

# BOWLING NEWS

SOUTH  
EASTERN  
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OF THE B.  
T.  
B.  
A.

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## AN AMERICAN LOOKS AT THE BRITISH SCENE

CHUCK PEZZANO is not a name known to many bowlers in this Country but in the U.S.A. he is probably the best known and most well informed of the tenpin bowling sportswriters. It has been said that it takes a bowler to write about bowlers and Mr. Pezzano certainly comes into this category. A member of the Professional Bowlers Association with a high average of 220, high series of 824 and high game of 300 he is 37 years old and a graduate of Rutgers University. His regular column that appears in a variety of publications in the U.S.A. is called "Down My Alley" and the latest has been received from the States entitled, 'Bowling Battle Now Raging in Britain'. It is felt that the comments of a veteran of the sport will be of interest to you and the complete article is reproduced here:-

"Tenpin bowling in England is still in it's infancy and may never have a chance to grow up! Right now there's a serious row between the Tenpin Bowling Proprietor's Association, representing Britain's bowling establishments and the British Tenpin Bowling Association, representing some 27,000 bowlers.

The proprietors have told their bowlers to operate leagues and tournaments without obtaining sanction from their association, which is equivalent to our American Bowling Congress. Even worse is the fact that the proprietors are at the stage where they won't allow the association to continue inspecting and measuring their lanes.

Morris Glazer, the general secretary of the B.T.B.A., which means he's the Frank Baker of British bowling, feels that there's a deliberate attempt to smash the organization but is quite sure the proprietors will only ruin their own organization if they continue the battle. "I think many operators will go against their association's ruling and instead of smashing us, will succeed only in splitting themselves."

This Glazer is no dummy. When he was in the United States a few years ago I spent a little time with him. He's sharp, a neat dresser and when he talks it's a pleasure to listen. It doesn't matter what he says because the words come out so clearly with a beautiful British accent, he lulls you into being a believer.

And since he's one of the few people in England who knows something about bowling, it forces me to conclude that British bowling proprietors have hard heads and don't know much at all about the business they're in.

Without a bowlers association there would be chaos. It would mean that there would be no ruling body, no check on bowling equipment. The proprietors plan to have the lanes inspected by qualified surveyors.

Since bowling is still a fun game in England and only 27,000 roll in league play, the bowlers aren't exactly excited over the argument. They're too green, don't know enough about the game yet and the many details of organization that has made bowling so great in this country. The same is true of the proprietors. They don't know that league bowling is the future backbone of their business, that tournaments are important, that promotion and instruction in the finer points of the game are vital. As it was in the United States during the boom years, British establishments are doing a great open play business. Somebody should tell them it won't last forever and they need an association.

It's a big thing in England, this battle, but saner heads will prevail and there will be a meeting of the minds. It shows one thing, bowling is getting more important. You don't fight unless there's something worth fighting for. And in case you haven't noticed, in the good old U.S.A. proprietors and the American Bowling Congress have been fighting on and off for some 30 years!"

Chuck Pezzano

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32 OUT OF A POSSIBLE 36 STRIKES!

The July issue of "Bowling News" mentioned the great 867 three game series of TEATA SEMIZ of New Jersey, U.S.A. - the highest sanctioned in 30 years and the second highest ever. Just received from the States is a certified copy of the actual score sheet, which we now reproduce for your interest. Who's for tennis!

X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	299
30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240	270	299				

X	X	X	X	9 /	X	X	X	X	X	9 /	268
30	60	89	109	129	159	189	219	248	268		

X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	300
30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240	270	300				

TOTAL: 867

WHAT ARE PETERSEN POINTS?

Most major tournaments and a number of leagues operate on the Petersen Points system. In addition to a point being awarded for each game won recognition is given to the actual pinfall by awarding a point for every 50 or 100 pins bowled in the series. Thus in a singles league if a player rolls a series of 537 and wins two out of the three games his Petersen Points based on one point for 50 pins will be 12 with 37 pins left over and shown as 12.37. His opponent with a 491 series and winning only the one game would be credited with 10.41 Petersen Points.

The same system can operate for doubles with one point being given for every 100 pins bowled by the team and sometimes this system is even used for 3, 4 and 5 person teams to give recognition to the best pinfall by awarding points for it. All Petersen Leagues and Tournaments are, of course, run on a scratch basis with all contestants being, as nearly as possible, of an equal ability.

