



## Practice Pair

Hello, Bowling Fans!

Welcome to another edition of *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*. The **Messenger** is a preview 5th World Series of Bowling. The **Strike Column** takes a look at the major championship of the PBA. In the **Kingpin Column**, Stuart Williams is the "Interview of the Month." **Breakpoint** covers the PBA50 Dick Weber Sportsmanship Award. The **Moment In History** discusses when Couch became the first bowler to win three consecutive TOC's. The **Split Column** looks at a bowler that passed the \$1 million dollar mark at the TOC. The **Spare Column** recaps the Central Regional Player's Invitational. **In the Pocket** is the Top 80 Moments of the PBA Tour. **Bowlology** discusses bowling as a surface sport. Finally, the **Tenth Frame** is an editorial entitled "Bowlology for All." **X-tra Frame Spotlight** highlights the RPIs. I hope you enjoy this edition of the *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*.

- Josh Hyde

## Messenger

### 5th World Series of Bowling Preview

At this year's World Series of Bowling there is a record of international players representing 20 different countries. The most entries from another country is 8 bowlers from Australia. The second place is 7 by Japan. With six weeks to go the fifth WSOB was sold out. This included the 6 RPI winners from each region. Bowlers will have an opportunity to win 4 standard PBA Tour titles and 1 Major, with a spot in the 2014 Tournament of Champions. There will be a total of 7 different televised events at this WSOB. Last year the Americans dominated the WSOB. Plus there will be a PBA League challenge exclusively on X-tra Frame the online bowling channel. On top of that the PBA League draft for the 2014 PBA League season. Plus there will be one single's Regional and one member/non-member doubles Regional Tournament.

Bowling fans can expect players that are in the running for the Player of the Year Award to make a statement at the Fifth WSOB. Jason Belmonte can be the only player to be in every Major Championship Round also he can be in every Championship Match of the Majors. This will be the first time a player has ever accomplished this feat.

Pete Weber can become the third consecutive player of the year by winning the Tournament of Champions. He will need to dominate the fifth WSOB and hope that Belmonte does not have a good WSOB. This will be Pete Weber's first Player of the Year Award honor.

Defending Champion of the 2013 PBA World Championship is Parker Bohn III. He could be a definite factor in the Player of the Year race. He won the PBA World Championship and the finals in the Japan Cup. He got fourth in the USBC Masters.

There will be four Animal Pattern Championships. Those patterns include Cheetah, Scorpion, Viper and Chameleon. The bowlers will bowl 7 games of qualifying with the top 32 cashing and the top 24 bowling another 7 games of qualifying after a total of 14 games the top 4 will advance to the stepladder televised finals. The PBA World Championship format will include the four Animal pattern championships qualifying scores. After a total of 28 qualifying the top 60 will cash, the top 24 will advance to 24 round robin match play after a total of 52 games of qualifying and match play. The top 5 will advance to the televised stepladder finals.

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#### MISSION STATEMENT:

*To provide bowling fans important bowling news, thoughtful analysis, and keen observations about professional and regional bowling tournaments.*

#### VISION:

*To be the highest quality bowling publication that the author can create using the best of his knowledge and observation.*



## Strike Column – Major Championship Streaks in Championship Rounds

“Majors” are difficult to win. It’s hard to make the championship round at a “major”. Only a few selected of the greatest bowlers have made multiple championship rounds in the “majors”. To make the championship round in the same “major” of the next season is very challenging. On top of that it is grueling to successfully defend a “Major” title. The lane conditions are so demanding at these “Major” tournaments it’s always hard to hit the pocket in these tournaments.

The longest streak is 5 years held by Earl Anthony, and Don Johnson. Johnson made 5 Tournament of Champions between ‘67 - ‘71. Anthony made 5 PBA World Championships between ‘71 - ‘75 with winning the last three tournaments. To win the same tournament three times in a row is an astonishing feat. He did this twice in his professional bowling career. The chart below shows the number of bowlers that have made consecutive “major” Championship round and “major” tournaments. Another amazing fact is that Mike Durbin won two out of his three Tournament of Champions titles in ‘82 and ‘84 as well as making the show in ‘83. He won his first Tournament of Champions in ‘72. Jason Couch did the unbelievable feat of three-peating at the ‘02 Tournament of Champions. This was a breathtaking moment when he did that because the Tournament of Champions is the hardest field with only PBA Champions.

