

FEBRUARY 4, 2021

# CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

7502 Florence Ave, Downey, CA 90240 • Website: CaliforniaBowlingNews.com • Email: news@californiabowlingnews.com • Office: (626) 252-2985 Fax: (562) 807-2288



## Julia Bond Wins 2021 PWBA Hall of Fame Classic

Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, has enjoyed success at every level of her bowling career, and she raised the bar again Tuesday as she claimed her first Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour title at the 2021 PWBA Hall of Fame Classic.

Just two days shy of her 25th birthday, Bond rebounded from a ninth-frame split with a title-clinching double, defeating top seed Lindsay Boomershine of Perry, Utah, 222-210.

The Hall of Fame Classic was the final event of the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, which included three national tour stops and one regional event during its seven-day run at the International Training and Research Center, the home of Team USA.

The victory, broadcast live on BowlTV, earned Bond a \$10,000 top prize.

The right-hander already was a three-time PWBA regional winner, in addition to a victory at the made-for-TV Go Bowling! PWBA Regional Showdown in 2019, but the cancellation of the 2020 season due to the pandemic delayed her opportunity to build on

the things she learned during her rookie campaign in 2019.

"I'm extremely proud of myself and how far I've come," said Bond, who had sixth-place finishes at the 2019 PWBA Lincoln Open and 2017 U.S. Women's Open. "There's naturally going to be some doubt when you go to the next level, but being able to push through in such a pressure situation and come away with my first title feels amazing."

The five-time Team USA member and former standout at the University of Nebraska entered Tuesday's championship round at the ITRC as the No. 4 seed and rolled through the stepladder with 28 strikes in her four matches.

As she did throughout the four games, Bond was able to strike early in the title match and put pressure on Boomershine, who was looking for the first championship-round win of her PWBA career.

Consecutive strikes from Boomershine in the sixth, seventh and eighth frames allowed her to cut into a deficit of more than 40 pins, and a 4-6-7-10

continued on page 5

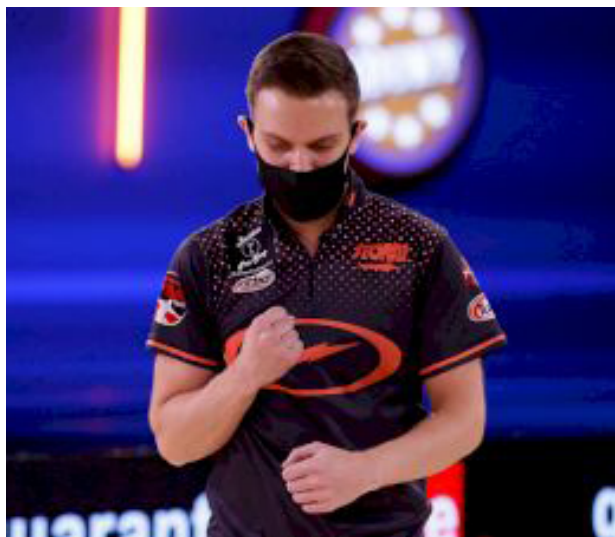
## Francois Lavoie Survives Tough Match To Win Southwest Region At PBA Players

by Lucas Wiseman

JUPITER, Fla. — Francois Lavoie survived a tough challenge from two-handed lefty Keven Williams as he advanced into the finals of the 2021 PBA Players Championship.

In a show that aired Sunday, the final match of the Southwest Region stepladder finished regulation tied at 232-232, and Lavoie escaped with a 10-9 victory in the one-ball rolloff at Bowlero Jupiter.

Lavoie joins Anthony Simonsen as the two players who have now advanced to the finals of the Players Championship, where a \$250,000 first-place prize



Francois Lavoie

will be on the line on Feb. 21. The other three players

will be revealed in the coming weeks. In the final frame, Williams, who is still looking

for his first career title, threw three strikes to put the pressure on Lavoie.

The four-time PBA champion needed a double to advance. After getting the first strike, he stuffed a four pin and made it to finish regulation tied.

In the rolloff, Lavoie popped a strike to start and Williams was unable to answer, leaving a weak seven pin to lose.

"It was an intense match, and it wasn't necessarily pretty," Lavoie said. "I don't think I bowled my best match but definitely relieved to get away with a win here."

## A Bowling Center That Is Second To None

by Dave Williams

My dentist retired this week. In a letter to his patients, Dr. Mark Messer stressed that he was in good health, but felt that this was the right time for him and for his family to retire. Just like all of the bowling centers that have closed, you can only assume that the COVID-19 virus had some effect on the doctors decision to retire after 37 years.

I first met Dr. Messer in 1995 when I moved to Edison, New Jersey. His advertisement in a local publication caught my eye, with the clever name of his practice, Gentle Dental Care, LLC, dominating the promotional piece. Thank-

continued on page 6



This view from the 3rd level of lanes, looking out over the main concourse, gives you an idea of the unique design of Wallington. Another section of 16 lanes is one floor beneath me in this 1984 photo.



Strike 12



## California Pepsi Jerseys for Sale!

ORDER EARLY... DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!

**\$62.99 + FREE SHIPPING**

A portion of each jersey sale goes directly into the scholarship fund for the CA Pepsi Youth Championships.

