



MERMAID GAZETTE



HERNANDO COUNTY USBC BOWLING ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 2018

WHERE DOES THE TIME GO?

2018 is upon us and I am still wondering where 2017 went. Seems like time just flies by now that I am older. I remember being in school (years and years and years ago) and how slow the time seemed to go. I thought I would never graduate from high school, the time just dragged by and now I can't understand how Christmas and the New Year come and go so fast.

Things have changed so much this past year that I have trouble keeping up with all the new things going on in bowling. The Women's and Men's State will merge by August 1st and things just seem confusing to me. Will we have a state women's tournament any more? Will it be a state tournament for both the men and women? And how will that work? Nationals the same thing, men and women or just women and just men tournaments? I am anxiously waiting to find out how things are going to work with this merger.

We are having some changes of our own. The women are still having a Women's County Tournament but there is also the Mixed Scotch Doubles with both men and women (one of the most fun tournaments that I have ever bowled in) everyone should give this one a try. The Youth are having a County Youth Tournament and a Youth/Adult County Tournament so we will see how all the changes turn out.

Hopefully as the new Board gets more experience under their belts, things will run smoothly for all of us and we can enjoy our bowling leagues and County Tournaments all the more and the attendance will be better.

*Hope everyone had a wonderful
Holiday Season.*



HC USBC WBA

Next county tournament is February 4, 2018, a Mixed Scotch Doubles at Spring Hill. Applications are at your bowling houses: look for them, ask for them, or call me!

St. Pete Classic

Results that cashed in on the money from the St. Pete Classic in November, 2017.

DOUBLES:

21st Place: Joyce Crosby / Carolyn Crosby – 1,356

SINGLES:

30th Place: Joyce Crosby – 698
 38th Place: Carolyn Crosby – 694
 43rd Place: Crystal Morrish – 687

ALL EVENTS:

35th Place: Crystal Morrish – 2,020
 36th Place: Joyce Crosby – 2,018

500 Club

Results from the 9-Pin No Tap Tournament on January 14, 2018 at Spring Hill Lanes.

DIVISION A:

1st Place: Pat Feole
 252, 200, 255 + 141 Handicap = 848
 2nd Place: Mary Sacher
 277, 264, 194 + 90 Handicap = 825

3rd Place: Phyllis Buckley
 220, 243, 203 + 135 Handicap = 801
 4th Place: Carol Bien
 263, 196, 220 + 111 Handicap = 790
 5th Place: Carol Pfeiffer
 218, 236, 201 + 132 Handicap = 787
 6th Place: Michelle Sota
 176, 196, 278 + 135 Handicap = 785

DIVISION B:

1st Place: Maryann Bucci
 242, 266, 190 + 162 Handicap = 860
 2nd Place: Carolyn Street
 206, 223, 212 + 195 Handicap = 836
 3rd Place: Joyce Buckbee
 215, 173, 146 + 273 Handicap = 807
 4th Place: Joy Whitman
 214, 247, 154 + 177 Handicap = 792
 5th Place: Carolyn Crosby
 185, 235, 202 + 168 Handicap = 790
 6th Place: Ruth Harrison
 176, 204, 178 + 225 Handicap = 783
 7th Place: Muriel Hallet
 176, 173, 230 + 195 Handicap = 774

The winners of the raffles were:

Money Tree – Carol Pfeiffer
 Lottery Basket – Joy Whitman
 Mystery Money – Dawn Varvaro
 Lucky Strike Roll Off – Mikala Windham

Next 500 Club Tournament is an 8-Pin No Tap Tournament Invitational on March 4, 2018 at Strike City at 1:00 p.m.

Blonde by Dean Young



GET A GRIP ON YOUR GAME

Quick...Name another sport where you actually put your fingers *inside* the ball. Give up? You should, because bowling is unique.

That means fit and comfort are imperative.

In today's game, the use of inserts is important. What is an insert? It's an object that goes into the thumb hole and/or finger hole to provide comfort, consistency and/or better gripping power.

Let's start with thumb inserts, which come in a variety of sizes and basically are sold, pre-drilled urethane sleeves that slip into a hole drilled into the ball. Assorted sizes address the fact that not all thumbs are created equal. The pre-drilled, or pre-shaped thumbs, have either round or oval holes.

Once the "sleeve" is inserted into the ball, it keeps your thumb from touching the bowling ball material. That is very important because there is such a wide range of coverstocks used today. Each coverstock has its own characteristic. Some are sensitive to heat and become tacky to the touch, which can make you feel like you are "hanging up" in the thumb even when your technique is fine. Thumb inserts eliminate that issue. Using the same type of insert in every ball you own gives you a consistent feel, regardless of the coverstock.

