

COLLEGIATE BOWLING

ANOTHER FORM OF MADNESS

THE MADNESS THAT IS March for collegiate student-athletes isn't just for those on the basketball court. It also is the time for student-athletes in the sport of bowling to begin the road to the national championships.

Collegiate bowling has seen remarkable growth in the last decade. During the 2008-2009 season, USBC Collegiate had teams from 152 schools and a total membership of about 2,500 student-athletes. Five years later, membership grew to nearly 200 schools and just more than 3,400 collegiate bowlers.

Collegiate bowling has been the stepladder for many of the most recognized names in bowling. Do you know what Bill O'Neill, Scott Norton, Marshall Kent, Dan MacLeland, Stefanie Johnson, Missy Parkin, Shannon Pluhowsky, Diandra Asbaty, Kelly Kulick, Liz Johnson, Lynda Barnes and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard have in common? (Besides the fact each is a tremendous bowler).



Each earned Most Valuable Player honors from the National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association during their collegiate careers.

But it's not just USBC Collegiate making inroads. The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) made women's bowling a championships event in 2004. The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), which has named bowling an emerging sport, and the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) each have national tournaments.

But the XBowling Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships are the pinnacle events of the collegiate bowling season.

Conducted by USBC, teams first must qualify, based on its performance in USBC Collegiate certified events, for one of four sectional tournaments. Singles competition for sectionals is open to any collegiate



bowler, though the fields at each sectional are limited.

The top four teams at the sectional tournaments – four men's teams and four women's teams at each site – qualify for the national tournament. In singles, a total of 24 men and 16 women advance to the national tournament.

The 2015 XBowling Intercollegiate sectionals will be held March 13-15. In 2009, a total of 721 student-athletes took part in sectional qualifying; in 2014, nearly 1,200 student-athletes with 75 men's teams and 61 women's teams took part in the competitions.

The national championships will take place at Northrock Lanes in Wichita, Kansas, starting April 13 with singles competition. CBS Sports Network will air all the final matches on a tape-delay basis.



Sectionals

Sites: Stratford, New Jersey; Fort Worth, Texas; Addison, Illinois; Smyrna, Tennessee
Singles: March 13
Team: March 14-15

National Championships

Northrock Lanes, Wichita, Kansas
Singles: April 14 and 18
Team: April 15-18

JUNIOR TEAM USA

YOUNG BOWLERS SHARE THRILL OF MAKING JUNIOR TEAM USA

JADEE SCOTT-JONES has been bowling since age 3. Gazmine Mason took up the sport when she was 10, not long after meeting Jadee.

Through the Providence Senate Junior Program in their home state of Rhode Island, the young girls spent many hours together on the lanes, competing in leagues and local and national tournaments.

"Without Jadee being in this program, I don't think I would have made it to where I am today," Mason said. "Jadee and I, being around the same age, have always pushed each other during practices and competitions, always wanting the best for one another."

While they now are in college, helping their respective bowling teams put together successful campaigns, the duo spent part of their winter break together at the USBC Team USA Trials. Scott-Jones finished 16th overall and Mason was 18th. As the top junior bowlers in the field at the event, each earned a spot on Junior Team USA.

They are the first

members of the Providence Senate Junior Program to make the national team. The program is run by Scott-Jones' parents,

Monica Scott and Marty Jones. Marty is a Silver coach who was named the USBC David Dahms Coach of the Year in 2011 and Monica is a Level II coach. Both have earned National Coach of the Year honors from The National Bowling Association (TNBA).

"Bowling with Gazmine in the Providence Senate Junior Program helped my game a lot," Scott-Jones said. "Not only did I have someone who could push me as competitor, but I also had someone who was willing to help me work hard as well as help me with adjustments regardless if we were competing against each other or just practicing."

The Providence Senate Junior Program runs Sport Bowling leagues to help their bowlers improve and to prepare them for events such as the Junior Gold Championships.

"Bowling on the different Sport patterns has allowed me to reach my current level because of the hours of practicing and the continuous urge of wanting to learn what may work and what may not work on these patterns," Mason said.

En route to making Junior Team USA, both competed in Junior Gold and each had the opportunity to attend TNBA's Youth Weekend at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas, where they had the chance to work with Team USA coaches. Mason also attended the Bowling Combine at the ITRC, where she was put through a series of drills and tests to help learn





about her strengths and weaknesses.

Mason now is a sophomore at Nebraska, the top team in the coaches' poll in December. The Cornhuskers were runner-ups at last year's NCAA Championships, where she had a team-high 225 game in the opening match.

Scott-Jones is in her first year at Arkansas State, the third-ranked team in the coaches' poll. A six-time USBC Junior Gold Championships qualifier, with a top finish of 20th in 2013, she earned the USBC National Standard High Average Award in 2013-2014 with a 223 average over 85 games.

Now, the long-time friends will have the opportunity to once again compete together.

"Making Junior Team USA has been one of my goals for a few years now, so to have made it is amazing," Scott-Jones said. "Not only have I made the team, but I have made it with Gazmine, which is extraordinary. We have both had this goal in our sights for a while so to make it together was the icing on the cake. We have been competing together all over New England representing Providence Senate Juniors for a very long time, so to be together on a team that gets to represent our country is one of the greatest feelings ever."

