

**COACHING**

# EXPANDING HORIZONS

**MORE THAN** two years ago, USBC Director of Coaching Stephen Padilla went to Japan to conduct USBC Level I and Bronze certification coaching classes for members of the Japanese Professional Bowling Association (JPBA).

Seven of those JPBA members made the trek to

the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas, last November to continue their training.

The group, all members of the JPBA Instructors Committee, were taking the USBC Silver certification course. While the JPBA oversees professional bowling, the members of the Instructors Committee, a volunteer group that meets each month, provides guidelines about what programs they would like to have the JPBA implement.

Robert Lee, a JPBA member who serves on JPBA's tournament advisory committee and is part of the JPBA Instructors Committee, made the trip as the group's translator. He grew up bowling on military bases in Japan. He worked at Kegel from 2000 until a few years ago, when he moved back to Japan, in a suburb of Tokyo.

"I looked online to see if we could get into a (Silver) class in the States," Lee said. "To enroll in the Silver course, we had to have somebody explain it to



Robert Lee, second from right, is a JPBA member who also served as the translator for USBC Director of Coaching Stephen Padilla, third from right, as he worked with the group from Japan.

them, to interpret it, because there are no Silver classes in Japan. Anticipating there would be a lot of translating going on, we didn't want to bother the rest of the class, so I reached out to Stephen to see if he could accommodate a separate group.

"It was either Stephen went to Japan or the group came over here. I think everyone (in the group) wanted to see the facility, anyway."

The JPBA group was at the ITRC to learn more about how to instruct others, in addition to gaining coaching certification.

Kazumi Shioyama of Ibaraki, Japan, the head of the JPBA Instructors Committee, said he was impressed by the ITRC not only as a bowler, but as someone in the industry. He said it was exciting to visit the state-of-the-art training facility and to work with USBC.

"People in the industry, people in coaching that are involved as an instructor, know USBC is recognized as the standard throughout the world," Shioyama said. "To come here and get certified by USBC, it not only gives us the

knowledge, but the accreditation that is the standard, the top of the industry."

The other members of the group were: Yoshihito Hisaka of Kanagawa, Michiko Nakano of Osaka, Kota Tanahashi of Chiba, Kiyoshi Toyota of Tokushima, and Yumiko Yamamoto of Fukuoka.

JPBA members go through JPBA certification and are considered instructors through that organization, but the Japan Bowling Congress (JBC) is the major sanctioning body for bowling in Japan, overseeing

the national team and coaching certification.

"There are events in Japan where you have to be a registered coach – not just a bowling coach, but a registered coach," Lee said. "To do that, you have to go through a program that, for bowling, incorporates USBC certifications. Once they get their Bronze and their Silver (certification), it allows them to get to a certain degree in coaching, in the eyes of the JBC and JOC (Japanese Olympic Committee)."

During Padilla's visit to



Japan in 2016, 57 JPBA members took part in three

days of coaching education and certification that included classroom sessions and on-lane lessons. Japan then joined Australia and New Zealand as countries to adopt USBC Coaching programs on a national scale.

USBC Coaching continues to offer international certification classes worldwide through a network of ambassadors trained to deliver its quality programs.

## STEP BY STEP

For anyone who wants to coach the sport, or to just better understand their own game, USBC Coaching offers a step-by-step process, providing certification at each level:

**Level I** – An online program that covers teaching the fundamentals to youth and adult bowlers

**Bronze** – A 2- to 2½-day conference that focuses on the physical game, lane conditions, ball motion, video recording and much more

**Silver** – The three-day conference looks at bowling ball arsenals, advanced lane adjustments, matching ball surfaces to lane conditions, mental game and more

**Gold** – For coaches who have gained years of knowledge and experience, applicants must complete several requirements and successfully demonstrate their knowledge to a panel as part of their final review



Stephen Padilla, USBC Director of Coaching, worked on the lanes with the Japan PBA Instructors Committee.

Padilla said USBC Coaching must continue to have an international presence.

"It's important that we continue to grow coaching, not just initially but through the stages of our coaching development," Padilla said. "This group is a continuation of the class we started with them (in Japan). It's not only val-

able for our program but for coaching worldwide. It helps the Olympic effort, it helps the international World Bowling effort, it helps USBC's effort to grow coaching."

