



Mike Edwards,  
all-time tour  
trial leader



Kelly Kulick,  
Highlight of  
the Moment  
in History

## Practice Pair

## Messenger

Hello, Bowling Fans!

### PBA Women's Regional Program

Welcome to another season of **Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter**. Highlights for this edition will be the Strike, Spare Columns and Tenth Frame. The **Messenger** looks at the PBA's women's regional program. The **Strike Column** takes a look at the tour trails. The **Spare Column** looks the Grand Casino Summer Swing Regional.



Honorary Member since 2001

The **Tenth Frame** is a commentary about regulating bowling equipment. Thanks for reading **Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter**.

- Josh Hyde

On June 24th, the PBA announced that they are introducing a new PBA Women's Regional Tournament Program. The program will start late in July in Lebanon, PA. The Women's Regional Tour will provide similar opportunities as the Men's Regional Tour does for their male counterparts. This program will allow women to compete with other women closer to home while developing their bowling skills. Clark said, "Women bowlers have been without a formal tournament structure for too long." He further stated "...we have always wanted to provide women with a place to compete. This new program is a step in that direction."

There are six PBA Regional programs: East, West, Central, Midwest, Southwest, and West/Northwest. Each will conduct three events in which competition points will be awarded based on how the participants finish. Only PBA members are able to accumulate points.

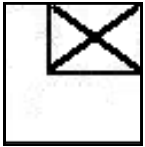
The points leader in each of the six programs will receive free entry into the sixth World Series of Bowling Tournament.

For more information, bowling fans can log on to [pba.com](http://pba.com).

2014 PBA WOMEN'S REGIONAL TOUR SCHEDULE	
<b>PBA East Region</b>	
July 25-27 – Lebanon, Pa.	
Aug. 15-17 – Liverpool, N.Y.	
Aug. 22-24 – Deptford, N.J.	
<b>PBA South Region</b>	
July 11-13 – Spring Hill, Fla.	
Aug. 15-17 – Gloucester, Va.	
Oct. 17-19 – Franklin, Va.	
<b>PBA Central Region</b>	
July 18-20 – Fishers, Ind.	
Sept. 19-21 – Troy, Ohio	
Oct. 3-5 – Muskegon, Mich.	
<b>PBA Midwest Region</b>	
July 19-20 – St. Charles, Mo.	
Sept. 20-21 – Dubuque, Iowa	
Oct. 3-5 – Belton, Mo.	
<b>PBA Southwest Region</b>	
Aug. 8-10 – Killeen, Texas	
Aug. 22-24 – Greenville, Texas	
Sept. 26-28 – Tomball, Texas	
<b>PBA West/Northwest Region</b>	
Aug. 22-24 – Citrus Heights, Calif.	
Sept. 26-28 – Daly City, Calif.	
Oct. 10-12 – Tuolumne, Calif.	

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"The Professional Bowlers Association, LLC ("PBA") is not affiliated with Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter. The opinions set forth herein do not reflect the opinions of the PBA."



# Strike Column – Tour Trials Analysis

The Tour Trials were a tournament for the PBA members that did not qualify for an exemption. The tournament was formatted so that the bowlers would bowl nine games on Chameleon, Scorpion, Cheetah, Viper, and Shark. After a total of 45 games, the top 7-12 bowlers were offered an exemption for the following season. Additionally, the PBA would have a prize fund for each day. The top 10 on any given day would cash. The top table covers exempt statistics, the middle chart is the top ten of all of the years combined, most happened between 2004-2006, the bottom is the winning totals of each year.

The first year was 2004. Mike Edwards really crushed the field winning by a total of 566 pins. I remember that year because a bowler shot 1100 for four games and did not even come close to the cut to be exempt. Jimmy Johnson shot a 589 for two games which left him out of the exempt ranks.

