



Florida State USBC



FLORIDA STATE USBC NEWSLETTER

February 2024

FSUSBC Association Manager

Tony Adkins

Hello again from the desk of the Association Manager!

It has been a short time since the last article, but a lot has happened to me during this time. I was invited to attend the Presidents and Association Managers Conference in Arlington Texas at USBC Headquarters in mid-November. This was my first time visiting the enormous building that houses everything Bowling! I was very impressed with what goes on there from the museum of the International Bowling Exhibit to the storage and mail room facilities. I was in awe of what they do each and every day for the bowlers. They host different departments from records to rules to BVL from BPAA. They have their own print shop there that prints everything from membership cards to banners! Of course, the impressive part is the bowling facilities where they test pins, balls, oiling machines and yes, the new string pinsetters. They gave us the final verdict on string pin setters after a lengthy 3-year testing, factfinding, and huge amounts of data crunching to make the decision that there will be no change in averages from freefall pins to string pins. The Staff at Headquarters are truly amazing at what they do for us, and my biggest takeaway was that I felt they truly care for the bowlers! They will bend over backwards to help in any way they can resolve any concerns that you may have. If you ever have the chance to go there, I highly recommend that you do, you will not be disappointed as to where your National Dues go.

I had the opportunity to work at the Men's Championship Tournament held in Ormond Beach this past October-November hosted by the East Volusia Flagler County USBC. We saw great people each and every weekend as all, but 2 shifts were completely full. We had some great honor scores from several bowlers and overall, I believe everyone had a wonderful time there on the East Coast of Florida.

December started off with our Annual Executive Meeting and this was my first time getting together for this short event. We met and discussed some of our plans for the Board for the upcoming rest of the season as well as forming our committees. I was also able to take some time to get back home to my home state of Virginia to visit family and friends for the Holidays. I hope that your Holidays this past season were a special and memorable one for each and every one of you.

January came with tax season to get out those forms to those folks who earned more funds than the IRS allows you to report. Congratulations to those bowlers who had a great tournament season during 2023. The middle of the month had me getting prepared for our annual January state board meeting just this past weekend. We met by committees during the 2-day event and ending up with our lengthy Saturday

afternoon meeting. We covered a lot of ground during the meetings as we did our very best to represent the bowling community here in Florida. We encourage anyone that has a desire to serve the bowlers here in Florida to visit our website and print a board member application and get it turned in. We always need new people with fresh ideas, experience, and a smile to represent the State.

Tournament Season has begun as Tournament Director Ashley Chisano is receiving entries for the first Adult Tournament of the Season, the Bob & Connie Peters Memorial Mixed being held at AMF Pembroke Pines in Broward County April 6-7 and April 13-14. Next is the Open Tournament starting May 4th running every weekend in May through June 23rd at Maple Lanes (Orange Bowl) and Bowlero Lakeland Lanes in Lakeland. Next is the Women's Championship Tournament held at Seminole Lanes by Gulf Coast starting May 18-19, 25-26, and June 1-2 with Debbie Whitten as the Tournament Director. Please get those entries in early as spots are filling up for these tournaments!

Tournament Season started early for the Youth as the Landen Scholarship Tournament was completely sold out this past January 13-14th by the Youth Leaders in Jensen Beach. The Youth Leadership is in charge of running the tournament each year and Victoria Fleming President did an outstanding job with her staff handling the tournament this year!

Next for the Youth is the ever-changing Pepsi Tournament as Tournament Director Allen Solomon and his staff are way up in entries this year for the Pepsi Tournament in Lake County at Lakeside Lanes in Tavares. They start March 16-17, 23-24, skip Easter and resume April 6-7, 13-14 and finish April 20-21.

Last but not least is the 59th Annual Youth State Scholarship Tournament which will be held June 1-2, 8-9 and 15-16. This year's tournament is hosted by the Greater Tampa USBC and the East Pasco USBC. Tournament director is Dalia Keyes. Entries close May 1, 2024.

As you see we are involved in many tournaments during the year and now comes the time that you as association bowlers, board members can get involved in Hosting one of these events. The bid invitations were sent out on February 1st to all association managers and presidents. Please consider getting the requirement forms to tell your board members that we want one of these tournaments in our association and community! They are open to any association, and we would like to hear from you as to where you want the tournaments located for 2026!

