



Volume 17, Issue 6

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PBA Honorary Member since 2001

Member since 2006



Players Championship

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Ethan Fiore wins his first career PBA Tour Title at the 2025 PBA Players Championship by defeating Ryan Barnes 233 to 179. In the Championship match, it looked like the battle for the Rookie of the Year race. Both players needed to enter the Tournament of Champions.

"It feels pretty good to be surrounded by the actual best in the world, knowing that they're all champions," Fiore said.

After Kevin McCune lost in the opening match of the second day, there was going to be a first time PBA Tour Champion for the remainder of the championship round. Kevin McCune ran the ladder in the prelims beating Nick Pate, Anthony Simonsen, Jason Sterner and Jason Belmonte. In Jason Sterner's match, Sterner looked to have the match well in hand but he went back to back open in the seventh and eighth frames which gave McCune a second chance at winning the game. Sterner only needed to fill 20 in the tenth to win the game. He could not prevail. In the prelims, Kevin looked like he was lined up as he had three scores in the 240s. The last match in prelims featured Jason Belmonte and Kevin McCune. Jason switched balls in the middle of the game, but it was a ball too late.

The 2025 PBA Players Championship did not see a number of high scores. For an example, the first cut only too 100 over. Reigning Player of the Year EJ Tackett did not even make the first cut. There were five perfect games for the entire tournament. It was hard to strike during the tournament. On the last day of match play, Ryan Barnes would start off with a 170 game then shoot lights out for the rest of the round. Nick Pate would shoot a 250 game the last game of match play to secure a spot in the preliminary championship round. Anthony Simonsen would qualify 7th in the championship round. Jason Belmonte would be at the top of the prelims.



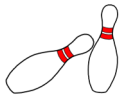
Above: Ethan Fiore– Winner of the 2025 PBA Players Championship



Grip it and rip it.
Turbo's Slogan

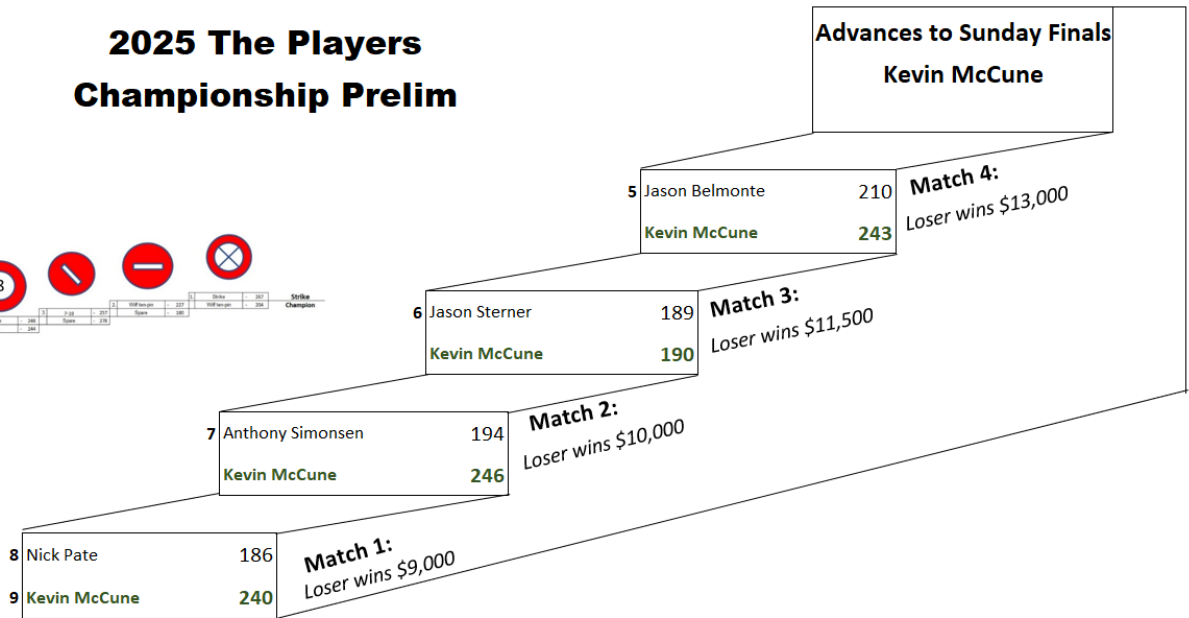
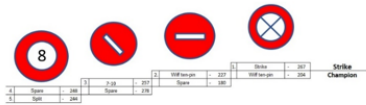


