

# Josh Hyde's Bowling Newsletter



In this month's issue, we will be looking back at the 08-09 season. We will also be discussing a "Tip of the Week" from 1991 and finally an interview where Mike Aulby sat down and talked with us about his thoughts on the PBA. We are still waiting for a trivia response, so we are keeping it for another month. So enjoy this issue of the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter.

## 08-09 Season Recap

### **Fifty Greatest in PBA history**

The year started out with a history making moment when Norm Duke became the only player in PBA history to win three majors in a row. From the 50 greatest PBA players of all time, 5 of them won a total 9 tournaments this season (Duke – 3, Barnes – 2, Allen – 2, Williams Jr. – 1, Bohn III – 1), equaling 45% of titles for the season.

### **Player of the Year**

It was quite a race for the Player of the Year award as Malott, Duke, Barnes, and O'Neil were battling for the honor. Barnes tried to defend the award to become the first back-to-back winner since Williams Jr. in 1998. Malott made eight shows and won three titles making a statement that he could live up to being a top bowler on the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour. Barnes tried to make a comeback by making four of the last five shows, including winning back-to-back titles. Duke was almost undefeated during the championship round, but he failed when he lost to Scroggins at the U.S. Open, 191-173. O'Neil had a career year with seven champion round appearances, but was unable to get a single title for the season. It was a very close race though the whole year with the winner determined in the last tournament of the season.

### **First Time Winners**

There were four first time winners in the 08-09 season. Brad Angelo was the first to win

his first title by beating Chris Loschetter who is also waiting for his first title. Angelo made 13 championship rounds before winning in Omaha. John Nolen won his first title in fashion by winning the USBC Masters. Ironically, it was also his first championship round appearance in his career. He did it by defeating Danny Wiseman, 202-193. What a first win for Nolen. Jeff Carter won the Plastic Ball Championship by defeating Pete Weber, 235-215. It was ironic because Carter/Weber all over again, but this time it was Jeff Carter and Pete Weber, not Don Carter and Dick Weber. Jason Belmonte became the first bowler to win a title using two hands. He did this by defeating Michael Fagan who was looking for his first singles title. For the first time winners, it was quite interesting feat as you can tell.

### **King of Bowling**

The King of Bowling is something that the PBA hasn't done in 12 years. Before, it was where the winner from the previous week would take on the winner from the current week. This time, the PBA picked the top 10 players from the Player of the Year point race with the "king" being Wes Malott. The first week will have #2 face #3 for the chance of challenging the king. The winner of this second match will proceed as the "king" to the next week's challenge. The following weeks will have the next two top players challenging the new king until all ten players have had a chance to bowl. Wes was able to hold of the first week's challengers and will be facing the top left-handers of today, Scroggins and Allen. As the King, he gets to pick the oil pattern which the challengers will bowl. Each King of Bowling show winner receives a \$10,000 prize. For more information, log onto [www.pba.com](http://www.pba.com).



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## Moments in history

The year was 1991. I had just finished bowling in a pro-am and I saw Mike Durbin who was the ESPN color commentator at the time. I asked him if he was going to do a “tip on bowling with a disability” on ESPN, but he said he wouldn’t know what to do. At the time, my dad was talking with a bowler about how I bowled and that bowler told Mike that he needed to listen. So my dad explained it to Mike and he said, “Well, I need to talk to my producers about it” and asked if we would be available later in the week. For this opportunity? Sure!! As it turned out, I was allowed to do the Tip of the Week on how to use a ramp for bowling. We showed the TV viewers how we move the center of gravity to aim/hook the ball. During the explanation, Mike said pin, but he meant the center of gravity. The funny thing was that I didn’t get my expected strike. Instead, it was a gutter ball on national TV. In the end it was a neat experience and exciting to perform.

## Interview of the month : Mike Aulby



**Q:** Do you think that Earl Anthony was #1 of all time, why or why not?

**A:** Yes. Having seen him in action, I was aware of his accomplishments

**Q:** How was your experience with the 50 year anniversary celebration? Any special moments?

**A:** It was a very special experience to live with that many great bowlers. Great

to see many friends I had not seen in a long time.

**Q:** How was the Plastic Ball Championship?

**A:** It was very good. It reminded me of the 08’s with the players and ball reaction

**Q:** In your mind, who was Eddie Elias and what did he do for the sport of bowling?

**A:** He was a leader and a mentor to all of the bowlers and he brought respect to the tour.

**Q:** Would you like to see a PBA team tournament? What would the format of the tournament be?

**A:** Definitely yes. It would be great to bowl with the guys who have been my friends for years. Qualifying (and match play) would be (each bowler) bowling all frames. The TV show could be the Baker format.

**Comment:** The newsletter that Josh puts out is from the heart and out of love for the sport. He speaks with his friends who open up to him.



This month and in the coming months we will be doing trivia. Please submit your answers via e-mail to:

[jhbnl@comcast.net](mailto:jhbnl@comcast.net). The first five people that answer this correctly will get a 10% coupon sponsored by [bowlinggift.com](http://bowlinggift.com). Thank you [bowlinggift.com](http://bowlinggift.com) for contributing to the Josh Hyde’s Bowling Newsletter.

1.) Who is the only bowler to win three major tournaments in a row?

2.) Who won the 1998 Men’s US Open?



# Commentary

As you can tell, it was definitely a history making season for the PBA. For example, Duke won 3 majors in a row. The suspense of watching the countdown of the 50 greatest bowlers was also exciting to watch. In some regards, it wasn't surprising that Earl was #1 of all time because every time he won a major, he won it at least twice. The debate between Walter Ray and Earl will still go on for years to come. In my opinion, at the Match Play Championship the baton was passed off between Walter Ray and Chris Barnes. I really think that Chris Barnes is the next superstar of the PBA Tour. He made a run at the Player of the Year race: making 4 out of the last 5 shows, winning back to back titles and beating the #2 bowler of all time. This is what it takes to be a superstar of the PBA Tour. Chris has absolutely done that. The drama of the player of the year race was close all season. Just when you thought that your favorite player had is all wrapped up, another player would win. This demonstrated how versatile a player has to be. The PBA showcases a variety of players with multiple talents of throwing a bowling ball. This season proved to be the best season of all time.

As we are winding down the first full year of the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter, I hope I have promoted the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour as much as possible. What a joy it has been bringing you the latest news on the PBA Tour. I look forward to doing another year. Thanks for reading this edition of the Josh Hyde Bowling Newsletter.



This is Bohn's jersey from the 05-06 PBA season. I received it at the bowlersparadise.com classic on Dec 2 2005.

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Volume 1, Issue 11