



Shootout Sentinel

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"All the Shootout News That's Fit to Print"

Steve Gagnon Claims Senior Shootout I Am Bowling Championship

In a most unpredictable finals, #21 seed Steve Gagnon of St. Vincent, Quebec, Canada bested #30 seed Rob Rice of Sunnyside, Washington 231 to 196 to capture the South Point Senior Shootout I Am Bowling Championship. Steve's title match victory immediately followed his close semi-final win over Walter Ray Williams, Jr. 200-192. Rob Rice advanced to the title match by overcoming a strong challenge from Steve Kloempken 232-225.

The top 32 competitors in the I Am Bowling Championship were determined by their combined qualifying positions in the three previous Challenge events. To increase the challenge for the I Am Bowling Championship finalists, a 43' pattern was applied to the left lane and a 35' pattern was applied to the right lane on each pair.

Harry Sullins is BowlTV Super Senior Champion

In a most dominant fashion as the #1 overall seed, Harry Sullins of Chesterfield, Michigan topped Pete McCordic from Katy, Texas 235 to 193 to take home the BowlTV Super Senior Championship trophy. Harry, bowling with an injured right arm, averaged just over 226 for 10 games (including a 300 game) in the championship finals, a feat even more remarkable considering the use of dual patterns (44' on the left lane and 36' on the right lane) on each pair. Harry advanced to the title match by outscoring Rick Hara 226-208, and Pete earned his championship match spot by squeaking by Tom Adcock in a one-ball roll-off after tying at 214.

2023 SPSS and SPSSS Dates Set

Dates for next year's Shootouts have been confirmed with South Point Bowling Plaza management. The South Point Senior Shootout is scheduled for Monday thru Friday November 6-10, 2023. The Super Senior Shootout will immediately follow on Saturday thru Tuesday, November 11-14. It is expected a PBA50 regional as well as a regular PBA regional will be conducted at South Point November 3-5.

November 2023 is expected to be a VERY busy month in Las Vegas in general and at South Point in particular. South Point Hotel and Casino is planning a multi-million dollar Bingo Extravaganza that starts Monday, November 13, and a Formula 1 race is slated for "The Strip" starting November 16. These events generate huge hotel room demand throughout the city. A Senior Shootout room block has been established for November 5-15 (room code SPS1123). A link directly to the South Point reservations page is located [here](#). The link is also available at www.SeniorShootout.Vegas. The November 3-5 room block code for the regionals is PBA1102. Early room reservations are encouraged as entries are currently being accepted for both Shootouts.

Turbo Challenge Title Captured by Dino Castillo

In the most exciting title match since the inception of the Senior Shootout, Dino Castillo overcame a strong challenge from #1 seed Walter Ray Williams, Jr. in a roll-off after the GOAT struck out in the 10th frame of the championship match to tie at 268.

For the first time in Shootout history, the same player (WRW) led both the Turbo Challenge Qualifying and Cashers' rounds to earn the #1 seed for the 8-player stepladder finals and forcing his opponent to defeat him twice to capture the title. Dino lined up quickly and won the first match 247-173, extending the stepladder to a second title match.

Tony Manna is Haynes Bowling Supply Challenge Champion

Averaging over 244 throughout the Qualifying and Match Play rounds on a 43' pattern, Tony Manna from Papillion, Nebraska led by over 200 pins in earning the #1 seed for the 5-player Haynes Bowling Supply Challenge stepladder finals.

In a close semi-final match coming down to the tenth frame, #2 seed Dino Castillo squeaked past Dave Taylor from Seminole, Florida 228-224 to earn the title match spot. Taylor had earlier fired a 278 in the match play position round to move from 15th place to the stepladder finals. In the championship, Manna continued his undefeated match play domination and topped Castillo 213-187 in winning the Haynes Bowling Supply Challenge title.

In displaying his versatility, Manna also won the 2021 Turbo Challenge on a very tricky 35' pattern.

Hugh Miller Wins 900 Global Challenge

Hugh Miller of Mercer Island, Washington won his second Shootout title by defeating first-time Senior Shootout participant Michael Hartter of nearby Henderson 179-168 on a very tricky 39' pattern. En-route through the bracket elimination finals to the 900 Global Challenge title match, Miller bested Dave Han 3-1, John Congro 2-0, and Mike Klosin 233-202 in the semi-final match. Hartter's path to the title match followed wins over John Burkett 3-2, Steve Gagnon 3-2, and Greg Turner 194-191.

