



THE ELEVENTH FRAME

**The Quarterly News Publication of the
American Wheelchair Bowling Association,
January, 2016**



From Our AWBA Chairperson, **Wayne Webber**

A New Year is upon us, I hope you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year's night and day. Let us hope this is a better year for all.

The AWBA is looking for ways to raise funds so if anybody has any ideas please feel free to contact me. I have an idea to raise funds, let's start a change drive we just through it in a jar so why not gather it up and make it a donation to the AWBA each month. I have some I'm sending, so let's get it on. Every little bit helps your organization let's help it out with a little change.

I also have raffle tickets for our big raffle. We need your support in this venture so please call or e-mail me to get one or more tickets. We're striving to sell all 400, it's a big undertaking so let's get them sold. It benefits you and helps the AWBA to prepare a better National Tournament for you.

This past fall the AWBA Board of Directors voted to put more money in the top spot to offset cost that you incur in attending the National Tournament. So get your game up and bowl your best, practice practice.

Check out the AWBA web site for upcoming events, the Florida State/FGCPVA Tournament is coming up the 26-28th of February. Come on down to Tampa Florida where it's warm and have a great time. The Nationals are in May this year so plan ahead we're hoping to see 75 bowlers in Dallas Ft. Worth. Don't forget to buy your AWBA raffle tickets you could be the winner. Thank you for your support of the AWBA.

Gary Ryan, Secretary

Well 2015 is in the books and what a wonderful year it was in many ways. Your Board of Directors worked very hard to insure that the AWBA and its members continue to grow in all areas. Our membership had a net gain last year thanks to some great work by Phillip Daniel and his helpers in the Dallas Area. Our rules were placed in the USBC rule book, and the Nationals was lots of fun with a number of the new members attending. 2016 is now upon us and is full of opportunity and new challenges. We are hopeful to move forward with the AWBA being divisionalized within the USBC, a step that would bring new and exciting things to all our members not to mention the organization itself. We have signed the agreement with Logo Infusion as our vendor of choice offering our members bowling jersey's at a very affordable price. The new designs and order forms will be up on our web site this month under the store tab. We think you will like and we will be refreshing the styles throughout the year. The Nationals in Ft. Worth is going to be one to remember as many things are being done to reduce the cost of the event as well as allow more free time for all that attend. "Billy Bob's" will be the host of both the social and Awards Banquet and you will truly enjoy the country atmosphere. Information regarding the Nationals will be out mid January. Election ballots will be going out within the next 45 days so when you receive yours, take the time to vote. Remember, this is YOUR organization and every vote counts. Finally, lets make 2016 a year to remember making new friends, renewing old acquaintance's, and being positive in our thoughts and actions. We all do this because we love the sport of wheelchair bowling. So lets have some fun enjoying one another and building the organization. Happy New Year!!!!



The 2015 Las Vegas Invitational was held at the Strike Zone Bowling Center in the Sunset Station Casino where over 40 bowlers made the trip. It was a pleasure to welcome for the first time Jerry Voorhees bowling in his 1st AWBA tournament, and Curtis Wolff of Colorado our 1st IKAN Ramp bowler. The Tournament began Thursday with a warm welcome and opening ceremony, followed by the first and second sets of singles play. Friday morning doubles competition began, and in the end Wayne Webber and Andy Bernt of Florida bested Johnnie Baylark and Kenneth Hill of Illinois. Friday evening was enjoyed by many in the Up/Down Event, where prizes, bowling equipment, apparel, as well as 50/50 raffle were won by very happy participants.

Saturday and Sunday completed singles sets 3 through 5, with a stair step roll off of all divisions occurring Sunday afternoon. In the Scratch Div. Walt Roy took the title for the 2nd straight year defeating top seed Mark Shepherd. In the "A" Division Henry Walters did some sharp shooting and defeated top seed Paul Wolbert to take the title. In the "B" Div. Phillip Daniel fell to top seed Kenny Munford who wins his first title in wheelchair bowling. Congratulations to all of the winners, and great bowling to everyone who participated.

To all the Sponsors and supporters that help make this event a success, thank you!!! We greatly appreciate The PVA, Storm Bowling, ABC Medical, The USBC, Logo Infusion, Bay Area & Western Chapter PVA, and Better Life Mobility Center. A special thanks to the Nevada Chapter PVA and the staff of Strike Zone Bowling Center for their hard work and support towards this event.

Thanks to all the members of the AWBA for attending the 2015 Las Vegas Invitational. We are looking forward to years of fun bowling, and developing new friends. See You Next Year!!!!

