



**Volume 6 Issue 8**  
**February 2014**



**Jason Belmonte, 2012-2013  
Chris Schenkel Player of the Year**



**Walter Ray Williams, Jr.,  
2013 PBA50 Player of the Year**

## Practice Pair

## Messenger

Hello, Bowling Fans!

Welcome to another year of *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*. Highlights for this edition will be the Strike, Spare Columns and Tenth Frame. The **Messenger** discusses the 2014 PBA50 tour schedule. The **Strike Column** analyzes the top PBA stars of the 2012-2013 season. The **Spare Column** looks at the 2012-2013 PBA awards. The **Tenth Frame** is an editorial about is bowling is a sport. Thanks for reading *Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter*.



- Josh Hyde

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## 2014 PBA50 Tour Schedule

This Year PBA50 Schedule will start April 12th at the PBA50 Pasco County Open in New Port Richey, FL. The next week they will go to the Villages for the PBA50 Sun Bowl.

The first three events will be live streamed on Xtra Frame the online bowling channel. That was announced during the 2014 Tournament of Champions. They will be having a total of eleven spots on the PBA50 Tour. Will Walter Ray Williams Jr get his third consecutive Player of the Year honor. Perhaps Pete Weber will

get his first Player of the Year honor. This year Parker Bohn III and Norm Duke will be making their PBA50 debuts.

The tour will be traveling to a new place of Fort Wayne, Indiana. They will host the Dick Weber PBA50 Super Senior Classic. At the end of July a week later the tour returns the PBA50 back to the regular event at the same venue.

For more information log onto PBA.com PBA50 Tour Schedule.

Date	Tournament	Location
April 12th-April 15th, 2014	PBA 50 Pasco County Open	New Port Richey, FL
April 19th-April 22nd, 2014	PBA 50 Sun Bowl in the Villages	The Villages, FL
April 27th-April 30th, 2014	PBA 50 Miller High Life Classic	Mooreville, NC
June 1st-June 6th, 2014	PBA Senior U.S. Open	Las Vegas, NV
June 8th-June 13th, 2014	USBC Senior Masters	Las Vegas, NV
June 15th-June 18th, 2014	PBA 50 Northern California Classic	Brentwood, CA
June 20th-June 23rd, 2014	PBA 50 Grants Pass Open	Grants Open, OR
July 18th-July 20th, 2014	PBA 50 Dick Weber Super Senior Open	Fort Wayne, IN
July 20th-July 23rd, 2014	PBA 50 Pro Bowl West Fort Wayne Classic	Fort Wayne, IN
July 28th-July 31st, 2014	PBA 50 Dayton Classic	Kettering, OH
August 4th-August 7th, 2014	PBA 50 South Shore Open	Hammond, IN



