



# Florida State USBC



## FLORIDA STATE USBC NEWSLETTER

June 2024

FSUSBC Association Manager

Tony Adkins

Greetings to all of our Florida State Bowlers!

I am excited to let you know that we have completed 2 of our Florida State Tournaments thus far as we just completed the Women's Championship and the Mixed Memorial Bob & Connie Peters back in April. Our Open Tournament is in full swing, and we have completed 5 of 8 weekends thus far.

I am pleased to announce that we have increased entries in all of these Tournaments this year! This is amazing and thank you for participating and spreading the word out to your fellow bowlers to get out and compete.

One of the greatest hits we have experienced this year is the use of Facebook at our Women's Championship, the Open Championship and the Youth State Championship. One of our Media Committee members has become the photographer on Facebook by posting honor scores along with photos of everyone that accepted the invitation to be on Facebook as well as others sending photos to be posted. We have had some great comments and of course this helps in getting the standings out as quickly as possible to keep the bowlers updated throughout the weekend.

I also want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to attend the 2024 USBC National Convention this year as one of your delegates. This was an amazing experience in every way. Lots of information throughout the 3 days with great speakers and our wonderful USBC Staff! They really go out of their way to make sure we as bowlers, associations have what we need to make Bowling a better experience. Florida was again a top 5 recipient in the BVL donations for the season as we finished #5 with a total of \$50,091.48! Thank you for supporting this great foundation!

We have made changes to our normally scheduled summer meeting for the State Board the weekend of July 26-28. We have now moved the Youth Hall of Fame and

Award Winners Celebration Luncheon to Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11:30 am. Here we will honor the winners as we have done in the past at the October meeting along with the Hall of Fame recipients. This luncheon is open to any USBC member, please come out and support our Youth!

Until next time, keep it rolling!

## FSUSBC Tournaments

Toni Maddux

A reminder to all local associations **June 30th is the deadline** to bid on our 7 state tournaments for 2026.

All bids submitted must have the lineage verification signed by the proprietor placing the bid and bid letter must be in the proposal as well.

The **PEPSI** runs 5 weekends in March and April, skipping Easter weekend. approximately 2900 entries.

The **OPEN**, our largest tournament, runs 8 weekends in May and June. This year around 600 entries. (5 on a team)

The **YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP** runs 3 weekends beginning the first weekend of June. This past year around 275 entries.

The **Women's Championship** runs 3 weekends and is held the last 2 weeks of May and the 1st week of June.

The **Mixed Tournament** is held the first 2 weeks of April. 182 entries.

The **Women's Senior Tournament** runs 2 weekends for women over 50 and is held the last 2 weekends of October. We have a **NEW FORMAT**, each event optional where the ladies can bowl all 3 events or they can choose to bowl singles only or doubles only.

The **Men's Tournament** runs 4 weekends and is held the last weekend of October and the first 3 weekends of November.

Submit a bid today, host a tournament in your area. On all of our adult tournaments the locals receive 75% on all profits for the tournament you host. It is a great opportunity to make money for your local association and give your local bowlers a chance to bowl in a state tournament without traveling.

If you have **ANY QUESTIONS** on how to submit or questions about what is required for each tournament, please contact Toni Maddux anytime 386-290 8310 or email [tmaddux36@gmail.com](mailto:tmaddux36@gmail.com) Looking forward to hearing from you.



Being the first bowling alley with string pins in my area was definitely a shell shock for my community, and me included. At first, I did not realize how strenuous this experience would be, and the determination I would need in order to even progress. The string pins caused a major setback for me. I had to adjust physically, but especially mentally. The pins can have some extremely unlucky reactions no matter how well you throw the ball or even a lucky reaction from the strings just flailing around knocking over unexpected pins. Regardless, the various reactions have taught me to stay relaxed, don't get too frustrated, and try to adjust accordingly. It was very hard for me initially to not just completely shut down after the 3rd or 4th bad reaction, but eventually I started to just laugh at it and move on. After a few months of hard work and tons of frustration, I've noticed the string pins have brought back fun to my game. String pins or free fall, we all get bad reactions every now and then, thus the importance of having a solid mental game. The Pepsi tournament in March was the first tournament I had been in since string pins, and I was worried to say the least. Although that tournament was the best I've ever bowled in a consecutive 12 games, especially in a big tournament like that. With the string pins being very difficult, it made me realize how easy free fall was when I have a good mentality and had locked down my form. Although those string pins get frustrating, I'm overall grateful for the experience because those pins have shown me how important my mental game is. Anyone could have amazing form and perfect technique, but without a strong mentality no player can truly progress their overall game.



The Technology and Communications committee is excited to announce that we are rolling out official [floridastateusbc.com](mailto:floridastateusbc.com) email addresses to all Florida State USBC Directors and Officers thanks to "Google for Nonprofits". Over the next year, email communication will transition from personal or regular Gmail accounts to the provided [@floridastateusbc.com](mailto:@floridastateusbc.com) for Florida State USBC business.

**SOMETHING NEW:** The Florida State USBC Youth Awards and Hall of Fame Awards luncheon and Youth Hall of Fame Inductee luncheon will be held Saturday, July 27th at 11:30 am. Doors will open at 11:15 am the **.Florida State USBC Youth Leaders Meeting immediately after the awards luncheon.**

The event will be held at the Marriott St. Petersburg Clearwater, 12600 Roosevelt Blvd. North, St. Petersburg. Rooms are available, if needed. The rate is \$139. The deadline to reserve a room is June 28th to get the group rate. Youth Awards Luncheon for State Scholarship, Pepsi Tournaments and Youth Hall of Fame Inductees and 1 guest paid by the Florida State USBC. Additional tickets may be purchased. Youth tickets are \$15, and adult tickets are \$25. **Watch for updates on the Florida State USBC website at [floridastateusbc.com](http://floridastateusbc.com) and the Florida State USBC Youth Leaders website and the Florida Pepsi Website.**

The Florida State USBC annual meeting, adult Hall of Fame and adult Awards Dinner will be held in October beginning with Friday night registration and delegate get together Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>. The Annual meeting will be held Saturday and Sunday, October 12th and 13th. Information will continue to be updated on the Florida State USBC website and sent to local association presidents and managers. So, save the date and plan to attend at the Marriott St. Petersburg Marriott in October.

