



# ***THE ELEVENTH FRAME***

THE AMERICAN WHEELCHAIR BOWLING ASSOCIATION  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER , January, 2015



From Our AWBA Chairperson,

## **Wayne Webber**

Welcome to 2015. I hope everyone had a safe holiday. Let us make this year great and prosperous, as we have a lot to do.

I apologize to my friends that I didn't say hi to, as business got the best of me. The Las Vegas Tournament is a PVA Bowling Trail event and all the chapters that bid for them are required to manage and oversee those events. As partners with PVA, the AWBA was required to assist in making needed changes. That consumed a lot of time.

The AWBA has some exciting things coming up. We're working on getting our website up to speed with a new webmaster and we are developing a training/info video with USBC for coaching wheelchair bowlers. The Board also approved a Development Plan and has approved a new divisional ranking system. Also, if any of you are attending any event that might be a hot spot for potential new members; I urge you to get some AWBA informational flyers to pass out to prospective new members, contact Kenneth Hill for them.

I have a challenge for the membership! As we prepare for the 2015 National Tournament, support funding is needed. Therefore, anybody that can raise \$1,000.00 dollars or more for the 2015 AWBA National Tournament, I'll give them one free night at one of the host hotels, or where you stay. This is our (AWBA) Tournament. We all need to work on making it great, by selling/buying raffle tickets or raising funds. Call me for raffle tickets.

As the 2015 National Tournament Director, I want to inform you that everything is coming along well. I have the 25 rooms at the Hampton Inn & Suites plus 25 rooms at their sister hotel, Hilton Garden Inn across the street. Between the two, there are 12 handicap rooms. There are plenty of restaurants in the area, as well as a flea market and poker room at Tampa Bay Downs race track nearby. All information for the 54<sup>th</sup> National will be up on our website in January 2015.

Pin Chasers will be our host bowling center. The center is located at 5555 W. Hillsborough Ave. Tampa, FL. It is a 40 lane house, all flat, just a ramp to get in. It is located 7 miles east from the host hotel on the same road.

I have set up the Tournament for June 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Try bringing a new bowler. In any case, I look forward to seeing you all there!

## **TEXAS "SHOOTOUT" JUST AROUND THE CORNER**

The 3rd Annual Texas Shootout is just about set and things are looking great for another great event. The Shootout will once again be host by City View Lanes in Ft. Worth March 19th-22nd and we are looking for a great crowd of AWBA bowlers. We are hopeful that we will continue with the "Session with the Pro's" Friday afternoon prior to the Up/Down Event. In addition, another great Saturday evening dinner is being planned to keep that tradition alive. This year we will be donating some of the proceeds to Chris and Lynda Barnes Charity for Diabetes. Their foundation does wonderful work with juvenile diabetes to assist in finding a cure. They have a son that has dealt with this for many years. In addition, the USBC will once again be a major player with this event and we thank them for their support. So, entry forms will be going out soon as well as the electronic version so don't get let out!!!! See Ya'll Soon!!!!!!

## Gary Ryan, Secretary

Happy 2015!!!! This is going to be a wonderful year for the AWBA and with your help, it will even be better. And it has already begun with Kenneth Hill taking over the management of our Website. The site has taken a great deal of my time over the last 4 years so I suggested to the board in December to place those duties with our Publicity Committee Chair. A new face will bring new ideas and that's always a good thing. Your board approved a number of things in Las Vegas, one of which is the new ranking system for our members. You can read all about it and how it works in this newsletter. Our AWBA rules for wheelchair bowling have been placed in the USBC rule book adding to the validity of our sport and we will be working with the USBC over the next 2 months preparing ourselves for the first production of a "Wheelchair Coaching Video" to be produced by the USBC and shot at the Training Center in Arlington immediately after the Texas Shootout. Once produced, it will be made available to all USBC coach's throughout the country. In addition, the board approved an additional logo for the AWBA which is contained in this newsletter. Our contract with ABC Medical has been renewed for another year. What a great relationship we are building with this great company. We are also in conversation with a bowling shirt manufacturer to produce shirts for the AWBA at a very reasonable cost and bring them on board as one of our National Sponsors as well. National PVA has implemented some changes to the Bowling Trail which took effect in Las Vegas. We see these changes as positive for the trail and look forward to working with each chapter involved to improve the overall purpose of the trail itself. AWBA ballots will be going out in a few weeks so once you receive yours please take the time to complete and return. 2015 is going to be a great year and it is all done to bring a valued added to you, the member of the AWBA. We lost a great member and friend over the last few months, Steve Lucas. With his earring in his ear and a smile on his face, he will truly be missed by all. So, begin making plans to attend as many tournaments as possible. And Tampa will be a great place to be in June. Remember, the AWBA is your organization and we value your thoughts and ideas as that's how great organizations become even greater. Strength in our membership is vital to our success!!!!!!

