

BOWL FOR THE CURE

FABULOUS FOUR CONTEST RETURNS TO RAISE AWARENESS

LAST SPRING, FOUR WOMEN who shared a unique bond competed at the USBC Women's Championships. Their story proved to be inspirational, not only to those competing alongside them on the lanes, but also to each other.

The Women's Championships in Reno, Nevada, was the final stop on a five-day journey for the four Bowl for the Cure® Fabulous Four contest winners, each a breast cancer survivor. The four won the opportunity to take part in the journey based on essays they each submitted.

"I got to meet three other sisters who went through the fight as long as me, and I couldn't have asked for a more wonderful experience," said Shannon Thompson of Spring Creek, Nevada, after the group's time together last year. "It was a blessing to meet them all."

The Fabulous Four was developed as part of Bowl for the Cure®, a year-round fundraising and breast cancer awareness initiative sponsored by USBC in partnership with Susan G. Komen®, the world's largest grass roots organization of breast cancer survivors and activists.



The Fabulous Four contest returns in 2015 and details can be found on BOWL.com/FabulousFour.

"Last year's Fabulous Four was a tremendous experience for everyone involved and continued to show the success of the Bowl for the Cure program," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said. "USBC members showed their support last year by raising more than \$1 million, which was presented to Susan G. Komen® at the USBC Convention."

The Fabulous Four winners' trip included the opportunity to

tour Susan G. Komen's International Headquarters, which included a pep rally in the board room.

The group also visited the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame and the International Training and Research Center (ITRC) in Arlington, Texas, where they each received a new DV8 Diva Pearl bowling ball and a lesson from the Team USA coaching staff before flying to the USBC



Women's Championships.

Since Bowl for the Cure's inception in 2000, USBC members from across the country have hit the lanes to raise more than \$10 million for breast cancer research and awareness.

Go to BOWL.com/FabulousFour to learn more about the Fabulous Four contest for 2015. To learn more about Bowl for the Cure, visit BOWL.com/BFTC.

USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

ELEVATING THE EL PASO EXPERIENCE

WHETHER WE'RE ON AN AIRPLANE, at a concert, visiting a hotel or competing in the USBC Open Championships, we all enjoy the extra perks and attention that come with having status or being part of a rewards program.

Since 2012, the USBC Open Championships has offered a VIP program to allow dedicated tournament bowlers the chance to see the event and its unique venues in a new light.

The VIP experience has staples such as a VIP shirt and membership credential, a discount on the convenient Bowling Ball Express service that will have a bowler's equipment waiting for them at the venue, and the always helpful in-and-out VIP locker privileges. Bowlers also received a photo and video discount package to remember the trip.

Additionally, the VIP package for the 2015 Open Championships in El Paso, Texas, will include singles entries into the Bowlers Journal Championships presented by USBC and The Forty Frame Game, plus a one-hour practice session on the Showcase Lanes.

The Showcase Lanes have been a hit at the Open Championships since they were introduced in 2012. The 10 lanes will be inside the El Paso Convention Center alongside the 52 competition lanes being used for the Open Championships. The Forty Frame

Game will be held at nearby Fiesta Lanes.

Registration for the 2015 VIP program will get underway in January, and bowlers



can sign up at BOWL.com/OpenVIP for \$229.95. The cost of the VIP package does not include entry fees for the USBC Open Championships.

USBC also will reward its hard-work-

ing team captains while they're in El Paso through the USBC Captain's Club.

The club is for captains who bring six or

more teams to El Paso. They will receive an official USBC Captain's Club messenger bag, a premium Captain's Club polo shirt plus a MyBowlingVacation.com bag tag, \$25 restaurant voucher, special locker access and a discount at Bowling Ball Express – all for free in appreciation of their hard work and dedication.

Additional details on the Captain's Club, which also is valid for the USBC Women's Championships and USBC Mixed, can be found at BOWL.com/CaptainsClub.

PRO BOWLING

PWBA NO LONGER IS A FAIRY TALE

FOR MANY OF TODAY'S YOUNG WOMEN BOWLERS, the Professional Women's Bowling Association Tour mostly has been a mythical tale, something they might have heard about but never have seen.

The PWBA ceased operations in 2003, eliminating the opportunity for many women bowlers to continue competing at a high level once they became adults. Sure, they can bowl alongside the men in Professional Bowlers Association events, but only the USBC Queens and Bowling's U.S. Women's Open annually brought together the best women bowlers.

But the closing of the PWBA didn't bring women's bowling to a complete stop. The year after the PWBA closed its doors, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) made women's bowling a championship sport. It continues to grow at the collegiate

and youth levels.

Now, those young bowlers can look forward to competing in the new PWBA that will launch in 2015. The three-year funding commitment from USBC and the Bowling Propri-

etors' Association of America (BPAA) will give them a great opportunity to make their dreams come true.

USBC President Andrew Cain pointed toward the "fantastic growth in the participation and skill development at the high school and collegiate levels in recent years" as a major reason to bring back a women's tour.

The PWBA Tour will have nine events starting in mid-summer and going through early fall, with the tournaments running Friday through Sunday.

BPAA President Tom Martino said the tour "must fit the lifestyle

balance today's women need," so they can have the option to pursue their professional dream and maintain their work and home lives.

