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CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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Andy Toro Sr. Inducted Into Citrus Belt USBC Hall of Fame

by Frank Weiler

REDLANDS — Andy Toro Sr., long time tournament competitor and champion, has been inducted into the Citrus Belt USBC Hall of Fame for Superior Performance. Andy has been competing in and winning tournaments for nearly three decades now and has been scoring high in certified leagues during those three decades. He has averaged above 200 throughout those years with some of those seasons averaging above 230.

In addition to his tournament exploits Andy has earned a reputation as a high scoring, record breaking league bowler. He is known to roll 700 series in senior leagues week after week when others struggle continued on page 5

PARKER BOHN III GETS ANOTHER MAJOR WIN AT PBA50 CUP

by Jill Winters

WESTLAND, Michigan — Last Friday, Parker Bohn III watched his oldest son, Justin, win three stepladder finals matches at the 2022 Junior Gold Championships to win the boys 20-and-under division title over Ryan Barnes. On Thursday, Bohn III won three matches to win his third PBA50 title this year, two being majors.

In match play, Bohn III averaged 257.16 to earn the top seed in the stepladder finals at the PBA50 Cup. In the championship match, he would face PBA50 Cup defending champion Chris Barnes.

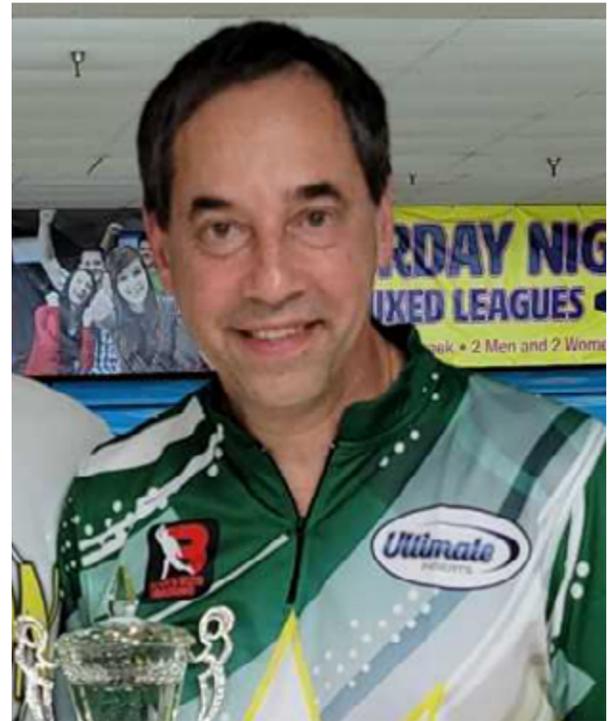
Bohn III doesn't use urethane very often, but he chose to throw a 2020 Purple Hammer made by

Brunswick. He buried his first shot leaving a solid 8-pin followed by a lazy 7-pin, converting both. Barnes started off with three straight strikes as Bohn III responded with a double.

"You have got to stay patient with that ball," Bohn III said. "You have got to roll it and give it as heavy of a roll as you possibly can."

The lefty would leave one more 7-pin in the fifth frame and from that point on he was nothing but perfect.

"In the 9th, probably a pinch firm and gave it the loft again," he said. "It was the weak-7 but the 4-pin nudged up enough to knock continued on page 5



Parker Bohn III

2022 USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS WRAPS UP 129 DAYS OF COMPETITION IN LAS VEGAS

by Aaron Smith

LAS VEGAS — The 118th edition of the United States Bowling Congress Open Championships came to a close Monday at the South Point Bowling Plaza and was highlighted by big scores, record performances and tournament longevity. The 2022 event started its run March 12, and the tournament featured 9,317 five-player teams and more than 46,000 bowlers competing from across the world over 129 days of team, doubles and singles competition.

All scores from the 2022 USBC Open Championships are unofficial and pending verifications.

