

THE PERFECT GAME... what does it mean to you?



By:
Patti
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We all know a 300 is the perfect game, but in my eyes the sport of bowling in its self is "the Perfect Game"! Is it a sport? Can we save it? Bowling is most definitely a sport! It has been my passion for the last 25 years, and I am dedicated to doing everything I possibly can to save this great sport! Should it be compared to all other sports? I don't think so nor do I think it can, but that seems to be the direction USBC has taken. People have spoken out on the **Youth Bowling....Save the Sport** Facebook page. They aren't happy by the loss of awards, the eligible youth age dropping down to 19, making tournaments scratch age based instead of handicap and charging spectator passes to watch your child bowl are just a few comments! These may be things other sports do, but we aren't any other sport. Bowling was/is unique!

Ever since the closing of YABA and the creation of USBC numbers have been spiraling downward and centers folding. Can we get USBC to change? I doubt it, but what we can do is find the positives. Associations have the right to add to the \$4 membership fee which could include them giving out awards. They can even make different levels of membership so those who don't want awards don't pay for it. Some centers have even created their own jersey to distribute as part of their membership fee. It's up to the board members to make bowling what they want it to be for the youth in their area. As far as scratch versus handicap; well at least it's age based, so there is some hope. Just remember, not all tournaments are scratch, just mainly the USBC sponsored events and Junior Gold. Centers or Associations should run monthly events for the youth to keep them involved. If we have to treat it like basketball, then think of league as practice (which you are required to attend) and tournament events as game day! You can also come bowl the I.S.S.T.!

Saving the sport is going to take more than just finding the positives and working with what we are given. If you were to over hear people complaining about what is wrong with a sport, would you want to join in? Probably not! We have to spread the word on all the positives, which by far outweigh the negatives! Bowling is something everyone can do of all ages and skill levels. Physically it's great exercise and improves balance and coordination. Mentally it builds self-esteem and concentration. You make life-long friendships. You can compete as an individual, or as a team.

The greatest benefit we haven't even touched base on yet! That's right, scholarships! No essays to write, don't have to be the best player on the team, and it's pretty much a guarantee! You can earn scholarships through league, tournaments and college recruitment. We all know about it, so let's share the information.

Bowling is a huge part of my life. My kids did all the other sports and it was the same old thing. Whose ever dad is coaching is who gets to play, no matter how good you are. Bowling isn't like that! Everyone gets to play. It's whatever you want to make of it! I'm a bowler, my kids are bowlers and I hope the sport is still around for my grandchildren to be bowlers.

As you can see, bowling is a unique competitive sport! I'm going to do everything I can to not let the sport die.....Will you help too! All you have to do is get past the negatives, focus on the positives and tell everyone why they should come join us.

In This Issue

- The Perfect Game... what does it mean to you?
- IL State Singles and Doubles Tournament
- Upcoming Tour Stops
- ISST Tour Stop Results and Leader Boards
- Improving Your Skills to Get to the Next Level
- Bowlers Qualified for Year End Finale
- Chicago Bound
- Bowlers On Pace For Perfect Attendance
- Featured Bowlers
- Contact Us and more
- New ISST Tour Shirt

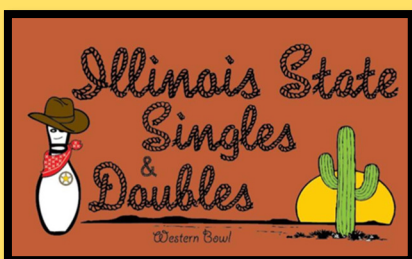
"The tour was a great learning experience. Learning different sport shots, where to stand and how the lanes react really improved my game. I'd definitely recommend doing the tour if you're trying to take your bowling skills to another level and put them to the test"

Violet Kirk
Aurora, IL

Upcoming Tour Stops

- Feb. 15 ~ Arlington Lanes ~ Arlington Heights
- Mar. 1 ~ Finale ~ Invite Only Kankakee ~ Brookmont Lanes (must qualify, see rule 17 on entry form.)