Now to finish up this article I would like to get some help in housekeeping from you as a bowler that can save time and money for the State Association. It has come to my attention that it is very important for the key people in this chain of events. 1st, the Local Association Managers start by getting membership cards to the League Secretaries at the beginning of every season. These cards can be blank, or they can be printed by the Local Association Manager for each League with the bowler's current information on the cards that they currently have recorded. 2nd, it is imperative that the bowler CHECK the printed information on the card to make sure that it is correct, if it is a blank card, then you as the bowler MUST fill it out legibly with the correct information of the spelling of each line as well as your birth date. This information is most important to the Local Association Managers to complete their part. 3rd, once the Local Association Manager receives the card back it is imperative that they make any necessary changes that the bowler has requested so that it gets processed to USBC Headquarters. Now with all of this being said, once the cards have been processed, USBC sends that data back to us as Tournament Directors for each of the Adult and Youth Tournaments. The savings and time comes from having the correct

information so that when the bowlers earn prizes the checks are delivered to the proper and correct address. What I have discovered in my short time here is that if nothing is done to correct any bowlers address during this whole process, each entry that a Tournament Director changes in their respective tournaments with a current address gets overwritten by the bad data when we do our monthly updates. So, my plea is to make sure your information is correct and make sure the data is correct. I really appreciate what each bowler does, what each Local Association Manager does, because in the end it benefits us all!

Thank you all for taking the time to read each article of the February Newsletter. Thank you, Margo for the Outstanding job you do with each Newsletter!



FSUSBC Annual Meeting & Tournaments

Toni Maddux

The 2024 Florida State USBC Annual **Youth awards and Youth Hall of Fame** will be held Saturday, July 27th at 11:30 in St. Petersburg/Clearwater at the Marriott. The Youth leaders will meet immediately after the luncheon. All youth members are encouraged to attend and see what the youth leaders board and program is all about. The Youth leaders run the Landen tournament in January and the tournament will be discussed. The youth Leaders advisors are Dalia Keyes and Ryan Waters.

All tournament winners for the Youth scholarship tournament, Pepsi and Youth Hall of Fame will be notified of the event. Each winner's lunch and 1 guest will be the guest of the state. Additional attendees may attend and pay for their meal.

The adult awards and adult Hall of Fame will continue to be presented at the State annual meeting in October on Saturday night, October 11th, Winners will be notified in advance.

Watch for **SAVE THE DATES** information on www.floridastateusbc.com, our website, for updated information for the Youth Luncheon, Annual Delegates Meeting and Adult awards dinner.

The deadline is March 31st to host the 2025 annual meeting October, 10th 11th and 12th. 2025 Flyers were handed out at our annual meeting. If you need additional information or a copy of the flyer you can email me, Toni Maddux at Tmaddux36@gmail.com.

Entries for the upcoming **2024 Florida State tournaments** are as follows: The **OPEN** will be in Polk County, the **PEPSI** will be in Lake County, the **Mixed** in Broward County, The **Youth Scholarship** will be co-hosted by the Greater Tampa USBC and East Pasco, the **Women's** Championship will be hosted by

the Gulf Coast Association, the **Senior Women's** will be in Southwest Florida and the **Men's** Championship will be in Southwest Florida.

Tournament directors are sending out confirmations as soon as the entries are received. Bowlers are encouraged to book hotel rooms once entries are confirmed to receive the discounted rates.

The 2026 tournament bid information was sent out recently to all Association Managers and Presidents. Now is the time to be thinking about bidding on any of our 7 tournaments. Local associations will receive 75% percent of the profits on all of our adult tournaments if the local association provides staffing for the tournament. Detailed information about each tournament will be on our state website and Facebook page. We would love to see more bids submitted to offer the delegates a choice as to where the tournaments will be held. I am sure many local bowlers would like to see their association host the state tournament in their own backyard.

I would like to say a BIG Thank you to all of our tournament directors that did an amazing job this past year, Dalia Keyes, Allen Solomon, Ashley Chisano, Debbie Whitten, Bruce Combs. Tony Adkins, our new Association Manager will be the tournament director for the Open in 2024.