Jason Thomas is serving as the PWBA Director of Operations. Thomas, the USBC Senior Director of Digital Media, is well-versed in the operations for a pro bowling tour. He worked for 10 years with the PBA and was intricately involved in the redevelopment of that tour in 2000 after it was purchased by three former Microsoft executives.

The wheels already are turning, as a new logo has been unveiled and a new website is expected to launch soon.

And the PWBA Tour, for too long a mythical tale, once again will become a reality.



PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION



USBC QUICK STRIKES

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

Sport high average award winners announced

Former Team USA member Bryanna Caldwell of Red Rock, Arizona, and John Brockland of St. Charles, Missouri, earned USBC Sport Bowling National High Average Awards for the 2013-2014 season. Caldwell claimed the women's title with a 215 average, while Brockland averaged 233 for 64 games.

Youth Sport bowling honors went to Brandon Schwenk of Broomfield, Colorado, for a 200 average and Kyra Phillips of Thornton, Colorado, with a 192 average.

Three selected for USBC Hall of Fame

The USBC Hall of Fame committee elected three members for induction in 2015, all in the Outstanding USBC Performance category. Four-time USBC Open Championships titlist Gus Yannaras of Waukesha, Wisconsin, two-time champion Sam Lantto of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, and the late Fritzie Rahn of Chicago, an eight-time winner at the

USBC Women's Championships, were selected.

The committee slated seven bowlers for the Superior Performance national ballot to be voted on by a panel of USBC Hall of Fame members, board members and veteran bowling writers. The induction ceremony will take place April 29 at the 2015 USBC Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.

USBC, Kegel extend partnership

Kegel, which has provided lane maintenance equipment

and supplies as well as technical and on-site support for USBC events since January 2006, and USBC recently agreed to extend their partnership to make Kegel the official lane maintenance provider for all USBC events through December 2016. The agreement includes more than a dozen tournaments each year from the youth to professional level.

Knoblauch captures Super Senior title

Jim Knoblauch of Waukesha, Wisconsin, edged defending champion Kerry Painter of Henderson, Nevada, 224-213, to capture the 2014 International Training and Research Center Super Senior Classic title in Arlington, Texas.



Jim Knoblauch

Knoblauch, who earned \$3,000 for the victory, qualified for the stepladder as the No.

3 seed. He beat Howard Partell of Las Vegas and Ed Roberts of Braintree, Massachusetts, to reach the title match.

All American Family event adds \$50,000 in scholarships



The All American Family Tournament will have \$50,000 in guaranteed scholarships added when the national championships are held July 8-10, 2015, at the Stardust Bowl in Addison, Illinois.

The premier national event to showcase the more recre-

ational side of the game, the All American Family Tournament was developed through International Bowling Campus Youth Development and the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. Go to BOWL.com/AAFT to learn more about the tournament, including how to conduct league and tournament qualifying events.



Chris Barnes

Barnes takes World Cup

Team USA's Chris Barnes claimed the men's title at the 50th

QubicaAMF Bowling World Cup held in Wroclaw, Poland. Barnes entered the finals as the No. 3 seed but swept the semifinal and the final, 2-0, in the best-of-three format. Clara Guerrero of Colombia won the women's title with Team USA's Brittini Hamilton taking third.

Junior Gold host cities changed for 2016, 2017

The Junior Gold Championships presented by Storm, Roto Grip and Master will move to Indianapolis in 2016, and the 2017 tournament will be held in Cleveland. A major national convention in Cleveland necessitated the change.

In 2016, the Junior Gold Championships will take place July 16-22 in Indianapolis. For 2017, the tournament will be held July 15-21 in the Cleveland area.



CALENDAR

Jan. 2-7, 2015

Team USA Trials

The Orleans Bowling Center
Las Vegas

Feb. 2-8, 2015

USBC Masters

Ashwaubenon Bowl
Green Bay, Wis.

March 7-July 12, 2015

USBC Open Championships

El Paso Convention Center
El Paso, Texas

March 13, 2015

XBowling Intercollegiate Singles Sectionals

Addison, Ill.; Fort Worth, Texas; Smyrna, Tenn.; Stratford, N.J.

March 14-15, 2015

XBowling Intercollegiate Team Sectionals

Addison, Ill.; Fort Worth, Texas; Smyrna, Tenn.; Stratford, N.J.

April 10-June 30, 2015

USBC Women's Championships

National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.

April 10-June 30, 2015

USBC Mixed

National Bowling Stadium
Reno, Nev.

April 13-18, 2015

XBowling Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships

Northrock Lanes
Wichita, Kan.

April 27-30, 2015

USBC Convention

Omaha, Neb.

May 13-May 19, 2015

USBC Queens

USBC Senior Queens

Ashwaubenon Bowl
Green Bay, Wis.

July 8-10, 2015

BPAA's All American Family Tournament

Stardust Bowl
Addison, Ill.

July 9-26, 2015

Bowling.Com Youth Open

Orland Bowl
Orland Park, Ill.

July 11-17, 2015

Junior Gold Championships presented by Storm, Roto Grip and Master

Stardust Bowl, Hillside Bowl, Classic Bowl, Orland Bowl, Brunswick River Grove
Dupage County, Ill.

July 24-26, 2015

Summer Team USA Trials

Ashwaubenon Bowl
Green Bay, Wis.

July 27-August 1, 2015

USBC Senior Masters

Ashwaubenon Bowl
Green Bay, Wis.

Go to BOWL.com/Tournaments for complete information.