## Gulf Coast USBC

Celeste O'Neill

Hello all, I know it has been a few years. I took some time off due to some personal reasons. But I have decided (with a little help from James Strickler) to return as a Director on the Gulf Coast USBC board, not effective till August 1st, but I decided to write a newsletter. Gulf Coast had their annual meeting on April 13, where we inducted a few new members into our Hall of Fame - Ability Adult went to Tim Dunbar, and Chris Springstead and Youth Ability to Aaron Booth. Lifetime Achievement to Bruce Silvey. Coach of the Year went to John Foss and William White. New positions changed and a few new members have joined the board for the upcoming 2024-2025 season. James Strickler, is 1st Vice President and Curtis Aimino will be Sgt. Of Arms, they were already onboard changing positions, and the new directors are Nikki Reed and Kacey Davis and myself. We still have a few openings. If interested you can download an application from our website, on the home page, [www.gcusbc.org](http://www.gcusbc.org). Janet Waddell & Dean Rosko are retiring and were presented plaques for their years of service on the board. I was looking at the

Florida State USBC website and came across a page done by Mike Nyitray. He has the Top 10 series for bowlers for men, women, youth boys, and youth girls. Aaron Booth is with Gulf Coast and just went adult for about a month on 9/8/23 and he shot 300-300-290 - 890 series so he is tied for 5th place in the men's division. We are very proud of his accomplishment. We have been hosting the Florida State Women's State Tournament the past two weekends and our last weekend is June 1 & 2. Debbie Whitten & Toni Maddux have been working with Gulf Coast USBC. Saw lots of friends I have not seen in a while and saw a lot of new faces. Had a great time at Seminole Lanes, which held both teams & singles, in their 60-lane center. I hope everyone had a great time. I know I did. The 71st Annual St. Petersburg Women's Classic tournament will be held November 2 & 3 and November 9 & 10. I have published SAVE THE DATE on Facebook and our website and as soon as the entry form is ready, we will be emailing it out. If you are interested in adding your email to that list, send it to [publicity@gcusbc.org](mailto:publicity@gcusbc.org) And as soon as they are ready, we will get them out to the associations and they will be available on our website. I will bring them to the Florida State USBC youth meeting as well, in July.

I look forward to writing more newsletters in future months. I have read them all even though I have not been around. Glad to see some new names being sent.

Looking forward to our next newsletter.



## Nationals or Not?

Chrissy Lee

Have you ever taken a "real vacation"? You are probably wondering what a real vacation is, right? To be clear, a "real vacation" is one with my suitcase, my clothes and no bowling equipment. I do not know about you, but all of my vacations have a bowling related theme. Whether it is Convention, Jamborees or participating in the National Championship, my bowling balls should have their own frequent flyer account. It got me thinking...is going to the National Tournament worth the costs and expenses? If you think about the price of

the entry fee, airline ticket, hotel and spending money, you might need a second job to go. When you think of all the money you put out, is participating in the National Championship worth the investment? ABSOLUTELY!! Let me tell you why...

Many years ago, a group of ladies asked me to travel with them to go bowl in the National Tournament. My immediate response was, "no, I am not that good. After explaining how the event worked, I decided to go. I believe my first event was in Wichita, KS. At this time, I was a born and bred Jersey girl, who never traveled to the Midwest. I was so nervous, I bowled horrendously. But it was not my scores on the lanes that mattered. It was the laughs I shared with my fellow lady keglers. We got lost driving around, had a tornado warning and one of my teammates left her bowling balls in the center. We had many fun times and laughs for years. The following year was Milwaukee I believe. You had to see 6 Jersey ladies trying to pump gas. (There is no self-gas pumping in the Garden State.) We went to Wisconsin in April...without heavy jackets. Lesson learned. Take my advice and do not do that. One year, we went to Tulsa, Oklahoma and I got to meet up with friends who had previously moved there. Would I have ever had the opportunity to see them if not for the tournament? Probably not. One of these trips, the squad was running quite a bit behind, and we did not finish bowling until 2:30 am in the morning. After contemplating if we were more tired or hungry, we arrived at an IHOP around 4. Somewhere there is a hilarious picture of all of us, falling asleep, practically in our pancakes.

Once I started competing in the Open Championship, I was able to take trips with my husband and bowl in the National Bowling Stadium with him. I know people are kind of tired of going there, but there is no better feeling than walking down the aisle, hearing music and seeing all the tournament workers cheering you on. That never gets old. I have gotten to see unique places like Miller Park and El Paso, as well as driving up the mountain to Lake Tahoe. Which by the way, is not for the weak of heart.

Have I cashed in the National Tournaments? Sure, and I have made a few dollars from a bracket here and there. Will I ever recoup the costs I have spent? Nope. But that is okay. I have made memories and friends to last a lifetime. I have laughed until my belly hurt and tried various kinds of local foods. None of these opportunities would have ever happened if I was not participating. So, to answer the question-should I bowl in the National Tournament? My answer would be unequivocally, yes! You may not come home with pockets full of dollars, but you will have a great time and a lifetime of memories.



## Florida Pepsi

## Allen Solomon

### **2024 Florida Pepsi was a record setter!**

The 2024 Florida Pepsi and Youth Bowling Championships were held in beautiful Tavares at Lakeside Lanes, the heart of Lake County. Lakeside Lanes is a 40 lane, very well-run center with restaurant quality food service. Discover Lake County donated \$20,000 to our scholarship fund, helping us to award almost \$100,000 in scholarships. Along with brackets, we awarded \$105,686.

This year saw a record number of qualifiers for the tournament with 2899 entrants. Scholarships were awarded to 419 bowlers in 14 divisions. Awards ranged from \$600 to \$100 to participants SMART accounts at USBC.