Of the 32 expected champions in 2022, several players will be adding to their legacy at the event with a return trip to the winner's circle, while others will be joining the tournament's storied list of champions for the first time.

Matt McNeil of Alva, Florida, and Ron Mohr of Las Vegas will collect their fifth and second wins,

respectively, after helping Storm Products Inc. 1 of Alva to the top spot in Regular Team on April 1 with a 3,486 total.

The team, which also included first-time winners Jon Rakoski, Justin Veitch and David Langer, rolled games of 1,203, 1,089 and 1,194. McNeil led the effort with a 746 series and was followed by Rakoski (740), Langer (703) Veitch (694) and Mohr (603).

"Bowling that early in the tournament, you know

you have to run the gauntlet," said McNeil, who also is the 2010, 2012 and 2015 Regular All-Events champion and part of the winning pair in Regular Doubles from 2012. "There are so many amazing teams that bowl this tournament, and you have to outlast them. After you pack your shoes up and get back home, it's out of your control, and I think that's what makes the wait the hardest part.

"Getting to share this win with those guys is so amazing. This is the crown

jewel of team bowling. You get one shot at it a year, and for us to come through and hold on is pretty darn special. This one means the world to me, and I'm even

more happy for my teammates than anything else. They're so deserving of this win."

The five players that continued on page 5



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It's Only Money

by Dave Williams

The L & L Castle Lanes t-shirt that I ordered a few weeks ago should be arriving at any time now. I've been waiting patiently since July 14th when I received an email stating that the item was "on the way" from the United States Postal Service (USPS).

Does anyone else have an unsure feeling about packages in the mail? While I do like the ability to watch the progress of the package as it nears my doorstep, you can't help but wonder why so many different stops are necessary before the package arrives. Nevada, Colorado, South Dakota, Pennsylvania, New Jersey... as the old adage goes, "The mail must go through!"

I remember when companies used to offer a certified receipt option to guarantee delivery. It was a bit more expensive, but I never failed to receive a package or letter using that system. Being the dinosaur that I am, I still find myself using that system to verify delivery of certain items, like income tax returns or just about anything dealing with a government agency. The request usually comes with an inquisitive look from the postal worker, and then a shuffling of forms to see if that item even still exists.

The last check of the email charting the progress of my package stated that it would be arriving by 9:00 p.m. this evening... but still no package (it's now past 1 a.m.). It's not like I'm all that concerned, but I'm hoping that I will receive the item so that I can write about it for this week's column. It has nothing to do with the fact that the final cost for the t-shirt was \$50.01, including tax, shipping, handling and all of the other clichés used to explain the exorbitant cost.

Or does it have everything to do with the cost?

Before the COVID crises began, I remember every August a fantastic sale that would take place on merchandise inside the Rainforest Cafe. The deals were hard to believe, especially on logo items such as coffee mugs, t-shirts and other last minute gifts to remember your visit, or to let some of your friends and family members know that you visited this eclectic jungle themed restaurant.

Never heard of the Rainforest Cafe? Just like so many bowling centers that we held so near and dear to our hearts, the Rainforest Cafe is becoming obsolete, with only 16 remaining locations in the entire United States. Luckily for us, many of the remaining sites are within the areas that are covered by this column. There are still four locations in Texas (Grapevine, Katy, Galveston and San Antonio), two in New Jersey (Atlantic City and Edison), and one each in Arizona (Tempe), California (Ontario), Michigan (Auburn Hills), Illinois (Gurnee) and Minnesota (Bloomington).

And just what was so special about those August sales? The t-shirts were only \$2.50 each! Coffee mugs and animal figurines about the same. But it was the t-shirt offer that caught my eye. In August of 2019, before the COVID shutdowns began, I was able to snatch eight t-shirts in vibrant colors and catchy phrases like... "Toucans Are Better Than One" (with the likeness of a toucan and two cans of "Beachside Brew"), or the Rainforest Cafe logo with the phrase, "It's A Jungle Out There."