## Strike Column – Top PBA Tour Stars of the 12-13

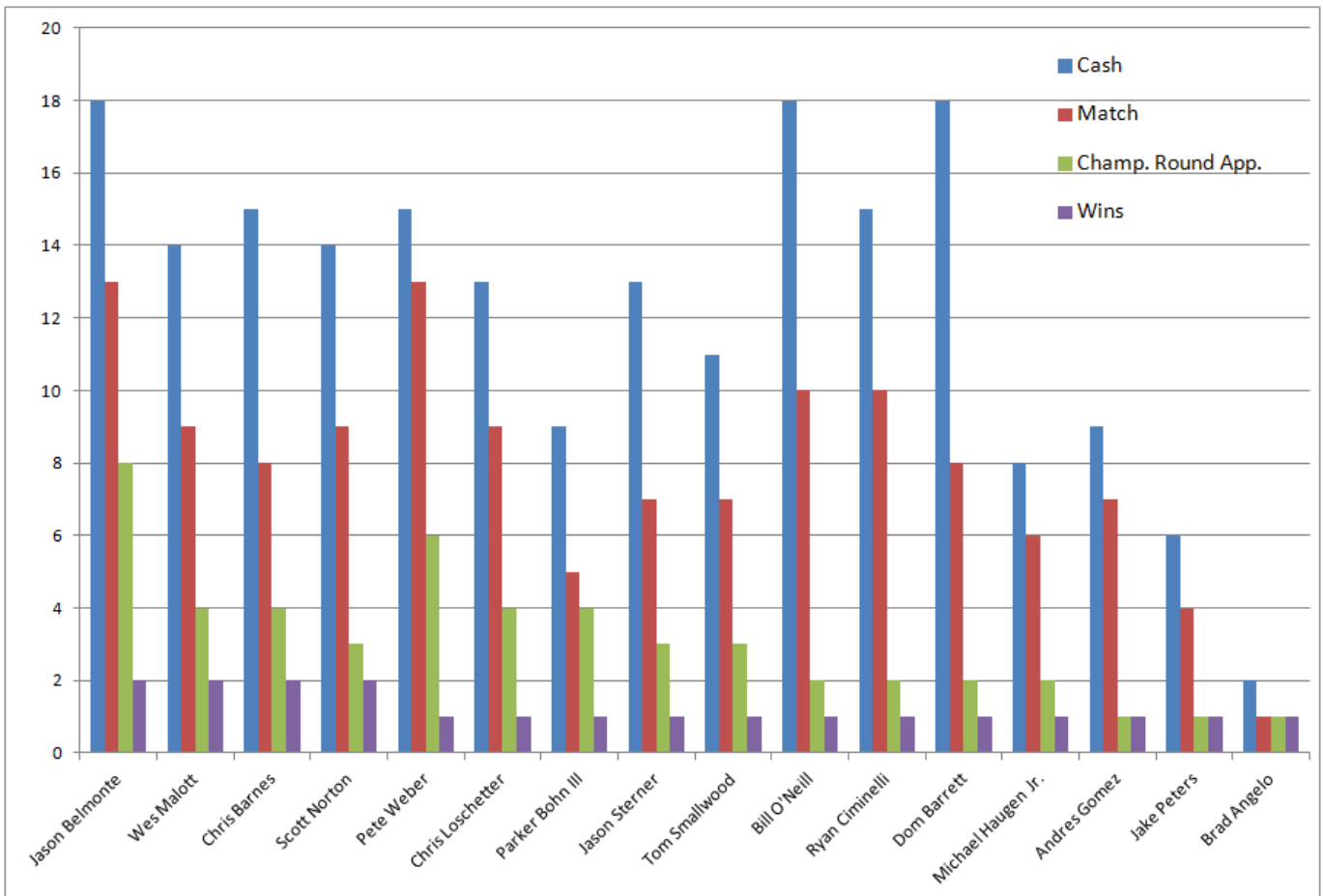
Last season there were a multitude of story lines on the PBA Tour. Jason Belmonte dominated the majors, making four of the five shows. Pete Weber became the second player to win ten major championships and the first player to complete the triple crown twice. Scott Norton dominated the Winter Swing in Detroit, making two of the four shows. Parker Bohn III won his second major at the 2013 PBA World Championship. These were all great stories of the 2012-2013 season.

The top players were Jason Belmonte, Pete Weber, Sean Rash and Scott Norton. All of these players did outstanding on the PBA Tour. Every time the PBA had a tournament last season, all four of these players were on top of their game. Pete Weber was looking to become the second player to win six of one major at the 2013 US Open; however, Wes Malott threw an 11-bagger

en route to a 279 game. He then went on to beat Belmonte for his first major. Weber made the last three majors in-a-row. Chris Barnes was also a top player, winning two titles and making a number of championship rounds during the course of the season. Norton made a name for himself by winning both the Detroit Winter Swing and the fourth WSOB.

The chart below how many cashes, match play appearances, championship round appearances, and wins that each player received. Jason Belmonte dominated the PBA Tour and that is why he is the 2012-2013 Player of the Year. Belmonte made eight championship round appearances, four of which were in the Majors over the course of 2012–2013 season.

These were definitely the top players of the PBA Tour of 2012-2013 season.



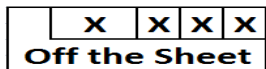


## Moments in History

### Kulick wins ToC

In September of 2009, Kelly Kulick won the PBA Women's World Championship by defeating Shannon Pluhowsky 219-204. The win gave her spot into the Tournament of Champions. She had nothing to lose and everything to gain. Five season prior Liz Johnson became the first woman to make a championship round in a PBA Tournament. Prior to Kelly winning at the PBA Women's World Championship she became the first woman to get an exemption on the PBA Tour at the 2006 Tour Trials. She had the played on the PBA Tour before. She was going to have her hands full at the PBA's premier event the Tournament of Champions.

