

## From the Editor (Ann)ouncements

**Welcome back to** the Michigan State USBC Youth Newsletter. We had big plans for this little publication. The goal for publishing monthly was too ambitious for this editor and her crew. Our goal is still to bring you (we hope) news and views from around the state pertaining to youth bowling. Constructive comments will always be welcomed and we want you to continue to think about this site for state happenings. It is the goal of the state board for this newsletter to evolve with time. The new goal is to become a quarterly effort. So we hope you enjoy this long awaited second edition issue and bear with us as we grow.

### From the President "Protecting Our Youth Bowlers" By Roger Schildroth

This is a message directed towards all youth bowlers in high school, youth coaches that manage after school or Saturday bowling programs and coaches that coach for a high school. There are a number of misconceptions that could have a definite bearing on how bowling is treated since bowling is considered a varsity sport in Michigan. The Michigan State USBC Youth organization has always had the goal to provide the best and the most recognition possible and above all, to protect the amateur status of all the bowlers that have a Michigan membership.

First, let's deal with that youth and high school bowling. A youth bowler may not participate in any tournament where there is money or merchandise given based on the scores bowled. This includes any scholarship given based on performance, ie scores without an academic requirement attached to it. The signing of a waiver for any tournament does not relieve the bowler of the responsibility of

knowing the rules and following them. There are a number of contests that have come to light where youth bowlers that were currently in high school and bowled on a high school team and/or were also involved in other high school sports on a varsity level have put themselves and their high school teams in jeopardy. If the youth received scholarship money, or signed a waiver and they bowled in competition where money or merchandise was available, they could be in violation of MHSAA rules. These are some of the competitions that have come to light where high school youth have bowled while they were still in high school. The Michigan Majors, The Hamtramck, Any professional regional, The USBC Junior Gold, The National Pepsi Tournament, The USBC Youth Open, and The Michigan Junior Masters to name a few.

Any scholarship whether it is based on attendance or performance needs to have an academic component. If MHSAA rules are broken by a bowler the following consequences could happen; loss of eligibility for the student and forfeiture of all contests in which an ineligible athlete has participated and possibly placing the school on probation.

Second, youth may compete in any USBC certified league in any center prior to their first date of high school team competition. Likewise they can compete in any USBC certified league following their last date of high school competition. The youth are restricted to two outside individual competitions during the high school season. It is highly recommended that those youth that want to advance their game, participate in leagues in more than one center to understand different conditions. It is against MHSAA rules for a high school coach to be involved with more than three high school bowlers from his or her school at any one time. It is also unethical for a coach to require his/her teams to bowl at one center location only.

There are over 200 bowling centers in Michigan and they are all different. Some have wood lanes, some have laminated, some have two lanes and some may have seventy, the oil used for lanes maintenance varies as do the machines that actually maintain the lanes. Add to that the hundreds of different types of bowling balls with different surfaces and a multitude of weight blocks inside. To become proficient at the game of bowling an individual must practice or compete outside the regular high school season.

Be a sanctioned (certified) bowler and bowl in your local city tournament and also in the Michigan State USBC Youth State Tournament. The state tournament starts the end of March and goes through the second week in May. For local tournament information, contact a center in your area and they can point you in the right direction. As to the MS USBC Youth Tournament, check out the website you are currently looking at and the tournament information is at hand.

Should you have any questions concerning any of the contents in this article or you are in need of additional information feel free to contact me at 616-538-2147.

Any questions concerning the MHSAA rules or additional information concerning the high school rules, contact Randy Allen at [randy@mhsaa.com](mailto:randy@mhsaa.com).

Remember what our purpose is in what we do and are we making a difference?

## **Frames Gone By**

By Natalie Gerlach

“Bowling in the Olympic Games”

The 2010 Winter Olympic games were

contested earlier this year in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Once again I am wondering why the sport of bowling is not seen in either the winter or summer Olympic games. There have been official reasons given why bowling is not currently an official Olympic sport. Bowling has made an appearance in an Olympic Games. I hope to one day watch Team USA compete again in the games.

In the 1988 Seoul, Korea Summer Olympic Games, bowling made its first appearance in the competition as an exhibition sport. Exhibition sports sometimes gain enough popularity to become an official sport in the following Olympic Games. The medals awarded in exhibition events are of the same design as the official Olympic sports medals, but are smaller in size and are not included in the official medal counts for each country.

