



NO PUZZLE TOO TOUGH FOR BOND

PUZZLES MEAN different things to different people. While some may not have the patience needed to solve an intricate puzzle, others find it an exhilarating challenge.

Julia Bond, who kicked off 2017 by winning the U.S.



National Amateur Bowling Championships, likely falls into

the latter category. Whether performing lab work as she works toward a degree in forensic science or attempting to decipher a tricky lane pattern, Bond will put in the work to be successful.

"I want to be a forensic DNA analyst and my dream would be to work in a crime lab," Bond said. "I really enjoy lab work, preparing tests and interpreting results. What really interested me about forensic science was the idea that there's this giant puzzle that needs to be solved and you might not have all the pieces in front of you yet.

"Forensic science also involves many fields of sciences coming together to put this puzzle together, and I really

enjoy that feeling of contributing to someone else's work or vice versa."

She has shown that teamwork on the lanes, winning a national title as a freshman at Nebraska and capturing numerous medals as a member of Junior Team USA. She earned a spot on Junior Team USA for a fourth consecutive year at the 2016 Junior Gold Championships, but her U.S. Amateur title lands her on Team USA for the first time.

"Earning a spot on Team USA felt like a dream," Bond said. "It's an amazing feeling when all your hard work comes together and manifests into a reality. It felt like I was closing a chapter of my life that included my youth career and opening a brand new exciting one for the next step in my life."

Former Team USA coach Kim Terrell-Kearney has watched Bond's development on Junior Team USA. She expects Bond to play a big role in the future of Team USA.

"Julia has an unmatched will to win, she expects nothing less of herself," Terrell-Kearney said. "She is about as driven a player on the lanes that I have seen. Her success as a Team



Julia Bond

USA player and, even more importantly, her time collegiately at Nebraska has really boosted her confidence."

Putting in the work to be successful is a trait Bond learned about early in her bowling career. She wasn't the typical kid who grew up with the sport because her parents, Daniel and Sonia, were lifelong bowlers. But her dad was asked to substitute in a league, and while he was learning about the sport, he suggested Julia observe the better bowlers so she could learn, too.

"Eventually, I was able to pick up some of the movements, and a local coach started to notice and asked if

I wanted lessons," said Bond, who was 11 when she started bowling. "From that point on, I've been bowling competitively."

The lessons led to bowling in leagues and the leagues led the Aurora, Illinois, native to scholarship tournaments around her home state. She admits she "got my butt kicked for a while" but it also pushed her to improve. She would eventually win two state team titles and an individual state title in high school, but she wanted to bowl in college and said that goal motivated her.

A 138th-place finish at the 2012 Junior Gold Championships showed her and her

coach, William Clark, "what we needed to work on as a coach and as a player." She would step into the national spotlight at the 2013 event, where she led qualifying by 152 pins and went undefeated in match play to capture the U20 girls title and a spot on Junior Team USA.

She has been a Junior Team USA member since, earned nine gold medals in two appearances at the Lee Evans Tournament of the Americas



and captured silver medals in doubles and team, and a bronze

in singles at the 2016 World Bowling Youth Championships.

"Being on Junior Team USA has been the opportunity of a lifetime for me," Bond said. "Winning medals while having the letters 'USA' on my back is something that I'll never forget. I think I'll be a little sentimental this year because it'll be my last camp with Junior Team."

Gazmine Mason was a Junior Team USA member and Bond's doubles



partner at the World Youth Championships, and has been Bond's teammate at Nebraska the last three seasons. The team won the NCAA Women's title in 2015, Bond's freshman year, with Liz Kuhlkin as the anchor. The team finished second in 2016.

Mason said she knew Bond was a competitor and would work hard to make Nebraska successful.

"When Liz left and Julia filled the anchor position, I knew she would do whatever she needed to get her job done," Mason said.

"I appreciate her and I know the rest of the team does, as well."

Bond also has taken a run at the Intercollegiate Singles Championships title the last two years, losing to Hastings' Emily Eckhoff in the title match in 2015 and again to Eckhoff in the quarterfinals last season. That 2016 match was one of the most exciting in ISC history as Eckhoff edged Bond in Game 2, 300-290, which proved the difference as

Eckhoff won the three-game set, 782-772.

Bond said she appreciates the opportunities she has had in her collegiate career so far.

