

The Candlepin Professional

The Pro Series

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Brian Feist and Skip Easterbrooks Successfully Defend Their Doubles Title

Brian Feist and Skip Easterbrooks have swept both doubles tournaments this season (not including the random draw doubles), winning at Alley Kat in September, and Fairway Sports World in March. With 62 entries at Fairway, and 61 at Alley Kat, simply winning the tournament is quite a feat. Winning both tournaments in one year is rather incredible. This is their first year teaming up in the doubles tournaments, and so far they are undefeated.

In the qualifying round, Brian had strings of 141, 115, 104, 106 and 119 for a score of 585, while Skip had strings of 128, 97, 121, 120 and 160 for a score of 626. Together they bowled 1211 and finished in 13th out of 62.

In the first round of the knock out, Brian and Skip faced off against Steve Renaud Sr. and Steve Renaud Jr., defeating them 259-206. Ed Woodside and Hawk Halas, who received a bye with a score of 1248, were waiting for Skip and Brian in the second round. They defeated Hawk and Ed with a score of 253-229 and moved on to face Jon Winchell and Ed Tringale. After defeating Winchell and Tringale in the quarterfinals 259-246, they moved on to face Glennis McKinley and Lynne Thomson in the semifinals. The semifinal match would prove to be the toughest of the day for Skip and Brian, as the match would come down to the final box. In a tight match, Lynne Thomson bowled three marks in a row in the 7th through 9th and had a tough break spare leave in the 10th box as Brian made his spare leave to win by 9 pins, 234-225. In the final match, Brian and Skip defeated John Zappi and Jeff Surette 214-205. For Jeff, it was his third consecutive tournament finals appearance.

We would like to thank the Fairway for giving us the opportunity to hold the last major tournament it will ever see. It was an amazing sight to see the group of bowlers in that building at the same time, just weeks before it closes its doors for good. A special thank you to Helen Selew, Jeremy Seaholm and the staff at Fairway for helping run a smooth tournament.

Bowler of The Year

With seven tournaments in the book, and only one more to go, Craig Holbrook has already wrapped up bowler of the year. In the seven qualifying rounds this year, Craig has finished 2nd, 3rd, 3rd, 2nd, 13th, 4th and 3rd. In the five knockout rounds, not including the Skins Game and the 10-Stringer, he has finished in the semifinals once and the quarterfinals four times. With such great finishes in the qualifying and knockout rounds, it's no wonder Holbrook has already won bowler of the year.

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Special points of interest:

- Dave Barber leads all qualifiers with 697.
- Craig Holbrook bowls the high string of the tournament with 168.

Qualifying Results: Doubles Knockout

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Bowlers</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Dan Allard / Dave Barber	1305
2	Mike Kustak / Brian Mayer	1304
3	Dave Godwin / Chris Sargent	1255
4	Ed Woodside / Hawk Halas	1248
5	Nick Norcross / Peter Pereira	1247
6	Mike Morgan / Shawn Baker	1230
7	John Zappi / Jeff Surette	1228
8	Lynne Thomsen / Glennis McKinley	1228
9	Mike MacIntosh / Richie Myrick	1225
10	Jim Ayotte / Steve Vadney	1219
11	Rob Taylor / Dan Gauthier	1217
12	Ed Tringale / Jon Winchell	1215
13	Skip Easterbrooks / Brian Feist	1211
14	Jim Nestor / Korey Packard	1211
15	Aaron Souza / Rich Cocchi	1209
16	Dave Richards / Shawn Morrison	1208
17	Shawn McKinley / Gary Carrington	1205
18	Dave Dupuis / Bob Whitcomb	1204
19	Mark Gregory / Craig Holbrook	1203
20	Steve Renaud Sr / Steve Renaud Jr	1194
21	Lou Alberghini / Stu Bergman	1186
22	Ben Vestal / Kris Winiarz	1186
23	Chris Boisvert / Eric Pelletier	1183
24	Joe Tavernese / Jim Putney	1183

Top 24 qualify for the knockout round.
Top 8 earn a bye into the second round.

Individual Qualifying: Doubles Knockout

<u>Pos</u>	<u>Bowler</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	Dave Barber	697
2	Brian Mayer	680
3	Craig Holbrook	661
4	Korey Packard	658
5	Peter Pereira	655
6	Jim Ayotte	651
7	Chris Sargent	650
8	Mike MacIntosh	649
9	Rich Limone	639
10	Rich Cocchi	636
11	Lynne Thomsen	635
12	John Zappi	632
13	Skip Easterbrooks	626
14	Ed Woodside	626
15	Bob Whitcomb	626
16	Mike Kustak	624
17	Scott Lapierre	623
18	Hawk Halas	622
19	Jon Winchell	620
20	Shawn Morrison	619
21	Joe Tavernese	617
22	Mike Morgan	616
23	Gary Carrington	614
24	Steve Renaud Sr	614
25	Shawn Baker	614
26	Brian Purdy	613
27	Rob Taylor	613
28	Shannon Witham	612
29	Nate Nealey	609
30	Ben Vestal	608
31	Dan Allard	608
32	Dave Godwin	605

Western New England Pro Tour

Written by: Richie Myrick

This season's WNECA Pro Tour came to an end in entertaining fashion as the final event determined winners, second-chance bowlers, and the Bowler of the Year, all in the same day.

On March 6th, 2011, the WNECA Pro Tour visited Candle Lanes in Pittsfield, MA for the 5th event of the season. There were an impressive 32 bowlers at this event, making it the largest field in nearly 10 years. Brian Mayer scored 636, qualifying him 5th and sending fan favorite Charlie Jutras home with his 635 score and a check for a 6th place finish.