[Marion County USBC](#)

[Debbie Whitten](#)

Here we are moving through another year. Seems like fall/winter leagues were just getting started and we are looking at forming summer leagues for 2024. Never ending cycle of starting and ending leagues.

On the local scene the Marion County USBC recently held their annual Mixed Tournament which will be followed by the Open Tournament and then the Women's Tournament. January to March is a busy time in Ocala.

The Florida State USBC Board held its winter meeting to begin planning for the Youth Luncheon and summer board meeting to be held in July 2024, at the Marriott St. Pete/Clearwater Hotel on Roosevelt Boulevard. A new format of hosting the Youth Awards Luncheon, Hall of Fame Induction and Youth Leaders Meeting separate from the Annual Meeting and Adult Awards Banquet which will be in October 2024, at the same location.

All tournament entry forms are on the Florida State USBC website as well as the Hall of Fame nomination forms and the candidate resume form to run for a position on the State Board. Be sure to read all the rules and directions so that you do not miss out on any of the tournaments or deadlines.

Costs for tournaments continue to go up due to the cost of lineage and expenses and that is only a small part of participating in tournaments. Hotel costs rise and food costs continue on the upswing; however, overall bowling is still the best entertainment with family and friends and it is inside no matter what the weather may be outside.

I will be attending the USBC National Convention in April 2024, in Las Vegas and it should be an interesting convention this year with some of the announcements coming from USBC regarding averages in reference to free fall versus string pin; the purchase of The Forty Frame Game and other side events. I hope that they offer workshops that will be beneficial and I will provide my report about all the happenings when I return.

Good luck to all those participating in the State Tournaments or the National Tournaments.

Stay tuned for announcements from USBC as to where the Open National Tournament and the Women's National Tournaments will be traveling to in the near future. You may be surprised.

Till June –

[Greater Tampa USBC](#)

[Chrissy Lee](#)

Ahoy Mateys and Bowlers!

Hello everyone from the Land of the Pirates. Here at the Greater Tampa USBC, we are recovering from the Invasion of the legendary Gasparilla Pirate Parade and festivities. Do you know Tampa has been celebrating the life of Jose Gaspar for over 100 years? If you ever have a chance to attend, you should. It is quite the spectacle. Although our Buccaneers are not going to the Super Bowl this year, we are forever proud of them. We are also VERY proud of our bowlers. The weekends of January 19-20 and 27-28, our Annual City Youth Tournament was held at Pinchasers-Brandon. Speaking of Pinchasers, the company recently bought Oakfield Lanes and has already started renovating and it will be now known as Pinchasers Brandon. We are excited to see what kind of updates and state of the art changes will be made. For those customers of Tom Daughtery's Hall of Fame Pro Shop, no worries. They are not going anywhere. Tom, Colin, and Drew are staying tight there for all your bowling needs. Our Women's City is right around the corner, the last weekend in February. We cannot wait to see how well our talented ladies do on the lanes.

In April, we will be Inducting three new members to the Class of 2024 into the Hall of Fame. Much love and Congratulations to our President, Bill Walker, who will be inducted for Meritorious Service, our Director, Buck Barineau, for Superior Bowling and Meritorious Service and finally, John Griffin, for Superior Bowling Achievement. Also in April, we will be sending 5 Delegates to the National Convention. Rumor has it, the 2024 Convention will be extra exciting this year.

To date, our BVL Contributions have amounted to \$3000.00, and we are far from done! We hope to surpass our \$5000 donation from last season. Come June, the GTUSBC, along with East Pasco USBC, we be hosting the Florida State USBC Annual Youth Tournament, and we are very excited to see the kids in action. They truly are #TheFutureoftheSport. Have a wonderful rest of the Bowling Season. Stay Safe and Bowl Well.



Florida State Youth Scholarship Tournament

Dalia Keyes

Greetings to All

The 59th Annual Florida State Youth Scholarship Tournament will be held the first three weekends in June. The tournament is being hosted by the Greater Tampa USBC and East Pasco USBC.

Entries have been sent to all associations and can also be found on our website at www.floridastateusbc.com.

We awarded over \$50,000 in scholarships last year and hope you make plans to attend. In addition, we offer brackets, and those funds are deposited into the bowlers smart account as well.