L & L Castle Lanes T-shirt Design



Say Hello To My Little Friend - This robotic (and realistic!) crocodile greets everyone at the Edison Rainforest Cafe in the Menlo Park Mall

Let me think... do I want twenty (20) Rainforest Cafe t-shirts at \$2.50 each... or one (1) of the other bowling nostalgia t-shirts for \$50.01? I asked an attendant at the cafe if the annual t-shirt sale was taking place next month now that the restaurant was on more of a normal schedule. She wasn't sure, and added that the remaining t-shirts and hoodies in the store had just been returned to their corporate office in Houston. There were still plenty of coffee mugs and figurines for sale, but no t-shirts.

Many of you could be wondering why I'm so nostal-

gic about L & L Castle Lanes. It had to be the epitome of youth bowling in the 1960's. It's why I drove more than 400 miles per week in the summer of my 16th year (after I had secured a driver's license) to bowl in 3 different leagues each week.

Everything at Castle Lanes was first class. It all started at the top with proprietors Pete Lusich and Al Leonardini (hence, the moniker "L & L"). The lane conditions were always the same, outside the first arrow. My Don Carter Gyro bowling ball just wouldn't make the turn, so I graduated from a full roller to a spinner resembling Glenn Allison's delivery. As I became more knowledgeable about bowling balls and weights, I was able to turn that spinner into a 3/4 roll.

As I have stated many times, Pete Lusich took a particular shine to me. It was probably because I was from the country and didn't have the same attitude as the kids from the city. Pete always called me Davey. Whenever I would walk in the door at Castle Lanes, he would shout "Davey Williams!" Then he would look over at teammates John Reeser and Larry Johnson and lament, "Why can't you be more like Davey Williams?"

This may sound hard to believe, but in the late 1960's, the junior league bowler count was in excess of 2,300 members at the 40 lane center. That's just junior bowlers! There was not a bowling center in the world that had that many youth bowlers. Another interesting feature that Lusich used to his advantage was naming the junior leagues after his top bowlers. The first league that I remember joining there was the Greg Pross Elims. It was a fabulous format that combined summer league bowling with an elimination process to determine the best bowlers.

And of course there was the annual Christmas Endurance event that attracted junior bowlers from Japan and even Australia. I remember mimicking all of these league

and tournament ideas at my home bowling center in Sebastopol, Calif., as a youth, and later in my career while working for AMF, American Recreation Centers and Nationwide Bowling.

Another league that I was fortunate to participate in for L & L Castle Lanes was the Bay Area All Stars Junior Traveling League. I wasn't good enough to make the A team (Mike Caulley, Barry Brown, Ray Cahoon, Greg Pross and Don Reeser), but the B team included myself, John Reeser, Larry Johnson, Rich Van Deelen and Ray Domergue. Larry Johnson went on to win the 1969 All America Youth Bowling Congress (AAYBC) National Championships in Washington, D.C.

It's now 12 noon on Thursday, and my package has just arrived. The shirt is beautiful and captures the L & L Castle Lanes road sign design to perfection, except in different colors. Now I'm wondering if I should wait for the Rainforest Cafe sale that takes place in August, and load up on \$2.50 t-shirts, or purchase another bowling nostalgia t-shirt?

I think I'll do both. It's only money.

Christmas Marathon - An annual 5 Game Marathon in honor of Pete Lusich attracted thousands of entries at AMF Bowling Centers



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- Aug. 2-4 PWBA DFW Classic, USA Bowl, Dallas, BowTV
- Aug. 5-6 PWBA Pepsi Classic, USA Bowl, Dallas, BowTV
- Aug. 7-9 PWBA Tour Championship, USA Bowl, Dallas, CBS Sports Network

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over the 7. I have touch on the left side of the lane and when you are throwing urethane, you better have touch if you are going to get it to shape right and go through the pins.”