Order by FEBRUARY 1 to have jerseys in time for the District Finals in MARCH.



Purchase online at [Strike12Creations.com](http://Strike12Creations.com)



# The PWBA Hall of Fame Classic Ten Questions and Ten Answers

by Frank Weiler

I watched every minute of the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic Tournament last week on **BOWL TV**. There were twenty-four games of Match Play followed by a step ladder final with the Top Five bowlers competing for the title. During the broadcast several questions came to mind whose answers may be of interest to followers of the PWBA Tour. **Question:** Where will sixteen-year-old phenom, Jillian Martin, go to college?

**Answer:** During a post tournament interview Jillian was asked that question and said she was interested in several colleges (Wichita State, Nebraska, Vanderbilt & McKendree to name a few) but had not made a decision as to which school she would attend.

**Question:** Is **BOWL TV** worth the subscription price?

**Answer:** **YES.** This is my first season as a subscriber, and I am impressed. I am not a computer whiz and still had no trouble logging in to **BOWL TV** online. It was great being able to watch every squad of the tournament including match play and the step ladder finals. Network television only broadcasts a tournament’s step ladder finals.

**Question:** Which current PWBA star is Hall of Famer Pat Costello’s favorite bowler?

**Answer:** Jordan Richard, because she best resembles Pat’s bowling style.

**Question:** Is Carolyn Dorin Ballard the best Analyst?

**Answer:** Yes. I was never a fan of Carolyn as a bowler because she wasn’t fan friendly. However, as an impartial broadcast observer, I believe she is the best Bowling analyst. While Randy Peterson and Kelly Kulick are excellent there are some unique aspects to Carolyn’s broadcast technique that make her the best. She simplifies the technical aspects of our sport so that the average bowler understands what the professionals are doing. Also, she is the only analyst I know of that tries to describe what she feels is going through the mind of each professional bowler during the ebb and flow of each match game.

**Question:** Will O’Keefe repeat as Bowler of The Year?

**Answer:** Yes. She outworks every other bowler on tour preparing mentally and physically for the Tour. She has an advantage over most of her rivals in this regard because her “day job” is bowling. She is the Head Coach of the Women’s Team at McKendree University.

**Question:** Who did Carolyn Dorin Ballard fondly refer to as “Chadwick” during the Step Ladder Finals?

**Answer:** Chad Murphy, USBC Executive Director.

**Question:** Lindsay Boomershine won eleven consecutive games during Match Play. What are the odds of that happening: One in a million, One in a thousand, One in 4,096?

**Answer:** One in 4,096 according to **BOWL TV**.

**Question:** Is the leg discomfort experienced by Shannon O’Keefe during Match Play a serious injury?

**Answer:** No. From a distance it would appear that Shannon’s discomfort may be a pinched nerve. Of course, I am not a Doctor and my medical opinion should not be taken seriously.

**Question:** Can “surface” be added to a pearl bowling ball?

**Answer:** Yes. According to Carolyn Dorin Ballard.

**Question:** Do the lanes at the International Training Center (ITRC) play the same as lanes at a Public Bowling Center?

**Answer:** No. The ITRC is a Training Center and its lanes have characteristics different from those of a Bowling Center open to the public. The ITRC lanes are better maintained than those of a Public Bowling Center. Also, the ITRC lanes are many times set up to mimic the characteristics of lanes at which Team USA will next compete.

# Jacqueline Evans Wins 2021 PWBA Arlington Regional

Jacqueline Evans of Acton, Massachusetts, said she loves the pressure of stepping onto the approach and knowing exactly what she needs to do to win.

When the opportunity presented itself January 24th at the International Training and Research Center with her first professional title on the line, she came through.

The 25-year-old right-hander confidently converted a 10 pin and struck on her fill ball to defeat Jody Scheerer of Orlando, Florida, 237-232, in the championship match of the 2021 Professional Women’s Bowling Association Arlington Regional.

The event was third of four tournaments making up the season-opening 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series. The victory was broadcast live on BowlTV and earned Evans a \$1,300 top prize.

Evans was behind in the match heading into the final frames, and Scheerer was in position to shut her out. Scheerer, the 1998 PWBA Rookie of the Year, rattled off seven consecutive strikes after a 3-6-7-10 split in the second frame but ran into trouble again in the 10th frame, leaving a 7-10 split on her first offering.

“I was in complete disbelief because she was so locked in the entire time,” Evans said. “I hadn’t really been looking at the scores, and I was in shock. I asked Elise (Bolton) if I really could win, and then I went up and threw the best shot I could.”

Before stepping up, Evans was transported back to 2016, when she tossed a strike to lock up the girls 20-and-under title at the Junior Gold Championships. Delivering in that moment was rewarded with the coveted title and a lifetime of confidence in pressure situations.

Leaving a 10 pin this time didn’t rattle her, even though she had missed one in the semifinal match. To her, it was a routine spare she has made countless times, and the magnitude of the moment didn’t make it any different.

“I like being in control, and I really get amped up when I feel pressure like that,” Evans said. “The Junior Gold moment definitely crossed my mind, and I knew I could do it again. I feel like since Junior Gold, I haven’t had that kind of breakthrough again, so this means so much.”