The last day of competition saw some amazing bowling. The U15 Boys were on fire! Dylan Beck from Port St. Lucie shot games of 300 and 289 for an 832 three game series (a tournament record). Cameron Morton from Jacksonville shot 300 and 268 for a 794 series. Emmanuel Guevara from Largo shot 278 and 289 with an 805 series. Randy Ayala, U18, from Cape Coral shot games of 299 and 266! All of this incredible bowling was rolled at the same time. There was a lot of excitement for these young athletes!

Here are our 2024 tournament champions:

### **Pepsi**

U18 Boys, Luis Marcello, Orange Park

U18 Girls, Kara Biessel, Ormond Beach

U15 Boys, Dylan Beck, Port St. Lucie

U15 Girls, Sophie Saunders, Stuart

U12 Boys, Nico Candelero, Pembroke Pines

U12 Girls, Saiyuriko Martinez-Ichijo, Tampa

U10 Boys, Lucas Danelly, Winter Springs

U10 Girls, Leilani Thornton, Tampa

U8 Boys, Carson Johnson, Jacksonville

U8 Girls, Karter Preston, Port St. John

### **Florida Handicap**

U18 Girls, Kennedy Locke, Orlando  
U18 Boys, David Thompson, Pensacola  
U12 Girls, Leilani Chan, Hialeah  
U12 Boys, Wesley David, Lakeland

The tournament sends 6 bowlers to Jr. Gold annually, along with 2 boys and 2 girls from the U18 division of the Florida Handicap to National Youth Open Championships. Both events will be held in the Detroit metro area this July. For the first time ever, we had to have a roll-off to determine our girls representatives on the team. The roll-off was held at Sparez in Davie. Coach Vinny Sica conducted the mini-event for us. One of the young ladies was from Bird Bowl in Miami and the other Greenacres in Palm Beach. Congratulations to Angelie B. from Miami on winning the spot!

We saw some pretty large crowds and squads over our 5 weeks of competition. With the growth of the tournaments, we will be expanding to 6 weekends next year in Tallahassee. Visit Tallahassee has offered up \$25,000 in added scholarship for 2025. Our schedule for the 2024-25 season will be announced in early August.



## Gulf Coast USBC Youth

## Celeste O'Neill

On June 30, Gulf Coast will be having The Harry and Joan Beierlein Youth Memorial Scholarship Tournament at Liberty Lanes, in Largo. Any certified USBC youth member is welcome to come out and bowl. \$5000 has been added to the prize fund. You can find an entry form on our website at [www.gcusbc.org](http://www.gcusbc.org) under youth tournaments. Gulf Coast is also offering Gulf Coast USBC youth bowlers only a chance to win a \$1000 scholarship - We



will be giving eight (8) away. The application is on our website and must be postmarked by June 17th. This is open only to Gulf Coast Youth bowlers. Wanted to congratulate all the youth bowlers who qualified for Pepsi and those who won scholarship monies. Look forward to seeing the winners at the Florida State USBC youth meeting. Also wanted to say good luck to our youth bowlers about to bowl in the Florida State USBC Youth Scholarship State Tournament, tell Dalia hi for me!!! Hope all youth bowlers come out to the youth meeting and experience the Florida State USBC Youth Meeting. It will be July 27, at the Marriott St. Petersburg/Clearwater. 11:15 a.m. doors open. Encourage youth bowlers to attend this meeting so you know what is happening in your state. Luncheon cost is \$15 for youth and \$25 for adult, purchased ahead of time. Contact Florida State USBC to get tickets. Come out and support the youth. At the luncheon they give out awards, and then the actual youth meeting begins, where elections are held and this is where you as a youth can get involved in your state association. I wanted to mention 2 young ladies in our association who graduated high school and moved away to go to college. They are both bowling on their college teams. First there is Madison Colston. Her first year of college went by in the blink of an eye. The experience and knowledge that she has gained by attending UAB are invaluable in every aspect of her life, not just bowling. UAB became her second home because of the people and community there. Her coursework and bowling take up a ton of her time, but when she is free, she will take the opportunities to volunteer for other team sporting events or organizations in the community. By giving her the opportunity to help the community she feels that she has truly made an impact during her first year. Not only has she and her team made an impact in the community, but also in the classroom and on the lanes. They have managed to have a team GPA of a 3.5 and make it to sectionals for the first time in a few years. There were many highs and lows to the season, but overall, she feels that they put their heart and soul into everything they did no matter what the result. Madison cannot believe that she only has one more year left to get her bachelor's degree and then after that who knows what the future will hold but for now, she is excited to live in the moment and take all the opportunities she has earned. She is ready to get back on the lanes with her team in the fall and truly make a statement for UAB bowling. Last year October 14, Madison was inducted into The Florida State Youth Hall of Fame, she was unable to come to the meeting, because it was her first college match that weekend. A video was presented at the youth meeting from Madison. We are very excited for Madison. The first week of competition she was recognized as the MEAC Rookie of the week, she continued to get Rookie of the Week, at least 5 more times. Madison keeps in touch with her friend Victoria Porta, who is going to McKendree University and is also on her bowling team. Victoria just finished her first year at McKendree University in Lebanon, Illinois and it's safe to say she embarked quite a journey while being there. She is majoring in Sociology - Criminal Justice Track, with a

Minor Legal Studies to pursue her bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctor. She is enrolled in MCK 3+3 Law Program that allows 3 years at McKendree to complete her Gen-Eds, Major, and Minor requirements and 3 years at Saint Louis University for Law School. Before walking into McKendree, her credits served her as a sophomore, ultimately putting her ahead of her graduating class. While being so far away from home has its challenges, she has been able to keep above a 3.4 GPA both semesters while working an on-campus job and bowling. She is affiliated with McKendree Women's Bowling Team under the coaching of Shawn Bibee & Breanna Clemmer. Being a part of a collegiate team was more intense than she expected at first. It puts you in a position to embrace change and pushes you to reach a potential you never would've known you were capable of. Her team consists of 12 girls and only the top 8 travel on the Varsity squad. After an evaluation process, she secured her spot as the top 8 and she traveled and competed in all but one tournament throughout both semesters. Not to say that she didn't make mistakes along the way because she surely did, but she learned so much on and off the lanes. Being a part of a team that wants to see you succeed in all areas of your life is the best feeling on the planet. The growth she has experienced as an individual and bowler is mind boggling. As she continues her collegiate career as a student athlete, she hopes to soak up every opportunity and experience possible. It was a wonderful first year at McKendree and she can't wait for next Fall. I am glad to see these two young ladies, going to college, and being able to bowl and continue playing the sport they both love and have loved since they were little girls. And I am proud to know them both. Hey kids don't forget to sign up for KidsBowlFree.com at your centers. Maybe even join a Saturday morning league. And our bowling center youth leagues and local tournaments and state and other tournaments always offer scholarships to the kids. So, get your kids signed up. Youth girls and adult women, at Liberty Lanes in Largo, the 3rd Saturday of the month there is the Liberty Lanes Women's Monthly Challenge. This is a singles tournament, so youth girls can bowl. There is a handicap and scratch divisions. IF interested in coming out to this tournament, look up Liberty Lanes Women's Monthly Challenge on Facebook. For more information you can email Carmen Aguilar at [Carmen@Libertylanesbowling.com](mailto:Carmen@Libertylanesbowling.com)



