

# CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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## CALIFORNIA Bowlers Rank High Among PWBA Tour Leaders

by Frank Weiler

The 2021 **PWBA** Tour season continues. After the LOUISVILLE OPEN eleven champions have been crowned. Two of those championships have been won by California's own **Stephanie Zavala**, a Tour rookie.

There have been many exciting moments on this season's Tour including **Liz Johnson** rolling a perfect 300 game during the BOWL-TV step ladder finals at the Lincoln, Nebraska Open. That perfecto earned Liz a \$10,000 bonus and helped place her second on this season's Earnings List.

Our **CALIFORNIA** Tour players are doing very well. **Missy Parkin** of Laguna Hills and **Stephanie Zavala** of Downey **both** rank high on most PWBA Tour Leader Lists. Parkin is tied for first with four Championship Round Appearances while Zavala is tied for first with two Championships. Stephanie's numbers are more the amazing because she didn't participate in the first three tournaments of the season.

The ranking of our California bowlers on the PWBA Tour Leader List follows:

### EARNINGS

First Place .....	\$44,450
5. Missy Parkin .....	31,050
6. Stephanie Zavala .....	25,050

### POINTS

First Place .....	84,075
3. Missy Parkin .....	75,625
17. Stephanie Zavala .....	45,900

### AVERAGE

First Place .....	218.24
10. Stephanie Zavala .....	214.64
16. Missy Parkin .....	212.76

### CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND APPEARANCES

1. Missy Parkin (Tie) .....	4
8. Stephanie Zavala .....	2

### MATCH PLAY APPEARANCES

First Place .....	10
9. Missy Parkin (Tie) .....	5
17. Stephanie Zavala (Tie) .....	4

### CASHES

First Place .....	11
3. Missy Parkin (Tie) .....	10
26. Stephanie Zavala (Tie) .....	6

### WINS

Stephanie Zavala (Tie) .....	2
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### ROOKIE OF THE YEAR POINTS

First Place .....	48,825
Stephanie Zavala .....	45,900

Every **PWBA** Tournament is broadcast live on **BOWL-TV**. You can follow our **CALIFORNIA** players there. Also, BOWL.COM provides live scoring for each tournament.

**It's time to begin supporting our female professional bowlers. Please subscribe to BOWL-TV now.**

Missy Parkin has been bowling professionally for over a decade and has a Major Title to her name. Stephanie Zavala is a rookie and already is a two-time champion. Both bowlers are wonderful representatives of the great state of California.

**"The Best Bowlers in the World Come from California"**

## CHRIS BARNES WINS HIS FIRST PBA50 TITLE

by Jill Winters

LUBBOCK, Texas — Chris Barnes had a few extra coaches in his corner along with a comfort level on the lanes Wednesday evening that helped him wins his first PBA50 Tour Title at the 2021 PBA50 Cup, presented by South Plains Lanes & Lubbock Sports Authority.

The Texas native has bowled a lot of tournaments at this bowling center making it feel almost like a home game for him, so he relied on his previous experiences and his notes to figure out the lanes as the No. 2 seed in the stepladder finals.

"I am a data gatherer who keep notes on the pairs," he said. "Having some of that inside knowledge pays off. That saves you 10-pins here or 20-pins there."



That valuable information made him feel relaxed on the lanes while also bowling in front of his wife, Lynda and son, Ryan. Plus, his Storm Axiom Pearl allowed him to take advantage of his rev rate while blending out the wet-dry pattern.

Barnes faced No. 5 seed Bob Learn Jr. in the third match. Learn, who defeated Steven Smith 192-152 in the first match and beat John Marsala 226-216 in the second match, rolled his best game as he was climbing the stepladder. But his 248 wasn't enough

as Barnes started with the front nine then left a 7-pin on his way to a 279 game.

In the championship match, Barnes faced Pete Weber who dominated the field in match play earlier in the day. Weber opened with a split in the first frame

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## SECOND ANNUAL PBA STRIKE DERBY PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON AIRS JULY 11 ON FS1

**12 PBA pros see who can strike the most and claim the Strike Derby trophy**

by Jef Goodger

PORTLAND, Maine— The PBA Strike Derby presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon, in which 12 of the best Guaranteed Rate PBA Tour professionals compete in a timed contest to see who can roll the most strikes, airs from Bayside Bowl Sunday, July 11 at 11 a.m. on Fox Sports' FS1.

Each player will have two minutes to roll as many strikes as he can.

