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Messenger

2023 Regional Players Invitational

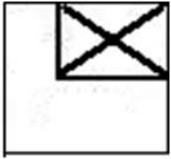
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In the 2023 Regional Players Invitational, the PBA has offered both PBA Players and PBA50 Regional Players an opportunity for the Walter Ray Williams, Jr trophy.

PBA members must have a full PBA membership in order to qualify for the RPI tournament. PBA members also must compete in a minimum of three PBA regional tournaments to be eligible for the tournament. The tournament is a limited field of 84 regular PBA members and 48 PBA50 members. Each region will have a top eight point leaders and a top four in their RPI tournaments for the regular members. As for the PBA50 members in each region, the four on the point list and the top three from the RPI's in each of the six regions. In the Northwest Tournament only the top two will be able to qualify for the PBA50 RPI.

The total prize fund is a total of \$115,000. This tournament payout will be 1 and 3. Bowlers qualifying in the top 8 will receive two buys while qualifiers 9 thru 16 will receive one buy in the regular division. On practice day the PBA50 will bowl a one block of eight games. On the first day of the tournament there will be a banquet for the participant. The top prize of the regular tournament is \$16,000. On the PBA50 side the top prize is \$10,000. For more information bowling fans can log onto PBA.com.





Strike Column

Belmonte, Anthony, Williams, Jr. Analysis

Volume 14 Issue 11

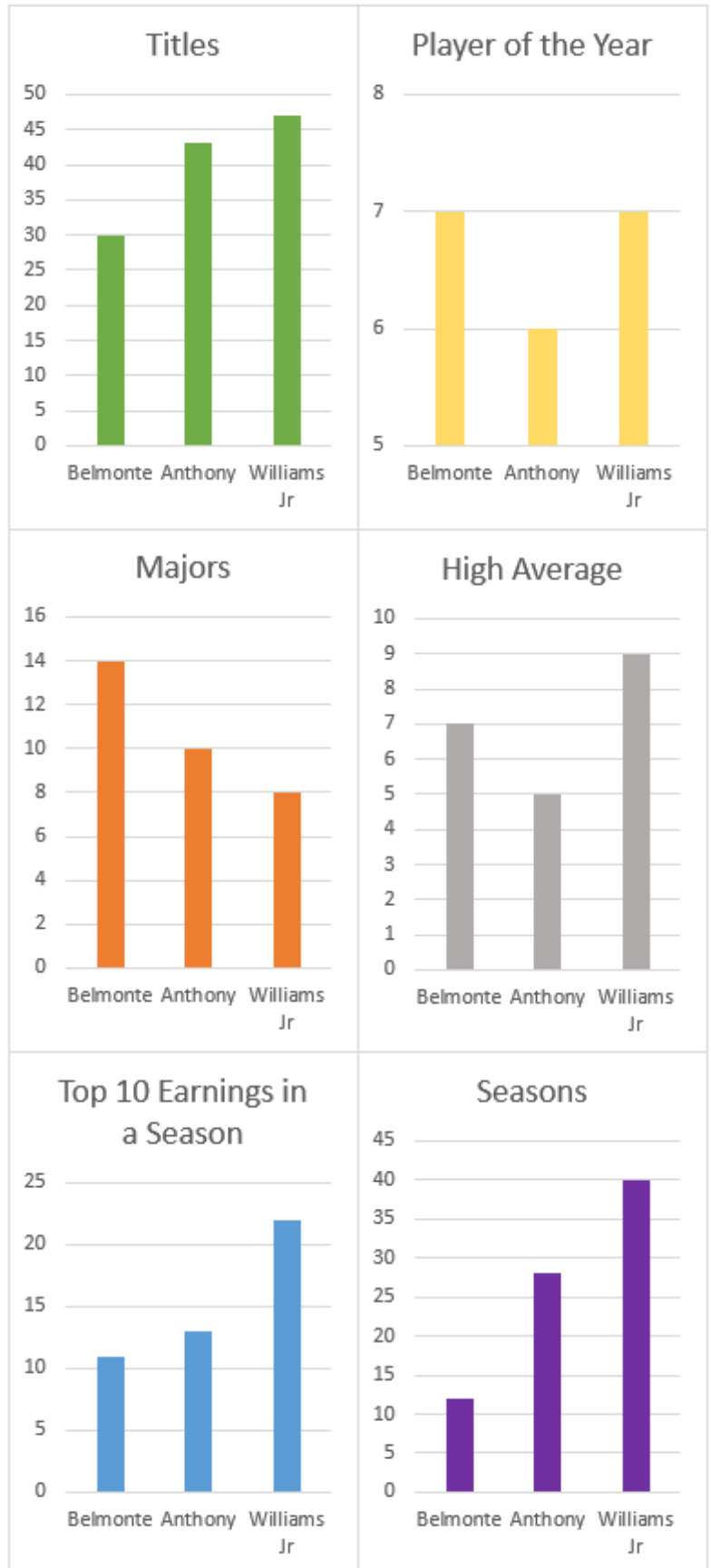
In 2008 the PBA celebrated their 50th year anniversary . The bowling writers voted that Earl Anthony was the greatest player ever in the history of the PBA. Jason Belmonte was the Rookie of the Year in the season of 08-09. Walter Ray Williams Jr was still at the top of the PBA. Jason Belmonte would become the first two-handed bowler to win a PBA title later that season. Four seasons later bowling fans would see another type of bowling in the two-handed style. These three bowlers are perhaps the big three of the PBA Tour. They have won multiple Player of the year honors, also they have been in a force in the Majors. All three of these bowlers knew how to strike in the crucial frames of certain tournaments. The charts at the right indicate how many titles, Majors, Player of the Year awards, high average award winners, Top 10 earnings, and seasons that they did complete or have competed in so far.