Good Morning Florida. Hard to believe that half of the year is almost gone. We are at the beginning of June; summer leagues are in full swing and before we can blink fall leagues will be forming and the cycle will go on.

I had the privilege of representing the State of Florida at the USBC National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, as one of the State Delegates. The workshops were not as many as in past years; however, I did attend the Rules Seminar, How To Talk To People Who Are Not You, Communications and Bias is Everywhere. The motivational speaker brought everyone to their feet. His theme was everyone should have a BUD - Big Unreasonable Dream - you have to want to achieve something that is so far out that you have to go outside your comfort zone in order to achieve it.

The only proposed rule change was withdrawn so there was no legislation to vote on. The good news was that the proposed due increase at the national level is being postponed as tournament participation has increased at the national levels (not to mention that the cost has gone up as well) so that the governing board feels that they should have enough operating funds to be good until at least 2027 when they will possibly bring to the delegation a proposed dues increase at the national level.

At the state level the Women's Championship Tournament concluded on June 2, 2024. The tournament was hosted by the Gulf Coast USBC and Seminole Lanes. This year we had 182 entries of which 4 were doubles and singles only with the others being team, doubles/singles and all events. All events took place at Seminole Lanes, which is a 60-lane center. Unofficial standings will be posted on the Florida State website and on our Facebook page by Monday afternoon following the close of the tournament. The tournament director has 30 days to verify the standings and make the tournament official at which time checks can be cut to those who cashed in the tournament.

In reference to averages the tournament had 30 ladies with an average of 200-209 and 33 ladies with averages of 210 up to 222. There were two 280 games, several 275 or higher games and overall scoring was above average. There was one 300 game rolled by Jill Winters of The Villages which earned her a 50 over on-site award as well as a USBC Honor Score.

The first-place winners in all the tournament events (team, doubles, singles and all events both handicap and scratch) will receive a letter inviting them to the Florida State Annual Awards Dinner in October where they will receive their plaque. They will also receive a dinner ticket for themselves and a guest. The awards dinner will be held on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at the St. Petersburg/Marriott Clearwater located on Roosevelt Boulevard in St. Petersburg.

For the 2025 Women's State Championship Tournament we will be in the Broward County area at Strikers, which is a 40-lane center, and we will hold all the events of the tournament in that one center. You will need to get your entries in as soon as you can to ensure you get the dates/times you need. The team captain will use the USBC portal to register their teams, doubles/singles and all events. If you are registering more than one team, etc. you will need to make sure and link the entries so that you are on the same date/time. I will be available to assist any team captain if they have questions or need assistance.

I will have a new e-mail address and a new mailing address for anyone who mails in their entries. This information will be posted on the Florida State website, the Florida State Facebook page and it will be on the printed entry forms.

On the local scene in Marion County, we have a new general manager at Bowlero East, Charlene and a new front desk supervisor, Craig. Bowlero West has a new manager, Tim. Unsure how long they will be with Bowlero as staff changes regularly. Lineage goes up every fall and at the current rate Bowlero is about to price themselves out of league business.

Bowlero West has had some renovations going on to restructure the bar, enlarge the arcade and other minor cosmetic changes. Again, all to slowly and quietly ease the leagues out of their centers.

They removed the lockers indicating that to the bowlers that they did not want steady customers as most of the bowlers enjoyed leaving their equipment at the center as they did not have to take it home after bowling. People who used to bowl at least 2 or more leagues are cutting back to one league because of the price of lineage. That is not the only cost associated with league bowling as there is the prize fund and secretary/treasurer fee which makes what the bowler put in their pay envelope weekly just shy of a decent meal in a restaurant.

Lanes in the Marion County area have not been certified in a little over 5 years and the bowlers are beginning to notice that pins are not always on spot or that certain pins are being dropped on a regular basis and the list goes on. USBC took over lane certification and unfortunately it has not gone as well as they had planned. The fact that the lanes are "grandfathered in" for any honor scores that may be bowled is not a good thing. At this point in time, it is hard to say if the lanes are within the specifications set forth by USBC.

The number of certified leagues is declining even if the number of certified bowlers is on a slight increase. Hard to say where USBC gets their figures.

At any rate Marion County will be holding their league officer workshop the beginning of August so that the officers can pick up their league supplies and find out if there were any changes at the USBC convention that could affect their league.

The heat index is on the rise so be sure to hydrate if you do have to be outside and limit your time outside. See you on the lanes.