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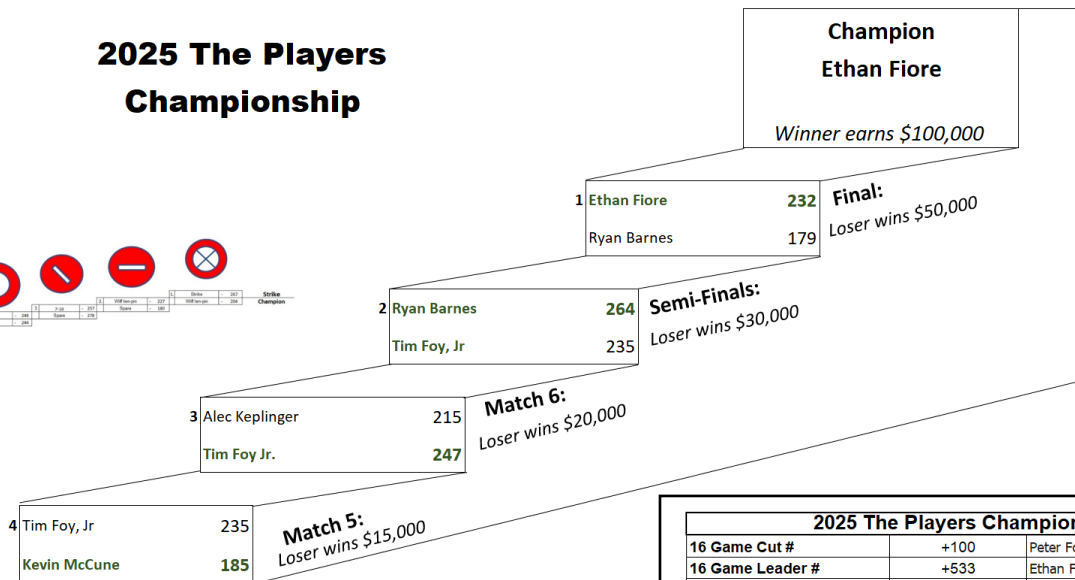
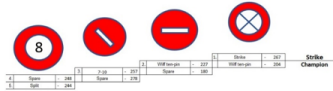


Messenger Continued: 2025 Players Championship

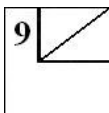
2025 The Players Championship Prelim



2025 The Players Championship



2025 The Players Championship		
16 Game Cut #	+100	Peter Fox
16 Game Leader #	+533	Ethan Fiore
24 Game Cash #	+346	Andrew Hall
24 Game Cut #	+321	Sean Rash
24 Game Leader #	+781	Ethan Fiore
32 Game Cut #	+541	Jason Sterner
32 Game Leader #	+908	Ethan Fiore
48 Game Cut	+1084	Kevin McCune
48 Game Top 5 Guaranteed	+1443	Tim Foy, Jr
48 Game Leader	+1625	Ethan Fiore
300 # Games	5	Green, DeWitt, Pate, Rock, Keplinger, Sterner
Championship Round Stats		
High Game	264	Ryan Barnes
Low Game	179	Ryan Barnes
High Match	264-235	Ryan Barnes vs Tim Foy, Jr
Low Match	190-189	Jason Sterner vs Kevin McCune
Average Winning Game	237.13	



