

THE O5PBA/YBC BOWLING SCHOOL

The Bowling School is operated by the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association, in collaboration with the Youth Bowling Canada, Ontario Division and the Master Bowlers Association.

By bringing the expertise of these organizations together in such an endeavour, the school hopes to promote the sport of five pin bowling and its combined play by all age groups. We hope to foster an atmosphere of camaraderie, sportsmanship and excellence through the best 'forum' of learning available.

This learning will hopefully take place, not only through the instructor/student relationship, but also with all individuals involved.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

The bowling school consists of students from all across Ontario. An effort will be made to include a representation of province-wide individuals in order to maintain a mix of variety and interest.

The students are divided into three major "classes" then into groups within that class. This will allow for a very low student to instructor ratio. The three classes are arranged according to skill level to provide the best learning environment.

INSTRUCTORS AND PROS

The bowling school will provide each group of students with an instructor who will be responsible for that group during the entire four-day event. It is in the school's interest to maintain the highest caliber of instruction available.

On the Friday evening, "pros" will be introduced to the school and assigned to each of the groups. Working together, the pros and instructors will bring a high degree of expertise and experience to the student population. While the pros are assigned to a specific group, the school encourages students to feel comfortable to approach any pro on a casual basis to discuss any specific issues they wish.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The school schedule is full of a variety of events. In four days the school strives to maintain a balance of activities, from in-depth lane instruction to enjoyable social activities. Each day's theme will be maintained through out all of these activities. The four day schedule, included in the student handbook, identifies the major events, teaching sessions, social events, off lane sessions, tournament events and of course, meal times.

There is much to accomplish and the pace is hectic. However, with the cooperation of everyone, we anticipate great success.

Instructors will arrive on Wednesday, Students will arrive on Thursday and Pros will arrive on Friday evening. The school will be open to parents and visitors on Sunday afternoon for the final tournament and closing ceremonies.

SCHOOL INSTRUCTION

While the school will concentrate on “on-lane” work, and promoting the fundamental aspects of the game, it is not in our interest in any way to undermine those lessons already learned by the student through their own YBC programs. We only hope to highlight and enhance valuable lessons, while providing an interesting learning environment.

The majority of our instructors has come from the YBC program and will carry on its fine tradition. It is our intent to pass on our comments and suggestions to YBC program coordinators upon completion of the school.

THE CURRICULUM

The school curriculum is structured around the various teaching sessions indicated in the schedule. These sessions include a variety of activities including On-Lane Work, Off Lane Sessions, Games Recorded and *the new “Laboratory”*.

On-Lane Work: Each of the student groups will have 2-4 lanes to use at any time for instruction, *taping* and practice. This is in the time when the instructors and pros will do the majority of their ‘teaching’ and one-on-one work with the students.

Off Lane Sessions: *Two off lane sessions* have been planned during the teaching sessions. Each of the sessions has been closely coordinated with the four-day themes and we hope that discussion will continue from the sessions onto the lanes.

The school curriculum, of which the sessions form an important part, will be specifically tailored to the various “classes”.

Games Recorded: As part of the on-lane work and tournament events, individual students will be compiling a record of games played on special scoring forms. This game analysis will be compiled and forwarded to the students at mid-point and after the completion of the school. While the school is proceeding, these scores will be used as part of the ‘aggregate’ board.

The Laboratory: As an added interest, the school has organized a skills area which will be referred to as the ‘LABORATORY’. A series of activities will enable each individual to have some fun while focusing on specific skills. A detailed description of the activities is included in the handbook.

TOURNAMENT EVENTS

The school has been structured so that there are various tournament events. These events will be either *scratch*, or pins over average formats. A complete description of these events is included in the handbook. While prizes will be awarded, these events are more importantly a place where the students can put valuable lessons to use. Tournament results will be posted with each event.

Included as part of the tournament events are two special activities, which create much interest, competition and fun. These are the instructor and pro '**gauntlets**'. These events allow the students to meet their instructors and pros on the lanes in a one-ball match. Further description of how the gauntlet works and scores is included in the tournament section of the handbook.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The school is not all about bowling. To break up the schedule we have allotted free time that will allow the students a break from bowling and a chance to meet the other students.

MEALS

The school provides three very well balanced meals, each day of the four-day event. A breakfast buffet will be provided every morning at McMaster before leaving for the bowling centre. At Sherwood, all activity will stop for lunch and dinner breaks. Just to help keep everyone going, a delicious assortment of fruit and beverages will be available at the lanes throughout the day.

PRESENTATION AREAS

The bowling organizations that exist in Ontario and their scope of involvement are extensive. The bowling school hopes to bring the students up to date with these organizations and their major events. Therefore, at the school, there will be 'presentation areas' of information pertaining to these groups. Namely, the Ontario 5 Pin Bowlers' Association and Zone Associations, the Master Bowlers Association, the Youth Bowling Council and the Hall of Fame. These displays should be of interest to all.

ACCOMMODATION

The bowling school has chosen McMaster University once again as its 'home' during its stay in Hamilton. Students will be sharing rooms on a two student per room basis. While the accommodations are comfortable, do not expect 'hotel' features. That is, **no** telephones, radios or televisions are provided within the rooms and don't forget to bring your own towels.

An important requirement will continue to be enforced this year. On Sunday morning, before leaving McMaster for the bowling centre, all students must return both their **room key and access card** to their instructor who will in turn return all keys to the class coordinators. There have been too many lost items in the past, resulting in additional cost to the school. We ask for everyone's help on this matter.

A very detailed and comprehensive rooming list has been organized by the school. Once students arrive, they will be assigned their respective rooms. It is imperative that everyone understands that **no** substitutions or switching of rooms is allowed.

EVALUATION FORMS

It is important to the school and the facilitators to have an understanding of how the events and activities are perceived by the students, pros, and instructors. In order to help us do that, the school has compiled a series of evaluation forms for all parties. Every year, these forms prove invaluable in planning for the next year's activities. Although they are somewhat tedious, please take the time to answer the forms sincerely, in order to help plan for next year.

ALL STAR TEAM

In the past years the school has placed some emphasis on the selection of a distinctive 'All-Star Team'. The honours have, in the past, been based almost solely on scores and skill. For the last three years, a new approach was taken, with the chosen individuals placing a high in both skills and personal development. This year's selection will take place in a similar manner with emphasis on conduct, attitude, willingness to learn and skill.