



PBA Honorary Member since 2001 Member since 2006

Messenger 2021 PBA Hall of Fame Class

This year's PBA Hall of Fame Class will feature meritorious service members Kirk & Mary Von Krueger and Gary Mage. The PBA will be electing it's first married couple into the Hall of Fame. Kirk Von Krueger served as National PBA Director from 1996 to 2020 and from 2011 to 2020 as Deputy Commissioner of the PBA. His wife Mary Von Krueger served as Members and Statistics Manager and has been an integral part of the PBA just as Kirk has been. Kirk started in the PBA as a player in 1982 and was the Northwest PBA Player of the year in 1980's and would win six regional titles. He would later spend four years on the PBA Tour starting in 1992.

Kirk had this to say about being inducted into the PBA Hall of Fame "I am humbled and honored to share this with you all. Thank you."

"The PBA was and still is my heart," said Mary von Krueger. "It is incredibly humbling and overwhelming to know that my heart forever more will have a home among my heroes."

Gary Mage started out as a pro in the early 70's winning a PBA Tour Title back in 1972 at the Seattle Open. He also founded the PBA Northwest Region in 1979 and served as PBA West Regional Director from 2004 until retiring in 2020. Gary has served on the PBA executive board, been a bowling proprietor & pro-shop operator along with over 40 years of total service in the PBA. He was also a close friend of Earl Anthony.

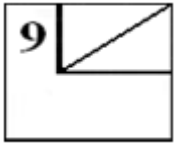
"To have my name with the greats both bowling and promoting the sport is an honor beyond my wildest dreams." stated Gary in a recent press release.



Left to Right Kirk & Mary Von Krueger and Gary Mage

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Spare Column

PBA Players Championship

Volume 13 Issue 4

Kyle Troup won his first major beating Dick Allen with a score of 257 to 212. Both players were seeking their first major. Kyle had led a seeding round with a three game score of 741. This was Kyle's seventh Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour title. "I try not to pay attention to the score and just make the best shot I can make" stated Troup. Kyle put in a lot preparation for this win by with an approach of "Keep competing. Keep practicing." Allen split costing him his first major in the late part of the championship match. This year was a different player championship due to CoVid-19. All five regions had a PBA Players Championship with four different patterns. The top five advancing in each of the top five stepladder finals. There were some unknown names to the PBA fans. However the household names did come on top. Francis Lavoie might have been the favorite because he might have knocked the most pins in all of the region. He failed to come through as he would be defeated in the semi-finals of the championship round.



Above– Kyle Troup
winner of 2021 PBA
Players Championship

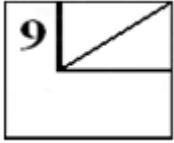
There were three players that were looking to add another major to their resume'. Tom Smallwood would start of strong with a 278 to 225. Both players would start out with a front sixth. However Simonsen would have three opens in a row. After a strong start missing a single pin. Bowling fans might have thought that this would be a high scoring match. Just when Smallwood looked like he was going to own the tournament and collect third major. He ran into trouble. There was a water spill by Dick Allen during the second stepladder match. This would hurt Smallwood as he could never recover.

Allen would his first match against Smallwood 216 to 195. This was the lowest scoring match of the championship round. It was very easy for the bowlers to get to the one-three pocket. However bowlers could not be on the one board as the ball could not recover as Smallwood would leave a 1-2-5-7 getting the 1-2-5 but leaving the 7. This would cost Smallwood at the end. There were some great moments in the preliminary stepladder rounds. But Chris Via would shot the perfect game on national television. Allen would defeat Daugherty 269-268. Allen would also have the second highest record by averaging 270. There were a couple of 2021 Rookie of the Year candidates who made a statement at the early 2021 PBA Tour Season. One of them was entering his first PBA Tour event which was Benjamin Matinez. Jack Wisemen the 2020 Indiana State Master's Champion would also be contending for the \$250,000. Wisemen would defeat Ronnie Russell. Wes Malott and Brandon Novak came a little short against Smallwood in the championship game of the Central Finals.

2021 Players Championship

				1. Kyle Troup	257	Kyle Troup CHAMPION
				Dick Allen	212	
				Loser Earns \$130,000		Winner Earns \$250,000
				2. Francois Lavoie	227	
				Dick Allen	244	
				Loser Earns \$80,000		
				3. Dick Allen	216	
				Tom Smallwood	195	
				Loser earns \$60,000		
				Loser earns \$50,000		
4. Tom Smallwood	278					
5. Anthony Simonsen	225					

Championship Round Stats		
High Game	278	Tom Smallwood
Low Game	195	Tom Smallwood
High Match	278-225	Smallwood vs Simonsen
Low Match	216-195	Allen vs Smallwood
AVG. Winning Game	248.75	



Spare Column

Tournament of Champions

Volume 13 Issue 4

Francois Lavoie won his third major and fifth overall PBA Tour title by defeating Anthony Simonsen 233 to 187. This title puts him on the first year ballot for PBA Hall of Fame eligibility. In the semi-finals he faced Jason Belmonte as Belmonte could not add to his major resume struggling to shoot 200. Lavoie would defeat him 220 to 194. In the second match of the championship round he would face the 2016 Tournament of Championship winner Jesper Svensson. He would defeat him 236 to 201. "I come up with a good game plan and stick to it. If the plan doesn't go exactly as I wanted, I have different options."