In addition, today's technology includes a "switch grip", which allows you to quickly remove and replace inserts, making the use of tape to adjust the hole fit less important.

Also available is technology that allows you to have your thumb "exacticated", whereby a mold of your favorite thumb hole is taken then thumb inserts are duplicated so that there is less work out time to make the thumb feel good to you.

FOR YOUR FINGERTIPS ONLY

When considering finger inserts it's important to note that they are used in fingertip grips only. If you are converting from a conventional to a fingertip grip, you may find the use of inserts a huge help in making that transition.

There are dozens of types of grips and several very good manufacturers. Grips (sometimes called

"lifts") feature a variety of characteristics: texture, shape, hardness and pitch.

The inside texture can be smooth or there can be small bumps or ridges. The option that you choose is predicated more on feel than anything else.

There are two basic shapes – round or oval.

Grip hardness ranges from soft to firm. Softer grips are gummier and wear out faster. They hang onto the fingers more and are more popular than harder types because they can literally increase your rev rate by about 30 percent. That's significant.

Firmer grips feel more like the ball itself. You will have less cling, and they don't wear out as quickly.

You can also choose pitch or no pitch in your finger inserts. Every bowler's hand has a certain pitch that is optimal for his or her fingers. If you choose a "pitched" finger grip, you must drill the finger hole in the ball with that in mind. If you don't, you'll add too much pitch to your grip and that can cause problems.

TRY A "VACU" GRIP?

Pro shop operators can drill the holes into the ball normally or can use what is known as a "vacu" or "flex" grip technique. In the normal procedure the insert is glued into the hole and fits snugly against the ball. With the vacu grip, the hole is drilled a slight bit larger at the top of the hole and is left snug at the bottom of the hole. The grip is glued at the bottom and the insert then has a little wiggle room at the top of the hole. Typically you can use a grip size that is a little smaller because of the extra room at the top of the hole. That method can give you a little more versatility in feel from day to day.

Again, the type of grip and the method in which you put them in the holes are personal preferences.

A thumb insert typically runs in the \$15.00 range. Exacticating or switch grip technology is more expensive.

A pair of finger grips will usually cost between \$10.00 and \$15.00.

Regardless of the cost, for most bowlers, grips create a feel that is priceless.

BVL DONATIONS

The Hernando County USBC Bowling Association would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to all of the secretaries who participated in this event and to all of you who donated to the veterans. This money stays in the state of Florida and helps to purchase equipment for the veterans. This is a list of what was collected and sent to them:

BROOKSVILLE LANES:

Tuesday Night Fun League – \$40.00

STRIKE CITY:

Friday Night Strikers – \$341.00

SPRING HILL LANES:

NOTHING

That makes a total of \$381.00 collected from the bowlers, so we sent a check to the State WBA who then gives all the donations from all over the state of Florida to the veterans.

A LITTLE SOMETHING FROM THE YOUTH BOWLERS

LeAnn Militscher bowled a 299 (11 in a row), 172, 195, 209 for a series of 875 in a four game tournament on 12/17/2017 in the Interstate Travel League in Orlando.

She also bowled a 252, 206, 258 for a series of 716 on her league the Uptown Rollers at Strike City. And Austin Urban, on the same league bowled a nice 256, 299, 199, a series of 754.

Sure wish I could bowl like that!

The Youth have two tournaments coming up: The first is the 1st Annual Youth County Tournament on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at Spring Hill Lanes and the second one is the 1st Annual Youth/Adult Doubles Tournament on Sunday, May 5, 2018 at Strike City Lanes. WATCH FOR THE FORMS AT THE LANES.



Salads

CREAMY PINEAPPLE SALAD

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 - #2-1/2 can crushed pineapple (3-1/2 cups)
- 2 envelopes unflavored gelatin (2 Tbsp.)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup unsweetened pineapple juice (from drained pineapples)
- 1 cup orange juice
- 3 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 1 (8 oz.) cream cheese cubed

DIRECTIONS:

Drain pineapple, reserving syrup. If necessary add water to make 1-1/2 cups. Heat syrup to boiling. Put pineapple syrup and gelatin in blender, cover and run on speed 1 (or low) until gelatin is dissolved. Add remaining ingredients, except pineapple, cover and run on speed 6 (or high) until smooth. Pour into bowl and chill until the consistency of unbeaten egg white, stir in drained pineapple. Pour into a 2 quart mold and chill until set.

Recipe donated by Phyllis Haight