



# Florida State USBC



## FLORIDA STATE USBC NEWSLETTER

November 2024

### President's Message

Fred

#### McFarland

I hope that this article finds everyone in recovery mode from Helene and Milton. As a result of hurricane Milton we had to cancel the membership Annual Meeting in St. Petersburg. We've rescheduled for the last weekend of January. The meeting and awards banquet will be held at the St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater where it was originally scheduled. I hope that all of the delegates, award winners and Hall of Fame inductees that were scheduled for the October meeting will be able to attend in January.

As of this writing the Senior Women's tournament has concluded. Congratulations to the winners. I want to thank those who participated in the tournament. We're hoping to grow this tournament next year with an increase in entries. Currently the Men's State tournament is underway in Fort Myers at Lightning Strikes bowling center.

I will be attending the USBC State Leaders meeting at USBC Headquarters. I'm looking forward to bringing back information that will enhance our state associations tournaments. Those of you that follow the FSUSBC Facebook page, you should see a lot of pictures posted from our tournaments. For those that haven't seen them, you should take a look. Many thanks to Portia Adkins for taking and posting the pictures.

### FSUSBC Annual Meeting and Tournaments

Toni Maddux

History in Bowling is not always about scoring. Sometimes history is made at the administrative end of bowling. History was made by postponing the annual meeting in October 2024 and rescheduling the Florida State USBC Annual meeting to January 24, 25, 26 2025. All the tickets were printed, the menu was chosen, the rooms were booked, the tournament entries were ready to go, the delegate badges were printed, the plaques were engraved, the Gulf Coast was ready and many other things were done for the meeting. Milton had other ideas and it was the first time ever that an annual meeting was postponed. It was not an easy decision but it was the right decision. The hard part was coming up with a date. We felt like the

best time was January after the holidays. This is the weekend that the state board normally meets. The Gulf Coast USBC will host our annual meeting. Notices from the state office will go out again and you can watch for Save the Date info updates posted on the front page of our FSUSBC website. The Annual Youth luncheon was held in July and the luncheon was a huge success. We had 212 in attendance for the event, it was fantastic! We will continue to have the youth luncheon in July. The luncheon will be held Saturday, July 26, 2025 at 11:30 in St. Petersburg at the St. Pete/Clearwater Marriott. Once again this will give the youth a better opportunity to attend being held in the summer.

The 2025 tournament entries have been distributed. We couldn't wait until January to distribute them, you can find them all on line on our website. As a reminder here are the locations of our 2025 Tournament sites: the OPEN STATE will be hosted by Gulf Coast and Suncoast jointly, the WOMEN'S STATE will be hosted by Broward County USBC, the YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP will be hosted by Lake County in Tavares, the PEPSI will be hosted by Tallahassee, the MIXED MEMORIAL will be hosted by Southwest Florida USBC, the MEN'S STATE will be hosted by Broward County USBC and the SENIOR WOMEN'S will be hosted by Lake County in Tavares. Thanks to all of our tournament directors that have done a fantastic job this year with our tournaments.

The 2026 tournaments will be voted on by the delegates at the meeting in January.

I want to take this time to say Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, to all of our Florida members, bowling partners and Sponsors. All of you make our association, Florida State USBC the greatest in the country and I always say, "Florida bowlers are the best."



[Marion County USBC](#)

[Debbie](#)

[Whitten](#)

Happy Halloween to all those young at heart who enjoy dressing up, decorating, handing out candy (or keeping it for themselves); Happy Thanksgiving; Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hard to believe that another year has almost come to an end and we will be starting a new year in the blink of an eye.

Normally I would be recapping our Annual Membership Meeting (which would have been held in October); however, mother nature had other plans this year. While Helene battered the panhandle of Florida, Milton hammered the West coast of our state. Some areas will recover while others will never be the same. Our thoughts, prayers and sympathies go out to all those affected.

The Annual Membership Meeting has been rescheduled for January 24-26, 2025, at the St. Petersburg Marriott Clearwater on Roosevelt. The deadline to make your hotel reservations and confirm your attendance at the meeting and the awards dinner is January 10, 2025. You need to contact the hotel directly regarding your reservations and you need to confirm your attendance at the awards dinner by contacting the tournament director for the tournament you were a winner. If you were unable to attend in October; however, you can attend in January you must contact the tournament director with your meal choices no later than January 10, 2025. If you were attending in October and can't in January, again please let the tournament director know.