Francois Lavoie:
Winner of the Tournament
of Champions

In the qualifying match play rounds of the 2021 Tournament of Champions it looked like Tom Smallwood was going to lead the tournament from beginning to end. He would start off with a charge beginning on the first day of competition. However Smallwood would run into trouble in the second day of match play as Jason Belmonte would take the lead and try to become the only bowler to win the Tournament of Champions four times. On the final day of matchplay Anthony Simonsen would gain the top spot. Simonsen was trying to win his third major and becoming the youngest to win three majors. Francois Lavoie and Tom Smallwood would tie for the fifth and final spot for the championship round. Lavoie would come out on top in the one game roll-off and run the ladder. Wes Malott and Shawn Malondao would both bowl 300's in the qualifying portions of the tournament. Tommy Jones and Chris Prather the defending champions would be past champions. Pete Weber would not do very well in the TOC. Chris Barnes would not even come close to another two time champion of the tournament. Jason Couch the only tournament to three-peat the Tournament of Champions would come out of retirement to try for another victory. He too would have his struggles. Norm Duke did not have a good showing at the Tournament of Champions. The greatest of all times Walter Ray Williams Jr was not even close to try to win his SuperSlam. This is the only major he has not won. This year's Tournament of Champions was a flashback to where bowlers had to bowl 48 games to get to the championship round. The tournament featured a first place check of \$100,000.

2021 Tournament of Champions

				1. Anthony Simonsen	187	Francois Lavoie CHAMPION Winner Earns \$100,000
				2. Jason Belmonte	194	
				Francois Lavoie	220	Loser Earns \$60,000
3. Jesper Svensson	201	Francois Lavoie	236	Loser Earns \$45,000		
4. Sean Rash	209					
5. Francois Lavoie	225	Loser earns \$40,000				
Loser earns \$35,000						

Championship Round Stats		
High Game	236	Francois Lavoie
Low Game	187	Anthony Simonsen
High Match	236-201	Lavoie vs Svensson
Low Match	220-194	Lavoie vs Belmonte
AVG. Winning Game	228.5	



BOWLOLOGY

Bowlology Firm 101

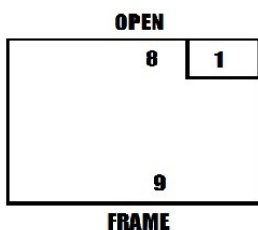
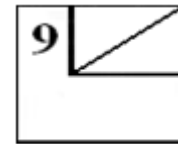
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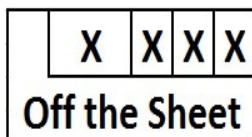
On Memorial Day Weekend 2008, I made a decision to start a bowling newsletter. The bowling newsletter was initiated back in 2006 and was going to cover bowling equipment, bowling news, professional & amateur tournaments. However, I was not disciplined enough at that time to pursue a newsletter. I created recurring columns with specific topics that helped me focus. One of the first was the **Strike Column** which detailed who Walter Ray Williams Jr. was so great using stats and numbers. Another was **King Pin** which remembered a specific event in bowling history. One of my favorite was the **Interview of the Month** where I posed questions to PBA bowlers, the President of the BPAA, and many others. I was amazed at the number of doors that began opening. One of them was writing for **Bowler's Journal International**. This came about because Parker Bohn III read my column -**Bucket List for Bowling**. About two months later, I got a call from Dennis Bergendorf about writing a story for the **Bowler's Journal International**. As a result, numerous opportunities have sprung up—for instance, being a part of the PBA and USBC Hall of Fame committees, receiving bowling equipment from Brunswick and covering an article from the **Bowler's Journal International**.

Over the next few months, I will be discussing how to set up a Bowlology firm for bowling fans. This will be a fun project where bowling fans can use their creative talent. Listed below are just ten bowling terms that I came with, but bowling fans can choose other topics as these are just ones I use. The assignment is to pick out one and describe how they are going to reference this term in their bowling newsletter, blog or pro-shop.

There are other avenues to pursue for a bowling career other than being a pro bowler, such as being a pro shop operators, a bowling center proprietor, a bowling mechanic, and a bowling ball designer. The purpose of introducing Bowlology Firm 101 is to promote the sport of bowling in an innovative way. If you are interested in joining this project, the assignment will be due on March 31, 2021. Please submit your selected bowling term to me via email to joshhydeb bowling@gmail.com.