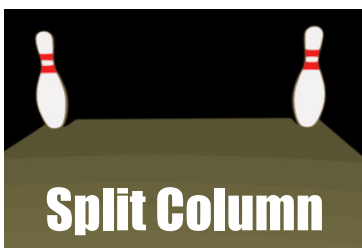
In the first round Kelly started with a 150 game but then she recovered with a 270 in game 2. She would end shooting a 130 over for 8 games. She ended on a good note. The next round she had no games under 200 with high games of 277 and 257. She would have a 290 block for her round. The last



*This column is dedicated to the Bowlers Journal International. They just celebrated their 100-year anniversary this month. I will be summarizing BJI articles periodically in the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter.*

The January edition of the Bowlers Journal International discussed the hot, new topic of Blue Oil being used.

Experiments have been made with different chemical combinations, but so far there is not a final product. Some critics may say that



round of qualifying she would continue to stay strong. The last round of qualifying she stayed consistent and put herself in the cut to advance in match play. In match play she hung on to the make the show. The last round of match play she started out slow but then made a ball switch and she began to strike. She bowled a 267 in the position round.

This propelled her to the championship round. For the show she would qualify 2nd. She was two wins away from winning her first title and on top of that she would be the first women to win a PBA Tour title. In the first match she met Mika Koivuniemi and struck out for the win beating him by 4 pins. In the Championship match she faced Chris Barnes. She encountered a pitfall when she left a 7-10 split in the 5th frame, but then she came back stronger by striking out for the win. Barnes could not get anything going. She became the first woman in PBA History to win a PBA title.

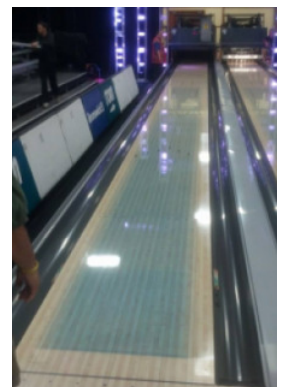
## Off the Sheet

this makes bowling easier; however it does not really make it any easier. When Chris Barnes won the Viper Championship Presented by PBA Bowling Challenge, it made it harder. When he threw his blue spare ball he claimed it had, "disappeared."

Lyle Zikes is excited about this well-needed change from tradition, because it can allow bowling to break through to new concepts. The Commentators are able to educate the bowling fans how

## Blue Oil and its Implications

oil transitions throughout the show. Wes Malott and Tom Smallwood could not believe how little they adjusted due to the blue dye in the oil. They claimed that even though that the oil had no visible presence in locations on the lane, they could still detect that the oil was still there and that any adjustments according to what they could see would be futile.



Test Lane Submitted by:  
Tom Clark

Jason Couch is the only player to three-peat the Tournament of Champions and also the only bowler to have defended his title at the Tournament of Champions.

## Breakpoint

### Regional Challenge Tournament

On January 9th, the PBA announced that they were going to try a new Challenge tournament for members and non-members. Who have never won a PBA Regional event. These Challenge tournaments will be conducted after the one day regional tournament. The challenge tournament will enable bowlers who did not bowl well in the previous tournament to have another chance.

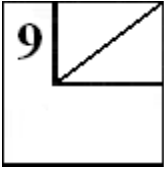
Several revisions include the following:

- The Reentry round for players who have bowled a bad round.
- Reduced entry fee events\*.
- A 1:4 prize fund ratio instead of the 1:3 for those who cash.
- Double events\*.
- Once a bowler wins they cannot compete in another challenge event\*.
- Each challenge tournament will include qualifying in match play.

For more information log onto PBA.com.

\*subject to change only minimum or suggestions.





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

### **2012-2013 PBA Award Winners**

#### **2012-2013 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year**

Jason Belmonte earned his first Player of the Year. He joined Mike Aulby, Tommy Jones, and Chris Barnes to earn both the Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year. He became the fastest player to earn both awards after playing only four years in the PBA Tour. He made 8 championship round finals and four of them were majors. This is how a bowler becomes Player of the Year. There were two other candidates for the award, PBA Hall of Famer Pete Weber and 2012 –2013 PBA Player of the Year Sean Rash. Belmonte got 42% of the vote. He became the first player to win the Player of Year award as a 2 hander. He also became the second player to win a major using two hands.