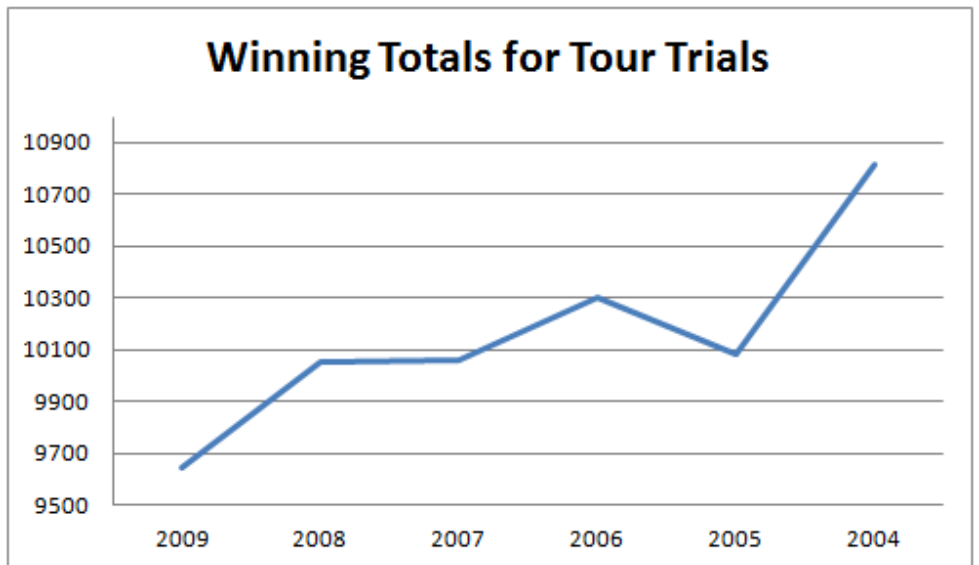
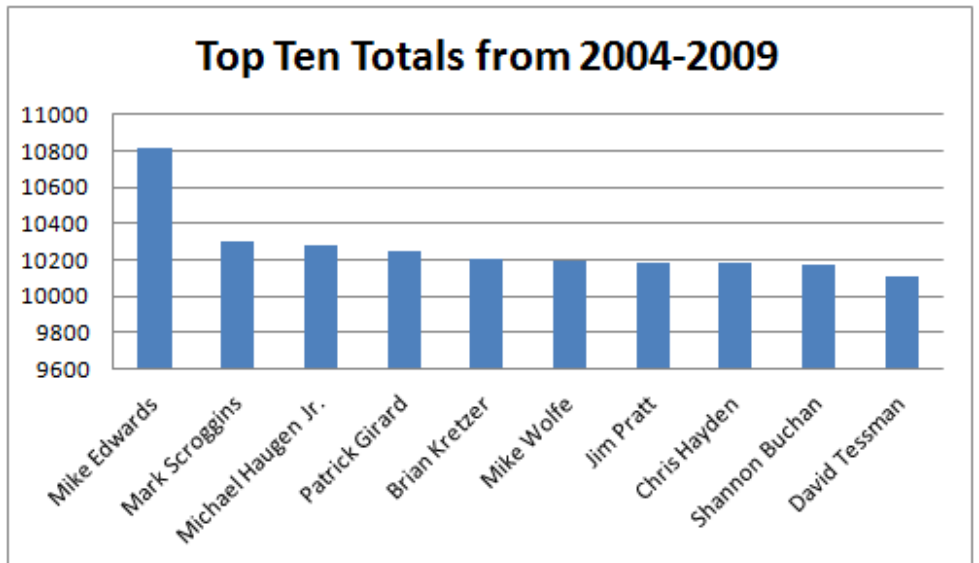
Scores were frequently high at these tournaments. It would usually take a 217 average to earn an exemption on the PBA Tour. A number of history-making moments has happened at the Tour Trials. This is where Bill O'Neill qualified to earn his exemption. He would end up being the last one in the exempt group. The following season, he would be the Rookie of the Year.

In 2006, Kelly Kulick became the first woman to receive an exemption on the PBA Tour. That same year, Billy Oatman became the first African-American to be exempt on the PBA Tour.

Bowling in the Tour Trials was a last resort for players to gain an exemption on the PBA Tour.

There were usually a number of 300s bowled during these Tour Trials.

