1,231 (192, 226, 201, 228, 223 and 161) to the team’s winning total.

For Russo, the way things finished more than made up for the first two days’ disappointment.

“The first half of the week didn’t work out very well for us, but we turned it around in trios, and now we have another gold medal to add to the collection,” Russo said. “It was a team effort, so getting to share the lanes with these guys and wear the Team USA logo on my back means the world to me.”

The final team member donning the stars and stripes, Brandon Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, didn’t crack the lineup during the two days of team competition, but he was an integral part of the outstanding trios performance referenced by Russo as he contributed a six-game total of 1,284 (219, 191, 227, 181, 233 and 233) to go along with the 1,417 put up by Russo and 1,304 carded by Janawicz on Thursday.

Bohn certainly would have welcomed the opportunity to get in on the action during team competition; however, at age 18 and making his Team USA debut, he recognized that the trip wasn’t about any one player; it was about the team.

“I’m the rookie, so I’m not necessarily supposed to be the one out there just yet,” Bohn said. “I just let the other guys do their thing, and I was the cheerleader. If that’s what it takes for us to win, then I’m okay with that. We came home with the gold, and that’s all that matters.”

Team USA Assistant Coach Andy Diercks, who was attending his first competition with Team USA after having traveled exclusively with Junior Team USA in the past, loved coming away with another gold medal, but, for him, the most rewarding part was simply having the honor of representing his country.

“It’s always a privilege to wear the red, white and blue,” Diercks said. “Hearing the National Anthem, wearing the stars and stripes and representing our country is incredible.”

Team USA Head Coach Bryan O’Keefe is always honored to represent his country, but he was equally happy about what this particular American squad accomplished this week in Santo Domingo.

“For the week, I’m proud of everybody,” O’Keefe said. “They’re a great team, and they worked really well as a unit. We’re always striving to be better, but, overall, I’m really proud of all that they did and the medals they’re bringing home.”

USBC COLLABORATES WITH COMMERCE BANK ON SIGNATURE CREDIT CARD FOR USBC MEMBERS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress has announced a relationship with Commerce Bank, providing USBC members an opportunity to sign up for a USBC Rewards Visa Signature® Credit Card.

Commerce Bank joins USBC Members Rewards and becomes the official credit card provider for USBC.

The USBC Rewards Visa Signature® Credit Card features unlimited Cash Back¹ (applied as a statement credit), including 5% Cash Back¹ for purchases made at bowling centers², a feature unique and exclusive to the card.

In addition to the 5% Cash Back¹ feature for bowling center purchases, the USBC Rewards Visa Signature® Credit Card offers 3% Cash Back¹ on purchases for streaming, cable and ridesharing services³; 2% cash back at gas stations, restaurants and fast food³; and 1% cash back for all other purchases⁴. There is no annual fee* for the card, no point caps and no opt-in required. Rewards can be redeemed for Cash Back¹, gift cards, travel and more.

“We’re glad to work with Commerce Bank to offer this credit card featuring such unique benefits,” said USBC President Melissa McDaniel. “We think the 5% Cash Back¹ from bowling center purchases will make this an appealing card for bowlers to consider.”

Information about the USBC Rewards Visa Signature® Credit Card can be found at commercebank.com/usbc.

“Commerce Bank is committed to building long-term, valuable relationships with our customers,” said Bill Gandolfo, co-brand product manager, Commerce Bank. “That is why we are excited to collaborate with USBC to offer this innovative credit card rewards program that adds even more value and savings when they bowl.”

2023 SUPER SENIOR CLASSIC AND USBC SENIOR MASTERS SET FOR LAS VEGAS

LAS VEGAS – The top senior and super senior competitors have their eyes set on Las Vegas for the start of the 2023 Professional Bowlers Association 50 Tour season, and the Sam's Town Bowling Center will host the first two events on the schedule with the Super Senior Classic and United States Bowling Congress Senior Masters heading back to the 56-lane venue starting this week.

Both events have been annually held at Sam's Town since 2016, and both will feature sold-out fields in 2023.

The Super Senior Classic, celebrating its 10th edition this year, welcomes the top players age 60 and older from May 31-June 4. The USBC Senior Masters, a major on the PBA50 Tour schedule, is open to bowlers age 50 and older and will continue the excitement at Sam's Town from June 5-11.

Both events, along with the entire PBA50 national tour schedule, will be livestreamed at [BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com).

Competitors at the Super Senior Classic will have their official practice session Wednesday before the action kicks off with two six-game qualifying blocks Thursday and Friday. Each of the two squads will have one block on the fresh oil pattern and one on the burn.

After 12 games, the top 25% of the field will advance to a six-game cashers' round Saturday, and the top 12 players through 18 games will move on to a split match-play round.

The match-play finalists will be split into two groups for six games of round-robin competition Saturday, with the top finisher in each group earning an automatic spot in Sunday's stepladder based on their 24-game pinfall total, which includes 30 bonus pins for each win. The final seeding will be determined by total pinfall.

The second, third and fourth seeds from each group will face off in simultaneous group stepladders starting Sunday at noon Eastern, before the field is set for the championship stepladder at 2 p.m. Eastern. The winners of each group stepladder will claim the No. 3 and No. 4 spots for the stepladder and have their seeding determined based on their average for the event.

The champion of the 2023 Super Senior Classic will earn \$8,000 for the victory.

USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Ron Mohr of Las Vegas enters the 2023 event as the defending champion at the Super Senior Classic and is the tournament's only two-time winner. Mohr collected his first win at the event in 2017.

In last year's exciting championship match, Mohr delivered the two strikes he needed in the 10th frame, plus nine pins on his fill shot, to defeat fellow USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Lennie Boesch Jr. of Kenosha, Wisconsin, 222-213.

Since turning 60 in 2016, Mohr has been the dominant player at the Super Senior Classic. In addition to his two victories, he also has a pair of runner-up finishes (2016, 2021) and finished tied for fifth place in 2018 and 2019.

The 2023 Senior Masters will get underway with the official practice sessions June 5, before three five-game rounds of qualifying will take place from June 6-8.

Each day of qualifying will feature three squads (11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Eastern). The early squad will be on the fresh lane condition, while the second squad will be on the burn. The final squad of each day will be on the double-burn.

Competitors will bowl one round of qualifying on each squad to determine their 15-game totals.

The top 63 players after qualifying, along with defending champion Dino Castillo of Highland Village, Texas, will advance to the tournament's double-elimination bracket. All bracket matches leading up to the five-player stepladder finals will be three-game total-pinfall contests.

Castillo will bowl all 15 games of qualifying for the opportunity to improve his seeding in the bracket, but if he finishes outside of the top 63 spots, he'll enter the bracket as the No. 64 seed.

The bracket matches will take place throughout the day June 9-10, and the stepladder finals will air June 11 at 1 p.m. Eastern on BowITV.

With the tournament's true double-elimination format, the top seed for the stepladder will have to be defeated twice to be denied the title and \$20,000 top prize.

Castillo put together an incredible performance to win five matches in last year's stepladder to collect his first PBA50 Tour title as the No. 5 seed, averaging more than 256 along the way.

He started with a 300-222 win over USBC and PBA Hall of Famer Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas, before eliminating two-time PBA Tour champion Jack Jurek of Lackawanna, New York, in the next match, 257-196. In the semifinals, he defeated another USBC and PBA Hall of Famer – Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey – 255-219 to advance to face 2018 Senior Masters champion and top seed Chris Warren of Plano, Texas.

Castillo won the first match against Warren (253-201) to force the deciding game, and he closed out the victory by a margin of 216-169.

The win also helped Castillo earn 2022 PBA50 Rookie of the Year honors.

For more information on the Super Senior Classic, visit [BOWL.com/SuperSenior](https://www.bowl.com/super-senior). To learn more about the USBC Senior Masters, head to [BOWL.com/SeniorMasters](https://www.bowl.com/senior-masters).

Keep up with the PBA50 Tour at [PBA.com](https://www.pba.com).

New York City, June 5, 2023 – Strike Ten Entertainment (STE) and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA) in partnership with Equity Sports Partners proudly announce the highly anticipated launch of Bowling Center TV (BCTV) www.MyBCTV.com, a digital-out-of-home (DOOH) television network distributed across a significant national distribution footprint of bowling centers in the United States.

Supported by a best-in-class team of technology partners including Cisco and Samsung, as well as funding partner Digital Alpha, BCTV is one of the largest DOOH network deployments to-date. BCTV harnesses the enormous scale of the bowling industry for advertisers while enhancing the consumer experience for tens of millions of bowling enthusiasts. In the process, BCTV will further drive the businesses for participating bowling centers.

The U.S. bowling industry has nearly 5,000 bowling centers and 60+ million annual bowlers. This industry scale across bowling combined with the advancements in television content distribution creates the backdrop for the launch of BCTV to take advantage of two of the fastest growing advertising segments today via the DOOH and CTV advertising marketplaces. Additionally, the creation of an industry controlled national media platform enables bowling to create a broader sponsorship offering for brands that encompasses 365 day-a-year national media and broader marketing, promotional and on-site assets as part of one comprehensive offering.

"Bowling Center TV (BCTV) is set to revolutionize the way brands engage with millions of bowling enthusiasts across the United States," said Cliff Kaplan, chairman of Equity Sports Partners. "BCTV harnesses the tremendous scale of bowling, to create a platform for brands that can deliver enormous reach, measurable ROI and in the process enhance the consumer experience of the tens of millions of visitors coming into BCTV centers."

Kaplan continued, "BCTV gives marketers a unique opportunity to connect with large, engaged, captive audiences while leveraging bowling's on-premise environment and audience dynamics for deep brand engagement. Brands have the ability to create sponsored platforms tied to content on BCTV and create extensions to aspects of the actual bowling experience like birthday parties, perfect 300 games, bowling leagues, daypart driven initiatives and even provides brands the ability to take advantage of the retail eco-system within the centers to drive product sales."

BCTV will run on more than 13,000 state-of-the-art Samsung flat-screen TVs, digital media players, and Cisco hardware found in cutting-edge stadiums, arenas, and entertainment centers worldwide. Each bowling center will have the BCTV screens deployed in a footprint throughout the center and designed to surround the consumer and create engagement throughout the duration of their 1 hour and 45-minute (average) visits. BCTV will be distributed across 1,000 bowling centers in the U.S.

"The bowling industry is currently thriving like never before," stated John Harbuck, president of Strike Ten Entertainment. "In the aftermath of the Covid pandemic,

whereas other forms of entertainment have been deeply impacted in terms of attendance, we have witnessed a remarkable resurgence in attendance and a resilient recovery. These are exciting times as we introduce BCTV in support of our member centers as they evolve the bowling experience for their customers."

Harbuck further emphasized, "For decades, the bowling industry has yearned for a centralized communication platform that enables real-time distribution of messaging. We are eagerly anticipating the unlocking of BCTV's capabilities, which will benefit bowling centers, advertisers, and our valued bowling customers."

With a variety of programming, including sports, news, entertainment, gamification, and consumer engagement platforms, BCTV offers advertisers the opportunity to create a meaningful and lasting connection with consumers. BCTV's programming blocks will be supported by national and local ad inventory, as well as promotional inventory for customers that highlight special offers in the bowling center. The professionally produced programming will air in 2-3 hour loops, designed to align with the average dwell time of bowling center customers.

"All participating bowling centers will earn a revenue share from the network's national advertising revenues and the opportunity to sell additional advertising inventory to local businesses, retaining 100% of local ad revenues," stated BPAA President Kevin Krauss. "We look forward to growing the number of registered qualified bowling centers on the network, making it available to as many BPAA centers as possible."

TEAM USA INTENDS TO SKIP THE IBF 2023 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress (USBC) announced Team USA does not plan to attend the International Bowling Federation (IBF) 2023 World Championships in Kuwait due an understanding that there will be a lack of participating countries. The decision comes from the USBC Athletes Advisory Committee consisting of Team USA Athletes and the USBC Board of Directors.

"There is a consensus among Team USA athletes that we do not want to travel for a World Championships if there are not enough federations participating for a meaningful competition," USBC Athlete's Advisory Chair Andrew Anderson said. "Team USA athletes are disappointed as we want to compete for true World Championships. Our hope is the IBF World Championships will return to historical participation numbers in the near future."

Several federations have communicated to USBC that they will not attend the IBF 2023 World Championships which are scheduled for October 3-15, 2023 in Salmiya, Kuwait. USBC has asked IBF how many federations have registered to date. IBF has not provided USBC this information.

"Should we learn the situation changes and a reasonable number of federations will be participating, then we are open to revisiting the decision," Anderson said.

JANAWICZ RECEIVES JIM JARYSZAK LANEMAN AWARD

ARLINGTON, Texas – John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, was named the recipient of the 2023 Jim Jaryszak Laneman Award Wednesday at Bowl Expo in Orlando, Florida.

Janawicz's selection as this year's recipient was announced by United States Bowling Congress President Melissa McDaniel, who presented Janawicz with the award along with USBC Senior Director of Equipment Specifications Tom Frenzel.

The Jim Jaryszak Laneman Award winner, which recognizes a person for their behind-the-scenes work as a laneman, is selected by the USBC Equipment Specifications and Certifications team from submitted nominations and presented at Bowl Expo.

"It's definitely an honor for me to win this award, especially since it's named after Jim, who was someone I knew and was a mainstay at USBC's equipment specs and research department," Janawicz said. "It's cool to be recognized for an award in lane maintenance because lane maintenance is one of those deals where if everything is going well, you don't hear anything at all. But if something goes bad, then you're probably going to hear about it for the rest of your life. So, it's nice to get some recognition for doing some good work."

Janawicz's "good work" in lane maintenance started when he took a position as a laneman at the 1998 USBC Open Championships, followed by a stint working the same position at the Junior Gold Championships.

Following those events, Kegel hired Janawicz as a full-time employee in July of 1998. He's worked for the Lake Wales, Florida-based company ever since and is currently one of the company's international technical delegates and its technician/pattern specialist.

Janawicz began his career at Kegel working as a laneman for Professional Bowlers Association Tour events and spent his time in between events assisting with research and development.

By 2003, Janawicz was continuing to work as a lane maintenance technician for various events and tournaments, but he also started spending time between events working in tech support. In that role, Janawicz provided support for questions about the lane machines and the oil patterns themselves.

Eventually, Janawicz added seminars and educational clinics to his list of duties. All of that shaped Janawicz into one of the industry's most knowledgeable lanemen.

Janawicz estimates he's worked as a laneman for more than 300 events on five different continents (Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America) and has visited more than 40 countries.

"Lane maintenance and working for Kegel has been quite the blessing," Janawicz said. "To be able to meet so many people all around the world, to experience different cultures, and to be able to see all these different places, it's been very enlightening. I never thought when I first got involved in all this that I would've had all these great experiences."

In addition to Janawicz's career working "beyond the foul line" at Kegel, he's also had an impressive career on the "other side" of the foul line as a bowler.

Janawicz is a 10-time and current member of Team USA, where he has earned more than 20 medals in international competition. He is a three-time Eagle winner at the USBC Open Championships and was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 2018 in the Outstanding USBC Performance category.

Janawicz, 50, won the USBC Senior Masters this year in his first time competing in the event. He was named 2004 Bowlers Journal International Amateur of the Year and is a two-time Bowling Writers Association of America (now International Bowling Media Association) Amateur of the Year (2004 and 2009).

Janawicz was the recipient of the 2019 Bowling Proprietors' Association of America Dick Weber Bowling Ambassador Award and, in addition to being a member of the USBC Hall of Fame, was inducted into the Florida State Bowling Hall of Fame in 2011.

"It's been a great ride so far, and I'm hoping it continues," Janawicz said. "The game is always changing, and I'm always going to try to learn more and find new ways to continue to get better at my job."

The Jim Jaryszak Laneman Award is named in honor of the USBC Research Manager who passed away in late 2010. Jaryszak was instrumental in setting up the USBC Sport Bowling program and served as the point person when the PBA was updating their animal patterns.

Past recipients include names such as Sam Baca, the first Director of Lane Maintenance for the PBA, and Kegel founder John Davis.

25TH JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SET TO KICK OFF IN INDIANAPOLIS

INDIANAPOLIS – The top young bowlers from across the country are making their way to Indianapolis for the 2023 Junior Gold Championships, which marks the 25th edition of bowling's largest and most-prestigious youth tournament.

The 2023 event will start on Monday, July 10, with the official practice session and opening round of qualifying in the 20-and-under division, and this year's edition will run until July 22. More than 4,100 bowlers have qualified for the 2023 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 \$450,000 tournament scholarship fund - with additional money being 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 for 2024 also will be up for grabs in Indianapolis.

BowlTV.com will provide livestream coverage of every round of the 2023 event leading up to the stepladder finals in each division. Qualifying coverage will be limited to four of the six centers during the qualifying rounds for the U12, U15 and U18 divisions with each center offering 16 lanes of coverage.

The finals in each division of the USA Bowling National Championships and Junior Gold Championships will be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network. The finals of the USA Bowling National Championships will air July 18 (U12) and July 25 (U15), both at 7 p.m. Eastern. Junior Gold telecasts will adhere to the schedule that follows: U12 (Tuesday, Aug. 1 at 7 p.m. Eastern); U15 (Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. Eastern); U18 (Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 9 p.m. Eastern); and U20 (Tuesday, Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. Eastern).

The centers being used for the 2023 Junior Gold Championships include Championship Lanes, Royal Pin Expo, Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl, Strike Force Lanes, Royal Pin Western and Royal Pin Woodland. The stepladder finals for each division will take place at Royal Pin Western.

The U20 division will compete from July 10-13, 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.

The championship rounds in the U20 division will be held July 13 at 2 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).

This year's product demonstration, open to all Junior Gold athletes, will kick off on July 13. The demo days features test equipment from the following brands: Brunswick, Columbia 300, DV8, Ebonite, Hammer, Motiv, 900 Global, Roto Grip and Storm. The event is a must for those looking for the latest updates in equipment and products.

The bowling ball demo will take place at Royal Pin Woodland with sessions occurring July 13 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern and July 14 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Eastern. Space is limited for the demo day with required registration (first come, first served) available at BOWL.com/JGSpecialEvents.

The Junior Gold Trade Show and registration for U12, U15 and U18 athletes will take place July 15 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. This year's trade show will feature more than 110 total vendors, including 84 colleges and universities. In-person educational seminars will be replaced this year with online education available during the month of July on the BowlTV YouTube channel. This will allow participants to view engaging presentations put on by representatives from the industry's leading manufacturers at their leisure.

Several top-flite staffers will also be on hand to sign autographs and interact with bowlers and their families. The list of expected participants is as follows: Brunswick – Parker Bohn III, Jakob Butturff, Tommy Jones, Dasha Kovalova, Matt Ogle, Bill O'Neill, Lauren Pate, Matt Russo and Keven Williams; Motiv – Andrew Anderson, A.J. Johnson, Wesley Low, Maria Jose Rodriguez and E.J. Tackett; and Storm – Bryanna Coté, Stefanie Johnson, Brad Miller, Daria Pajak, Sean Rash, Anthony Simonsen and Kyle Sherman.

Because this year's event is the 25th edition of the Junior Gold Championships, the trade show will feature a history walk celebrating past events and champions. Banners

listing the names of past winners also will be on display at all six competition bowling centers.

“The 25th anniversary of Junior Gold is a major milestone, and we think that this year’s roster of events and activities will adequately commemorate that occasion and provide an outstanding experience for our competitors and their families,” said Gary Brown, USBC Managing Director of Short-Duration Tournaments and Collegiate Bowling.

I Am Bowling, powered by Logo Infusion, is serving as the official jersey provider for the 2023 Junior Gold Championships. They will be giving competitors the chance to pick up their jerseys July 14-15 at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

The 25th anniversary edition of the Junior Gold Championships also will see the return of the Party in the Park and the tournament’s Opening Ceremony, both of which will take place on July 16.

Party in the Park will feature several of our event sponsors like Brunswick, I Am Bowling, Motiv, Roto Grip and Storm Products. The event will be held at White River State Park from 1-5 p.m. Eastern and feature a DJ and several fun activities including outdoor games and equipment to utilize such as footballs, soccer balls and frisbees. There also will be featured areas for activities such as cornhole, a video-game truck, a dunk tank and much more. Staff members and pro athletes from the sponsoring partners will be on hand to mix and mingle at this event.

Victory Field, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates’ AAA-affiliate Indianapolis Indians, will be the host venue of the Junior Gold Championships Opening Ceremony, which takes place from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Eastern; doors open at 4:30 p.m. Eastern.

The state-by-state athlete parade, presentation of the 2022-2023 Dexter All-American Team, I AM Bowling Scholarship winners and Athlete Talent Showcase will all be part of the celebration, which will feature a live closing performance.

“We are very excited to bring the Opening Ceremony back this year to go along with Party in the Park, which was tremendously successful during its launch last year in Grand Rapids,” said Chrissie Kent, IBC Youth Committee chairperson. “These events are a lot of fun, and they give bowlers and their families a chance to meet, mingle and have a great time before competition begins in the U12, U15 and U18 divisions.”

The three youth divisions will have their official practice sessions from July 14-16, with competition running from July 17-22.

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 22.

In addition to the Junior Gold Championships, the Bowling.com Youth Open Championships, USA Bowling National Championships and Survivor Tournament also will be taking place in Indianapolis.

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 at Royal Pin Expo July 12-14, 21-23 and 29-30. U18 will be the oldest division for the event.

The 2023 USA Bowling National Championships once again will bring together the top youth teams from throughout the country to compete for a national championship.

USA Bowling Regional events determined the field for the USA Bowling National Championships. There were two divisions at each regional event – Under 12 (born Aug. 1, 2010, or later) and Under 15 (born between Aug. 1, 2007, to July 31, 2010). Each regional champion advanced to the national event in Indianapolis.

Those teams will compete in qualifying rounds at Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl on July 12 at 10 a.m. Eastern. Match play will take place at Arrowhead on July 13 at 8 a.m. Eastern before competition moves to Royal Pin Western later that evening for the finals, which will begin at 5 p.m. Eastern in the U12 division and 8 p.m. Eastern in the U15 division.

The Survivor Tournament will be contested on July 21 and 22 at Royal Pin Woodland with squads taking place each day at 8 a.m. and 1 and 6 p.m. Eastern. Competitors will bowl five games across 10 lanes with one in five participants winning entries into the 2024 Junior Gold Championships.

Survivor Tournament competitors have the option of paying an additional \$75 to receive a high-performance bowling ball from Brunswick (Mindset), Motiv (Tank Yellowjacket), Roto Grip (TNT) or Storm (Absolute) along with their tournament entry.

For more information on the 2023 Junior Gold Championships, visit [BOWL.com/JuniorGold](https://www.bowl.com/juniorgold).