Heading into the 10th frame, Bohn III thought about what he and his wife, Leslie had told Justin just last week during his run at Junior Gold, “stay in the moment, be patient and go through your process.”

Finishing first, Bohn III admits his adrenaline was flying but “all of those things certainly came into play bowling that match against Chris.”

“If I don’t throw the first strike in the 10th, I know Chris can get up and strike out and shut me out or beat me,” he said. “I threw it good; it ripped the rack and at that point, how can anybody not be excited.”

Bohn III earned the major victory as he ended the match with a seven-bagger for the 258-226 victory.

After the match was over, Bohn III packed up his car and hit the road for about a couple hour drive to Grand Rapids to watch his daughter, Sydney and other son, Brandon, who are currently competing at Junior Gold. Brandon won Junior Gold titles in 2017 and 2021.

“I tried to squeeze this tournament in and being in the hunt for Player of the Year, I wanted to at least give myself a chance,” Bohn III said. “I would like to hope that I can’t make the next PBA50 tournament because both or one of my kids are in the stepladder finals at Junior Gold.”

Barnes earned his way to the title match after throwing eight straight strikes to beat Jason Couch 255-204. Couch stayed clean against Tom Hess for the 227-220 win. In the opening match, Hess defeated John Marsala 245-201.

[View the full PBA50 Cup results at PBA50 Cup | PBA.](#)

2022 PBA50 Cup FINAL STANDINGS:

- 1. Parker Bohn III \$10,000
- 2. Chris Barnes \$5,500
- 3. Jason Couch \$3,500
- 4. Tom Hess \$3,000
- 5. John Marsala \$2,500

MATCH SCORES

- Match 1 – Hess def. Marsala 245-201
- Match 2 – Couch def. Hess 227-220
- Match 3 – Barnes def. Couch 255-204
- Championship match – Bohn III def. Barnes 258-226

TORO continued from page 1

to bowl 600. Andy has rolled at least sixteen 800 series and at least that many perfect 300 games. He holds the senior league series record (822) for Canyon Lanes in Cabazon, California.

Congratulations to Andy and his family on his selection and induction into the Citrus Belt USBC Hall of Fame. Andy is another example of why “CALIFORNIA BOWLERS ARE THE BEST BOWLERS IN THE WORLD”.



USBC OPEN continued from page 1

came closest to challenging the score posted by Storm Products Inc. I represented DiLaura Brothers 1 of Clinton Township, Michigan. The team had the chance to go around the leading total at the Bowling Plaza on April 13, but ultimately settled into second place with 3,468.



led the way for DiLaura Brothers 1 with a 2,201 all-events score for his second Eagle. Jay Lang, who’s now a three-time winner at the Open Championships, added 2,167.

John Kelley rolled to a 2,099 total, Ryan VanHecke added 2,092 and John Buffa contributed 2,026 to the record score. Kelley, VanHecke and Buffa are all first-time winners at the Open Championships.

“It’s been 23 years since the last one I won, so I don’t remember the wait being this hard,” said Lang, who won Regular Team in 1997 and Team All-Events in 1999. “I think it was even harder for the younger guys for their first. They were on their phones and watching scores daily, and it was a grind. But, it was well worth it.

“We had a run at team, and after falling short, there were two choices - tuck our tail and go and hide in a corner, or refocus and regroup. We came out striking and never stopped. It was an amazing feeling. To actually set the record is a little extra icing on the cake. It’s a cool feeling, especially for our sponsor who will get to see his company name on the banner next year. I’m happy for all the guys.”



Alex George of Wichita, Kansas, rolled games of 290, 279 and 279 on July 5 to take the lead in Regular Singles with an 848 series. He struck on 32 of his 35 deliveries during the set.

The score sits as the sixth highest set in tournament history and fourth overall on the list in singles competition.

George described his wait for the end of the tournament in three words - anxious, stressful, hopeful.