Spare Column: Tournament of Champions

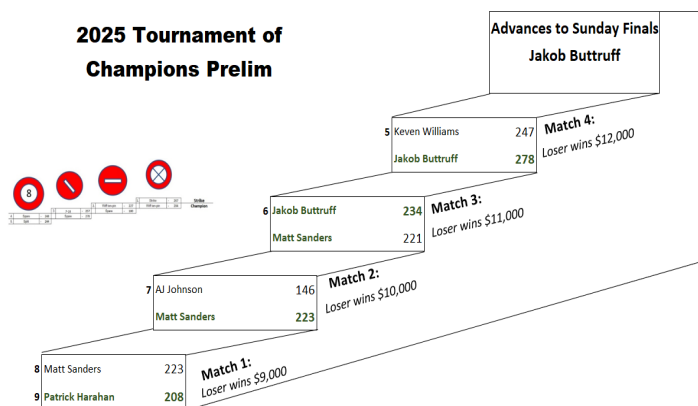
Jesper Svensson joined an elite group of bowlers when he won his second Tournament of Champions title by defeating Jakob Buttruff 221 to 197. It would take Jesper nine years in the making for Jesper to win his second Tournament of Champions title. This was his second career major and his 13th PBA Career Title. Jesper led it from the first round of matchplay and never looked back. Svensson would win 19 of his 24 game round robin match play.

"I am extremely happy and relieved that I could pry this off," Svensson said. "I felt like I've had a chance all week. It's been mine to grab. It's always tough coming down to the very last game, anything can really happen. I feel like those are the moments where I haven't been at my best in the past. I was today, so that was awesome."

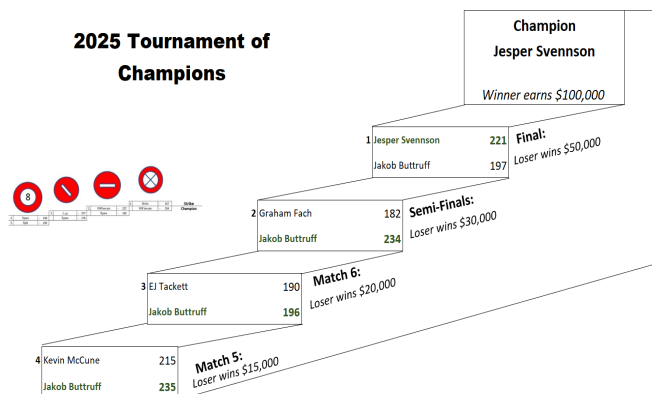
This years three Triple Crown events saw EJ Tackett having a chance to complete the Triple Crown in one season. However EJ Tackett could not get lined up to Jakob Buttruff 196 to 190. Jakob Buttruff was climbing the ladder in hitting the pocket considerably well. He ran into trouble in the last match against Jesper Svensson. In the prelim show it looked like Matt Sanders was going to climb the ladder like Kevin McCune did at the Players Championship. However in the third match Sanders would run into trouble as he could not takedown Jakob Buttruff.

In the preliminary rounds of the 2025 Tournament of Champions there were a total of eight perfect games. EJ Tackett would be the 18 game leader qualifying leader with a score of +748. Tackett would shot a perfect game in the last round of qualifying. Bailey Maverick would be the number to get into the round robin match play with a score +424. PBA Hall of Famer inductee of 2025 Bill O'Neill would grab the last cash spot with a score of +376. Other past champions that made the top 24 were Mika Koivuniemi, Dom Barrett, Jason Belmonte, and Francois Lavoie.

2025 Tournament of Champions Prelim



2025 Tournament of Champions



2025 Tournament of Champions

18 Game Cash #	+376	Bill O'Neill
18 Game Cut #	+424	Bailey Maverick
18 Game Leader	+748	EJ Tackett
42 Game Cut	+1432	Patrick Hanrahan
48 Game Top 5 Guaranteed	+1561	Kevin McCune
48 Game Leader	+1934	Jesper Svensson
300 # Games	8	Matt Sanders, Kevin McCune, Tom Daugherty, Ethan Fiore, Jakob Buttruff, EJ Tackett, Jesper Svensson, AJ Johnson
Championship Round Stats		
High Game	278	Jakob Buttruff
Low Game	146	AJ Johnson
High Match	278-247	Keven Williams vs Jakob Buttruff
Low Match	223-146	Matt Sanders vs AJ Johnson
Average Winning Game	230.5	



Jespers Svensson winner of the 2025 Tournament of Champions



Lane Markings: Tournament of Champions Facts

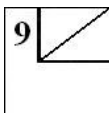
Through these doors pass the world's finest bowlers