ATHLETES SELECTED TO REPRESENT JUNIOR TEAM USA AT PANAM BOWLING YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

ARLINGTON, Texas – Eight bowlers have been selected to wear the red, white and blue and represent Junior Team USA on the international stage at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023.

The event, which will consist of singles, doubles, trios, mixed doubles and team competition, will be contested July 30-Aug. 4 at VIDENA Bowling Center of La Villa Deportiva Nacional (VIDENA) in Lima, Peru, the same center that hosted the 2019 Pan American Games.

The official practice sessions and opening ceremonies are scheduled for Sunday, July 30, with tournament play set to begin one day later when competitors take to the lanes for singles.

Doubles and trios will follow on Aug. 1 and Aug. 2, respectively, before the focus shifts to team competition on Aug. 3-4.

Once team play has ended and medals have been conferred, the closing ceremonies will bring the event to a close during the evening of Aug. 4.

The girls team representing Junior Team USA will feature Katelyn Abigania of San Diego; Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois; Lara Kurt of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina; and Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia.

The boys team heading to Peru will include Ryan Barnes of Denton, Texas; Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas; Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas.

Junior Team USA has only competed at one event since the COVID-19 pandemic, that being the International Bowling Federation U21 World Championships, which was held in June of 2022 at Olympia Bowling in Helsingborg, Sweden.

That event marked United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Kelly Kulick's Junior Team USA head coaching debut, and it was a successful one at that as both the men's and women's team came home with silver medals, while Victoria Varano of Stony Point, New York, returned with a bronze medal in women's singles.

Kulick was very pleased with that group's grit and determination, qualities she knows will be needed by this year's group of eight if they hope to follow in their teammates' footsteps and return from Peru with medals of their own.

"I consider myself very fortunate to have the opportunity to coach some of the best young male and female bowlers in the world, but the teams we'll be facing are amazingly talented as well," Kulick said. "Winning medals in international competition is

no easy task. To be successful, we'll need to stay patient, learn each day out on the lanes and help one another battle through adversity.”

Often, veteran team members are called upon to lead the way when adversity hits.

That may not be an option this time around, however, as Robarge and Salinas are the only members of this year's group with prior Junior Team USA tournament experience.

Nevertheless, all eight bowlers have shown their mettle at elite events like the Junior Gold Championships, Intercollegiate Team Championships and stops on the Professional Bowlers Association and Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour.

Barnes, Bonta and Robarge were all contributing members on a Wichita State team that broke its own record by winning the 2023 ITC title to secure its 13th national championship.

All three young men have been successful during individual competition as well with Robarge's third-place finish at the 2021 USBC Masters serving as the marquee achievement on a laundry list of impressive accomplishments by the trio.

Salinas has enjoyed a great deal of success in his own right. In addition to helping the Junior Team USA men to a silver-medal performance in Sweden last year, Salinas finished fourth in the U20 division at the 2023 USBC Team USA Trials and earned NAIA First Team All-American status while bowling for Savannah College of Art and Design – Savannah this season.

On the women's side, although OBryant has been a member of Junior Team USA since 2020, she'll be joining first-year team members Abigania, Brandolino and Kurt in donning the stars and stripes for the first time in international competition.

However, like their male counterparts, each member of the quartet of American ladies has been a fixture at or near the top of the standings at elite events for quite some time.

Abigania (U12) and OBryant (U15) both won titles at the 2018 Junior Gold Championships in Dallas and then successfully defended those crowns one year later at the 2019 tournament in Detroit.

Kurt finished tied for third place at the 2023 Intercollegiate Singles Championships in Las Vegas and was the 2023 Southern States Athletic Conference Co-Player of the Year, while Brandolino is a three-time Illinois State Pepsi Champion, a seven-time USBC Youth Open Champion and a 13-time titlist on the Elite Youth Tour.

“This group may not have the most international experience under its belt, but all eight bowlers are truly exceptional,” Kulick said. “They've already accomplished more at their young ages than many bowlers do in a lifetime. They have what it takes to be

successful at any event in the world, and I know they'll represent Junior Team USA proudly in Peru."

2023 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS CONCLUDES IN LAS VEGAS

LAS VEGAS – The final ball was rolled at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships on July 2, bringing the 103rd edition of the event to a close at the South Point Bowling Plaza.

The 2023 event ran for 71 consecutive days after kicking off April 23. It marked the tournament's fourth visit to Las Vegas (1973, 1983 and 2016) and second trip to the Bowling Plaza (2016), with 4,148 four-player teams taking part in the fun and excitement.

Participants competed in team, doubles, singles and all-events in average-based divisions. There were four divisions for team competition (Diamond, Ruby, Emerald and Sapphire) and six for doubles, singles and all-events (Diamond, Ruby, Emerald, Sapphire, Amethyst and Topaz).

All standings are unofficial and pending final verification.

Melissa Kammerer of Staten Island, New York, set the record for the highest three-game series at the USBC Women's Championships on May 11, rolling games of 280, 238 and 300 for an 818 set to take the lead in Diamond Singles.

The previous record of 816 was shared by Michelle Feldman of Auburn, New York (2009 – singles), and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio (2010 – doubles).

Kammerer, who is looking to secure her first win at the event, posted one of seven 300s at the 2023 Women's Championships, which also stands as a record at the tournament. She had one of the two 800s this year at the Bowling Plaza.

The second 800 belonged to three-time Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour champion Liz Kuhlkin of Schenectady, New York. Kuhlkin had games of 247, 278 and 280 for an 805 series to move into second place in Diamond Singles, and the performance helped her post the second highest all-events score in tournament history.

Kuhlkin had started her 2023 appearance with sets of 742 in doubles and 741 in team to take the lead in Diamond All-Events with a 2,288 total May 15. She also took the lead in Diamond Doubles on the same day with Jessica Aiezza of Mechanicville, New York, with 1,439. Aiezza added 697.

Kuhlkin now is in position to own three titles at the Women's Championships, while Aiezza will look to collect her second victory. They were part of the 2021 Diamond Team champion with Suzanne Morine and Robin Orlikowski. Morine and Orlikowski won Diamond Doubles at the 2022 tournament in Addison, Illinois.

Along with Kuhlkin, Tammy Ator of New Canton, Illinois, also finished the 2023 event with the lead in multiple events.

Ator took the lead in Topaz Singles on May 4 with games of 221, 163 and 182 for a 566 series, which also helped her to the top spot in Topaz All-Events with 1,453. She added 517 in doubles and 370 in team.

Woessner holds the all-events record at the Women's Championships with a 2,330 performance at the 2010 event in El Paso, Texas, and she also added to her legacy at the tournament with a 300 game to help Sterner Strong 2 of Oregon, Ohio, take the lead in Diamond Team with a 2,705 total May 16.

Woessner rolled her 300 in Game 1, and teammate Courtney Wooldridge followed with 12 strikes of her own in Game 2. They also were joined by Tracey Distel and Rachel Perez to post scores of 952, 913 and 840 to claim the top spot.

Wooldridge led the way with a 751 series and was followed by Woessner (679), Perez (669) and Distel (606).

Both Woessner (2010 Diamond and Scratch All-Events) and Perez (1994 Classic Doubles and 1999 Classic Team) are looking to claim their third wins at the Women's Championships. Wooldridge and Distel are in search for their first victories at the event.

The top team performance in the Ruby Division came from Them Three and Me (Chelsie Fox, Jessica Jones, Britney Harding and Chelsea Rowley) of Enoch, Utah. The team took the lead May 27 with games of 720, 753 and 740 for a 2,213 total.

In Sapphire Team, the members of One Foot In The Grave of Mesa, Arizona, moved to the top of the leaderboard during the final week of the 2023 event, posting games of 639, 575 and 670 on June 28 for 1,884. The team includes Ethel "Skeeter" Maxwell, Jennifer Hall, Veronica Graves and Peg Kelly.

The longest tenure at the top of the standings in 2023 belonged to the members of Iowa 7 of Waterloo, Iowa, in Emerald Team. The group of Teri Jennings, Shirley Bloodsworth, Kristi Reidy and Teresa Carriere rolled games of 738, 714 and 604 during the opening squad April 23 to finish with 2,056, and they maintained their spot for all 71 days of the tournament.

The shortest wait until the end of the tournament was one day, as the top score in Amethyst All-Events was tossed July 1.

Linda Long of Astoria, Oregon, took over the lead in Amethyst All-Events with a 1,579 total. Long started her 2023 appearance with a 613 series in team at the Bowling Plaza, and she followed with 535 in singles and 431 in doubles to get to the leading total. Annie Walls of Ponchatoula, Louisiana, previously held the top spot with 1,531.

A couple weeks prior to her appearance in Las Vegas, Long was not sure whether she would be able to compete after an accident injured her left elbow.

She was determined to make the trip, though, and was able to turn in a special performance.

“Two weeks ago, I was in a bicycle accident,” Long said. “I fell and fractured my left elbow, and I was uncertain if I was going to bowl. I rested for the last two weeks, and I decided that even if I had to go up there and just throw the ball at the line, I was going to be here. Then, I bowled the best I ever bowled.”

Long was making her first visit to South Point, and she already was looking forward to next year’s event in Reno, Nevada.

She was excited to take the lead, and even happier just to wait one day to see if her name was still at the top of the standings.

“I love this alley – for me, they were great,” Long said. “I had never bowled here before, and I really enjoyed it. It’s a very nice facility.

“I’m excited and flabbergasted. This is the best I’ve ever done at a tournament, and with one day left – holy cow. I’m feeling great.”

In addition to the strikes at the Bowling Plaza, participation also was celebrated during the 2023 tournament as five bowlers reached 50 years on the championship lanes.

The bowlers joining the 50-Year Club at the Women’s Championships this year included Lucy Ash of Glendale, Kentucky; Sandra Graves of Linden, Virginia; Janice Hebbard of Walsh, Colorado; Cathy Simmank of Edgecliff Village, Texas; and Edith Winge of Clifton, Illinois.

The 2024 Women’s Championships will be heading to the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, from April 27-June 30. Registration for the 2024 event already is open.

USBC HALL OF FAMER ASHIE GONZALEZ DIES AT AGE 78

ARLINGTON, Texas – United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer Alda “Ashie” Gonzalez died June 29 at the age of 78.

Gonzalez was inducted to the USBC Hall of Fame in 1998 in the Superior Performance category after more than 30 years of representing Puerto Rico on the lanes in international competition and serving as an ambassador to the sport of bowling.

From San Juan, Puerto Rico, Gonzalez had picked up the sport in 1960 and made her debut on Puerto Rico’s national team just six years later at the 1966 American Zone Championships (now known as the PANAM Women’s Championships) in Guatemala City, where she claimed a bronze medal in the five-player team competition.

That first appearance helped launch a career of international travel to events across the globe, with multiple trips representing Puerto Rico at the International Bowling Federation World Championships, the World Cup, the Pan American Games and the Central American and Caribbean Games.

Gonzalez earned the gold medal in all-events at the 1971 IBF World Championships in Milwaukee. She also took home gold in Mixed Team competition at the 1983 Pan American Games in Caracas, Venezuela, and recorded the victory in doubles at the 1985 PANAM Women's Championships in Bogota, Colombia.

She added gold medals at the Central American and Caribbean Games in 1990 (singles) and 1993 (trios).

In addition to the on-lane success for Gonzalez, she also served as an inspiration for many young competitors to get involved with the sport to follow in her footsteps. Tournaments have been held in her honor in the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Panama and Puerto Rico.

HAILEY TRISKE AND DAVID HAYES CLAIM EARLY LEAD IN U20 AT 2023 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

INDIANAPOLIS – Hailey Triske and David Hayes grabbed the early lead after the first round of qualifying in the 20-and-under division of the [2023 Junior Gold Championships](#) Monday.

Triske of Minnetonka, Minnesota, averaged 234 over her four games of qualifying at Royal Pin Expo while Hayes of Terre Haute, Indiana, posted a 256.5 average for his four games at Royal Pin Western.

Triske had a high game of 268 in Game 3 of her four-game set, and displayed consistency in her other three games (213, 228, 227). She finished with a pinfall of 936. Her 268 was not only Triske's high game, but it was the high game of the entire block in the field of 76 competitors.

The junior-to-be at William Woods University, where the bowling program will compete in its inaugural season this fall, first competed at the Junior Gold Championships in 2014. The 19-year-old right-hander was forced to miss last year's event due to surgery on her left (sliding) knee after injuring it in a car accident. Her best finish is fifth place in the U12 division of the 2016 event in Indianapolis.

Triske found a line to the pocket early Round 1 and was able to keep herself locked in for the entirety of the session.

"What I did today was stand a little further left than everybody else throwing my Storm IQ Tour Ruby and getting the ball just outside of five, playing three to five at the break point," Triske said. "I was trying to kind of stay away from everyone else because most people were playing a little straighter than that. Out of the four games today, I moved one board. That's all I moved. I didn't change my target, my ball or anything."

Triske knows it's early, and Tuesday is a long day with three rounds of qualifying, but she's prepared for the different oil patterns she'll face.

"I took notes on all the patterns and I have at least three different options that I know will work for me on each pattern," Triske said. "I'll start with the one I'm most comfortable with during practice session and go from there, but I feel confident in my preparation."

Triske's 936 total has her 45 pins ahead of Jenna Stretch of Auburn Township, Ohio. Stretch finished her block with a 259 game to move into second place. Third place belongs to Brystal Beyer of Ogdensburg, Wisconsin (881) and defending champion and Junior Team USA member Anna Callan of La Crosse, Wisconsin, is fourth. Rounding out the top five is Elena Carr of Hilton, New York (868).

Triske impressed herself with her effort for the mere fact that she did it on her own.

"I usually have someone with me, but my dad can't get here until Wednesday this week," Triske said. "So, since I've arrived here, I've done all the preparation myself. I've made all the decisions myself and was out here by myself today. Kind of a new experience for me, so I'm proud of how I bowled today."

Hayes' four-game block started with a 288 game and finished with a 279 game. In between were games of 258 and 201 for a total of 1,026. Trailing Hayes by 19 pins is Brendan Salo of Dayton, Ohio. Salo had bookend 258 games with games of 224 and 267 sandwiched in between. More big numbers were posted by Ryan Speer of Beech Grove, Indiana, as he rolled games of 275, 267 and 255, before finishing with 201 for a total of 998. Junior Team USA member Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, is fourth (935) and Aiden Walter of Ringle, Wisconsin, is one pin behind Salinas in fifth. The boys field features 158 bowlers.

The U20 division continues Tuesday as the field of 158 boys and 76 girls return to bowl their final three qualifying blocks. Each block consists of four games for a total of 16 games of qualifying bowled over two days. Following those 16 games, the field will be cut to the advancers rounds which take place Wednesday.

The first advancers round will feature five games before a second cut is made, and a final five-game block will determine the athletes in the boys and girls divisions advancing to the double-elimination match-play bracket beginning Wednesday night and concluding Thursday morning.

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.

BowlTV.com will carry all the action live until the stepladder finals, which will be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network.

The finals in the U20 division will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. Eastern at Royal Pin Western and can be seen on CBS Sports Network Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. Eastern.

RYAN SPEER AND JILLIAN MARTIN LEAD IN U20 HEADING INTO DAY 3 AT 2023 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

INDIANAPOLIS – Four rounds of qualifying are complete in the 20-and-under division of the [2023 Junior Gold Championships](#) with Ryan Speer and Jillian Martin leading the way as the event heads into Day 3 Wednesday.

Speer of nearby Beech Grove, Indiana, was third after Round 1 Monday, took the lead after Round 2 Tuesday morning, and maintained that lead after Rounds 3 and 4 at Royal Pin Western. He started Round 4 with a 265 game on his way to a four-game block total of 860, which was the best of the three rounds he bowled on Tuesday. Speer has totaled 3,495 pins over his 16 games of qualifying, good for a 218.4 average and a 77-pin lead over defending champion Justin Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey.

Martin, a Team USA and Junior Team USA member from Stow, Ohio, was 24th heading into Tuesday's competition at Royal Pin Expo. She climbed to ninth after Round 2 Tuesday morning and then shot games of 278 and 268 on the way to a four-game total of 927 in Round 3 to take the lead. It was a lead that she would not relinquish in Round 4. Martin has a 16-game total of 3,392 and is averaging 212 for the tournament. She takes a 47-pin lead over Jenna Stretch of Auburn Township, Ohio, into Wednesday.

Speer is very familiar with Royal Pin Western, as he first bowled there at the age of five and estimates he's logged 1,500 to 2,000 games in the center.

"It definitely helps to be from around here," Speer said. "I know this center very well, so I've been able to read the patterns maybe a little better than most since I have some natural knowledge of the house. I'm just trying to use my comfort level in this center to my advantage."

Speer, who will be a sophomore this fall on the bowling team at St. Xavier University (Chicago), has shown consistency on the variety of oil patterns he's faced over the first two days of the tournament.

"I've had some pretty good ball reaction on all the patterns," Speer said. "You never know how they're going to play from practice day to actual competition, but I made some ball choices that I was confident would work no matter how different they got, and so far that's worked out well for me."

Speer also credits his success from taking more of a long-term view during qualifying.

"I think the four-game blocks can kind of trip people up because you think you don't have a lot of time to sit and grind," Speer said. "But I look at it as four four-game blocks, and then two five-game blocks if you make the cuts. So, you have 26 games. My mom always says that it's a marathon, not a sprint, and I try to listen to that."

Bohn, a member of Junior Team USA, started Tuesday in 28th place, rose to eighth place after Round 2, then used a 286 game at the end of Round 3 to jump into second, which is where he sits after Round 4 with 3,418 pins (213.6 average).

In third place is fellow Junior Team USA member Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, with 3,376 pins. Fourth place belongs to Brandon Leavitt of Novi, Michigan (3,374). First-round leader David Hayes of Terre Haute, Indiana, is now fifth (3,371) and had one of the highlights of the day when he successfully converted the 7-10 split in Round 4.

On the girl's side, Martin is looking to add a Junior Gold championship to her already impressive resume. Following Martin and Stretch in the standings is Marissa Bills of Marion, Iowa, who sits in third place with 3,322 pins. Junior Team USA member and past Junior Gold champion Jaelle Hamman of Jarrell, Texas, is fourth (3,275). Hamman won the 2021 title in the U18 division in Indianapolis. First-round leader Hailey Triske of Minnetonka, Minnesota, is fifth (3,265). Defending champion Anna Callan of La Crosse, Wisconsin, is 13th (3,154).

The U20 division continues Wednesday as the top 95 boys (out of a starting field of 158) and 46 girls (out of 76) have made the cut to the first advancers round. The first advancers round will feature five games before a second cut is made to the top 48 boys and 24 girls. A final five-game block will determine the athletes in the boys and girls divisions advancing to the double-elimination match-play bracket beginning Wednesday night and concluding Thursday morning.

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.

[BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com) will carry all the action live until the stepladder finals, which will be taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network.

The finals in the U20 division will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. Eastern at Royal Pin Western and can be seen on CBS Sports Network Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. Eastern.

THE ROW REDUCES HOTEL RATES FOR 2024 WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS AND OFFERS LIMITED TIME WAIVED RESORT FEES

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announced an agreement with THE ROW to feature reduced hotel rates and, for a limited time, a waiver of resort fees for those who register and book their stay for the 2024 Women's Championships in Reno, Nevada. The offer is only available when booking the stay exclusively through MyBowlingVacation.com.

THE ROW properties in Reno are Silver Legacy, Eldorado and Circus Circus and resort fees (\$35 per day) will be waived at those properties for those who book their stay through MyBowlingVacation.com between now and Aug. 30, 2023. If booked by Aug. 30, the reduced hotel rates combined with the waived resort fees represent a savings of up to \$243 on a three-night stay and a 60% savings when compared to 2021 rates (the last time the Women's Championships were contested in Reno).

Additionally, there are no booking fees or costs due at the time of the reservation. So, participants can book their hotel stay now and pay later. And, if plans should happen to change, there are no cancellation nor rebooking fees.

"We are honored to partner with the USBC to bring the 2024 Women's Championships to THE ROW in Reno," said Ken Ostempowski, General Manager of THE ROW. "We recognize the continued burden that travel costs place on the national bowling community, and as a commitment to our long-term partnership with the USBC, we are thrilled to provide this discounted offer. Furthermore, as bowlers check-in to one of THE ROW's resorts, they will receive additional dining and entertainment offers exclusive to USBC to enjoy during their stay with us."

Those making reservations at THE ROW after Aug. 30, 2023, through MyBowlingVacation.com, will receive 50% off standard resort fees (\$17.50) per day and the benefit of no upfront booking fees and no cancellation fees still applies.

"We appreciate THE ROW understanding that cost to travel is an issue for many of our tournament bowlers," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "This offer, which is exclusive for bowling, shows our partners in Reno are taking important steps to help address growing travel cost challenges."

To book your stay at THE ROW for the 2024 Women's Championships, go to mybowlingvacation.com.

For 2024 Women's Championships registration and information, go to bowl.com/tournaments/women-s-championships.

CARTER STREET AND JENNA STRETCH EARN TITLES IN U20 AT 2023 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

INDIANAPOLIS – Carter Street and Jenna Stretch each collected their first titles in Junior Gold Championships competition by winning the boys and girls titles respectively in the 20-and-under division of the [2023 Junior Gold Championships](#) Thursday at Royal Pin Western.

Street of Dublin, Ohio, and Stretch of Auburn Township, Ohio, were the top seeds for the finals which were taped by CBS Sports Network and will air Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. Eastern.

Street won his title match over Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, 204-201, while Stretch defeated Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, 235-214.

Street's title match against Salinas pitted a pair of current Junior Team USA members against each other, and it ended in stunning fashion.

Salinas, a junior on the bowling team at Savannah College of Art and Design-Savannah, grabbed the early lead by starting the match with strikes in each of the first four frames. Both players suffered open frames in the fifth when each was unable to convert 4-6-7 splits.

Salinas would strike in the sixth frame and convert three consecutive single-pin spares in frames seven through nine. Street, who enters his sophomore season with the Wichita State University bowling team this fall, struck in the sixth, converted a spare in the seventh, then strung together three consecutive strikes in frames eight, nine and on his first shot in the 10th. He then left the 4-6 split on his second shot in the 10th and finished with 204.

That left Salinas needing a mark in the 10th to secure the win. He left the 10 pin on his first shot in the 10th and then missed the spare, sending his ball into the gutter before it reached the 10 pin. Salinas stood at the foul line with a look of disbelief and despair on his face as Street sat stunned in his seat, trying to process his victory.

"Julian is a great player and I feel like he bowled better than me in that match," Street said. "I can't speak as to what happened on that spare. I don't know. I just know that he's a great player and I never expected that he would miss in that situation."

Late in Thursday's match play competition, leading up to the finals Thursday night, Salinas had to replace his spare ball after it became damaged during competition, drilling up a new one right before his final match play round, which was just a couple hours before the telecast. Still, Salinas wasn't offering any excuses.