Illinois State Singles and Doubles Tournament



Western Bowl, Champaign, IL
March 21 & 22, March 28 & 29 and April 18 & 19

Entry forms, rules, host hotel, and souvenir wear information are posted online at www.isyl.org or www.ilusbcyouth.org

Look for details on a special event for bowlers participating on March 21st and 22nd only.

Make your reservations quickly! You don't want to miss out!!!



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Illinois-State-Scholarship-Tour/175021489356670>

ISST TOUR STOP RESULTS

ISST #93 - Northgate Lanes, Galesburg

Handicap Division

1. Matthew LaBonte	\$193
2. Drake Walker	\$122
3. Pete Trentz	\$110
4. Zach Lantz	\$84
5. Tony DeVita	\$71
6. Connor Pula	\$64

Boys Scratch Division

1. Zach Rhodes	\$150
2. Nick Binetti	\$90
3. Shayne Thornton	\$75
4. Eddie Mendez	\$70
5. Ranzy Collins	\$60
6. Ryan Crouch	\$55

Girls Scratch Division

1. Briana Zabierek	\$150
2. Julia Bond	\$90
3. Allyson Ware	\$75
4. Bobbi Jo Buhlman	\$70
5. Cheona Rhodes	\$60
6. Serenity Quintero	\$55

Mystery Blind Doubles

1. Matt LaBonte & Zach Lantz	\$40 ea.
2. Tony DeVita & Pete Trentz	\$20 ea.

ISST Leader Boards

Points Leaders

Handicap Division

1. Alex Acosta	131
2. Tony DeVita	130
3. Matthew LaBonte	104
4. Blake Reiger	102
5. Shaun DesRocher	82
Rachel Clifton	82

Boys Scratch Division

1. Aaron Adams	433
2. Brandon Biondo	281
3. Dakota Vostry	213
4. Chris Wiley	190
5. Nate Stubler	159

Girls Scratch Division

1. Sara Michalowicz	246
2. Megan Szczepanski	160
3. Abby Ragsdale	141
4. Jordan Newham	130
5. Tara Quinlan	122

Scholarship Award Leaders

Handicap Division

1. Tony DeVita	\$970
2. Alex Acosta	\$689
3. Shaun DesRocher	\$584
4. Blake Reiger	\$559.50
5. Rachel Clifton	\$508.50

Boys Scratch Division

1. Aaron Adams	\$1981
2. Chris Wiley	\$1036
3. Brandon Biondo	\$1013
4. Dakota Vostry	\$808
5. Michael Dertz	\$701

Girls Scratch Division

1. Sara Michalowicz	\$802
2. Abby Ragsdale	\$704
3. Megan Szczepanski	\$487
4. Caitlin Hofmann	\$475.50
5. Julia Bond	\$363

ISST Average Leaders

Handicap Division

1. Jim Nowak	186.00
2. Blake Reiger	183.33
3. Paige Reiter	178.78
4. Brandon Roth	175.83

Boys Scratch Division

1. Zach Woelfel	230.25
2. Aaron Adams	209.39
3. Kyle Krol	208.27
4. Tony Recsnik	207.50

Girls Scratch Division

1. Morgan Flaherty	213.42
2. Krissy Johnson	212.83
3. Giselle Poss	209.92
4. Jennifer Potts	200.92

Improving your skills to get to the next level

For youth bowlers looking to improve their skills and move up to that next level there are a few things you may wish to consider. Are you utilizing your league coach? Have you considered lessons? Have you challenged yourself to get to that next level?

Local youth leagues usually have a coach or two on staff to help during your league. Depending on your needs, some of these coaches can simply help you adjust a few fundamental steps to help you improve your game; however, since they are there to serve the league, they may not have the time to commitment to get you to that next level. This is when you may want to consider lessons or personal coaching.