Earl Anthony dominated in the 70's and early 80's in that span of time he achieved three significant accomplishments. In 1975 he would become the first bowler to earn a hundred thousand dollars in single season. Earl would later on become the first player to win a million dollars in career earnings. When Earl would earn a Major Tournament, he would win at least twice.

Walter Ray Williams, Jr won a total of 47 titles on the PBA Tour. He became the first bowler to surpass the two- and three-million-dollar earnings mark. Walter would win a total of eight majors. He would also surpass Earl in Player of the Year honors with seven.

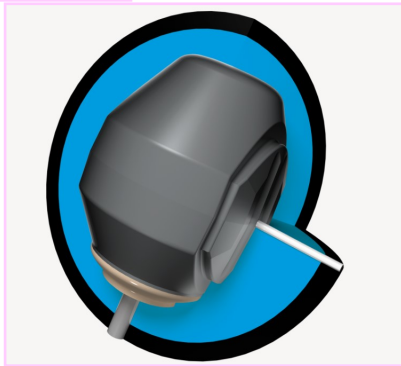
Jason Belmonte has won everything on the PBA Tour. As a two-handed player Belmonte dominated the PBA over the last decade. It is interesting when Walter Ray Williams Jr won his seventh Player of the Year honor. Bowling fans might have thought that Walter Ray Williams Jr was the greatest bowler in PBA history. However, Jason Belmonte has dominated the PBA Tour in the last decade and still has a way to go.

Anthony, Williams Jr and Belmonte are currently the top three of the dozen or so PBA Super Stars. It will be interesting to see who the next three Super Stars of the PBA Tour in the years will be to come.