Doyle becomes youngest Team Trials champion

Kamron Doyle of Brentwood, Tennessee, became the youngest USBC Team Trials champion when he took the title at The Orleans Bowling Center in Las Vegas in January at age 16.

But Doyle, who just turned 17, has been setting the standard for a few years. At 11, he set the record for youngest bowler to roll an 800 series, he was 12 when he became the youngest to cash in a PBA tournament and, at age 14, became the youngest to cash in a PBA major (U.S. Open).

A look at some young champions in other sports:

Tennis – Martina Hingis was 16 when she won the 1996 Australian Open singles title to become the youngest singles winner of a Grand Slam event. Michael Chang was 17 when he won the 1989 French Open singles title.

Golf – Harry Cooper was four days past his 19th birthday when he won the 1923 Galveston Open, the youngest to win a PGA Tour event. Lydia Ko won the 2012 Canadian Women's Open at 15 to become the youngest LPGA Tour winner.

Boxing – Mike Tyson was just 20 when he won a world heavyweight title, taking the WBC title in 1986.

Motor sports – Chase Elliot won the 2014 NASCAR Nationwide Series championship at age 18.



Kamron
Doyle

USBC QUICK STRIKES

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

Dates set for Bowling Combine

The 2015 Bowling Combine for College Prospects will be held August 4-8 at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas. The annual event is entering its fifth

B year and has sold out each year. At the Bowling Combine, young bowlers are evaluated using today's most objective standards; collegiate coaches can attend to analyze the potential of the student-athletes.

The deadline for student-athletes to apply in May 1 and the cost is \$175 for those accepted. Coaches also will need to register to attend, though there is no cost for coaches. Go to BOWL.com/Combine for complete information and to apply.

Liz Johnson, Larry Laub elected to Hall of Fame

Liz Johnson of Cheektowaga, New York, and Larry Laub of Lincoln, California, were elected to the USBC Hall

of Fame in the Superior Performance category by a USBC panel of veteran bowling writers, hall of famers and board members. The induction ceremony will take place April 29 at the 2015 USBC Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.

National Recognition Awards announced

Sue Pinski of Perrysburg, Ohio, Dick Atkinson of Harker Heights, Texas, and Joe Spain Jr. of Roswell, Georgia, have been named the recipients of the 2015 USBC National Recognition Awards.

Pinski has been named USBC Proprietor of the Year, Atkinson was selected for the USBC Joyce Deitch Unity Award and Spain will receive the USBC Helen Baker Award for Outstanding Association Service. The award winners will be recognized during the 2015 USBC Convention in Omaha, Nebraska, in April.

Bowlmor AMF becomes title sponsor of U.S. Opens

Bowlmor AMF, the largest operator of bowling centers in the world, has made a commitment to host and provide



television sponsorship for Bowling's U.S. Open and Women's U.S. Open in 2015.

The tournaments will be conducted in AMF and Brunswick centers with more than \$250,000 in funding for broadcast television production.

Two coaches earn Gold certification

Peter Somoff of Tacoma, Washington, and Mike Dias of Lafayette, Colorado, recently earned USBC Coaching's Gold certification, the highest coaching level that can be achieved through the USBC Coaching Certification and Development Department. The addition of Somoff and Dias brings the list of active Gold coaches to 21.

Ohio bowler rolls 900 series

Earon Vollmar of Toledo, Ohio, rolled three consecutive 300 games for a 900 series earlier this year. The 26-year-old right-hander had 36 consecutive strikes during the Monday Night All-Stars league at Toledo's New Glass Bowl Lanes, to become the 25th bowler to record a perfect series.

Kelly Kulick named PWBA spokesperson

The Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) has named Kelly Kulick as spokesperson for the organization that will re-launch this summer.

Kulick was a member of the PWBA Tour before it ceased operations in 2003 and she has continued to be a dominant competitor in major women's bowling events as well as on the Professional Bowlers Association

CALENDAR

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 13-19, 2015
USBC Queens, USBC Senior Queens
Ashwaubenon Bowl
Green Bay, Wis.

June 20-21, 2015
Bowling.com Youth Open West Region
Cloverleaf Lanes
Fremont, Calif.

June 28-July 3, 2015
PABCON Youth Championships
Panama

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.

Go to BOWL.com/Tournaments for complete information.

tion Tour. She became the first woman in bowling history to win a PBA Tour title when she took home the 2010 PBA Tournament of Champions title. Go to PWBA.com to learn more about the PWBA Tour.

Lane machines to benefit Folds of Honor

Kegel, the official lane maintenance provider for USBC tournaments, has created a limited-edition Patriot FLEX lane machine that will be used at the 2015 USBC Open Championships and USBC Women's Championships. The lane machines feature a patriotic red, white and blue stars and stripes motif.

At the conclusion of those events, the machines will be sold, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to Folds of Honor, a military organization that provides scholarships and assistance to the families of soldiers killed or disabled while serving the United States.