Exempt stats	
Average Winning Score	10160
Average Cut Number	9808
Average Winner's Game	225.8
Average Cut Number	217.9
Average Winning Margin	117.5
Highest Winning Score	10814
Lowest Winning Score	9645
Highest Cut Number	10057
Lowest Cut Number	9379



## Moments in History

### First Woman to Gain Exempt Status

At the 2006 PBA Tour Trials, Kelly Kulick was trying to become the first woman in PBA history to get an exemption on the PBA Tour.

Kulick had a slow start with a 157 in the first game in the tournament. She quickly bounced back with a 234 and 244 in her second and third games. After the first round, she ended up scoring +124 for the nine game block. The second day she did do a little bit better scoring +165. As the week progressed, she improved a little as the days went on.

The last day featured the Cheetah Pattern. She bowled a



300 game and had only one game under 200 the entire block. She did not have many games in the 250s or the 260s. However, she did not have very many low games. This enabled her to stay on top of her game to become the first woman to get an exemption on the PBA Tour. She bowled well on the last day by being just shy of 2100 for the 9 game block.

It was definitely a history making moment for the PBA.



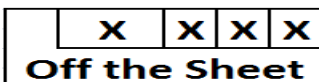
*Kelly Kulick was the first female PBA Player to receive an exemption at the PBA Tour Trials.*

## Breakpoint

### HotelPlanner.Com Sweepstakes & PBA Bowling Challenge

The PBA and it's official travel partner HotelPlanner.com announced a new summer sweepstakes program. That will give away \$250.00 hotel room gift certificates for the months of July and August for a lucky winner. Drawings for the certificates will take place on July 31st and August 31st.

Last month the PBA reported that it's PBA Bowling Challenge game surpassed the 10 million download mark, maintaining it's place among the top free sports games available at the Google Play and Apple App-Store websites.



*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.*

Last month, the Bowlers Journal wrote about the Class of 2014 USBC Hall of Fame ceremony. I happened to watch it on BOWLTV. It was an unforgettable night. Surprisingly, the USBC inducted the person who invented the automatic pin setter,

## Class of 2014 USBC Hall of Fame

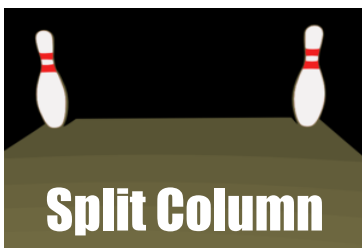
Woody Woodruff. Woodruff also helped the PBA by serving as the pay-check distributor to the winners of PBA tournaments.

The inductees' acceptance speeches were poignant, yet to the point. Likewise, the article was short, just a brief overview of the event.

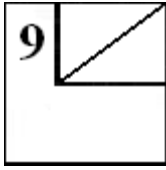
A roll call was taken of all attendees including 25 Hall of Famers. Dale Traber mentioned how he got to bowl against his brother for the 1994 PBA

World Championship. John Gaines said, "Bowling owes me absolutely nothing, and I owe bowling everything."

Two brother-in-laws were inducted - Steve Cook and Doug Kent. Steve Cook is a brother-in-law of Mike Aulby; and Doug Kent is a brother-in-law of Parker Bohn III. Doug Kent reported, "It's like winning the Masters again, only 10 times better".



Eight women have won PBA Regional titles.



# Spare Column

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

## PBA Grand Casino Summer Swing Regional Open Southwest

There was a total of 51 entries at the Grand Casino Summer Swing Southwest Open. Shawn Maldonado really owned the tournament as he went undefeated in the match and lead the qualifying portion of the event. He had a few of the high game pots in the A squad. In game two, he shot a 248; in game four, he shot a 290; and in game six, he shot a 289. His +361 was a good enough total. Shawn had two close competitors, Dino Castilo and John Szczerbinski with a tie score of +360. The Match play cut would take a score of +227 by Hernan Rameriz. To earn a bye in the first round of match play, it would take a score of +354 by Anthony Lavery-Spahr.

In the first round of match play, 1992 US Open Champion Robert Lawrence would advance to the Round of 8 by going 3-1 over Danielle McEwan. Shannon O'Keefe would be defeated by Ildemaro Ruiz 3-2.

