From Our AWBA Chairperson, Wayne Webber

Our big fundraiser drawing is coming up so if you don’t have a ticket sees ANY OF YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS for a 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.

It has come to my attention that our members are not attaching their current league sheet to their entry form. You the bowler NEED to, and it’s in the rules that you need to provide it when entering a tournament. If you need to look at rules and most of you need to, you can get them off of the AWBA web site. We all need to be informed of our organization and its RULES.

The National Tournament is upon us, so get your game up and bowl your best, hope to see you in 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

It is hard to believe that a fourth of the year has already pasted. I am sure you ask yourself where does time go? So important to make every minute of every day count as we never know how many we have left to enjoy. Your organization continues to grow in new members as well as Life Members. We have seen a wonderful growth over the past year and many of the new members have either bowled in an AWBA event or will do so for the first time at the 55th Nationals. The AWBA will begin this year to attend Ability Expo’s around the country. Our first one will be in Chicago in June followed by the Vets Games in Salt Lake City in July. By doing so puts our name out to many new faces around the country helping to better inform the public that we are here and ready to welcome them with open arms. We will also being to attend Bowl Expo as a result of our new found relationship with BPAA. This will allow us to come face to face with many vendors throughout the country associated with the sport of bowling. And BPAA has offered this to us at no cost which we much appreciate. Finally, the 55th Nationals are just around the corner and the turnout is wonderful. I am honored to serve you as your Tournament Director and along with the great committee I have, we are looking forward to hosting an event that will be full of fun, a wonderful environment, a well prepared bowling center, and a city that offers so much for so many to enjoy. We will give you a true taste of Texas at both the Hoe Down Wednesday night as well as the Awards Banquet as we will be holding both at the world famous Billy Bob’s Saloon. So, dust off your booths, press your jeans, get ya a cowboy hat and lets have a wonderful time enjoying one another. I look forward to see each and every one of you soon!!!!!!
Eddy Hutchens, Vice Chairperson

With the 2016 National Tournament just around the corner, I want to reach out and welcome all bowlers to your 55th annual American Wheelchair Bowling Association’s National Tournament. As Vice Chairman of the AWBA, I want to encourage you to attend this year’s tournament and for you to encourage your AWBA friends to attend as well. Gary, Shawn and the rest of their National Committee are putting on an excellent event.

I have been on the Board of Directors (BOD) for many years now and have been on the Executive Board for two years. We should be very proud to be a part of an awesome organization with outstanding members. I know we have seen a decline in Tournament attendance due to the economy as well as many other factors of life. We need to turn this decline around. Your BOD is trying to ensure that this organization can continue into the future as it has done for all these years.

Our Board of Directors has born a new tide since two years ago, we are not only the “good ole boys club.” We are a Board of Directors who was voted into office by our membership, who up-hold the standards of honesty, fairness, and the laws of the United States. Each and every decision made to keep the AWBA alive, as well as growing, is voted on by these same Directors you voted into office. We are doing the best we can do as a Board and encourage all of you to come forward with your thoughts and ideas to better the organization.

We are a group of individuals who donate our time because we love the sport of Wheelchair Bowling, and we want these tournaments to continue throughout our country. All of us have various versions of how this organization should be run, which makes our Board even stronger and more well-rounded. Your Board is always here and ready to listen to your input on how it should be done. With that said, there are right ways as well as wrong ways to make changes within the organization. The right way is to bring your thoughts and ideas to the Board for a discussion on how we can better the AWBA. That is the whole purpose of any organization that has a Board of Directors.

From Finances to Membership, our current status as an organization is good! A lot of time has been spent making sure the AWBA is being run legally. Because we do have a great time socializing during tournaments with friends who live on the other side of the country, we are forgetting that this is a business as well. We have to adhere not only to our Bylaws but to Uncle Sam’s as well.

Again, you have a strong Board that you voted into office. Use the proper channels to air your grievances or support other members’ ideas. We are always open to your ideas on how to make the AWBA a more resilient, effective organization.

Let’s take it upon ourselves to do our part in keeping the AWBA running as it should be!

I look forward to seeing you all in Fort Worth for the 55th American Wheelchair Bowling Association’s National Tournament.

ABILITY NOT DISABILITY IS HOW WE LEAD OUR LIVES
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!!!

55th AWBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
MAY 17TH THRU 21ST
YOU DON’T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE
ITS GONNA BE ONE GREAT TIME HAD BY ALL.

2015-16 AWBA Tournament Schedule

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<th>DATES</th>
<th>BOWLING CENTER</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 17-21</td>
<td>AWBA National Championship</td>
<td>City View Lanes, Ft. Worth</td>
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<td>July 22-24</td>
<td>Southern Open</td>
<td>Stars and Stripes, Dallas, GA</td>
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<td>MSPVA Invitational</td>
<td>King Pin Lanes, Colorado Springs</td>
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<td>September 23-25</td>
<td>MAPVA Invitational</td>
<td>Bowl America</td>
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<td>December 1-4</td>
<td>Las Vegas Invitational</td>
<td>Sunset Station</td>
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This year the 54th annual Florida State tournament hosted 21 bowlers at Pin Chasers Lanes in Tampa Florida. The event began the doubles competition. Nine teams entered with the final match pitting Andy Bernt and Terry Rock against Keith Green and Phillip Daniel with Andy and Terry winning the Doubles Crown.