REPLY TO THE "TENPIN PICTORIAL"

In case it is not published by the "Tenpin Pictorial" the following letter marked 'For Publication In The October Issue Of Tenpin Pictorial' is now reproduced for the interest of all our members:-

"Dear Sir - Your September front page article headed "BEXLEYHEATH - ACT I" is the worst piece of 'reporting' it has been our misfortune to read. We would have expected the specialist newspaper for tenpin bowling to carry a story of this kind in a factual way and for normal inaccuracies to be left to the National press. No! - the Daily Mirror, Daily Sketch, Evening News and local papers such as Kentish Times give a reasonably fair report of the evening of September 1st, but you publish an article which is both inaccurate and biased, not to say libelous. This association have never advocated any form of boycott, stoppage or 'strike' as you strangely label it, and all that happened was that the bowlers decided that they were unable to roll their sanctioned league on lanes that had not been certified for the new season in a centre that did not display a certificate of any kind.

Due to our "Bowling News" - which you kindly label rubbish - many people have been given the opportunity to read the other side of the story, and the wide circulation of the Six Act Play has, possibly, embarrassed you in relation to the lop sided politics in which you have indulged in your July and August issues. To avoid this type of problem for the future we would respectfully suggest that you report factually and without obvious bias or personal malice - you may lose one or two advertisers but you will surely regain a host of lost readers.

Remember the words of Bernard M. Baruch, "EVERY MAN HAS THE RIGHT TO HIS OPINIONS BUT NO MAN HAS THE RIGHT TO BE WRONG IN HIS FACTS!"

Yours faithfully,

(B.E. MORRISON)  
Area President.

(B.A. LANGFORD)  
Area Secretary

c.c. Tenpin Bowling Proprietors Asscn.  
The B.T.B.A. Council.

## TIME HAS RUN OUT!

Under the heading 'Time Marches On' a report was given last month of a meeting at Cliftonville between the Excel Management and the B.T.B.A. At that time the air was fairly optimistic that the dispute would be resolved before the date of commencement of the Winter Leagues. The bowlers have waited and waited but to no avail. The token one month boycott at Bexleyheath is now over and the sanctioned leagues are once again coming in thick and fast. At our seaside centre, however, a letter has been sent to the Excel Operations Manager which we reproduce below:-

"Dear Sir - At a meeting of League Officials from Excel, Cliftonville, held on Sunday, September 25th, a bowlers committee, made up of 5 league officials, was formed with the support of all league bowlers at Cliftonville, and the following course of action was decided upon.

As and from Midnight, October 10th, all league bowling will cease at Excel, Cliftonville until such time as the B.T.B.A. are allowed to see the lane measurement figures as taken by the independent body of surveyors, in order to ascertain that they fall within the tolerances as laid down, and they will thus be able to issue a Sanction Certificate for the Centre.

Yours faithfully,  
for THE BOWLER'S COMMITTEE  
Messrs. S. Swallow, J. Steventon, K. Rose,  
A. Wells and L. Cole.

At the time of going to press there has been no reply from Excel and things look black. It must be hoped that sanity will prevail and both the proprietors and the B.T.B.A. will eventually see the return of the bowlers. Neither body can afford to lose 500 people in this way, especially when all that is needed is a little common sense coupled with a sense of urgency!

## BRIAN AND JUNE DULY SANCTIONED!

Our Area Secretary, Brian Langford was married on 24th. September to Miss June Towers of Cliftonville at Margate's St. John's Church. Bowlers welcomed them from the church under an archway of bowling pins. Many congratulations to you both.

## THE PROPRIETORS ISSUE LEAGUE KITS

Despite a number of protestations to the contrary there can be no doubt left in your mind that it is the proprietor's intention to destroy the B.T.B.A. Their method is fairly obvious, - by offering everything that the B.T.B.A. offer but free of charge and by having non-certified lanes and unsanctioned tournaments. That they are failing is also obvious when it is realised that no fewer than 75 centres have had the lanes B.T.B.A. certified for this season and of the remainder many leagues are still becoming sanctioned. Is it not strange that your proprietor requires you to pay for your shoe rental, the car park, your lane booking, your locker and even for the loan of a pencil and yet GIVES you a free league kit? Accepting that you will pay for it in the end what does it contain anyway? As yet there are no record cards and any unsanctioned league will have to keep records as best it can for the time being. The Average Calculator contains nothing in regard to team average or percentage and worst of all only calculates the average in multiples of three. During a season the majority of bowlers bowl an odd number of games. A bowler is dropped and the reserve brought in, a bowler arrives too late to play the first game or has to leave early and misses the last game. In any of these circumstances the calculator will be completely useless and the poor secretary will have to make use of very long division and a lot of scrap paper. The league schedules are designed for the use of the secretary but not for the use of the league. They are not designed for display on the league board but the standing sheet makes provision for the following week's schedule to be typed on it - yet more work for the poor old league secretary. The Handicap Manual is a carbon copy of the one issued by B.T.B.A. so far as single game handicaps are concerned but makes no provision whatever for series handicaps or team handicaps which are so essential for any handicap tournament. The League Record Book is very handy but only one 56 page booklet appears to be issued to each league. For a 12 or 14 team league this will last about 8 weeks! What is missing? Apart from the record cards there is no rules or regulations by which to play. Without this rather essential piece of equipment the remainder of the kit doesn't amount to very much, does it?