Entry forms for the 2025 tournaments would have been distributed at the October meeting; however, arrangements are being made to get the entries to the president or association manager so that they can distribute to their bowlers.

At the national level the word "Open" is used in place of the "Men's" tournament when the previous entities merged and were no longer ABC, WIBC or YABA thus allowing women to participate in the former Men's Tournament without having to hold two separate certifications.

Always read the rules for any tournament to see exactly who can participate no matter how the tournament may be titled.

On the local scene, the Marion County USBC is preparing for their annual Senior Open Tournament being held November 30 and December 1, 2024, at Bowlero East in Ocala on Maricamp Road. In this instance the word "open" means that any adult 50 or older who is a certified bowler is eligible to participate.

One of Marion County USBC local bowlers, Keith Dumphy, has been instrumental in keeping youth bowling alive in Marion County. For several years Keith has accepted donations to be a part of his "group" on Facebook where he posts daily updates and information about the USBC Open Tournament. The past several years Keith's donations have been at least \$14,500 (each year) and Keith uses that money to pay lineage for youth bowlers and entry fees for tournaments so that the youth can get tournament experience at the local level and encourage them to participate in the State Youth Tournament and the Pepsi Handicap Tournament (again Keith pays the entry fees). This year any youth that wants to participate in the Bob Spear Memorial Youth/Adult 9 Pin No Tap Tournament (December 1, 2024) will have their entry fee paid, they just have to find an adult to bowl with (the adult pays their entry fee). Keith is hoping to keep our local youth interested in bowling and participating in tournaments.

In addition, this year Keith distributed 19 pair of bowling shoes to the youth bowlers which were donated by a member of Keith's Facebook group due to a pro shop closing.

Keep up the awesome work and kudos to Keith!!

The Marion County USBC will be holding their Youth Tournament in January, the Mixed Open Tournament (in this context it means that any certified bowler over the age of 18 is eligible to participate – not just Marion County), the Open Tournament in February (in this context it means any Marion County USBC certified bowler) and the Women's Tournament in March.

Normally, the local city tournaments are just for the bowlers in that jurisdiction and the word “open” means that men and women are eligible to participate. Again, please read the rules to see exactly what type of tournament it is and what the definition of the word “open” may mean.

There are some associations who are opening their local championship tournaments to any certified bowler in order to try and increase participation; however, it does cause some issues with someone from South Florida participating in a tournament in Central Florida and winning thus taking the prize money away from the local bowlers. There is a lot of controversy over opening up the local championship tournament to “outsiders” who bowl tournaments for the bracket money and not really the prize money. This would be an issue that should be brought up at the annual membership meeting of the local association so that the bowlers would have a say in whether or not to open up their local championship tournament to all bowlers in the state. Food for thought on whether or not to decrease participation by your local bowlers in order to try and increase participation in the tournament itself.

There are plenty of tournaments in and around the State of Florida for all bowlers to participate without taking away from your local championship tournament by allowing all bowlers to participate.

There was discussion at the State 500 Club Tournament/Meeting as well as the State 600 Club Tournament/Meeting about allowing bowlers in either club to participate in the other club’s tournament or maybe merging the two. The formats of the two clubs are so different that I am not sure how they would accomplish merging the two. Each club is going to want to keep their traditions so who is going to give in? Both club’s tournaments are on the same weekend, the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of October. There was talk of moving one or the other’s tournament dates so that those that wanted to participate in the other’s tournament could. Question is where would you move to and who would be willing to move? Will there be divisions or all bowl against each other? Lots of questions to be answered so I do not think anything will happen quickly. Stay tuned.

In the February edition of the newsletter I will report on the State’s Annual Meeting as we will be holding elections of officers and directors and voting on where to hold the 2026 State Tournaments.

Have a safe and happy holiday season. God Bless everyone.