## AWBA Auxiliary

### "The helping hand of the AWBA"

#### TURTLE PUMPKIN PIE

1/4 C PLUS 2 TBSP CARAMEL ICE CREAM TOPPING

1 READY TO USE GRAHAM CRACKER CRUST

1/2 C PLUS 2 TBSP CHOPPED PECANS

2 PIG (3.4 OZ EACH) VANILLA INSTANT PUDDING

1 C COLD MILK

1 C CANNED PUMPKIN

1 TSP GROUND CINNAMON

1/2 TSP GROUND NUTMEG

1 8OZ COOL WHIP THAWED

POUR 1/4 CUP CARAMEL TOPPING ONTO BOTTOM OF PIE CRUST, SPRINKLE W/ 1/2 C NUTS

BEAT NEXT 5 INGREDIENTS IN LARGE BOWL WITH WHISK UNTIL BLENDED, STIR IN 1 1/2 C COOL

WHIP, SPOON INTO CRUST

REFRIGERATE 1 HOUR, TOP W/ REMAINING COOL WHIP, DRIZZLE W/ REMAINING CARAMEL TOPPING

AND NUTS JUST BEFORE SERVING

ENJOY! "CATCH YA LATER", LINDA SCHNEIDER

## AWBA AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2014-15

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**Sec/Treas:**      **Helena Roy**, 3620 Tamarack Drive, Redding, CA 96003 \_\_\_\_\_ 530-241-6297

## **AWBA Adopts Ranking System**

### **Mark E. Shepherd, Sr., AWBA Treasurer**

Prior to the Las Vegas Tournament, I presented a draft AWBA Development Plan to the BOD for review. One component incorporated within this plan was a ranking system for the AWBA which was approved by the BOD. The AWBA has never developed a national ranking system, rather they have used the National Tournament to crown the national champions, resulting from the effort of one tournament. Practical for a grass roots organization, not practical for a national organization.

The system is not complicated. It was developed in large part to eventually assist with selection by the USBC of USA Team bowlers for international competition. Eventually, this will lead to possible Paralympic team selection and play. Thus, this is an exciting new development that the Board provides to our membership and the USBC as we begin our gradual amalgamation into the USBC. Currently, more than 160 countries compete in the sport of bowling. Eventually, wheelchair bowling will be contested in these countries much like Paralympic Sports are global now. Thus, we must lay the groundwork to begin that process.

The purpose is straight-forward. Establishing a ranking system will allow all bowlers to determine where they stand in national ranking. It should be noted that this process occurred with the National Foundation of Wheelchair tennis prior to their assimilation into the United States Tennis Association. They indeed set the precedent.

### **The Process**

The only realistic approach to ranking fairness is to create a system that utilizes the results of head to head competition from tournament play where wheelchair bowlers compete. Even so, two subordinate qualifying criteria were used.

Tournament points derived from how one places in tournament competition (i.e. 50 points for first place, 40 points for second place and so on). However, ranking then becomes incumbent upon the number of tournaments one participates in. Then, a minimal number of tournaments (3 total, including nationals) must be competed in to qualify for national ranking. Those that do not meet this minimal criteria will not receive a national ranking and thus be ineligible for international consideration.

