



Lambton County Tenpin Association
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Weekly Highlights

Best is perfect:



Billy Best mowed down the pins twelve consecutive times to register a perfect game in Lambton County Tenpin Association (LCTA) bowling competition this past week. He was bowling in the Bluewater Monday Night Men's League (BMNML) on lanes 19 & 20 at Marcin Bowl in his third game of the night finishing with a 660 triple. It was his career 3rd 300 and

the 11th in the LCTA this season. He was exactly 100 pins over average and is eligible for a Canadian Tenpin Federation watch if he hasn't received one in the last couple years due to a change in the eligibility rule. Best is averaging 202 after 27 games in the BMNML this year.



Lapointe grabs the lead:

Ben Lapointe rolled 778 (254-264 -53 pins over average – 260 – 49 pins over average – 145 pins over average for three games) in the Border City Men’s League (BCML) on lanes 25 & 26 to record the high triple of the week in LCTA bowling action at Marcin Bowl. It was his career 77th 700 series. Lapointe now jumps into the lead in the race for the most 700’s this season with 13 one ahead

of Roy Mezzatesta. Lapointe is bowling/sparing in four leagues this year. His averages and games in brackets in the leagues are: Friday Night Fun Mixed League (219-75), Sunday Morning Classic League (211-63), Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League (212-54) and the BCML (214-48).

Mezzatesta is second best:

Paul Mezzatesta hurled 775 (269 - 73 pins over average – 258-248 -187 pins over average for three games) in the Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League (BMNML) on lanes 27 & 28 at Marcin Bowl to register the second



high triple in LCTA bowling action this past week. It was his first 700 series of the season and also his career highest beating his previous 738. His career high single is 290. Paul was also the high overage for three games this week. Mezzatesta is averaging 204 for 24 games in the BMNML this year. He also bowls in the Border City Men’s League averaging 195 for 51 games.

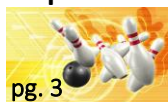
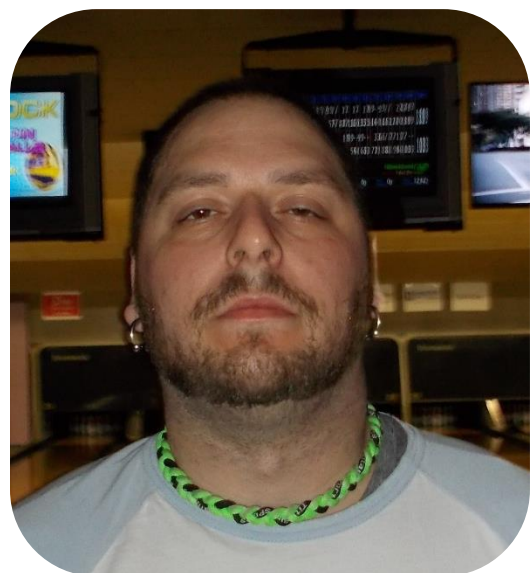
Creasor is a strong third:



Jim Creasor tossed 753 (262-246-245) in the Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League (BMNML) on lanes 21 & 22 at Marcin Bowl to record the third high triple of the week in LCTA bowling activity. It was his 2nd 700 this year as he only started sparing in the BMNML a month ago. Due to Covid restrictions Creasor has only bowled in Port Huron the last couple seasons. Jim is averaging 225 for 12 games in the BMNML.

Gauthier adds to his 700 total:

Brandon Gauthier hurled 744 (247-247-250) in the Friday Night Fun Mixed League (FNFML) on lanes 29 & 30 at Marcin Bowl to post the fourth high triple of the week in LCTA bowling play. It was his 8th 700 this season. His other 700 plus triples this season are 707 –



757 – 841 – 702 – 739 – 729 and 724. Gauthier is averaging 214 after 27 weeks in the FNFML. He also bowls in the Bluewater Monday Night Men's League at Marcin Bowl averaging 207 after 63 games.

Vanderhorst tops his high single:



Vaughn Vanderhorst rolled 252 (97 pins over average) in his last game of the night topping his previous high single game of 236. He was bowling in the Friday Night Fun Mixed League (FNFML) on lanes 31 & 32 at Marcin Bowl in LCTA bowling action. He finished the night with a 578 triple. His highest triple is 663 which he posted three weeks ago in the FNFML. He is bowling with a new finger tipped 14 pound ball

and it appears his game is getting progressively better each week as he gets used to the ball. Vanderhorst is averaging 155 after 27 weeks in the league.