"The new spare ball had nothing to do with it," Salinas said. "It felt the same and I made plenty of spares with it. That miss was 100% on me. I'm not mad about it. I feel great about the week I had. I'll look back on the positives from the week and not just that one moment."

Salinas, who was the #3 seed for the finals, made it to the title match by defeating #2 seed Austin Grammar of Hamersville, Ohio, in the semifinal match, 237-172.

Grammar, who will bowl his senior season at Webber International University this year, was undone by open frames in the fourth after a 4-6 split, and in the sixth and ninth when he failed to convert the 3-6-10 and a 10 pin respectively. Salinas put the match away with a pair of three-baggers in frames four through six and eight through 10.

For Street, the way the title match ended didn't lessen the meaning of the win, especially after finishing fourth and second the last two years in the U18 division of this event.

"This win means everything," Street said. "Winning this event and making Junior Team USA, that's what I came here for. To have come so close the last two years makes winning it this year even better."

While the girls title match didn't offer as much drama as the boys, it did feature an impressive performance by Stretch, who had never finished higher than 57th in her three previous attempts at the Junior Gold Championships.

"I was way calmer on the TV show than I was expecting to be," Stretch said. "I thought I was going to be really nervous, but I was actually able to just dial in and focus my eyes on the lanes and just tried to treat it as another day bowling."

Perhaps adding to Stretch's comfort level was the rough start endured by Martin in the title match. After looking comfortable and confident in a 233-181 semifinal victory over Brystal Beyer, who bowls collegiately at Stephen F. Austin State University, things didn't go as planned in the championship match.

Martin, who will be a sophomore on the bowling team at the University of Nebraska this fall, suffered three consecutive splits to start the final match (4-6-7 in frame one, 2-4-8-10 in frame two and a pocket 7-10 in frame three) and was unable to convert any of them.

"Lanes can change quickly on TV under the bright lights," Martin said. "Unfortunately, things started to change for me. I tried to move around and settle in, and thought I threw a good shot in the third frame, but happened to leave a pocket 7-10. For me, at that point, I had to make a ball change and I bowled well the rest of the way."

Martin did bowl well the rest of the way, striking on every shot except the seventh frame, when she converted the 2-8 combination, and on her fill ball in the 10th.

The problem for Martin was that Stretch never let her back in the match after those early open frames. Stretch struck seven times, including a four-bagger in frames three through six, never had an open frame, and threw a double late in the match that helped seal the win.

"I came into this week not knowing I would even get to this point," Stretch said. "I just focused on hitting the pocket, making my spares and just tried to remain calm. I think I did a really good job with all of that and I'm proud of myself for that."

For Martin, a Junior Gold Championships title remains about the only thing she hasn't accomplished in a decorated youth bowling career. Her second-place finish marked her sixth top-10 finish in this event and the fourth time she's finished in the top five.

"I'm really happy with how I performed this week," Martin said. "Obviously, this is the one tournament I haven't gotten under my belt yet, so I was really determined this week. I stuck to my game plan and did a lot of really good things. I can't be mad. I can't be upset. I just need to keep moving on and keep this mentality going forward."

Like Street, Stretch, who will be a sophomore on the bowling team at Mercyhurst University, said this win means "everything" to her, as does qualifying for Junior Team USA.

"I'm very humbled and grateful for that opportunity," Stretch said. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that not many people get to have, so I'm just really grateful for that."

The U20 division also served as a qualifier for automatic spots on 2024 Junior Team USA. In the boys and girls divisions, the top four qualifiers after 26 games of qualifying, the event champion, and the event runner-up qualified for Junior Team USA 2024.

Based on those criteria, the automatic qualifiers for 2024 Junior Team USA are:

Boys Division:

Nathan Smith, Noblesville, Indiana (first after 26 games of qualifying)

Ryan Speer, Beech Grove, Indiana (second after 26 games of qualifying)

Brendan Salo, Dayton, Ohio (third after 26 games of qualifying)

Justin Bohn, Jackson, New Jersey (fourth after 26 games of qualifying)

Carter Street, Dublin, Ohio (event champion)

Julian Salinas, Richmond, Texas (event runner-up)

Girls Division:

Jillian Martin, Stow, Ohio (event runner-up and first after 26 games of qualifying)

Jaelle Hamman, Jarrell, Texas (second after 26 games of qualifying)

Jenna Stretch, Auburn Township, Ohio (event champion and third after 26 games of qualifying)

Brystal Beyer, Ogdensburg, Wisconsin (fourth after 26 games of qualifying)

*Annalise Obryant, Ball Ground, Georgia (fifth after 26 games of qualifying)

**Brianna Rogers, Florence, South Carolina (sixth after 26 games qualifying)

*Since event champion Jenna Stretch also finished third after 26 games of qualifying, Obryant makes the team as the fifth-place finisher after qualifying.

**Since event runner-up Jillian Martin also finished first after 26 games of qualifying, Rogers makes the team as the sixth-place finisher after qualifying.

[BowlTV.com](#) carried all of the action in the U20 division live leading up to the CBS Sports Network finals.

Defending boys champion Justin Bohn of Jackson, New Jersey, was eliminated in the first round of match play Thursday morning, and defending girls champion Anna Callan of La Crosse, Wisconsin, was eliminated one round later.

Complete U20 standings and bracket results can be found by clicking [here](#).

Competition in the 2023 Junior Gold Championships continues Monday with qualifying in U18, U15 and U12.

CHAMPIONS CROWNED IN U12 AND U15 AT 2023 USA BOWLING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

INDIANAPOLIS – Teams representing the Southeast and Coastal South regions swept their way to titles in the 12-and-under and 15-and-under divisions, respectively, at the [2023 USA Bowling National Championships](#) Thursday.

The best-of-five match finals were taped by CBS Sports Network and will air on consecutive Tuesday evenings in July at 7 p.m. Eastern. The U12 finals will air July 18 and the U15 finals will air July 25. [BowlTV.com](#) provided live coverage of the qualifying and match play rounds leading up to the finals.

Bowling out of the Southeast Region in U12, the X-Men defeated the Lower Great Lakes region's EYT Phenoms 2.0, in a 3-0 sweep. In U15, it was the Coastal South region's Eagles earning a 3-0 sweep over the Pocket Punishers from the Mountain region.

The championship round featured a four-person Baker format with the lead-off bowler bowling the first, fifth and ninth frames, the second bowler bowling the second, sixth and 10th frames, the third bowler bowling frames three and seven, and the fourth bowler bowling frames four and eight.

Bowling for the Southeast region's X-Men in the U12 finals were Ean Laws, Ryan Campbell, Nolyn Conway, Jax Neal and Vincent Clinton. Head coach Geran Conway and assistant coach Patrick Campbell guided the team.

Comprising the Lower Great Lakes region's EYT Phenoms 2.0 team were head coach and USBC Hall of Famer Diandra Asbaty, assistant coach Chad Hanicak, and athletes Tyler Anderson, Miles Gordon, Alexander Hanicak, Eason Taylor and Madden Asbaty.

The X-Men captured a low-scoring Game 1, 181-137, and even though the outcome of the match was not in doubt at the end, the 10th frame still provided a memorable highlight. X-Men head coach Conway subbed in Clinton for the 10th frame, and he calmly struck on all three shots (the only three-bagger by either team in Game 1) with his unique back-up ball delivery, making Clinton an instant crowd favorite.

Perhaps Clinton's performance loosened both teams up, as the scoring pace improved in Game 2. The Phenoms put together five consecutive strikes in frames four through eight, but the X-Men countered with a six-bagger late in the match to secure a 255-225 win, putting them one game from the title.

Game 3 was the closest of the match. The Phenoms bowled a clean game, with the exception of an open frame in the third, and finished with the last four strikes. But the X-Men were up to the challenge, striking on seven of eight shots in frames two through nine for a 209-203 win to earn the championship.

For the X-Men, the win meant something special as they were bowling for their friend Mallory Newton who is battling Stage 4 cancer. The victory for the X-Men came on her 15th birthday.

"Mallory lives in Anderson (North Carolina) and bowls in the upstate with us," said coach Conway. "She bowls various tournaments, including the Beast of the East Tour, and she bowls in a lot of local tournaments, as well as the all-stars of South Carolina. Our team knows her well and we wanted to win this for her, not just for our team."

Although the competition was tough, the X-Men were still able to enjoy the experience.

"The best part about the whole thing was just competing with all our friends, getting to know the players on the other teams and just having fun," Neal said. "Plus, being able to win for Mallory makes it even better."

In the U15 division, the Coastal South Eagles brought a four-person team to the event, so they didn't have the luxury of any substitutions. The roster for the Eagles featured athletes Gavin Murray, Ridgely Potter Jr., Emmanuel Guevara and Carly Rhodes (the only female in the finals), and head coach Scott DeBoer.

Bowling for the Mountain region's Pocket Punishers were Diego Lujan, Blaine Canfield, Jonathan Van Der Merwede, Ronin Rivera and Raider Ramsdell. Anthony Rivera was the head coach and he was assisted by Mike Lujan.

In Game 1, the Eagles struck in eight of their first nine frames, leaving open frames in the seventh and 10th. The Punishers also had two open frames and eight strikes, but couldn't string the strikes together as effectively as their opponent and the result was a 229-203 win for the Eagles.

It was more of the same in Game 2. After an open frame in the first, the Eagles strung together six consecutive strikes before another open frame in the eighth. They finished with the last four strikes for a 245 game. The Punishers never could find any momentum as they didn't throw consecutive strikes until a three-bagger late in the game. Open frames in the second and fifth kept them trailing in every frame after the first, and they ended up with 194, leaving the Eagles on the verge of the championship.

Game 3 was a lower-scoring affair and a closer match. The Punishers held an eight-pin lead after eight frames, but an open frame after a 2-10 split in the ninth, combined with a strike and spare in the 10th, left them within reach of the Eagles. Potter, working off a spare by Murray in the ninth, doubled in the 10th to seal the match, and the championship, 179-166.

"In this event, every frame is important," Guevara said. "You have to make adjustments quickly and you have to trust them to bowl well. You have to make your spares, make good shots and keep the mood positive. It's an all-around fun tournament, but it's also hard."

Afterward, coach DeBoer talked about what it was like to coach the Eagles.

"This particular group is easy to coach," DeBoer said. "They do their own stuff, so most of my job is just making sure they see what I see and then helping them understand when to make a change, but they do most of it on their own. We stress communication among the team members and I try to keep the mood light. I'm just really proud of this group."

The USA Bowling National Championships featured 11 regions in U12 and 16 in U15. Each team that competed in Indianapolis earned their spot by winning their region.

2022-2023 DEXTER HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AMERICAN TEAM ANNOUNCED

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Dexter High School All-American Team has been announced for the 2022-2023 school year, with Jena Edwards of DeWitt, Iowa, and Tyler Amos of Jackson, Missouri, named as captains.

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 2022-2023 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.

"On behalf of everyone at Dexter Bowling, I would like to congratulate this year's Dexter High School All-American recipients. We are extremely proud to have these amazing individuals as a member of the Dexter Bowling Family," said Paul Sylvia, Dexter Bowling Vice President.

"Although there was an abundance of qualified candidates, these student athletes not only achieved incredible success on the bowling lanes, but their academics and community involvement are truly inspiring. Their leadership both on and off the lanes has elevated the status of this prestigious award, and they are role models for others to follow. We wish them the best as they take the next step in both their bowling and academic careers."

Each team member will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Edwards and Amos were announced as captains during a breakfast Sunday as part of the 2023 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.

The girls team includes:

Jena Edwards (DeWitt, Iowa) – The senior maintained a 3.98 GPA and was ranked in the top 10 of her graduating class at Central DeWitt High School despite taking on a course-load filled with college-level, dual-credit and honors-level classes. She was a four-year member of the bowling team, Future Business Leaders of America, student council and concert/marching band. On the lanes, Edwards has authored outstanding performances at tournaments such as the 2021 Iowa State Youth Championship Tournament, where she took first place in Division I Singles and All-Events. Also, she qualified for the national finals at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships.

Emily Merten (Omaha, Nebraska) – The senior excelled both in the classroom and as a participant in several extracurricular activities while at Millard North High School. Merten maintained a weighted GPA at or above 4.0 throughout her high school career, leading to her earning MNHS Academic Letter Winner status multiple times. She also earned multiple letters as a member of the Millard North band, which contributed to her being awarded a band scholarship from Mount Mercy University. Merten's prowess on the lanes – she was the 2023 USBC Youth Female Ambassador of the Year and the 2023 Greater Omaha Sports Committee top female athlete for the winter season – caused Mount Mercy to offer her a bowling scholarship as well.

Anna Osias (Memphis, Tennessee) – The lone junior among the girls, Osias is carrying a 4.27 GPA (weighted) while enrolled in multiple honors and AP courses at St. Agnes Academy. Osias' extracurricular involvement is equally impressive as she's been a Class of 2024 student officer, chief editor of the Calliope Art & Literary Magazine and a St. Agnes Academy retreat leader, to name a few. On the lanes, Osias was the 2023

St. Agnes Academy Bowling Team Most Valuable Player and the 2023 Miss Tennessee Bowling runner up.

Maia Struble (Anchorage, Alaska) – The senior is this year’s only two-time Dexter High School All-American Award recipient, having earned the honor last season as well. Struble finished her career at Dimond High School with a 4.17 GPA (weighted) and graduated Summa Cum Laude. She was the Senior Class Secretary and was a member of the National Honor Society and Key Club. Struble is a four-time member of the Anchorage Scholastic Bowling League All-Star Team and a three-time Girls Bowler of the Year. She also held the girls high average (199) for the league in 2023 and helped lead her team to the state championship. Struble is a three-time winner in the Alaska Pepsi Championships (U10, U12 and U15) and a past Alaska Youth Scholarship Tournament champion.

Tamia Yeager (Tacoma, Washington) – The sophomore is the youngest of this year’s recipients; nevertheless, her list of accomplishments is just as impressive as those of her older counterparts. She’s established a 3.8 GPA while taking multiple honors and AP classes as well as studying both Korean and French. Yeager has performed a long list of community service tasks, volunteering at local food banks, working with the Twinstar Community Foundation’s Homeless Backpacks program and helping procure donations for the Tacoma Rescue Mission organization. On the lanes, Yeager helped Spanaway Lake High School to a fourth-place finish at this year’s state tournament, where she secured a third-place finish in the individual standings.

The boys team features:

Tyler Amos (Jackson, Missouri) – The senior from Jackson Senior High School was named captain of this year’s Dexter High School All-American Team after finishing his high school career with a 3.8 GPA and a host of impressive achievements on and off the lanes. While at Jackson High School, Amos was involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and Feed My Starving Children as well as serving as a Special Olympics volunteer. He was named the 2023 Missouri State USBC Male Youth Bowler of the Year and the Marvin Townsend Leadership Award winner. He also qualified for the national finals at this year’s Junior Gold Championships.

John Eversole (Fairfield Township, Ohio) – The senior graduated Summa Cum Laude from Fairfield Senior High School with a 4.02 GPA and ranked in the top 15 percent of his graduating class of just under 850 students. Eversole has served as a Community Christian Church Pre-School Team Leader since 2019 and has participated in the Chick-fil-A Leadership Academy since 2020. He was named captain of the varsity bowling team at Fairfield High for the 2023 season, during which he also won the Academic All-Ohio Award.

Braden Mallasch (Waupaca, Wisconsin) – The senior earned straight A’s multiple semesters while completing his studies at Waupaca High School, where he finished with a 3.94 cumulative GPA. Mallasch also shined outside the classroom, serving in the National Honor Society, Social Media Club and Student Council as well as acting in multiple performances for Waupaca’s Drama Department. While bowling for Waupaca, Mallasch was a three-time state qualifier, a three-time all-star qualifier and won the boys state singles title at the 2023 Wisconsin High School Championships.

Weston Metts (Louisville, Kentucky) – The senior filled his four years at Saint Xavier High School taking as many honors and AP classes as his schedule would allow; nevertheless, he earned straight A's every semester of his academic career and also notched a perfect score of 36 on his ACT. For that achievement, Metts earned National Merit Finalist status and was nominated for the 2023 United States Presidential Scholarship Program, an honor that is only bestowed upon 5,000 of roughly 3.6 million American high school students each year. On the lanes, Metts was a 2023 Junior Gold Championships national finalist, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Region 4 runner-up and a top-20 finisher at the 2023 KHSAA state finals.

Andrew Robitaille (Pittsfield, Massachusetts) – The senior managed to maintain High Honors status and 4.0 GPA throughout his career at Taconic High School despite challenging himself with several honors and AP classes. Robitaille was equally impressive in the community, volunteering at multiple local food pantries, participating in the Pittsfield Parade Banner and assisting with child care at the Smart Start Day Care Center. He was part of the Taconic Varsity Bowling Team's second-place finish at the 2022 Massachusetts High School Athletic Association State Tournament, and he was a two-time national finalist at the Junior Gold Championships (2019 and 2021).

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](https://www.bowl.com/highschool).

2022-2023 DEXTER HIGH SCHOOL ALL-AMERICAN TEAM

Name, Hometown, Year, High School

Girls Team

*Jena Edwards, DeWitt, Iowa, Senior, Central DeWitt High School

Emily Merten, Omaha, Nebraska, Senior, Millard North High School

Anna Osias, Memphis, Tennessee, Junior, St. Agnes Academy

Maia Struble, Anchorage, Alaska, Senior, Dimond High School

Tamia Yeager, Tacoma, Washington, Sophomore, Spanaway Lake High School

*Team Captain

Boys Team

*Tyler Amos, Jackson, Missouri, Senior, Jackson Senior High School

John Eversole, Fairfield Township, Ohio, Senior, Fairfield Senior High School

Braden Mallasch, Waupaca, Wisconsin, Senior, Waupaca High School

Weston Metts, Louisville, Kentucky, Senior, Saint Xavier High School

Andrew Robitaille, Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Senior, Taconic High School

*Team Captain

TRADE SHOW, PARTY IN THE PARK AND OPENING CEREMONIES KICK OFF WEEK 2 AT 2023 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

INDIANAPOLIS – Week 1 of the [2023 Junior Gold Championships](#) concluded Thursday with winners being crowned in the U20 division and, in the [2023 USA Bowling National Championships](#), the U12 and U15 divisions.

The finals of those three divisions can be seen on upcoming CBS Sports Network telecasts beginning with the USA Bowling National Championships telecasts on July 18 (U12) and July 25 (U15) at 7 p.m. Eastern. The finals of the Junior Gold Championships U20 division will be televised on Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. Eastern.

With those events in the books and competition not resuming until Monday in the Junior Gold Championships U18, U15 and U12 divisions, competitors took the opportunity to enjoy the Junior Gold Trade Show, Party in the Park and Opening Ceremonies over the weekend.

The Junior Gold Trade Show and registration for U12, U15 and U18 athletes took place Saturday at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. The show featured more than 110 total vendors, including 84 colleges and universities.

“It’s definitely a good turnout and there’s lots of colleges to meet and talk to, which provides huge opportunity,” said U18 competitor Danica Roseberry of Dayton, Ohio. “This is my first time at Junior Gold, so I think this trade show is really interesting and there’s good energy here. It’s just a good experience overall.”

Because this year’s event is the 25th edition of the Junior Gold Championships, the trade show also featured a history walk celebrating past events and champions. Banners listing the names of past winners will be on display at all six competition bowling centers.

For many of the participants, the highlight of the day was getting to meet and get autographs from their favorite [Professional Women’s Bowling Association](#) and/or Professional Bowlers Association tour players. Pros from each of the ball companies – Brunswick, Motiv and Storm – were on hand, and the line for autographs was consistently several rows deep.

When asked if he had a favorite pro that he was looking forward to meeting, U18 competitor Michael Jones couldn’t pick just one.

"There are so many great pros here, so I'm just looking forward to meeting all of them," Jones said. "The great part about this is that it's the one time of the year where there are so many of them in one place."

While Jones was appreciative of the chance to meet a wide variety of pros, fellow 18-and-under competitor Jacee Correa of Porterville, California, definitely had his favorites.

"I'm really looking forward to meeting Brad and Kyle," Correa said, referring to PBA champions Brad Smith and Kyle Sherman who, in addition to being champions, also are famous for their bowling YouTube channel. "I've been watching them for almost a year now and they're pretty cool and inspiring to me."

After Saturday's Trade Show, the scene shifted outdoors Sunday to White River State Park near downtown Indianapolis for the Junior Gold Party in the Park. From there, participants and their families ventured across the street for Opening Ceremonies at Victory Field, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates' AAA-affiliate Indianapolis Indians.

Party in the Park featured several event sponsors like Brunswick, I Am Bowling, Motiv, Roto Grip and Storm Products, plus a DJ and several fun activities including outdoor games such as cornhole, along with equipment to utilize such as footballs, soccer balls and frisbees. Several food trucks were on hand, and staff members and pro athletes from the sponsoring partners were there to mix and mingle.

First-time Junior Gold competitor Kiana Brooks of Porter, Texas, was impressed with the Party in the Park experience.

"This is pretty cool," said Brooks, who will compete in the U15 division. "Other bowling tournaments I've been to, they've never had anything like this. You just go and bowl and that's it. This is great because you get to meet everyone that's bowling in the tournament and there's all kinds of food and activities. Plus, you can meet some pros and even win scholarship money."

And, despite a hot and humid day, U12 competitor Justin Passaro of Vernon, New Jersey, found a way to beat the heat.

"I really like this so far," said Passaro. "I like all the games and food and everything, but my favorite part has been the place where you can get wet and soaked so that I can cool off."

Once Party in the Park wrapped up, it was off to the Opening Ceremonies which featured the state-by-state athlete parade, presentation of the 2022-2023 Dexter All-American Team, I AM Bowling Scholarship winners, an Athlete Talent Showcase and live music, all of which concluded a busy, but fun, weekend for the Junior Gold competitors.

[BowlTV.com](https://www.bowltv.com) is providing live coverage of the 2023 Junior Gold Championships up until the finals, which are being taped for telecast by CBS Sports Network. Qualifying in the U18, U15 and U12 divisions starts Monday.

JUNIOR TEAM USA SET TO COMPETE AT PANAM BOWLING YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

LIMA, Peru – Eight bowlers will represent Junior Team USA this week at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023, which will be contested July 31-Aug. 4 at VIDENA Bowling Center of La Villa Deportiva Nacional (VIDENA) in Lima, Peru, the same center that hosted the 2019 Pan American Games.

The girls team representing Junior Team USA will feature Katelyn Abigania of San Diego; Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois; Lara Kurt of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina; and Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia.

The boys team competing to Peru will include Ryan Barnes of Denton, Texas; Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas; Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas.

The PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023 will consist of singles, doubles, trios, mixed doubles and team competition.