"For smaller groups to come over and experience not just the coaching piece, but the training facility, is a benefit for everyone. It's

easier when we have one person travel the other direction, but to have them come this way highlights the fact they believe in what's happening to the point they will travel here."

Visit [BOWL.com/Coaching](http://BOWL.com/Coaching) to learn more about USBC Coaching and the certification programs.



The JPBA Instructors Committee members who attended a USBC Silver coaching certification clinic at the ITRC.

REGISTERED VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

# PROTECTING OUR YOUTH

**MORE THAN** a decade ago, USBC created the Registered Volunteer Program in an effort to provide a safe environment for USBC Youth bowlers. USBC took the important step of having volunteers who closely work with youth members go through a mandatory criminal background screening.



RVP recently was expanded with the addition of online

training and education through the U.S. Center for SafeSport. For those not familiar with SafeSport, it is an independent, national non-profit that provides sports organizations with training and education on abuse prevention techniques, policies and programs. It also provides a safe and confidential place for individuals to report sexual abuse within the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements.

Adding SafeSport training as a required part of the RVP process will help volunteers and coaches learn how to prevent abuse from happening and how to respond if abuse already has occurred. While created with youth in mind, the concepts involved also are appropriate when dealing with adults and senior citizens in our associations.

RVP also was expanded to include every USBC state and local board member, every youth committee member and youth director, plus all USBC Youth league



officers and tournament managers. Each position now is required to complete the RVP process as part of USBC's compliance with United States Olympic Committee (USOC) regulations.

It is not the first time RVP was expanded to include addi-

tional groups associated with USBC. In the Fall of 2012, USBC Coaching Certification and Development made RVP a mandatory requirement for all certified coaches.

The SafeSport requirement also affects anyone who currently holds RVP certifica-

tion, including USBC active coaches. Current Registered Volunteers must complete the required online SafeSport training to maintain their RVP status. There is no cost to take the training and it can be accessed 24 hours a day at [BOWL.com/RVP](http://BOWL.com/RVP).

For anyone seeking to complete the RVP process, they first must complete the SafeSport education. Once USBC receives notification SafeSport training is complete, it will direct the applicant to complete the background screening portion through the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI).

To learn more about the Registered Volunteer Program and for the handbook on the program, visit [BOWL.com/RVP](http://BOWL.com/RVP).

## STEPPING UP WITH RVP

The mandatory requirements of the Registered Volunteer Program:

1. Complete U.S. Center for SafeSport online training
2. Pass a background screen through the National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI)
3. Adhere to the USBC Registered Volunteer Code of Conduct
4. Report any child abuse, including sexual abuse, to the U.S. Center for SafeSport and USBC

Visit [BOWL.com/RVP](http://BOWL.com/RVP) to learn more

# USBC QUICK STRIKES

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

## **Open Championships extended as team count tops 9,000**

USBC has added a week of July dates to the 2019 USBC Open Championships in Las Vegas, taking the event through July 8. More than 9,000 teams already had registered to compete, so the additional week was added to accommodate the increased demand.



The 2019 tournament will kick off March 9 at the South Point Bowling Plaza, and the last day of team competition is set for July 7, with doubles/singles squads wrapping up the competition on July 8. Visit [BOWL.com](#)/OpenChamp for information.

## **USBC fully unified with final mergers**

The effort to unify services provided by USBC at the local and state levels now is complete. The unification of non-merged local and non-merged state associations was set in place by delegates, who approved a member-submitted amendment requiring non-merged associations to become a single organization by Aug. 1, 2018, at the 2016 USBC Convention.

With the merger complete, USBC members now are serviced by 1,638 state and local associations.

## **USBC Hall of Fame adds four members**

Four candidates were elected to the USBC Hall of Fame by the USBC Hall of Fame Committee. Jim St. John was selected in the Veterans category, Kegel founder John Davis and longtime bowling journalist Bob Johnson were elected in

the Meritorious Service category and Larry Lichstein was elected in the Pioneer category.

The induction ceremony for the 2019 USBC Hall of Fame Class will take place May 1 as part of the USBC Convention at The Orleans Hotel and Casino. The class will include the four selected by the USBC Hall of Fame Committee and those elected for Superior Performance.