Hipple rolls higher single:

Jim Hipple wheeled 223 (68 pins over average) in his first game of the night in the Border City Men's League (BCML) on lanes 27 & 28 at Marcin Bowl to beat his previous high single 222 game. Hipple's high triple is 536 which he bowled in the BCML last week. This is Jim's 4th year in the BCML. His averages for



the previous three years were 131 – 146 and 148. This year he is averaging 155 after 87 games.

Ingles betters his previous high single:



Zachary Ingles fired 225 (82 pins over average) in the Marcin Bowl Youth League (MBYL) on lanes 15 & 16 to beat his previous 212 high single. He finished the day with a 569 (154-225-190) triple. His career high triple is 595 which he bowled last week in the MBYL. Zachary started bowling at age 5 and is in his 10th year on the lanes. He is averaging 143 after 26 weeks of bowling.

LeClair is featured bowler:



Dave LeClair is this week's featured bowler. As his story goes he began bowling when he was eleven years old in the SMAA Junior program at Northgate Bowl under the watchful eye of Walt Lindsay and Ron Kloske. Up until that time he had played baseball in the summer and hockey in the winter. He decided to give up these sports and follow in his father's footsteps. He finished his first season averaging 156. In that season, for his birthday, his father



took him to the Bowler Supply Store in Port Huron and got him his first bowling ball a 12 pound Brunswick Mineralite. He was hooked on the sport and at age 15 while working at Northgate Bowl as a pinsetter, he saved his money and bought a 14 pound Manhattan Rubber and in 1962 he graduated to a Brunswick Crown Jewel. His average increased to 176 not bad for a 15 year old. He said that he was good with math and they asked him to be an official scorekeeper for one of the few Men's Provincial Tournaments to be held in Sarnia at Northgate Bowl. That same year his father asked him if he would like to bowl on one of his teams and the rest is history.

In the 1962/63 season when Nico Bowl (Lakeside Lanes , Lake Huron Lanes) was built a group of men including his father formed a Travelling league. This city had 6 bowling establishments, Hi-Way Bowl, Northgate Bowl, Nico Bowl, Grahams Bowlaway (Echo Lanes), Marcins and National Billiards (Upstairs). One five man team from each house was formed and they rotated bowling at a different house each Sunday evening. He was a 15/16 year old bowling with men and holding is own. That was also the same year he bowled his first 300 game in a non-sanction summer league at Hi-Way Bowl, which at that time was run by Norm and Bernice. He continued to bowl in men's leagues with his father and his Uncle Bob for several years including a stint in the old Labatt's Classic League at Hi-Way. To qualify to bowl in this league you had to maintain a minimum average of 175 or better. While that doesn't sound like a high average compared to today's standards you need to take into account that bowling equipment, lane surfaces, lane oiling and balls were



drastically different than what we now use, so 175 was a good average back then. During this part of his career the teams he bowled on managed to capture 4 League Championships from 1962/63 to 1964/65. He took the 1966/67 winter bowling season off as he was in Windsor attending college but he did maintain his sanction and often drove home to spare on Thursday or Sunday nights.

In 1967 he returned to work in Sarnia and bowled in two leagues. The old Imperial Oil Men's league on Monday nights and the Thursday Night Hi-Way Men's league. In 1969 he switched to the Border City Men's League where he can still be found bowling on Thursday nights.

He says that he got to bowl with most of the men who in 1964 broke away from the Port Huron Men's Association and formed the Sarnia and District Bowling Association. He remembers a lot of the men he bowled for and with for those early years. He bowled with Lorne Wells, Howard May, Phil Cote, Hank Galloway, Hugh (Bucky) Newell, Jerry Jonkers, Steve Lewicki Sr., John Wallwork, Jim Bourgeois, Dick Powell, Hank Wasyl, Len Clendenning, Jack Smith, Claire Paine, Ab Mezzatesta and a few that he has probably forgot.

He also was on the Board of the Sarnia and District Bowling Association from 1998 until it was disbanded in 2004. He worked primarily with Bud Sparling and Ron Langille on the scholarship committee and the audit committee. In 1989/90 he became the secretary/treasurer of the Border City Men's League a position he still holds today. In it's heyday the league had as many as 20 five man



teams but with the decline in bowling it had dropped to 10 four man teams before covid. The league returned to Marcins this year and is now 12 four man teams.

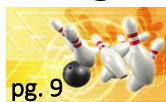
He was inducted into the Sarnia and District Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 2003 not for his bowling, but his contribution to the game. Although in the early sixties he was one of the 5 top junior bowlers in Sarnia. He was a coach for junior bowling for 20 years, a Certified Coach Instructor, Vice President of the Junior Bowling program for 2 years and President for 5 years. He was also responsible for bringing the first Coaches Clinic to the area in the late seventies.