The U.S. open is the hardest tournament to win because of the demanding lane conditions. There

have only been a hand full of perfect games in the last couple years at this Tournament. The great Walter Ray Williams Jr. has made four Championship rounds in a row. He made it in ‘01, ‘03, ‘04 and ‘05. The kicker is he only won once. He was voted number two of all-time in the 50 greatest by the bowling writers back in ‘09.

Dick Weber won four All-Star which is formally known as the U.S. Open. Both times that he did this he defended his title. The first time that he won it was back to back. The next year he came in second place. He could have very easily won three All-Stars in a row.

Pete Weber may be the greatest player without a Player of the Year honor. In the 1989 PBA national championship he was looking to become the third player in PBA history to complete the Triple Crown. He had made three consecutive shows from the previous years at the PBA National Championship the fourth time was the charm.

All of these players know how to bowl in these major tournaments. Of these bowlers that have consecutive events, there’s only a few that have won multiple consecutive majors. This speaks volumes at how hard a major is to win on the PBA Tour. All of the great bowlers are going to be a threat in the major tournaments.

Rank	Bowler	Tournament	# of Consecutive Events	Years
1	Don Johnson	Tournament of Champions	5	67-71
	Earl Anthony	PBA National Championship	5	71-75
3	Pete Weber	PBA National Championship	4	86-89
	Walter Ray Williams Jr.	U.S. Open	4	01, 03, 04, 05
	Mike Aulby	Tournament of Champions	4	86-89
6	Mike Durbin	Tournament of Champions	3	82-84
	Dick Weber	BPAA Allstar	3	61-63
	Mark Roth	PBA National Championship	3	77-79
	Jason Couch	Tournament of Champions	3	99 - 00, 02
	Billy Hardwick	BPAA Allstar	3	68-70



## Moments in History

### Couch becomes First Player to Win Three Consecutive TOC's

The PBA did not have a Tournament of Champions in the year 2001. Jason Couch had won the previous two tournaments. He bowled great all week it was a different format. This time it was completely match play. Before completion started, the players drew to discover the opening matchup. The Round of 32, 16, and 8 would all be the best of five games. Back in 2000, Ryan Shaffer lost to Couch who successfully defended his 1999 title. They both made the championship round in 2002. It was another chance for Shaffer to get revenge at this tournament against Couch. If they could win their opening game, except this

time the scores were much higher. Back in 2000, the scores were low. Couch only had a 212 against Robert Smith in the Semi-final. Shaffer on the other hand had a 234 against Patrick Healy Jr. Things were looking good for Shaffer as Couch could not get anything going in his semifinal. Fortunately, Couch made a move and started to strike. Shaffer to struggle to hit the pocket. Couch started with the front five in the championship game. This gave him an opportunity to take advantage and claim his third consecutive ToC title. The final score was 266-224

## Breakpoint

### Robert Harvey Wins PBA50 Dick Weber Sportsmanship Award

Dick Weber Sportsmanship Award Winner Robert Harvey was selected to win the PBA50 Dick Weber Sportsmanship Award.

He had a high finish of second at the PBA50 Treasure Bland Resort and Casino Open presented by Motiv, when he lost to Pete Weber 243-227. The game before, he shot a 300 in the semi-finals. Harvey had a couple of top five finishes he said this season was the most consistent year he ever had. He cashed in all but three tournaments.

Harvey also won the award back in 2010.

