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IBMA
INTERNATIONAL BOWLING MEDIA ASSOCIATION

Member since 2006

Practice Pair

Hello, Bowling Fans!

Welcome to another issue of **Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter**. The **Messenger** is an article about the Xtra Frame Tour Season. **The Spare Column** recaps the three majors that have been last month. Jason Belmonte and E.J. Tackett dominating the three majors. **The Tenth Frame** is a commentary about Josh Hyde Bowling.com Josh Hyde Bowling. Thanks for reading **Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter**.



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Messenger

Storm Sponsors Xtra Frame TourSeason



Last month the PBA announced that Storm would sponsor a \$50,000 season point champion with a winner receiving prizes that range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The first Tournament will be the March 17th –19th XF Reality Check Classic at Sawgrass Lanes in Tamarac, Florida. The point leader will receive a \$20,000 bonus for leading the Xtra Frame Tour. Tommy Jones is the defending champion of the 2016 Xtra Frame point race. The last tournament is in August 25th at the PBA XF Lefeld Implement Central Classic in Pla-Mor Lanes in Coldwater, Michigan.

Tournament points will be awarded as follows with the Tournament winner receiving 25 points , 19 points for second, 18 points for third all the way down to 20th place.

"Storm is proud to present the best players in the world" stated Storm V.P. Gary Hulsenberg.

2017 XF PBA TOUR STORM CUP SCHEDULE

March 17-19 – PBA XF Reality Check Classic, Sawgrass Lanes, Tamarac, Fla.
 May 26-29 – PBA XF Wilmington Open, Ten Pin Alley, Wilmington, N.C.
 June 2-4 – PBA XF Jonesboro Open, Jonesboro Bowling Center, Jonesboro, Ark.
 June 9-11 – PBA XF Lubbock Sports Open, South Plains Lanes, Lubbock, Texas.
 June 23-25 – PBA XF Billy Hardwick Memorial Open, Billy Hardwick's All Star Lanes, Memphis, Tenn.
 Aug. 11-13 - PBA XF Chesapeake Open, AMF Western Branch, Chesapeake, Va.
 Aug. 18-10 – PBA XF Gene Carter's Pro Shop Classic, Mid-County Bowling & Entertainment, Middletown, Del.
 Aug. 25-27 – PBA XF Lefeld Implement Central Classic, Pla-Mor Lanes, Coldwater, Mich.



Breakpoint **The 2016 PBA** **Regional Awards**



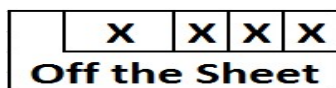
Jacob Butturff Regional Player of the Year for West and Northwest Regions

Last month the PBA announced the PBA Regional Awards. Jacob Butturff received two Player of the Year honors on the West and Northwest Regional Tours. He won a record of nine regional titles beating Mike Scroggin's record of eight regional titles. Ron Mohr earned the PBA50 West Regional Player of the Year award. He had three titles and two other four finishes in the season.

The 2011 USBC Masters Champion, Tom Hess, earned his third PBA Midwest Player of the Year award. Francis Lavoie received the Midwest Rookie of the Year and the Harry Golden Rookie of the Year honors. David Williams Jr. received the PBA50 Player of the Year for the Midwest. He had a number of top finishes during the season.

In the Central Region, Eugene McCune was awarded the Player of the Year for his seven strong finishes. Harry Golden Rookie of the Year contender, Graham Fach received the Central Rookie of the Year award.

Tom Daugherty was given the South Regional Player of the Year award for his strong finishes which included two wins. Also in the South, the greatest of all time, Walter Ray Williams Jr. won his 100th title and also claimed the PBA50 South Regional Player of the Year award.



*This column is dedicated to the **Bowlers Journal International**. I will be summarizing BJI articles periodically in the Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter.*

Editorial by Gianmarc WRW vs PDW

Last month Gianmarc did an editorial about Walter Ray Williams Jr and Pete Weber. Pete Weber made an excellent showing at the three majors in February. Walter Ray won his hundredth PBA Title back in December of last year.

Gianmarc observed that two of the greatest bowlers of all time know that when they bowl each other, whether it's in a PBA Regional, PBA50, or PBATour the bar is always raised. Both players seem to bring out a higher level of competitive play when they go up against each other simply

from their decades long rivalry.

Gianmarc cited the example the title match in the 2006 Japan Cup where Walter Ray threw the front ten at Weber to surpass Earl Anthony. Earlier that year (which was the prior season) at the 2006 PBA World Championship Weber and Williams Jr went at it again.

Williams Jr would come out on top to win his forty-first PBA title which tied him with Anthony and he would claim his third PBA World Championship title. Walter and Pete have always been pushing

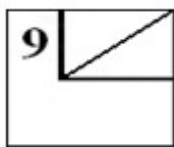
each other to be the best.

Walter has the most titles with 47 PBA National Tour Titles with eight of those being majors. While Weber(37 titles) and Earl Anthony(43 titles) have ten PBA Major Titles apiece. This great rivalry was incredible to watch as a bowling fan.

Once again Bowlers Journal International showcased the greatest bowlers of all time in the history of the PBA.