The centers will be Pin Chasers – Midtown for doubles/singles and Pin Chasers – East Pasco for team event. If you are looking for a specific date, please get your entries in early to ensure the dates you are requesting as some weekends fill up sooner especially the first weekend.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at daliakeyes@aol.com.

We hope to surpass the number of entries we had last year at Boardwalk Bowl and look forward to seeing you in June.



Greater Miami USBC

Sharon Colon

Hello everyone, we hope you enjoyed the holidays! Now it is time to put our tournament schedule into overdrive. In the next month or so we will be holding our Adult/Youth Tournament, the mail-o-gram tournament for the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation, and the Open City Tournament. All of the specific details can be found on our website www.gmusbc.com. This past month we held our Women's City Tournament. Everyone seemed to enjoy the bowling and the extra money that was added to the prize fund. One happy person in particular (Caitlin Graham) loved it as she won both the singles and all-events categories in the scratch competition. Congrats to all!

I am sad to report the fact that we lost one of our bowlers last month. His name was Randy Thomas, and he was not only a good bowler but a wonderful man as well. He served as the President in his Monday and Wednesday night leagues and always had a smile on his face as he greeted all the bowlers. He will be sorely missed. RIP Randy.

I am sure that many of you got a new ball as a gift over the holidays so I am including a little bit of bowling ball history.

Some people lug around lots of bowling balls every night and many of them have to make two trips to the car to cover every condition they might face. In the beginning it was much simpler, one person-one ball. The first balls came on to the scene about 5000 years ago when the Egyptians made them out of wood with two holes drilled in them. They used one for the thumb and one for a finger. Since then, manufacturers have been changing just about everything about the ball. I don't think any other sport has had so many features to choose from. The balls in modern times have been made of rubber (starting in the 1950's) and then came plastic balls, urethane, reactive resin and etc. Most balls have three holes however not too long ago they could have 4 or 5 holes. The latest is the ball drilled for two fingers and no thumb. Next you can choose balls with assorted weight blocks in them.

How do you choose which one is best for you? Do you stay with one particular company, choose your favorite color, the weight, the name of the ball or sometimes the smell of the ball?

Whatever you choose, just make sure that the pro shop driller is well versed in the latest technology.

In closing, practice good habits and may the best scores be yours.

[Space Coast USBC](#)

[Buncy Reynoso](#)

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year celebrations in 2023.

2024 starts the 2nd half of the bowling season where tournaments, annual meetings, end of the school year and graduations will be happening before you know it.

AWARDS

Our youth awards program is currently at 298 awards given out this bowling season. For the adults we are currently at 1,501 awards given out so far as of January 31, 2024.

Items of note:

300 Game – 29

11 In-A-Row – 19

250 Game – 192

275 Game – 125

700 Series – 50

750 Series – 20

800 Series – 13

Our association is very honored to be nationally recognized for a Special Presentation from USBC For the National Team Recognition for 2022-2023 Season. The awards were provided by USBC.

1st Place – 4 Men & 1 Woman Team Game

On February 22, 2023, this team rolled a 1,341 game which is the highest mixed game bowled in the nation for the 2022-2023 USBC bowling season. They eclipsed the previous high by 28 pins (1,313) set by a team from Springfield, Ohio. To accomplish this feat, they rolled 47 out of a possible 60 strikes. All five bowlers rolled strikes in frames two, six, seven, eighth and 10th frames.

TEAM NAME - Thanks for Tryin



Daniel Watkinson - 289
Jennifer Hannum - 278
John Watkinson - 268
Brett Hannum - 258
Jeremy Mummert - 248

Team Total – 1341



Another National Award was presented this past October to our Space Coast Youth Bowler Dominic Gibson-Smith. He received his trophy for his 1st Place Award for the 2023 Bowling.Com Youth Open Championships Singles Division, U18 Boys 1st Place Scratch (795). The tournament was held in Indianapolis, Indiana July 2023. Dominic has won several tournaments and has a bunch of honor scores.