*Pictured right: Robert Harvey, Dick Weber Sportsmanship Award winner*



## Interview of the Month: Stuart Williams

**Q:** What Major would you prefer to win? Why?

**A:** I think that if i had a choice it would probably be either the US Open or the Tournament of Champions as these two majors have the most prestige for the players. However i would also love to win the masters from a historical point of view

**Q:** Would you rather strike for a title or mark? Why?

**A:** I think that everyone would rather strike for the win, as this is what you practice every day for. However that is only if you are successful, if i need either one of these to win then i would take a mark as it is easier

**Q:** What do you think of the new PBA League and how could it be improved in the future?

**A:** I love the concept of the new league format. I think it could be improved on going to more venues and having more focus on team bowling, rather than using individual results to make up team totals

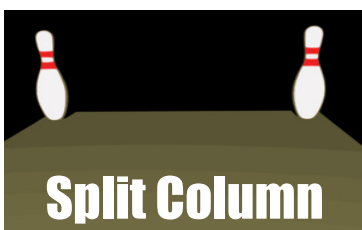
**Q:** How many bowling balls do you carry to a PBA Tournament?

**A:** I rent a shelf on the PBA tour truck, so I carry around 40 balls a week to tournaments

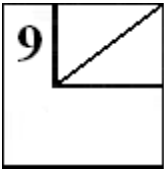
**Q:** When did you decide to turn pro, what was the deciding factor?

**A:** I decided to turn pro about 4 years ago, I came to the conclusion it was the only way to improve and test myself at the highest level.

*At right: Stuart Williams 2011 Viper Open Champion*



**Marshall Holman reached \$1 million in career earnings with his 1986 Tournament of Champions win.**



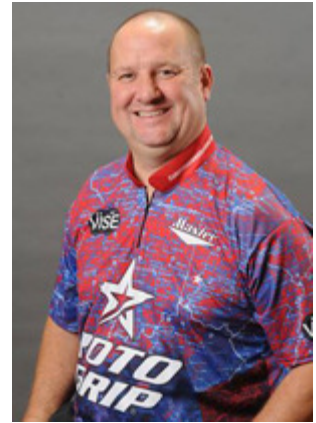
# Spare Column

*The Spare Column is a column focusing on the PBA Central Region and other miscellaneous information about the PBA.*

## Central Regional Player's Invitational

In the Central RPI Tom Smallwood lead the qualifying with a score of +322 for 12 games. It took a score of +71 to advance to match play by Matt White. It took a score of -9 to get the last spot to cash. Ronnie Russell was the number to get a two round bye in the early of match play. It took a score of +112 by Mika Koivuniemi to get a one round bye. Chris Loschetter qualified 14th with a score +85. There were only bowlers who scored 100 over or better. The first round of match play saw Loschetter defeat Mason Brantley. Todd Book defeated Matt White 3-1. Jeffery Edwards defeated E. J. Tacket 3-2. In the round of 12 Loschetter defeats Zaffino 3-0. Mika defeated Book 3-1. Patrick Dombrowski defeated Eugene McCune 3-1. In the round of 8 Mika had a chance to extend the match. The third game Mika needed a mark to win, but in the 10th frame he failed to win the game, in the sudden death both Smallwood and Mika started the first two balls with strikes. The third Smallwood got 8 which Mika only had to get 9 for the win, instead he fell short by 1 and only got a 7 count. In the next game Mika couldn't lined up properly. Smallwood was starting to strike and went on to defeat Mika, 3-1. In the other matches Dombrowski defeated Ronnie Russell 3-0, Brian defeats Chris 3-0, and Novak defeats Nidiffer 3-2. In the semifinals Smallwood defeated Patrick Dombrowski 211-205. Brian Kretzer Defeated Brandon Novak 223-194. In the Championship Match Kretzer defeated Smallwood 215-200. Kretzer Won \$6,000 and a spot in the fifth World Series of Bowling and a spot in the RPI Final show. This was Kretzer 16th career PBA regional title.