The official practice sessions and opening ceremonies kick things off today with tournament play set to begin Monday when competitors take to the lanes for singles.

Doubles and trios will follow on Aug. 1 and Aug. 2, respectively, before the focus shifts to team competition on Aug. 3-4.

Once team play has ended and medals have been conferred, the closing ceremonies will bring the event to a close during the evening of Aug. 4.

Junior Team USA has only competed at one event since the COVID-19 pandemic, that being the International Bowling Federation U21 World Championships, which was held in June of 2022 at Olympia Bowling in Helsingborg, Sweden.

Junior Team USA enjoyed a great deal of success at that competition with both the men's and women's teams coming home with silver medals, while Victoria Varano of Stony Point, New York, returned with a bronze medal in women's singles.

For Salinas, competing for Junior Team USA in Sweden last year was something of a dream come true. Now, he's hoping to parlay that experience into another strong performance and more medals in Peru.

"It's truly an honor to be selected to compete again; it's an incredible opportunity," Salinas said. "Obviously, the expectation is to come home with as many medals as possible. I think we have a really awesome team, a great group of people who can do some really great things this week. I know we'll come back with some good results."

OBryant, Kurt, Abigania and Brandolino know all about good results as each turned in strong performances at the recently completed Junior Gold Championships in Indianapolis.

Still, there something different about traveling to a tournament as a member of a team, and that is something Brandolino is very much looking forward to in Lima.

“Competing with a team is a different type of feeling because not only is it for yourself, but you can bring others joy too,” Brandolino said. “Being there with this group is a great opportunity and something that I’m going to remember forever.”

The experience will be even more memorable if it affords Brandolino the opportunity to show off a medal or two, so she’s going to do whatever she can to put herself and her teammates in position to win.

“Getting to compete for Junior Team USA is an unreal feeling; I don’t even really know how to put it into words,” Brandolino said. “This is a great opportunity that I’ve been given, and I’m going to use it to the best of my ability and hopefully bring home some medals.”

For more information on Junior Team USA, visit BOWL.com/JuniorTeamUSA.

THE ROW RENO IS PRESENTING SPONSOR FOR 2024 USBC WOMEN’S CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announced THE ROW Reno will be the presenting sponsor of the 2024 USBC Women’s Championships.

THE ROW Reno, which features three downtown resorts just a short walk away from the National Bowling Stadium, also will be the official host hotels and bracket sponsor of the 2024 Women’s Championships.

The three resorts – Eldorado Resort Casino, Circus Circus Reno and Silver Legacy Resort Casino – offer such amenities as award-winning restaurants, exciting bars and lounges, a luxury wellness escape at The Spa at Silver Legacy, Reno’s only Topgolf Swing Suite and action-packed gaming options, including slots, table games, sports betting and Caesars Rewards promotions.

All same-day brackets payouts from the 2024 Women’s Championships will be picked up inside the Silver Legacy Resort Casino.

The 2024 event will run from April 27 to June 30 at the National Bowling Stadium,

marking the tournament's 13th trip to Reno and 10th visit to the Taj Mahal of Tenpins.

"With the National Bowling Stadium at the doorstep of THE ROW, bowling is part of the fabric of the Reno community," THE ROW General Manager Ken Ostempowski said. "As such, it is truly an honor to once again be the presenting sponsor of the 2024 USBC Women's Championships. The 2024 attendees are part of our family, and we look forward to offering them an incredible experience when they join us at THE ROW next year."

As the presenting sponsor, official host hotels and bracket sponsor of the 2024 Women's Championships, THE ROW Reno will provide USBC members with special offers throughout the tournament and be prominently featured at the National Bowling Stadium, on [BOWL.com](https://www.bowl.com), through USBC's social media channels and at [MyBowlingVacation.com](https://www.mybowlingvacation.com), the official travel partner of USBC.

For the 2024 event, THE ROW Reno is offering participants at the Women's Championships reduced hotel rates and, for a limited time, will waive resort fees for those who book their stay through [MyBowlingVacation.com](https://www.mybowlingvacation.com).

The offer for waived resort fees is available from now until Aug. 30, 2023, and bowlers who book after the deadline through MyBowlingVacation.com still will receive 50% off the standard \$35 resort fee per day (\$17.50).

Each offer features no booking or cancellation fees.

"USBC and THE ROW Reno have shared a partnership for many years, and we're excited to continue that relationship at the 2024 Women's Championships," USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. "THE ROW has put together some great offers to help our bowlers save on their trip to the 2024 event, and we know they'll have an incredible experience while staying at these resorts."

To learn more about the USBC Women's Championships and register for the 2024 event in Reno, visit [BOWL.com/WomensChamp](https://www.bowl.com/WomensChamp). Visit [THEROWReno.com](https://www.therowreno.com) to learn more about the resort experiences at THE ROW Reno.

JUNIOR TEAM USA'S ROBARGE, BONTA AND KURT MEDAL IN SINGLES AT PANAM BOWLING YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

LIMA, Peru – Junior Team USA bowlers captured three of the six available medals in singles during Monday's opening day of competition at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023, which is being contested at VIDENA Bowling Center of La Villa Deportiva Nacional (VIDENA).

Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri, used games of 290, 206, 247, 268, 226 and 181 to cruise to the men's gold medal with a six-game total of 1,418 (a 236.33 average).

Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, grabbed silver with 1,366 (225, 246, 203, 193, 221 and 278), while Colombia's Daniel Romero V used a 1,305 total to take home bronze.

Colombia's Catalina Gomez authored a six-game score of 1,251 (a 208.5 average) to win the women's gold medal.

Junior Team USA's Lara Kurt of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, and Colombia's Daniela Gonzalez tied for silver with matching totals of 1,209, which meant no bronze medal was awarded.

Kurt reached her medal-winning mark by firing games of 180, 224, 223, 203, 204 and 175, which was no easy task as challenging lane conditions forced her to adjust on the fly.

Nevertheless, Kurt's tenacity paid off as she remained in contention all day long and wound up walking away with her first international medal.

"We went in today having a gameplan, and we had to adjust that pretty fast," Kurt said. "In the end, it wound up being a spare day, so we just stayed in the moment and tried to figure out what was in front of us, which I think went pretty well.

"Winning a medal today is definitely very cool. I don't know if anything sets in really fast for me, so it may take some time to adjust to it and realize what happened."

Bonta shared many of the same feelings after earning the first international medal of his career on Monday as well.

"This has been a crazy experience for me because I haven't been outside the country before in my whole life," Bonta said. "Now, I've gotten to travel to a different country to bowl for the United States, and I've won a medal.

"I wasn't expecting to medal myself; I was just here to get the feeling of what international competition is like. To snag a medal today in the singles portion is awesome. I'm truly grateful."

While Bonta was grateful to have won silver, Robarge was simply great en route to gold, vaulting to the top of the standings early and never looking back.

"We had talked at camp about really wanting to hit it hard the first game since we could break the lanes down," Robarge said. "I was a little unsure of how I wanted to do that because every pair is sort of tricky here, but I think I broke them down just the right way and got a couple breaks to get my swing really loose."

Robarge is hoping that loose swing and the knowledge he and his teammates gain during each set leads to more success throughout the week, especially during the team event.

“I think we look really good for team,” Robarge said. “I feel like there are a couple of teams that can come up there and take it from us, but if we do our thing and do what we know how to do, I think we’re going to have a pretty fun six games in that event.”

Robarge’s confidence seems well placed as despite the fact that only he and Bonta medaled for the Junior Team USA men on Monday, all four team members finished in the top 10.

Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, fired a six-game total of 1,275 to finish fourth, while Ryan Barnes of Denton, Texas, put up 1,211 to place ninth.

The score distribution was even closer among the Junior Team USA ladies, who captured four of the top six places in the singles standings on Monday.

Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois, narrowly missed the podium, finishing in fourth place with a six-game mark of 1,196, which was just 13 pins shy of the scores put up by Kurt and Gonzalez.

Katelyn Abigania of San Diego was next for the Americans; she finished fifth with 1,184. Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia, was close on her heels at 1,173.

All eight Junior Team USA bowlers will be back in action for doubles competition on Tuesday. Trios will follow on Wednesday before team competition brings the event to a close on Thursday and Friday.

USBC DEBUTS NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT, FIRST FRAME POWERED BY BOWLERS JOURNAL; USBC ONLINE MEMBERSHIP PORTAL UPGRADED

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress announced the debut of First Frame powered by Bowlers Journal, a free digital offering emailed to USBC members.

First Frame features select articles and photos from the latest edition of Bowlers Journal International. Through First Frame, USBC members will enjoy player features, instructional articles, tips and insights from the pros, and the latest news from the world of bowling.

“First Frame provides our members a sample of what a full edition of Bowlers Journal has to offer,” said USBC President Melissa McDaniel. “We’re proud to provide this content to USBC members and we think they’ll enjoy the benefit of having it emailed to them each month.”

Through First Frame, members have access to selected content from the current issue of BJI. Full editions of BJI offer instructional articles, expanded tournament coverage,

profiles on players from the youth level to the pros and seniors, features on bowling history and interesting takes on all things bowling from BJI columnists.

As noted, the benefit of receiving First Frame comes with being a USBC member. For those interested in joining the USBC, or for those renewing their membership, the USBC has completed an upgrade of its online membership portal that makes it even easier and more efficient to join or renew a membership online.

Using the modernized online registration system provides members immediate access to their membership card. Buying your membership online is the no-hassle, streamlined way to gain access to all the benefits a USBC membership provides, including access to the new First Frame powered by Bowlers Journal offering.

The new online membership portal is optional. Members can still join USBC through the traditional membership form at their local league.

For information on how to get access to First Frame, powered by Bowlers Journal, go to: BOWL.com/FirstFrame.

To use the online registration system to purchase or renew a USBC membership, head to: BOWL.com/join.

JUNIOR TEAM USA DOUBLES TEAMS CAPTURE TWO GOLD, ONE SILVER AND ONE BRONZE MEDAL AT PANAM BOWLING YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

LIMA, Peru – One day after capturing three of the six available medals in singles, Junior Team USA bowlers took things up a notch on Tuesday as all four American duos medaled during doubles competition at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023, which is being contested at VIDENA Bowling Center of La Villa Deportiva Nacional (VIDENA).

Lara Kurt of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, and Katelyn Abigania of San Diego, combined for a six-game total of 2,492 to secure the women's gold medal, while Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri, and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, came in with a score of 2,700 to take top honors for the men.

Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, and Ryan Barnes of Denton, Texas, used a 2,661 total to secure the men's silver medal, which left the Canadian duo of Nicholas Blagojevic and Mathis Blanchette to claim bronze with 2,532.

The women's bronze medal went to the Junior Team USA duo of Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia, and Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois, who secured the final spot on the podium with a six-game total of 2,394.

That put the Americans one spot behind the Colombian duo of Catalina Gomez and Sara Duque, which claimed the women's silver medal with a score of 2,489.

Salinas authored Junior Team USA's best individual performance of the day, coming in with a six-game total of 1,407 (a 234.5 average) thanks to games of 237, 258, 224, 273, 225 and 190.

According to Salinas, there was no special secret to Tuesday's success; it was just a matter of sticking to his game plan.

"I had the same approach going into today as I had yesterday, but I was able to stay doing the same thing on the lanes a lot longer today, which was a big help," Salinas said. "I felt great about how I bowled, and winning my first gold medal is just awesome."

Robarge got to experience that feeling by dominating the men's singles competition on Monday.

The lefty two-hander didn't feel his Tuesday performance was quite as sharp; nevertheless, he was solid, contributing a 1,293 block total (a 215.5 average) on scores of 225, 195, 216, 210, 233 and 214, which, when combined with Salinas' mammoth total, was more than enough to bring home the gold.

"I feel fortunate to have two gold medals in two days now," Robarge said. "My shot-making wasn't quite as crisp today, but I felt like I was able to string strikes at times when I needed them, and I had one heck of a doubles partner."

Barnes and Bonta could each say the same.

The Wichita State teammates proved that they made a good match by putting up nearly identical scores on Tuesday with Bonta coming in with a six-game mark of 1,331 (179, 194, 212, 202, 290 and 254) and Barnes finishing one pin behind at 1,330 (193, 193, 258, 218, 248 and 220).

For Barnes, winning the men's doubles silver medal, his first medal as a member of Junior Team USA, was made even sweeter because of who he bowled with to get it.

"Winning this medal today was even more fun because I got to do it with one of my best friends," Barnes said. "Brandon (Bonta) and I have bowled together multiple times. We kind of struggled the first two games, but we stayed patient and worked through it."

Tuesday's effort gave Bonta his second silver medal in two days, and even though there's nothing quite like winning for the first time, Bonta was equally excited about the medals he and Barnes earned together on Day 2.

"This feels great once again," Bonta said. "After winning silver in singles yesterday, I went into today with the same expectation. To have it happen the way that it did was really exciting for me and Ryan (Barnes); I just can't wait for more."

Kurt clearly felt the same way because just one day after winning silver in singles, she worked with Abigania to claim doubles gold.

Like Barnes and Bonta, Kurt and Abigania were a balanced pair on Tuesday, coming in with identical six-game totals of 1,246 to place themselves atop the women's doubles standings.

Kurt reached her total with games of 225, 214, 223, 201, 192 and 191, while Abigania got to hers thanks to games of 214, 194, 235, 181, 253 and 169.

For Kurt, medaling for the second day in a row and winning her first international gold medal was definitely special; however, what she liked most was getting to share the experience with Abigania.

"It was so cool to bowl with Katelyn (Abigania) and have her as my doubles partner today," Kurt said. "Singles is fun, but it's so much sweeter getting to do things like this together. It just makes it that much more rewarding."

For Abigania, who captured her first international medal as a member of Junior Team USA with Tuesday's victory, simply getting to represent her country on the lanes is reward enough.

"It's so surreal being able to bowl for your country and being out here with the best bowlers in the world," Abigania said. "It's really an honor to be able to bring home gold."

Brandolino's and OBryant's doubles medals were a different color, but they worked just as hard to secure them.

OBryant led the way for the duo on Tuesday, using scores of 202, 229, 216, 197, 203 and 203 to come in with a six-game total of 1,250 (a 208.33 average). Brandolino contributed 1,144 on games of 213, 190, 186, 179, 177 and 199.

Although Brandolino wasn't able to light up the scoreboard quite as much on Tuesday as she usually does, what she was able to do was demonstrate the tenacity and selflessness that has made her one of the best young bowlers in the world.

"Annalise (OBryant) bowling better than I was today really kept me going because I wanted to do well for her as much or more than I wanted to bowl well for myself,"

Brandolino said. "It's hard for me to put into words how it feels to win this medal. Even though it's bronze, it's still a great accomplishment."

OBryant's feelings were largely the same.

"I'm still speechless. It's always been a dream of mine to be a part of Team USA, so to be able to compete for the team and win my first medal is just beyond words," OBryant said. "I'm so happy right now; this is just amazing."

That's also a good word to use to describe Junior Team USA's performance through the first two days of competition as the Americans have claimed seven of a possible 10 medals awarded thus far.

They hope to continue the momentum during Wednesday's action in trios before the team event brings the tournament to a close on Thursday and Friday.

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

JUNIOR TEAM USA SWEEPS TRIOS GOLD MEDALS AT PANAM BOWLING YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

LIMA, Peru – There were two gold medals up for grabs during Wednesday's trios competition at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023, and Junior Team USA bowlers won them both.

Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas; Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas, dominated the men's division at VIDENA Bowling Center of La Villa Deportiva Nacional (VIDENA), combining for a six-game score of 4,319 (a 239.94 average per player per game), which put the Americans in first place by more than 600 pins.

The Puerto Rican squad of Edgar G. Burgos, Edgar J. Burgos and Jesus Colon secured the silver medal with a 3,717 total. Canada's Nicholas Blagojevic, Mathis Blanchette and Jacob Imoo took home bronze with 3,627.

Bonta led the way for the Junior Team USA men on Wednesday, authoring a six-game total of 1,510 (a 251.67 average) thanks to scores of 279, 237, 237, 238, 275 and 244.

Salinas was next with 1,405 (203, 243, 246, 221, 246 and 246), while Robarge was one pin back at 1,404 (236, 279, 171, 259, 227 and 232).

Because trios competition only allows three bowlers to participate for each country, Junior Team USA's fourth men's bowler, Ryan Barnes of Denton, Texas, was forced to compete for all-events status only on Wednesday.

The talented two-hander made the most of that opportunity, however, leading all individual men's competitors with a six-game mark of 1,413 (225, 214, 279, 211, 227 and 257).

Barnes will return to the fold for the team event, which starts Thursday and wraps up on Friday.

The American men have been looking forward to bowling as a team ever since the tournament started, and if Wednesday's trios success is any indication of things to come, then rightfully so.

"I think it's going to be a great next couple of days," Salinas said. "There were only three of us bowling together today, but Ryan (Barnes) still went two hundred over. All of us can produce crazy scores, so I'm super excited to see us all come together and put up more of those big scores during team. It's going to be a great time."

The Junior Team USA women will also be looking for a good time during the team event. To make that happen, they simply need to follow the same roadmap they used en route to trios gold on Wednesday.

That medal was brought home by Katelyn Abigania of San Diego; Lara Kurt of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina; and Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia, who topped the women's field by nearly 500 pins with a six-game score of 4,004 (a 222.44 average per player per game).

Lida Burgos, Isabella Colon and Itzel Salayet propelled Puerto Rico to the silver medal with a score of 3,505, which left Canada's trio of Alex-Anne Aclair, Jade Cote and Mei Yen-Lachapelle in position to claim bronze with 3,477.

Abigania tallied the highest score among the American ladies, shooting games of 226, 208, 227, 202, 288 and 227 for a block total of 1,378 (a 229.67 average).

OBryant wasn't far behind, coming in with a 1,356 total thanks to games of 212, 247, 225, 211, 226 and 235.

Kurt broke 225 three times in six games (232, 265 and 226) to contribute 1,270 to the Americans' gold-medal effort.

Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois, competed in all-events on Wednesday, and she had a fine showing while doing so, leading all solo women's competitors with a six-game total of 1,265, which included a 258 in Game 5.

Wednesday's double-gold effort in trios only served to further emphasize Junior Team USA's dominance at this year's PANAM Bowling Youth Championship. Through three days of competition, the Americans have claimed nine of a possible 12 medals, five gold, three silver and one bronze.

They hope to put a bow on a fine week of bowling by winning another pair of gold medals in the team event, which brings the tournament to a close on Thursday and Friday.

JUNIOR TEAM USA WINS EIGHT MEDALS ON FINAL DAY OF COMPETITION AT PANAM BOWLING YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

LIMA, Peru – Junior Team USA capped off a dominant week of bowling by winning all eight medals up for grabs during Friday's final day of competition at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023, which was contested at VIDENA Bowling Center of La Villa Deportiva Nacional (VIDENA).

The day started with both American squads bringing home gold in the team event.

The men's team – Ryan Barnes of Denton, Texas; Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas; Spencer Robarge of Springfield, Missouri; and Julian Salinas of Richmond, Texas – reached the top of the standings by putting up a six-game total of 5,343 (an average of 222.63 per player per game).

Canada finished second with 5,065, while Puerto Rico secured third with 4,939.

Bonta led the way for the American men on Friday, putting up a 715 series on games of 226, 230 and 279.

Barnes was close behind with 715 (223, 236 and 256), while Robarge and Salinas added 665 and 581, respectively.

The Junior Team USA women – Katelyn Abigania of San Diego; Gianna Brandolino of Channahon, Illinois; Lara Kurt of Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina; and Annalise OBryant of Ball Ground, Georgia – grabbed the top spot on the podium with a final score of 4,950 (an average of 206.25 per player per game), which was more than enough to keep both Colombia (4,643) and Puerto Rico (4,630) at arm's length.

Kurt collected the highest series among American women on Friday, using games of 209, 279 and 179 to post a score of 667.

Brandolino was next in line with 648, which was helped by a final-game 245. OBryant added 639, and Abigania contributed 594.

Once team competition ended, it was time to hand out the all-events medals, all of which went to bowlers donning the red, white and blue.

Abigania won women's all-events gold with a 24-game total of 5,003 (a 208.46 average). Kurt took silver with a score of 4,983, and OBryant walked away with bronze at 4,958.

Brandolino wasn't far behind, finishing fourth at 4,923.

Jade Cote of Canada (4,899) and Catalina Gomez of Colombia (4,724) were the highest non-Team USA finishers; they claimed fifth and sixth place, respectively.

On the men's side, Bonta took first place with a 24-game tally of 5,557 (a 231.54 average). Barnes used a 5,407 total to secure silver, which meant that bronze went to Robarge with 5,373.

Salinas was one spot back, taking fourth with 5,369.

Canadian bowlers Alexandre Gareau (5,110) and Mathis Blanchette (5,028) secured the fifth and sixth spots in the men's all-events standings.

As a group, Team USA medaled 17 times in 20 opportunities during its week in Peru with Day 1's singles competition marking the only time the Americans failed to collect every available medal.

Individually, the American medal count was as follows:

Men

Barnes – one gold, two silver

Bonta – three gold, two silver

Robarge – four gold, one bronze

Salinas – three gold

Women

Abigania – four gold

Brandolino – one gold, one bronze

Kurt – three gold, two silver

OBryant – two gold, two bronze

Those performances were more than acceptable to Junior Team USA Head Coach Kelly Kulick and assistant coach Katie Thornton, who were tasked with leading the American team throughout the week in Peru.

“The ability and skill level in these athletes is higher than I’ve ever seen in a junior program,” Kulick said. “Because of that, I expect a lot from them. Getting to mold them throughout the process and getting to experience this through their eyes was very enjoyable for me.”

Thornton enjoyed her time working with the group as well, especially since it was her first opportunity coaching Junior Team USA bowlers at an international event.

“I’ll be honest; I was a little bit nervous the first day, but as time went on, I got more and more comfortable,” Thornton said. “It was just so much fun. The group that we had here was enjoyable to be around on and off the lanes, and that made my first experience a great one.”

WINNERS DETERMINED AT 2023 USBC SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

GREEN BAY, Wis. – Champions were determined Friday at The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley as competition came to a close at the 2023 United States Bowling Congress Senior Championships.

The USBC Senior Championships features bowlers from the United States and Canada who earned their spot through either a state or province senior tournament.

The 2023 event featured 365 bowlers across two divisions – Women’s and Mixed – in six age-based classifications – 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75 and older.

Competition kicked off Wednesday with the first of two three-game blocks of qualifying. Each division had one block on the tournament’s fresh 40-foot oil pattern, and one block on the burn.

The top six scores in each division after six qualifying games, including handicap, advanced to Friday’s championship rounds.