Hello everyone - if you recall last year around this same time, I submitted an article for the FSUSBC newsletter and told you all about my very 1<sup>st</sup> time attending the 2023 USBC National Convention that was held in Las Vegas - it was **AMAZING!**

Well, this year it was **ELECTRIFYING** and exhausting! As I was able to attend the convention again this year and accompanied a Young Delegate Award recipient Lili Moore. I took Lili under my wing and ensured that she attended all her workshops and meetings. But experiencing the national convention with her and the rest of the team (Ron Vogel, Gale Angelillo, Tony Maretto, and Priscilla Hawkins) was another awesome experience that I will not forget anytime soon. The kickoff motivation speaker **Marvelless Mark** got us started off on the right foot - we were beating our drum sticks together and making all kinds of noise! We were **ALL ROCK STARS!!** If you want to **LEAD**, you've got to **TURN IT UP!** 4 Chords of Change - A for Action, B for Band, C for Changes, and D for Dreams (**BUD** - Big Unreasonable Dreams)! Well, that was the start of our 2024 National Convention - we were going to **TURN IT UP!** We got some great ideas from the workshops, went on a scavenger hunt through the vendor booths and found some interesting things we didn't know. On our last night Lili and I talked the team into going out to a show - **LOVE** the Beatles Cirque du Soleil. Now that was **ELECTRIFYING!** It was an awesome show and a great time! We all enjoyed it - laughed, bonded, and giggled all the way back to the hotel - mostly because we were picking on the Uber driver! We had to say goodbye to Vegas and return to Orlando - it was the end to our **ELECTRIFYING** week in Vegas and memories that will last forever!

The ORUSBC hosted our Youth, Women's and Open City Tournaments in January, February, and April before we left to go to the national convention. All these tournaments were a **HUGE** success.

Youth	67 Teams	135 Doubles	272 Singles
Women	23 Teams	44 Doubles	88 singles
Open	110 Teams	270 Doubles	540 Singles

Honor Scores from those tournaments.

**Youth Tournament:**

Mason Harding	758 series
Rohde Barber	741 series
Brody Cartier	727 series
Richard L Dannelly Jr	709 series
Paxton VanAlystyne	707 series

**Women's Tournament:**

Marla Lamb	299 game
Liz Johnson	290 game
Meagan Taylor	290 game

**Open City Tournament:**

Joe Vargo	300 game
Ryon Collins	300 game
Jeffrey Mersch	823 series
Niko Rivera	812 series
Ryon Collins	809 series
Rick Morgan	805 series

Also, a wonderful woman went to Reno, NV to bowl the Women's Nationals and was the second woman to bowl a perfect game during the tournament - our very own Alyssa Ferraro! Check out the videos and write up on Facebook...way to go Alyssa!

Orlando has had several of the bowling centers inspected by USBC and all of them have passed. But we also have a center that is in the process of installing NEW lanes - Oviedo Bowling Center - construction is planned for the end of May with completion scheduled by end of June. We are looking forward to bowling on those new lanes in the upcoming fall season!

Our ORUSBC Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> at Boardwalk Bowl in Orlando, FL at 2 p.m. We will be voting to fill several positions on the board, selecting our candidates for the State and National Conventions, presenting our tournament winners awards, Hall

of Fame award winner will be honored, and association updates for the 2023-2024 season. Stay tuned for the results!

As we bring 2023-2024 Fall Season of bowling to a close and prepare for the summer season - because in Florida bowling is a sport, we do all year long!

**We are going to TURN IT UP in ORUSBC for 2024-2025 season and be ROCK STARS!**



## Florida State USBC Youth

Dalia Keyes

The Florida State USBC has some exciting news to share in that we will be holding the Florida State USBC Youth Awards Bowling and Youth Hall of Fame luncheon in July in an effort to attract more youth bowlers to attend the luncheon as well as the Florida State Youth Leaders Annual Delegates meeting which has been held in October previously.

The date is July 27<sup>th</sup>, and the luncheon will be held at 11:30 AM and the Florida State USBCV Youth Leaders Meeting will be held immediately after the awards luncheon.

The luncheon will include winners for State Scholarship, Pepsi and Florida Handicap tournaments and Youth Hall of Fame Winners.

The luncheon and meeting will be held at the Marriott St. Petersburg Clearwater Hotel, 12600 Roosevelt Boulevard North, St. Petersburg, FL 33716.

More information will be forthcoming but wanted everyone to make sure to Save The Date for this upcoming event.

## Southwest Florida USBC

Krissy Stewart

Hello from Southwest Florida! I hope that this newsletter finds everyone doing well!

I have a lot of information that I would like to share with everyone, so I will get right to it!

Back towards the end of April, I was lucky enough to travel to Las Vegas for the USBC Convention as one of the Board members representing Southwest Florida. There was so

much information that was shared by the guest speakers, in round table discussions and the Annual Meeting. I know that everyone learned a lot of things during the few days. It was nice to hear what other local Associations around the country have been successful at and some things that they may be struggling with.

One example that I will be presenting to our Board next weekend is the idea to allow bowlers "walk in" and bowl during the local Association tournaments such as The Men's, Women's, Open and Youth events. I thought that was an interesting concept. I'm sure all of you have all heard the excuse, "well I didn't even know about the tournament!" This way, we could accept bowler's entries until the final squad bowls. Interesting, huh?!?!? I know it would maybe be a bit more work during the event, but well worth it in my opinion.

Also, during these few days, my husband and I partook in the Bowl For The Cure Luncheon. This is where Breast Cancer Survivors get together along with their spouse or friend, have lunch and just make genuine friendships. I was also asked to do an interview that will be used during October and next year's convention. I was honored to share my story! If I can help one person, that is what I am supposed to do!

(As my family always says though.... When I talk, I use the word "Ummm" way too much! LOL! So, I made sure that I asked them to edit my interview just in case I went a bit crazy using "Ummmm!")

A great friend of mine, Mike Cannington, announced that starting August 1, 2024, he will be the new Vice President of the National USBC! Way to go my friend!!! I know that you are going to do a great job!

I look forward to going to next year's convention!

Next, I would like to say that we made it through this winter season bowling leagues! YAY! Onward to the start of summer leagues! This is where we get to see new faces participate and the opportunity to try to retain them for the next winter leagues starting in August. I would like to challenge everyone to try to increase their memberships by 3-5% this next fall 😊

Now for some sad news.... I know that we lost two local USBC members by cancer and a massive heart attack. Rick McCarraher (husband of Andrea McCarraher) passed away recently from cancer. He fought the good fight but, in the end, it was just too much. Rick was a local Hall of Fame member. He and his wife owned a local Pro Shop many years ago at Miracle Lanes in Fort Myers. He had given up bowling many years ago. However, in the last few years, he shoed up for a local fundraiser. He used a house ball and shot a HIGH 700 series!!! WOW! Talk about natural talent in our sport.