In 2021, as the only left-hander in the 32-player finals, Miller captured the Super Senior Shootout Championship.

Steve Cook's Bowling Supply Sweeper

Walter Ray Williams, Jr, competing in his first Senior Shootout since becoming eligible at age 63, shot 300 in game one enroute to a 3-game total of 710 to capture the Steve Cook's Bowling Supply Sweeper. Bowling on three different patterns, Walter Ray followed his 300 game on the 35' pattern with 173 on the 43' pattern and finished with a 237 on the 39' pattern to take the title by two pins over Dan Long, also bowling in his first Senior Shootout.

Burkett Wins Storm Sweeper

After a slow 194 start on the challenging 35' pattern, John Burkett fired games of 246, 224, and 222 to win the Storm Sweeper by 30 pins over second-place finisher Dan Inocencio.

Dan Knowlton Captures Roto Grip Sweeper

After averaging just over 209 and earning a check in the 900 Global Challenge, Dan Knowlton of Dade City, Florida found his striking shoes later that same day enroute to games of 258, 258, 256, and 206 to earn the Roto Grip Sweeper title by 40 pins over Paul Fleming.

Mike Karch Wins Genesis Products "Under \$301" Sweeper

Competing on the high-scoring South Point league pattern, Mike Karch from Edgewood, Washington averaged 259 over four games in a runaway win in the Genesis Products "Under \$301" sweeper over Greg Scheetz. The Genesis sweeper is open to players who won less than \$301 in the three previous Senior Shootout Challenge events.

Kevin Croucher Victorious in Super Senior 36' Challenge

After qualifying 5th in the qualifying round, Kevin Croucher of Grants Pass, Oregon went 5-0 in match play to be the #1 seed for the South Point Super Senior Shootout 36' Challenge star-studded stepladder finals featuring #5 seed Rick Hara, #4 Harry Sullins, #3 Tom Adcock, and #2 seed Mark Williams. In the stepladder, Sullins beat Hara 245-192, Sullins topped Adcock 236-192, and Williams outscored Sullins 256-175 to reach the Championship match. Croucher continued his winning ways in besting Mark Williams 247-216 in a match that was much closer than indicated by the final score.

The 36' Challenge title was Croucher's second Super Senior championship as he also captured the 43' Challenge title in 2021.

Jim Knoblauch Claims Super Senior 44' Challenge Title

After averaging just over 234 in the 6-game Qualifying round, Jim Knoblauch of Waukesha, Wisconsin posted Cashers' round games of 256, 211, 255, and 222 to become the #3 seed for the 8-player Super Senior Shootout 44' Challenge Stepladder finals. Rick Goergen of Sanford, Michigan earned the #1 seed and 36' Challenge champion Kevin Croucher continued his hot streak qualifying #2. Warren Eales earned a spot in the Stepladder by leading the Qualifying round with a 6-game total of 1,452.

In the 3-player semifinal match, Knoblauch topped Croucher's 235 and Rick Minier's 200 with a 246 of his own. Jim continued striking in the title match, defeating Goergen 227-192.

SPSSS Sweeper Champions Recognized

Phil Kilmartin of Lawton, Oklahoma averaged 235.75 to best the field in the Steve Cook's Bowling Supply Super Senior Sweeper. Jeff Jamison of Boulder City, Nevada finished second, averaging 230.75. The 4-game sweeper was contested on both the 36' and 44' patterns, with players alternating patterns each game.

Brunswick "Lucky 7s" Sweeper

In an event open to all players regardless of age or national titles, Deo Benard ran away with the Brunswick "Lucky 7's" Sweeper title firing games of 246, 259, 279, and 239 for a 1,023 total (255.75 average). Phil Kilmartin, the Steve Cook's Bowling Supply Super Senior Sweeper Champion, finished second with a 4-game total of 936.

Roto Grip Sweeper

Todd Kjell from Roscoe, Illinois reached a 3-game total of 701 to sneak past Greg McMahan's 695 and take the Roto Grip Super Senior Sweeper title.

Quote of the Quarter

In a growth mindset, challenges are exciting rather than threatening. So rather than thinking, oh, I'm going to reveal my weaknesses, you say, wow, here's a chance to grow. —*Carol Dweck*