You can ask a center manager, pro-shop owner or youth league coach for a referral, but you may want to speak to other youth bowlers or their parents about their coach. Location, availability and cost are certainly a concern; however knowing the level and manner of training that coach offers is equally as important. Does that coach have a USBC Bronze, Silver or Gold training? Are they a positive motivator that challenges you to fine tune skills and your mental game? What is their practice requirements? Who are they currently working with and who have they worked with in the past? How often do they require you to purchase new equipment?

To challenge yourself to get to that next level, of course, we recommend competing in the Illinois State Scholarship Tour. These events offer developing bowlers the ability to bowl on challenging lane conditions, tournament exposure to eliminate competition nerves, opportunities to move to the national level, as well as, the opportunity to create friendships, bowl with your peers and earn scholarship money.

Many of our youth members use these tournaments as a stepping stone to prepare for college bowling and getting recruited for a college team. Several have also earned spots on Jr. Team USA and Team USA.

We hope you will consider joining our tour and giving us the opportunity to watch you achieve your dreams.



Bound For Jr. Gold

Landmark

Michael Dertz	U20
Kyle Flanagan	U20
Nate Stubler	U20
Jennifer Potts	U20
Dana Brandt	U20
Blake Reiger	U15
Alex Acosta	U15
Conner Jones	U12

Mardi Gras

Joey Reid	U20
Brandon Mooney	U20
Jessica Eberly	U20
Felicia Montecinos	U20
Nicklaus Eberly	U15

Pheasant Lanes

Tony DeVita	U20
Mason Lutz	U20
Erin Heuer	U20
Brittany Breedlove	U20
Jacob Newton	U15
Ashlyn Burkeybile	U15

Joliet Town & Country

Eric Ullian	U20
Nick Binetti	U20
Eric Kramer	U20
Abby Ragsdale	U20
Kyra Udziela	U20
Juliana Kowalski	U20
Kylie Frick	U15
Mabel Cummins	U15
James Menard	U15
Matthew LaBonte	U15
Haylie Frick	U12
Danny LaBonte	U12

Stardust Bowl

Frank Lenoci	U20
Derek Poole	U20
Veronica Dreyfus	U20
Sami Perez	U15
Allison Wescott	U15
Jacob Perry	U12
Jenna Newton	U12

King Pin

Brandon Biondo	U20
Brad Behrends	U20
Zach Singer	U20
Leah Samuelson	U20
Violet Kirk	U20
Joey Preston	U15
Trevor White	U12

Poplar Creek Bowl

Daniel Powell	U20
Thomas Pappa	U20
Sean Mattingly	U20
Bobbi Jo Buhlman	U20
Justin Zinga	U15
E. Spaccapaniccia	U15
Samuel Ritchie	U12

Arena

Alex Burchard	U20
Kai Devine	U20
Morgan Flaherty	U20
Sara Klawitter	U20
Shaun DesRocher	U15
Bryce Schmitz	U15
George McCoy	U12

Northgate Lanes

Ranzy Collins	U20
Allison Ware	U20

Bowlers On Pace For Perfect Attendance

Tony DeVita
Danny LaBonte
Matthew LaBonte
Conner Jones
Connor Pula
George McCoy



Featured Bowlers



Kayla Crawford
Moline, IL



George McCoy
Moline, IL

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Feedback

We would appreciate any input or feedback to help us improve the content of our newsletters and provide readers with the information they are looking for.

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Age: 17

School: United Township High School

Home Center: Highland Park Bowl, Moline, IL

Division: Girls Scratch, ISST Average of 182.52

Sanctioned High Game/Series: 300/762

Started bowling at age: 4

When did you start bowling the ISST? 2010

What is your favorite thing about the tour? My favorite thing about the tour is getting to seem some of my closest friends who share my same passion. I also enjoy being able to bowl on a variety of different sport patterns, which will help me in my college bowling career at St. Ambrose University in the fall.

What kept you going through the hard times? The encouragement for all of my supporters has helped me remain positive and focused thought the hard times.

What advice would you give to someone who's just starting the ISST? If you're not used to bowling sport shot patterns, the score will be lower, but don't let that discourage you. Keep a positive mentality and you will go far.