Next, about 2 months ago, another friend of mine had a massive heart attack while at work. Luckily, she was a nurse at a local hospital. So, she was getting the best care that was possible. They transferred her to Tampa General. After approximately 45 days, her heart just could not sustain on her own. Her name is Michele Larson. I actually met her when I was advertising our newly revamped 600 Club. We hit it off immediately! We had one thing in common.... She had fought breast cancer too. But she had just been cleared of her 5-year benchmark within the last year. How ironic and sad. 😞

These two will always be remembered! RIP my friends!

Our annual meeting and HOF dinner will be on August 17<sup>th</sup>. This is where we give all of our local tournament winners their awards, too. We look forward to this event every year as our bowlers get dressed up and have a few adult beverages during this time. There are some bowlers that we only get to see at this event since our association is spread out over a handful of counties. So, it's a special time for all of us!

Next, For those of you that are computer savvy, I want to share something with you. We are lucky enough to have a few of our bowling leagues at Lightning Strikes Bowling Center in Fort Myers livestreamed every week. A gentleman named Larry Lichstein is the host. (You may have heard his name before as he is the guy that drilled the PBA bowling balls for the pros back in the 1970s, 1980s, etc.) I am not sure when he retired from all of that, but he makes the show fun, highlights bowlers, does interviews, etc.

So, check it out! It's Lightning Strikes Live Stream.

Next, I would like to give everyone an idea on how to raise money for your favorite charity.

We actually used Bowl For The Cure. We ran a tournament within our tournament during our Men and Women's local tournament. For those bowlers that were interested, we charged \$20 on site prior to their first squad of bowling. \$10 went to the Bowl For The Cure and the other \$10 went to a separate prize fund. We actually got 91 bowlers to participate! That's \$910 that went to Bowl For The Cure!!!! We paid 1 out of 6 bowlers and kept the women and men separate. We let the bowler take their highest series with handicap between their 3 events. (singles, doubles and team). They thought this was a great idea because if they bowled poorly one squad... they had one or two more chances to cash! This is an easy way to raise money!!! It's a little bookwork but well worth it!

Lastly, I would like to give a shout out to one of bowlers in our Association. Rick Dombrowski during the singles event at the Open Championship last weekend rolled a 903 which included his handicap. WOW!!!! I'm not sure if that is going to be beat or not.... But that is absolutely GREAT BOWLING, Rick!!!

Well, That's enough typing for me! I hope we get to see some of you at Women's Senior Tournament in October and the Men's State tournament in November!

Take care!

## The Future of Bowling

James Strickler

### The Future of Bowling - Comparing One-Handed and Two-Handed Styles

Bowling, a timeless sport cherished by millions worldwide, showcases a diverse array of styles and techniques. Among the most debated aspects of the game is the choice between one-handed and two-handed bowling styles. Both approaches have their advocates. Let's look into the intricacies of these styles, examining their differences, advantages, and disadvantages.

#### One -Handed Bowling

One-handed bowling, the traditional method practiced for decades, emphasizes precision and control. Here, the bowler holds the ball with one hand and utilizes the other hand for balance and support during the approach and release.

#### Advantages:

**Precision** - One-handed bowlers often excel in targeting specific pins due to their ability to finely adjust the ball's trajectory and spin.

**Consistency** - With one hand dedicated to the ball, bowlers can develop a consistent release motion, leading to improved accuracy over time.

**Versatility** - This style accommodates various lane conditions, allowing bowlers to adapt their technique to different oil patterns and lane surfaces.

#### Disadvantages:

**Limited Power** - One-handed bowlers may struggle to generate as much power as their two-handed counterparts, potentially resulting in lower ball speed and pin carry.

**Higher Risk of Injury** - The repetitive motion of swinging a heavy bowling ball with one hand can increase the risk of wrist and shoulder injuries over time.

#### Two-Handed Bowling

Two-handed bowling, a relatively modern phenomenon popularized by a select group of elite bowlers, diverges from tradition by involving both hands in the delivery of the ball. Bowlers employing this style cup the ball with both hands, utilizing a two-handed approach during the backswing and release.

### Advantages:

Increased Revolutions - Two-handed bowlers often generate more revolutions on the ball, leading to enhanced hook potential and pin action.

Higher Ball Speed - With the added momentum from the two-handed approach, bowlers can achieve higher ball speeds, crucial for navigating challenging lane conditions.

Reduced Injury Risk - Distributing the weight of the ball across both hands can alleviate strain on the wrist and shoulder, potentially reducing the risk of overuse injuries.

### Disadvantages:

Less Precision - The two-handed approach may sacrifice some precision compared to one-handed bowling, as coordinating the movements of both hands can be challenging.

Learning Curve - Mastering the intricacies of the two-handed technique requires time and dedication, making it less accessible to beginners or casual bowlers.

Lane Condition Play - While advantageous on certain lane conditions, the two-handed style may struggle to adapt to less favorable oil patterns, requiring bowlers to refine their skillset for optimal performance.

So, the Bowler's choice between one-handed and two-handed bowling styles ultimately boils down to personal preference, skill level, and individual bowling goals. While one-handed bowling emphasizes precision and control, two-handed bowling offers power and revolution. Whether you're a seasoned bowler seeking to refine your technique or a newcomer eager to explore different styles, embracing the nuances of each approach can elevate your bowling experience to new heights. So, pick up your ball, step onto the lanes, and be the best bowler you can be!