"I understood that not all freshmen get to see the playing time that I did and that made me want to work harder and take advantage of the situation," Bond said. "I knew that coach (Bill) Straub, coach (Paul) Klempa, and my teammates trusted me and I think that made me settle into the position much quicker. Overall, I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to bowl and be a part of the Nebraska legacy."

Bond will look to help Nebraska, which topped the National Tenpin Coaches poll in January, build on that legacy when this year's NCAA Women's Bowling Championships takes place at the Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from April 13-15. The International Bowling Campus Youth Development team will be working with the NCAA to stage the tournament. The River Center venue also will be the site for the Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships, which runs April 17-22.

BOWLING ON THE BAYOU

The Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, will be the site of several major events, starting this spring. The competition dates and events:

April 13-15: NCAA Women's Championships

April 18-19, 22: Intercollegiate Singles Championships

April 19-22: Intercollegiate Team Championships

April 23-July 9: USBC Women's Championships

May 17-23: USBC Queens



Julia Bond and Gazmine Mason

RULES

LEVELING THE FIELD

AVERAGE INTEGRITY.

For anyone bowling in a local, regional or national tournament, it might be the most important factor of the event. But what, exactly, does it mean?

Basically, it is ensuring the bowling average that all competitors supply when entering a tournament truly represents their ability. Anyone who has bowled on a regular basis knows there are numerous factors that can affect an average, such as bowling on Sport conditions versus a traditional house shot.

As an example, imagine you take your 190 average to the city tournament and notice the person on the pair with you has come from another city and brings a 170 average. You watch a few shots in practice and think the person's game really isn't much different from yours, so they must have some flaw – bad spare shooter? – so that's why they are at 170.

Three games later, the person has posted a 622 series (scratch) to take the lead in handicap singles. Oh, and they pretty much cleaned up in the handicap brackets, too. Well, good for them. Nice bowling.

Or is it? What if someone told you they currently bowl in a league with the person and knows that person is a much better bowler? And they know the person



bowled in another tournament in their hometown and had been rerated to a 190 average?

Maybe it doesn't bother you because it really doesn't make that much of a difference, right?

Take a closer look. Since the person entered with a 170 average, and the tournament is using 90 percent of 210 for handicap, they receive 36 pins of handicap per game. You, meanwhile, with your 190 average, get 18.

So, does the fact they get 18 more pins each game – an extra 54 pins for each series – make a difference to you?

That is the reason USBC recently introduced a rerate list on BOWL.com. Tournament managers now can submit information on bowlers who have had averages rerated or adjusted per Rule 319c, including the reason for the rerate.

USBC will compile the information of bowlers who have been rerated, and the list will be available for other tournament managers to use.

The purpose of the list is to provide tournament managers with a resource to share bowler rerate/adjustment information with other tournament managers. And knowing rerate information will be shared among tournament managers might prompt bowlers who have been rerated, and are required to report any adjustment under Rule 319c, to inform tournament managers.

"We must continue to look for ways to reduce average manipulation so tournament bowlers can be more confident they are competing on a level playing field when they enter an event," USBC Executive Director Chad Murphy said.

Tournament managers now have access to an online form to submit information and also have access to a list of bowlers who have received an adjustment/rerate. The USBC Rules team will update the list weekly during the tournament season, approximately December through May.

Of course, it is important for tournament managers to take part in the process by submitting information and by using the information provided.

And what could be more enjoyable than knowing the only factor that will determine how you finish in a tournament is, well, you?

MANAGER TOOLS

On BOWL.com/Rules, under Tournament Resources, are tools to help tournament managers:

Tournament Manager's Manual – A comprehensive guide to conducting a USBC-certified tournament

Sample rules – Rules for adult and youth tournaments, both scratch and handicap

Online certification – Use the online portal to certify your event

List of bowlers with rerates/adjustments – Information on bowlers whose averages have been adjusted per Rule 319c

Submit rerates/adjustments information – A form for tournament managers to submit bowlers who receive a rerate/adjustment at your event

USBC QUICK STRIKES

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

Junior Gold Championships sites set for 2018-2020

The Junior Gold Championships presented by The Brands of Ebonite International, USA Bowling National Championships and Bowling.com Youth Open Championships will head to Dallas in 2018, Detroit will serve as the host city in 2019 and Indianapolis will be the site of the national events in 2020. All three events are conducted by International Bowling Campus Youth Development.