Who's your biggest inspiration? My parents. They both got me into bowling and they have been there for me every step of the way. Both of my parents have been huge influences in my life. I'm grateful to be their daughter.

How many times have you been to Jr. Gold? I have been to Jr. Gold the last 3 years and I am qualified to go again this year.

What is your positive take-away from Jr. Gold? One tough day of qualifying does not define you. There are two more days to come back and finish what you went there to do.

What is your negative take-away from Jr. Gold? It is a lot of bowling and you feel completely exhausted after the three days of qualifying. However, you do find a new burst of energy if you make it to the next round(s).

Overall, what has bowling done for you? Bowling has taught me to be a better person on and off the lanes. I have learned to keep a positive mental aspect with bowling, school, and life outside of bowling. The game of bowling has opened my eyes to extraordinary opportunities and accomplishments. Everywhere I go, I meet talented and amazing people who share the same interests I do. Bowling has helped me earn scholarships for college and brought me even closer to my number one fans, my parents. Without bowling, I wouldn't be the girl I am today.

Age: 12

School: Woodrow Wilson Middle School

Home Center: Highland Park Bowl, Moline, IL

Division: Handicap, ISST Average of 137.23

Sanctioned High Game/Series: 213/526

Started bowling at age: 2

When did you start bowling the ISST? 2012

What is your favorite thing about the tour? My favorite thing about the tour is competing in different alleys and on different lane conditions.

What kept you going through the hard times? Knowing that there is another game around the corner.

What advice would you give to someone who's just starting the ISST? Keep your cool and not get upset because the conditions are much different then a normal house shot. Make friends, because when talking with them, they might point out something to help you and they help when you have down time between games.

Who's your biggest inspiration? Pro-Bowler, Chris Barnes and my bowling coach Pro, Scott Wohlend from Davenport, IA.

How many times have you been to Jr. Gold? This is the first year I have qualified for Jr. Gold. I am excited and ready to give it my best against the best.

Overall, what has bowling done for you? The excitement is what drives me to do better. Bowling has given me the skills to overcome my nerves and anger in competition and to focus on what is coming next.

Bowlers Qualified for Year End Finale at Brookmont in Kankakee

Handicap

Alex Acosta
Erin Bicochi
Alex Brady
Rachel Clifton
Shaun DesRocher
Tony DeVita
Megan Douglas
Conner Jones
Kyle Krumme
Daniel LaBonte
Matthew LaBonte
Zachary Lantz
Tony Lundy
George McCoy

Jenna Mendez
Melissa Mutters
Dalton Myers
Mia Orozco
Connor Pula
Blake Reiger
Tyler Rowe
Bryce Schmitz
Hailey Thompson
Pete Trentz
Mackenzie Ullian

Boys Scratch

Aaron Adams
Brandon Biondo
Alex Burchard
Zach Clifton
Ranzy Collins
Michael Dertz
David Eggert
Trevor Gunther
Justin Finnen
Zach Kotner
Eric Kramer
James Menard
Brandon Mooney
Kyle Pjarowski

Derek Poole
Corben Sadowski
Jarrod Scents
Josh Singer
Zach Singer
Nate Stubler
Dakota Vostry
Chris Wiley
Ritchie Zenner

Girls Scratch

Brittany Breedlove
Kayla Crawford
Haley Douglas
Brigitte Jacobs
Violet Kirk
Nicolette Mendez
Sara Michalowicz
Felicia Montecinos
Mikayla Morris
Jordan Newham
Abby Ragsdale
Leah Samuelson
Megan Szczepanski
Paige Wernsing

New Tour Shirt Designs

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All shirts feature:
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 and ISYL logos on sleeves.

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Name on Back: _____

Design #: 1 2 4 5

Size: _____

Name on Back: _____

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 Tremont, IL 61568
 309-369-3862

Make checks payable to: ISYL

Design # 1



Design # 2



Design # 4



Design # 5



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 Only

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