REPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS ISSUE No. 8



CLOSER LOOK

ONE CITY, TWICE THE FUN

MAKING THE ANNUAL trip to nationals is a tradition for thousands of bowlers. In 2013, USBC is offering a new twist on the tradition and a reason to bring families and friends along.

Bowlers will have a unique opportunity in 2013 for families and friends when Reno, Nev., plays host to the USBC Open Championships and USBC Women's Championships.

The tournaments have more than 200 combined years

of history and tradition, but 2013 will mark the first time the events will be held in the same host city in the same year. This offers the convenience for more families and friends to travel together, and for women to compete in both tournaments in one trip.

"If you have a bowler in the family, bring them along to Reno in 2013," said Brian Lewis, USBC Managing Director

of Tournaments. "Every guest should bring their bowling gear. It is so easy for bowlers to connect with a team once you get to town and, with all our new side events, there is always chance to roll for fun or to win some extra prize money day and night."

The USBC Open Championships, which began in 1901, will be held at the one-of-a-kind National Bowling Stadium. The USBC Women's Championships, which first was held in 1916, will be contested on 44 specially-constructed lanes inside the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The two events are expected to bring more than 75,000 bowlers and their

> between March and July. Bowlers in 2013 will have the chance to enjoy the first phase of a \$15 million renovation project for the National Bowling Stadium. The improvements include the new 900 Global Showcase

> families and friends to Reno

Lanes on the



USBC Open Championships

March 1-June 30 National Bowling Stadium BOWL.com/OpenChamp



USBC Women's Championships

April 12-July 1 Reno-Sparks Convention Center BOWL.com/WomensChamp

first floor of the stadium where bowlers can try their hand at new side events or pick up some coaching tips.

"I encourage all our bowlers, especially those bowling the Women's Championships, to plan for a trip to the stadium." Lewis said. "The new Showcase Lanes are for all our bowlers and we expect everyone who visits to have fun and leave impressed with the new look of the stadium."



USBC CHAMPIONSHIPS

BONUS FRAMES

Bowlers At Both National Tournaments Will Have More Opportunities In Reno

FOR BOWLERS HEADED to Reno for the 2013 Championships, there is a lot to look forward to even if you have been to the Biggest Little City in the World.

Along with the storied national tournaments, there will be new events for bowlers to test their skills, earn additional prize money and just have fun.

Showcase Lanes return

Among the additions to the National Bowling Stadium in 2013 will be the construction of the Showcase Lanes, introduced during the 2012 Open Championships. 900 Global is the sponsor of the 10 lanes that will be located on the ground floor and is the first part of a \$15 million renovation of the NBS.

The 900 Global Showcase Lanes will give bowlers of both the USBC Open and Women's Championships the chance to practice on their respective lane conditions. Three-time Open Championships titlist Matt McNiel will be available to help bowlers with their game plan, equipment selection and much more. A one-hour session with McNiel is a highlight of the enhanced VIP program in 2013.

New events

Along with practice and coaching opportunities, the 900 Global Showcase Lanes will be home to two unique side tournaments – the 900 Global Two-Game Challenge and the Who's Got the Look Baker Bonanza presented by 900 Global.

The Two-Game Challenge places bowlers against competitors with similar averages. The payouts are more frequent, and the fast format can be used as a warm-up before

heading upstairs to bowl in the Open Championships or across town for the Women's Championships. Key parts of the Two-Game Challenge:

- Three divisions Eagle (200 and above); Train (176-199); Sure Thing (175 and below)
- Entry fee is only \$40
- Daily payouts and yearlong prizes in every division.

The Who's Got the Look Baker Bonanza presented by 900 Global is a yearlong event that will put an emphasis on team play with a customized Baker format. Each team will consist of three players, with each bowling three frames. The team decides "Who's Got the Look" and that player will bowl the 10th frame. Each team member must bowl at least one 10th frame. A quick look at the event:

- Teams will bowl five Baker games
- Entry fee is \$60 per team
- Three divisions 600 and above; 526-599; 525 and below
- Guaranteed first prize of \$3,333 in top division, \$1,111 in 526-599 division and \$777 in 525 and below; cash ratio of 1:5
- Special prize fund for teams consisting of three women

More information about the Showcase Lanes or side events can be found at BOWL. com/ShowcaseLanes.

Storm Bowlers Journal event at NBS

The Storm Bowlers Journal Championships presented by USBC will be held in conjunction with the Open Championships for the 67th year, and



Take a roll on the Showcase Lanes

The cost for practice time on the 900 Global Showcase Lanes:

- \$200 for a one-hour session with a USBC-certified coach (based on availability)
- \$100 for one hour of practice for up to 10 bowlers (no coach)

The Open Championships team pattern and the lane condition from the Women's Championships will be available. Reservations are recommended.