Evans, an assistant bowling coach at Fairleigh Dickinson University since 2019, earned her spot in Sunday’s title match with a semifinal victory over Team USA member Sydney Brummett of Wichita, Kansas, 223-201.

Brummett started the match with strikes in four of the first five frames, but she was unable to register another strike the rest of the way. Despite struggling to get the 10 pin out, Evans managed a final-frame double to seal the win.

Evans determined her bowling ball was losing energy and a move would be necessary before facing Scheerer. She initially moved a couple boards left, and the result was more 10 pins, so she moved right and increased her speed, which was effective on the 37-foot oil pattern.

In the opening match of the night, Evans struck on six of her first seven shots and cruised to a 238-182 win over Bolton, a former Junior Team USA member from Merritt Island, Florida.

Bolton now is the women’s bowling associate head coach at Life University. She won the first regional event of the 2019 PWBA season and went on to reach the semifinals of the Go Bowling! PWBA Regional Showdown.

The field for the Arlington Regional on Sunday included 14 competitors, who showcased their skills over eight qualifying games at the ITRC.

Evans earned the No. 3 seed for the championship round after two of her last three games were in the 270s. The game in between was a 179 performance on the same pair of lanes scheduled to host the stepladder.

Scheerer led the qualifying round with an eight-game total of 1,849, a 231.12 average, and though she did not go on to win the event, she was overjoyed to be back on the lanes and competing at the highest level.

After a standout youth, collegiate and international career, the South African enjoyed a successful stint on the PWBA Tour that included one regional title. She competed regularly until about 2001, then got married, moved to



Jacqueline Evans

Florida and started a family.

Scheerer and her husband, Tim, had two children, Emily and Trevor. In recent years, their entire focus was on caring for their young son, who was battling cancer. He died in 2016.

As time passed, Scheerer found herself back on the lanes for league play, and after taking off again in 2018, she rededicated herself to high-level competition in 2019. Due to the pandemic,

which forced the cancellation of the 2020 PWBA Tour season, her return was delayed.

Scheerer struggled to get comfortable at the ITRC this week and finished 36th and tied for 30th in the Bowlers Journal Classic and ITRC Classic, respectively.

A backup pair of bowling shoes and a few strings of strikes at the regional event Sunday restored her confidence and passion for the sport.

“It felt so good and makes me want to bowl even more,” said Scheerer, a 46-year-old right-hander. “The last five games of the second event I started to get really comfortable, and that continued today. Even though I didn’t win, it was really nice to bowl so well today. I know I’m better than what I scored at the beginning of the week, and I’m proud that I was able to overcome those struggles.”

Scheerer said that throughout the championship match Sunday, she was focused on her process and repeating good shots. The final shot that resulted in the 7-10 was no different than the others.

“I thought I threw it well,” said Scheerer, whose best finish on the PWBA Tour was a third-place effort. “I didn’t really have to think about it because I was in my zone and process. I threw a good shot and couldn’t believe the 7-10 didn’t move. I really wanted to win this one, but even though I didn’t, I proved to myself I could compete out here again. Honestly, I’m ready to bowl more games. I wish the week wasn’t over for me.”

The Kickoff Classic Series marks the first PWBA Tour competition since September 2019. Though the 2020 PWBA Tour season was canceled due to COVID-19, three regional events were able to be contested early in the year.

The PWBA Regional program returned to the bowling landscape with the relaunch of the PWBA Tour in 2015. There were seven regional events each year from 2015-2017, all conducted by the Professional Bowlers Association and held simultaneously with existing PBA regional tournaments.

In 2018, the program experienced a gap year, before returning in 2019 with a new look and season-ending PWBA Regional Showdown that featured the season’s top regional performers in a special made-for-TV event.

There were five PWBA Regional events held in 2019, and there are 14 PWBA Regional events expected to be on the schedule in 2021.

As a true steppingstone to the bright lights of the PWBA Tour, the PWBA Regional program is limited to competitors who have not yet won on the national tour.

At last week’s PWBA Kickoff Classic Series, competitors who qualified for the PWBA Hall of Fame Classic, based on their combined qualifying scores from the PWBA Bowlers Journal Classic and PWBA ITRC Classic, were not eligible to also participate in the Arlington Regional.

Of the 14 competitors in the regional field, 10 participated in the first two events of the Kickoff Series, but were not among the 24 bowlers who advanced to the all-match-play Hall of Fame Classic.

Julia Bond of Aurora, Illinois, a longtime member of the Team USA program and a past standout at the University of Nebraska, won the inaugural Regional Showdown. She is a three-time PWBA Regional champion.

Each event at the PWBA Kickoff Classic Series is being contested on a different lane condition.

The prize fund for each of the three national tour stops is \$65,000, with \$10,000 going to each champion.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will feature 20 events, highlighted by the introduction of the Classic Series events and an increase in the season’s overall prize fund by nearly \$400,000.