1. 1962 Joe Joseph won the inaugural Tournament of Champions.
2. 1965 Billy Hardwick won the Tournament of Champions in Akron, Ohio where the Tournament would be held for 28 years.
3. 1966 The Tournament of Champions was contested at Riveria Lanes where the Tournament was held for 28 years.
4. 1967 Jack Bindillio have the first perfect game on National television.
5. 1970 Don Johnson would leave a ten pin on his final ball to shut his infamous 299 game.
6. 1973 Jim Godman would become the first player in PBA History to win the Tournament on multiple times
7. 1975 the PBA would have their inaugural PBA Hall of Fame ceremony.
8. 1976 Marshall Holman became the youngest player to win the Tournament of Champions
9. 1978 Earl Anthony becomes the first player to earn 30 titles by winning the Tournament of Champions beating Teata Semiz 237 to 192 to win his second TOC Title.
10. 1979 George Pappas won the Tournament of Champions and led from Game 1 to the Finals
11. 1982 Mike Durbin would win his second Tournament of Champions title
12. 1984 Mike Durbin becomes the first bowler to win three Tournament of Champions
13. 1986 Marshall Holman won his second Tournament of Champions and became the third bowler to surpass \$1,000,000 in career earnings.
14. 1987 Pete Weber became the fourth bowler to win \$1,000,000 in career earnings.
15. 1989 25th Anniversary of the Tournament of Champions
16. 1991 Before the championship round a bowling fan called in a bomb threat.
17. 1992 Marc McDowell became the first president of the PBA to win the Tournament of Champions.
18. 1993 George Branham III became the first African American to win the Tournament of Champions.
19. 1995 Mike Aulby became the fourth bowler to complete the Triple Crown and the first bowler to complete the Grand Slam.
20. 1997 it was all left-handers in the stepladder finals of the Brunswick World Tournament of Champions.
21. 2000 Jason Couch became the first player to successfully defend a Tournament of Champions title
22. 2002 Jason Couch became the first bowler to three-peat the Tournament of Champions
23. 2007 Michael Haugen Jr. came back from a 50 pin deficit in the final match to win the tournament
24. 2010 Kelly Kulick became the first woman to win the Tournament of Champions
25. 2011 Mika Koivuniemi and Tom Daugherty had the biggest margin of victory 299 to 100 in the semi-final match. Mika would go on to win the Tournament of Champions worth \$250,000 first place prize.
26. 2013 Pete Weber becomes the first player to complete the Triple Crown twice at the TOC by beating Jason Belmonte.
27. 2015 Sean Rash would become the first player in PBA history to bowl two perfect games on National Television. Jason Belmonte would become the second bowler to successfully defend his TOC title.
28. 2019 Jason Belmonte would his third Tournament of Champions title by beating EJ Tackett 225 to 195. He would join Jason Couch and Mike Durbin as being the only the three bowlers to accomplish this feat.
29. 2023 Jason Belmonte would become the first player to four Tournament of Champions.
30. 2025 Jesper Svennson would join Johny Petraglia, Steve Cook, Earl Anthony and Dave Davis as the only lefties to win at Riveria Lanes.

Multiple Winners of the TOC

Jason Belmonte —4 (2014, 2015, 2017, & 2023)
 Jason Couch-3 (1999, 2000, 2002)
 Mike Durbin —3 (1972, 1982, 1984)
 Jesper Svennson-2 (2016 & 2025)

Pete Weber-2 (1987 & 2013)
 Dave Davis-2 (1968 & 1975)
 Marshall Holman-2 (1976 & 1986)
 Mark Williams— 2 (1985 & 1988)



Spare Column: The Battle of the Brands

Team Storm 2025 winner of Manufacturers Cup by defeating Team Motiv 2-0. The Team consisted of Jason Belmonte, Kyle Troup, Chris Via, Jesper Svensson, Francis Lavoie, and manager Tyler Jensen. This team was staffed with major champions. The PBA Elite League Battle of the Brands was a season long run point system with the brands deciding what bowlers were going to bowl during each tournament.