Scratch Division

Cumulative `Roll-of First Place Walt Roy 2641, 2nd Place-Mark Shepherd 2892, 3rd Place Eddy Hutchens 2766 4th Place Shawn Beam 2709, 5th Place Peter Arballo 2482 Other participants, Merv Kaya 2475, Doug Dalton 2461, Lee Curtis 2449

A-Division

First Place, Henry Walters 3191 2nd Place Paul Wolbert 3269, 3rd Place Gary Ryan 3144, 4th Place Kenneth Hill 3167, 5th Place David Nelson 3161. Other Participants, Curtis Wolfe 2980, Dan Spotts 2977, Terry Stewart 2961, Colby Kortum 2960, Wayne Webber 2939, Johnnie Baylark 2913, Grant Buehler 2864, Al Uttecht 2847, Gary Poole 2829, Richard Guerrero 2726, J.K. Johnston 2708, Van Schneider 1870

B-Division

Cumulative Roll-of 1. Kenny Munford 3282 1 sty 2. Andy Bernt 3255 3 rd. 3. Phillip Daniel 3123 2 ND 4. Kevin Schaefer 3115 5 th 5. Allen Neu 3105 4 th 6. Jimmy May 3103 7. Paul Cook 3074 8. Jerry Voorheese 3016 9. Debra Freed 3002 10.Charles Karczewski 2999 11.Doug Bureta 2960 12.Kevin Poin-dexter 2912 13.Craig Cassella 2912 14.Cayetano DeGuzman 2888 15.Stephen Smith 2641 16.Katherine Wright 2220



AWBA NATIONAL RAFFLE

The AWBA Board of Directors put in place in 2013 a National Raffle with the proceeds solely dedicated to the AWBA National Championships. Each year since the initial start, this raffle has allowed the Tournament Director to offer many additional things at no cost to the attendees of the Nationals. For the proceeds over and above the prize money offered as expenses offset, the balance is returned to the AWBA and used for the next National Championship. This eases the burden of the Tournament Committee and the Board to raise the funds needed to put on such a tournament. Each ticket is \$50 with 1st place paying \$2500, 2nd \$1500 and 3rd is \$1000!!! So, contact Wayne Webber @ 727-460-4887 or any AWBA Board member to get yours. One thing for sure, you can't win anything without a ticket and there are only 400 to be sold. So support your organization to support the AWBA National Championships!!!

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE!!!!!!

The Annual Dues are now past due for those of you that have not paid them. Please forward your check for \$25.00 to the following address. We treasure all of our members so please get current. This is your organization and all of you count!!!

**AWBA
16006 CONGO LANE
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77040**

Please accept our thanks in advance for renewing your membership and we look forward to seeing you on the lanes!!

2015-16 AWBA Tournament Schedule

| <u>DATES</u> | <u>BOWLING CENTER</u> | <u>T'MNT DIRECTOR</u> |
|---------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <u>Feb 26-28</u> | <u>Florida State Championship Pin Chasers, Tampa, FL.</u> | <u>Wayne Webber 727-460-4887</u> |
| <u>May 17-21</u> | <u>AWBA National Championship City View Lanes, Ft. Worth</u> | <u>Gary Ryan, 713-849-9052</u> |
| <u>July 29-31</u> | <u>Southern Open Stars and Stripes, Dallas, GA</u> | <u>Harold Bowman, 770-443-1096</u> |
| <u>August, 2016</u> | <u>MSPVA Invitational King Pin Lanes, Colorado Springs</u> | <u>Donna DeBaca, 303-597-0038</u> |



Mark Shepherd, AWBA Treasurer

Once a year, I will provide to the membership an overview of our finances and other plans that the BOD's has asked me to investigate or pursue.

As for our finances, we are financially sound. We currently have a balance of \$113,959.91 in our accounts. Our external fundraising efforts are doing well, we have redeveloped the capabilities of our website, are expanding our membership, establishing a formal ranking system, created a training video for the organization that can be provided to those interested in our sport, investigating the creation of a wheelchair division within the USBC and finally the development and creation of International Wheelchair Bowling Federation. We have yet to form the oversight organization - IWBIF, or an Ad Hoc committee to assist in the functional development of this goal. But the BOD has approved the goal.

Becoming an International Federation requires Bylaws, a Functional Classification System, a separate 501C3 filing independent of the AWBA, an interim BOD, pending international recruitment and expansion, and a country membership dues schedule. Then, this body would approach the IPC for sanction and subsequent international approval. A subsequent request for a seat upon the International Paralympic Committee's Sports Technical Committee would be sought.

Prior to our pursuit as a Paralympic sport federation within the IPC, we would be required to communicate with the World Ten Pin Bowling Federation. Official recognition would be sought as the prevailing disabled body which oversees bowling under their IOC-IF.

The pursuit of these aforementioned associations is necessary to achieve political and international legitimacy as the prevailing International Sport Federation for our sport. If we don't create it someone else will. It only makes sense for us to begin the development. We have been contacted by Japan, Great Britain, China and other seeking functional classification guidelines and rules.