Qualifying scores were not carried over to the finals, but athletes received bonus pins based on their qualifying position. The top qualifier in each division received 50 bonus pins, while the second seed received 40 pins. Bonus pins decreased by 10 pins for each spot, with the sixth qualifier receiving zero bonus pins.

The championship rounds featured three games, with the winner being determined based on total pinfall, including handicap and bonus pins.

Starting in the Women’s 50-54 classification, Tennessee’s Julie Muse claimed the victory as the top seed, finishing with a 733 total.

In 55-59, Illinois' Lelia Hamilton posted the largest victory in the women's division, earning the win by 50 pins with a 743 score. She qualified as the No. 2 seed.

Utah's Julene Christensen took advantage of her 50 bonus pins as the top seed in Women's 60-64 to take home the title by six pins over Kansas' Delois Williams. Christensen finished with a 708 total, while Williams had 702 to place second.

Powered by a 256 to start the finals, Ohio's Phyllis White rolled to the highest overall score in the women's division to earn the victory in the 65-69 classification with a 745 total. White was the No. 2 seed.

The biggest jump in the women's division took place in the 70-74 classification as Arizona's Luz Corado-Thurman came from the fourth spot to win the national title with a 694 score.

Illinois' Myrt Stache saved her best game of the 2023 Senior Championships for last as a 183 finish helped her to the top spot in the 75-and-older classification with a 725 total. Stache qualified as the No. 2 seed for the finals.

In Mixed 50-54, North Dakota's Jesse Smyle recorded the highest overall total in the finals (787) to claim the top spot as the No. 1 seed.

Utah's George Stermer (715) edged Kansas' Jon Bunger (711) by four pins in the 55-59 classification to record the victory. Stermer entered the finals as the No. 2 qualifier.

Nebraska's Jay Jimenez dominated the Mixed 60-64 classification, winning as the top seed by 79 pins with a 768 total. Jimenez paced qualifying by 156 pins to advance to the finals.

Eugene McNeely of Alberta, Canada, was the only competitor at the 2023 event to make it to the top of the standings from the sixth spot, earning the title in Mixed 65-69 with a 710 total.

A steady performance in the finals helped Idaho's Denis Casey collect the win in Mixed 70-74 with a 679 score. Casey qualified second in the division.

In the Mixed 75-and-older classification, Alabama's Phil Pledger qualified as the top seed and took home the victory in the finals with a 764 total.

Each winner at the 2023 event received between \$600-\$700, based on the number of entries in each classification.

**2023 USBC Senior Championships
At The Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley
Green Bay, Wis.**

(all scores include handicap and bonus pins)

Women

50-54

1, Julie Muse, Tenn., 733. 2, Rita Holly, Ariz., 710. 3, Kerrie Watson, Manitoba, 658. 4, Nikki Bradley, Neb., 656. 5, Jennifer Nakanishi, S.D., 648. 6, Danielle Bolan, Mont., 573.

55-59

1, Lelia Hamilton, Ill., 743. 2, Holly Niemi, N.D., 693. 3, Sheri Hoffman, Pa., 690. 4, Stacey Harlow, Kan., 671. 5, Marcianne Miller, Mich., 650. 6, Yvonne Macaulay, Ontario, 558.

60-64

1, Julene Christensen, Utah, 708. 2, Delois Williams, Kan., 702. 3, Wendy Kelley, Mont., 679. 4, Linda Murphy, S.D., 662. 5, Cindy Schell, Neb., 627. 6, Ann Splettstaszer, N.D., 606.

65-69

1, Phyllis White, Ohio, 745. 2, Evelyn Testerman, Md., 730. 3, Terry Christensen, Neb., 663. 4, Teresa Anderson, Miss., 638. 5, Pamela Facemyer, W.Va., 618. 6, Harriet Parot, Vt., 273.

70-74

1, Luz Corado-Thurman, Ariz., 694. 2, Carol Griswold, Mass., 681. 3, Gerri Charron, Ontario, 677. 4, Rina Garcia, Alberta, 655. 5, Gabby Burriss, Tenn., 632. 6, Juliana Hill, S.D., 616.

75 and older

1, Myrt Stache, Ill., 725. 2, Pauline McEntee, S.D., 705. 3, Beverly Warrington, Idaho, 673. 4, Diane Boudreau, N.C., 672. 5, Gloria McGonigal, Wyo., 656. 6, Peggy Dunn, Ore., 595.

Mixed

50-54

1, Jesse Smyle, N.D., 787. 2, Collin Young, Ohio, 770. 3, Jeff Rice, Ind., 757. 4, Allan Pomatto, S.C., 723. 5, Johnny Nguyen, Calif., 674. 6, Mike Lewis, Del., 572.

55-59

1, George Stermer, Utah, 715. 2, Jon Bunger, Kan., 711. 3, John Leong, Hawaii, 701. 4, Christopher Soltis, Ontario, 641. 5, Keith Bowman, N.M., 636. 6, John Jacobs, Ariz., 614.

60-64

1, Jay Jimenez, Neb., 768. 2, Miles Nerona, British Columbia, 689. 3, Gary Moore, Ind., 672. 4, Arnold Huska, Manitoba, 663. 5, Bernie Groshong, Mont., 627. 6, James Tramble, La., 605.

65-69

1, Eugene McNeely, Alberta, 710. 2, Lorenz Wall, Ohio, 700. 3, Ellen Beckwith, N.Y., 685. 4, Charles Hyles, Texas, 684. 5, Ty Coffield, Del., 656. 6, David Greener, Ind., 645.

70-74

1, Denis Casey, Idaho, 679. 2, Dennis Barrett, Ky., 638. 3, Stephen Martin, Ill., 633. 4, Bill Rhea, Tenn., 618. 5, Orest Kryschuk, Manitoba, 562. 6, Allen Christensen, Neb., 538.

75 and older

1, Phil Pledger, Ala., 764. 2, Joe Littlecharley, Okla., 728. 3, Daniel Leavell, Miss., 630. 4, Richard Willms, Wis., 624. 5, Donald Warfield, Md., 608. 6, Franklin Logan, Ill., 569.

LANETALK ELEVATED TO USBC GOLD INDUSTRY PARTNER STATUS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress and Lanetalk have entered into an agreement making Lanetalk a Gold Industry Partner at the USBC Masters, Senior Masters, Queens and Senior Queens as well as providing Lanetalk with a presence at all Professional Women’s Bowling Association Tour events, USBC Collegiate events and the Junior Gold Championships.

“USBC is very excited to have the opportunity to work together with Lanetalk to provide best-in-class statistical services for the sport of bowling,” USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. “We are confident that Lanetalk’s involvement in these USBC tournaments and PWBA Tour events will significantly enhance the viewing experience for bowling fans all around the world.”

As part of the agreement, Lanetalk will be integrated into PWBA.com, BowITV and broadcast television productions.

This will allow for the collection and maintenance of more robust full-season statistics on the PWBA Tour as well as the ability to provide bowlers and fans with enhanced real-time scoring and stat tracking at individual tournaments, professional and amateur alike.

Additionally, USBC and Lanetalk will work together on promotions to help gain more users for Lanetalk software, bowling center activation and the consumer application.

Lanetalk brings bowling into the digital age in the same way that golf and running apps have. In addition to the popular live scoring feature from more than 1,000 US centers, Lanetalk users get in-depth performance data and comprehensive stats that they can analyze and compare with competitors and professionals, as well as get access to several unique USBC member benefits.

“Lanetalk is thrilled to become a USBC Gold Industry Partner, which will allow us to bring our exciting products and services to more bowlers and bowling fans than ever before,” said Lanetalk CEO Roberth Risberg. “This partnership is good for bowling, so we are grateful to have gotten it finalized and anxious to get started.”

Go to Lanetalk.com to learn more about the products and services available to bowlers and bowling centers.

TEAM USA ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR 2023 IBF WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Team USA program has opened the application portal for competitors to submit resumes to represent the United States at the 2023 International Bowling Federation World Senior Championships in Cali, Colombia.

The 2023 event will be taking place Dec. 5-15 at Bolera Departamental, and Team USA’s squad will feature four men and four women looking to claim gold in team, doubles and singles competition, along with all-events for an athlete’s overall performance at the tournament.

In order to be eligible to submit a resume, athletes must be born in or before 1973. Team members will be selected by the National Selection Committee from the submitted applications, which will be accepted through Sept. 17.

Those selected will receive a paid entry into the events, airfare, lodging and official uniforms.

The IBF World Senior Championships takes place every two years, and Team USA has taken home 27 gold medals in men’s and women’s competition since the tournament debuted in 2013.

At the 2021 event in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Tom Hess collected gold in men’s singles, and the teams combined for five bronze medals.

Use the following link to apply: [Senior Team USA application](#)

For more information on Team USA, visit BOWL.com/TeamUSA.

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MULTI-NATION WORKING GROUP SUBMITS PROPOSED CHANGES TO INTERNATIONAL BOWLING FEDERATION ARTICLES

ARLINGTON, Texas – An international working group representing seven countries is proposing a package of amendments to the International Bowling Federation's Articles of Association. A vote on the amendments is expected to occur at the IBF General Meeting on Oct. 6, 2023, in Kuwait.

The working group proposals are supported by several countries, including Canada, Costa Rica, England, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and the United States. The working group encourages federations to support these proposals to bring change to IBF. The nations of the working group issued this joint statement:

"Bowling needs a fundamental change at IBF. These proposals will bring change.

Bowling needs change at IBF so our World Championships will have a true competition committee focused on creating a schedule and format allowing more federations to compete.

Bowling needs change at IBF to compel the organization to share financial reports. Federations have not seen financial reports since 2019.

Bowling needs change at IBF to add athlete representation to the board and voices from all zones consistent with Olympic principles.

It is time the bowling world comes together and votes to change the IBF articles and give our sport a brighter future.”

Key points of the package of proposed amendments include:

- IBF Executive Board members appointed through zones.
- Increased athlete representation on the IBF Executive Board.
- IBF Executive Board elects the IBF President.
- Term limits for IBF Executive Board members and officers.
- Zone Presidents prohibited from being IBF President or Vice President.
- IBF Executive Board required to meet regularly.
- IBF required to publish financial statements.
- Automatic removal of IBF Executive Board members for failure to attend meetings or publish financial statements.
- Proxy voting at the General Meeting eliminated. Virtual voting will be allowed.
- Creation of Standing Committees, including Finance/Audit, Competitions, Athletes and Governance Committees with members appointed by zones.
- Competition Committee with authority to adopt tournament rules, formats and operating standards.

The United States Bowling Congress provided administrative support for the working group, which was facilitated by attorney Scott Beightol of the law firm Michael Best & Friedrich LLP. Beightol is a leading expert in governance best practices, with extensive international business experience.

The working group invited all federations to attend live presentations about the proposals earlier this year. The full text of the proposed amendments along with a recording of the presentation are available at BOWL.com/IBF.

TNBA YOUTH MEMBERS FIND BENEFITS IN WEEKEND SPENT AT ITRC

ARLINGTON, Texas – The National Bowling Association Youth Weekend returned to the International Training and Research Center, providing six student-athletes with the unique opportunity to train at the world-class facility. The event, created through a partnership between the United States Bowling Congress and TNBA more than a decade ago, took place this year from Aug. 4-6.

Over the course of the three-day program, players received on-lane training and participated in drills and classroom sessions with the ITRC staff. Participants also had the opportunity to hear from guest speakers and tour the ITRC and the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame.

TNBA and USBC have worked together on a concept called the TNBA/Team USA Youth Bowling Program, and this year marked the 12th time the TNBA Youth Weekend event has taken place since its inception in 2010. The event ran consecutively for 10 years before being paused due to the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, then started back up last year.

Applications were sent to TNBA youth members between the ages of 15-18. As part of the application process, players were asked to submit a video, showing their bowling style from different angles, along with a resume of their accomplishments. This year's six participants were selected from that pool of TNBA youth program applicants and included three girls and three boys:

Ashley Adams, Temple, Ga.

Payton Hartgrove, Columbus, Ohio

Gabriella Powell, Austell, Ga.

Matthew Duty, Moseley, Va.

Emory Stone, Southfield, Mich.

Jonathan Wright, Crosby, Texas

"I really like the hands-on days where the coaches worked with you on improving your form, your mental game, just everything about your game," said Duty. "And this has been helpful for life as well, not just bowling. They work with your mental game and teach you to keep pushing if something gets you down. Keep focusing. Keep trying to get where you're trying to go."

During the weekend, an emphasis was placed on individual instruction to develop both the physical and mental game. The instruction included the use of the ITRC's advanced video analysis systems, analysis using Specto technology and additional statistical analysis. There were sessions covering the bowler's release and an assessment of each player's spare shooting.

"This is an experience like no other," Wright said. "They teach you so many things about bowling that you normally would never think about. There is a whole overall science to bowling, and they bring it all together here."

"This was an amazing opportunity," added Adams. "It will teach you things that you would never learn as an amateur bowler anywhere else."

Hartgrove wants to bowl collegiately, so she felt the knowledge gained over the weekend was especially beneficial.

"This means a lot to me," Hartgrove said. "I'm getting ready to go to college, and I want to learn as much as I can and feel as prepared as possible, so getting to spend time at this facility is amazing."

Wright has aspirations of coaching in his future, so he had a first-hand look at how some of the best coaches in the world impart bowling knowledge.

"I absolutely love bowling, and I love learning about bowling as well," Wright said. "Later on in life, I plan on being a coach, and I want to make sure that I know what I'm doing so that I can help others find their way in the sport. We're working with some really good coaches who are truly hands on. They really know what they're doing and watch you both with their eyes and on video and can see what you're doing and what you need to change. I believe that is going to help me become a better bowler and help me help others become better bowlers, too."

In addition to on-lane instruction, the participants took part in classroom sessions on topics that included the physical game, bowling ball dynamics, ball motion dynamics and understanding the science of lane conditions and lane play.

"I think it provides an experience where you can learn and train and learn all the metrics behind what you do," Duty said. "It's not just about throwing a ball down a lane; it's about where you throw it, how you throw it, everything. You get to learn all of that with this program. It's very cool, and it's very useful."

The classroom and on-lane instruction was complemented by tours of the facility, including the aforementioned International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame.

"I thought it was really nice and very educational," said Adams of the IBMHOF. "I didn't really know about the history of bowling, so I thought that was really cool to learn that."

"I like how hands-on the museum was and also the history of it," Duty said. "We got to learn what the pin boys did. We got to see the bowling car, and that was super cool. The museum was just really nice, and I enjoyed it."

Visiting the IBMHOF wasn't the only tour provided to the participants. The participants also enjoyed the tour of the USBC's Equipment Specifications Department, which included a demonstration by E.A.R.L. (Enhanced Automated Robotic Launcher), USBC's ball-throwing robot.

"EARL is a super-cool guy," Hartgrove said with a laugh. "Learning the reasons for EARL and seeing all the different variables he can execute was really cool and interesting to watch."

“Earl was awesome,” Wright added. “I was joking around with my parents and saying how I wanted one and how I would try to buy Earl if I could. I had seen him on YouTube a lot, and I knew I wanted to see him person one day, so that was cool.”

The participants were accompanied by TNBA Vice President John Collins Sr., TNBA National Program Director Veronica Green and Robert Prymus Jr., who is a USBC Silver-level coach.

“This program represents an opportunity for our TNBA youth bowlers to be trained by some of the best coaches in the world, coaches who coach Team USA and Junior Team USA,” Green said. “It gives them an opportunity to know that there are no limits to what they can do. It’s just a good thing for everyone.

“When you coach these youths and you see they realize that what you’re telling them is something they can achieve, it’s just a good feeling. It’s great to be around youth bowlers who have the passion for bowling and the passion to know that the sky is the limit for them. The opportunities out there are great, and they should be able to feel that they can achieve what they want through bowling.”

For a video recap of the weekend, click [here](#).

For more information on The National Bowling Association, visit [TNBAInc.org](https://www.tnba.org).

For more information on the International Training and Research Center, visit [bowlingitrc.com](https://www.bowlingitrc.com).

SMART PROGRAM TO ALLOCATE ADDITIONAL \$1 MILLION FOR PELL GRANT MATCH

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins (SMART) program is making an additional investment earnings allocation of up to \$1 million in 2023 to provide scholarship opportunities for young bowlers in support of the SMART Pell Grant Match.

In February, SMART announced \$1.2 million in funding for the SMART Pell Grant Match in 2023 as part of an overall allocation of \$7 million for the year, and the interest in the program has exhausted the initial amount.

The SMART Oversight Committee approved additional funding of up to \$1 million so qualified applicants can still take advantage of the program through the remainder of 2023.

In 2022, SMART also started with \$1.2 million in funding for the program before making

an additional allocation of \$750,000, allowing the program to provide nearly \$2 million in grants.

“We are thrilled to once again be able to add additional funding to the SMART Pell Grant Match,” said Frank Wilkinson, chair of the USBC SMART Committee. “This program has been a great resource for young bowlers across the country, and we’re excited to see the interest continue to grow.”

The federal Pell Grant is a national program that helps students and families with the greatest financial need pay for college. The SMART Pell Grant Match maximizes the power of this federal program for bowlers by matching it dollar for dollar. The SMART Pell Grant Match is available to any student with at least one season of USBC Youth participation and two seasons overall of USBC membership.

Students can request the SMART Pell Grant Match and review an FAQ for the program by visiting [BOWL.com/SMART](https://www.bowl.com/SMART). Applications will be accepted through the end of the year or until funding is exhausted.

The overall allocation of \$7 million in 2023 also included \$3.7 million in bonus scholarships for active SMART Recipients (used funds in 2022). Each eligible student-athlete already has received a \$715 SMART scholarship for 2023, and Recipients are encouraged to check their accounts to make sure they access the bonus scholarship.

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

DATES ADDED TO 2024 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN LAS VEGAS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The demand continues to grow for the 2024 United States Bowling Congress Open Championships in Las Vegas, and the event now will feature 154 days of competition at the South Point Bowling Plaza with an extension to the beginning and end of the tournament.

The 2024 event now will run from Feb. 23-July 29, with a break in the action scheduled from Feb. 27-March 1 to welcome the Special Olympics National Unified Tournament to the 60-lane venue.

The new dates will become available in the tournament’s online registration system starting Friday, Sept. 29 at 10 a.m. Eastern.

The 2024 USBC Open Championships originally was scheduled to run from March 2-July 15, and the tournament initially was extended to July 22.

With the new dates, the 120th edition of the event now can accommodate more than 11,500 teams. The tournament’s capacity was at 92% prior to this extension.

The tournament’s opening ceremony still will take place March 2, giving teams that originally registered for the first squad the chance to take part in the celebration.

Team competition will be scheduled daily at 2 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., while doubles and singles squads at the 2024 Open Championships will take place at 7 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The dates for the 2024 Bowlers Journal Championships and team practice sessions at the South Point Bowling Center also have been extended and will run from Feb. 22-July 28. More information on the daily squad schedule for both will be announced at a later date.

EIGHT ATHLETES SELECTED TO REPRESENT SENIOR TEAM USA AT 2023 WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS IN COLOMBIA

ARLINGTON, Texas – From a long list of talented applicants, the National Selection Committee has chosen eight bowlers to represent Senior Team USA at the International Bowling Federation 2023 World Senior Championships in Cali, Colombia.

Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida; and Troy Lint of Blandon, Pennsylvania, will comprise the men's team while the women's squad will be represented by Dana Ausec and Tish Johnson, both of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado; and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio.

The group will be coached by Team USA Coach Kelly Kulick, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer who also serves as the head coach of Junior Team USA. She will be assisted by Kendra Cameron-Curry, USBC Program Director-High Performance.

The 2023 World Senior Championships will run from Dec. 7-14 and be contested at a 20-lane bowling center in Cali's sports complex, which is the same venue that hosted the 2021 Pan American Youth Games and 2013 World Games.

The official practice sessions are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 7, with tournament play set to begin one day later when women's competitors take to the lanes for singles qualifying.

Men's singles qualifying will follow on Dec. 9 before the page turns to doubles competition, which will be held on Dec. 10-11 starting with women's qualifying and concluding with the men.

Singles and doubles competition will end and medals will be awarded after the semifinals and finals are conducted in each event on Dec. 12.

Thereafter, the focus will be on team competition, which begins with men's and women's qualifying on Dec. 13 and wraps up with the semifinals and finals on Dec. 14.

Historically, the Americans have fared quite well at the World Senior Championships; however, the 2021 trip to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, fell a bit short of expectations as Team USA came home with just one gold medal and five bronze.

The gold was secured by Hess, who made the most of his first opportunity donning the red, white and blue by winning the men's singles event.

Although Hess was thrilled to win an individual gold medal during his first international competition, he was disappointed that the men's team was unable to reach the podium in Dubai.

He's hoping that he and Barnes, who also competed in 2021, will have the opportunity to erase the bad taste from two years ago and get back on top with the help of Senior Team USA rookies Janawicz and Lint.

"Dubai was bittersweet," Hess said. "It was an honor to be selected to compete for my country for the first time and to start the event by winning the singles gold medal, but not coming away with a medal in team stunk; there's no other way to put it.

"I'm looking forward to getting on the lanes with my teammates and trying to bring home that team gold. The fire to win is definitely there, and when you're basically taking the four best bowlers from this year's senior tour, you should have a pretty good chance."

Hess' assessment appears to be right on as the four men combined to tally seven titles, \$216,000 in earnings and a 226.58 average during the 2023 Professional Bowlers Association 50 season. Those numbers allowed the quartet to sweep the top four spots on the season points list and secure both Player of the Year (Lint) and Rookie of the Year (Janawicz) honors.

Janawicz, who will be representing Senior Team USA for the first time after bowling for Team USA in the past, is hoping to continue riding the considerable momentum that has carried him to so many great performances this year.

It started in January with a runner-up finish at the 2023 U.S. Amateur in Las Vegas, continued with a double gold-medal performance (trios and team) at the PANAM Bowling Male Championships in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in May and carried right on through the entirety of his rookie season on the PBA50 Tour.

Nevertheless, Janawicz knows that anything can happen at a given tournament, so he won't be taking anything for granted in Cali.

"I've been throwing it pretty well as of late, so I expect to bowl well. Still, like anything, it's another tournament, and some don't go as well as you'd like," Janawicz said. "I'm just going to keep an open mind and prepare as best I can as we get closer to the event. If nothing else, it will be special to bowl worlds on the senior side because I

bowled a regular one back in 2013. This will kind of be like an anniversary 10 years later.”

Anniversaries are a great time to stop and reflect upon special moments from the past.

However, Lint doesn't have any prior international experience to reflect upon as the 2023 World Senior Championships will be his first competition for Team USA at any level. That doesn't bother Lint though; he prefers to look forward, not backward.