Former Space Coast Youth Bowler, Space Coast USBC Legacy Hall of Fame member and 5th Year Senior at Jacksonville State, Crystal Elliott won the 2024 US Amateur Championships and made Team USA 2024. After 5 Days of bowling the 2024 Team USA Trials she qualified for an automatic spot on Team USA.

Merritt Island High School Senior Christian Liquori bowled at the 2023 Junior Gold Championships in Indianapolis Indiana. He was named to the 2024 U18 Junior National Bowling Team. He was in the top 4 male bowlers after 26 games of qualifying. He recently signed a letter of intent and accepted to Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD) in Savannah, Georgia and will be part of the men's bowling team. He will

be joining former Space Coast Youth bowler Immanual Martin (Rockledge High School) on the bowling squad.

Jennifer Chiarillo is a senior at Eau Gallie High School and signed a letter of intent to attend Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee to major in nursing. Cumberland University is a NAIA Division. She has won numerous awards during her high school bowling and at tournaments. She has bowled two (2) 300 games, the most recent one being last year in February.

We wish all the graduating seniors "CLASS OF 2024" all the best as they continue with their education or to enter the workforce. May you continue to have success on and off the lanes.

Youth Scholarships

Cecilia Butler

On the Florida State Website under Applications and Forms, you will find two updated Scholarship Applications for the 2023-2024 season.

The J.J. Garrett Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to an eligible applicant that best exemplifies Mr. Garrett's love of the game. Grades and bowling accomplishments are not a part of this award. The application has a revision date of 12-2023.

The Patsy Wedding Annual Youth Scholarship application with a revised date of 1-2024 is to be used to apply for the award. Typically, several of these scholarships are awarded each season. Please note, an **Official School Transcript** is to be included with the application. (A report card is not an official School Transcript.)

Both of these scholarship applications have a due date of May 1, 2024.

I encourage all readers of this article to make as many copies as needed to share with coaches, Youth directors, and Youth bowlers in your area. As always, thank you for what you do for the youth bowlers in our state.



No-Tap Scores

Michael Nyitray

In a stunning revelation, it was discovered some scores in the Florida State USBC's historical records system came into question following the discovery that a local association records were, in fact, not scratch scores but were No-Tap scores. The issue came to light when an individual sent a message to the

association manager of the Florida State USBC, informing some listed record scores in one local association were No-Tap scores.

Upon receiving the message, the Florida State USBC's manager forwarded that message to Michael Nyitray, the chair of the state's Historical Committee, who plays a fundamental role in uncovering Florida's scoring records history. Nyitray, utilizing his connections within the bowling community, reached out to the manager of the bowling center where the scores in question were originally submitted, Kevin Richardson.

In a revealing conversation, Richardson confirmed that the scores in question came from a No-Tap league rather than a regular league. A top-level bowler himself, Richardson personally knew what the 'house record' was, which had already been confirmed within the FSUSBC records system. This information further confirmed which scores were scratch and which were No-Tap. After further review of the original scoring submissions, and then multiple communications with the USBC in Arlington, the mystery had been solved. Believe it or not, the league from which the suspect scores originated was not just a No-Tap league, but it was a USBC-certified No-Tap league. It took several steps working through the USBC rules department to confirm this bowler's "approved" scores on that day were not naturally bowled scores. Once the USBC official confirmed the scores in question were No-Tap scores, those scores are being removed from that bowler's USBC Honor Score listing. As everyone would expect, the Florida State USBC's historical records are meant to reflect only actual scores bowled, not No-Tap or handicap scores.

This revelation prompted Nyitray to do a review of every season's scoring submission from 2005 thru 2023. Fortunately, this was the only season that had No-Tap scores listed in Florida's annual honor scores received from the USBC. But it does not mean it could not happen in the future. Moving forward, an additional layer of screening of honor scores will be done.

The identity of the individual who brought this issue to light remains unknown, but their action did help preserve the accuracy of Florida's bowling scoring records history. All Florida scoring records are freely available to anyone to view at: <http://ushsbf.org/alltop10.htm>

From the editor's desk

Margo Buzzard

I would like to again thank all of our contributors. This issue is a little smaller than usual. I hope the next one will have more participation. Please let us know what you would like to see in the newsletter in the future. We are open to suggestions! Also, remember that anyone can send in an article. Our next deadline is June 1, 2024.