**2013 Central Regional Invitational Winner  
Brian Kretzer**



Tournament Stats	
<b>12 Game Cash +/-</b>	-9 Rick Zakrassek
<b>12 Game Cut +/-</b>	+71 Matt White
<b>12 Game Cut For One Bye +/-</b>	+112 Mika Koivuniemi
<b>12 Game Leader For One Bye +/-</b>	+188 Eugene McCune
<b>12 Game Cut For Two Byes +/-</b>	+233 Ronnie Russell
<b>12 Game Leader For Two Byes +/-</b>	+322 Tom Smallwood
<b>#300 Games</b>	(0)

Championship Round Statistics	
Low Game:	194 Brandon Novak
High Game	223 Brian Kretzer
Low Match	Kretzer / Smallwood - 215-200
High Match	Kretzer / Novak - 223-194
Average Winning Game	216.33

Tom Smallwood - 211

Patrick Dombrowski - 205

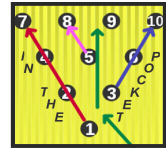
Brian Kretzer - 223

Brandon Novak - 194

Tom Smallwood - 200

Brian Kretzer - 215

Brian Kretzer

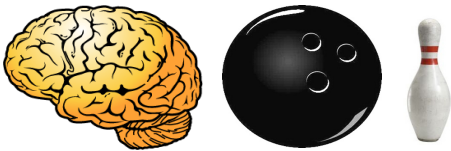


A condensed Top 10 Moments that have happened in bowling history or on the PBA Tour

## 80's Moments on the PBA Tour

- 10.** Marshall Holman surpasses \$1 million in career earnings at the 1986 Firestone ToC.
- 9.** Earl Anthony becomes the first to surpass the \$1 million dollar mark in 1982 National Championship.
- 8.** 1989 Pete Weber becomes the third Triple crown winner at the National Championship.
- 7.** Mike Aulby sets an all-time earning record for a season in 1989.
- 6.** Mark Roth wins two majors in 1984; the US Open and the Touring Players Championship.

- 5.** Durbin becomes the first bowler to win three ToC titles in 1984.
- 4.** Pete McCordic becomes the fourth player to bowl a perfect game on National TV.
- 3.** Bob Benoit becomes the first player to bowl a perfect game in the title match in 1988.
- 2.** Earl Anthony becomes first bowler to win six PBA National Championships.
- 1.** Earl Anthony comes out of retirement to win his Second Masters in 1984.



## BOWLOLOGY

In this section, a topic will be picked based on the bowling knowledge of Josh Hyde.

### Bowling is a Surface Sport

Bowling is the only sport where outcomes are dependent on a surface. The more friction a bowler has, the more the ball is going to hook. The less surface a bowler has on the lane, the less the ball is going to hook.

In all other sports, the balls are in the air. As soon as the ball sees the friction, it is going to hook. Surface dictates how the ball is going to react on the lane. The longer the oil on the lane is, the longer the ball will not see the friction. As soon as the ball can get into a roll or see the friction, the ball will be able to hook.

Bowlers are allowed to change surfaces on their ball prior to

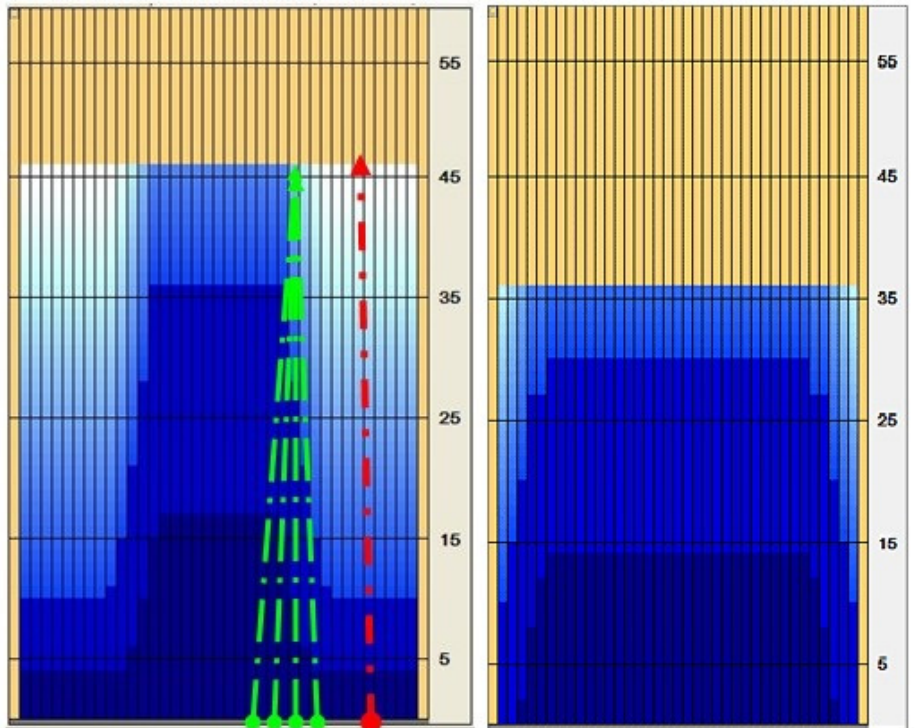
competition. This will help the bowler's ball to have more surface, therefore it is able to hook sooner. The less surface that a ball has, the more it will go down the lane and will not be able to hook.