“I'm not one of those guys who takes a picture and looks around; I just stay focused on everything I'm doing and try to live in the moment,” Lint said. “I just want to be out there competing, and when I'm done, I hope that people respect what I've done as a player and teammate; that's all I can ask for.”

Authoring a strong performance the first time out is no easy task in international competition as, oftentimes, success or failure depends on whether or not a player can get into his or her comfort zone.

Ausec should have a leg up in that regard as she will have the opportunity to draw upon the support and experience of Team USA veterans and fellow Coloradoans Johnson and Powers while competing in Colombia.

“For a first-time experience, getting to bowl with Tish (Johnson) and Sharon (Powers) is a best-case scenario for me because it's kind of like being at a home tournament,” Ausec said. “As rookies, I think Jodi (Woessner) and I will just be trying to soak it all in and learn from them while trying to bring our own talents to the table.”

That talent is without question as Ausec and Woessner are the two most recent USBC Senior Queens champions with Ausec winning the event in 2023 after Woessner took home the tiara the year before.

Despite amassing a long list of impressive finishes in amateur and Professional Women's Bowling Association tournaments over the years, a full-time job kept Woessner from competing for Team USA in the past.

That's why when multiple friends and bowling acquaintances suggested she submit her application to be a part of the senior team this year, she jumped at the chance. Suffice it to say, she's happy with her decision.

“Obviously, I'm very glad that I applied,” Woessner said. “I knew that I had some nice accomplishments the last couple of years that would give me a good chance, but there are so many great bowlers out there that I didn't want to get my hopes up until I got the call. When I did, it was pretty emotional.”

Powers was emotional when her call came as well, but not because the trip to Colombia would be her first outing for Team USA. It was because, at 66 years old, she knows it could be her last.

“This may sound bad, but this might be my last time; I don’t know,” Powers said. “There’s a lot of good young 50-year-olds coming up, so I was just excited that they chose me.”

Powers certainly earned that selection as she has proudly represented Team USA three times before, most recently during the 2021 trip to Dubai where she earned a pair of bronze medals (doubles with Johnson and mixed team with Tracy Calfee, Bob Learn Jr. and Parker Bohn III).

While Powers was grateful to have brought home bronze the last time, she’s confident that this year’s crew has what it takes to aim even higher.

“We have such a good group of women that I think we should be able to compete for first in team and first and second in doubles,” Powers said. “With the talent we have, we should be able to win some gold medals for sure.”

Johnson has far and away the most Team USA experience of any of the ladies traveling to Colombia, and during the course of her many tournaments, she’s developed quite an affinity for gold medals.

As such, she isn’t just looking for the Americans to bring home “some gold medals;” she wants them all.

“We want to bring home all the gold that we possibly can,” Johnson said. “The more medals we bring back, the better it is for us and for Team USA. That’s our game plan.”

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

2025 USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD IN LAS VEGAS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Women's Championships will return to the South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas for the 2025 event through an agreement between USBC and the South Point Hotel and Casino.

The tournament originally was scheduled to be held in Reno, Nevada, in 2025, but the opportunity to host the 105th edition of the event reopened after Reno agreed to host the 2024 USBC Women's Championships at the National Bowling Stadium.

The event previously was held in the 60-lane tournament venue in 2016 and 2023. The 2023 Women's Championships ran from April 23-July 2.

"We're glad to once again work with our partners at the South Point Hotel and Casino to bring the USBC Women's Championships back to Las Vegas in 2025," USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. "We recently concluded a successful tournament at this great venue, and we look forward to bringing another incredible experience to our bowlers alongside the team at South Point."

The South Point Bowling Plaza opened its doors to USBC's long-duration events at the 2016 Women's Championships, and the venue will host the USBC Open Championships for the fifth time in 2024.

"This past Women's Championships was very successful here at the South Point, so we could not be more excited to have them back in 2025," South Point Hotel and Casino General Manager Ryan Growney said. "The USBC is an absolute pleasure to work with and everyone here at the South Point loves having the USBC bowlers on our property. We look forward to this event as much as any on our calendar. We appreciate the USBC having the confidence in us to host this prestigious event once again."

The upcoming schedule for the Women's Championships also will feature an opening for a new location for the 2027 event. USBC is evaluating proposals for alternate locations with a preference to hold the event in the eastern United States.

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

USBC SMART PROGRAM ANNOUNCES POLICY ADJUSTMENTS FOR 2024

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins (SMART) program has approved policy adjustments for 2024 to give SMART Providers more time to use SMART deposited unassigned funds and allow for additional funding to the SMART Pell Grant Match program.

The first expiration date for SMART deposited unassigned funds has been moved back to July 31, 2024. The previously announced date was Feb. 14. This adjustment comes following feedback from Providers requesting the expiration date align with the end of the bowling season. SMART plans to continue with the July 31 expiration date moving forward, which now gives Providers over 2 1/2 years to use newly SMART deposited unassigned funds.

Effective in 2024, SMART will adjust the annual Recipient allocation, shifting more funds to the Pell Grant Match program. Moving forward, the annual Recipient allocation will be split evenly between the Active Recipient Bonus and Pell Grant Match programs. This change comes as interest in the Pell Grant Match program is growing with higher usage rates compared to the Active Recipient Bonus.

The third policy change announced for 2024 is a requirement for all Providers to be current and approved with USBC's Registered Volunteer Program (RVP). Effective Jan. 1, 2024, all new Providers must be registered volunteers, and starting Aug. 1, 2024, all current Providers must be compliant in order to continue using the program.

"We are working to keep improving SMART by helping more youth bowlers while still meeting the expectations of Providers," SMART Oversight Committee Chair Frank Wilkinson said. "We heard feedback from SMART Providers and Recipients that these adjustments will be a long-term improvement for SMART, and we are pleased to announce the changes."

Since taking over supervision of SMART program policies in 2021, USBC has given nearly \$16 million in earnings allocations to SMART Providers and Recipients. USBC previously announced an intention to maintain at least a \$7 million allocation annually for SMART, so Providers should aggressively use their unassigned funds knowing there will be consistent new funding in the coming year.

USBC EXTENDS LANE MAINTENANCE PARTNERSHIP WITH KEGEL

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress has extended its long-standing agreement with Kegel as the official lane maintenance provider for USBC Championship Tournaments and a USBC Gold Product Partner.

Kegel has provided lane maintenance equipment and supplies for USBC events since 2006, while also serving roles in technical and on-site support for short- and long-duration tournaments.

Kegel also supports lane maintenance for the Professional Women's Bowling Association, which is supported by the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America and

USBC.

"We're excited to continue our partnership with USBC and work with their team to ensure quality through our lane maintenance products and procedures for some of the biggest events in the world," Kegel CEO Chris Chartrand said. "Kegel shares USBC's commitment to providing a first-class environment for competitive bowling, and we're proud of our partnership as the official lane maintenance provider for these great competitions."

At events like the USBC Open and Women's Championships, Kegel provides the USBC staff with the latest lane machines, oils and cleaners to conduct the tournaments, as well as training and support throughout the duration of the events.

For many of USBC's short-duration events and on each national stop during the PWBA Tour season, Kegel provides equipment while collaborating with USBC staff to manage on-site oiling of the lanes for competition.

Nick Hoagland, who has led oil pattern development for USBC Championship Tournaments since 2016, and the USBC staff also work alongside the team at Kegel in preparation and execution of each tournament's lane maintenance plan and schedule.

"USBC and Kegel have a common goal to provide tournament bowlers with a quality experience, and we are thrilled to continue this partnership with their team," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "We appreciate Kegel's continued support of USBC Championship Tournaments and the company's commitment in providing excellence for our USBC tournament bowlers."

TEAM USA BOWLERS LOOK TO CONTINUE PAN AMERICAN GAMES DOMINANCE AT 2023 EVENT IN SANTIAGO, CHILE

ARLINGTON, Texas – Since bowling was added to the Pan American Games in 1991, Team USA has won 23 of a possible 36 gold medals and claimed 39 medals overall, which is nearly 25 more than any other country.

The quartet of Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas; Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina; A.J. Johnson of Oswego, Illinois; and Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, will be looking to add to those impressive totals when they head to Santiago, Chile, to represent the United States at the 2023 Pan American Games, which began on Oct. 20 and will run through Nov. 5.

The 2023 event is expected to bring together approximately 7,000 athletes from 41 countries and feature 39 sports.

The bowling competition will be held Nov. 2-5 at the Plaza Vespucio Centro de Bowling. In addition to the United States, the following countries will be represented on the lanes: Aruba, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico and Venezuela.

This year's Team USA representatives for the event held every four years earned their spots at the Pan American Games by outdistancing their teammates in a two-part, point-based qualifying process that spanned more than five months.

In addition to being respected players and titlists on the Professional Women's Bowling Association and Professional Bowlers Association Tours, Clemmer, Johnson and Richard have all medaled for Team USA in the past.

Bonta, on the other hand, will be making his adult national team debut; however, he proved himself more than capable of thriving in international competition when he brought home three gold medals and two silver while competing for Junior Team USA at the PANAM Bowling Youth Championship 2023 in Lima, Peru, in August.

While Bonta will certainly be looking to author an equally impressive performance on the lanes in Santiago, he wants his Pan American Games experience to be defined by more than just medals.

"The hope and goal is always to win a gold medal. Going back to this summer with Junior Team USA, stepping on the podium and hearing the national anthem play was one of the coolest and most-surreal moments I've ever had in my bowling career, so I'd love to get to do that again," Bonta said. "However, I also want to just enjoy the experience of the Pan Am Games because you never know if you'll ever be back at this event, which is pretty much bowling's Olympics."

Johnson is also grateful for the chance to represent the red, white and blue at such a prestigious event, both because of the competition's significance on the world stage and because it was not an opportunity he originally expected to have.

Despite bowling very well, Johnson found himself in third place and on the outside looking in when Team USA's Pan American Games qualifying race came to an end.

That all changed, however, when second-place finisher Jakob Butturff of Tempe, Arizona, gave his spot up due to injury, which allowed his berth to fall to the next-highest finisher, Johnson.

Although he would have preferred to see Butturff get to compete using the spot that he'd earned, Johnson was grateful for his teammate's selfless act and the opportunity it will afford him.

"A lot of athletes would have gone anyway even if they knew they weren't going to be at their best just because they wanted to go so badly," Johnson said. "Jakob (Butturff)

decided to step down because he wasn't just thinking about himself; he was thinking about the team, and that's big.

"This is a unique and special event, one that I've never gotten the chance to travel for with Team USA but have always wanted to. I just want to go out there and bowl the best that I can while also being that veteran leader and helping Brandon (Bonta) stay calm and get comfortable. I know that sounds strange coming from me because I like to get pretty amped up, especially when wearing the red, white and blue, but I've learned to dial that back, and that's what I want to do to help him be successful during his first trip."

Clemmer and Richard won't have to worry about overcoming any rookie jitters in Santiago as not only have both competed for Team USA in the past, but they've also bowled together.

The duo teamed up with Danielle McEwan of Stony Point, New York, to capture the trios gold medal at the 2022 PANAM Bowling Women's Championships in Lima, Peru. The Americans also brought home team gold from that event.

Clemmer is pleased that her hard work and dedication have afforded her the chance to compete for gold again on bowling's biggest international stage, and she's looking forward to doing so alongside a friend and fellow elite competitor in Richard, who could easily be considered the world's No. 1 women's bowler at this time.

"Jordan (Richard) has had an incredible year on tour, so I'm so excited to be able to do this with her," Clemmer said. "We've known each other for a very long time, so to be able to do this with a close friend is really special. I say it all the time, but opportunities like this show that the hard work pays off."

Richard certainly knows what it's like to see hard work pay off. After winning two PWBA Tour titles through her first four years on tour, she exploded for three wins during the 2023 season alone, propelling her to the 2023 PWBA Player of the Year Award and solidifying her status as one of the world's top bowlers.

Richard was obviously pleased with this past season's PWBA Tour triumphs, but, for her, there's nothing quite like winning for Team USA, which is why she is focused on helping the American squad secure as many medals as possible at this year's Pan American Games.

"It's hard to put into words what Team USA has meant to me and the experiences I've gotten to have over the years," Richard said. "Having the year that I had on tour was great, but it's so much different when you're competing for your country. To win those medals under your country's name just means so much more."

Bowling competition at this year's Pan American Games starts Nov. 2 with the doubles event and will conclude with the singles medal round Nov. 5.

Doubles competition will feature an eight-game block with medalists being determined by each duo's total pinfall.

Singles will include 16 games of qualifying over two days before the field is cut to the top four bowlers in each division.

Those semifinalists will square off in a match-play format that will see the No. 1 seed battle the No. 4 seed and the No. 2 seed take on No. 3. The first bowler to win two games – of a possible three – in each match will advance to the finals to bowl one game for the gold medal while those who fall during semifinal competition will earn bronze.

The initial part of Team USA's qualifying process for the Pan American Games was the 2023 Team USA Trials, a five-day, 30-game tournament contested on five different oil patterns, which was held at Gold Coast Bowling Center in Las Vegas from Jan. 2-7.

Men's qualifying concluded with the United States Bowling Congress Masters at Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park, Michigan, in early April, and the women's qualifying wrapped up with the conclusion of the 2023 USBC Queens at Sam's Town Bowling Center in Las Vegas in May.

BOWLERO CORP. AND USBC ANNOUNCE MULTI-YEAR PARTNERSHIP AND MEDIA RIGHTS AGREEMENT

ARLINGTON, Texas – Bowlero Corp. and the United States Bowling Congress have announced a multi-year media rights and partnership agreement.

Under the agreement, the U.S. Open and USBC Masters will continue as major championships on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour with finals broadcast as part of the PBA Tour on FOX package. The agreement keeps USBC's livestreaming platform, BowlTV, as the exclusive livestreaming home for the PBA National Tour, as well as PBA50, PBA Jr. and the PBA Regional Tour.

"We are thrilled about this partnership bringing the best players in the world to compete on BowlTV over the next two years and joining the fantastic broadcast package that the PBA and FOX Sports deliver to the sports world," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "I want to offer a personal thank you to all the people involved at Bowlero and the PBA in making this happen."

As part of the agreement, BowlTV will become the title sponsor of the PBA Regional Players Invitational, while Bowlers Journal International magazine subscriptions will continue to be an included benefit for PBA members.

"We are excited to continue this partnership for the next two years," said Lev Ekster, the Chief Strategy Officer at Bowlero Corp. and PBA. "Together, we aim to continue elevating professional bowling coverage for our amazing fans."

The U.S. Open will be contested at Royal Pin Woodland in Indianapolis from Jan. 27-

Feb. 4, 2024, while the USBC Masters will be held at Suncoast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas from March 24-31, 2024.

BowlTV's season coverage will feature all PBA Tour qualifying rounds and championship rounds for select PBA tournaments. The coverage also will include qualifying of the Roth/Holman PBA Doubles Championship and all PBA50 Tour events. A full schedule will be announced later this year.

PBA coverage on BowlTV includes multiple channels at each event, so fans can follow their favorite competitors. The broadcasts feature professional commentary, interviews and analysis featuring top bowling experts. BowlTV also is home to the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour and USBC's short-duration tournaments.

BOWLING CONTINUES PRESENCE AT MACY'S THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE

ARLINGTON, Texas — Bowling is back in the 97th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City, and GoBowling.com is launching several promotional campaigns in conjunction with the iconic event.

GoBowling.com is the one-stop site where people of all ages can find bowling fun. The consumer-facing brand of the International Bowling Campus (IBC) — where the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA), United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and Strike Ten Entertainment (STE) are headquartered — has been an official partner of the iconic holiday celebration since 2018.

The centerpiece of the parade partnership will continue to be the impossible-to-miss GoBowling "balloonicles," which include 16-foot-tall bowling pins, a pair of motorized size 15½ bowling shoes, and a bowling ball measuring 12 feet in diameter. This year the legendary Mike Aulby will be making his way to New York City this November to ride in the Go Bowling bowling shoes for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Aulby is a 29-time champion on the PBA Tour, which includes eight major wins, and he's the only person to be inducted in three bowling halls of fame, the PBA, USBC and BPAA Halls of Fame for his performance and service to the sport. The talented left-hander was the first player in PBA history to win all five major championships, known as the Super Slam (U.S. Open, USBC Masters, PBA Tournament of Champions, PBA World Championship and PBA Players Championship).

"The global exposure of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade provides bowling with an invaluable marketing platform that drives top-of-mind awareness and reminds people during the holiday season that bowling is a fun, family-friendly activity to enjoy wherever they live," said John Harbuck, President of STE "Beyond the visibility in New York and nationally on the broadcast, the partnership also offers bowling a platform to activate at the grassroots level by driving traffic into our member centers and engage our fans and customers on social media."

“As the marketing arm of the IBC and owners and operators of GoBowling.com, we are excited to support the parade partnership with a comprehensive digital marketing asset package for activation at more than 3,400-member bowling centers,” added Harbuck.

Every bowling center can receive the official 97th Annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade poster to display and promote the annual Macy’s Shopping Spree Sweepstakes that awards one lucky bowler with a \$1,000 holiday shopping spree at Macy’s. GoBowling will also run contests throughout November across its social-media platforms, awarding followers limited-edition Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade bowling balls and pins.

The 97th Annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade will air nationwide on NBC-TV on Thursday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in all time zones.

To join in GoBowling’s Thanksgiving fun, visit [GoBowling.com](https://www.gobowling.com) and follow on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/gobowling), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/gobowling), and [X](https://twitter.com/gobowling) (formerly Twitter) and [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/@gobowling) to follow and participate in the excitement, check out @macys on various social platforms and follow #MacysParade. For more information, visit [macys.com/parade](https://www.macys.com/parade).

TEAM USA’S CLEMMER, JOHNSON ADVANCE TO SINGLES MEDAL ROUND AT 2023 PAN AMERICAN GAMES

SANTIAGO, Chile – Team USA bowlers Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, and A.J. Johnson of Oswego, Illinois, are both guaranteed no worse than a bronze-medal finish in singles at the 2023 Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile.

That’s because each bowled well enough to finish in the top four in their respective divisions at the conclusion of Saturday’s final eight-game block of singles qualifying at Plaza Vespucio Centro de Bowling.

Clemmer punched her ticket to the semifinals in highly dramatic fashion, shooting a final-game 267 to erase a 46-pin deficit and move past Aruba’s Kamilah Dammers for the fourth and final spot in the women’s medal round with a 16-game qualifying total of 3,278 (a 204.88 average).

There, will she face No. 1 seed Clara Guerrero of Colombia in a three-game, total-pinfall match that is scheduled to start Sunday morning at 9 a.m. Eastern. Guerrero earned the top seed by leading all women’s qualifiers with a mark of 3,484 (a 217.75 average).

The other women’s semifinal will be contested at the same time and will pit No. 2 seed Sandra Gongora of Mexico against No. 3 Juliana Franco of Colombia.

Gongora and Franco finished qualifying with scores of 3,334 and 3,295, respectively.

Johnson earned the No. 3 seed on the men's side after finishing qualifying with a two-day, 16-game total of 3,511 (a 219.44 average).

His opponent in the semifinals will be Marco Moretti of Costa Rica, who qualified second with a score of 3,545.

Top seed Mitch Hupe of Canada, who dominated the men's field throughout much of qualifying and finished with a 16-game mark of 3,650 (a 228.13 average), will take on No. 4 seed Cristian Azcona of Puerto Rico in the other semifinal.

Azcona had the round of the day on Saturday, recording an eight-game total of 1,860 (a 232.5 average) thanks to scores of 213, 209, 218, 233, 279, 247, 245 and 216.

The two men's semifinal matches will be contested at the same time and using the same format as the women's semifinals.

The two semifinal winners in each division, men's and women's, will move on to a final three-game, total-pinfall match for the gold medal while the bowlers who fall in the semis will be awarded bronze medals.

The gold-medal matches are scheduled to start at 10 a.m. Eastern with medal ceremonies to follow.

Clemmer would certainly like to take part in those ceremonies, but, for her, Sunday's focus will be more on the process than on results.

"My execution hasn't been the best, so I want to focus on visualizing my shot and what I want to see on the lane," Clemmer said. "At the end of the day, that's all I can control."

At the midway point of Saturday's final qualifying round, it looked like Clemmer had possibly lost control.

That's because after beginning the day in third place, Clemmer quickly fell to seventh and found herself 80 pins out of advancing position after starting her set with scores of 195, 165 and 171.

She turned things around in games four, five and six, however, shooting 216, 235 and 233 to move back up to fifth place and cut the deficit to just three pins.

But that's when disaster struck as bad ball reaction on a tricky pair of lanes led to a devastating 166 in Game 7.

That widened the gap on fourth place back out to 46 pins with one game to go, making it look as if Clemmer was going to be left on the outside looking in.

However, she was not about to go down without a fight, so fight she did.

After starting her final game with a spare, Clemmer proceeded to rip off seven consecutive strikes in frames two through eight.

Dammers, meanwhile, managed just two strikes during that same stretch, which allowed Clemmer to completely erase the near 50-pin deficit and establish a lead of her own.

A solid 10-pin in the ninth frame ended Clemmer's string of strikes, but she easily converted the spare to stay clean and avoid giving Dammers any last-second hope.

If there was any doubt left regarding the outcome, Clemmer put an end to it when she doubled to start the 10th frame, which officially shut Dammers out and allowed Clemmer to enjoy a very hard-fought victory.

"I knew that I needed a big number going into that last game, but I was calm," Clemmer said. "I just focused on visualizing my shots and controlling the things that I could control, and if the pins didn't fall my way, they didn't fall my way."

But the pins did fall Clemmer's way, and that means that she'll leave Santiago with at least two medals – she earned her first on Thursday when she teamed up with Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, to win gold in women's doubles.

Richard put forth a strong showing of her own on Saturday, breaking 200 during six of her eight games (220, 204, 210, 278, 206 and 211) to move from 24th place after Day 1 to 12th at the end of Day 2.

Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, made an even more dramatic move up the leaderboard on the men's side on Saturday.

He started the day in 17th place more than 125 pins outside the cut number, but he didn't stay there for long after shooting nothing lower than 219 during his first seven games (235, 279, 244, 232, 228, 219 and 224).

Unfortunately, Bonta couldn't keep the momentum going during Game 8, so he was forced to settle for a sixth-place finish just 33 pins shy of the cut number.

Johnson's day was very similar to Bonta's but with one notable exception: Johnson's setback came one game earlier.

After opening Saturday's set with games of 263, 239, 193, 242, 225 and 248, a tricky pair of lanes only allowed Johnson to record a 159 in Game 7.

The low number dropped him from second to third and suddenly brought his advancement to the semifinals back into question.

However, just as Clemmer had done hours earlier, Johnson dug deep and performed when he needed to most.

After suffering an open frame during the early stages of his final game, Johnson quickly righted the ship, stayed clean and threw enough strikes down the stretch to finish with a solid 212, which was more than enough to hold off Azcona and Venezuela's Rodolfo Monacelli and push the American through to Sunday's medal round.