After all 12 players have taken their turns, the top six will advance into match play. Those qualifying first and second will receive byes into the semifinals, while those qualifying third through sixth will need to win a match to reach the semifinals.

All matches will also allot two minutes to each player.

Here are some things to look for heading into the 2021 PBA Strike Derby Presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon:



### KRIS PRATHER ATTEMPTS TO DEFEND HIS CHAMPIONSHIP

During last year's inaugural edition of the Strike Derby, three-time PBA Tour champion Kris Prather emerged as the victor, defeating Anthony Simonsen in the final match. Prather, who also left last season's King of the Lanes as King, will be extra motivated to hang on to the Strike Derby trophy after losing his crown to Chris Barnes in

the 2021 PBA King of the Lanes presented by Pabst Blue Ribbon.

### EXPANDED FIELD FOR 2021

Last season's Strike Derby featured eight PBA Tour pros, but with four more added for 2021, striking often during the qualifying round will be especially important for the players. Returning from last year are Prather, Simonsen, Sean Rash, Kyle Troup and EJ Tackett, with the other seven slots going

to first-time Strike Derby participants.

### SEVEN PLAYERS MAKE STRIKE DERBY DEBUTS

Norm Duke, Packy Hanrahan, Andrew Anderson, Wes Malott, Jesper Svensson, Tom Smallwood and Marshall Kent will be making their first appearances in the PBA Strike Derby. Anderson has a bit of experience in this format, having defeated Rash in a special exhibition during last year's King of the Lanes

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# 2021 PBA50 Power Rankings

*Ranking the top players on the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) 50 Tour throughout the 2021 season.*

by Jef Goodger

Chris Barnes became the second PBA50 rookie (joining Jason Couch) and fourth PBA Hall of Famer (fifth if you count Pete Weber twice) to win this season, bowling a 247 game in the championship match to defeat Weber for the PBA50 Cup in Lubbock, Texas.

Here are the 2021 PBA50 power rankings following the PBA50 Cup:

- 1. Pete Weber (previous ranking: 1)**  
Qualifying (again) as the tournament leader and entering the stepladder (again) as the top seed, Weber’s attempt to win his third consecutive event—he didn’t bowl in the Bud Moore Classic but won the previous two tournaments—was unsuccessful. Still, Weber leads all players in points, money and titles this season.
- 2. Chris Barnes (6)**  
Barnes’ first PBA50 Tour title included qualifying second, rolling the front nine in his first stepladder match and defeating the legendary Weber for the championship. In four PBA50 events, Barnes has made it to the stepladder twice and finished no lower than seventh.
- 3. Brad Angelo (2)**  
Finishing ninth, Angelo has five top-10 finishes in six PBA50 events during his rookie season. Angelo is ranked fourth in PBA50 Tour points.
- 4. Lennie Boresch Jr. (3)**  
After a three-event streak of qualifying second for the stepladder finals, Boresch missed the cut to match play in Lubbock by 17 pins. Boresch finished 18th in a field that cut to 16.
- 5. Walter Ray Williams Jr. (4)**  
Bowling through an injury that prevented him from making his natural delivery, Williams still averaged 206 but finished 53rd. It’s only the second time this season the all-time leader in PBA50 titles finished outside the top 10. Williams will not be competing this weekend in the PBA50 Odessa Open.
- 6. John Marsala (8)**  
Qualifying third and finishing fourth gives Marsala his third top-four finish of the season. The Bud Moore Classic champion is eighth in points and fifth in earnings.
- 7. Michael Haugen Jr. (5)**  
Haugen was not in the field for the PBA50 Cup, missing his first event of the season. He’s qualified for match play in all five events he’s bowled.
- 8. Amleto Monacelli (10)**  
Monacelli finished 10th for his third top-10 performance of the season. He’s also 10th in PBA50 points and wears No. 10 on his jersey. He’s eighth in our rankings, but he used to be 10th.
- 9. Tom Hess (7)**  
Finishing 47th with a 208 average, Hess missed match play for the first time since April, picking up two top-10 finishes in that time.
- 10. Brian LeClair (13)**  
LeClair has made it to match play in all but one event this season (and he missed that one by only five pins), finishing eighth in Lubbock as his third top 10 in 2021.

**11. Bob Learn Jr. (unranked)**  
Learn qualified fifth for the stepladder, then defeated Steven Smith and Marsala before falling to Barnes. The third-place finish was Learn’s best of the season.