“I don’t think I have words for it at the moment,” said George, who made his sixth tournament appearance. “This is something not everybody gets to achieve, and I’ve certainly dreamt of being an Eagle winner. I’m still kind of speechless.”



All-Events the following day and put together the top overall performance in tournament history, setting the record for the 45-game marathon with a 10,585 total.

DiLaura Brothers 1 took the lead and record from Mento Produce of Baldwinsville, New York, who had set the mark five days earlier with a 10,444 total on April 9. Pollard’s Bowl of Versailles, Indiana, had held the Team All-Events record for 26 years with a 10,425 total in 1996.

Ronnie Sparks Jr., the 2015 Regular Singles champion, led the way for DiLaura Brothers 1 with a 2,201 all-events score for his second Eagle. Jay Lang, who’s now a three-time winner at the Open Championships, added 2,167.

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Brian Waliczek of Frankenmuth, Michigan, collects his fourth title at the Open Championships after steady sets of 750 in doubles, 746 in singles and 745 in team pushed him to the top spot in Regular All-Events on May 14-15 with a 2,241 total.

Waliczek also is a member of the 2015 and 2017 Regular Team and 2017 Team All-Events champion with Team NABR of Fairport, New York. The 2022 edition of Team NABR, featuring Adam Barta, Mike Rose Jr., Vernon Peterson and Scott Pohl, finished second in Team All-Events with 10,538.



A pair of best friends finished at the top of the leaderboard in Regular Doubles in 2022, as Kyle Krol of Tinley Park, Illinois, and Kyle Damon of Orland Park, Illinois, put together a 1,522 score June 4.

Krol led the way with games of 242, 278 and 267 for a 787 series, and Damon added 276, 191 and 268 for 735.

“I’m still a little bit at a loss for words believing that we held up and got it,” said Damon, who made his sixth continued on page 6

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 2022 - TUESDAY, AUGUST 9 2022
PBA50 David Small's Championship Lanes Open Anderson, Indiana

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12 2022 - MONDAY, AUGUST 15 2022
PBA50 David Small's Jax60 Open Jackson, Michigan

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16 2022 - THURSDAY, AUGUST 18 2022
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USBC OPEN continued from page 4

appearance. "It's unreal that we captured that. It will never get taken away. Every year, we get to hear it. This is one of the biggest things you can do in bowling, and to actually achieve it is beyond words."

The 1,522 final score was the highest top total in the division since Stephen and Brenda Padilla set the record at the 2009 Open Championships with 1,566.

"We were scoreboard watching the entire time, and I can't tell you how many times I was a nervous wreck," said Krol, who also made his sixth appearance. "I've been getting to certain spots in my bowling career and have been so close to the next steppingstone. To be able to finally say I have a national title and an Eagle, and to do it with my best friend on top of it, is a dream come true. It's nice to be able to show all the hard work, dedication and time practicing really does mean something in the end."

Record scores were set across the board in the Standard Division at the 2022 event, which made its debut in 2017.



In Standard Team, the members of JW's All Stars of Wellington, Florida, rolled games of 971, 1,018 and 1,143 on the way to a 3,132 total June 14 to post the top score.

Keith Bradford paced JW's All Stars with a 716 series, which included 290 in the final game. He was

joined at South Point by Andrew Lawson (643), last-minute substitute Bryan Jones (615), Russell Weltzien (597) and Edwin Jawdy (561).

Richard Oakes Jr. of Fresno, California, and Joseph Loper of Cottonwood, Arizona, finished with the top score in Standard Doubles after combining for a 1,362 total May 1.



Oakes led the pair with games of 206, 279 and 259 for a 744 set, and Loper added 212, 169 and 237 for 618.



Sky Gettys of Thornville, Ohio, put together the top performance in his 36 years of competing at the Open Championships on May 11 to record a 763 series in Standard Singles.

Gettys fired games of 259, 227 and 277 at the Bowling Plaza to take the top spot.

