

**GREATER BUFFALO USBC ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
AMF Thruway Lanes
Wednesday, July 27, 2011**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order – President Merkle
2. Memorial Service – Stell Kolis
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome – President Merkle
5. Reading of Minutes of last meeting held July 28, 2010
6. President’s Report – Greg Merkle
7. Report of Association Manager – Bill Palumbo
8. Youth Committee – Elaine Koszuta
9. New York State USBC – Mike Pettinella
10. Report of Nominating Committee – Cindy Kosanovich
 - Elections
11. Unfinished Business
12. New Business
13. Question and Answer Session
14. Result of Elections
15. Introduction of Elected Officers and Directors
16. Motion to approve all the actions of meeting
17. Adjournment

**GREATER BUFFALO USBC ASSOCIATION
REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

JULY 27, 2011

The Nominating Committee met on June 20, 2011. The committee reviewed all of the resumes submitted by those interested in serving on the association's Board of Directors.

The vice president and five directors will be elected this year for two-year terms.

The Youth Committee election is separate from this group and will take place immediately following this election. There is a separate ballot for ONLY those representing the youth. The Youth Committee selected the candidates for four open positions.

Nominations can be taken from the floor of persons qualified to serve on the Board of Directors or the Youth Committee. If there are additional nominees from the floor for any of the positions in either election, resumes will be read for those candidates.

We hereby present the names of those who submitted resumes and whom we feel are qualified to serve on the Board of Directors of the Greater Buffalo USBC Association:

OFFICERS – 2-year term

President – Gregory Merkle (incumbent)

DIRECTORS – 2-year term (5 to be elected)

George Barnes

Brian Burton

Debra Ervin

Albert Gerhart

Daniel Owczarzak (incumbent)

YOUTH COMMITTEE – 2-year term (5 to be elected)

Kenneth Duke

Richard C. Hapeman

Nicholas Morrissey (incumbent)

Robert Snyder (incumbent)

Respectfully submitted by:

Cindy Kosanovich, Chair

Joseph Fischer

Beth O'Brien

Bill Palumbo

Sam Reitano

Karen Roehner

Lewis Schwartz

REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATION MANAGER

To the Board of Directors and members of the Greater Buffalo USBC Association in Annual Session:

Dear Greater Buffalo USBC Members,

The Greater Buffalo USBC Association will begin its 7th year of operation on August 1. This organization was formed in July 2005, by the consolidation of the Buffalo Bowling Association, Buffalo Women's Bowling Association, Erie County Suburban Women's Bowling Association, and the Erie County Young American Bowling Alliance. We serve all men, women, and youth within our jurisdictional region.

In our 6th year of operation, the GBUSBCA had a total membership of 11,208 members, of which 1,153 were youth bowlers. There were 290 total leagues, 55 of which were youth leagues. A complete membership and financial statement is attached to the end of this report.

Once again, we will run our annual fundraiser. Last year we sold 634 tickets with 32 being sold to leagues. That represents approximately 11% participation from our leagues. Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit scholarships for youth bowlers (\$1,000 each to a male and female), Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL), the Susan G. Komen for the Cure breast cancer research fund, the Roswell Park Alliance, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Other charities may be considered by our Board of Directors.

The Greater Buffalo USBC Association office is located at 2448 Union Road in Cheektowaga. If your league has a problem or any questions, do not hesitate to stop in or give us a call. It is often impossible for opposing sides to come to an agreement without our assistance. We are here to help.

Another important service we provide is your average book, with verified averages so that you can properly organize your league. Also, when you bowl in tournaments, you will have an average that is verifiable. Without this, you could be forced to bowl without handicap.

AWARDS - This past season, the Greater Buffalo USBC Association issued 22,843 awards, 19,675 for adults and 3,168 for youth. The following awards were achieved by league bowlers:

300 game – 311	125 game - 493	650 series – 425	200 series – 93
11-in-a-row – 301	100 game - 249	600 series – 1576	150 series – 58
280 game - 460	75 game – 144	550 series – 278	100 series – 24
275 game - 1179	50 game – 46	500 series – 1109	“30” Clean – 149
250 game - 2392	100 POA game – 232	450 series – 237	7-10 split – 19
225 game - 3304	150 POA series – 598	400 series – 612	All spare game – 15
200 game - 2954	800 series – 107	350 series – 202	Big 4 split – 14
175 game - 2034	750 series – 370	300 series – 243	Dutch 200 – 16
150 game - 1069	700 series – 1355	250 series – 123	TriPLICATE – 52

There will be a change in the special achievement criteria again this coming season. Please see details of the change on the following two pages of this report.