**12. Norm Duke (9)**  
Duke did not compete in Lubbock and is not on this weekend’s roster.

**13. Parker Bohn III (11)**  
Bohn made four of the first five cuts during the 2021 PBA50 season but did not compete in Lubbock, missing his first event of the season. He’s not on the roster for this weekend’s event, either.

**14. Jason Couch (12)**  
Couch didn’t bowl in Lubbock. He’s bowled four events, made match play in two and won one.

**15. Mitch Beasley (unranked)**  
Beasley is 15th in PBA50 points, largely on the strength of two top-10 finishes, including sixth place in Lubbock. Look out for him this weekend in Odessa, Texas.

Into the top 15: Learn, Beasley

Out of the top 15: Keane, Knowlton

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# The Coincidence of Interest Between Anthony Simonsen and Billy Hardwick

by Dave Williams

If you look up the word coincidence in a word search on your computer, the first definition will most likely be: “a remarkable concurrence of events, or circumstances without apparent causal connection.” Such is the case with Anthony Simonsen, a current 24-year-old star on the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) Tour, and bowling superstar Billy Hardwick, who passed away on November 16, 2013.

Following Simonsen’s recent win at the PBA Tour Finals in Allen Park, Michigan, it was a surprise to learn that he had not won a national stop since 2019. That’s what got me thinking about the parallels between Simonsen and Hardwick, who both joined the PBA while still in their teens.

Simonsen, a two-handed roller from Little Elm, Texas, inauspiciously began his professional career without even cashing in his first two years on the national tour. He then caught fire with a victory in his first full season on the tour, at the PBA Doubles Championship in Reno, Nevada, with partner Connor Pickford. He narrowly missed becoming the youngest touring professional to ever win a national event, an honor currently held by fellow Texan (now residing in Clermont, Florida) Norm Duke.

Hardwick, originally from San Mateo, California, was an incredibly accurate player that also had a unique delivery, using his index and middle finger, rather than the customary middle and ring finger. He, like Simonsen, had a slow beginning in his first two years on the pro tour. Primo Liberatore, an early mentor of mine while growing up in Sebastopol, California, was one of about 35 “backers” that sponsored Hardwick in 1961. Hardwick’s total official PBA earnings for two seasons amounted to \$550, and the partnership was dissolved.



After Hardwick’s record year in 1969, he would wait another 7 years before notching his 18th career title in Toledo, Ohio. The next week he would lose by just 5 pins to Marshall Holman in the championship match at the Firestone Tournament of Champions, a tournament that he previously won in 1965.

But then in 1963 Hardwick turned it all around and won titles at Mobile, Phoenix, Los Angeles, and the PBA National Championship in Garden City, New York. At age 22, Hardwick had become the youngest bowler to win PBA Player of the Year honors. His winning streak continued in 1964 with another three titles, and then a Firestone Tournament of Champions victory in 1965. Hardwick was winless in 1966, earning only \$8,420, before capturing the Kokomo Open in 1967 and the Seattle Open in 1968.

Young Simonsen’s career seems to be continuing a similar trajectory as Hardwick at this stage of his career. After his initial win with partner Connor Pickford, he went on to capture the USBC Masters (Indianapolis) in 2016; Wilmington, North Carolina, in 2017; Middletown, Delaware and Owasso, Oklahoma in 2018; and the PBA Players Championship (Columbus, Ohio) and Aurora, Illinois, in 2019. Then in 2020 he was winless, while still earning more than \$130,000 in prize money. It’s interesting that as sobering as Hardwick’s 1966 winnings appear, when adjusted for inflation, it represents a respectable \$68,968 in 2021.

Here’s the good news — following Hardwick’s lackluster years from 1966 to 1968, he bounced back in 1969 with one of the most incredible years in PBA history, with a then-record seven titles at Denver, Milwaukee, Redwood City (California), Hialeah (Florida), Fort Worth, Grand Rapids and Joliet, Illinois. Let’s hope that we see this unusual coincidence of interest between Simonsen and Hardwick continue, at least for the next couple of years...

Portions of the above article were gleaned from PBA news releases, PBA Tour Programs, and the PBA Press, Radio and TV Guide.

Photos provided compliments of PBA, LLC.



Anthony Simonsen In Action.