To date, we have fully incorporated the tournament rules of the AWBA into the USBC rule book. Several of us on the Executive Committee were instrumental in making that happen. Seeking active divisionalization within the USBC's regional and national tournaments, including a possible seat upon the USBC BOD would follow.

Importantly, the USBC serves as the National Governing Body for bowling for the USA. They are essential to our growth within the national and international Olympic/Paralympic movement. They will also assist our international ascent and membership approach with the WTPA and IPC. Our credibility as a disabled sports organization in the USA for over 50 years will aid our international recognition and expedited development.

The AWBA approved a national ranking system which will be utilized as a starting point for international ranking consideration. With this comes an overriding component of international competition – *functional classification*. Unlike a basic handicap system for bowling, the International Paralympic Committee separates athletes based upon disability and their functional attributes. For example, in many sports, a quadriplegic would not compete against a paraplegic for medals. And a blind athlete would not compete against a sighted competitor.

International division's based upon functional classification would be initially established, followed by ranking. International competitions and the ranking points for those competitions would mimic that of the National Foundation of Wheelchair Tennis when they began. THE NFWT is now amalgamated within USTA (nationally) and the International Tennis Federation (internationally).

Cont.

The divisions for international W/C Bowling consideration would initially be:

1. ***Open Division/Scratch***

Men

Women

2. ***Handicapped Division*** (only one division each gender)

Men

Women

3. ***Quad Division***

Men

Women

4. ***Ramp and Assistive Devices Division*** (Gender Neutral since none personally propels the ball).

One Division

A baseline functional classification system would allow all to fall into one of the aforementioned divisions. Our tournament rules would serve as the initial rules from which we would modify for international competition as conditions arise.

We developed our ranking guidelines with input from our membership. The guidelines were placed in our newsletter for review and comment before they were subsequently approved by the AWBA BOD in early 2015. Our Secretary will be posting the current rankings for prior to our next National Championship.

All the information I have given will benefit every member of the AWBA no matter the skill level or particular challenge. In addition, it will assist in the branding effort the AWBA has undertaken over the last two years. We are excited as further progress is made in all areas.

The BOD is accomplishing some exciting things for the future of our sport. I urge you to weigh-in and get involved. I welcome your thoughts and any recommendations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

2016 Florida State Championship



Come on down to Tampa, Florida of fun and great bowling. This be in February as the tempera-committee is working hard to put as a great tournament to get ready for the 2016 Nationals in Ft. Worth. Wayne and his committee have increased the prize fund to lure more bowlers to the event so lets show him our appreciation and enter this great event. Go to www.awba.org to get all the info or just register on line on our website. Look forward to see you there.

in February to join us for lots event will be a great place to tures will be warm and the on a great show. It will serve



What Makes an Arsenal-

By Steve Kloempken, Executive Director - Marketing, Storm Bowling Products

January 2016

Hello again! It's a real pleasure for me to be able to share my thoughts with you, and know that, at Storm, our relationship with the AWBA and all of its members is important to us. Thank you for your support.

Have ever walked into a bowling center and found that the lane conditions were much different than you expected? If so, and you had a difficult time adjusting to the extreme changes, then this article is sure to help you better understand the importance of building an arsenal of equipment.

Lane surfaces are becoming harder and slicker than ever before. Lane conditioners, or oils, now vary drastically from one company to another. Even the machines which apply the oil have gotten more advanced in recent years. Now throw in the fact that bowling ball technology has progressed at a phenomenal rate—coverstocks, cores, and weight blocks—and it's no wonder that lane conditions are always changing! Even in the same bowling center, it would be difficult for you to find lane conditions identical from one night to the next.

Because of these rapid changes and numerous variables, it is now vital that every serious, competitive bowler carry an arsenal of bowling balls. But with so many choices, how do you know which balls are right for you? What's the difference between an arsenal of equipment and just a bunch of different bowling balls?

To answer these questions we need to consider:

Coverstock

Weight Block

Surface Preparation

The coverstock is the outside portion of the ball, or the shell. It can be of a variety of materials—polyester, urethane, reactive, particle, and nanotechnology. Depending upon the base coverstock material, you are sure to see a wide variety of ball motion due to the varying friction levels. And as confirmed and verified, the coverstock is the most important and critical part of ball reaction. It truly is where the rubber meets the road.

Weight blocks come in two general categories: asymmetrical and symmetrical. Asymmetrical weight blocks have what known as a 'strong preferred spin axis' and create more entry angle with less deflection.