Johnson was thrilled with the outcome, especially since, until the final game was over, he wasn't quite sure just how much damage the Game 7 setback had done.

"Not knowing where scores were, I thought I was out of it and needed a big score to get me back in," Johnson said. "After Game 7, I took a minute, reset and came back to try and figure out what I was going to do on that last pair.

"I'm super excited about the opportunity to move on to the next round, so I'm just going to try to make the most of it. I have to see what happens in practice, stick to our gameplan, execute and try to do as much as I can to move on and give us a chance to win another gold medal."

JOHNSON WINS GOLD, CLEMMER BRONZE ON FINAL DAY OF SINGLES AT 2023 PAN AMERICAN GAMES

SANTIAGO, Chile – A.J. Johnson of Oswego, Illinois, captured the men's singles gold medal, and Breanna Clemmer of Clover, South Carolina, took bronze for the women on the final day of bowling competition at the 2023 Pan American Games.

Johnson put on quite a show at Plaza Vespucio Centro de Bowling on Sunday, averaging 245.83 during his six games across the semifinals and finals.

He started his day with games of 204, 228 and 248 en route to a 680-666 semifinal victory over Costa Rica's Marco Moretti.

However, that was nothing compared to what the powerful right-hander had in store for the gold-medal match against No. 1 seed Mitch Hupe of Canada.

Johnson blistered the lanes during the battle for gold, shooting 239, 300 and 256 for a 795 series that included 28 of a possible 36 strikes.

He needed them too as Hupe did plenty of striking of his own.

In fact, the Canadian actually held the upper hand in the early going as he bested Johnson's opening 239 with a 269 of his own to establish a 30-pin lead after Game 1.

Hupe was nearly just as good during Game 2, striking 10 more times to post a score of 267 and run his two-game series up to 536.

But Johnson was even better, striking on all 12 of his deliveries to record the 300 – the only one of the 2023 Pan American Games – and take a 539-536 lead into the final game.

Both bowlers began that game with strikes, but the tide would turn in Johnson's favor shortly thereafter when the right lane began giving Hupe major problems.

The Canadian opened during each of his first three frames on the right lane in Game 3, leaving the 2-4-8-10 split in the second frame, the 4-6-10 in the fourth and then chopping the 6-10 in the sixth.

Johnson, meanwhile, remained firmly locked in, starting the final game strike, spare, spare, seven-bagger before a pocket 7-10 ended his string, and bid for an 800 series, on the second shot in the 10th frame.

The bad break was of little consequence, however, as Johnson had already salted away the victory, the Pan American Games men's singles title and the gold medal thanks to a Game 3 score of 256.

Hupe concluded his set with 191 to finish with a 727 total and earn the silver medal.

Puerto Rico's Cristian Azcona, who fell to Hupe, 673-665, during the other men's semifinal, and Moretti both took home bronze.

Bronze was also the color of the medal secured by Clemmer, whose quest for gold ended when she fell to No. 1 seed Clara Guerrero of Colombia, 678-637, during the women's singles semifinals.

The pair began that match with a 219-219 tie in Game 1, but Guerrero kept the American at arm's length the rest of the way, taking the second game by a score of 246-225 and Game 3 by a final of 213-193 to end Clemmer's bid for a second gold medal at the 2023 Pan American Games – she won her first on Thursday when she teamed up with Jordan Richard of Tipton, Michigan, to capture gold in women's doubles.

Even though Clemmer would have liked to reach the top of the podium for the second time in four days, she was hardly disappointed with her performance on Sunday.

"I think the nerves got the best of me a little bit, which caused me to not take my time and execute a few shots poorly, but I'm not going to dwell on the bad shots," Clemmer said. "It doesn't matter that I won bronze instead of gold; I just feel excited and grateful for the opportunity to have competed here because this is probably the biggest bowling stage I've ever been on. This whole experience has just been great; it's awesome."

Awesome would be an appropriate word to describe the performances authored by Johnson, Clemmer, Richard and first-time Team USA competitor Brandon Bonta of Wichita, Kansas, throughout the 2023 Pan American Games.

The Americans left the competition with three of a possible six medals and gold in two of the four events that were contested.

Even though winning is hardly new for the Team USA bowling program, that doesn't mean that this week's successes will be taken for granted, especially not by head coach Bryan O'Keefe.

"We try to stress to our players that the lane never changes; it's still 60 feet from the foul line to the head pin regardless of where we are or what we're bowling," O'Keefe said. "However, in the back of your mind, you realize that the Pan American Games is a really big event, one that only happens every four years, so to be able to walk out of here with a couple golds and three medals overall is really great.

"The Pan American games isn't a bowling-specific event, so what we accomplished this week didn't just add to the Team USA bowling medal count, it added to our country's overall medal count here in Santiago, and with a couple extra golds at that, which is really special."

After topping Clemmer, Guerrero went on to win the women's singles gold medal thanks to a 687-640 victory over Team Colombia teammate Juliana Franco, who earned silver.

The remaining bronze went to Mexico's Sandra Gongora, whom Franco topped 655-605 in the other women's semifinal.

Element3 Health to Provide Free Membership to Eligible USBC Members 65+

ARLINGTON, Texas – Social fitness innovator Element3 Health is collaborating with the United States Bowling Congress to provide free membership to eligible USBC members for doing what they already love to do – bowl.

Through the program, Element3 Health will cover the dues of USBC members 65 and older who belong to an eligible Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan. USBC league members simply need to sign up for the program to check their eligibility and have their league participation verified by clicking [here](#). If their plan covers the benefit and they are active USBC members, Element3 Health will send the qualifying member payment for their bowling membership dues.

The program is offered at no cost to members or to USBC.

"Staying healthy means more than going to the gym. Health plans are starting to recognize the benefit of meaningful social interactions, like the type people experience

on a bowling team. Element3 Health works with plans to encourage those interactions, because ultimately, those are the activities that keep people socially connected, happier and healthier,” said Element3 Health CEO Doug Wenners.

Element3 Health works with many U.S. Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement plans to cover organizations and clubs that promote social and wellness activities. In addition to covering the dues of existing USBC members, Element3 Health is eager to introduce the USBC to their members nationwide.

“We view this as a win-win,” said USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy. “Bowling is not only a competitive sport, but is also a social, fun and engaging activity for many people. This partnership with Element3 Health will give some bowlers 65+ an additional benefit just for being a USBC league member.”

USBC ACQUIRES THE FORTY FRAME GAME

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress has acquired The Forty Frame Game through a purchase agreement with owner Jim Walter. USBC now owns all trademarks, intellectual property and licensing rights for The Forty Frame Game.

Known as the world’s most unique singles bowling tournament, the event, which started in 1989, has been regularly held in the same host city as the USBC Open Championships since 1992. By purchasing The Forty Frame Game, USBC plans to make the tournament a long-term side event for the Open Championships.

“The Forty Frame Game provides an exciting and fun side event that appeals to bowlers of all skill levels,” USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. “Traveling to bowl a national tournament is a big trip for our members, and we want to provide a variety of side events bowlers may not have back home.”

The Forty Frame Game is a handicap singles tournament of 40 continuous frames that includes no-tap frames, mulligans, bonus pins and other fun challenges. There also is a variety of side events and doubles for bowlers to earn additional prize money.

“The Forty Frame Game has a rich history and has welcomed hundreds of thousands of bowlers in its 34 years of competition. Thank you to everyone who has bowled the event with us,” said Jim Walter of The Forty Frame Game. “We are thrilled The Forty Frame Game will live on as part of the USBC Open Championships for bowlers to enjoy for many years to come.”

The event will not be offered in 2024. USBC plans to invest in technology to make the scoring experience better for the bowlers and relaunch The Forty Frame Game in the future.

USBC COMPLETES CERTIFIED STRING PINSETTER SCORING RESEARCH; DETERMINES NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE FROM FREE-FALL MACHINES

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress has released its most recent scoring research report related to string pinsetters. The report concludes there is no statistically significant difference between the scoring pace of USBC-certified string pinsetters and traditional free-fall machines.

Therefore, an average conversion between the pinsetter types will not be necessary and, effective immediately, USBC will update its playing rules to allow for the averages between pinsetter types to be interchangeable provided the string pinsetter has been certified by USBC.

USBC conducted additional scoring research on the scoring pace of string pinsetters that meet USBC specifications. The study consisted of gathering volunteers to travel to the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas, to bowl two sessions of four games – two games on certified string pinsetters and two games on free-fall pinsetters.

More than 500 bowlers participated in the study, including more than 300 bowlers who participated in at least two sessions. The study featured more than 3,500 games bowled. The data from the research shows:

- There is no statistically significant difference between the scoring pace of the pinsetter types when controlled in the same environment.
- The differences in scoring do not relate to bowlers' averages, ages or genders.
- The test had sufficient statistical power to identify a difference of four pins or larger had it existed.
- An average conversion between the pinsetter types will not be necessary.

The rule change only applies to USBC-certified string pinsetters. Older string pinsetters that have not been converted for certification remain uncertified for USBC competition.

"This study and USBC rules change is the culmination of years of work in collaboration with the industry's manufacturers," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said.

"Working together, we created a USBC certification standard for string pin machines with scoring in line with traditional machines. This gives proprietors more options and bowlers expanded opportunities for certified competition."

As a means of further investigating previous string pinsetter scoring research that featured the use of the USBC's automated Bowlscore ramp, the team wanted to design a test that would provide enough data to definitively tell if the two machines (string and free-fall pinsetters) score differently.

The full report, which can be found [here](#), details the results of the participant testing and explains the differences in the current findings versus previous scoring research that utilized the USBC's automated Bowlscore ramp.

USBC will continue to monitor averages of bowlers around the country as some

transition into leagues featuring certified string pinsetters in order to gather additional data.

To view a list of frequently asked questions on certified string pinsetters, click [here](#).

ROYAL PIN WOODLAND TO HOST U.S. OPEN THROUGH 2027

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Proprietors' Association of America have announced a location agreement that will make Royal Pin Woodland the host for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 editions of the U.S. Open.

It was recently announced that the 2024 U.S. Open would be contested at Royal Pin Woodland, so by the time the agreement ends in 2027, the iconic 70-lane venue in Indianapolis will have hosted six consecutive editions of one of the sport's most prestigious major championships.

As part of the location agreement, the U.S. Women's Open, a major on the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour, also will be contested at Royal Pin Woodland multiple times through 2027 with the storied center hosting the tournament in 2024 and 2026.

Next year's U.S. Women's Open will be held June 11-18 while the 2025 event will be contested at Sun Valley Lanes and Games in Lincoln, Nebraska, from June 10-17.

"We're pleased that the U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open will continue to be contested at such great centers in amazing bowling communities," BPAA Executive Director Frank DeSocio said. "These bowling centers have proven track records as outstanding hosts for major events, so we're happy to know that the sport's most prestigious championships will continue to be decided at these terrific venues for years to come."

With a combined six U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open competitions being held at Royal Pin Woodland over the next four years, the venue will continue its own tradition of hosting major championships.

This year's U.S. Open – the 80th edition of the event dating back to its origins as the BPAA All Star – will mark the eighth time that bowling's most prestigious tournament has been hosted at Woodland, which remains the only venue to host every Professional Bowlers Association major championship.

In addition to its history with the U.S. Open, including both the men's and women's event in 1996 (qualifying and match play before the finals took place at Market Square

Arena), Royal Pin Woodland has hosted 37 PBA Tour stops and previous editions of the USBC Masters and Junior Gold Championships over a span of 42 years.

“The U.S. Open and U.S. Women’s Open are bowling’s premier events,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. “It’s only fitting that the history and tradition of these iconic tournaments continues to be written in these great venues and locations.”

[GOBOWLING.COM](http://GoBowling.com) NAMED PRESENTING SPONSOR OF THE MILITARY BOWL

ARLINGTON, Texas – The Military Bowl Foundation today announced that GoBowling.com will be the presenting sponsor of the Military Bowl postseason college football bowl game for the next three years. The game will be known as the Military Bowl presented by GoBowling.com.

“What a great way to bring together two of the nation’s favorite athletic endeavors: college football’s top teams love to play in bowl games every December and more than 67 million Americans hit the lanes to go bowling each year,” Military Bowl Foundation President & Executive Director Steve Beck said. “We look forward to celebrating the union of college football and the Bowling Proprietors’ Association of America (BPAA), the trade association supporting more than 3,400 family-friendly bowling centers across the country.

“The BPAA, along with the rest of the bowling industry, features GoBowling.com as the consumer-facing website that reaches all of bowling’s consumers. Additionally, it is important to note that GoBowling.com shares our commitment to the nation’s service members and we look forward to continuing to honor and support those who serve.”

The 2023 Military Bowl presented by GoBowling.com takes place on Wednesday, Dec. 27 at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Md., with kickoff at 2 p.m. Eastern. The game, once again matching teams from the ACC and the American Athletic Conference, will be televised on ESPN.

The Bowl benefits Patriot Point, the Military Bowl Foundation’s 294-acre retreat for recovering service members, their families and caregivers.

Supporting active-duty and veteran service members has long been a cause for the bowling community. Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL) was founded in 1942 as a campaign from the entire bowling industry to support U.S. troops. That mission continues today, raising more than \$1 million annually and more than \$56 million since BVL was founded, brightening the lives of American active-duty and veteran service members through recreational and therapeutic programs and services.

"We couldn't be more excited for this partnership between bowling and the Military Bowl because it's a great fit in so many ways," said Kevin Krauss, President of the BPAA. "The bowling industry stands for so many of the same virtues that our military does like love of family and our American values. Bowling supports the men and women who serve our country through our BVL charitable efforts, so we're excited to partner with the Military Bowl to connect with the millions of college football fans that come together and bowl in our more than 3,400 centers nationwide."

The Military Bowl is the culmination of Bowl Week, with the teams staying, practicing and enjoying events in Washington, D.C., while their fans enjoy Military Bowl Eve and gameday in Annapolis, highlighted by the Military Bowl Parade featuring the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales and honoring the nation's Medal of Honor Recipients.

Duke defeated UCF, 30-13, in the 2022 Military Bowl.

For the latest updates, including information on purchasing tickets, visit militarybowl.org, follow @MilitaryBowl on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/MilitaryBowl) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/militarybowl) or like the Military Bowl presented by GoBowling.com on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/militarybowl). For sponsorship information, please contact Military Bowl Senior Director of Partnerships Marc Goldman at mgoldman@militarybowl.org.

FIVE ELECTED TO USBC HALL OF FAME FOR 2024

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame will welcome at least five new members when the 2024 class is inducted April 24 during the USBC Convention in Las Vegas.

The USBC Hall of Fame Committee recently elected Debbie Kuhn of Abingdon, Maryland; Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio; and Brian Waliczek of Frankenmuth, Michigan, in the Outstanding USBC Performance category, Roy Buckley of Columbus, Ohio, posthumously in the Veterans category, and Darlene Baker of Mahomet, Illinois, in Meritorious Service.

In addition to the five electees, the USBC Hall of Fame Committee selected six bowlers – one woman and five men – 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.

Named to the women's national ballot is Missy Parkin of Laguna Hills, California.

Selected for the men's national ballot are Bryan Goebel of Shawnee, Kansas; Tommy Jones of Simpsonville, South Carolina; Wes Malott of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Sean Rash of Montgomery, Illinois; and Mike Scroggins of Amarillo, Texas.

Kuhn, a right-hander, is a two-time champion at the USBC Women's Championships.

Both of her titles came at the 1991 event in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she set records (since broken) in both Classic Singles (773) and All-Events (2,036). Her all-events total marked the first time a woman had broken the 2,000-pin mark.

Kuhn is a three-time member of Team USA (1998, 1999 and 2000) where she was part of gold medal teams at the 1999 Pan American Games and the 2000 FIQ World Tenpin Team Cup. She was the U.S. National Amateur champion in 1998.

In addition to her two Women's Championships wins, Kuhn owns four more top-10 finishes at the Women's Championships. She was the Bowling Digest Magazine Amateur Woman Bowler of the Year in 1999 and has been inducted into the Maryland State USBC Association Hall of Fame, the Greater Baltimore USBC Hall of Fame and the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame, all for Superior Performance.

Woessner owns three titles at the USBC Women's Championships, with her most recent coming in this year's event. The right-hander also is the 2022 USBC Senior Queens champion.

At the 2010 Women's Championships in El Paso, Texas, Woessner posted a record all-events total of 2,330, which gave her titles in both Scratch All-Events and Diamond All-Events. The record still stands today.

This year in Las Vegas, Woessner won the Diamond Team event as a member of Sterner Strong 2. Woessner contributed 679 to the winning team total of 2,705. Included in that 679 was a 300 game, making her one of five bowlers at the tournament to record both a 300 game and 800 series (816 in doubles in 2010) on the championship lanes.

Woessner's win at the 2022 Senior Queens in Las Vegas came in her event debut. Woessner went undefeated in bracket match play and earned the top seed for the stepladder finals where she defeated USBC Hall of Famer Lucy Sandelin, 238-223, for the title.

In addition to her Women's Championships and Senior Queens victories, Woessner has five other top-10 finishes at the Women's Championships, a pair of top-10 finishes in the USBC Queens and a fourth-place finish at this year's USBC Senior Queens.

Waliczek earned induction in his first year on the ballot on the strength of four Eagles won at the USBC Open Championships.

Eagle No. 1 for Waliczek, a right-hander, came in 2015 as part of Team NABR in El Paso, Texas. The group captured the title in Regular Team with a 3,368 total. Waliczek's contribution was 659.

Waliczek's second and third wins at the Open Championships came in 2017 in Las Vegas as Team NABR won titles in both Regular Team (3,266 with Waliczek contributing 655) and Team All-Events (9,957 with Waliczek adding 2,051).

His fourth Eagle came at the 2022 event in Las Vegas as Waliczek captured the Regular All-Events title with 2,241. His performance on the way to that Eagle was incredibly consistent as Waliczek posted 745 in team, 750 in doubles and 746 in singles (a 249 average for his nine games).

Waliczek ranks sixth on the Open Championships lifetime average list (min. 20 years) with a 217.6 average. On the 10-year short-term average list, he ranks fourth at 224.3. In addition to his four Eagles, he owns eight other top-10 finishes at the event. He's a former National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association (NCBCA) Bowler of the Year (1998-1999 season) and member of the Intercollegiate Team Championships winning team at Saginaw Valley State (1996-1997 season).

Buckley, who died in 2021 at the age of 77, earned induction in the Veterans category after previously being considered in Superior Performance.

The right-hander who bowled out of Columbus, Ohio, won seven titles on the Professional Bowlers Association Tour in a 10-year span from 1971-1981 and captured a pair of Eagles at the Open Championships.

His first PBA Tour win came in North Carolina in the 1971 Winston-Salem Open and was bookended by a win in New York in the 1981 Buffalo Open. Buckley was a consistent threat in the 70s, collecting six of his seven titles in that decade.

Buckley's two Eagles at the Open Championships also came in the 70s as he was part of the winning team in the Classic Team division in back-to-back years – 1975 and 1976. Buckley's Munsingwear #2 teams were victorious with 2,980 in 1975 and 3,281 in 1976. Buckley's contribution to the cause was 661 in 1975 and 641 the following year.

He had one top-10 finish at the USBC Masters (sixth in 1991) and a pair of top-10 finishes at the USBC Senior Masters (tied for ninth in 2001 and second in 2004). Buckley also had four other top-10 finishes at the Open Championships, including second-place finishes in 1974 in Classic Team and Classic All-Events where he shot 2,103.

Buckley was a two-time first team USBC All-American (1975 and 1976), a first team Bowlers Journal All-American (1975-1976 season) and has been inducted into the Central Ohio USBC Hall of Fame (1977), the Ohio State USBC Hall of Fame (1988) and the PBA Hall of Fame (1992).

Baker has spent more than three decades serving the bowling industry in a variety of local, state, national and international roles from youth bowling to the adult ranks.

She has been a director, secretary, treasurer, delegate, vice president and president at every level, culminating with a one-year term as the president of USBC (the first woman to hold the office), following a year as president-elect.

Baker has served on dozens of committees, often as the chairperson, at each level and was a key participant in the creation of the USBC in 2005 through the merger of the

ABC, WIBC, YABA and USA Bowling. She also has contributed to the evolution of the SMART program.

She has been a member of the volunteer tournament staff at the USBC Junior Gold Championships for more than a decade and has assisted at the World Bowling Women's Championships and World Bowling Youth Championships as well as her annual state and local events.

Baker also offers much of her time to bowling's charities. She has worked closely with the Bowlers To Veterans Link and was the BVL Ambassador of the Year in 2019.

Her decades as a leader, volunteer, philanthropist and mentor already have earned her spots in the Clinton (Ill.) WBA Hall of Fame (1991), Illinois WBA Hall of Fame (2005) and Champaign (Ill.) Area Hall of Fame (2012) – all for meritorious service.

Through 2023, there are 452 members of the USBC Hall of Fame – 230 in Superior Performance, 126 in Meritorious Service, 54 in Veterans, 22 in Pioneer and 20 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.

SENIOR TEAM USA PREPARED TO START COMPETITION AT 2023 WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS IN COLOMBIA

ARLINGTON, Texas – After months of preparation, eight members of Senior Team USA are ready to start competition at the International Bowling Federation 2023 World Senior Championships, which will be contested at the sports complex in Cali, Colombia, from Dec. 7-14.

Official practice sessions will take place tomorrow with tournament play set to begin on Friday when women's competitors take to the lanes for singles qualifying.

Men's singles qualifying will follow on Saturday before the page turns to doubles competition, which will be held on Dec. 10-11 starting with women's qualifying and concluding with the men.

Singles and doubles competition will end and medals will be awarded after the semifinals and finals are conducted in each event on Dec. 12.

Thereafter, the focus will be on team competition, which begins with men's and women's qualifying on Dec. 13 and wraps up with the semifinals and finals on Dec. 14.

The American roster features plenty of firepower as Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida; and Troy Lint of Blandon, Pennsylvania, comprise the men's squad while Dana Ausec and Tish Johnson, both of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado; and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, will don the red, white and blue for the women.

The National Selection Committee chose those eight names from a long list of worthy applicants who sought to represent Senior Team USA at the 2023 World Senior Championships.

The squad's efforts in Colombia will be guided by Team USA Coach Kelly Kulick, a United States Bowling Congress Hall of Famer who also serves as the head coach of Junior Team USA.

Kulick has helped American bowlers author medal-winning performances all over the world, and she expects more of the same out of this immensely talented group of senior athletes.

"I am over the moon at the opportunity to travel with Senior Team USA and witness their true greatness as legends of the game," Kulick said. "I have deep respect for their careers and achievements and know what they are capable of doing. I have high expectations that their greatness will shine, placing them on the podium multiple times."