In the Round of 8, the match between Dino Castillo and Casey Buller was quite interesting as both bowlers

had a 300 game. Casey started with a 300 game in the match giving him a 1-0 lead. However, Dino had something to say, shooting his own 300 in the next game to even the score 1-1. In the third game, Casey could only muster up a 174 while Dino bowled a 205. In the other matches, Shawn Maldonado swept Robert Lawrence 236-227 and 246-204, Anthony Simonsen swept Anthony Lavery-Spahr 255-162 and 220-188.

This setup the championship round. In the match between Shawn Maldonado, Shawn kept on striking, bowling a 246. His opponent Anthony Simonsen could only bowl a 222. Ildemaro Ruiz bowled a 248 over Dino Castillo's 200 game. In the Championship match, Shawn Maldonado bowled a 234 while Ildemaro Ruiz could only muster up a 215. This was Shawn first Regional title.



Shawn Maldonado-246	Shawn Maldonado-234	Shawn Maldonado
Anthony Simonsen-222		<b>Champion</b>
Ildemaro Ruiz - 248	Ildemaro Ruiz - 215	
Dino Castillo - 200		

Championship Round Statistics	Tournament Stats	
<b>High Game:</b> 248 Ildemaro Ruiz	8 Game Cut # +/-	+227 Hernan Rameriz
<b>Low Game:</b> 200 Dino Castillo	8 Game Cut # 1st Round Bye+/-	+354 Anthony Lavery-Spahr
<b>High Match:</b> Shawn Maldonado v. Anthony Simonsen 246-222	8 Game Leader 1st Round Bye+/-	+361 Shawn Maldonado
<b>Low Match:</b> Ildemaro Ruiz v. Dino Castillo 248-200	300 Games	(2) Dino Castillo, Casey Buller
<b>Average Winning Game</b> 242.66		

**Exile**



PART NO.  
60-105633-93X  
CORE TYPE  
Fortera Flip  
CVR. STOCK  
Fortify Reactive  
COLOR  
2 - Color, Red / Silver Pearl  
FINISHING STEPS  
500 Siaair Micro Pad, Royal Compound, Royal Shine  
WEIGHTS  
12-16 Pounds  
RG MAX  
2.562  
RG MIN  
2.512  
RG DIFF.  
0.050  
RG AVE.  
Center Heavy (1) 4.3 Cover Heavy (10)  
HOOK POTENTIAL  
Low (10) 205 High (250)  
LENGTH  
Early (25) 135 Long (235)  
BREAKPT. SHAPE  
Smooth Arc (10) 145 Angular (150)

**Melee Cross**



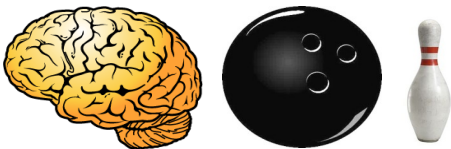
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WEIGHTS  
12-16 Pounds  
RG MAX  
2.537  
RG MIN  
2.487  
RG DIFFERENTIAL  
0.050  
RG AVERAGE  
Center Heavy (1) 3.6 Cover Heavy (10)  
HOOK POTENTIAL  
Low (10) 190 High (250)  
LENGTH  
Early (25) 120 Long (235)  
BREAKPOINT SHAPE  
Smooth Arc (10) 70 Angular (150)

**Ball Reviews**

The Fortera Exile is a new price category titled Flip. We developed a **new base** reactive coverstock enhanced with our additive chemistry called Fortify. Fortify coverstock has a unique molecular structure that increases skid through the front and increases lateral traction on the backend. The Exile will have the most continuation of any Brunswick ball to date. The Melee Cross is our second edition in the Melee line. Savvy Hook is our new coverstock formulation which is an aggressive form of Versa Max. Combined with our new Low RG Melee core the Melee Cross is a must have ball in your bag if your looking for maximum versatility on fresh oil conditions. - **Bill Orlikowski, Ball Review Brunswick Product Manager**

**Tournament Watch:**

Walter Ray Williams Jr. and Wayne Webb shot 800 series at the USBC Senior Master's. With the Exile ball Walter Ray Williams won the USBC Senior Master's with the Exile ball. Sean Rash shot a 300 at the Wolf Open during the championship round to win his 8th career PBA title.



