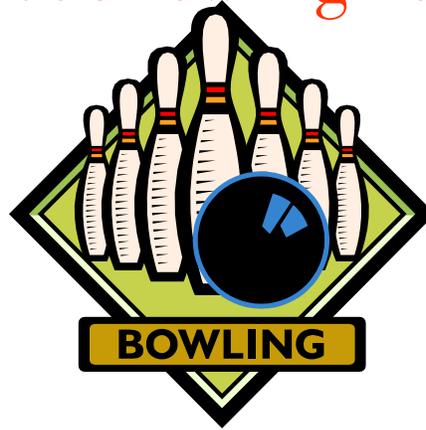


Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 2

August 2009



Editorial

In this month's edition of the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter, I thought I would do something a little bit different. I am going to tell you what bowling is like in the Professional tour. We will be talking with 2009 USBC Champion John Nolen. We will also be looking at the highest scoring record in the history of the PBA. So enjoy this edition of the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.

The PBA is the greatest aspect that our sport has ever known. When Eddie Elias founded the PBA he wanted a place for the best bowlers in the world to compete. This is what he did when he founded the PBA. Some bowlers would maybe tend to disagree because of the prize funds and the lack of sponsorships; other professional sports have a lot more money to give their professional athletes. With the Megabuck Tournament in the late 80's and early 90's there wasn't a good reason why to join the

PBA when you could make \$200,000.00 in one tournament, whereas you were lucky to get \$20,000.00 in a PBA tournament. However, the Megabuck Tournament did not have points, high average, and player of the year to award to their best players in those tournaments. In June of this year, I went to a Regional in Terre Haute, Indiana and I talked with Robert Smith about why he did not join the PBA any earlier. He said the reason why was that there was simply more money in the Megabucks Tournament than the PBA. This leads me into my next statement which is there no standard in bowling. There was a bowler that was in a championship match at a PBA Regional earlier this year and he was trying to lose on purpose because if he would win he would have to join the PBA and lose his amateur status. In the 08-09 Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour, we saw new winners, legends of the game, and superstars of today win a title. We saw a little bit of everything. Is PBA getting better? In my opinion, Tom Clark is trying to showcase the best bowlers of the world. I really think that the best bowlers in the world are here in the US. We see that time and time again with the Japan Cup with only one Japanese professional bowler winning the Japan Cup in over 20 years. With multiple lane patterns in one tournament this is going to make the best bowlers be the best bowlers in the world.

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Editorial—Continued

With multiple lane patterns in one tournament this is going to make the best bowlers *be* the best bowlers in the world. This is what the PBA is all about, providing an elite bowling tournament environment for the best bowlers in the world with a variety of different tournament formats and multiple lane conditions in one tournament. Hopefully the PBA can showcase the bowlers and let the public know that it takes a lot to be a pro bowler.

How do you bowl out on the PBA tour? Do you go to local scratch tournaments where they might have a PBA pattern out? Where is the best possible experience that you can get to bowl on the PBA Tour? These questions are what every bowler has to answer in order to have a chance being a pro bowler for a career. You can bowl in an PBA experienced league but the problem is you're not going to probably have the same reaction in different centers because no two lanes are the same. Meaning you could average 220 on the Cheetah pattern in your center but when you when you go to another center on the same pattern you could only average 190. I've seen the best bowlers in the world bowl week in and week out and how they manage different centers around the country. This is what they're paid to do, and they're pretty dang good at it. I looked at some of the pattern championships results and saw what bowlers did well on the five different patterns. In my bowling experiences, I have seen a lot of different things from Joe Bowler winning a local scratch tournament to Walter Ray Williams Jr. winning his 45th PBA Tour title. You see what adjustments the amateur makes and the pro makes. There's a big difference, that's why you see your favorite bowler on TV week in and week out. For an example, my dad was bowling at a local scratch tournament about an hour away from my home. His first game out he shoots about a 150 game, and we thought that he was out of the tournament but the second game he comes back and shoots a 250 game. To make a long story short, he ends up being last after the first game and to winning the tournament. A pro