Historically, the Americans have fared quite well at the World Senior Championships; however, the 2021 trip to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, fell a bit short of expectations as Team USA came home with just one gold medal and five bronze.

The gold was secured by Hess, who made the most of his first opportunity donning the red, white and blue by winning the men's singles event.

Although Hess was thrilled to win an individual gold medal during his first international competition, he was disappointed that the men's team was unable to reach the podium in Dubai.

He's hoping that he and Barnes, who also competed in 2021, will have the opportunity to erase the bad taste from two years ago and get back on top with the help of Senior Team USA rookies Janawicz and Lint.

Authoring a strong performance the first time out is no easy task in international competition as, oftentimes, success or failure depends on whether or not a player can get into his or her comfort zone.

Thankfully, Ausec and Woessner should have a leg up in that regard while representing the Senior Team USA women.

Ausec should settle in quickly as she'll be able to draw upon the support and guidance of Team USA veterans and fellow Coloradoans Johnson and Powers, with whom she frequently competes back home at league and in tournaments.

Woessner, on the other hand, will get comfortable by flashing back to the memories of the many times she's come through in the clutch over the years while amassing a long list of impressive finishes in amateur and Professional Women's Bowling Association competition.

However, while the goal, as always, is to win, according to Kulick, the 2023 World Senior Championships will go down as a successful tournament regardless of which teams and bowlers end up walking away with medals.

"This trip is already a success because we finally have a senior event with 21 countries competing, and all will be contenders," Kulick said. "I will enjoy watching the best athletes display what they do best, which is display bowling greatness on the lanes and being ambassadors off the lanes."

CONTINUED GROWTH LEADS TO NEW SQUAD SCHEDULE STARTING AT 2025 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Open Championships will debut a new daily squad schedule starting with the 2025 event in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to continue to accommodate for recent growth at the tournament.

The new schedule will feature five squads of competition across each day, with two full team events and six bowlers on a pair for each doubles and singles squad.

The adjustments will increase the capacity of the event to meet the growing participation demands at the USBC Open Championships.

The daily squad schedule for the 2025 Open Championships will be:

- 7 a.m. – doubles and singles
- 11:30 a.m. – team
- 3:15 p.m. – doubles and singles
- 7:45 p.m. – team
- 11:30 p.m. – doubles and singles

The changes will remove combined squads from the schedule (team and doubles/singles being contested during the same squad time) and alleviate the concern of bowling a late team event, followed by an early doubles and singles squad the next day.

With the new schedule, bowlers on the 11:30 a.m. team squad will bowl either the 7 a.m. or 3:15 p.m. squad for doubles and singles. Competitors on the 7:45 p.m. team

squad will bowl doubles and singles either at 3:15 p.m. or 11:30 p.m.

At the 2023 Open Championships, one out of eight bowlers participated in team during the 9:30 p.m. combined squad and followed with doubles and singles the next morning at 7 a.m.

The current schedule at the Open Championships has often left new participants and those entering later in the registration process with a limited inventory for team squad selection. The new schedule in 2025 will give competitors the chance to select from two desirable squad times and increase the overall capacity for the event to more than 13,400 teams. With the current schedule, the maximum capacity over the same time frame would accommodate 10,430 teams.

The Open Championships has seen steady growth in its team entries as well, with many of the numbers surpassing the totals from before the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2024 event in Las Vegas already has surpassed 10,700 registered teams, marking the highest total at the South Point Bowling Plaza since its introduction to the tournament's schedule in 2017 and is the most overall at the Open Championships since 2012.

Coordinators for the 2024 event also were surveyed to see how many teams they planned to register for the 2025 Open Championships. The early projections from the collected data show team entries for Baton Rouge trending up by nearly 3%.

In 2013, the Open Championships began providing fresh oil for every squad. This change improved the competition, but the time needed to oil for each squad reduced the number of potential squads per day.

"We listened to the feedback from our participants and believe these adjustments will help create an improved experience, with two full team squads at premium times and eliminating the short turnaround from team to doubles and singles," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "These adjustments also will allow us the flexibility to welcome more teams and continue to see the tournament grow as we look ahead to the future."

These adjustments will not impact the 2024 Open Championships, which is scheduled to take place from Feb. 23-July 29 in Las Vegas at the South Point Bowling Plaza.

TEAM USA'S AUSEC, WOESSNER ADVANCE TO WOMEN'S SINGLES MEDAL ROUND AT WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia – Despite being no strangers to elite competition, Dana Ausec of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, waited until they joined the senior ranks before starting their international bowling careers.

Neither will have to wait long to capture her first medal as a member of Senior Team USA, however, as both advanced to the women's singles medals round at the International Bowling Federation 2023 World Senior Championships, which is being contested at the sports complex in Cali, Colombia, through Dec. 14.

Ausec punched her ticket by firing scores of 204, 227, 214, 172, 201 and 222 to finish third with a six-game total of 1,240 (a 206.67 average) during Friday morning's early qualifying block.

Woessner only broke 200 twice during the afternoon session, but a final-game 269 vaulted her up the standings and allowed her to secure the fourth and final advancing spot in the 44-player field with a 1,209 total (a 201.5 average).

Colombia's Sandra Montealegre qualified first at 1,271 (211, 224, 202, 232, 244 and 158), and Italy's Alessandra Morra was second with 1,254 (228, 223, 178, 196, 212 and 217).

Team USA's Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado, finished in 11th and 12th place, respectively with scores of 1,125 and 1,120.

The women's singles semifinals will kick off Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. Eastern with Woessner facing Montealegre and Ausec battling Morra.

Regardless of how those matches pan out, Ausec and Woessner are guaranteed no worse than a bronze-medal finish; however, should both win in the semifinals, they would face one another for the gold medal.

At the conclusion of Friday's action, both athletes took a moment to discuss what those medals will mean to them as well as what it felt like to represent Team USA on the lanes for the first time.

"As soon as you put that Team USA jersey on, it's a very special feeling because you're not just representing yourself; you're representing something much bigger," Ausec said. "You're representing your country, your family, your friends and everyone back home supporting you. It's a very special feeling. To know that there is a medal coming home with both of us, Jodi (Woessner) and I, is truly amazing."

Woessner's sentiments were largely the same.

"Going into the last game, I was so far back that I didn't even think I had an opportunity to advance, so I was just trying to throw good shots and learn for the rest of the events," Woessner said. "Now, to know that I'm going to be taking home a medal, there are no words to describe it. Representing your country is the highest honor."

Ausec and Woessner will have a day off to relax and reflect on Saturday as the competition schedule shifts the focus to men's singles qualifying.

Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida; and Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey, will all take to the lanes for Team USA.

Each will be looking to finish in the top four in order to join Ausec and Woessner in Tuesday's singles semifinals.

If Hess is able to do so, he'll keep his title defense hopes alive as he is the reigning IBF World Senior Championships men's singles champion – he won gold at the 2021 event in Dubai.

Men's singles qualifying squads are scheduled to start at 8 a.m., 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Eastern.

TEAM USA PAIRS QUALIFY FIRST AND THIRD IN WOMEN'S DOUBLES AT IBF WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia – Four medals will be awarded in the women's doubles competition at the 2023 International Bowling Federation 2023 World Senior Championships, and Team USA bowlers will be taking home two of them.

That's because Dana Ausec and Tish Johnson – both of Colorado Springs, Colorado – qualified first, and Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado, and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, placed third during Sunday's six-game qualifying block contested at Cali's sports complex.

Ausec and Johnson paced the 22-team field with a six-game total of 2,560 thanks to 1,290 from Ausec (242, 216, 215, 230, 205 and 182) and 1,270 from Johnson (197, 224, 199, 226, 211 and 213).

That effort allowed Ausec and Johnson to finish 22 pins ahead of Italy's Monica Di Paolantonio and Elga Biagia Di Benedetto, who qualified second with a score of 2,538.

Team USA's Powers and Woessner were third at 2,352, which left Italy's Alessandra Morra and Paola Barison to claim the fourth and final spot in the semifinals thanks to a 2,288 total.

Those four duos are all guaranteed no worse than a bronze medal, but each will be gunning for gold when women's doubles semifinal action gets underway Tuesday morning at 10 a.m. Eastern.

Both matchups will pit Team USA against Italy with Ausec and Johnson taking on Morra and Barison in one semifinal while Powers and Woessner face Di Paolantonio and Di Benedetto in the other.

The two winning squads will advance to the gold-medal match while the two teams that fall will take home bronze medals.

That means that the possibility of an all-Team USA final is still alive in women's doubles just as it is in singles thanks to Ausec finishing third and Woessner fourth during women's singles qualifying on Friday.

Considering the fact that Ausec and Woessner are both Team USA rookies, and the World Senior Championships is their debut tournament, some onlookers may find it somewhat surprising that both have locked up two medals in their first two events.

It doesn't come as a surprise to Ausec, however; after all, that was the plan all along.

"It's amazing, but this is what we all came here to do," Ausec said. "We just evaluate our goals each step of the way. Our first one was to get to the medal round, and now that we have, we're all going to be rooting one another on and hoping to get that all-USA final in both singles and doubles."

Johnson will be hoping for that and that she can continue the improved execution that helped her and Ausec get to the top of the qualifying standings on Sunday.

"I played the lanes a little bit better today; I used my head instead of my feet," Johnson jokingly said. "It feels awesome to be assured a medal. I've been in this position quite often, but it's good to do it with a friend of mine and the people that we're with."

Powers felt the same way about securing a medal while partnered with Woessner.

"I've always looked up to Jodi (Woessner), so to advance to the semifinals and get a medal while bowling with her makes this experience even more special," Powers said.

For Woessner, Sunday's round was about controlling what she could control and helping Powers stay positive after a slow start.

"I just focused on making good shots and trying to keep Sharon (Powers) in it and her head high," Woessner said. "I took advantage of the good pairs when I saw them, and Sharon came back from the rough start, and here we are."

With their spots in the semifinals secured, the Team USA women will have the chance to relax and cheer on their teammates during Monday's two rounds of men's doubles qualifying, which will begin at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Eastern.

The American duos will pair together Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas, and John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, and Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey, and Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa.

Hess, the reigning World Senior Championships men's singles gold medalist, will be looking to continue the momentum that propelled him to a third-place finish and semifinal berth during men's singles qualifying on Saturday.

The 2023 World Senior Championships started with official practice sessions on Dec. 7 and will end with the men's and women's team finals and a farewell dinner on Dec. 14.

Livestreaming coverage and updated standings are available by visiting worldseniors2023.com.

For more information on Senior Team USA, visit BOWL.com/Team-USA/Team-USA-Senior-Bowling.

USBC PROVIDES MEMBERS WITH NEW ELITE TOURNAMENT OFFERINGS THROUGH CREATION OF U22 MASTERS AND QUEENS

ARLINGTON, Texas – The United States Bowling Congress Collegiate program and Junior Gold Championships have experienced significant growth since their inception.

This has led to the development of a large pool of extremely talented young-adult bowlers who patronize these events and who are clamoring for even more opportunities to experience elite-level competition before joining the adult ranks.

The U22 Masters and Queens have been created to provide these bowlers with additional national tournaments for young, non-professional adult members of USBC. These events will be conducted using condensed and modified elements from the USBC Masters and USBC Queens.

These national events have been created as a new alternative for young USBC adult members as they transition from youth bowling to collegiate and/or adult bowling. The U22 Masters and Queens are available to all non-professional USBC adult members who have not reached their 23rd birthday by the last day of each year's tournament.

The greater Detroit area will host the inaugural U22 Masters and Queens tournaments, which will be contested from May 24-27, 2024.

The U22 Masters will be hosted by Super Bowl Lanes in Canton, Michigan, while the U22 Queens will be contested at historic Thunderbowl Lanes in Allen Park.

Both tournaments will conclude inside the iconic Thunderbowl Arena on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27 at Noon Eastern when the final three athletes in each event will participate in the BowITV stepladder finals.

All rounds of competition leading up to the stepladder will be streamed live exclusively on BowITV.

“USBC is extremely excited to be able to offer these new tournament opportunities,” USBC President Melissa McDaniel said. “These events will allow our young-adult members to experience elite national competition at a discounted cost and without having to go up against professional bowlers as they would in the USBC Masters and Queens. We believe the U22 Masters and Queens will serve as a valuable steppingstone that our younger members can use to gain experience and build confidence before transitioning to those other championship tournaments.”

Registration for the U22 Masters and Queens is scheduled to open on Jan. 2, 2024, and the entry fee will be \$300.

An information table will be set up at the 2024 Team USA Trials, which will be contested from Jan. 2-7, 2024, at Gold Coast Bowling Center inside Gold Coast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. USBC staff will be on site to assist with any questions pertaining to the U22 Masters and Queens.

AMERICAN TEAMS SIT ATOP STANDINGS HEADING INTO FINAL DAY OF COMPETITION AT IBF WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia – Team USA has been the team to beat thus far at the International Bowling Federation 2023 World Senior Championships in Cali, Colombia, capturing seven of 12 available medals during the singles and doubles portions of the event.

On Wednesday, the Americans took the first step toward reaching the podium in the team event as well as both their men’s and women’s teams ended the day in first place atop the qualifying standings in their respective divisions at Cali’s sports complex.

The Team USA men were first to hit the lanes Wednesday morning, and despite the early hour, the quartet of Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas; Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; and John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, had no trouble hitting the ground running.

They opened the day with a score of 975 thanks to 277 from Barnes, 238 from Janawicz, 237 from Bohn and 223 from Hess. Not only was it Team USA’s highest

score of the day, but it was also the highest score in the 18-team men's field and the only game over 900.

Things slowed down a bit from there for the American men, who finished with back-to-back scores of 825, but that was enough to push their total to 2,625, which was more than 125 pins better than the 2,497 put up by second-place Italy and nearly 150 ahead of the 2,478 posted by Puerto Rico, which finished the day in third.

Barnes led the way for the Team USA men with 673 (277-204-192) while Bohn was two pins back at 671 thanks to scores of 237, 217 and 217. Janawicz (238-186-226) and Hess (223-218-190) finished with 650 and 631, respectively.

The American men will be back in action Thursday morning at 9 a.m. Eastern for the final three-game qualifying block, after which the field will be cut to the top four teams. Those teams will square off in best-of-three Baker matches with the two winners advancing to the gold-medal match and the two losing teams each receiving bronze medals.

The Team USA women's squad of Dana Ausec and Tish Johnson, both of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado, and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, has already punched its ticket to the women's team semifinals.

The Americans got there by putting up scores of 838, 769 and 801 on Wednesday afternoon, which, when added to the 2,540 the crew put up during Round 1 of qualifying on Tuesday night, allowed Team USA to coast to first place in the 11-team women's field with a six-game total of 4,948 (an average of 206.17).

Mexico qualified second with 4,507. The final two berths in the women's semifinals went to Italy (4,477) and Puerto Rico (4,299), which finished in third and fourth place, respectively.

Ausec led the way for Team USA on Wednesday, coming in with a three-game total of 657 on games of 210, 211 and 236. Johnson was close behind, adding 637 (232-193-212). Neither Woessner (574) nor Powers (540) broke 600 on the day, but that was largely due to the American team's decision to experiment with different lane-play strategies in preparation for Thursday's medal round.

Team USA Coach Kelly Kulick believes the strategy will pay off and that the ever-developing chemistry between the quartet is going to make them tough to beat on the final day of competition.

"The women started today with a big lead, so it allowed us to experiment a bit and try some different things that may help us out in the medal round," Kulick said. "But what's really nice to see is the chemistry that these four women are developing among themselves.

“Dana (Ausec), Tish (Johnson) and Sharon (Powers) are all from the same general area in Colorado, so they sound like they’re just bowling league or a local tournament out there, and Jodi (Woessner) has fit right in like the perfect puzzle piece to complete the group. It’s nice to hear the laughter and see the comfort that they have with one another.”

Kulick has seen a similar sense of camaraderie form between the four Team USA men, which is particularly impressive because they spend most of the year fighting tooth and nail against one another.

“All four of these men bowl for a living, so, usually, every performance is a paycheck. When you bowl for Team USA, it’s about teamwork, bonding and communicating with one another for the good of the group,” Kulick said. “It’s amazing to watch these four talented individuals come together as a powerhouse to create one of the greatest teams there ever was.”

The Team USA men have one three-game qualifying block remaining, which will get underway Thursday morning at 9 a.m. Eastern. When that round is over, the top four men’s teams will join the four women’s squads that have already advanced to the semifinals.

Semifinal competition in both the men’s and women’s divisions is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. Eastern with the finals following at 3 p.m. Eastern.

Once the day’s bowling action is completed the last medals have been awarded, the event will conclude with a farewell dinner at 7 p.m. Eastern.

Livestreaming coverage and updated standings are available by visiting worldseniors2023.com.

AMERICANS SWEEP TEAM GOLD MEDALS ON FINAL DAY OF COMPETITION AT IBF WORLD SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CALI, Colombia – Senior Team USA capped off a week’s worth of outstanding performances by sweeping both the men’s and women’s team gold medals on the final day of competition at the International Bowling Federation 2023 World Senior Championships in Cali, Colombia, on Thursday.

The men’s squad that featured Chris Barnes of Denton, Texas; Parker Bohn III of Jackson, New Jersey; Tom Hess of Granger, Iowa; and John Janawicz of Winter Haven, Florida, reached the top of the podium by virtue of a 2-0 (207-189; 247-182) sweep of Mexico in the best-of-three Baker finals at Cali’s sports complex.

One round earlier, Team USA breezed past the Dominican Republic by a score of 2-0 (225-156; 256-210) while Mexico shut out Italy by the same margin (222-194; 246-215).

By falling during the semifinals, the Dominican Republic and Italy both earned bronze medals while Mexico would go on to take home silver.

On the women's side, the Team USA quartet that included Dana Ausec and Tish Johnson of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Sharon Powers of Lakewood, Colorado; and Jodi Woessner of Oregon, Ohio, needed three games to win both of its matches en route to gold.

The quest started with a 2-1 semifinal victory over Puerto Rico (224-202; 200-210; 198-184) and ended with a come-from-behind win over Mexico during the finals (201-210; 245-184; 224-187).

Once again, Mexico earned the silver medal, and Puerto Rico and Italy, which fell to Mexico 2-0 (204-189; 166-150) in the other women's semifinal, each were awarded bronze.

With the completion of the team events also came the end of the tournament's men's and women's all-events competition, which awarded medals to the bowlers in each division with the highest total pinfall during the combined 18 games of singles, doubles and team qualifying.

All three spots in the women's all-events standings went to Team USA bowlers with Ausec's 18-game score of 3,865 (Singles – 1,240; Doubles – 1,290; Team – 1,335) leading the way and earning gold.

Woessner claimed silver with 3,678 (Singles – 1,209; Doubles – 1,261; Team – 1,208), and Johnson brought home bronze at 3,656 (Singles – 1,125; Doubles – 1,270; Team – 1,261).

Bohn earned Team USA's lone all-events medal on the men's side, taking home bronze with an 18-game mark of 4,074 (Singles – 1,295; Doubles – 1,422; Team – 1,357).

Mexico's Mario Quintero (4,179) captured gold, and Rolando Sebelen of the Dominican Republic (4,130) claimed silver.

To say that Team USA performed well at the 2023 World Senior Championships would be a bit of an understatement; the group was dominant, capturing 23 of a possible 32 medals during the weeklong event.

Individually, the American medal count was as follows:

Men

Barnes – two gold (team; doubles)

Bohn – one gold (team), two bronze (doubles; all-events)
Hess – one gold (team), two bronze (doubles; singles)
Janawicz – two gold (team; doubles)

Women

Ausec – three gold (team; singles; all-events), one bronze (doubles)
Johnson – one gold (team), two bronze (doubles; all-events)
Powers – two gold (team; doubles)
Woessner – two gold (team; doubles), two silver (singles; all-events)

Team USA Coach Kelly Kulick was pleased with the group's performance, but the pride she felt had to do with a lot more than just the high medal count.

“Obviously, whenever we travel to tournaments, we're looking to put as many bowlers as possible on the podium and to bring home medals,” Kulick said. “However, what I'm most proud of with this group was the way that they picked each other up and were there for one another.

“Every bowler in this group is a talented individual, yet each and every one of them bought into this being one team. They rooted for one another, helped each other make adjustments on the lanes and were just there for one another from start to finish. At the end of the day, that's what it's all about. Medals are great, but the bonds that you form with your teammates, the relationships you build and the memories that you make are what's most special.”

Go Bowling, PEPSI® and NFL Legend, DeMarcus Ware, Kickoff Super Bowl LVIII Weekend with Super Bowl Bowling Classic to Support the NFL Foundation

Football fans in town for the Super Bowl can strike down some pins with Ware, current NFL players, and fellow NFL Legends to benefit community football players nationwide

ARLINGTON, Texas – Ahead of Super Bowl LVIII weekend in Las Vegas, football fans will have the opportunity to bowl with current NFL players and NFL Legends to support community football players across the country at the Super Bowl Bowling Classic sponsored by Pepsi®.

The event will pair fans with current NFL players and NFL Legends for an afternoon of knocking down pins in support of the [NFL Foundation](#), a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of those touched by the game of football – from players at all levels to communities across the country. Hosting this year's event is NFL Legend and Super Bowl champion, [DeMarcus Ware](#).

"Since retiring from the NFL, I've enjoyed having more time to connect with fans – whether it's serving in the community, or having more time to bowl with the family. Even my NFL teammates and I cherished our monthly bowling outings, and now I get to dust off my skills this February," said DeMarcus Ware. "That's why partnering with Go Bowling and Pepsi for the Super Bowl Bowling Classic will be so great! I can be competitive again while hanging out with fans who are as excited for this year's Super Bowl as I am. Big thanks to Go Bowling and Pepsi for inviting me to host!"

"Go Bowling connects communities through our passion for the sport – and there's no bigger and better time to bring the sports community together than the Super Bowl," said Frank DeSocio, Executive Director of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America (BPAA) co-managers of GoBowling.com. "We're proud that the Super Bowl Bowling Classic will support the NFL Foundation, which shares our passion for expanding the love of sport through community engagement. Whether attendees are bowling beginners or strikers, all are welcome to join us and show the pro athletes what they got!"

The Super Bowl Bowling Classic will take place on Friday, February 9, 2024, at the South Point Bowling Center (9777 S Las Vegas Blvd) at 12:00 PM local time. The Entry fee is \$350 per bowler, with proceeds benefitting the NFL Foundation. Each bowler will receive a commemorative Super Bowl LVIII bowling ball, pin and jersey, and a buffet meal along with Pepsi-Cola® soft drinks, beer, or wine. Bowlers may also bring a guest for a \$100 donation fee which includes the buffet and beverages. Go to PepsiBowlingClassic.com to register.

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