USBC average combined with an established Tournament Average. This considers an established average one attains via USBC league play accompanied by a AWBA Tournament Average, in this scenario, the higher of the two takes precedent for the ranking points. For example, If you have a 160 average in USBC book and a 162 average in AWBA Tournament play, you will receive 162 points from average. Seasonal average does not consider competition capability. In addition, this does not distinguish ranking between competitors in the event of a tie in base average.

### **National Ranking System**

Given the current divisionalization within the AWBA (multiple handicapped divisions), player rankings would combine all handicapped divisions for easier assimilation within the USBC divisional construct.

Thus, "A" and "B" divisions would be consolidated for ranking purposes and for USBC assimilated competitive opportunities (i.e., USBC Nationals if the AWBA is provided a handicap divisionalization within that event). In that case there would be one handicapped division nationally for ranking.

Scratch Division would be a separate (International Open Division) division since that would become a functional classification open to all competitors wishing to compete without handicap and needed for Paralympic competition.

Thus, for USBC/AWBA ranking and for International/Paralympic competition the divisions would be:

Scratch Division - Open Division  
Handicapped Division  
Ramp Division / Assistive Device Division  
Quad Division  
Women's Division

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These divisions would easily transits into a international ranking and functional classification system via the national and international Paralympic model. Considering these components ranking would be done as follows:

Average points for current year established USBC average (21 games minimum) or AWBA Tournament average whichever is higher.

50 points for AWBA national championships 1st place - drop 5 points per place standing. Placing below 10th in any tournament results in no points.

40 points for all other AWBA sanctioned tournaments 1st place - drop 5 points per place standing. Must have a full field\* in the respective division for full point capture.

The AWBA will provide ranking for all divisions contested for AWBA national divisional ranking alone. Only for the USBC/International competition shall Handicapped Divisions be consolidated.

Where two or more handicapped divisions are contested in a national tournament, competitors shall be ranked in each division for national rankings as articulated. However, when transposing all combined handicapped divisions to consolidate the ranking into a single handicapped national ranking, it shall be accomplished by also considering total pins over average, and head-to-head competition results, if necessary.

The AWBA will be posting the rankings of those who qualified for national ranking in 2014, on the website and in the USBC magazine. Remember, a bowler must have competed in at least 3 tournaments to qualify for national ranking.

This is a simple concept and will be examined as we go. We trust that members will enjoy considering where they match up and also determine who they must chase in competition to become the best in their respect divisions. The AWBA also hopes to eventually pursue sponsorships for these individuals annually. But, let us embark on one thing at a time.

**“STRIKES, SPARES, GREAT SHOTS”**

**January thru June**

Name	200+	250+	500+	550+	600+	650+	700+
Doug Dalton		276					
Dick Spizzirri	206						
Janet Norwood			501				
Gary Poole	228		523				
Gary Ryan	209		512				

Dick Sprizzirri 4-7-10

Updating of the **SPARES, STRIKES, AND GREAT SHOTS** will be reflected on a 6 month interval. Please report them using the Awards form on the AWBA.org website or email them to Gary Ryan to insure they are received. **The 6 AWBA National Awards presented at the National Awards Banquet are scores reported between May 1st, 2014 thru April 30th, 2015 and must be reported by the 1st of May, 2015.**

**2015 AWBA Tournament Schedule**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>BOWLING CENTER</b>		<b>T'MNT DIRECTOR</b>	
<b>Mar 19-22nd</b>	<b>Texas Shoot Out</b>	<b>City View Lanes, Ft. Worth, Texas</b>	<b>Gary Ryan &amp; Shawn Beam</b>	<b>713-849-9052</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Florida State Championship</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Dave Roberts</b>	<b>804-512-1496</b>
<b>June 8-13th</b>	<b>AWBA Nationals</b>	<b>Pin Chasers, Tampa, Fl.</b>	<b>Wayne Webber</b>	<b>727-460-4887</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Southern Open</b>	<b>Brunswick Zone</b>	<b>Harold Bowman</b>	<b>404-374-0331</b>
<b>Aug. 20-23</b>	<b>MSPVA Invitational</b>	<b>King Pin Lanes, Colorado Springs</b>	<b>Donna Debaca</b>	<b>303-597-0038</b>
<b>Oct</b>	<b>Golden State Open</b>	<b>Fountain Bowl</b>	<b>TBD</b>	
<b>Dec 3-7th</b>	<b>Las Vegas Invitational</b>	<b>Sunset Station</b>	<b>Julie Johnson</b>	<b>702-646-0040</b>