example of this would be when Parker was going into the last round of match play before the show he was about 400 out of the final spot for the show. He ends up having a heck of a round and picking up 300 pins to miss the show only by 130 pins. There are three different levels of pro bowlers...the first is obviously the pro that is on TV, the second is the regional pro bowler, finally the third is an amateur professional. The sad thing is that in bowling we do have such a thing as an amateur professional. This bowler is the bowler that bowls in the Megabucks Tournament and weekend tournaments. The regional bowler is one that competes in PBA Regional Tournaments, now he might try a TQR every now and then but more than likely not. Finally the exempt player, this player bowls week in and week out on the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour. All three of these professionals have one goal in common and that goal is to be the best bowler that they can be in that tournament for that week. They figure out how to hit the pocket, what ball to use, what adjustments they need to make, and how they're going to read the lanes. All three of these pros have somewhere in the neighborhood of 5 to 30 balls to compete in that tournament. Most of the shots that pros are doing is the big hook shot. They're sliding around the 35th board getting the ball out to the 1 board and swinging it back to the pocket. Sometimes we refer to this as the Hollywood shot. The problem with the Hollywood shot is that it looks good but it can leave nasty splits like the 2-4-10, 2-4-8-10, or even the 2-8-10. These are hard splits to cover if you leave a couple of them in one game you're more than likely to shoot a 150 or even a 140 game. If you start out with a game like that it's hard to come back and get back in the tournament. However, if you go down the boards you are more likely to hit the pocket and get 8, 9, or a strike on your first shot. There's a variety of different ways to bowl. Mark Roth and Pete Weber might be the greatest of all time to hook the bowling ball. They both have US Open Titles and a lot of titles on the PBA Tour. They know how to bowl.

Keeping the pins low is the way to score than flying them all around because the pins will roll on the pin deck if they fly around inertia will be a factor.

So here is the big question that bowlers and bowling fans are asking. Which Tournament is better? The PBA Tour, the Regionals, or the MegaBucks Tournament. There are different views on this question, but my personal belief is that the PBA currently is the best bowling tournament in the world and I will always believe this.

Please send me your thoughts on this question.

Thank you for reading this edition of the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter.

PBA Trivia Wizard

This month and in the coming months we will be doing trivia. Please submit your answers via e-mail to: jhbnl@comcast.net. The first five people that answer this correctly will get a 10% coupon sponsored by bowlinggift.com. Thank you bowlinggift.com for contributing to the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.

Who will be the next PBA Trivia Wizard?

1. Who is the only person to win three Tournament of Champions in a row?
2. Who won the 2009 Etonic Marathon Open?



Moments in History

I was fortunate to attend the highest scoring show in PBA history. The year was 1996 at the Flagship Open in Erie, Pennsylvania. What was also significant about this show was that the hometown pro-bowler, Bob Learn Jr., shot a 300 his first game and a record for four games of 1129. For the day, he averaged 282.25. Even his opponents averaged 270.5!!! It was such a close show that he only outscored his opponent by an average of 11 pins a game. It was an



amazing show. Being there in person while history was being made was a thrill. In the third match, Bob Learn Jr. got to re-shot his ten-pin because there was a distraction and his opponent lost by one pin. It seemed like anybody could shoot a 300 game at any moment.

The lowest game that was shot was a 257 by Randy Pederson which also happened to be the last game.

The other bowlers that made the show were: Parker Bohn III, John Mazza, and Johnny Petraglia. They all struck a lot that day.



Interview of the Month: John Nolen

Q: What do you think of the World Series of Bowling?

A: I think it's great especially for me, because I live like 30 miles from Thunderbowl. The amount of money that the PBA is going to save by having the World Series in one location is definitely going to help the tour to grow and reach new heights.

Q: What do you think of the past Champions Exemption? And who do you think deserves it?

A: I think it's great that the PBA is offering a former exempt player the opportunity to be back on the tour. As far as this year's exemption, the list of past champions is a great one, there are the likes of Voss, Hoskins, M. Williams, and Moncelli, to name a few. Personally, I'd like to see either Voss or Moncelli get the exemption.

Q: What do you think of the expanded field at the World Series?

A: I think it's great. There are so many talented bowlers in the world that are good enough to bowl on the PBA Tour, but with the field being limited to 64 players their chances are limited, so any kind of expansion of the field is a good thing.

Q: What does being a PBA member mean to you?

A: It means being a part of the greatest bowling organization in the world, and that is a pretty special feeling. I look forward to helping carry the torch of the PBA mystique for many years to come.

Probowlersuperfan.com is one of the most informative web sites on the PBA Tour, and its players. I am honored to be a part of Josh's web site, and look forward to a long lasting friendship on and off the lanes.

Comment:

Last Month's PBA Wizard Trivia Winner

Kathleen Watson

Last Month's Answers:

- 1.) John Nolen
- 2.) Parker Bohn III



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This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.

It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Back Page Story Headline

This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance. A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your

organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees. If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for ven-

dors every third Tuesday of the month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.