Sarasota-Manatee County USBC

Cecelia Butler

Hello to all from the Sarasota-Manatee USBC Bowling Association! Currently leagues are at the halfway point in our summer season. On hot, humid days it is GREAT to be bowling in a league or working on your game inside an air-conditioned bowling center. Our 17th Annual Youth Championship Tournament was held on January 27th & 28th at Sarasota Lanes. The 17th Annual Women's SMCBA Championship Tournament competed on February 18th at Bowlero Bradenton. The 75th Annual Open SMCBA Championship Tournament was conducted at Bowlero Bradenton on February 24th, 25th, and March 2nd & 3rd. Smart money has been awarded and sent in for the youth, prize checks were written for the adults and plaques were handed out to the winners. Thanks to all who competed and congratulations to the winners. Did you catch that the Women's Tournament was held on one day only? Participation in the Women's event has declined over the past few years. The SMCBA Board of Directors decided to try a single squad as well as a different format

to spark interest in this tournament. We held a 9 Pin No-Tap singles event. Two divisions were set with handicap: 164 & below and 165 & over. While participating in this tournament, I saw smiling faces, heard laughter and words of encouragement from the majority of the women bowling that day. As scary as change can be, it seems that this might be a good change for this event. Here's an update on the three community projects our association participates in. The 102/202 Club donations came to \$975.00. With the help of our board a total of \$1,000.00 was given to Suncoast Charities for Children. We sent 1500 Crown Royal bags to the Purple Bag Project-Packages from Home. During BVL Week we collected \$4,000.00 for Bay Pines Veterans Hospital. The check was delivered by Susan Hill, a Women's Hall of Fame member, on our behalf. The funds will be used to support the Stand Up For Vets Event. Thank you to the volunteers that helped collect for these projects. Most importantly a HUGE Thank you to all that donated to help make our community service projects very successful. We would like to thank our service men and women as well as our first responders for their service to our community. Until next time...enjoy your bowling adventures and safe travels along the way.

## FSUSBC Hall of Fame

Michael Nyitray

Being on a Hall of Fame committee, we have to be open-minded to the uniqueness of each person's career. Over time, it became necessary to implement minimum standards by which a person becomes eligible for the Florida State USBC Hall of Fame.

Subjectivity is an issue when it comes to a HOF nominee. Before the formation of our current unified state association, standards for our state HOF were shall we say "varied". Prior to the merger, one boy was inducted who today would not make the minimum eligibility. He did not have a single state title of any kind, nor was he close to having the minimum number of 300 games to get eligibility credit for even that category. Since I was not a part of the youth HOF committee discussion, I can't speak to what was important at that time. But today, he simply would not be accomplished enough to even make it onto our youth state HOF ballot, let alone get voted in or not.

Back in the day, state HOF applications were submitted by moderate to exceptionally qualified individuals. Starting in the 2000s, more and more applications were coming in with very limited accomplishments, many of which would not even make it into a local HOF, let alone the state HOF. One year, there were 24 state HOF applications for ability with only about half worthy of state HOF consideration. That's why in 2020 the FSUSBC board implemented a minimum standards criterion for men, women, boys, and girls to be eligible for state HOF consideration.

Since its merger in 2018, I believe our unified Florida State USBC association has accomplished a great deal across all aspects of bowling in Florida. I certainly believe the Hall of Fame committee has come a long way in strengthening its standards for eligibility/induction of only the most accomplished bowlers in the Sunshine State. Having first served on the state Hall of Fame committee in 2015, I felt last year's class in 2023 had the strongest-ever HOF nomination class I had seen. Since we have a limit of two inductees per category, those nominees that did not get in last year were carried forward to this year's ballot. Combined with the new nominations that have come in, this year's group of HOF nominees is arguably even more impressive. There was little doubt the implementation of our current HOF eligibility guidelines has helped to ensure the highest standard of what it means to be a Florida State USBC Hall of Famer.

## Greater Miami USBC

Sharon Colon

Ahhhhhhh! It is time for a well-deserved rest as the busy winter season comes to an end. Most leagues are finished, and the only tournaments left are our "Top 8" competitions. Averages were high this season so there should be some exciting head-to-head matches that promise to be an exhibition of greatness. Good luck to all of the bowlers that made the cut. Summertime is approaching and predictions are that it is going to be hot, hot, hot! What better place could there be than the air-conditioned bowling center? This will be a good time to experiment with adjustments to your game. Practice spare shots and don't worry about your score, just your accuracy. When September rolls around again you will be ready to strut your stuff and win some points. I would like to take a moment to thank all of the hard-working association members for all of the time and energy they expend to keep our great sport of bowling alive. Please take a moment to pat yourselves on the back and complement each other in recognition of effort well spent. Our delegates are looking forward to the upcoming convention where they can see old friends, make new ones and share ideas. Be safe during your summer travels and if you are in a summer league "may the best scores be yours."

## The Landscape of Bowling

James Strickler

**The Ever-Changing Landscape of Bowling: Nurturing the Love for the Sport**

Bowling, a beloved pastime for many, has evolved significantly over the years, with various changes shaping its landscape. As a Bowling Association and dedicated enthusiasts, it is our responsibility to adapt, embrace new developments, and ensure the continued growth and support for bowlers. This article explores the evolving nature of bowling, including the introduction of string bowling, ball specification changes, rule changes, reduced sanctioned bowlers, shifts in bowling center ownership, and the transition from league bowling to a focus on open bowling and parties. Amidst these changes, it is vital to stay focused on our ultimate goal: supporting bowlers and fostering a bright future for the sport we love.

### 1. Embracing New Technologies:

The advent of string bowling has revolutionized the game, presenting bowlers with a different set of challenges and opportunities. As a Bowling Association, we must support and encourage bowlers as they adapt to this new format, ensuring fair play, and maintaining the integrity of the sport. Offering training programs and educational resources can help bowlers develop the skills needed to excel in string bowling and embrace the change.

### 2. Ball Specification Changes:

Bowling ball technology continues to advance, introducing new possibilities for players. However, it is crucial to strike a balance between innovation and preserving the essence of the sport. The Bowling Association plays a vital role in monitoring and implementing ball specification changes to maintain fairness and competitiveness. By establishing clear guidelines and enforcing regulations, we can ensure that bowlers have a level playing field while still enjoying the benefits of technological advancements.

### 3. Nurturing a Strong Bowling Community:

Despite the challenges posed by a reduction in sanctioned bowlers, it is essential to focus on nurturing a vibrant bowling community. By organizing events, tournaments, and leagues, we can provide bowlers with opportunities to connect, compete, and improve their skills. Collaborating with bowling centers, sponsors, and local communities can create a sense of belonging and support for bowlers, attracting new participants and keeping the love for bowling alive.

