

BOWLING NEWS

KENT AREA B.T.B.A.

EDITORIAL

DECEMBER 1965

The President, Secretary and Officers of the Kent Area Tenpin Bowling Association would like to take this opportunity of wishing all it's members a very happy Christmas and may your averages improve by leaps and bounds in 1966. The New Year will see the third birthday of both Bexleyheath and Whitstable and the completion of the second year of operations at Cliftonville. Our oldest established centre is, of course, Chatham which celebrates it's fourth birthday this month. The averages throughout the area are constantly on the increase and the 180 plus bowler is no longer a dream but a reality with no fewer than 10 of our members falling into this category. As most of **you** know the first B.T.B.A. Sanctioned 300 game was rolled in this Country during 1965 but by an American bowler. The elusive 300 has still to be sanctioned by a British player and this should come about in 1966 as it is decidedly overdue. The perfect game has been rolled, of course, but without a sanction it does not mean a very great deal. The rumoured 300 this month by the Chester dustman was a fact but we are led to believe that this will not be passed so there is still a chance for you all to roll those 12 in a row that mean so much and to see your name a household one in tenpin circles all over the Country. Remember the average average of bowlers who have rolled the perfect game in the U.S.A. is 154 !

DO YOU KNOW ??

-----that the lowest series to include a perfect game was 530. Jim Albanese of Pennsylvania holds this dubious honour with games of 114-300-116. Next in line is Harry Wilson of Iowa with 536 made up with games of 111-125-300. Harry's last strike was made without the ball hitting the headpin! It was his lucky night.

-----that the most sanctioned 300's by one player is 17. The perfect game specialist is George Billick of Pennsylvania. Another notable 300 achievement is the feat of Tom Zavakos of Dayton, Ohio. Tom rolled his first twelve striker in 1926, went 31 years and did it again in 1957!

-----that the oldest bowler to achieve the 300 was aged 74. Wilson Gilder was the gentleman concerned and this has yet to be beaten. There is hope for us all yet.

-----that one lady bowler in America has achieved the 300 game no fewer than three times. Proving that this is not a feat restricted to the men is Sylvia Wene, who has also bowled ~~twelve~~ 700 plus series.

-----that B.T.B.A. gives to 300 bowlers in this Country a choice of the following:-

1. Diamond studded cuff links with surmounted filligree badge in white gold.
2. Diamond studded gold signet ring with reversable insert showing B.T.B.A. badge and diamond on one side and individual name on the reverse.
3. Clock of an appropriate design.
4. Trophy of appropriate design.
5. Gold belt buckle with diamond stud.
6. Gold Longine wrist watch - lady's or gents.

-----that by the year 2008 we in this country should be averaging something like 800 perfect games each year. Our basis for this statement? In 1907 the number of perfect games rolled in the U.S.A. was none. In 1908 there were 2 and this number gradually increased with experience and the number of establishments opening until in 1965 the total had reached 769. We have a long way to go but possibly not as far as some of us think.

This is another service of your Area Association

THE "GET ACQUAINTED" DOUBLES

Accept entries from an equal number of men and lady bowlers. Luck of the draw will determine the partners or what might be better, match the sexes on the basis of their respective averages, i.e. the highest average man bowler with the lowest average lady. This tournament could be run on either a scratch or handicap basis and would be covered by the league sanction.

ALIBI TOURNAMENT

This is designed for the bowlers who always complain that they have "one bad game." The tournament simply consists of one 4 game series in which each participant is allowed to drop the game with the lowest score from his or her series. The league sanction would cover the tournament except that only the first three games rolled would be allowed for a series award.

HEAD PIN TOURNAMENT

When you miss the headpin you have in fact missed half the lane! A good test of your ability is this tournament where only one ball need be used for each frame if you in fact miss the headpin with your first delivery. Providing you hit the head pin with your first ball you score normally. If you miss it however you score zero for the complete frame. Not sanctionable.

SCOTCH DOUBLES

There are two types of Scotch Doubles programmes that can be used:

1. The partners take alternate shots regardless of the situation.
2. One bowler throws the first ball in each frame and the partner rolls the second if it is necessary. In this case if the lead off strikes his partner does not roll again until a spare is required. This tournament is not sanctionable but can be good fun and of course the bowling rate is such that 6 games can be bowled for the price of three.

3-6-9 TOURNAMENT

This involves a regular game of bowling with the exception that each bowler is given a strike in the 3rd, the 6th. and the 9th. frames. By using less actual frames bowled a reduced bowling rate can be applied for and in fact 4 games could conceivably be rolled for the price of three. Not sanctionable.

LOW GAME

The object is to score as little as possible but to keep the ball on the lane. If the first ball in the frame is a gutter ball this counts as a strike and no second ball is rolled. If you gutter your second ball having knocked down at least one pin on your first delivery, this counts as a spare. A "perfect game" is 20 pins but of course a sanction is not possible!

NUMBERED PIN GAME

The highest score wins. The pin for the number of each frame, i.e. the head pin in the first frame, the number 2 pin in the second frame etc., must be knocked down for any score in that frame to count. If, for example, your first ball takes 7 pins but leaves the headpin standing you score nothing on this delivery. If your second ball, however, takes the headpin and the others left standing with it, the score for the frame is "3". It is NOT a spare. Apart from this strikes and spares count as normal provided the "numbered pin" is taken with the first ball.

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CAN SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PRIZES BE PURCHASED FROM LEAGUE FUNDS ?

This question is often asked. The short answer is "Yes" but with this qualification. Gifts or prizes for special occasions can be bought from the trophy fund but only if all the league are allowed to participate and only IF THEY ALL AGREE. One dissenter means that the idea must be abandoned. Before the league season begins bowlers have the option to refuse to bowl in the league if they object to any of the adopted rules. Once the season is under way, however, no such option exists and logically everyone should agree to what amounts to a change in the Constitution.

