

SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER REPORT

With the 2009-2010 bowling season we have continued to try and promote the Master Bowlers Association of Ontario as well as 5 pin bowling. However, there has been fewer opportunities to promote 5 pin with other bowling groups since the departure of Walter Valentan from Bowl Ontario and in fact joint efforts to publicize our sport have become nonexistent.

We enjoyed some success in the fall with the 20th Anniversary of our joint tournament with Special Olympics Ontario. With the input of both Anna and Jim Swartzman and some sensational prizes, the milestone event attracted the interest of Special Olympics in both Ontario and Canada and hopefully a strong 5 Pin Bowling video will be ready for presentation at the Annual General Meeting. As well, our joint effort was recognized by Jerry Howarth in front of 1000 guests at the Canadian Special Olympics Sports Celebrity Festival on December 15th.

In Ontario, sponsorship arrangements have been outlined in this summary and there is a combined effort by a dedicated group of people to keep everyone involved. Unfortunately, while we continue to try and pursue new sponsorships, in this financial climate it appears that businesses have cut their bottom line by reducing such items as sponsorship. Nationally, we have offered the suggestion that 2010 be recognized as the Year of the League, as the first bowling league was actually formed in 1910. However this idea doesn't appear to have been well received.

At the C5PBA semi-annual meeting in Niagara Falls, we will present an Honour Roll for publication that includes individuals who have won national singles titles in both the C5PBA and the MBAC. There are only fourteen bowlers on this list and, from Ontario, we recognize Ian Cameron, Marney Galawray, Bill Hault, Charlene MacCormack, Diane MacLeod and Brenda Walters.

The Master Bowlers Association of Canada held their annual meeting in Las Vegas and, be assured, costs were studied and were overall less expensive than the previous year's event in Montreal. While I continue as president, we now have a new vice president and congratulate Brian Rossetti of Alberta on his election. We are pleased that each province is surviving and, overall, the national membership number showed a slight increase this year.

Finally, we continue to hope for another north-south tournament involving the U.S. duckpin bowlers, but our discussions have been somewhat sporadic. We will continue to market our sport, but the process is becoming increasingly difficult each year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Walter Heeney
Special Projects Manager