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BOWLING EVENT SITE: 4<sup>th</sup> Street Bowl, 1441 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, San Jose, CA 95112

WHEN: Sunday, October 24, 2021 – 2 squads (10:00 AM or 2:00 PM)



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# OPERATION FREEDOM PAWS FUNDRAISER TOURNAMENT RULES

- This tournament is open to all current USBC members in good standing certified by USBC.
- Tournament date:** October 24, 2021. **Squad Times:** 10:00 AM & 2:00 PM  
**Entry closing date:** October 24, 2021 at 2:00 PM - or when squad is full.
- The tournament will be held at:  
**4<sup>TH</sup> STREET BOWL, 1441 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, San Jose, CA 95112.**
- Format:** Three (3) game singles bowled on the same pair of lanes.
- Two Divisions:** Women's or Men's. There will be a Youth Division if we have at least 5 entries for that division; otherwise, Youth tournament participants will compete in the Women's or Men's Divisions.
- Handicap:** 100% of 220
- Bowlers may enter in both squads at the full tournament rate for each entry. Re-entries are based on squad availability per the Tournament Manager's approval. Walk-ins allowed, but not within ½ hour of the start of a squad.
- The entering average rule for this tournament will be as follows in this order:**
  - Highest ending 2019-2020 USBC fall/winter average (minimum of 21 games)
  - Highest ending 2019 USBC summer average (minimum of 21 games)
- Bowlers are responsible for verifying their own averages. Any falsification of the highest known average will result in immediate and final disqualification. If a “sport” or “challenge” league average is the bowler's only verifiable average, the bowler must notify the Tournament Manager of such fact so that she can adjust that average per the USBC Conversion Chart to determine the correct entering average. **USBC rule 319a2 (10 pin increase in average) and 319e (average adjustment) are waived.**
- Replacements for original entrants may be made providing the replacement meets eligibility and average requirements per rule 8, and must bowl under his/her own name.
- Entry fee:** \$50 per person (lineage = \$15.00 + prize fund = \$15 + **OPERATION FREEDOM PAWS = \$20.00**) Check or money orders made payable to California Bowling Writers – cash only on day of event.
- All prize money will be returned 100%. Prize ratio at least one (1) for every five (5) entries. Prize money will be based on total pins plus handicap per division. In the event of any ties, prize money will be combined and divided equally between the two tied positions. **YOUTH ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE WITH A SIGNED USBC SCHOLARSHIP WAIVER PRIOR TO THE START OF COMPETITION.** Scholarships will be held with the USBC SMART program (800) 514-2695 x3343.
- Bowlers must check in at least 30 minutes prior to scheduled squad time and must show proof of current membership by showing their 2021-2022 USBC membership card (or receipt) - or their USBC bowl.com printout that shows that the 2021-2022 membership card has been purchased.
- Bowlers arriving late shall begin play and the score shall count beginning with the frame then being bowled. Missed frames shall be credited with a zero. Frames may not be made up.
- Designated prize funds will be paid accordingly to each division within 30 days upon completion of the tournament, except when USBC headquarters has authorized delay in payment, pending settlement of any claim or protest which affects position standings.
- This tournament is certified by USBC. The Tournament Manager shall be the authority to interpret USBC and tournament rules, policies and procedures in deciding disputes.
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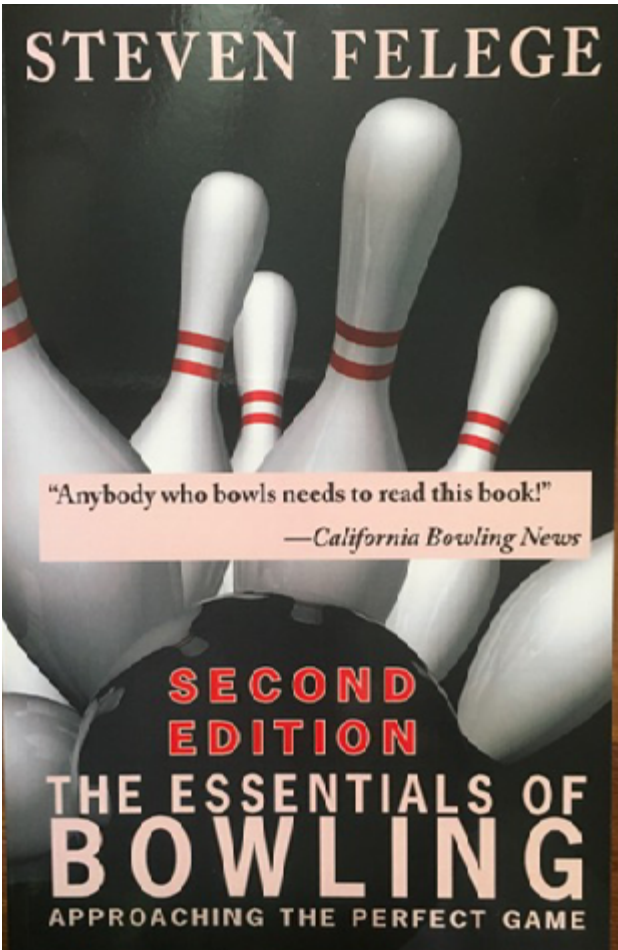
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Strike Derby continued from page 1