## [PTSD \(Post Traumatic Storm Disorder\)](#)

[Chrissy Lee](#)

How does one define the word resilience? Almost every person living in Florida does not need Mr. Webster to understand the meaning of that word. Storm after storm, we learn to cope with tragedy and recover from all of life’s experiences. Mother Nature has been especially rough on our part of the country lately. Presently, the Southeastern states could be the poster children of bouncing back from life’s ups and downs. A lot of people ask...” why do you stay there? How many rebuilds does it take? And the number one question asked is-why don’t you just move?” It is a valid question. As a New Jersey transplant, I have lived through many blizzards, nor’easters and even a couple earthquakes. Nothing could have prepared me for October 30, 2012. That was the day that Superstorm Sandy pummeled the Northeast and wiped out everything, including my innocence. Reminisce with me a bit...In June of 2012, I was visiting Baton Rouge, Louisiana for the USBC Open Championships. My friends and I took a day trip

to New Orleans and went on a bus tour. Our tour guide took us through all parts of the town- the historical churches and graveyards, Bourbon Street and even to the areas that flooded from Katrina, just 7 years earlier. As we drove through the Lower Ninth Ward, I vividly remember looking at the spray-painted symbols on the homes and the holes in the roofs, and tried to feel the anguish that must have radiated through the residents. Sadly, many of the dwellings sat untouched from the storm. Grass growing, unkempt and shaggy, with the new life of growing plants protruding through the ripped open roofs, where many people lost their lives.

That brings us to late October of 2012. The Northeast was rapidly preparing for a “Super” storm, named Sandy that was bringing record breaking storm surge. A couple of my friends dabbled in weather predicting and advised us to evacuate. My immediate thought was they were just kidding. Yes, we lived on the Jersey Shore, but we were three quarters of a mile away from the Bay. (For context, the Raritan Bay/Sandy Hook area emptied into the Atlantic Ocean.) Regardless, we evacuated just to be safe, but I honestly thought we were wasting our money. Nothing could have prepared me for my return.

We arrived home to find that four feet of water had barreled its way through our home. Everything we had was ruined. Wedding albums, high school yearbooks and all of my deceased mother’s belongings. Was I living in a nightmare? Things like this did not happen here. This was not Louisiana or Florida; this was New Jersey for goodness’ sake. Days passed and everyone’s belongings littered the streets. A lifetime of memories, gone in a flash. How do you replace those things? Simply, the answer is, you don’t. You continue to go forward, more cautious, more vigilant, and more damaged. In all likelihood, it would never happen again. But because it did, you will always think it can. Have you ever seen the look of despair? I have and I pray I will never have to see it again. Hurricanes Helene and Milton have conjured up those memories once again. Thankfully, our development has a small retention pond, but no water that can flood. Alligators, yes. But no flooding. Surviving Superstorm Sandy, if nothing else prepared me for the wrath of Helene and Milton. Have you ever heard 100 mile per hour winds? It sounds like a freight train roaring through your home. Milton destroyed my lanai, snapped trees like twigs and ripped my shingles apart. But we made it through. I wish the same could be said for the people that perished. My heart aches terribly for our country and its losses. I declined to mention that the day that Sandy hit, October 30, is my Birthday. Instead of dwelling on the past sadness, I choose to live in the moment. One thing I have learned is that you cannot fight Mother Nature. She will win every time. Just try to prepare for her the best you can.



Hello from Southwest Florida!

All of us hope that everyone around our great state, are recovering well from Hurricane Helene and Milton. Our area was somewhat fortunate in regards to these events. I know of several people that would disagree with me since they are having to cut out drywall, flooring, replace personal belongings, etc. all over again, just like they did after Hurricane Ian. 😞 But, I tend to be an optimist. It may be because I have personally been blessed and not have had much damage during these past two hurricanes. However, I also know that our fortune, is other's misfortune. I can only imagine what areas such as Bradenton, St. Pete, Tampa, etc. have been dealing with in the last month. Our area knows this firsthand with the aftermath of Hurricane Ian a couple of years ago. From all of us in Southwest FL, we send our deepest thoughts and prayers to everyone that is recovering from this season's hurricanes.

In the last few weeks, our Association has been quite busy. We have been the host of the Florida State Senior Women's tournament at Bowlero Coral which lasted two full weekends. It was a great turnout and we thank all of the ladies that came to Lee County and supported the event!