ESTABLISHED 1940  
CALIFORNIA

**BOWLING NEWS**

MAILING ADDRESS  
7502 Florence Ave.  
Downey, CA 90240

EDITORIAL OFFICE  
11459 Imperial Hwy.  
Norwalk, CA 90650

TEMP. OFFICE NUMBER: 626-252-2985  
24-HOUR FAX NUMBER:

E-mail: [news@californiabowlingnews.com](mailto:news@californiabowlingnews.com)  
Website: [www.californiabowlingnews.com](http://www.californiabowlingnews.com)

CHARLES KINSTLER.....Publisher  
DEAN LOPEZ .....Editor / Typesetter  
CAROL MANCINI .....Editor / Publisher  
DOUG HOSKINS .....Computer Consultant

California Bowling News is NOT responsible for ADS,  
EDITORIALS, STORIES, FACTS, PICTURE CAPTIONS or  
SPELLING emailed for publication. Published 52 weeks.





The Baker women and Hastings men worked their way into the winner’s circle last weekend at the Mustang Invitational in Sioux City, Iowa.

The Mustang Invitational featured nine varsity women’s and nine varsity men’s programs competing in four traditional games and 16 Baker games, with total pinfall determining the champion in each division.

In the women’s division, Baker set the pace during the block of traditional games, which included a 1,065 five-player team score out of the gates. The Wildcats were able to maintain the lead during Baker competition to hold onto a 27-pin victory over Midland (6,598), finishing with a 6,625 total. Ottawa-Kansas finished in third place with 6,287.

Midland’s Brittney Schnicke rolled a 266 game on her way to earn top individual honors at the Mustang Invitational, posting a four-game block of 876 (219 average). Baker’s Kristina Harris was second with 872 and was followed in the standings by Shalee Bradley of Iowa Western CC (808), Midland’s Chloe Herman (801) and Baker’s Caitlin Lucas (790).

On the men’s side, Hastings was second overall after the traditional block but was the top performer in Baker competition, averaging more than 203 as a team to take the top spot with a 7,058 total. Midland was second with 6,990 and Baker was third with 6,940.

Brady Brunson of Ottawa-Kansas fired 269 in his final game to sneak into the top individual spot, finishing with a four-game score of 860 (215 average). Reece Kelly of Iowa Western CC (852) and Waldorf’s Harry Weigle (850) were second and third, respectively, while Ottawa-Kansas teammates Tyler Barnett (849) and Jared Freed (813) rounded out the top five.

**IN OTHER COLLEGIATE ACTION:**

- At the Cincinnati Collegiate Classic in Cincinnati, the Martin Methodist men and women swept the top spots.
- At the Columbia 300 Saints Invite in St. Louis, the top-seeded McKendree women defeated Maryville in the bracket final, 4-1.
- At the Mount Shootout in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, the Mount St. Mary’s women rolled to the top spot.
- At the Sabre Shootout in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, the Wisconsin-Whitewater men and Marian-Wisconsin women were victorious.
- The Newman women and men claimed the top spots at the Southwest Intercollegiate Bowling Conference (SWIBC) I and II in Dallas and Plano, Texas, respectively.
- At the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) 1B in Kalamazoo, Michigan, the Lawrence Tech men and women finished at the top of the standings.
- At the WHAC 1 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the Huntington women cruised on the way to victory, while the Spring Arbor men made their run in Baker competition to claim the win.

For more information on USBC Collegiate visit [BOWL.com/Collegiate](http://BOWL.com/Collegiate) or [CollegeBowling.Bowl.com](http://CollegeBowling.Bowl.com).

ANNOUNCING THE OFFICIAL

guaranteedRate

PBA TOUR

2021 SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME (ET)	TOURNAMENT	CHANNEL
PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP			
February 6	1:00 PM	Players Championship Central Region Finals	FS1
February 7	11:00 AM	Players Championship East Region Finals	FS1

SAT. FEBRUARY 6 4:00PM PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP - CENTRAL

VIEW THE FIRST HALF OF THE 2021 SCHEDULE »

BECOME A PBA MEMBER

COMPETITIVE BOWLERS – JOIN FOR ACCESS TO PBA TOURNAMENTS, EQUIPMENT DISCOUNTS AND MORE!

LEARN MORE

PBA JUNIOR

PBA JR. IS A NEW CLUB FOR YOUTH BOWLERS LOADED WITH EXCLUSIVE PERKS!

DISCOUNTED ENTRY FEES

EARLY ACCESS TO PBA TOUR EVENT TICKETS

CUSTOMIZED BOWLING JERSEY AND MORE!

LEARN MORE

MUST BE 17 AND UNDER TO PARTICIPATE. \*AVAILABLE ON THE PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP ONLY

PBA PINSIDERS

A NEW MEMBERSHIP EXCLUSIVELY FOR BOWLING FANS!

LEARN MORE

UNLOCK MEMBER-ONLY CONTENT, PBA SWAG, DISCOUNTS AND MORE!

WP

WESTERN PACIFIC BOWLING SUPPLY,

1216 W. Grove Avenue, Orange, CA 92865

Distributors For:

- Qubica / A.M.F.
- Brunswick
- Century Lane Machines
- NEO Technologies
- Pinsetter Parts Plus
- Quality Bowling
- W.P. Rental Shoes
- All Brands of Lane Conditioners

HOME OF Martin Academy Pinsetter/Pinspotter Training Facility

We Specialize in:

- Resurfacing
- Lanes in Private Homes
- Pinsetter Parts & Supplies
- New Lane Installations

Online Ordering System at [www.wpbowling.com](http://www.wpbowling.com)

800 - 595 - 2695 • Fax: 714 - 974 - 2681



# THE LINEUP THAT DELIVERS A STRIKE EVERY TIME

Thank you for Supporting our NEW Partnership  
with Boston Beer Company



BOSTON BEER co.  
• E S T D . 1 9 8 4 •



Official Beer Partner of the BPAA



**PWBA** continued from page 1

split from Bond in the ninth frame gave Boomershine the chance to lock up her first title with two more strikes and a nine-count.

