






# PINBOARD

Issue 79

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In Memory	Motions	Tournaments	
It is with deep sadness that we advise everyone of the passing of one of our sport's finest. Jimmy Hoult will long be remembered by his friends and fellow bowlers for many years to come. Our sympathies go out to his wife Jean, and their three children, Bob, Steve and Sandy.	Please be advised, as per request, this is your third notification regarding motions for the Annual Convention in June 2009. All motions are to be submitted to the O5PBA office, in writing, by the 15th of April, 2009. For further information, please contact the O5PBA office.	High Low Doubles 5 Pin Championships Provincial Championship Feb. 28th, 2009  Executives' 5 Pin Championship Provincial Championship Feb. 28th, 2009  Holiday Classic Zone/DC Finals On or before Feb. 15/09  Youth Challenge Ontario Winter Games Provincial Championship Jan. 31st, 2009  Provincial Triples League Rounds Jan. 5 to Feb. 8/09	
Terry Burns	Correction		
We have a special request from Mr. Gary Black regarding the recent cross Canada trip made by Terry Burns. If anyone has any pictures or newsletters regarding Terry's trip, could they please forward to Gary via e-mail at: gary@garyblack.comm	In last month's issue of the Pinboard, there were two spelling errors under Appreciation Awards. Margaret Andet should read Margaret Andic and Barb Morrell should read Barb Murrell. To both parties my sincere apologizes.		
100 Anniversary Pins	2009 Bowling School		
A reminder to all Zones and DC's that have purchased the 100 Anniversary Pins and are still in possession of the ticket stubs. The ballots must be returned to the O5PBA office as soon as possible. You are asked not to hold them until they are all sold but to send them in as you receive them. If the ballots are not received in the office by May 1st, 2009, the ballot holder will not be eligible for the draw.	The applications for the 2009 Bowling have been sent out in the mail. It is important that all Zones and DC's are aware that the header sheet indicates the cost at \$400.00 per student. Please note that this is a typo error and the cost per student is still \$500.00.  Also, even though the deadline date is reading March 7th, 2009, your cooperation in returning all applications as soon as possible would be greatly appreciated.		
Master Learning Facilitator	Youth Challenge Coaches	<b>Inside this issue:</b>	
Anyone interested in completing an application form to become a Master Learning Facilitator, can do so by completing the form found on the O5PBA website.	The Youth Challenge Nationals will be held at Sherwood Centre in Hamilton March 26th to 28th. The men's team will be coached by Jerry Cripps from London and the ladies will have Connie Hannah of Central Ontario at their helm. Our best wishes to all.	Tournaments	1
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 This project is supported by the Government of Ontario 			

## ***Fans have a ball at five-pin bowling***

**The purely Canadian sport of five-pin bowling – considered by many to be a step up from the U.S. 10-pin game – quietly turns 100 this year**

**IAIN MARLOW**  
STAFF REPORTER



Ida Ferroni has arthritis in a couple of places, but not in her bowling arm. Thank goodness, because that would put a kink in her Wednesday nights: league night down at Danforth Bowl. Asked her age, others answer loudly for her: "39!" "25!" they yell, before they burst out laughing. Ferroni slaps her knee. She seems to bowl – and act, for that matter – like a 25-year-old. "My mother's been gone 24 years this March and I started just before that," she says. Her real age is 78. And she's lived across the street for 51 years, since 1958. "Oh fudge," she blurts, as she bowls a gutter.

This all gives her a natural advantage over Jason Cleveland, 29 – comparatively, a young gun – in the competition over exactly who is the longest reigning member of the league. But Cleveland – according to rumour, the best five-pin bowler here – doesn't fall as easily as pins in a 10-pin game. He's been coming here for that grand old five-pin experience since he was 3. "I actually find 10-pin way easier. Frankly, I found it a little bit of a joke," he says confidently. Five-pin is more precise, he continues. "The only way to get a strike is to hit it *perfectly*." Regardless of who has been bowling in this city the longest, neither has been around as long as the sport itself.

This year, with characteristically subdued fanfare, the purely Canadian sport of five-pin bowling reaches its centennial. It was 100 years ago, here in Toronto, that bow-tie-wearing Thomas F. "Tommy" Ryan invented five-pin bowling, in a 10-pin bowling alley made to resemble a southern plantation, with potted palm trees and with a string orchestra. He did so in response to upper-crust customer whining: the 10-pin balls were too heavy. Simply too strenuous. And so Ryan had the pins whittled down to three-quarters of their size, placed them farther apart, and grabbed a smaller ball. Five-pin bowling is to 10-pin, perhaps, as table tennis is to actual tennis: an evolution to a smaller field of play, a refinement of technique.

Though it requires a high amount of skill – you can't fluke a strike, they say – membership in five-pin bowling associations has been in free fall. In 1978, British Columbia had 48,796 registered five-pin bowlers; in 2008, it had 332. Ontario is sitting a little prettier at 15,852, but that's down from more than 56,000 in the late '70s. The sport survives in part on the whims of children. "Birthday parties have been a huge boon to the bowling industry," says Al Hong, executive director of the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association. The tough reality that faces bowling, in an era where someone can play iBowl on an iPod Touch, has forced the kingpins to loosen up a tad: hence the Rock 'n Bowl, events with loud music, dimmed lights and a disco ball.

"To a purist, it's gimmicky, but you have to be realistic," Hong, 68, concedes, standing in Toronto's venerable O'Connor Bowl, where private parties and children fill the lanes. For the time being, at least, iBowl remains exclusively 10-pin.

## **Dot Britton**

### **Bowl-O-Rama Lanes—Welland, Ontario (Canada)**

Dot Britton was 18 and living in her native Toronto when she first picked up a bowling ball. Today, 62 years later, it's still there, cradled in her right hand and perfectly balanced as she begins a follow-through that more often than not, will cause pins to drop 60 feet away.

A member of the Ontario Bowlers' Association Hall of Fame and a life member of both the Provincial and Master Bowlers' Association, Britton never let go of the ball because she didn't want to let go of the rewards she received whenever she bowled.

"For me, it's the satisfaction of doing something right every once in a while" says Britton, who now resides in a seniors complex in St. David's but continues to coach youth bowling at Bowl-O-Rama Lanes in Welland. She also enjoys traveling to tournaments and making friends through the sport, like Henry Britton, the man she married shortly after she began bowling as a pastime. Another reason Britton is only too happy to travel to Welland every Saturday morning during the bowling season is her position as a volunteer coach with the Bowl—O-Rama's Youth Bowling Council program.

"Saturday mornings with the kids is about the best thing you can do with your life," says Britton now in her 31st season as an Instructor in Welland after spending 16 years coaching in Grimsby.

Coaching is only one of the lures that keeps Britton coming back to Bowl-O-Rama Lanes, her home away from home in Welland. Thursday evening is her league night when she competes in the Niagara Ladies Pro League

Currently her average in a league she helped found in 1963 is 170, down from the 253 that she maintained for several years. "I don't know, maybe my age is catching up to me," Britton, 80 years young, quips with a chuckle.

*By Bernd Franke,  
Welland Tribune*

The above article appeared in the Bowling Centre Management magazine sent out by the BPAA. The magazine is sent to all proprietors in North America.

Our thanks to Brenda Fraser, Publicity Chair for Niagara Peninsula 5 Pin Bowlers' Association for bringing the above article to our attention.

