

The Candlepin Professional

The Pro Series

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Mark Smith Becomes the Newest Pro Series Champion at Academy Lanes

Mark Smith finished eighth out of 93 bowlers in the qualifying round at Academy Lanes on November 21st. His score of 633 was good enough to give him the bye into the skins by only three pins. After three strings of qualifying, Mark was sitting with 351. He had two big strings of 140, and 142 to not just only qualify, but place himself in the skins games. Earning the bye is important in this tournament because it guarantees that he will bowl the three strings of skins (seeds 9-24 have to bowl a 1 string match, with the winner moving on to the skins games).

Once he was in, Mark took full advantage of the bye. He came out firing, seemingly throwing spare after spare. In boxes three through five, Mark bowled a triple strike on his way to a 184 string. It was his finish in that string that separated him from the rest of the group. Another triple strike was bowled, this time by another Mark, in boxes five through seven. Mark Strangio, who was also bowling well in his group, bowled the second triple strike of the string. This did not seem to bother Mark Smith one bit. He continued to bowl well and finished with a flurry of spares and strikes. He finished the third string with 105, but he had already amassed a lead big enough to win his group (which he did so with a 424).

In the final match, Smith dominated once again. He separated himself from the pack early by bowling another triple strike, his second in three strings. After five boxes, the string was all but over and Mark put it in cruise control. He finished with a 150 string, good enough to beat Shawn Morrison by 29, Mike Morgan by 31, and Chris Boisvert by 47.

The winners of the other three groups, Shawn Morrison, Mike Morgan, and Chris Boisvert, bowled three string totals of 399, 374, and 398 respectively.

After winning the tournament, and finishing eighth in qualifying, Mark was able to leap frog 20 bowlers and enter the top four in points standings. His previous placing was 24.

Leading all qualifiers was Dave Barber with 751. Finishing second was Craig Holbrook with a score of 661. It marked the fourth consecutive tournament in which Craig has finished in the top three in qualifying.

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Special points of interest:

- Dave Barber leads all qualifiers with 751 at the Skins Game
- Nate Nealey bowls the first 200 string of the Pro Series with 211 at the Team Tournament

Qualifying Results from the Skins Game at Academy Lanes

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Bowler</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Dave Barber	751
2	Craig Holbrook	661
3	Mark Gregory	656
4	Jeff Lapierre	651
5	Skip Easterbrooks	642
6	Shawn Morrison	638
7	Mike Morgan	636
8	Mark Smith	633
9	Dave Lavallee	629
10	Mark Strangio	627
11	Mike O'Brien	627
12	Jason Sparks	625
13	Andrew Maderios	624
14	Ryan Tripp	624
15	Chris Boisvert	621
16	Jon Winchell	621
17	Mark Ricci	621
18	Peter Flynn	618
19	Brian Crowell	617
20	Marc Carrier	613

Point Standings After Skins Game

Pos.	Bowler	Points Behind
1	Craig Holbrook	-
2	Shawn Morrison	337.50
3	Skip Easterbrooks	427.50
4	Mark Smith	590.00
5	Jim Putney	671.67
6	Jon Winchell	679.00
7	Mark Gregory	690.00
8	Shawn Baker	721.67
9	Nate Nealey	740.00
10	Scott Lapierre	743.00
11	Brian Feist	765.00
12	Chris Boisvert	776.50
13	Dave Barber	790.00
14	Brian Crowell	806.00
15	Mike Morgan	830.00
16	Jeff Surette	849.00
17	Mark Strangio	862.50
18	Jim Ayotte	882.00
19	Mike Kustak	901.50
20	Joe Smith	925.00
21	Bob Whitcomb	930.00
22	Steve Renaud, Jr.	930.00
23	Chris Sacchetti	947.50
24	Eric Pelletier	960.00

The points shown are not actual points. They are the amount of points behind the leader in the standings for Bowler of the Year. Currently, seven bowlers out of the top twenty-four are new members.

Team Tournament Results From Bogey Lanes

The second annual team event was held last month at Bogey Lanes in North Brookfield, MA. This is the only tournament of the year (other than the playoffs), in which bowlers do not earn points for how they finish in qualifying or in the overall tournament. The top 12 bowlers in the overall point standings after four events represent the 12 captains in this event. The captains draft their own team one week prior to the tournament. The teams are divided into two divisions of six. Each team bowls every team in their division, and after five strings the top three teams in each division move on to the playoffs. The top team earns a one-string bye and bowls the winner of the match between the second and third seed in their own division.