You may ask why our proprietors don't leave everything to the experts, the B.T.B.A. and if they want to spend their money use it to promote the sport by employing instructors and fostering the bowlers of tomorrow, the juniors. We have asked as well but so far - no response!

If your lanes have been certified by the B.T.B.A. for 1966/67 and you are thinking of running a tournament the South Eastern Bowling Association and the B.T.B.A. are at your service. It costs NOTHING to sanction your tournament and there are seven very good reasons why it will benefit you:-

1. It helps to sell your tournament - You want to build your tournament. To do this you need all the help you can get. Sanctioning gives you a head start, and this association can tell you what tournament features are the most successful, and why.
2. You contribute to a sound tournament structure - One bad tournament affects many more. Bowlers who have an unpleasant experience are reluctant to enter others. This association will help you to avoid the pitfalls.
3. It builds confidence and prestige - The B.T.B.A. has the confidence of its members. When you sanction, this confidence is also yours, because the bowler knows your tournament will be conducted under standard rules which are based on sound practise.
4. You get advice upon Entry Forms, Rules and Posters - These are your selling aids. You can't afford a sloppy job. The B.T.B.A. will review these items and let you know what information is vital.
5. Your bowlers get high score protection - The bowler qualifies for attractive awards for performances such as 300, 299 and 298 games if your tournament is sanctioned. More important, however, is the prestige factor of having the performance internationally recognised as being accomplished under competitive conditions, with standard playing rules and playing conditions. Scores of this nature have little value if they do not go into the records, regardless of how large a prize may be given for the achievement independantly.
6. The Association handles your problem situations - Even the best run tournaments have problems. You can refer such problems to the B.T.B.A. Rules Department. It gets you off the hook, and eliminates the danger of poor customer relations.
7. You have trained personnel working for you without cost - B.T.B.A. have all the experience. Why go it alone? Merely for the asking, you can have experts working for you.

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#### NOT SO MUCH A TOURNAMENT MORE A MARATHON!

Act III, Scene II of 'United We Stand' as published in our August issue referred to the number of national sponsors that had been lost to tenpin bowling. Is Coca Cola to be the next? We certainly hope not but this 'strange' tournament promoted by the Proprietors Association and, of course, unsanctioned looks like being an even bigger flop than the poor old 'Round the World' Tournament. Is it any wonder? This classic example of the proprietors policy of 'going it alone' requires the entrant to bowl 3 games to establish an average, another 3 games based on that average when your handicap may be reassessed by the centre manager and then another 3 games to decide the handicap winner on a centre basis. To say that it is an open invitation for cheats and sandbaggers is to put it mildly although even these types may be put off by having to pay lineage of £1.11.6d to have a chance of winning a travelling alarm clock! Should you bowl your nine games on this basis the tournament does an about face and on a scratch basis you are then required to bowl a further nine games in one day to qualify for the regional finals. At this stage you have to play a further eleven games to qualify for the finals of a SANCTIONED tournament! Does it stop there? No! -if you get through this part you become eligible to play in the Masters Tournament at Wembley against top bowlers from the U.S.A., Australia, Japan, Sweden etc and from Wembley you then have the chance to compete in Tokyo. To get this far, however, you will have played more games and spent more money than the All Events Winner of the F.I.Q. World Championships! And the best of luck!

#### THE AUTUMN CLASSIC SINGLES

Five games over ten lanes is the format for this, the first of your Area Tournaments for the new season. Open to all and operating on a scratch basis the venue this year will be Excel Whitstable. Watch your Notice Board for further details and for the Entry Forms, which will be published very soon. Roll in this year's first Area Sanctioned Tournament!