There have been five bowlers that have won four or more of the same major. Earl Anthony 6 PBA World Championships, Jason Belmonte 4 USBC Masters, Don Carter 4 BPAA (All-Star) U.S. Open, Dick Weber 4 BPAA (All-Star) U.S. Open, Pete Weber 5 BPAA U.S. Open.



Spare Column

Tackett and Belmonte in the Majors

In the first PBA Major, Jason Belmonte became the seventh bowler to win the same Major multiple times by defeating Anthony Simonsen 221-204. The Tournament format consisted of all qualifying and no match. Pete Weber was looking to get in the top five with a double in tenth of the final qualifying game. He got the first strike, but failed to get the second. In the step-ladder televised finals, it was interesting because Martin Larsen needed to win this tournament in order to enter the FireLake Tournament of Champions. However, Conner Pickford was striking well through the first two matches. It looked like Conner was on fire and was going to climb to the top of the step ladder. In the semi-final, Pickford had a hard time striking and Simonsen was able to hang on and beat him 204-191. It looked like it was going to be a grind out between the two-handers for the championship. Belmonte was able to get a number of breaks resulting in a victory.

In the FireLake Tournament of Champions, Pete Weber was looking to become the third bowler in third bowler in PBA history to win this Major three times. He needed to strike out to beat Tom Smallwood. Unfortunately, he left the wash-out on his second ball in the tenth frame giving the Smallwood the victory. The second match featured Dom Barrett and Smallwood. Smallwood was losing his line and Barrett took advantage and moved on to meet Tommy Jones in the semi-final. Jones struck well and vaulted himself into the finals. The championship match featured two former Player of the Year winners, E.J. Tackett and Tommy Jones. Neither bowler was getting the break they needed to shut the door on their opponent. E.J. had a chance to double in the tenth for the win. He got the first one but then left some wood on the lane which gave Jones a chance to win. Jones needed a mark to win the tournament, but he left the wash-out and could not convert it giving E.J. his second Major.

In the 2017 Masters, Belmonte proved once again that he is the master of bowling by winning his fourth USBC Master and eighth career Major. In the first step-ladder match, Michael Tang was on fire and defeated Martin Larson 264-229. For the first time in 23 years, the PBA had a brother v. brother match between Darren Tang and Michael Tang. Michael was striking, however his brother was only able to get spares and Michael would advance with a 248-212 over Darren. The semi-final featured Alexander Hoskins, but Tang was still in his stride and defeated Hoskins 227-217. The championship match had Belmonte nearly flushing the front seven which a commanding lead over Tang. Tang was not able to keep up with Belmonte and Belmonte ended with a 279-212.

2017 PBA Barbosol Player's Championship

					1.	Jason Belmonte	-	221	Jason Belmonte Champion			
					2.	Anthony Simonsen	-	204		Anthony Simonsen	-	204
					3.	Martin Larsen	-	182				
						Connor Pickford	-	191				
4.	AJ Chapman	-	154				Connor Pickford	-	266			
5.	Connor Pickford	-	243									

2017 FireLake Tournament of Champions

					1.	E.J. Tackett	-	208	E.J. Tackett Champion
						Tommy Jones	-	203	
					2.	Tommy Jones	-	248	
						Dom Barrett	-	216	
					3.	Dom Barrett	-	235	
						Tom Smallwood	-	202	
4.	Tom Smallwood	-	223						
5.	Pete Weber	-	203						

2017 USBC Masters

					1.	Jason Belmonte	-	279	Jason Belmonte Champion			
					2.	Alexander Hoskins	-	217		Michael Tang	-	212
					3.	Darin Tang	-	212		Michael Tang	-	227
4.	Michael Tang	-	264			Michael Tang	-	248				
5.	Martin Larson	-	229									

X	X	X
300		

Tenth Frame—Commentary

Josh Hyde Bowling.Com

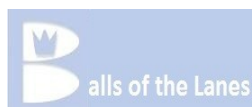
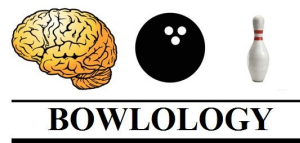
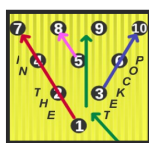
Josh Hyde Bowling.com is being reconfigured starting in the next couple of weeks. The website will consist of buttons for each of the columns that bowling fans normally see in my newsletter. Each week will be a different article that is a column from the newsletter and the end of the month the newsletter will be complete. The editor of Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter will put them in the newsletter form. If the PBA came out with a big story I might put that one week in the messenger column. The column button on the website would like the word messenger with the same formatting as the newsletter. If Brunswick came out with a new ball in the middle of the month. The Balls of the Lane Logo would be used and bowling fans could see what new ball from Brunswick was coming out. If Xtra Frame had an event and a bowler made a difficult split to win a game. Josh Hyde Bowling would be posting that event with

commentary. If there has been anybody that has taken the Ten-Pin Staffer or Striking Master-mind exams. Please email me the answers that you gave. I will grade the exams and give awards to the people that have passed either exam.

Thank you for your patience and my apologies about the website.

Joshua A. Hyde

Editor of Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter



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.