Boomershine, a 35-year-old right-hander, struck in the ninth frame but left a 4 pin on the first offering of her final frame. After the conversion, she left the 3-6-9-10 combination to let some of the pressure off Bond. Had Boomershine gotten nine on the fill ball, she would've forced Bond to throw a double. Instead, Bond only needed to fill 19 pins.

In five previous stepladder appearances, Boomershine averaged just 165. Her best finish on the PWBA Tour was a second-place effort at the 2016 PWBA St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open.

To help move on from her past struggles, Boomershine has worked hard on her mental game. Her focus on keeping matches close and finishing strong allowed her to compile a 19-5 record on the way to the top of the standings in the all-match-play Hall of Fame Classic.

While the hard work and preparation didn't translate to her first PWBA Tour win, Boomershine collected three top-10 finishes at the Kickoff Classic Series. She was sixth in the Bowlers Journal Classic and seventh in the ITRC Classic.

"It didn't turn out the way I wanted, but I didn't miss a spare, and I shot over 200, so we're making moves, and I bowled the best game I could," said Boomershine, who was slowed by a 7-10 split in the fourth frame against Bond. "(This week) shows me I'm getting better. My spare shooting was good, I stuck to the game plan and I had a bad break. I wish the 7 or the 10 would've fallen. I only missed the pocket, I think, on the fill shot. I didn't really want to give away the head pin. I didn't want six, but it is what it is at this point.

"It has been a great week, I'm happy with my performance and I'm looking forward to the rest of the year. I'm up there in the points, so hopefully it's not devastating this time. I have a great support system, and I just hope I made everyone proud."

On the way to the title, Bond was able to showcase many of her strengths as the 41-foot oil pattern broke down, and the display of versatility included keeping her angles tight when the pattern was fresh, staying patient and using her ball speed to combat the transition.

A ball change heading into her semifinal meeting with 16-year-old Jillian Martin of Stow, Ohio, provided the firepower Bond needed to win the high-scoring matchup, 245-211.

Bond started the game with four consecutive strikes, and eight strikes in her first nine frames, while Martin kept the pressure on with five consecutive strikes after a first-frame spare. Back-to-back single pins and a 2-4-8-10 split from Martin ended her bid to become the youngest bowler in history to win a PWBA Tour event.

Martin had two opportunities this week to replace United States Bowling Congress and PWBA Hall of Famer Wendy Macpherson in the record book as the tour's youngest winner. Macpherson won the U.S. Women's Open in 1986 at the age of 18.

Martin's week also included a runner-up finish to Bryanna Coté of Tucson, Arizona, in the ITRC Classic and an eighth-place performance in the season-opening Bowlers Journal Classic, won by two-time reigning PWBA Player of the Year Shannon O'Keefe of Shiloh, Illinois, for her 14th PWBA Tour title.

In each of the first two stepladder matches Tuesday, Bond was able to pile on the strikes out of the gate to pull ahead early.

Against Erin McCarthy of Omaha, Nebraska, a PWBA Tour champion in 2018, Bond struck five times in her first six frames to set the pace. A late ball change and double from McCarthy, coupled with an open frame from Bond, gave McCarthy a chance to add some pressure, but a 10 pin on the first shot of her final frame ended her run. Bond advanced to the semifinal by a score of 213-191.

Bond opened the night with a 213-157 victory over two-time PWBA Tour champion Dasha Kovalova of Ukraine. Bond struck three times in the first four frames to build a sizable lead, while three open frames never allowed Kovalova to gain any momentum.

"I had a good rookie season, but I felt in my heart I could've done better," Bond said. "I used the time off to work on some things, including my speed control, opening up my angles and making smarter, quicker choices, and to be able to test that progress on the biggest stage for women's bowling and find success means so much."

The field for the Series-ending tournament featured the week's top 24 performers, based on their combined qualifying totals from the Bowlers Journal Classic and ITRC Classic. The 18-game pinfall totals then were dropped, and the contenders battled over 24 head-to-head matches, with 30 bonus pins awarded for each victory, to determine the five players for Tuesday's championship round.

Boomershine, Martin and O'Keefe were the only three players from the week's 36-bowler field to make the match-play portion of all three national tournaments.

Three competitors - Martin, McCarthy and Kovalova - each made two championship-round appearances during the Kickoff Classic Series.

All of the qualifying and match-play rounds at the Kickoff Classic Series were broadcast live at BowITV.com and will remain in the BowITV archives for fans who want to revisit the action. The 2021 PWBA Kickoff Classic Series marked the first national PWBA competition since September 2019. The 2020 PWBA Tour season was canceled due to COVID-19.

The prize fund for each of the three national tour stops is \$65,000, with \$10,000 going to each champion.

The 2021 PWBA Tour season will resume April 22 for the PWBA Twin Cities Open in Eagan, Minnesota.