What a great time was had by all at the most recently completed Las Vegas Invitational held once again at Texas Station in Las Vegas. We had 38 wheelchair bowlers attend the year end event hosted by the Nevada Paralyzed Veterans of America. This event was managed by Julie Johnson, Executive Director of the Nevada PVA and the AWBA Executive Committee. Julie did an outstanding job of handling her first bowling event and thanks goes out to Julie and her staff for taking on an event of this nature.

The event began with the Doubles Competition on Thursday. The lanes at Texas Station proved to be challenging as always yet the bowlers took on the task of conquering them in the end. 18 teams were cut to 8 after the first 3 games and the roll off began. Many close matches and a few not so close put the final four teams against one another for the championship. In the end, Johnnie Baylark and Kenneth Hill over took JK Johnston and Cayetano De Guzman for the doubles title. Congratulations to all that took part in the Doubles competition. Thursday evening saw over 100 wheelchair and walking bowlers take part in the Up/Down event. Thanks go out to Jerry Francomano and his staff along with Merv Kaya in securing the majority of walking bowlers. While it started a little late with all the confusion of those that had signed up but could not make it, the event went off with few problems. In the end, Amy Gamage, Justin Spurrier, and Monica Barriga taking 1<sup>st</sup> place with Eddy Hutchens, Julet Hutchens, and Fred Kouri coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>. Julet Hutchens bowled a 300 while at the same time, Eddy bowled a 289!!!! What a team and congrats to all the cash in! It was a great event and fun was had by all!!!!

The singles competition started Friday morning with opening ceremonies opening the event with a local Color Guard from a Catholic group from Las Vegas. Singles in Las Vegas can be a grueling as all bowlers bowl five 4 game sets over the 3 days of bowling. So, one needs to be in shape to make it through to the end. In the "B" Division, Andy Bernt was the Top Qualifier followed by Kevin Poindexter, Grant Buehler, Stacey Clowers, and Gil Herrera. In the end, a very close match for the "B" Division Championship took place with Andy Bernt (FL) out gunning Kevin Poindexter (FL) 212-206 for the title. All matches in this division were very close with only 7 pins separating any one game of the 4 matches. In the "A" Division, JK Johnston was the Top Qualifier followed by John Gould, Terry Stewart, Kenneth Hill, and Johnnie Baylark. At the conclusion of the roll off, Terry Stewart (TX) prevailed over "A" Division National Champion JK Johnston (TX), 216-218. Again in this division, all matches were very close. In the Scratch Division, Top Qualifier was Walt Roy followed by Eddy Hutchens, Mark Shepherd, Merv Kaya, and Doug Dalton. Doug was competing in the Scratch Division for the first time and did well. In the end, Walt Roy out dueled Mark Shepherd 224-187 for the Scratch Title.

In individual awards receive; Andy Bernt won All Events in the Handicap Division while Eddy Hutchens prevailed in the Scratch Division. In the "A" Handicap Division, Johnnie Baylark for HSS, Wayne Webber for HSG, John Gould for HHS, and David Spotts for HHG. In the "B" Division, Cayetano de Guzman for HSS, Harvey Clowers for HSG, Gil Herrera for HHS, and Andy Bernt for HHG. In the Scratch Division, Walt Roy for HSS and Merv Kaya for HSG.

Others that traveled many miles to participate in this great event Dan Spotts, Adrian Patterson, Paul Cook, Gary Poole, Richard Guerreo, David Nelson, Gary Ryan, Van Schneider, Jimmy May, Mike Fattaruso, David Aguilera, Hope Cooper, Toodie Perry, Janet Norwood, Charles Karczewski, Henry Walters, Bob Goddard, Peter Arballo, and Craig Cascella.