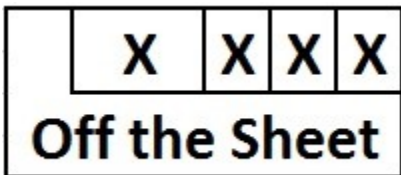




Defender Hybrid



LEVEL Pro
PART NUMBER 60-106835-93X
COLOR Purple / Pink / Violet
CORE Portal X
COVERSTOCK HK22 - A.C.T. 3.0 Hybrid
COVER TYPE Hybrid Reactive
FINISH 500, 1000, 1500 Siaair / Crown Factory Compound
WEIGHTS 16-12 lbs.
RG 2.473
DIFF 0.054
ASY 0.015
WARRANTY Two years from purchase date

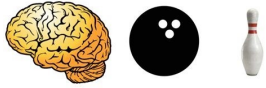


Soaring with Eagles and Robins

Last month, Dennis Bergendorf wrote an article about this year's USBC Open and Women's Championships. Matt McNiel added his fifth Eagle to his Open championships resumé, while Robin Oriowski won her second straight title in the women's championship. Matt McNiel won the team title with a score of 3486. His team consisted of PBA Hall of Famer Ron Mohr and USBC Open Champion Ronnie Sparks. McNiel has already captured four Eagles which will qualify him for the USBC Hall of Fame. The article also discusses how the team All-Event record, which was held by Pollard's Bowl for 26 years, was broken twice in the tournament.



It takes four Eagles to be inducted in the USBC Hall of Fame.



BOWLOLOGY

Bowlology: Bowling Strategy

Bowlology is a tool for bowlers to gain knowledge from the study and practice of bowling. As a Bowlologist, there have been **YouTube** videos that I have seen that really explain the sport of bowling. There are several pro-bowlers that have their own ideas on how bowling should be. Brad Miller and Kyle Sherman have their own **YouTube** channel, even their own coaching program. These two bowlers are maybe not a Jason Belmonte; however, they can show bowlers how to adjust to different lane conditions. One **YouTube** video that I saw featured Keven Williams and how he thought that spares were not important to the game. All bowlers need to do is learn how to throw an eight bagger. However, if a bowler is playing on a PBA pattern, he/she may not have the opportunity to throw an eight bagger. Back in the 1990s, bowling fans could bank on Walter Ray Williams Jr. making his ten-pin to win the title. If he had to strike to win a title, he would strike 50 percent of the time. In today's game, the roles are reversed.

When I began the Bowlology column, it was to educate bowlers on different aspects of the game. A foursome in golf that shot 320 on a Par 72 golf course is going to understand that guy on hole #8 had a double-bogey and another guy on hole 13 had a triple-bogey. While in bowling, a 5-man team that shot only 3150 for 3 games is going to blame the lanes and/or the other players for not playing in the right part of the lane. Those bowlers may have missed a few single pin spares and they could have shot a 3300 or 3400 series.

The goal of Bowlology is to get bowlers to understand the sport of bowling. When the PBA was bowling 42-56 games per week, there were bowlers that did not have a perfect game. However, they could still shoot good games to keep themselves in the Top 5. They probably had a low game of 140-160 and had a high game of 279-300. They had plenty of opportunities to shoot at ten pins and more challenging spares. They might have made one-to-three big splits throughout the course of the tournament. Then they would come back with a double or a turkey. With a limited amount of games on the current PBA Tour, bowlers do not have the same opportunities as the bowler of yesteryear. They can maybe shoot 180 or 190, but they cannot shoot a 150 or a 160. Their high game is definitely going to be in the 270s or higher. Throwing 8 baggers on the PBA Tour is a challenging task. It is more difficult in one sense to be pro bowler today; however, it is easier because bowling fans are not seeing bowlers make their spares like in previous years. There are theories saying that bowlers have to break down the lanes correctly in order to have a good round of bowling.

Bowling on challenging lane conditions can be difficult. However, if a bowler leaves a one pin spare, they need to take advantage by making that spare. If a bowler gets on a string of strikes, he/she needs to also be able to leave something that they can make so that they can take advantage of those strings of strikes that they have thrown. If they leave a hard split to convert, they will lose pins instead of adding to their score.

Bowlers need to analyze their game while they are bowling so they can make the right moves and adjustments to be able to take advantage of the situation. One of the best bowlers—Pete Weber—has won five U.S. Opens. He knew he had time in the U.S. Open to make pins up. At the same time, he also knew he needed to make his spares and stay on top of his game.