Singles qualifying resulted in taking the top 5 scratch scores into the scratch division, Dave Roberts, Andy Bernt, Ron Johnson, Henry Walters and Stan Moorehead. In match one Walters defeated Moorehead 151-138 then Johnson bested Henry 160-148 as well as Bernt 184-175 to face top qualifier Dave Roberts as Roberts rolled a 204 to 164 to capture the title.

In the B division after a 9th and 10th frame roll off to determine 2nd place (won by Karczewski over Irizarry (39-29), Jim Coffey qualifying 5th eliminated in order Jim Sullivan 206-187, Millie Irizarry 207-187, Chuck Karczewski 231-198, and Allen Neu 200-189 to claim the B division crown.

The A division saw the unusual circumstance of the 6th place qualifier being brought forward as the Paul Cook had to withdraw before the roll off due to illness. That resulted in Webber defeating Rich Gabory 210-200 and advancing with a win over Terry Rock 222-214 before falling to Phillip Daniel 210-184 and Flip then defeated top qualifier Wally Farrington 207-191 in the final to win the A division title. Andy Bernt took Most Improved with an increase from the previous year of 258 pins. Congratulations all!

Wayne and the staff at Pin Chasers did a fine job providing an excellent venue with everyone being fed between qualifying sets and at a social on Saturday evening. Thanks to all who participated and made this a fun and memorable event, especially the out of state bowlers. Thank you Nancy for your expert scoring and boosting 50/50 funds with Kim Green and Pat Farrington. Thank you all!

Lastly thanks to PVA National represented by Allen Earl, FGCPVA represented by Davis Celestine and our other sponsors for their continuing support. Best of health to those who couldn’t make it and we hope to see more of you next year.

**Scratch Division**

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“STRIKES, SPARES, GREAT SHOTS”
January thru June, 2016

Name  200+  250+  500+  550+  600+  650+  700+
Andy Bernt  208,208211  563
Eddy Hutchens  241,248,224,223,236  660,650
Ron Johnson  210,220,205,204  510,510  569
Dave Roberts  226-221-209  530  587-559
Gary Ryan  526
Wayne Webber  230  511,513  553

Be sure to send your scores in to be recognized as an elite wheelchair bowler.!!!!!!!

Millie Irizarry 4,7,10 Split  Gary Ryan 4-7-10 Split

Updating of the SPARES, STRIKES, AND GREAT SHOTS will be reflected on a 3 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 April 1 2016 thru March 31, 2017 and must be reported by the 1st of April, 2016.

AWBA NATIONAL TEAM

Each year, the AWBA puts together our National Team to compete at the USBC National Championships. Our Team Captain for the last 3 years has been Kevin Schaefer out of California. The board in 2014 voted to enhance the winners of our National Singles Divisions with placing them on our National team. Should the winner of a division be unable to attend, it would then be given to the next person in line. The AWBA sends a team to the Open to promote wheelchair bowling to others that are in attendance. In doing so, brings to the forefront of those in attendance the knowledge to relate to others they may come in contact with of our existence in the sport of wheelchair bowling. Kevin is now filling the AWBA for the 2016 Open. The AWBA pays the entry for to the event and each member of the team is responsible for their own expenses. So, should you wish to be a part of the team, contact Kevin. It is a wonderful experience allowing each bowler to see what some describe a difficult lane conditions. Kevin’s contact information is monymony1969@gmail.com. He welcomes your questions and participation on the National Team.

IN REMEMBRANCE

KEVIN POINDEXTER– Kevin was a wonderful person with a love for bowling. He can be remembered by always attending the Las Vegas Invitational where you could find him either on the lanes or at the Black Jack table. While he love Black Jack, he only played once a year in Vegas. Kevin serve as Sports Director for the Florida Gulf Coast PVA Chapter. Kevin left us in March after a short illness. Rest in peace my friend, you will be missed.
JUST FOR YOU,
THE AWBA
MEMBERS

THE AWBA IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE OUR FIRST SHIRT DESIGNS THROUGH OUR NEWEST NATIONAL SPONSOR, LOGO INFUSION. THESE ARE JUST 6 OF OUR NEWEST DESIGNED BOWLING JERSEYS EXCLUSIVELY OFFER TO OUR MEMBERS AT A REDUCE PRICE. THIS WILL ALLOW YOU TO LET PEOPLE KNOW MORE ABOUT THE AWBA AND ADVERTISE IT AROUND THE COUNTRY. TO ORDER YOUR FIRST JERSEY, GO TO WWW.AWBA.ORG AND TAKE IT FROM THERE. THE MEMBER PASSWORD TO ENTER THE AND GET YOUR PASSWORD FOR THE DISCOUNT IS AWBA2012.

SO ORDER YOURS NOW AND YOU WILL SEE GREAT QUALITY AT A VERY AFFORDABLE PRICE.
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!!!!!
New Members
Skylar Conover-Texas
Mike Galloway-Kansas
Bryan Shaner-Texas
Ted Smith-Texas
Life Members
Addis Conte-Texas

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.

The AWBA lost a long time member as James “Woody” Woodruff returned to his Father on March 13, 2016. Woody served on the Board of Directors for a number of years and served as Chairman as well. He was inducted into the AWBA Hall of Fame in 1982. Having met Woody only once, he had a lasting impact on me as he did on many that he touched. We as an organization were built by those like Woody and are hopeful that the lessons he and others have taught will allow this great organization to grow and flourish. Woody, may you rest in peace with those that went before you knowing the lessons you taught will prevail for many years to come. To his family, we wish you peace in your time of loss.