Dustin Sword of Ritman, Ohio, ascended to the top of the standings in Standard All-Events with a 1,994 total May 19-20. Sword started his 2022 appearance with 702 in team and continued with 672 in doubles and 620 in singles.



The Standard Division includes bowlers with entering tournament averages of 156-175, doubles pairs with combined entering averages of 311-350 and teams with combined averages of 776-875.

In the Classified Division, one bowler added another title to his collection, while the longest and shortest waits at the 2022 event also came from the division.

Miguel Sanchez of Oak Park, Illinois, captured his first win at the Open Championships in 2011, winning Classified All-Events. He joined Joseph Costa Jr. of Chicago in his return to the event in 2022 to post the top score in Classified Doubles with a 1,204 total.



The pair benefited from a strong start at the Bowling Plaza on July 11 to get to the top score. Costa led

the way with games of 258, 196 and 162 for a 616 series, and Sanchez posted 232, 159 and 197 for 588.

USBC OPEN continued from page 6

Ronald Hilliard of Lancaster, California, participated during the first week of the 2022 event and was able to hold on to the top spot in Classified Singles for the duration, recording the top score with 665.



Hilliard rolled games of 235, 239 and 191 on March 16, and his overall performance also helped him to a runner-up finish in Classified All-Events with 1,824.

Andrew Hall of Safety Harbor, Florida, topped Hilliard's all-events total June 16, finishing his 2022 appearance with a 1,857 total to lead the way.

Hall rolled sets of 643 in team, 617 in doubles and 597 in singles.

The Classified Team title was determined during the final team event of the 2022 Open Championships on July 17.

The members of Fantastic Five of Corpus Christi, Texas, worked together to post games of 998, 930 and 981 for a 2,909 total to move to the top of the standings.



Landall Long led the team with a 671 series, and he was joined by David Sweeting (633), Mark Rivera (552), Mark Rivera Jr. (535) and Barbara Rivera (518).

The Classified Division includes bowlers with entering tournament averages of 155 and below, doubles pairs with combined entering averages of 310 and below and teams with combined averages of 775 or below.

The 2022 event featured 52 300 games, which is tied for the second most in a single edition of the Open Championships. The record of 64 took place during the 2002 event in Billings, Montana, and 52 perfect games also were rolled during the 2011 tournament in Reno, Nevada.

There also were 16 299 games and seven 298 games. There were 52 additional bowlers who recorded 11 consecutive strikes during a single game.

In addition to George's 848 to top Regular Singles, 11 other bowlers recorded an 800 series during the 2022 event. The 12 800 sets are the second most in tournament history, only trailing the 16 recorded in 2011.

Participation milestones also helped tell the story of the 2022 Open Championships, highlighted by USBC and Professional Bowlers Association Hall of Famer **Glenn Allison of Corona, California.**

Allison, a four-time Eagle winner, became just the fourth bowler to reach 70 years of participation at the tournament when he competed May 6-7.

The 91-year-old right-hander made his debut at the Open Championships in 1947, and he is third on the tournament's all-time pinfall list with 122,468.



Robert Teeters of Lapel, Indiana, made his 65th appearance in 2022, while Gene Kirkham of Loves Park, Illinois, Bob Martin of San Antonio and Michael Schmid of Minneapolis each participated for the 60th time. A total of 30 bowlers made their 50th appearance in 2022.

Clancy Mueller of St. Charles, Missouri, became the 25th member of the tournament's 100,000-Pinfall Club during his 61st appearance June 17. Mueller, 85, needed 845 pins entering the 2022 event, and he now has knocked over 100,671 pins for his career.

The Open Championships will head to Reno and the National Bowling Stadium in 2023 for the 119th edition of the event. The tournament is scheduled to run from March 11-July 24, and registration already is open.

Visit us on Facebook at the [official USBC Open Championships page](#).

Garza Gab

by Jonathan Garza

Summer is wrapping up quickly, and winter leagues are just around the corner. But before we get to the winter season, the rumors are true – there are a few changes coming to your favorite USBC-sanctioned leagues.