“This is an honor every player wants to win but something you can never plan for,” Belmonte stated after he received his award. He won his major at the 2013 USBC Masters. Where he would go undefeated in match play. He lead the tour in average and points. He dominated the PBA Tour.



#### **2012-2013 George Young Memorial High Average Award & Harry Smith Point Leader Award**

Jason Belmonte had a stellar year, averaging 228.81 through this entire season, making four of the five majors. In those four, he was bowling for the title. He opened the season by leading the World Championship, averaging 240 after qualifying and match play in the fourth World Series of Bowling. He would then go on to win the USBC Masters. After

bowling a big last game in the Bear Open, he led that tournament. After about missing the Bear Open, he led and won that tournament, dominating the US Open, only to lose to Wes Malott for the title. Through the qualifying, he would build up his lead by 400 pins over second place. He was the only player to have a perfect game in that tournament as well. During the Tournament of Champions, he opened with a 150 game, but ended up getting second. He was always a threat in the majors. In the Fifth World Series of Bowling, he started off slow but had 279 and 289 in his final two games. He was looking to become the first player to make all five majors in a single season. Belmonte made the championship round eight times. That is how a bowler wins the Harry Smith Point Leader Award and the George Young Memorial High Average Award.

#### **2012-2013 Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award**

Ryan Shafer became the 11th player to win the Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award multiple times. It was kind of sad that he could not make it the awards ceremony because of the passing of his wife. Eugene McCune accepted the award in his place. He thanked his roommate for accepting the award for him.

The award was established in 1966 after PBA Hall of Famer Steve Nagy. Steve Nagy was a colorful and talented bowler who made a deep impression on his fellow bowlers. Other candidates for the award were Patrick Allen, Dom Barrett, and PBA Hall of Famer Parker Bohn III.

“Winning the Steve Nagy Award has always been important to me because it shows the respect of your peers as a sportsman and someone who cares about them,” stated Ryan Shafer in an email.

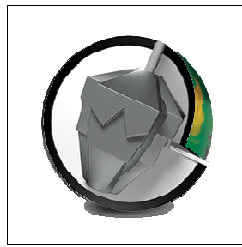




**Mastermind Genius**



PART NUMBER 60-105610  
 CORE TYPE Mastermind Ultra Low RG  
 COVERSTOCK Honor Roll Hybrid  
 COLOR 3 - Color, Black, Green, Gold



Hybrid  
 FINISHING STEPS 500 Siaair Micro Pad; Royal Compound  
 WEIGHTS 12-16 Pounds  
 RG MAX 2.540  
 RG MIN 2.488  
 RG DIFFERENTIAL 0.052

The Mastermind Genius has more length rather than the original Mastermind. If a bowler is having a hard time getting the original Mastermind through the heads then they can go to the Mastermind Genius. It will still recover more often even though its length is increased.

**Johnny Petraglia LT-48**

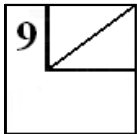


PART NUMBER 60-105607  
 CORE TYPE LT-48 Medium RG Symmetric  
 COVERSTOCK 3C Solid Reactive  
 COLOR 1 - Color,



Black Solid  
 FINISHING STEPS 500 Siaair Micro Pad, Royal Compound, Royal Shine  
 WEIGHTS 12-16 Pounds  
 RG MAX 2.603  
 RG MIN 2.565  
 RG DIFFERENTIAL 0.038

This is ball is the first of the thrown back Vintage series. They have remade the original Johnny Petraglia LT-48 with today's improved cover technology. Its cylinder core produces added length so that bowlers of any age don't have to worry about the ball hooking too early. This ball still be able to recover and manage to get through the pins.