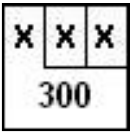
When the oil is longer on the lane surface, a bowler's ball is not able to

see the surface, and will not hook until it sees the friction on the lane.

Surface is a major factor in the sport of bowling.

These pictures show two examples of a long and short oil pattern.





## Bowlology for All

“Bowlology”—the study of bowling with the desired result being that the student gains more knowledge of and more respect for the sport.

Serious bowlers know the bowling lingo today. However, when there are new bowlers or a family of four going out to bowl—they are not aware of some of the specifics of the sport of bowling.

I went bowling one time, and my caregiver stepped over the foul line nearly falling. She did not know that there was oil on the lane, so I told her. She asked why. I explained to her that it is like golf where there are trees, bunkers, water hazards, and rough. I also explained that this helps the bowler where to throw the ball and where not to throw the ball. Then she was able to understand.

I had another caregiver who bowled and had high-performance bowling balls yet could not describe pin location to me. She also told me she had bowled a 240-game and a 250-game, but did not shoot a 600 series. On top of that, she told me she was better at converting splits than spares. She was a right-hander but slid on the front foot.

A golf professional that I know once told me that he would take a first-time golfer out on the range and work with them on their driving, chipping and putting before they could even go play a round of 9-holes.

There is no expectation for a first-time bowler. Many, when they start, do not want to get serious about the game. At the same time, there should be some guidance for first-time bowlers to learn basic bowling techniques. There is generally no one at the bowling center to help first-time bowlers learn more about the

game. Yes, they may just want to bowl one time a year; but if they want to learn something more, there is no one to help them strengthen their knowledge of bowling.

The caregiver with the high performance bowling balls would have been better off with a simple ball and instead focused on learning bowling basics.

USBC is trying to educate bowlers better with **Welcome to Bowling**. This can be found on [bowl.com](http://bowl.com). There are videos that help the first-time bowlers to know

what to do next. A pro shop operator can tell the first-time bowler to go to the website to learn more bowling information. Maybe this will help motivate the first time bowler to improve their game, approaching it with more seriousness, which will, in turn, promote bowling as a legitimate sport.

As can be observed, this is why this newsletter’s Bowlology column came about.

Thanks for reading this edition of Josh Hyde’s Bowling Newsletter.



### X-tra Frame Spotlight

During the months of August and September, **X-tra Frame** showed all of the Regional Players Invitational (RPI) tournaments. Bowling fans can watch each one of these events on **X-tra Frame**. Chris Barnes was very fortunate to win the Southwest RPI Tournament. Mika Koivuniemi had a very good chance to beat Tom Smallwood, but he got 7 on the final ball to lose by one pin. All he had to do was to get 9 to advance to the finals. This gave Smallwood a chance to win the title. There have been no 300s in all of these tournaments. In the last one, the East RPI Tournament, the scores were exceptionally low as only 3 bowlers scored over +100 or better for 12 games. The leader, Adam Chase, was +191 for 12 games. The lanes have been tricky for each of the bowlers trying to earn spots in the fifth World Series of Bowling. In addition, each winner of the RPIs will receive \$6,000 and a spot in the RPI Finals where the winner of the show will receive a spot into the 2014 Tournament of Champions. The last RPI, the Northwest/West RPI, is scheduled to begin October 18th. Qualifying and match play will be aired on **X-tra Frame** on October 19th.