



Wish List IV

It's that time of year again: Time for rest, relaxation, practice, and maybe a tournament or two over the summer. Time to try that new grip or new ball that you've been thinking about. Time for the "new" System of Bowling. (I'm still not sure the "old" system was that bad.) Time for me to wish that....

• More commercial leagues realize that there are some very talented female bowlers in our area who would like to bowl in a competitive league with the big boys and drop their "men only" rule.

• Chuck Gannon Jr. comes out of retirement and shows us all what a truly fine talent he is, both on the lanes and in teaching others to bowl their best.

• More attention is paid to our junior bowlers by the centers in our area and that the coaches of these future stars are allowed to teach and instruct instead of baby sitting while the youngsters bowl their three games.

• Ken Jones keeps flashing that great smile at least one more season.

• My friend Roger Tarr makes a complete recovery and is able to compete again next season.

• There be a board made up of association members, proprietors, local PBA members, and pro shop operators to address bowling-related ideas, promotions, and problems in our area.

• The local and national media outlets realize the importance and popularity of bowling and give our game the coverage it deserves.

• Gary "Guru" Parsons never changes and keeps telling it like it is.

• Area centers take the time to educate their customers about what is going on in their house. Tell them what their lane

maintenance program is and explain to them the new "System of Bowling" and what they should expect.

• Bowlers everywhere realize that their bad nights are not always the fault of their bowling center or ball driller. Some of their misfortunes may be due to "pilot" error.

• Bowlers who are not happy with the "new" System of Bowling let their feelings be known by dropping a note or placing a call to ABC Headquarters in Greendale, Wisconsin.

The days of slamming three holes in a ball and sending you on your way are over. Trust and confidence in your ball driller is a must!

• Someday, somehow the powers that be (ABC & PBA) realize that bowling is played on three separate and distinctive levels. "Our" game is played on a recreational or social level, a competitive level, and a professional level. One should not be confused with another, and we should *not* attempt to make these levels equal.

• Mo Pinel never loses his level of intensity and desire when it comes to bowling and that someday he will be recognized for his contributions to the sport we love.

• My cousin, Syd Jones, never loses his laugh or his love for bowling and that he does find something he did lose: his arm swing.

• Someone like a Bill Hall or Larry Lichstein gets a spot on ESPN during a PBA telecast to discuss equipment and the drilling techniques that the players are using on the telecast. (ABC Sports probably wouldn't have the time; they might run over and miss a minute of dog sledding in the Yukon.)

• Bowlers are as fortunate as I am and bowl in a league where the officers take care of business and make league night a worry-free affair. Thank you, Gray Ransom.

• Someday soon some of the most talented bowlers in our area get their deserved recognition by being elected to our Hall of Fame—Chuck Gannon Jr., Mike Hahn, Greg Goetz, and Rich Wolfe, to name a few.

• More league presidents and other officials take the lead of people like "Crazy Ted" Gruszkowski of the Guys'N Dolls League at Fair Lanes Dale City and bring *fun* and *enjoyment* back into league play.

• Editor Bob Cosgrove receives on time the articles from all of the *BOWL Magazine* columnists at least once next season.

• You enjoyed reading my columns this season as much as I enjoyed writing them.

• I can publicly thank my staff coworkers and associates for helping me make some of my bowling dreams come true. And I hope more of *my* dreams become reality next season.

• More people realize that fitting, drilling, and balancing a bowling ball requires knowledge, skill, and precision (especially with the sophisticated equipment on the market today). Our game has become much more than a quarter-finger, quarter-side. The days of slamming three holes in a ball and sending you on your way are over. Trust and confidence in your ball driller is a *must!*

• I hope that all your bowling wishes come true next season. To help make those wishes come true, keep practicing, don't get discouraged, and keep in touch with the pro shop of your choice.

See you in September.

Jerry Francomano, a recognized authority on bowling equipment and a top bowler for many years, operates the Sports Plus/Carmen Don Pro Shop in Alexandria. He will consider all pro shop-related questions sent to BOWL Magazine.

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PBA member Barry Mann begins a series of excerpts from his new bowling book, Barry Mann's Inner Bowling.