USBC game achievement awards begin at 125 in increments of 25 pins to a maximum of 275. Our local association will also be offering an award for a game of 280 to 299. USBC series achievement awards start at 300 in increments of 100 pins to a maximum of 700. The Greater Buffalo Association will also provide awards for 350, 450, 550, 650, and 750 series. Various other local awards such as Triplicate Series, All-Spare Game, Dutch 200, Big 4 Split Conversion, 7-10 Split Conversion, and “30 clean” Series will also be available.

Adult Achievements and Awards 2011-12 Season

	<u>Achievement</u>	<u>Award</u>
Honor Scores	900 Series	Upgraded Ring
	800 Series (800–899)	Ring, Plaque, or Donation
	300 Game	Ring, Plaque, or Donation
	11 Strikes-in-a-Row (299 or less)	Trophy or Donation
Special Achievement Awards	125 (125-149) Game (100 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	150 (150-174) Game (120 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	175 (175-199) Game (140 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	200 (200-224) Game (165 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	225 (225-249) Game (190 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	250 (250-274) Game (215 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	275 (275-299) Game (any average)	USBC Magnet
	300 (300-399) Series (90 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	400 (400-499) Series (120 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	500 (500-599) Series (145 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	600 (600-699) Series (175 avg. or less)	USBC Magnet
	700 (700-799) Series (any average)	USBC Magnet
	75 Pins Over Average (Game)	USBC Lapel Pin
140 Pins Over Average (Series)	USBC Lapel Pin	
Local Awards	280 (280-299) Game (any average)	GBUSBCA Pen
	350 (350-399) Series (100 avg. or less)	GBUSBCA Magnet
	450 (450-499) Series (125 avg. or less)	GBUSBCA Magnet
	550 (550-599) Series (150 avg. or less)	GBUSBCA Magnet
	650 (650-699) Series (180 avg. or less)	GBUSBCA Magnet
	750 (750-799) Series (any average)	GBUSBCA Magnet
	Triplicate Series	GBUSBCA Magnet
	All-Spare Game	USBC Emblem
	Dutch 200	USBC Emblem
	Big 4 (4-6-7-10) Split Conversion	USBC Emblem
	7-10 Split Conversion	GBUSBCA Magnet
	“30 Clean” Series (any average) (NO OPEN FRAMES FOR THREE GAMES)	GBUSBCA Accessory Bag

NOTE: Awards are issued once per season per achievement except for “30 Clean,” which is issued once every three years. A ring may be purchased for the 11-in-a-Row achievement.

Youth Achievements and Awards 2011-12 Season

	<u>Achievement</u>	<u>Award</u>
Honor Scores	900 Series	Upgraded Ring
	800 Series (800–899)	Ring, Plaque, or Donation
	300 Game	Ring, Plaque, or Donation
	11 Strikes-in-a-Row (299 or less)	Trophy or Donation
Special Achievement Awards	50 (50-74) Game (49 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	75 (75-99) Game (74 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	100 (100-124) Game (99 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	125 (125-149) Game (124 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	150 (150-174) Game (149 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	175 (175-199) Game (174 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	200 (200-224) Game (199 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	225 (225-249) Game (224 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	250 (250-274) Game (249 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	275 (275-299) Game (274 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	100 (100-149) Series (33 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	150 (150-199) Series (49 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	200 (200-249) Series (66 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	250 (250-299) Series (83 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	300 (300-349) Series (99 avg. or less)	Bowlopolis Emblem <small>(ages 12 & under)</small>
	300 (300-349) Series (99 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	350 (350-399) Series (116 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	400 (400-449) Series (133 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	450 (450-499) Series (149 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	500 (500-549) Series (166 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	550 (550-599) Series (183 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	600 (600-649) Series (199 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
	650 (650-699) Series (216 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem
700 (700-749) Series (233 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem	
750 (750-799) Series (249 avg. or less)	USBC Emblem	
Local Awards	300 Game	GBUSBCA Magnet
	800 Series	GBUSBCA Magnet

NOTE: Awards are limited to one per season. Once an award has been earned in any classification, bowlers are only eligible for the higher awards on a progressive merit basis.

AVERAGE BOOK - The 2010-11 average book is now available. I am happy to report we have listed in our average book, for the 33rd consecutive season, each and every certified league that bowled in our association. This book is of great assistance to tournament directors and to leagues in organizing at the beginning of the season. A proper, correctly recorded average is a must for all bowlers in order to achieve as close to equitable playing conditions as possible. Bowlers in an uncertified league will not have a verifiable average.