Are you the type of bowler that is a sucker for following all the rules to every last detail? If you are, there's a great write-up on Bowl.com in an article titled "Rules Updates."

If you're not and you don't care, and you're just looking to have fun and throw the ball; check out the article anyway so you get an idea of what's coming to the lanes in a few short weeks.

Before we jump into the newer rule changes, let's revisit what has become the most infamous change – one that took place on August 1, 2021.

Did you know that for a year now you can't have an extra hole in your bowling ball?

This is still a pretty common sight in many bowling leagues. Some bowlers just simply don't care, and quite frankly, many league secretaries haven't either – because they weren't informed about the rule!

The rule states:
"All holes in a bowling ball must be used on every delivery. Any hole not used is considered a balance hole, making the ball illegal."

This means that those bowlers who throw two-handed or palm the ball can no longer have a thumb hole in their ball. It also means that those drills with four (or more) finger holes are no longer permissible either.

Looking to get creative with your bowling form? You'll have to do so another way.

Your local league secretary might give you a slap on the wrist for throwing such a bowling ball, but the minute you head over to a USBC-sanctioned tournament you might not even be able to bowl at all!

The tournament director can and will tell you that your favorite bowling ball is illegal. It could result in you having to walk into a foreign pro shop and purchasing a bowling ball drilled by a driller who has no clue how you bowl, drilling the ball in a hurry so you could have it in time for shadow practice, and with hopes that the ball will even work at all.

Sounds like a nightmare situation to me.

Here's what you could do. Just quick plug the holes you aren't using. Or take this as an opportunity to plug up the ball altogether and try a different layout.

Either way, go and talk to one of the fine drillers in the area. I highly recommend both John Struckman at the Professional Approach Pro Shop and Memo Rosales at Team Apex Pro Shop.

Here are the new rules taking effect on August 1.

Rule 18: Bowlers will no longer be able to use isopropyl alcohol to clean a bowling ball once competition has started.

Once practice has ended, put the alcohol away. Some bowlers don't like the way the lanes start to break down once league has started and a few balls have been thrown.

Rules 113a and 113b – The use of two lanes immediately adjoining each other will again be required to be used for league competition.

When centers started to reopen after COVID-19, bowling was a little weird. It became a thing where competing teams bowled on their own pair, distanced by another pair in between their competition.

Didn't you hate bowling on the house's worst pair while your opponent got to bowl on the best lanes in the house? You know it happened to you at least once.

We haven't seen that at Del Rio and Keystone Lanes, where I bowl, in the time I've been back. But I know other centers held their competition this way.

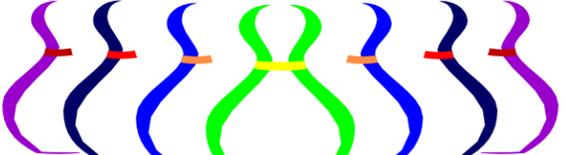
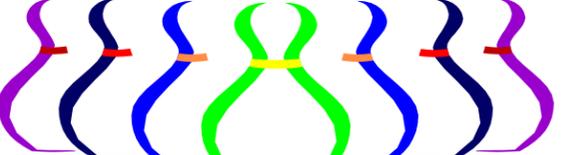
Well, it's gone, and good riddance. Let's get back to enjoying our friends and rivals on the same pair of bowling.

You also aren't going to be getting home so early anymore either as you can pace a normal amount of time for a game again.

Rules 320a and 320b - The use of two lanes immediately adjoining each other will again be required to be used for tournament competition.

The same will apply to tournament bowling as well. This will allow for fewer squads and more entries to be allowed. All-in-all, bowling will feel a little more normal at the beginning of next week.

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AUGUST 19, 20 & 21
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- ▶ *6 Age Divisions (Open & Women)*
- ▶ *Handicap: 90% of 220*
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