In all, the 2021 PWBA Tour schedule will feature 20 events, highlighted by the introduction of the Classic Series events and an increase in the season's overall prize fund by nearly \$400,000.



**COSMIC BOWLING**

**LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!**

**Every Friday and Saturday Evening starting at 7:30 'til Midnight**

**RIVERSIDE LANES®**

• BOOK SWEEPERS • GROUP RESERVATIONS •  
• BIRTHDAYS • CORPORATE PARTIES •

**1.888.590.2695**  
**RiversideResort.com**



## Wallington Lanes continued from page 1

fully his practice will continue, and the good doctor relates that what he will miss the most are his conversations with his patients.

Those conversations were meaningful to me as well, because they usually centered around bowling! After a couple of visits, I discovered through our conversations that Dr. Messer’s wife Lynn was the daughter of legendary proprietor Jules Okonowsky, who opened Wallington Lanes during bowling’s heyday in the early 1960’s.

Wallington Lanes was one of the early acquisitions of AMF during their quest to purchase existing profitable bowling centers, which began in earnest in 1983. I remember my first visit to Wallington Lanes, a most unique facility built on a sloping hillside, reminiscent of a split level home, with 48 lanes on three different levels. There are 16 lanes on the main level, also containing a walk up bar and snack shop. To the left of the main entrance are two 16 lane sections, one below the main level, and one above.

What was even more amazing about the facility was the compliment of league bowlers... 5,400 league bowlers on a total of 48 lanes, or more than 112 league bowlers for each lane! This was by far the highest ratio of league bowlers in the land, being rivaled only by AMF Main Lanes in Columbus, Ohio, with more than 5,100 league bowlers on 56 lanes, and AMF East Meadow Bowl in East Meadow, N.Y., with approximately 4,800 league members on 48 lanes.

The lanes at Wallington were so saturated with league bowlers that General Manager Bob Stockdale used to brag that the only times available and dedicated to open bowling were on Friday and Saturday nights from 12:00AM until 4:00AM. Stockdale was a “workaholic” that attempted to do everything but the bookkeeping himself. He was the ultimate gracious host, taking great pride in welcoming everyone at the door.

When it came time to sell Wallington Lanes, Okonowsky was insistent on selling to AMF, although he was offered much more by a rivaling chain of bowling centers called Nationwide Bowling Corporation. Jules confided in me years later that the reason he wanted to sell to AMF was because of the 10 cent per game leasing program that was instituted by the Bowling Products Division of AMF, when most proprietors could not afford the cost of the automated pin setting equipment.

Jules sold Wallington to AMF for \$2,000,000 in 1984. At the suggestion of Woody Woodruff, one of AMF’s most respected and loved individuals, Okonowsky took \$1 million in cash, and \$1 million in AMF stock. Within a year the AMF stock had doubled, which more than made up for the difference in price that was offered by Nationwide.

Bowlero Wallington is still in operation today, and although the league count is roughly one third of what it was in 1984, the center continues to provide the former AMF organization with hefty profits through a combination of casual bowling, parties and league play. It’s a little hard to find, but once you find it in the hills above the famous Meadowlands, the personality of the staff at this popular New Jersey facility will have you hooked for life.

Enjoy your retirement Dr. Messer.

# BOWLING CALENDAR

SPECIAL NOTICE: PLEASE CHECK WITH EACH EVENT IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE TO BE SURE THE CENTER IS OPEN FOR THE EVENT

## FEBRUARY

by Bette Addington

- 1-7 – TAT (True Amateur Tournament) Amateur Nationals, SouthPoint, Las Vegas, 1/844/321-8100
- 6 – Elite Bowling Club Doubles Tournament, 2 squads, (1 PBA or PWBA per team), Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 951/419-2751
- 7 – Elite Bowling Club 2 squad 5 Gamer, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 951/419-2751
- 12-14– Storm Youth Championships, Las Vegas, NV, [stormbowling.com/syc](http://stormbowling.com/syc)
- 13-14– Valentine & LeForbes Valentine’s Day 430 Hndcp. Mxd. Dbls. Tourn., Beat the Board, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 909/725-6805, squads 2/13: 8am, 9am, 4pm
- 21 – 60 & Over Scratch Classic, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, \$125 entry fee, 951/419-2751

Calendar brought to you by California Bowling Writers ([www.calbowlingwriters.org](http://www.calbowlingwriters.org))  
Email your upcoming events for inclusion to [baddington@addington.net](mailto:baddington@addington.net)

## Marquez continued from page 1

Williams entered the show as the No. 3 seed and won a pair of matches to make it to the finale. In his opening match, Williams beat Ben Martinez, 9-8, in a rolloff after they tied at 237-237. He then took down second seed Packy Hanrahan, 214-192.

In the first match of the show, Martinez defeated AJ Chapman, 276-245, in his PBA TV debut. Martinez joined the PBA last month.

The PBA Players Championship regional stepladders continue next weekend when the Central Region show airs Saturday at 1 p.m. and the East Region airs Sunday at 11 a.m. Both shows will air on FS1.



Three custom oval lights highlight the walk up bar and subliminally represent the 3 different levels of lanes at Wallington.