King Pin, Head Pin, Spare
 , Lane, Strike, Ten-Pin,
 Messenger, Bowler, Foundation
 Frame

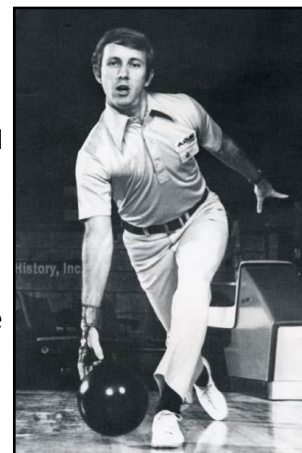




These PBA Stats Might Surprise You

Volume 13 Issue 4

Former PBA Television coordinator David Schroeder wrote an article for the **Bowler's Journal International**. He listed the top ten bowlers of all time. While some bowling fans might think that Dick Weber and Walter Ray Williams, Jr. would be at the top of the list, they might be surprised to see Dick Ritger at the top. Who played a role in the greatest moment in PBA History when Don Johnson bowled the infamous 299? Dick Ritger lost to Johnson in that championship match 299-268. Today's bowlers include Jesper Svensson, Sean Rash, and Tommy Jones. These players are still in the middle of their bowling careers. The rest of the list are PBA Hall of Famers. Another bowler atop the winningest bowler's list is Steve Martin—in 3rd place, whose lone Major was the 1980 U.S. Open. He did not make it into the PBA Hall of Fame; however, he did have an astonishing career in championship round matches winning 65% of his matches on television. It would be interesting to see if these bowlers could have sustained their bowling careers had they been able to compete longer on the PBA Tour. Schroeder also stated that future Hall of Famers are ones who can make about "40 TV shows and win about half".



Above: Dick Ritger the all-time winningest bowler in the championship round. Winning 70% of his matches.



Zenith Pearl

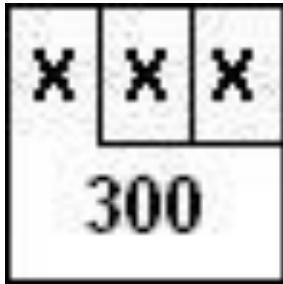
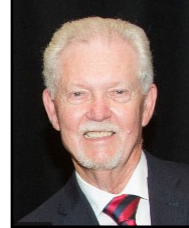
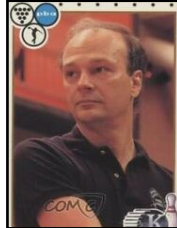


LEVEL	Pro
PART NUMBER	60-106462-93X
COLOR	Purple / Red / Blue
CORE	Zenith
COVERSTOCK	A. X. H. (Activator Xtreme Hook)
COVER TYPE	Pearl Reactive
FINISH	500 Siaair / Crown Factory Compound / Crown Factory Polish
WEIGHTS	16-12 lbs.
RG	2.485 (15 lb.)
DIFF	0.052 (15 lb.)
ASY	0.019 (15 lb.)
WARRANTY	Two years from purchase date



PBA Presidents

The PBA had a tournament committee back in the early days of the PBA. This allowed the players to be a part of the rules and regulations for the Professional Bowler's Association. Under the old PBA, the commissioners were working for the PBA players. Every two years, the current professional bowlers would nominate a PBA player. These players would write a letter to the membership saying how they would make the PBA better. Johnny Petraglia was elected three different times in his tenure as a pro. These individuals would talk with the Commissioner, the Lane Maintenance staff, the Players' Services Director, PBA Regional Directors and Tournament Committee. These individuals would not receive payment. It was a volunteer service. Mike Durbin, Mike Aulby, Walter Ray Williams Jr., George Pappas and Marc McDowell are some of the presidents in the past. If the tournament committee saw a need for a rule change, they would initiate change immediately. Players could only serve one term (two years) at a time—one of those players was Carmen Salvino (1985 to 1986). Marc McDowell was the President when he won the Tournament of Champions in 1992. George Pappas was the last PBA Player President in 2000. With the new ownership taking over, they saw no need to have a Player President.



Tenth Frame- Editorial

USBC Open Championships

As a bowling fan I have been a 128 professional bowler association tournaments. I have never been to the USBC Open Championships. As numerous tournaments I have yet attended. A USBC Open Tournament. I have known players that have won Eagles. I am a member of the USBC Hall of Fame Committee. I think it is important that I attend one of these tournaments. I did not write about this tournament for my bucket list for bowling. As I have been watching inside the Open Championship on BowlTV. I can help but want to attend one of these events. It would be exciting to participate as well bowling in a national tournament. My dad has bowled at least three open championships we about went in 2005, except my dad's team found another bowler to go. If I could not bowl the USBC Open Championships I would perhaps want to bowl the Bowler's Journal Championships. The Bowler's Journal Championships has the pattern of the USBC Open Championships. It's one tournament that I have never been to. I have been to three state Indiana tournaments. In 2000 my dad Roger Hyde won the singles scratch division. He bowled a 789 series which at the time was the second highest series in the history of the Indiana State tournament. Hearing about bowling as an amateur is the only chance a bowler can have national titles or winning an eagle. It is the oldest bowling tournament in the world starting in 1901 and the second oldest sporting event next to the modern Olympics. If I got the opportunity to attend this event the one tournament that I have not attended it would complete the bowling tournament bucket list.