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PBA Honorary Member since 2001 Member since 2006

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# **Messenger:**

### O' Neill wins third major & 14th career win

Bill O'Neill won his third major over Tom Smallwood 209 to 178. Smallwood almost converted the 7-10 split. The ten pin went over to the left gutter except the pin did not come out of the gutter. Color commentator Randy Pedersen said it was the closest thing without converting the 7-10 split. Smallwood struggled to come full-circle winning the Players Championship where it all began in the 2009 PBA World Championship.

There was another story brewing at the 2024 PBA Players Championship. The last name was Barnes. However, it was not Chris or Lynda. It was their twin son Ryan Barnes. Ryan & Chris Barnes have become the fifth father & son in PBA history to make a championship round on the PBA Tour. Ryan had started with the front 8 strikes in a row against Chris Via, past US Open Champion, to defeat him 267 to 246. It looked like Ryan was going to be the first bowler to bowl a 300 in a PBA Players Championship round. In the ninth frame, he left the 3-6-10.

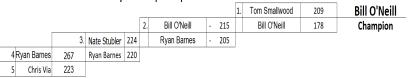




Ryan Barnes

Bill O'Neill

#### 2024 PBA Players Championship















### **PBA Trios Tournament**

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Breakpoint







At the end of January, the PBA and USBC announced a PBA Trios Tournament for the PBA, PWBA, and PBA50 Tours to be hosted in Jonesborough, Arkansas. This will be the first time all three Tours have participated in the same tournament allowing bowling fans to see how the bowlers match up. Each tour will have their own qualifying totals with the top 16 from each tour advancing to match play. Each tour will bowl ten qualifying games. The 1st seeds of each will be made into a team and carrying down through all 16 players. Qualifying scores will be dropped at that point. These 16 teams will then compete in two 8-game blocks to determine the top 5 who move on to the stepladder finals. In the match play portion, it will be Baker format with the first bowler taking frame 1, 4, 7, and 10. The second bowler will play 2, 5, and 8. The third bowler will play 3, 6, and 9. The winning team will get a national title for their respective tours and each bowler on that team will take home \$10,000.

#### Wednesday, July 31

10 a.m. PBA50 Practice Session12 p.m. PWBA Practice Session2 p.m. PBA Practice Session

6 p.m. Pro-am 1 8:30 p.m. Pro-am 2

#### Thursday, Aug. 1

8 a.m. PBA50 Qualifying Round 1 (five games)
1 p.m. PWBA Qualifying Round 1 (five games)
5 p.m. PBA Qualifying Round 1 (five games)

#### Friday, Aug. 2

8 a.m. PBA50 Qualifying Round 2 (five games)
1 p.m. PWBA Qualifying Round 2 (five games)
5 p.m. PBA Qualifying Round 2 (five games)

Cut to top 16 in each division; trios teams matched by seed; pinfall drops

#### Saturday, Aug. 3

8 a.m. Trios Match Play Round 1 (eight games)2 p.m. Trios Match Play Round 2 (eight games)

Cut to top five trios teams

7 p.m. Trios Stepladder Finals (four games)



### **PBA Junior Regional Schedule**



Last month the PBA announced the winners for the 2024 PBA Junior National Championship. Which will be aired on FS1 on March 23rd at 7:30 Eastern. Junior

Players Gianna Brandolino, Kayla Starr, Dmitri Richardson and Ernesto Reynoso will advance to the National Finals. Each 2024 PBA Junior regional qualifier will feature the same tournament format. All players entering competition will play three five game qualifying rounds on the O'Neill, McEwan and Tackett oil patterns. The top 12 players will advance with the top four receiving a one round bye where they will meet the winners of the remaining eight players.

This year, the PBA is adding a Tier 1 point system for the players that advance to the national championship. Each qualifier will receive two thousand dollars in their SMART fund in honor of the Jim Welch Memorial Scholarship.



Gianna Brandolino



Kayla Starr



Dmitri Richardson



Ernesto Reynoso

#### **2024 PBA JR. REGIONAL QUALIFIER SCHEDULE**

PBA Jr. West Regional Qualifier Bowlero North Sacramento | Sacramento, Calif. March 8-10

PBA Jr. South Regional Qualifier Bowlero Altamonte | Altamonte Springs, Fla. April 12-14

PBA Jr. South Regional Qualifier
Bowl America Southwest | Midlothian, Va.
May 3-5
PBA Jr. East Regional Qualifier

Bowlero North Brunswick | North Brunswick, N.J. May 24-26

PBA Jr. Midwest/Central Regional Qualifier Sun Valley Lanes and Games | Lincoln, Neb. June 12-14

PBA Jr. Southwest Regional Qualifier Bowlero Thousand Oaks | San Antonio, Texas June 28-30

> PBA Jr. South Regional Qualifier Myrtle Beach Bowl | Myrtle Beach, S.C. Sept. 6-8

PBA Jr. Midwest/Central Regional Qualifier Bowlero Vernon Hills | Vernon Hills, Ill. Sept. 20-22

> PBA Jr. Southwest Regional Qualifier Bowlero Northrock | Wichita, Kan. Oct. 4-6

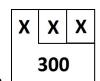
> > PBA Jr. West Regional Qualifier Bowlero Gilbert | Gilbert, Ariz. Oct. 18-20

> > PBA Jr. West Regional Qualifier Bowling center TBD

Nov. 15-17

PBA Jr. East Regional Qualifier East Providence Lanes | Rumford, R.I.

Dec. 6-8



## Tenth Frame Editorial: The 2020 Decade So Far

PBA fans have witnessed some incredible bowling in this decade so far. The 2023 season was the best season of the PBA. In the 1970's, it was Earl Anthony, Mark Roth, and Marshall Holman. In this decade, Kyle Troup won half a million dollars in 2021. In the 2022 Triple Crown events, there was nearly a new Triple Crown winner with one successful bowler, Dom Barrett, at the Tournament of Champions. Anthony Simonsen has really given Jason Belmonte a run for his money in the Majors and is the youngest bowler to win 5 Majors in his career. EJ Tackett , Jason Belmonte, Anthony Simonsen, Kyle Troup and Kris Prather are the leading money winners so far in this decade. Belmonte has become the first bowler to roll three perfect games on national television. At the 2021 US Open, Anthony Neur became the fourth player in PBA history to convert the 7-10 split on national television. Last season had a three-way battle with the current legends of the sport with Tackett, Simonsen and Belmonte competing in the finals of the PBA World Championship. In 2020, Belmonte finally broke through by winning the US Open where he was the second in history to complete the Super Slam. In this decade, there have been three players that have completed the Triple Crown—Belmonte at the 2020 US Open, Dom Barrett at the 2022 Tournament of Champions and EJ Tackett at the 2023 US Open. It has been the kind of decade PBA fans could only dream about.











Upper Left to Lower Right: Anthony Simonsen, Kris Prather, EJ Tackett, Kyle Troup, Jason Belmonte.