Our Association is now hosting the Florida State Men's Tournament at Lightning Strikes in Fort Myers. At the time of me writing this article for the newsletter, we have one weekend under our belt. And, all I can say so far is.... WOW! We have had some phenomenal bowling already and we still have a few weekends to go! We have had a few 300 games and a few 800+ series already! It is always fun to watch great scores like that being bowled! I am sure that we will see more of that in the coming weekends knowing the talent that is yet to participate! I look forward to watching and rooting everyone on! During both of these tournaments, our local Association is fundraising to donate funds to "Bowl For The Cure" and "BVL!" We want to thank everyone that has helped us in these fundraising endeavors. One thing to remember.... The bowling center that is the host of the Men's State Tournament is Lightning Strikes in Fort Myers. Larry Lichstein (former professional bowler and ball driller on the PBA tour truck) is live streaming the entire tournament on the Lightning Strikes Bowl Facebook page. So, for those of you that can't make it to watch your favorite bowler, be sure to check out the page and watch live.

I look forward to seeing the bowlers that have yet to participate in this tournament! I can't wait to cheer all of you on with the opportunity to overcome those HUGE scores that have already been rolled!

Since our last newsletter, we have held our Annual Association meeting. During that meeting, I was re-elected as our Association's President for another "one year" term. We were fortunate enough to add a few new members to our Board of Directors and re-elect current members of our Board that were up for renewal. We have a dedicated group of volunteers that work very hard throughout the year to make our Association what it is today! I appreciate each and every one of them!!! I don't say it enough, but....THANK YOU!

Also, during our Annual Meeting, we held our Hall of Fame Inductions and presented awards to our local Association tournament winners. We had a “sit down, plated” dinner that was absolutely superb that was prepared by Crowne Plaza. We want to congratulate William (Boog) Snyder and Greg Lindsay for their induction into our local Hall of Fame! These two gentlemen are very well deserving of such a great honor!

In closing, I would like to take the time to wish everyone a happy, safe and fun holiday season! I have always said that once Halloween rolls around, the holidays will be over before you know it. Next thing we know, we will be cheering... “Happy New Year!”  
Take care! Until next time.... Bowl well, score even better, but more importantly.... HAVE FUN!

[Greater Miami USBC](#)

[Sharon Colon](#)

Hello everyone. I will start out by saying that we hope those of you that were in the path of the hurricanes fared well. Please know that many prayers were said on your behalf. We hope that things will get back to normal for you real soon.

Well, this season has only been going on for about 2 months and we have already finished a couple of tournaments. One of them was the Rolling For a Cure Tournament, which is one of our favorites. The turnout was good and we made lots of money for the charity to spread awareness and further research for breast cancer. Thanks to all who participated.

This week a few of our bowlers participated in the High School State Tournament. Some of the key participants were: Joys Reyes (coming in 2nd in singles), Tyler Salinetto, Chris Cansio, and Jayden Nevers (who shot his first 200 game). The competition was stiff but they all did their best. Pretty good especially since the trip to districts to qualify began in such a negative fashion. The school bus arrived at the school late then made a wrong turn getting lost in the process. Finally, the bus broke down on the highway. Thankfully they all arrived there safely and still bowled great.

Would you like to increase your average and have more fun bowling? Of course you would, but it will require you to do a few things first. Watch some of the videos on the computer (YouTube has lots of them) then take videos of yourself. Compare different aspects of your game with those who are leaders in the sport. Pick a few things you can improve upon then practice, practice, practice. Another thing to do is inspect your equipment to make sure it is up to date and responsive on the lanes. Before you know it you will be performing like a star!

I hope everyone enjoys the meeting in January. As always, may the best scores be yours!

[Leon County High School](#)

[Miranda](#)

[Dobbs](#)

Leon County's Second High School Season has come to an exciting close. Over the course of the regular season, 6 matches were held every Wednesday at Capital Lanes. Each

tournament was comprised of over 70 students from Godby, Chiles, Leon, Lincoln, and Rickards. Students battled it out on the lanes every week in preparation for the District Tournament which was held in Palm Coast this past Monday. Students from Lincoln, Chiles, Leon, and Rickards were present for the tournament. In our second season, Leon County Schools made a name for themselves as Braden from Lincoln and Brooks from Chiles placed first and second respectively individually. As a result, both have qualified for the state tournament which is to take place next week at Boardwalk Bowl in Orlando. On the team side, the Lincoln Boys and Rickards Girls qualified for a baker best 3 of 5 match play. Rickards Girls made history as they made their way to the semi-final for the first time in history after losing their first match and winning a nail-biting second match to stay alive in the tournament. The Capital City has truly made a name for themselves, demonstrating a bright future for high school bowling in the region and introducing new students to the sport.