## PBA PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP TELEVISION SCHEDULE

- Sunday, Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. ET on FS1 – South Region Finals
- Sunday, Feb. 21 at 12:30 p.m. ET on FOX – PBA Players Championship Finals

### WEST REGION STEPLADDER FINALISTS

Bowlero Christown – Phoenix, Ariz.  
**Anthony Simonsen - Winner**  
Wesley Low Jr.  
Jakob Butturff  
Darren Tang  
Kris Koeltzow  
Full West Region standings: <https://www.pba.com/node/117446>

### SOUTHWEST REGION STEPLADDER FINALISTS

AMF Garland Lanes – Garland, Texas  
**François Lavoie - Winner**  
Packy Hanrahan  
Keven Williams  
Benjamin Martinez  
AJ Chapman  
Full Southwest Region standings: <https://www.pba.com/node/117441>

### CENTRAL REGION STEPLADDER FINALISTS

Bowlero Wauwatosa – Wauwatosa, Wis.  
Tom Smallwood  
Andrew Anderson  
Ronnie Russell  
Wes Malott  
Zach Weidman  
Full Central Region standings: <https://www.pba.com/node/117436>

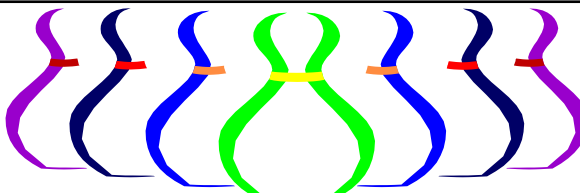
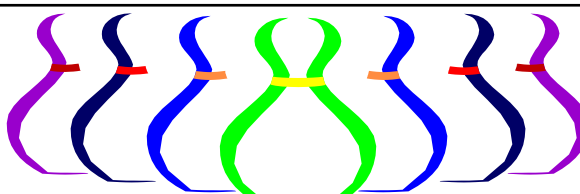
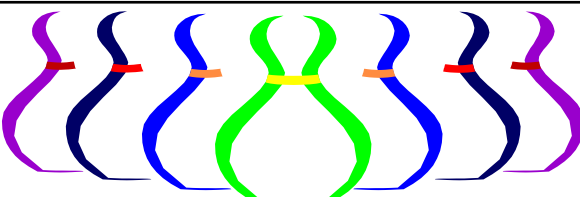
### EAST REGION STEPLADDER FINALISTS

Bowlero West End – Richmond, Va.  
Kyle Troup  
Brandon Novak  
Michael Davidson  
Chris Via  
Bill O’Neill replaced by Tim Foy  
Full East Region standings: <https://www.pba.com/node/117431>

### SOUTH REGION STEPLADDER FINALISTS

AMF University Lanes – Tampa, Fla.  
Jesper Svensson  
Cristian Azcona  
Ryan Ciminelli  
Tom Daugherty  
Dick Allen  
Full South Region standings: <https://www.pba.com/node/117426>