He designed and maintains a website for the Border City Men's League and has been doing this for 10 plus years. In addition he also manages Facebook pages for the league and one for the LCTA. In 2010 he approached the LCTA about designing and operating of a website to promote the local association, their events, historical information and CTF information. Once approved by the board he secured a sponsor (Sarnia Produce) to cover the cost of the domain name and hosting and the website went live and has been operating ever since. He, along with this writer who writes the column, edits and publishes the Lambton Bowling News. (Honkers Highlights) This publication is viewed and promoted by the CTF facebook group. All of these efforts resulted in an honour he never expected and that was being made a LCTA Life Member in 2016.

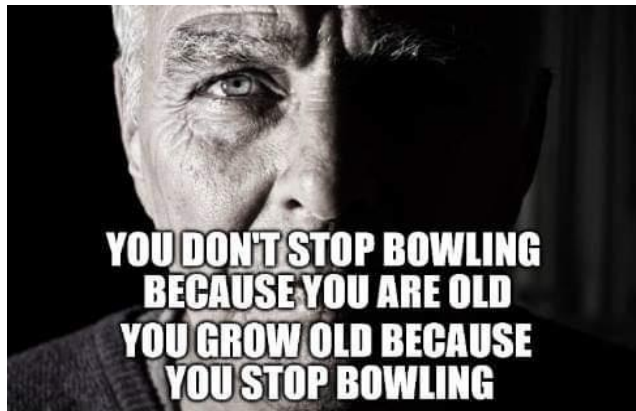


In the last few years he has suffered some minor setbacks. In August of 2018 he tore the distil bicep tendon in his right arm (he is right handed). He underwent surgery to repair the tendon and was not allowed to do any heavy lifting for 12 weeks, then 8 weeks of rehab and physio and returned to bowling in January 2019. He managed to finish that season with a 188 average. He improved to his normal 200 average the next season and then covid hit. He also suffered a stroke in mid December of 2021 and the result affected his whole right side. He was in physiotherapy for six months before he could resume golfing and bowling, although he still has some lingering affects in his arm and leg. He is currently averaging 183 for 57 games. His attitude during all of these setbacks, has been that if you work hard you can do anything you put your mind to. During his time in the Border City Men's League, the teams he has bowled with have been the League Champions eight times and at one time they won 4 in five years with three in a row. He normally bowls as the team anchor and loves the pressure of trying to help win the close games. His sanctioned high scores are 300 and a 763 series. Dave has been a consistent 200 average bowler for the last 23 years with his highest being 211 in 2007/08 and 2008/09 seasons. He attributes this to an equipment change and approach and release changes.

Dave credits his father for getting him interested in bowling and encouraging him along the way. His father taught him to respect the game, your equipment and the bowling establishment and even if you aren't a great bowler at least look like you are. That meant wearing a bowling shirt and dress pants for both league and



tournament play. One of the early quotes to attract young bowlers to the sport was “Bowling is Fun” (BIF) and he has remembered that for the last 65 years. Bowling can be frustrating but it should always be FUN.



[USBC Masters in Allen Park:](#)

The 2023 United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Masters was held in Allen Park (Detroit) at Thunderbowl Lanes (TL) this past week where amateurs were allowed to compete with the pros fighting for the top prize of \$100,000. The field consisted of 390 pros and amateurs. It is the first time in 52 years that this tournament was held in Michigan in the 90 lanes bowling establishment although other Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) tournaments have been held there. The World Series of Bowling major tournament was held in TL in 2009 and the most recent major at the venue was the 2019 PBA World Championships when Australia’s Jason Belmonte captured his record setting 11th major title in a thrilling 236-227 victory against Jacob Butturuff from Temple Arizona. This year the top 4 bowlers after 15 games of qualifying with their averages in brackets before match play were Jason Belmonte (236-Australia),



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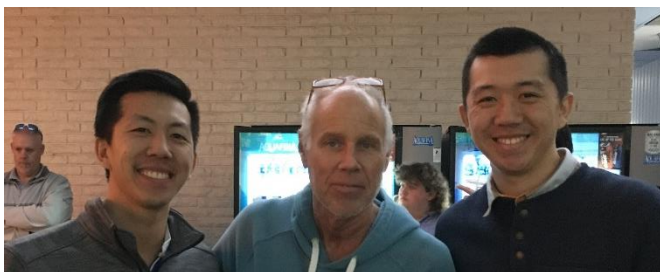
APRIL 1, 2023

Jacob Butturff (235 – Arizona), Marshall Kent (227 – Washington), Thomas Smallwood (224- Michigan). The top 4 bowlers going into the FOX TV live step ladder finals on Sunday (1PM) are Anthony Simonsen, Michael Martell, Kyle Sherman and Sean Rash. Simonsen, the reigning USBC Masters champion, nailed down the number one spot in the finals defeating Michael Martell 845 – 690 in their last match play set. After a ball change in his third frame in his first game, Simonsen tossed 33 out 34 strikes for games of 264-279-300.