Go to **BOWL.com/ShowcaseLanes** for details.



in 2013 it literally will be held alongside the Open.

The 2013 edition of the Bowlers Journal Championships will take place on the high end of the 78-lane NBS. The event will have lower entry fees, a new three-game format and extended hours. There will be traditional and senior singles and doubles competition, Handicap Mixed Doubles, and the return of the 199 & Under Handicap Singles. There also will be a new Women's Handicap Doubles and a new Super

Senior Singles (for bowlers 60 and older).

Competing in the 2013 Bowlers Journal Championships will have an added benefit of giving bowlers a look at tournament conditions.

For the first time in Open Championships history, the tournament will feature two separate lane conditions – one for team event and one for doubles/singles. The team oil pattern will be available for practice on the Showcase Lanes, and the doubles/singles pattern will be used at

the Bowlers Journal event.

So, along with the convenient chance at extra prize money, competing in the Bowlers Journal Championships will give bowlers a threegame look at what they'll be facing for six games in doubles and singles.

VIP and Discover Reno

The VIP program introduced at the 2012 Open Championships was quite a success, and the program returns in 2013 along with a VIP program for USBC Women's Championships participants. Each VIP package includes several gifts, discounts and other features combined into one great deal. VIP memberships can be purchased exclusively at BOWL. com/VIP for just \$229.95. A VIP membership does not include entry fees.

When making plans for places to see in Reno when they are not bowling, tournament participants can check out BOWL.com/DiscoverReno. The video series explores some of Reno's popular destinations and best-kept secrets.





USBC **QUICK STRIKES**

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

Youth Open changes include regional event

The USBC Youth Open Championships will move to aged-based divisions in 2013 and the event also will see the addition of the Youth Open Championships West Region.

Divisions will be based on age, as opposed to average, starting with the 2013 tournament in the Detroit area in July. The age divisions will be U8, U12, U15 and U20, and



the highest age on the team will determine the division for team and doubles competition.

The move to age-based divisions will put the Youth Open in line with other USBC youth tournaments such as the North Pointe Junior Gold Championships and Pepsi Youth Championships.

Chad Murphy, International Bowling Campus Managing Director of Youth Development, said age divisions address concerns about the fairness of average comparisons, creates more opportunities for younger bowlers and helps to form a distinction between competitive bowling and recreational bowling, which is important for bowling's growth as a youth sport.

The Youth Open Championships West Region will be conducted June 22-23 in Las Vegas. The tournament was created so USBC Youth bowlers could have a major tournament option on both sides of the country during the summer. Registration for the USBC Youth Open Championships is now open. Go to BOWL.com/YouthOpen to learn more.

Tournament travel

From the Open and Women's Championships to the North

Pointe Junior Gold Championships, searching for the best deals when making travel plans can be time-consuming.

USBC members can go to MyBowlingVacation.com, the official travel website of USBC, to find great deals on airfare, hotels, rental cars and more. Members also can use the travel website to book family vacations or for any travel needs.

Two schools awarded **YES Fund grants**

Taylorville High School in Taylorville, Ill., and Barren County High School in Glasgow, Ky., recently were awarded \$2,500 grants through the High School Grant Program of the Youth Education Services (YES) Fund.

For Taylorville High School. the grant will be used to keep the boys' bowling program active after cutbacks. Barren County High School will use its grant to start a bowling program.

The YES Fund High School Grant Program was created to assist high school teams that show financial need because of budget cuts or to assist starting a bowling program. Each year, four high schools are awarded a \$2,500 grant through the YES Fund. The first grant was awarded in 2010. More information is available at BOWL.com/HighSchool.

CALENDAR

January 2-7 USBC Team USA Trials Henderson, Nev.

Feb. 18-24 **USBC** Masters North Brunswick, N.J.

March 1-June 30 **USBC** Open **Championships** National Bowling Stadium Reno, Nev.

March 8-10 **USBC Intercollegiate Championships Sectionals**

Allentown, Pa.; Smyrna, Tenn.; Fairview Heights, Ill.; Las Vegas

April 12-July 1 USBC Women's **Championships**

Reno, Nev.

April 15-20 USBC Intercollegiate Championships Lincoln, Neb.

April 30-May 3
USBC Convention Reno, Nev.

Complete information on BOWL.com/Tournaments

Growth of North Pointe Junior Gold continues

The North Pointe Junior Gold Championships presented by The Brands of Ebonite International has added three more centers to handle the expected field for the 2013 event in Detroit.

The tournament has experienced tremendous growth, especially with the addition of the U15 division. More than 1,900 youth bowlers took part in the 2012 tournament, establishing a record for number of participants, and the 2013 tournament is expected to eclipse that mark.

There also will be an adjustment in the special prize fund for high school students (grades 9-12). For 2013, the high school prize fund will be divided for those in the U15 division and the U20 division. Go to BOWL.com/JuniorGold for all tournament information.