## **SMART adds four board members, names new chairperson**

The Scholarship Management and Account Reporting for Tenpins (SMART) expanded its board of directors with the selection of four new members and also selected current board member Steve Moehrle as chairperson.



The four new members of the SMART Corporation Board of Directors are Darlene Baker of Mahomet, Illinois, Tom Bluth of Davie, Florida, Andrew Cain of Phoenix, and Joe Schumacker of Davie, Florida. They join Wally Hall, who had been the chair since 2010, and John Walker on the board.

## **PWBA Hall of Fame to return in 2019**

The Professional Women's Bowling Association (PWBA) Hall of Fame will induct its first class in 16 years in 2019. The induction ceremony will take place May 15 in Wichita, Kansas, in conjunction with the 2019 USBC Queens, a major event on the PWBA Tour.

The PWBA Hall of Fame committee will be review candidates in the Performance, Ambassador and Meritorious/Builder

categories. Anne Marie Duggan and Virginia Norton were the last inductees in 2004, both in the Performance category.

## **Three USBC Hall of Fame members pass away**

USBC Hall of Fame member Flora Mitchell, who served as the Women's International Bowling Congress executive secretary-treasurer from 1975 to 1991, died on Nov. 20 at age 89. She was elected



to the USBC Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service in 1995.

Betty Kuczynski, inducted in 1981 for Superior Performance, died Nov. 11. She was the first recipient of the Alberta E. Crowe Star of Tomorrow award in 1961 and claimed her biggest win at the 1965 USBC Queens. She was 78.

Bill Tucker, who won two USBC Open Championships double titles, three PBA titles, and the 1961 BPAA All-Star tournament, died Nov. 9 at age 92. He joined the hall of fame in 1988 in the Veterans category.

## **Team USA men qualify for 2019 Pan Am Games**

The performances of Matt Farber and Matt Russo at the 2018 Pan American Bowling Confederation Champion of Champions in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, qualified the United States for the 2019 Pan American Games.

Other men's teams to qualify at the event were Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala and Aruba. The Team USA women qualified last month during the 2018 PABCON Women's Championships in the Dominican Republic.

The 2019 Pan American Games will be held in Lima, Peru, next summer.

## CALENDAR

**Jan. 2-7, 2019**  
**USBC Team USA Trials**  
Gold Coast Bowling Center  
Las Vegas

**March 8-10, 2019**  
**Intercollegiate Team and Singles Sectionals**  
Addison, Ill.; Dallas; Smyrna, Tenn.; Stratford, N.J.

**March 9-July 8, 2019**  
**USBC Open Championships**  
South Point Bowling Plaza  
Las Vegas

**March 15-19, 2019**  
**USBC Senior Queens**  
Gold Coast Bowling Center  
Las Vegas

**March 26-April 1, 2019**  
**USBC Masters**  
Gold Coast Bowling Center  
Las Vegas

**April 15-20, 2019**  
**Intercollegiate Team and Singles Championships**  
Poelking Lanes South  
Dayton, Ohio

**April 20-June 30, 2019**  
**USBC Women's Championships**  
Northrock Lanes  
Wichita, Kan.

**April 25-27, 2019**  
**PWBA Greater Cleveland Open**  
Yorktown Lanes  
Cleveland

**April 29-May 2, 2019**  
**USBC Convention**  
The Orleans  
Las Vegas

**May 2-4, 2019**  
**PWBA Twin Cities Open**  
Cedarvale Lanes  
Eagan, Minn.

**May 9-11, 2019**  
**PWBA Lincoln Open**  
Sun Valley Lanes  
Lincoln, Neb.

**May 15-21, 2019**  
**USBC Queens**  
Northrock Lanes  
Wichita, Kan.

**May 29-June 2, 2019**  
**Super Senior Classic**  
Sam's Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas

**May 30-June 1, 2019**  
**PWBA Sonoma County Open**  
Double Decker Lanes  
Rohnert Park, Calif.

**June 2-9, 2019**  
**USBC Senior Masters**  
Sam's Town Bowling Center  
Las Vegas

Go to [BOWL.com/Tournaments](#) for complete information.