ing the 2019 CP3 PBA Celebrity Invitational, but the other players will be competing in speed bowling for the first time at the PBA level.

Viewers can live stream the PBA on the FOX Sports and FOX NOW apps or at FOXSports.com. Select highlights will be available on @FOXSports social handles across Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. International fans can watch live on FloBowling.com.

PBA STRIKE DERBY  
PRESENTED BY PABST BLUE RIBBON  
COMPETITORS  
Bayside Bowl – Portland, Maine

Norm Duke  
Packy Hanrahan  
Anthony Simonsen  
Kyle Troup



California Bowling  
Bowls 'em over at Bowl Expo!

by Todd Pfifer - California Bowling National Staff/West Coast Media  
The 2021 edition of Bowl Expo was a great success. This year California Bowling's debuted upcoming new releases from their four brands (Swag, Lane Masters, Legends, and Lord Field) and debuting from California Bowling is a line of Kinesiology tape (Lane Masters Spider Tape) that features our trademarked Ice-Tech.  
First coming from Swag (now a PBA registered brand) are additions to the Big Bro, Graffiti, Fantasy, and Incredible Lines. The latter to be released soon.

Coming from the Legends brand is an exciting follow up in the Black Pearl line using their highly successful Objet core. Their last release Black Pearl Bloody Ocean was a huge success and received rave reviews.

Lord Field is releasing two balls from its highly loved Blizzard line in the upcoming year.

Lastly, Lane Masters who just released their Hell-fire Blaze last week, announced a upcoming release in their successful Terminator line.

For information on any of these new products, release dates, line of accessories as well as becoming a staff member, you can check out their social media on Facebook or Instagram, as well as their website at [www.californiabowlingllc.com](http://www.californiabowlingllc.com).

Andrew Anderson  
Wes Malott  
EJ Tackett  
Sean Rash

PBA50 continued from page 1  
followed by five-in-a-row, before leaving a costly 7-10 in the seventh frame. Barnes had just one strike in his first five frames while staying clean and was down by 30-pins.  
That's when an important coaching moment changed Barnes' fate. Ryan noticed his dad was getting a little bit forward in his second step. Once he relayed that information to his dad, Barnes went through his process on the next shot and realized Ryan was right.  
"Dang, I am going to hate telling him that," he jokes. "He coached me up in the middle and that was right before that string of seven strikes there at the end. So, there is no doubt he had a little impact on the outcome today."

Barnes did have a little bit of a hiccup during that string of strikes in the ninth frame. He took a step off the approach and had to refocus. He was planning to make a move based of his shot in the seventh frame, but he hadn't fully committed to the adjustment, plus he didn't get his thumb all the way in the ball the way he wanted to.

"It was too important of a spot to throw a bad one or an undecided one, so I just reset, committed to what I was doing and just got my hand in the ball the right way," he said. "Then things went pretty well."

He went on to defeat Weber 247-224 to get his first PBA50 Title in just his fourth event of the year.

"Winning never gets old," he said. "It felt like I bowled better as the tournament went on so hopefully, we carry this forward."

Next up is the PBA50 Odessa Open, presented by Diamond Lanes, which begins 9 a.m. Central on Saturday. All qualifying rounds can be seen live on FloBowling.com.

2021 PBA50 CUP FINAL STANDINGS:

Chris Barnes \$12,500  
Pete Weber \$6,500  
Bob Learn Jr. \$4,500  
John Marsala \$3,000  
Steven Smith \$2,500  
View the full 2021 PBA50 Cup standings:  
[PBA.com/PBA50Cup](http://PBA.com/PBA50Cup)

MATCH SCORES  
Match 1 – Learn def. Smith 192-152  
Match 2 - Learn def. Marsala 226-216  
Match 3 - Barnes def. Learn 279-248  
Championship match – Barnes def. Weber 247-224

Jesper Svensson  
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