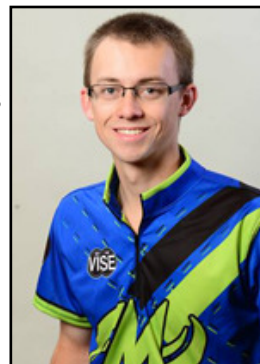


**Spare Column—Continued**

**2012-2013 Harry Golden Rookie of the Year**

EJ Tackett of Huntington Indiana has won the 2012-13 PBA Tour Rookie of the Year Award. He had a high of a fourth place finish in the Wolf Open. He made his PBA Tour debut at the Winter Swing in Detroit where he cashed 3 of the 4 tournaments. He also finished 6th in the US Open. He said that the sixth place finish at the US Open was his second best tournament, but he personally thought it was better the the fourth place at the Wolf Open. He also had a third place finish at the Japan Cup, lead the Tour Qualifying Round, and he lead the B Squad in the actual tournament. He was a bit disappointed in the 5th WSOB as he did not make a show. He

made three cuts during the series. He would go on to say "It's awesome, I joined a pretty good list of guys, a bunch of Hall of Famers, and future Hall of Famers, so I am pretty good company." The other 2012-13 nominees were Shawn Maldonado, Mik Stampe, Craig Nidiffer, and Brian Viator .



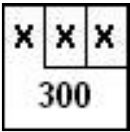
**2012-2013 Tony Reyes Service Award**

Parker Bohn III, a 33-time titlist and a PBA Hall of Famer, won the inaugural 2012-2013 Tony Reyes Service Award. This award was named after Tony Reyes, who passed away in a automobile accident in September 2012. The

award goes to the player who is involved with community service and charitable/educational contributions. After missing the Brunswick practice session for the fourth World Series of Bowling because of Hurricane Sandy, Bohn would win the 2013 PBA World Championship. He made it possible for people to donate money to help kids who were devastated by the hurricane. He also has a scholarship tournament which gives thousands of dollars toward college. Bohn told the PBA,



"To win this award in the name of Tony, who was a great friend not only to me but literally everyone, left me feeling very humble." Bohn is a true professional on and off the lanes.



## Tenth Frame — Editorial

### Is Bowling a Sport?

*[The word “sport” is defined as “an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment.”]*

Some bowlers today may say that bowling is not a sport. This is because of the bowling ball technology. Another reason why they may say bowling cannot be considered a sport is because the athletes do not have to run or break into a sweat.

However, bowling is a indeed a sport. If people do not think that bowling is a sport, I would like to ask them: “What do they call throwing a 16-pound ball down a lane and hitting ten targets?

Bowling is indeed a difficult sport to come by, even if bowlers are able to drill a ball to do specific tasks at hand. If a ball does not see friction on the lane, no matter how much of a strong layout they have drilled into the ball, it will not hook. The bowlers still must have the skill to throw the ball to knock over pins. The ball cannot get a strike by itself.

Bowling is a sport because a bowler must make a delivery to knock over the pins. Until the bowling industry makes a remote control bowling ball, in my mind, bowling will always be a sport.

We all love to bowl. We love

the competition. Whether it is in a league or a tournament, for a local-town trophy or the Tournament of Champions, bowlers are competing to win. Throwing a 16-pound ball to get down ten pins in one or two shots is not an easy task. Even though today it may be slightly easier to roll a 300 game now than it was in the 70s, a perfect game is still a perfect game and is still an extremely difficult feat.

For people who may think

that bowling is not a sport, I would suggest they try a sport (local) bowling league. These are more challenging lane patterns and are used on the PBA Tour. When they can average 230 a game on these patterns, maybe I will rethink my stance. Until then, bowling is definitely a sport.

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



### PBA Awards Ceremony

On January 17th, the PBA announced the following awards during their ceremony: the Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award, the Harry Golden Rookie of the Year Award, the Tony Reyes Service Award, and the Chris Schenkel Player of the Year Winner. Ryan Shafer won the Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award; however, could not be in attendance as he lost his wife earlier in the week. Eugene McCune received Ryan’s award in his absence. E.J. Tackett was the recipient of the Harry Golden Rookie of the Year Award. He thanked his family and friends for supporting him. The Tony Reyes Service Award went to PBA Hall-of-Famer Parker Bohn, III. He was in awe and humbled by the recognition. Last, but not least, the Player of the Year Award came down to three candidates: Pete Weber, Sean Rash, and Jason Belmonte. The award was bestowed on Jason Belmonte. He thanked his family for enduring the many miles of travel associated with being on the PBA Tour. Belmonte reached these milestones—Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year—sooner in his career than any bowler before him.

**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.*