ANNUAL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS (City Tournament) – The Association “Open” and “Women’s” Championship Tournaments were held at AMF Airport Lanes. This year we had 214 teams, 225 doubles, 450 singles, 450 six-game-combine, and 286 all-events entries in the “Open”; and 45 teams, 47 doubles, 94 singles, 94 six-game combine, and 69 all-event entries in the “Women’s”. The city tournament is improving each year, and we encourage you to participate and join in the fun. Prize checks for this year’s tournament were mailed June 1. First place prizes in the “Open” were: Team - \$2,500, Doubles - \$1,000, Singles - \$700, Six-Game Combine - \$250, and All-Events - \$250; “Women’s”: Team - \$800, Doubles - \$300, Singles - \$275, Six-Game Combine \$100, and All-Events - \$75. You can find all our tournament results in the 2010-11 Greater Buffalo USBC Association average book. **Next year’s tournament will be held at AMF Thruway Lanes from May 1 through May 12. We anticipate adding approximately \$8,000 to the tournament prize funds from the association plus we will again seek sponsors. We will hold brackets, daily pro shop raffles, and split club drawings for all squads.**

NEW YORK STATE USBC BOWLING ASSOCIATION, INC – The first meeting of the New York State USBC Bowling Association, Inc., was held in Syracuse on June 11. Elections were held to fill the newly-formed Board of Directors and the association’s first set of by-laws were approved by the more than 200 delegates that attended. Former New York State USBC Women’s Bowling Association President Priscilla (“Pat”) Zonneville was elected as president of the New York State USBC Association, which will serve approximately 150,000 men, women, and youth in New York State effective August 1. This is the 28th USBC Merged State Association and is the largest of its type in the United States. At a meeting of the board held that same weekend, Mike Pettinella of Batavia was approved to fill the position of Association Manager. Later in tonight’s meeting you will have an opportunity to hear him speak about the past year’s tournaments and upcoming events at the state level.

The New York State USBC also held its first Hall of Fame induction ceremony on June 11. Sheila Allen, Kathy Leitgeb, Marilyn Johnson, and Frank Formicola were inducted.

The 87th New York State Open Championship Tournament was conducted from April 9 through May 15 at Fishkill Bowl in Fishkill, New York, with a prize fund of \$77,000 including an additional \$6,246 from tournament expense fees collected. There were 222 team entries, 428 doubles entries, 856 single entries, and 737 all events entries. The 2012 tournament is slated for South Glens Falls from April 14 through May 6 (unless extended).

The New York State USBC Women’s Bowling Association 75th Annual Tournament was held here in Buffalo, New York, at Transit Lanes from April 8, 2011 through May 22. Over 530 teams participated. The NYS Queen’s Tournament was held at AMF Thruway Lanes on April 16.

LEAGUE OFFICERS TOURNAMENT – The 43rd Annual League Officers Tournament was held this year at Voelker’s Lanes. There were 146 entries. This tournament as you know is our **thank you** to our league officers for **certifying on time**. The Greater Buffalo USBC picks up the lineage cost and charges the officers only \$7 to enter. Kim Kliemann and Keith Plant were co-champions of this year’s tournament with a handicap total of 796. Next year’s tournament will be held at Kerns Avenue Bowling Center the weekend of December 10 and 11.

GBUSBCA WOMEN'S SENIOR SINGLES TOURNAMENT - This annual association tournament was held at Spare Time Bowling Center. There were 119 entries. The winners were: Class "A" – Dolly Gozdziaik (683), Class "B" – Theresa Simons (708), and Class "C" – Mary Alajko (725). Class A and B division winners and highest score in Class C for a bowler age 55 or older receive a free entry into the New York State Women's Senior Singles Tournament and a \$50 travel allowance. Next season's GBUSBCA Women's Senior tournament is at AMF Lancaster Lanes on November 5 and 6.

39th ANNUAL STAN KOWALSKI SENIORS TOURNAMENT – This annual association handicap tournament open to men and women over the age of 55 was held on April 16 and 17, 2011, at Kerns Avenue Bowling Center. There were 157 entries. The winners were: Class "AA" – Charles Deck (831), Class "A" – Alvin Conner, Jr. (770), Class "B" – Ronald Zielinski (770), Class "C" – Walter Spencer (753), and Class "D" – Tony Spencer (835). Each division winner receives a free entry into the New York State Senior Tournament and a \$50 travel allowance. Next year's GBUSBCA Stan Kowalski Senior Singles tournament will be at Broadway Sports Center on April 28 and 29.

48th ANNUAL GEORGE A. OBENAUER MASTERS TOURNAMENT – The Masters Tournament was conducted this year at Strikers running May 10 through May 15, 2011. There were 107 entries. PBA-exempt bowler Ryan Ciminelli was the winner receiving \$2,000 in prize money. Tom Sorce was runner-up and the highest ranking non-PBA-exempt finisher. He received \$1,125 in prize money as well as a paid entry, airfare, and hotel expenses to the USBC Masters Tournament in Henderson, Nevada, in January of 2012. Zach Mangrum represented the GBUSBCA at the 2011 USBC Masters Tournament last February in Reno, Nevada. Next year's George A. Obenauer Masters Tournament will be at Transit Lanes from May 15 through May 20.