### 4. Shifting Bowling Center Ownership:

The landscape of bowling centers has evolved, with a noticeable shift from league bowling to a focus on open bowling and parties. While this transition presents new challenges, it also offers opportunities for growth. Bowling centers can adapt by diversifying their offerings, creating family-friendly environments, and investing in technology to enhance the overall experience. By aligning our efforts with these evolving trends, we can ensure the continued accessibility and enjoyment of bowling for all.

## 5. Focusing on the End Goal: Supporting Bowlers:

Amidst the ever-changing landscape of bowling, it is crucial to keep our ultimate goal in mind: supporting bowlers and creating a better future for the sport. By actively listening to the needs and aspirations of bowlers, continuously adapting our programs and initiatives, and promoting inclusivity and diversity, we can foster an environment where all bowlers feel valued and motivated to excel. Collaboration between the Bowling Association, bowling centers, and bowlers themselves is key to driving positive change and securing the future of the sport.

The sport of bowling is undergoing constant transformation, presenting both challenges and opportunities. As the custodians of the sport, it is our responsibility to adapt, embrace change, and nurture the love for bowling. By supporting bowlers through new technologies, monitoring ball specifications, fostering a strong bowling community, navigating changing ownership dynamics, and keeping our focus on the end goal, we can create a thriving future for bowling. Together, let us champion the sport we love and ensure its enduring place in the hearts of bowlers worldwide.

[Space Coast USBC](#)

[Buncy Reynoso](#)

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The fall bowling season is ending, and the summer season is just beginning. Let us focus on the fall season, with the end of bowling leagues, graduation, annual meeting, USBC national convention.

### **AWARDS**

Our youth awards program is currently at 498 awards given out this bowling season. For the adults we are currently at 2,455 awards given out so far as of April 30, 2024.

Items of note:

300 Game - 26 - 1<sup>st</sup> time

11 In-A-Row - 51

250 Game - 299

275 Game - 125

700 Series - 76

750 Series - 41

800 Series - 14

Clean Series - 45

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

Our association annual meeting was held on May 18, 2024.

Three new directors were elected. Michael Bauer, Zachary Beckmann and Jenifer Santos.

Angelo Cianfrocco who was president of the Space Coast USBC BA since the merger in 2017 has stepped down from the presidency and was appointed as a director. Michael Greene, who was Vice-President, ascended to the president of the association via our by-laws. The executive board is as follows:

President - Michael Greene

Vice President - Greg Smith

Vice President - Joanne Bryce

Association Manager - Penny Boudreau

We had the honor to give out four (4) \$1,000 scholarships to a graduating high school senior from the Space Coast. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Asquith Scholarship, \$1,000 was donated by Linda Asquith to the association. Linda was the wife of the named scholarship.

2024 Michael Demchak Scholarship - Carson Canicatti

2024 Lola Spurgeon Scholarship - Brooke Street

2024 Dave Asquith Scholarship - Ian Giguere

2024 Dave Asquith Scholarship (Donation by Linda Asquith) - Makayla Halavin

We also held the Hall of Fame induction ceremony. We inducted 6 NEW members into our Hall of Fame. One Youth, one Legacy, one Meritorious Service and three (3) Bowling Achievement.

The youth category is brand new, and we are very happy that Dominic Gibson-Smith submitted an application.

The Legacy category is for a former 2011 Florida State High School Girls Champion, Emily "Wheeler" Tesmer.

The Meritorious Service is for John "Bucky" Harris who for 15 years was a youth director at River Lanes in Titusville.

The Bowling Achievement category induction goes to Jimmy Strobel, Gene Siwek and Scott Ingram.

## **USBC CONVENTION - LAS VEGAS**

Representatives from the Space Coast USBC BA attended the USBC convention in Las Vegas. A total of 5 members were present. Angelo Cianfrocco, Michael Greene, Joanne Bryce, Jamey Orsborn and Penny Boudreau. Four of them were first time attendees and one of the 1<sup>st</sup> timers was paid for by a grant from USBC.

Among the workshops and meeting other associations, one of the highlights came from one of the sessions of the general meeting. Unbeknown to the representatives that the Space Coast USBC will be



receiving an award. Association Excellence Award.

The USBC Association Excellence Award was introduced in 2019 as a way to recognize associations who go above and beyond with their service to the sport and their members.



## **GRADUATION - CLASS OF 2024**

When the fall bowling season comes to an end it also signifies the end of another school year.

The Space Coast USBC BA Board would like to wish the GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024 a Happy Graduation! Whether you are pre-K, kindergarten, elementary school, high school, or college the end of the 2023-2024 school year is here.

May you always have new opportunities come your way, and may you always be successful in your life.

**HAPPY GRADUATION!!!**

[Greater Tampa USBC](#)

[Chrissy Lee](#)

As we are running full force into the Summer, the Greater Tampa USBC wrapped up the 2023-2024, with our Annual Meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Elections were held and we would like to Welcome Leeanne Gossage as a new Board Director. Those of you who are familiar with Leeanne, know she is a highly competitive bowler on the lanes and was very interested in learning more of what the Board does. We love it when our bowlers want to see what goes on off the lanes as well. Our First Vice President, Vonda Stringfield was re-elected to another 3-year term and Incumbent Directors, Dalia Keyes, Vinda Woodson and Chrissy Lee were also re-elected. The Delegation also elected 5 Delegates to attend the 2025 USBC Convention in Las Vegas. Speaking of the Convention, the Greater Tampa USBC was

honored and humbled to be named the Recipient of the BPAA Association Award in May. Present to accept the award (l-r) was USBC Executive Director, Chad Murphy, Directors, Michael Lee, Chrissy Lee, Barb Eder, Association Manager, Dalia Keyes and BPAA President, Kevin Krauss. As you all know, we don't Volunteer for the accolades, but it sure feels rewarding to get recognized.



[From the editor's desk](#)

[Margo Buzzard](#)

What can I say but **THANK YOU** to all of our writers. This is by far one of the largest issues of our newsletter that I have had the pleasure of editing. I hope that everyone enjoys the articles that were submitted. I know that some of them are long but worth the read. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and see you in the fall!!