"There's an emotional attachment to this," Belmonte said. "The founder and owner of this company passed away, and since his passing, with everything we ever do we try to live up to what he did for this company."

In the championship match Team Storm and Team Motiv converted three splits in the first game in the race to two points. It was a low scoring match Team Storm won 189 to 186 to give them a one point lead. Team Storm got lined up and threw the first five strikes in a row to make it hard for Team Motiv to catch up.

PBA ELITE LEAGUE BATTLE OF THE BRANDS PRESENTED BY SEATBOX			
TEAM STANDINGS THROUGH PBA TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS			
1	STORM	62,355	▲
2	MOTIV	61,997	▼
3	Brunswick	47,734	—
4	900 GLOBAL	43,069	—
5	ROTO GRIP	42,083	—
6	HAMMER	39,919	—
7	EBONITE	30,746	▲
8	DV8	30,388	▼



Team Storm—winner of the Battle of the Brands-
Manufacturers Cup

Teams and Players

Storm—62,355

1. Jason Belmonte
2. Francois Lavoie
3. Jesper Svensson
4. Kyle Troup
5. Chris Via

Motiv—61,997

1. Ethan Fiore
2. AJ Johnson
3. Tom Smallwood
4. EJ Tackett
5. Santtu Tahvanainen

Brunswick—47734

1. Dom Barret
2. Graham Fach
3. Packy Hanrahan
4. Jason Sterner

900 Global—43,069

1. Andrew Anderson
2. Chris Barnes
3. Mitch Hupe
4. Ryan Barnes

Roto Grip—42,083

1. Kevin McCune
2. BJ Moore
3. Kris Prather
4. Anthony Simonsen

Hammer—39,919

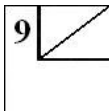
1. Tom Daugherty
2. David Krol
3. Shawn Maldonado
4. Bill O'Neill

Ebonite—30,746

1. Jakob Butturff
2. Tommy Jones
3. Jake Peters
4. Matt Sanders

DV8—30,388

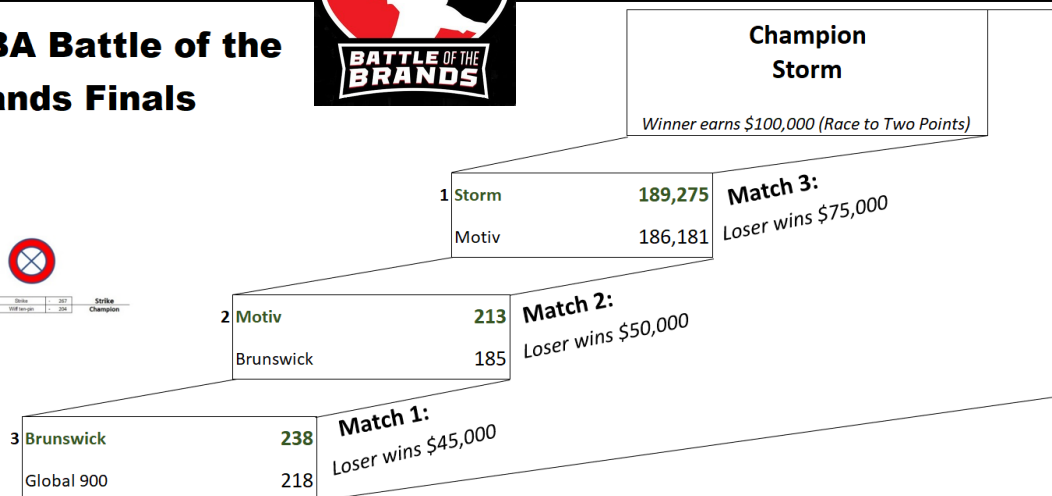
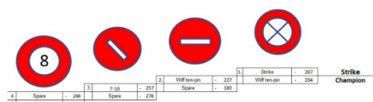
1. Bailey Mavrick
2. Matt Ogle
3. Nate Purches
4. Keven Williams