[Tallahassee USBC](#)

[Michael Fleischacker](#)

The Capital City is super excited to be hosting the 2024/25 Pepsi tournament again. This will be the 2nd time in three years. We plan on having additional food trucks, discounts at local restaurants for families and other surprises. Additional information will be sent to Allen Solomon as we get closer to the tournament. Don't forget that not only are we the Capital City we have many different places to visit and enjoy. Please visit [VisitTallahassee.com](http://VisitTallahassee.com) for additional information.

We have started the beginning of the bowling season with some amazing bowling scores. We have had 12 bowlers bowl their first ever 700 series. We had one bowler (Dan Razzano) not only bowl his first 300 game, but he also decided to bowl another 300 game the following week in league. The best part is that they were both bowled in the 3rd game. Congratulations Dan!!!! Our youth program is off to a great start. We have 55 bowlers compete on a weekly basis on Saturday morning. The youth program just held it's first tournament in which 39 bowlers competed from around the area. We had one youth bowler earn his Junior Gold entry to Green Bay, but even better, a bowler who has only started bowling this season won the tournament. We were so excited.

Finally, our high school program. As expressed by Miranda Dobbs, the head coach at Rickards high school, we have had a magnificent second year of the program. The bowlers from 5 Leon County schools competed in the district tournament and in the individual boy's division we came in 1st and 2nd place. They earned their spots to the state tournament in Orlando.

## Reynoso

Welcome to the start of the new bowling season. We hope all that was affected by Hurricane Helena and Hurricane Milton are safe and recovered from these events.

### AWARDS

Our youth awards program for the 2023-2024 season, we have given out 609 youth awards. Highlighting the season with 4 Triplicates, 6 – 11 In-A-Row Awards, 9 – 300 Games with 8 being 1st time and 4 – 800 Series with 2 being 1 st time.

For the adults for the 2023-2024 season, we gave out 2,957 awards.

Items of note:

300 Game – 84 – 35 being 1 st time

11 In-A-Row – 70 – 44 being 1 st time

800 Series – 37 – 18 being 1 st time

Clean Series – 50 – 30 being 1 st time

We are excited about the transition of our youth bowlers to adult bowling. An example is two of our former youth bowlers who joined the adult league this season. Dominic Gibson-Smith and Ian Harmon. Both have joined the Space Coast Shootout League at River Lanes in Titusville. In the 2nd week of the league both have bowled their first adult 300 Games.

Dominic Gibson-Smith with his 300 Game and a Clean Series Award (791). Ian Harmon had games of 246-267-300 for 805 series for a Clean Series Award. 8 weeks later Ian Harmon bowled 244-267-300 for 811 series. His 2nd 800 series and 2nd 300 game since becoming an adult bowler.

Two Eagle Trophy Awards were locally presented on October 23, 2024 to Sean Evans and Nicholas Fisher on being the 2024 USBC Open Championships Regular Division Doubles Champions at South Point in Las Vegas. They bowled on April 5, 2024, with Sean Evans shooting 804 and Nicholas Fisher 727 for a series total of 1531.

### BVL

During our Open Tournament we were selling the bowling pin signs for the donation to BVL. One of the selling points was to fill the association manager's wall with the pins. We are glad to say that we have sold 100 pins in the 1st squad of our tournament. We thank all that have paid and donated to a great cause.

### FUNDRAISER

We are set for the remaining 10 weeks in the football season for our Crazr Football Fundraiser tickets. The proceeds will benefit our awards and scholarship programs.

Starting Week 9 – Sunday (November 3, 2024) for the next 10 weeks till January 5, 2025 there will be four (4) winners each Sunday after the Monday Night Game.

Each week, you have the opportunity to win \$100, \$50 or \$30 if your 3 pre-selected teams earn one of the highest combined scores OR you could win \$20 if your teams earn the lowest combined score.

[Buzzard](#)

I hope everyone enjoys the newsletter. Although we didn't receive very many submissions this time, I think the ones we have are very interesting and informative. I'm hoping the next one will be even better since we will have had our annual meeting by then.

Thanks to everyone who took their time and sent in an article.

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season.

Be safe and healthy!