Bowling News Directory			
Los Angeles County	Orange County	Las Vegas Laughlin	
<b>CAL BOWL - 68</b> 2500 E. Carson Street, Lakewood, CA 90712 (562) 421-8448 • Fax: (562) 420-4775 <a href="http://www.calbowl.com">www.calbowl.com</a> • Manager: Leonard Ruiz Jr. Email: Leonard@calbowl.com	<b>FOREST LANES - 40</b> 22771 Centre Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630 (949) 770-0055 • Fax: (949) 770-7839 <a href="http://www.forestlanes.com">www.forestlanes.com</a> • Manager: Jon Diso Email: Jon@forestlanes.com	<b>GOLD COAST - 70</b> Hotel, Casino, & Bowling Center 4000 W. Flamingo Road Las Vegas, NV 89103 (800) 331-5334	
<b>DEL RIO LANES - 32</b> 7502 E. Florence, Downey, CA 90240 (562) 927-3351 • Fax: (562) 928-5453 <a href="http://www.delriolanes.com">www.delriolanes.com</a> • Mgr: Mike Cammarata Email: Mike@delriolanes.com	<b>LA HABRA “300” BOWL - 32</b> 370 E. Whittier Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631 (562) 691-6721 Fax: (562) 691-0272 <a href="http://www.lh300bowl.com">www.lh300bowl.com</a>	<b>THE ORLEANS - 52</b> Hotel, Casino, & Bowling Center 4500 West Tropicana Las Vegas, NV 89103 (888) 365-7111	
<b>GABLE HOUSE BOWL - 40</b> 22501 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 378-2265 <a href="http://gablehousebowl.com">gablehousebowl.com</a>	<b>SADDLEBACK LANES - 32</b> 25402 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo, CA 92692 (949) 586-5300 • Fax: (949) 586-0740 <a href="http://www.saddlebacklanes.com">www.saddlebacklanes.com</a> Mgr: John Chapman • Email: john@saddlebacklanes.com	<b>RIVERSIDE LANES - 34</b> 1650 S. Casino Drive Laughlin, NV 89029 (888) 590-2695 • Fax: 702-298-2687 Email: Jcaudle@riversideresort.com	
<b>GARDENA BOWLING CENTER - 16</b> 15707 S. Vermont Ave., Gardena, CA 90247 (310) 324-1244 <a href="http://gardenabowl.com">gardenabowl.com</a>	<b>WESTMINSTER LANES - 40</b> 6471 Westminster Blvd., Westminster, CA 92683 (714) 893-5005 • Fax: (714) 891-4225 <a href="http://www.westminsterlanes.com">www.westminsterlanes.com</a> Mgr: Jennifer Chow • Email: jennifer@westminsterlanes.com	<b>SAM’S TOWN - 56</b> Hotel, Gambling Hall, & Bowling Center 5111 Boulder Highway Las Vegas, NV 89122 (800) 634-6371 • <a href="http://SamsTown.com">SamsTown.com</a>	
<b>KEYSTONE LANES - 48</b> 11459 E. Imperial Hwy., Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 868-3261 • Fax: (562) 929-0701 <a href="http://www.keystonelanest.com">www.keystonelanest.com</a> • Mgr: Dave Piazza Email: Dave@keystonelanest.com		<b>SOUTH POINT - 64</b> 9777 Las Vegas Blvd. South Las Vegas, NV 89123 (866) 796-7111 Fax: 702-797-8081 64 Lanes, Snack Bar, Pro Shop	
<b>OAK TREE LANES - 36</b> 990 N. Diamond Bar Blvd., Diamond Bar, CA 91765 (909) 860-3558 <a href="http://oaktreelanest.net">oaktreelanest.net</a>	<b>San Diego County</b>		
<b>PICKWICK BOWL - 24</b> 921 W. Riverside Drive, Burbank, CA 91506 (818) 845-5300 Ext. 350 or Ext. 351 Pickwick Gardens Bowl and Ice Center “Where The Fun Never Stops”	<b>KEARNY MESA BOWL - 40</b> 7585 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92111 (858) 279-1501	<b>Ventura County</b>	
<b>SANTA CLARITA LANES - 32</b> 21615 W. Soledad Canyon Rd.,Saugus, CA 91350 (661) 254-0540 • Fax (661) 254-7562 <a href="http://www.santaclaritalanest.com">www.santaclaritalanest.com</a> Email: scl4usc@aol.com	<b>MIRA MESA BOWL - 44</b> 8210 Mira Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92126 (858) 578-0500		
	<b>BOWLING CENTERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>  Executive Director - Margot Gallardo PO Box 4396, Garden Grove, CA 92842-4396 ed@socalbowling.com <a href="http://www.socalbowling.com">www.socalbowling.com</a> (657)210-2695		
<b>Riverside &amp; San Bernardino</b>		<b>LOCAL USBC ASSOCIATIONS</b>	
<b>BOWLIIUM LANES - 32</b> 4666 E. Holt Blvd., Montclair, CA 91763 (909) 626-3528 • Fax: (909) 626-2144 <a href="http://www.bowlhium.com">www.bowlhium.com</a> Facebook.com/Bowlhium	<b>CALIFORNIA USBC ASSOCIATION</b> Association Manager - Larry Peppers 55 Mitchell Blvd. Suite 2, San Rafael, CA 94903 larry.peppers@calusbc.com • <a href="http://www.calusbc.com">www.calusbc.com</a> <a href="http://www.californiayouthbowling.com">www.californiayouthbowling.com</a> (415)492-8880		
<b>CANYON LANES - 24</b> 49750 Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 92230 (951) 572-6120 Fax: (951) 922-2385 Located next to Morongo Casino	<b>NORTH COUNTY USBC</b> Association Manager - Karen Salazar PO Box 5987, Oceanside, CA 92052 ncusbcamanager@gmail.com <a href="http://www.ncusbca.com">www.ncusbca.com</a> (760)213-4997		
	<b>VENTURA COUNTY USBC</b> Asst. Manager - Cheryl Smith vcusbc@gmail.com (805)339-9334		
			<b>CITRUS BELT</b> Association Manager - Elise M. Hamner 667 West 2nd Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410 citrusbelt@verizon.net (909) 381-4599
			<b>NORTH L.A. COUNTY</b> Association Manager - Tom Leigh 15600 Devonshire St., Suite 212, Granada Hills, CA 91344 email: nlabowling@gmail.com website: <a href="http://nlabowling.com">nlabowling.com</a> (818) 810-6263
			<b>ORANGE COUNTY</b> Association Manager - Andrea Fredericks PO Box 4396, Garden Grove, CA 92842-4396 E-Mail: assnmgr@ocusbc.org (714) 554-0111
		<b>SAN GABRIEL VALLEY</b> Association Manager - Linda Johnson-Piliros 4020 Shadydale Ave., Covina, CA 91722 E-Mail: thump2@verizon.net (626) 337-6270 Fax: (626) 960-9260	
		<b>SOUTH L.A. COUNTY</b> Association Manager - Lynn Matsubara 17057 Bellflower Blvd. Suite 210, Bellflower, CA 90706 E-Mail: info@slacusbc.com • slacusbc.com (562)925-0417 Fax: (562) 925-7478	
		<b>SAN DIEGO U.S.B.C.</b> Association Manager - Donald Way 7840 El Cajon Blvd. Ste 203, La Mesa, CA 91941 E-Mail: USBCLynn@Yahoo.com <a href="http://www.sandiegobowling.com">www.sandiegobowling.com</a> (619)697-3334	