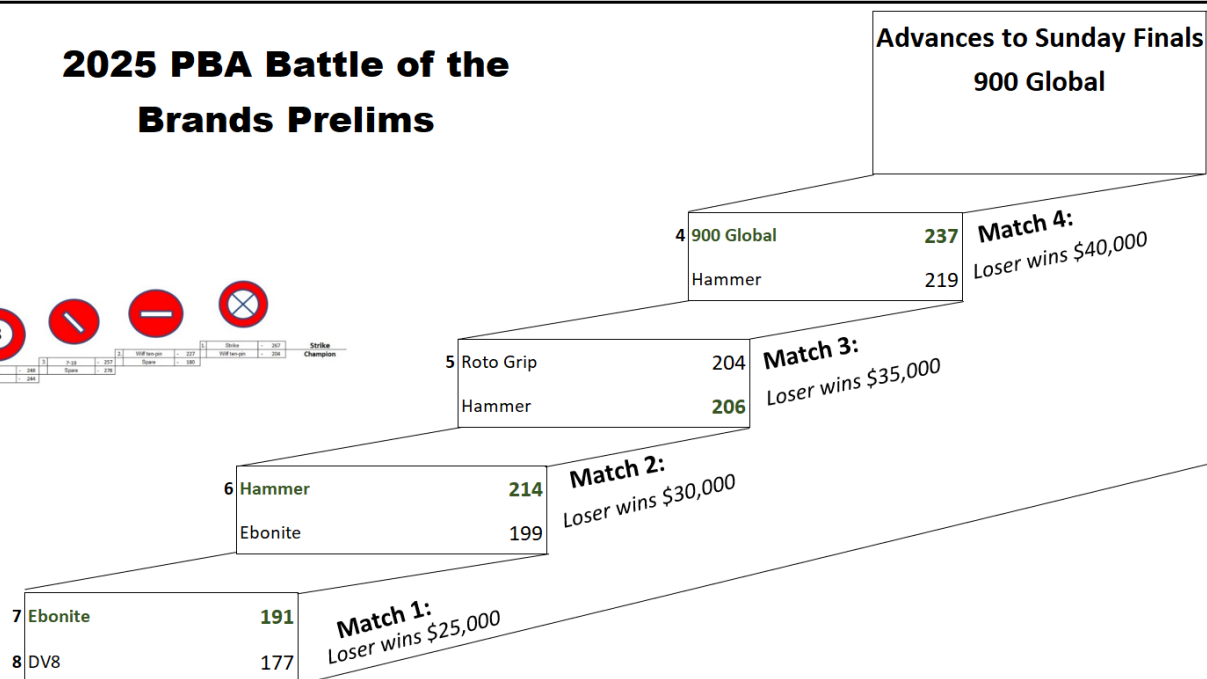
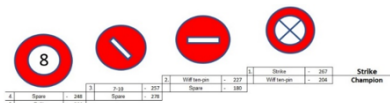
Spare Column: The Battle of the Brands Continued



2025 PBA Battle of the Brands Finals

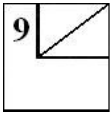


2025 PBA Battle of the Brands Prelims



Battle of the Brands

High Game	275	Team Storm
Low Game	177	Team DV8
High Match	456/456	Team Brunswick vs Global 900/Team Storm vs Team Motiv
Low Match	191 vs 177	Team Ebonite vs Team DV8
Average Winning Game	220	



2025 PBA Hall of Fame Class

Volume 17 Issue 6

On the 18th of last month the PBA inducted two players into the Superior Performance category, one into the Pioneer category, and one into the Meritorious Service category. The three bowlers totaled six majors, one Rookie of the Year, one Player of the Year and a total of 37 PBA Tour Titles. Finally there was the Meritorious service award winner was not on the lanes, but had a very important role doing the television production for the PBA. This person would do it for 27 years from 1993 to 2020 Dave Schroeder.

Bill O' Neill during his career he had captured 15 PBA titles and three majors. In the 05-06 PBA Tour Season, he was the Harry Golden Rookie of the Year.

"I truly never thought that I would be here," O'Neill said of entering the PBA Hall of Fame. "Some guys that are out here, it's like preordained that they're going to end up here. I never felt like that was me.