44th ANNUAL ME & MINE TOURNAMENT – This tournament was held at Broadway Sports Center. There were 180 entries. The winners in the Open Division were Beverly Edwards and Robert Hunt (1598). The winners in the Husband and Wife Division were Madaline and Richard Staniszewski (1612). Next year's tournament will be at AMF Airport Lanes on February 11, 12, 18, and 19.

GREATER BUFFALO USBC YOUTH TOURNAMENTS – There are 3 primary youth tournaments held on a yearly basis. The Family Tournament was held AMF Thruway Lanes on November 20, 21, 27, and 28. This is a doubles tournament with one adult and one youth per team. There were 105 entries. Next year's tournament will be held at Broadway Sports Center on November 19, 20, 26, and 27. The Youth Team Championship was held at Broadway Sports Center on January 22 and 23 and had 43 four-bowler teams compete. Spare Time Bowling Center will host this event next season on January 21 and 22. And finally, the Youth Singles and Bumpers Tournaments were held at Spare Time Bowling Center on February 19, 20, and 27, with 130 entries in the Singles and 21 entries in the Bumpers. AMF Thruway Lanes will host next season's tournament on February 18, 19, and 26. You can find the results of these tournaments in the 2010-11 Greater Buffalo USBC Association average book and at www.gbusbc.com.

USBC OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT – This tournament was held in Reno, Nevada, and had 12,837 teams. You should try to bowl in it if at all possible. It, along with the USBC Women's Championship Tournament, is the showcase of bowling. The tournament will be held in Baton Rouge in 2012 and then back to Reno in 2013 and 2014.

USBC WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT – This tournament was held in Syracuse, New York, where nearly 6,000 teams participated. It will be held in Reno, Nevada in 2012, 2013, and 2014.

2011 USBC NATIONAL YOUTH TOURNAMENTS - The Las Vegas Association hosted the 2011 USBC Junior Gold tournament. Nearly 1,650 youth bowlers participated in the qualifying rounds. In addition to national titles and scholarships, the Junior Gold Championships awards spots on Junior Team USA. The top four male and top four female finishers after match-play competition will automatically qualify for Junior Team USA 2012, and the National Selection Committee will award four at-large spots - two male, two female - from the pool of athletes that make match-play finals.

HALL OF FAME – The Greater Buffalo USBC Association Hall of Fame held inductions on November 27, 2010, at Samuel's Grande Manor in Clarence. This year's honorees were Joe Fischer (Meritorious Service), George Barnes (Bowling Performance), Ron Chader (Bowling Performance), Jack Jurek (Bowling Performance), Gail Krywcum (Bowling Performance), and Sue Schottke (Bowling Performance). Our next event will be in November of 2012.

YOUR PRESIDENTIAL OBLIGATION - I recognize that this paragraph of my report is repetitious, but we do have some league presidents here. It is important that you are aware of your obligations. The most serious part of your job is the verifying of bank accounts so your bowlers' money is protected. I would like to again outline your presidential obligation of being sure the league funds are there at the end of the season. Sure, you have a very prestigious position being president of a bowling league, but along with the prestige is the obligation of making sure your league funds are protected.

You MUST VERIFY the bank accounts and deposits monthly in accordance with the requirements of the United States Bowling Congress Bonding Program.

REMEMBER – THE BANK STATEMENT MUST BE SENT TO YOU!!! You must then also do some arithmetic to be sure that the amount of money on deposit is the amount that is supposed to be on deposit. If you don't do the verifying in the exact manner described and the money is missing at the end of the year, you may very well be in a situation where USBC will call for **YOUR SUSPENSION!!!** We do not want you to take this casually and conclude it cannot happen to you. It **CAN** happen to you!!! Your league treasurer may be a very honest person, but every so often there is a situation where a treasurer may need some money during the year and intend to pay it back before the end of the year and then can't do it. You can help him/her by checking every month and removing the temptation that will then get both of you into trouble. Please be very cautious in doing this part of the job.

In conclusion, I hope you are all satisfied with the service you receive from our association. My staff, which includes Beth O'Brien, Paul Krupinski, and Michele Johnson, will continue to serve you to the best of our ability, so feel free to call with your questions, rule interpretation needs, comments, or suggestions. If we don't have the answer, we will make sure to get it for you. I also would like to thank my Board of Directors and network of volunteers for their continued service and extra efforts with our tournaments, fundraisers, award presentations, and general service to our bowlers. Remember, we are all committed to you, the members of our organization. We look forward to you joining us for next year's bowling season.

Respectfully submitted,

William A. Palumbo
Association Manager