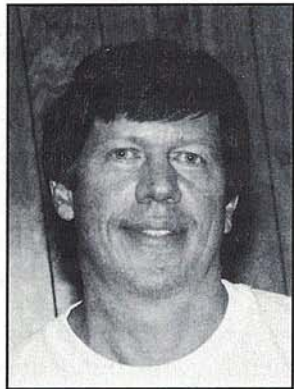


The Best Bowling Tip I've Ever Received

By Mark Glover

When I started bowling Professional Bowlers Association tournaments in the 1980s, I overheard a couple of top pros discussing how *you can never get too good at reading lane conditions*. Since then, I've taken their words to heart and always tried my best to implement them into my game.



The basics to reading lane conditions include finding the track, the oil line, the "out of bounds" area(s), and then lining up on the approach accordingly. Other challenges are watching for changes in the lanes as you bowl. This includes oil carrydown in the beginning and lanes drying up near the end.

You need to make educated guesses on when and how much to move your feet and your target(s) on the lane. Know what ball to use and when to change balls. Use the proper ball speed, and get a good entry angle into the pocket.

In league bowling, the lanes at your center usually are similar week to week. If you remember *how much* and *when* the lanes changed the previous week, you now can use this information to your advantage. If you're having trouble, however, watch other bowlers who roll the ball similar to you and see if there is some adjustment you can make to your game.

Bowling is a game of continuous learning. Experience tells me that it's usually the nights when you don't shoot your best that you learn the most.

Mark Glover, a member of the NCABA Hall of Fame, has appeared 10 times in the association's Top 10 ranking, including four consecutive seasons as the No. 1-ranked bowler.