Mayer won his first two ladder matches over Steven Renaud Jr. and Rich Bober before running into Dave Dupuis in the semi-finals. Dupuis went on to defeat Mayer and then Steve Renaud, Sr., in the finals. For Dupuis, this proved to be an important win.

The last WNECA Pro Tour event was held on April 3 at Canal Lanes. This season the format for the final event was changed. It was a member's only event featuring 10 paying spots with a top prize of \$750. In addition, there was a second-chance singles knockout for the members who hadn't cashed during the regular season.

Aaron Spiller qualified 5th with a 630, and defeated #4 seed Brian Mayer with a double-strike 9-fill in the last box to win by 1, 148-147. Rich Bober then defeated Spiller and Steven Renaud, Jr., in succession. Top seed Gary Santora ended Bober's run, winning the final WNECA event.

This season the tour added a new Bowler of the Year award based on a points system similar to the one used by the Pro Series. With 2 wins, a 2nd place finish, and another top 5 showing, Dave Dupuis narrowly edged out fellow 2-time winner Steven Renaud, Jr. to win Bowler of the Year. Congratulations to both bowlers on a great season. Also, congratulations to Gordon Pomeroy from Candle Lanes who defeated John 'Urbie' Kafalas in the second-chance knockout.

It was a great year for the WNECA Tour. We saw some great bowling, fantastic matches, and most importantly a lot of new faces. We hope next season to have even more new folks. I want to personally thank Joan Yamilkoski for running the tour all these years, and I'm happy to report she'll be on board for another year as Tournament Director. Also thanks to Steve Renaud, Sr. for all the hard work and help this year. We all appreciate it!

The first stop next season (barring any changes) will be at Funtime Lanes in Holyoke, MA, on Sunday, October 2nd at 12 p.m. See you there!

Point Standings After Doubles Knockout

Pos	Bowler	Points Behind
1	Craig Holbrook	-
2	Jeff Surette	675.5
3	Shawn Morrison	705.5
4	Skip Easterbrooks	750
5	Mark Smith	862.5
6	Nate Nealey	942.5
7	Shawn Baker	951.2
8	Dave Barber	952.5
9	Mike Morgan	1038.5
10	Jon Winchell	1052.5
11	Mark Gregory	1163
12	Jim Ayotte	1164.5
13	Jim Putney	1184.2
14	Brian Feist	1197.5
15	Bob Whitcomb	1232.5
16	Scott Lapierre	1249.5
17	Peter Flynn	1264.5
18	Brian Purdy	1270
19	Chris Boisvert	1284
20	Mike Kustak	1338
21	John Zappi	1377.5
22	Mark Ricci	1396.5
23	Steve Vadney	1442.5
24	Eric Pelletier	1450

The points shown are not actual points. They are the amount of points behind the leader in the standings for Bowler of the Year.

Full standings and tournament results can be found at www.candlepinproseries.com.

Friday Night Pro League

	TEAM NAME	W	L	SINGLE	SERIES	TOTAL PINS	AVG
1	Metro	157	75	706	2064	54620	628
2	Hyde Park	157	75	707	1937	52278	601
3	Central II	156	76	676	1915	52408	602
4	Candlewood	144	88	706	1973	52136	599
5	Academy I	143	89	651	1926	52760	606
6	Lucky I	142	90	723	1960	52745	606
7	Woburn	113	119	640	1820	51075	587
8	Central I	112	120	684	1930	50826	584
9	Pilgrim	94	138	694	1930	49944	574
10	Academy II	87	145	661	1832	50305	578
11	Lucky II	55	177	649	1828	48600	559
12	Cape Ann	32	200	655	1802	47385	545

Top 5 Averages: Mike Morgan 127, Bob Whitcomb 127, Mark Gregory 127, Jeff Surette 126, Chris Sacchetti 125
 Top 5 Triples: Shawn Baker 460, Craig Holbrook 447, Bob Whitcomb 444, Mike Morgan 444, Chris Sacchetti 441
 Top 5 Singles: Shawn Baker 201, Jeff Surette 180, Chris Sargent 178, Chris Harris 177, Dave Hodge 175

Race for the playoffs

With a possible 550 points to be earned (a bowler would need to qualify 1st overall and win the ultimate ladder), there are potentially more than 40 bowlers in contention for the last spot. The odds are surely stacked against any bowler to accomplish this because no top qualifier has ever advanced to win the tournament.

Currently, Eric Pelletier is sitting 24th with a point total of 597.5, and is less than 100 points behind John Zappi who is in the 21st spot. He is also sitting 24.2 points ahead of Korey Packard, and only 100 points separate him from the Brian Mayer in the 34th spot.

Of the remaining bowlers in contention for the last playoff spot, winning the tournament or qualifying in the top spot is not a necessity. Finishing among the top qualifiers, or advancing deep into the ladder rounds could prove to be enough to steal a spot away. The race for the final spot will surely come down to the wire, and if everything works out, it might even come down to the final string, or even the final ball.

A Look Ahead: The Ultimate Ladder

This Sunday, April 17, 2011, the next Pro Series event will be held at Canal Lanes in Southampton, MA. The final tournament of the year is the Ultimate Ladder. Members and non-members alike will bowl a 3 string qualifying round with the top 25 advancing to the knockout round. The knockout round consists of 5 ladders, with the seeds of each ladder being determined by qualifying score. The winner of each ladder will move on to the ultimate ladder, with the seeds in the ultimate ladder determined by their winning ladder score.

All are welcome to Canal Lanes in Southampton, MA this Sunday to witness some of the best bowlers in the New England Area. The qualifying rounds begin at 12, and the ladder rounds 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.