The team that won the tournament consisted of Nate Nealey, Andrew Maderios, Steve Plante, Marc Carrier, and Mark Ricci. In the first round of the playoffs, they defeated Jon Winchell's team that included Steve Renaud Sr., Det Klein, Dave Lavallee, and Urbie Kafalas. Nealey's team moved on to face Mark Smith's team, which included John Starner, Steve Renaud Jr., Brian Mayer, and DJ Trask. The one string between Nate's team and Mark's team came down to an exciting finish, and actually ended in a tie, which forced a two box roll-off. After the two boxes, Nate Nealey and his team defeated Mark's team and moved on to the championship match.

Waiting for Nealey's team was Mark Gregory's team that included Mike MacIntosh, Dave Godwin, Korey Packard, and Anthony Shaheen. Gregory's team won their division and defeated the team that consisted of Skip Easterbrooks, Lynne Thompson, Jeff Lapierre, Mike Legendre and Richie Myrick. The final match was completely dominated by Nate's team, but more so by Nate himself. After opening the match with spare, seven fill, and another spare, Nate proceeded to throw five strikes in a row on his way to a 211 string. The 211 is the highest single string bowled in the Pro Series to date. After 8 boxes, Nate had a score of 181, and needed just 19 pins for a 200 string. After getting a ten box in the ninth frame, Nate converted a 9 pin drop into a spare and filled the mark with a strike for an incredible 211. Needless to say, Nate's team won the string pretty handily 740-572.

The high single of the tournament came from Anthony Shaheen with 175. Dave Dupuis, Bob Whitcomb and Jim Ayotte led all qualifiers with 702, 691 and 687 respectively. Mark Gregory's team was the only team in the tournament to go undefeated in their division, winning their first six matches of the day. The only match they lost was the only match that counted, the championship match. High team average went to Mark Smith's team with 631, followed closely by Chris Boisvert's team with 626 and Craig Holbrook's team with 624.

Championship Match

Gregory		Nealey	
Mike MacIntosh	95	Marc Carrier	141
Anthony Shaheen	103	Steve Plante	130
Korey Packard	112	Andrew Maderios	115
Dave Godwin	130	Mark Ricci	143
Mark Gregory	132	Nate Nealey	211
Total	572	Total	740

Friday Night Pro League

	TEAM NAME	W	L	SINGLE	SERIES	TOTAL PINS	AVG
1	Central II	89	39	676	1915	29030	605
2	Candlewood	88	40	706	1919	28741	599
3	Hyde Park	86	42	682	1928	29051	605
4	Metro	85	43	692	2003	29800	621
5	Academy I	85	43	651	1926	29160	608
6	Lucky I	80	48	723	1960	29319	611
7	Central I	62	66	658	1916	28086	585
8	Pilgrim	60	68	685	1930	27790	579
9	Woburn	44	84	640	1811	27808	579
10	Academy II	41	87	661	1832	27763	578
11	Lucky II	30	98	649	1828	26934	561
12	Cape Ann	18	110	585	1686	26073	543

Nate Nealey's 211 String

1	-	/	17
2	/	X	37
3	/	30	/
4	/	30	/
5	/	30	/
6	/	26	/
7	/	18	/
8	X		181
9	X		191
10	/	X	211

Nate Nealey's 211 string from the championship match from the Team Tournament.

A Look Ahead: Singles Knockout

This Sunday, January 16, 2011 at Boutwell's Bowling Center in Concord, NH, the next Pro Series event will be held. The tournament is the second and final Singles Knockout. Members and non-members alike will bowl a 5 string qualifying round with the top 32 advancing to the knockout round. In the knockout round, the top seed bowls the 32nd seed, the 2nd seed bowls the 31st seed, and so on. The knockout round is a single elimination format, with the winners moving on, and the losers going home. The last bowler remaining will be crowned the Singles Knockout champion.

All are welcome to Boutwell's Bowling Center this Sunday to witness some of the best bowlers in the New England Area. The qualifying rounds begin at 11, and the Knock-out round should begin around 4 PM.

The Pro Series Newsletter

If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter, please e-mail Dave Barber at LuckyStrikeDave@yahoo.com. If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please call Dave at 781-592-9100.

The purpose of this newsletter is to publish the scores of each tournament in The Pro Series; however, we are always looking for something newsworthy to write about. So if there is a record broken, a tournament won, or even a good three string total bowled, please send it to us at the above e-mail.