In closing, we would like to extend our thanks for all the work of the many volunteers that helped put on this great event. Without those individuals, this would not be possible. We also want to extend our thanks to ABC and NBC News for their great coverage of this year's event. In addition, our thanks to the National Paralyzed Veterans of America, Storm Bowling, ABC Medical, the USBC, Texas Station, and the members of the American Wheelchair Bowling Association. We would also extend a big thanks to Linda and Pam Pratt for handling the large task of Scorekeeping. Without their hard work and dedication to the sport of wheelchair bowling, this task would have been costly to the PVA. So, 2014 ended on a very positive note for the AWBA and its bowlers. Next year's dates have been set and will be December 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup>. So, lets make plans to meet again in Las Vegas for a great time, great bowling and the making of new friends. Again, thanks to all that attended.

**STORM****EXCLUSIVE REBATE FOR AWBA**

**PURCHASE A STORM MASTER OR PREMIER LINE BALL BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND RECEIVE A \$20 REBATE!**

Send a copy of your receipt, the information barcode sticker from the bowling ball box, this completed form, and your information to:  
Storm Products, Inc. - AWBA Rebate - 165 S. 800 W. Brigham City, UT 84302

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY: 601213 // 30101AWBA // BALL**



REBATE MUST BE RECEIVED BY 1/31/16 - PURCHASE MUST BE MADE BY 12/31/15  
\*YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME, MAILING ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER

ONE REDEMPTION PER PERSON ALLOWED  
ALLOW 4-6 WEEKS TO PROCESS REBATE

[stormbowling.com](http://stormbowling.com)

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**Effective 8-1-2014**

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2015 **Janet Norwood**, 929 Dallas Court, Virginia Beach, VA. 23464 \_\_\_\_\_ 757-615-2942  
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**PLEASE CONTACT ANY OF THE ABOVE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS**

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Mark Shepherd, Treasurer  
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**New Equipment Committee**

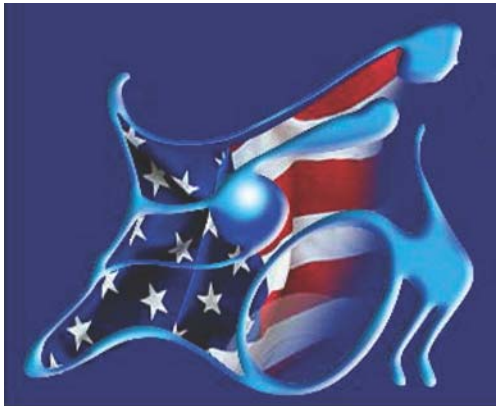
**Chair: Dave Nelson**

Dan Spotts  
Kevin Schaefer

**The Board of Directors welcomes any member to come forward should they wish to serve on a committee they feel qualified for. The committee members need not be a board member to serve the organization. Should you wish to serve, please contact the Chairperson of that given committee. The stronger the committees are, the stronger the organization becomes. So, get involved. We need your thoughts**

**THE AMERICAN WHEELCHAIR  
BOWLING ASSOCIATION**  
The governing body of  
wheelchair bowling in  
association with the USBC

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"Working with the USBC for a  
Better Tomorrow"



**Existing members and how you can help!!!!**

Remember that the US Postal system only forwards mail for a fairly short period of time. So, when you change locations, please let us know so we can keep in contact with you. Better yet, send us your email so that we can always be in contact with you regarding all the events that are happening within your organization. By doing so, you help the AWBA in controlling our expenses in many areas. So, as we say, come on into the electronic age and stay in touch.



AWBA Preferred Provider of Medical Appliances



**SUNSET STATION TO HOST 2015 LAS VEGAS INVITATIONAL**

After numerous meetings and a visit to Sunset Station to meet with the Staff and Bowling Center Manager, your Board of Directors recommended to the Nevada PVA Board in engage Sunset Station as the AWBA's new host for the Las Vegas Invitational. The hotel offers 7 different restaurants, one level of entertainment, very little carpet, and the rooms are far superior to those at our previous location. In addition, the general area around the hotel brings shopping, many restaurants, valet parking, and is somewhat closer to the Strip itself. We are excited to begin a new relationship with Sunset Station while staying in the same family as our previous host. So, begin to make plans now to join us again in this great city for an experience we believe you will enjoy.