**BOWLOLOGY**

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

**The Trail Leg**

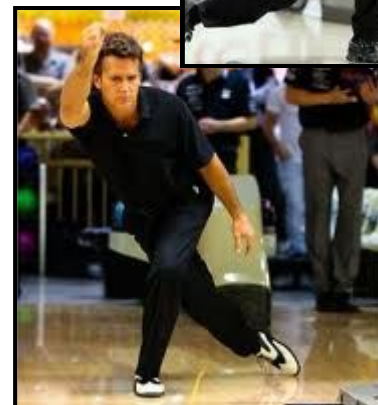
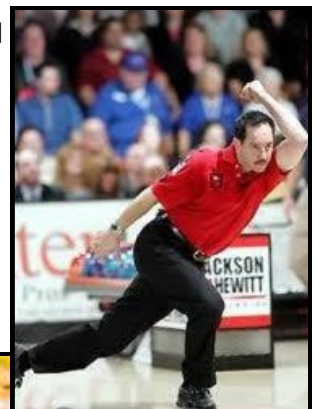
In the a bowler's motion, the trail leg is the stabilizer for the point of release. A bowler should always feel in control of their body--not off-balance or off the shot. The trail leg is important, as it distributes the uneven weight of the bowling ball and allows a bowler to keep their swing path close to their body.

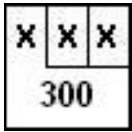
If a bowler is having a problem with their trail leg, they need to do a one-step drill. The one-step drill is an exercise in which the trail leg sweeps past the non-ball side leg, low to the floor in repetition. This will help in getting a consistently accurate trail leg position.

At the proper finish position, the trail leg should have the top of the foot facing the floor. If the trail leg leaves the floor, the bowler sacrifices leverage. On the flip side, be careful not to over-rotate the hips or leave the trail leg too far back.

A bowler who can repeatedly

have a good trail leg position is like a gymnast who always lands on both feet.





## Regulating Bowling Equipment for Professionals

The PBA is the greatest entity in the sport of bowling. Yet it affects everything from how different bowling balls are marketed to which shoes and gloves are acceptable on the tour.

Five years ago, Lenny Nicholson was on Xtra Frame, talking about how one of the traditions of bowling was not letting pros use high-tech bowling balls. This may sound like a good idea, but in reality, bowling fans do not want to see low-tech balls going down the lane. For all the scratch bowlers that watch the PBA Tour, this would not let them see the type of ball motion they are considering when purchasing a new ball.

What might be a better answer is not regulating the angles which a PBA player can drill. Making regulations on drilling layouts limits the excitement of bowling. This could be one of the area that the PBA could look into, enabling players to know what they need to do in order to hit the pocket in a direct way.

Johnny Petraglia told bowling digest that in making the lanes harder, the USBC could regulate how much adaptation a bowler could do to their ball. The is one area that

bowling needs to look at to make bowling more of a challenge. If the PBA could investigate in this procedure, more people might consider bowling more a sport due to the added difficulty.

The plastic ball championship was a good tournament, but some players were not as happy because they could not use their full “arsenal.” This would be like NASCAR race

only allowing cars to go a certain speed or MLB players only being able to use one weight of bat. Sports fans want to see the best players face all possible variables.

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



### Baker Wins 11th PBA50 Tour Title

Sixteen years ago, the Brentwood Classic featured Parker Bohn III and Tom Baker. In this showdown, Bohn would capture the title. In 2014, the two stars squared off again. However, this time would have a different outcome.

Early on, it looked as if the match would be a tight one. Baker left a 7-pin in the first frame, while Bohn got off to a quick start with a double. Baker bounced back striking. Halfway through, Bohn struggled until he got a four-bagger to finish the game. It was not enough to take down Baker again, as he shot a 290 game to win his eleventh career PBA50 title.

**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.*