The 2017 Junior Gold Championships presented by The Brands of Ebonite International will take place July 15-22 in Cleveland. The event drew nearly 3,300 participants to Indianapolis in 2016. Go to BOWL.com/YouthTournaments to learn more about the Junior Gold, USA Bowling and the Youth Open Championships.



Four candidates slated for USBC Board election

Incumbents Jo Dimond of Columbus, Ohio, and Karl Kielich of El Paso, Texas, are among the four candidates slated by the USBC Nominating Committee for three open USBC Board positions that will be determined



by delegates at the USBC Convention and Annual Meeting. Also slated are Glenda Beckett of Palmetto Bay, Florida, and Adam Mitchell of Reston, Virginia.

In addition to voting on the open board positions, delegates will decide 15 proposed amendments at the USBC Convention, set for April 24-27 at The Orleans in Las Vegas. Go to BOWL.com/Convention for more information.

Marquez joins ITRC staff

Lou Marquez has joined the International Training and Research Center staff as manager of the pro shop for the facility

located at the International Bowling Campus.

Marquez, the former president of the International Bowling Pro Shop and Instructors Association, is a USBC Gold coach and his role at the ITRC will include training and lessons in addition to management of the pro shop. The ITRC offers individual and group lessons, as well as training for high school, collegiate and national teams/federations.



Lou Marquez

Winners determined in Fabulous Four contest

Donna Angstead of Longmont, Colorado, Jackie Cluxton of Manchester, Ohio, Regina Owens of Jacksonville, Florida, and Dawn Paolillo of Staten Island, New York, were selected as the Bowl for the Cure® Fabulous Four essay contest winners and will take part in a five-day bowling adventure this April.

The Fabulous Four essay contest is part of Bowl for the Cure®, a year-round fundraising initiative sponsored by USBC in partnership with Susan G. Komen®. The bowl-

ing adventure for the four winners will start in the Dallas area with a special day at Komen headquarters, includes lessons from the Team USA coaching staff and PWBA stars at the International Training and Research Center, and concludes in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where they will help kick off and compete in the 2017 USBC Women's Championships.

Bryan O'Keefe named Junior Team USA head coach

Bryan O'Keefe, the director of bowling for McKendree University and a former assistant coach with the Team USA program, has been named head coach of the Junior Team USA program. He will continue in his current role with McKendree.

O'Keefe will oversee the selection of athletes and the training camps for the boys' and girls' teams, in addition to serving as coach for the teams at international competitions.

Sixlets® Brand to sponsor 2017 USA Bowling National Championships

Sixlets® Brand Chocolatey Candies is the presenting sponsor of the 2017 USA Bowling National Championships. The 2017 national event will take place July 19-22 in Cleveland, and the title matches will be televised on CBS Sports Network.

Sixlets® Brand also will

CALENDAR

Now-July 16, 2017
USBC Open Championships
South Point Bowling Plaza
Las Vegas

March 11-12, 2017
Intercollegiate Team and Singles Sectionals
AMF Parkway Lanes, Allentown, Pa.
Smyrna Bowl, Smyrna, Tenn.
Stardust Bowl, Addison, Ill.
USA Bowl, Dallas

April 17-22, 2017
Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships
Raising Cane's River Center
Baton Rouge, La.

April 23-July 10, 2017
USBC Women's Championships
Raising Cane's River Center
Baton Rouge, La.

April 24-27, 2017
USBC Convention
The Orleans
Las Vegas

April 27-29, 2017
PWBA Sonoma County Open
Double Decker Lanes
Rohnert Park, Calif.

May 4-6, 2017
PWBA Storm Sacramento Open
Steve Cook's Fireside Lanes
Citrus Heights, Calif.

May 11-13, 2017
PWBA Fountain Valley Open
Fountain Bowl
Fountain Valley, Calif.

May 17-23, 2017
USBC Queens
Raising Cane's River Center
Baton Rouge, La.

May 23-26, 2017
USBC Senior Queens
Circle Bowl
Baton Rouge, La.

June 1-3, 2017
PWBA Wichita Open
Northrock Lanes
Wichita, Kan.

June 1-4, 2017
ITRC Super Senior Classic
Sam's Town Bowling Center
Las Vegas

Go to BOWL.com/Tournaments for complete information.

provide teams reaching the national championships field with Logo Infusion jerseys featuring the Sixlets® logo, and will provide Sixlets® candy for participants' gift bags at the Junior Gold Championships presented by The Brands of Ebonite International.