Sean Rash has entered into the PBA Hall of Fame class with 17 titles and two majors (2007 USBC Masters & 2012 Tournament of Champions). Rash was the first bowlers advancing from the Tour Qualifying Round back in 2006. Sean won his first seven matches on national television. Rash became the first bowler to bowl multiple 300's on television at the 2015 Tournament of Champions.

"When I got to Wichita State, I found out that we had some good bowlers that went on tour, guys like Chris Barnes, Justin Hromek, Lonnie Waliczek, Rick Steelsmith, and there's been a few more. Then I started to learn about the sport and where it could take you."

George Branham III became the first African-American to win a PBA Tour title in 1986 when he captured the Brunswick Memorial World Open in 1986. George would capture four more titles on the PBA Tour including the 1993 Tournament of Champions. He also became the first African-American to win a PBA Major Title.

"This is unbelievable. When they told me that I was going to be in the Hall of Fame, I spent the last two months in this fog. 'Is this really going to happen? Am I alive?'" Branham said.

Dave Schroeder started his career with the PBA in 1993. Schroeder would serve the PBA as the PBA television coordinator. Dave would do his task for 27 years. Schroeder would also launch an online video streaming service called Xtra Frame.

"Whether on the set or behind the scenes, Dave was a driving force in shaping the broadcast and inspiring all of those around."

PBA HALL OF FAME

CLASS OF 2025



BILL O'NEILL

PERFORMANCE



SEAN RASH

PERFORMANCE



**GEORGE
BRANHAM III**

PIONEER



**DAVE
SCHROEDER**

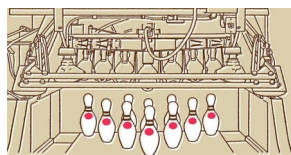
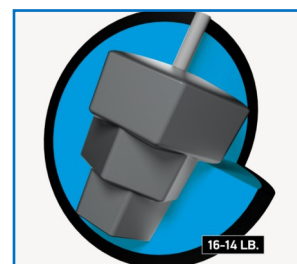
MERITORIOUS SERVICE



Balls of the Lanes: Crown Victory

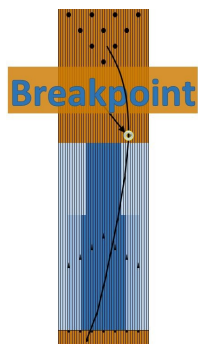


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PART NUMBER	60-108379-93X
COLOR	Sapphire / Black
CORE	Tiered Hexagon
COVERSTOCK	HK22 - Savvy Hook Hybrid
COVER TYPE	Hybrid Reactive
FINISH	500, 1000, 1500 Siaair / Crown Factory Compound
WEIGHTS	16-12 lbs.
RG	2.540 (15 lb.)
DIFF	0.045 (15 lb.)
WARRANTY	Two years from purchase date
RELEASE DATE	April 17, 2025



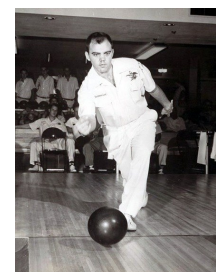
Re-Rack from the Past: Japan Cup

In 1985, the PBA started a new tournament called the Japan Cup. The PBA and the JPBA would send the top 16 from each tour for a single tournament of 32. All bowlers would bowl 32 games of Round Robin and the top 6 would make the television show. There have been only three JPBA winners and the remaining winners have been from the PBA. Parker Bohn III has the most repeat titles with four: 1992, 1998, 1999 and 2000.



Breakpoint: The Last Budweiser Team Member

Ray Bluth passed away April 9th. He was a member of the famous Budweiser team which shot 3858, a record that held until 1994. He was one of the members who had a perfect game along with two 268 games. Bluth was also a founding member of the PBA. In 1975, he joined the inaugural PBA Hall of Fame class. Bluth also won Doubles Titles with the legendary Dick Weber. He won two PBA titles and served as the PBA president. He will be remembered and greatly missed.



Breakpoint: USBC Hall of Famer

Last month, the bowling industry lost a USBC Hall of Famer: Pete Tountas. Tountas was a past winner of the USBC Masters. He would go on to win another PBA Tour title. Pete was the Tournament Chairman of the Tucson Open on the PBA Tour. He will be greatly missed.