All of the balls in Storm's Premier Line™, for example, are asymmetrical. Think the Lock™ and the Crux™ family of balls. These types of balls generally perform best of heavier, longer oil patterns. And all Premier line balls utilize what is called core technology. The core is the light-weight filler material that changes the dynamics of the bowling ball and, most often, creates a lower center of gravity.

In contrast, symmetrical weight blocks create a smoother ball reaction and work well on medium/drier conditions. These types of weight blocks come in a variety of shapes and densities, but, when compared with the high end asymmetricals, exhibit minimal mass bias properties-- hence the smoother break point. These types of balls are great for burned up lanes, as well as those with softer speeds or more side roll like Pete Weber.

And finally, surface preparation is one very important thing when trying to best match up your equipment to the oil pattern at hand. We all have unique games. And while bowling balls do have a factory surface it's important to realize that you may need to adjust your equipment to best suit your style. For example, if you are a high rev player and have slower ball speed, it's unlikely that you will need to use your new Alpha Crux™ with the factory 2000-grit Abralon® surface. Even on heavy oil, it will likely hook too soon.

As it relates to building an arsenal, it's important to have a variety of coverstocks, weight blocks, and surface preparations. So be sure to visit with your local Storm VIP Pro Shop Professional to analyze what's in your bag to ensure that you are prepared for any lane condition that's thrown at you.

Best of luck to everyone! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at stevek@stormbowling.com.

Thanks to AWBA for publishing this article, and remember to always 'Bowl up a Storm!'



Standing Committee Chairpersons 2015-16

Executive Committee

Chair: Wayne Webber

Eddy Hutchens
Gary Ryan, Secretary
Mark Shepherd,
Kenneth Hill, Board Elected

Awards/Constitution/Bylaws Committee

Chair: Gary Ryan, Awards,

Eddy Hutchens, ByLaws

Membership Committee

Chair: Johnnie Baylark

Harold Bowman
Harvey Clowers

Publicity Committee

Chair: Kenneth Hill

Dave Nelson
Gary Ryan
Kevin Schaefer

Sponsorship Committee

Chair: Gary Ryan

Mark Shepherd
John Budd

Nominating Committee

Chair: Dan Spotts

Dave Nelson

Election Committee

Chair: Gary Ryan, Secretary

Smiley Wallace

Finance Committee

Chair: Mark Shepherd, Treasurer

Gary Ryan

Scholarship Committee

Chair: Dave Roberts

Dave Nelson

Tournament Rules/Site Committee

Chair: Eddy Hutchens, Vice Chair, Gary Ryan, Sec, 2 Nat'l TD

Strategic Planning Committee

Chair: Wayne Webber

Mark Shepherd
Gary Ryan
Kenneth Hill
Dave Roberts

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 and involvement to move ahead. Remember, this is your organization!!!!

THE AMERICAN WHEELCHAIR
BOWLING ASSOCIATION
The governing body of wheelchair bow-
ling in association with the USBC
AWBA.org

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“Working with the USBC for a
Better Tomorrow”



New Members

Curt Wolff

Jerry Voorheese

New Life Member

Andy Bernt

Existing members and how you can help!!!!

We are always looking for company's that would like to join us at a National Level in sponsoring the AWBA. We have Storm, ABC Medical, USBC, National PVA, Logo Infusion, and BPAA as our current National Sponsors and they do a wonderful job for us over the year. We want to continue to spread the word concerning the AWBA and the sport of wheelchair bowling. A sponsor not only receives the satisfaction of supporting challenged individuals, they also receive many benefits associated with doing so. So, if you may know of an individual that works for a company, visit with them to see if there is an interest. If so, contact Gary Ryan, chairman of the Sponsorship Committee, and we will take it from there. **Also, if you change your address or your email address, please let me know. Keeping you informed is very important to us but with bad information, that is not possible.**



The 2016 National AWBA Championships will be held in at City View Lanes in Ft. Worth, Texas and its gonna be one “Hell of a Good Time”!!!! This house has host many PBA events from the Regional level to State Championships. The host hotel is 2 miles from the center and the rooms will offer all of you a suite to stay in during your visit. The tournament schedule has been adjusted to insure that you and your family will have time to see the sites of this great city as it has much to offer. The USBC headquarters are 20 minutes away and you will enjoy visiting the USBC museum where the AWBA is on display. Six Flags of Texas is just across the street from the USBC and Cowboy Stadium in very close offering tours. The Social as well as the Awards Banquet will be held at the world famous “Billy Bob’s” located in the Stockyards of Ft. Worth. Billy Bob’s is the world’s largest “honky tonk”!!!! So, get your game ready, your boots polished, and lets mosey on down to the Great State of Texas for some bowling, fun, entertainment, and much more. The Tournament Committee will be ready to welcome you to this great event and is working hard to insure all that attend will have a great time. All info will be up on the website next week!!!!