Some local bowlers went down to watch and got these pictures with some pros.



Pro Kyle Sherman with Rod Honke, Bill Cole, Jim Burgess and Zygmunt Mazgaj



Pros Darren and Michael Tang with Bill Cole



Pro Brad Miller with Rod Honke and Bill Cole

Honourable Mention:

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Rod Honke (honker@sympatico.ca)

- Johnny Wilkinson – 693 (256-243) – Target Trios League.
- Larry Plumb – 690 (254) – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Ben Lapointe – 687 (241) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Rob Vandermeer – 685 (246) – Border City Men’s League.
- Ralph MacDuff – 681 (266) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Dan Chopp – 669 – Border City Men’s League.
- Bill Ridealgh – 662 – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Ben Lapointe – 657 – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Glenn Crowe – 653 – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Kyle Adamson – 650 – Border City Men’s League.
- Brian Core - 268 – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Nathan Atchinson – 261 – Sunday Morning Classic League.
- Franco Gabriele – 258 – Border City Men’s League.
- Kyle Adamson – 256 – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Rod Honke – 255 – Border City Men’s League.
- Bryce Watson – 254 – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Brian Watson – 254 – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Rigby Callander – 190 (93 years young) – Thursday Night Mixed League.
- Bob Avery – 614 (+131 for 3 games) – Target Trios League.
- Catherine Baldwin – 526 (+ 121 for 3 gamers) - Thursday Night Mixed League.
- Killian Book – 442 (+106 for 3 games) – Marcin Youth League.
- Harrison Plain – 192 (+71) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.



- Gary Landry – 221 (+68) – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Tamara Thompson-Evans - 169 (+67) - RCAFA 403 Wing Mixed League.
- Ryan Webb – 231 (+66) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Steve Brain – 225 (+66) – Thursday Night Mixed League.
- Abigail Daamen – 182 (+66) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Werner Koundakjian – 225 (+65) – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Dan Pimentel – 215 (+65) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Steve Mezzatesta - 183 (+64) – Target Trios League.
- William Laframboise – 235 (+62) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Zyg Mazgaj – 233 (+62) – Border City Men’s League.
- Helen Mackie – 201 (+62) – Target Trios League.
- Dave Slater – 221 (+56) – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Brandon Westfall – 221 (+ 55) – RCAFA 403 Wing Mixed League.
- Steve Best – 225 (+53) – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Pat Hardy – 173 (+53) – Friday Night Fun Mixed League.
- Bob Avery – 212- twice (+51) – Target Trios League.
- Noah Legault – 187 (+51) – Marcin Youth League.
- Dave Melton - 182 (+50) – Bluewater Monday Night Men’s League.
- Killian Book - 162 (+50) – Marcin Youth League.



- Aaron Lee – 150 (+47) – Marcin Youth League.
- Ariana Anderson – 120 (+43) – Marcin Youth League.
- Lexi Wilkinson – 126 (+41) – Marcin Youth League.

Other Men's Notable Scores:

Franco Gabriele 647, Jeff Gark 645 (245), John Armstrong 645, Ian Fraser 640 (245), Pat Legault 638 (236), Jamie Ridealgh 637 (240), Rod Honke 635, Mike Shephard 632, Steve Peters 631, Roy Mezzatesta 629 (236), Nathan Atchinson 629 (234), Ben Lapointe 235, Paul Mezzatesta 235, Dean Troiani 234, Jim Lapointe 234, Dan Chopp 234-231, Mike Mitro 233, Bill Ridealgh 233, Glenn Crowe 230 and Kevin Herron 229.

Other Ladies Notable Scores:

Pam Marciniszyn 613 (217-200-200), Michelle Fraser 216, Anne Strangway 212-190, Amanda Guthrie 210, Makayla Apter 198, Dara Sinclair 194, Jo Ellen Beveridge 191, Patti Wyville 191 and Sarah Ingles 190.

Other Youth's Notable Scores:

Braeden Scott 585 (191-233).