In 1988, twenty different countries were represented in this Olympic competition at Royal Bowling Center in Seoul. The bowlers from the United States did not perform quite as well as we have come to expect from Team USA in international events. Mark Lewis finished in sixth place in the men's event and Debbie McMullen took seventh place in the women's event.

The gold medalists in the bowling competition held great significance for their countries. Kwon Jong Yul of South Korea fought his way through double elimination to keep the gold in the host nation. Arianne Cerdena became the first female gold medalist ever from the Philippines at the Olympic Games.

Since the 1988 Summer Olympic, the Federation Internationale des Quilleurs (FIQ) the recognized international governing body for the sport of bowling by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has increased its pursuit of getting ninepin and tenpin bowling accepted as an athletic competition through

the IOC. According to the FIQ there are over 100 million participants in the sport of bowling with 10 million of these bowlers bowling at a competitive level worldwide. The FIQ continues to support bowling internationally and has also continued its efforts to unify competition worldwide. I hope to see my sport of bowling in the Olympic Games again. The 2016 Summer Olympics will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and will be the next time bowling can be considered for inclusion.

### Coaching Tips from Dr. Hook By Wes Gibson

As promised the answer to the question “What came first the chicken or the egg?”

In the game of bowling, the egg is the ball and the chicken is the foot. **THE EGG IS BEFORE THE CHICKEN!!** In other words, the ball **MOVES** and the **FOOT** follows in each of the steps in a four step delivery. Getting the ball into the swing is very important for a bowler to develop the correct leverage at the point of release.

With that thought in your mind, remember that the “new game” is developed around a slightly late timing move. Many of the new professionals have increased the speed of the steps so that they catch up and actually pass the ball so that at the point of release their foot slides and the ball is then brought thru the release position with acceleration to provide all that power. Great timing is when the foot and the ball arrive at the foul line at the same time which starts by getting the ball into the swing - thus **YOU HAVE TO GET THE EGG GOING FIRST!!** One of the most common mistakes in bowling is the “late release of the ball, which leads to a long list of errors.

Practice moving the ball first and watch your

scores go sky high....**EGG BEFORE CHICKEN!!**

### The “Wow” Corner

Editor’s note: This section of the newsletter we need your help with in putting together. The “Wow” Corner is not about high scores but something that will make people take pause and just say “Wow”. Send your submission to [www.detroitbowler.com](http://www.detroitbowler.com) with Wow in the subject line. One “Wow” will get published each time.

Last time we reported:

Earlier in this bowling season Alec Keplinger of the Kalamazoo USBC Youth bowled a 696. His games were 232, 222 and 242 at Nottke’s Bowl. What makes this a “Wow”? Alec is 8 years old! **WOW!!!!**

Editor’s note: This is still a “Wow” but Alec is from Coldwater USBC and the scores were bowled at Midway Lanes - Sorry for the mistake.

FYI

Two scholarships are available each year to young ladies from certified leagues from the Michigan State USBC WBA. The “Star of Tomorrow” scholarship is awarded to a deserving female bowler who shows great athletic promise in the game of tenpin. The “Future Leader” scholarship is awarded to a deserving female bowler who has demonstrated great administrative leadership ability in the game of tenpin. Both of the scholarships take into account an applicant’s academic achievement.

The MS USBC WBA also has the power to award a third or fourth scholarship if the group of candidates warrant such a need. The scholarships are supported yearly by the fund

raising done at MS USBC WBA Championship Tournament. Thank you lady bowlers without your generous support of the 50/50 at your state tournament these scholarships may not be possible.

Last year's winners Kirstin Newberry of Holland and Andrey Teuber of Flint were "Star of Tomorrow" recipients. Amber Kwiecien of Lansing received the "Future Leader" award.

Female bowlers and coaches look in your state information packets for the neon lime green application form for these scholarships. Young ladies must be graduated or graduating from high school in the 2010 - 2011 season to apply for these scholarships.

information submitted by Sue McCormick

### **I Need a Name**

Any one out there have an idea for a name of the Michigan State USBC Youth Newsletter? Something to keep interest, something about youth and bowling, something clever and creative. Put your creative hats on and send your serious and wholesome ideas to the editor [detroitbowler@yahoo.com](mailto:detroitbowler@yahoo.com) with newsletter name in the subject line. Who knows maybe you will be in the next newsletter.