

BOWL

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★ A SALUTE TO THE JUNIORS ★



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The American Junior Bowling Congress (AJBC) is dedicated to serving the boys and girls of America who bowl, instilling in them the values of good sportsmanship and good citizenship; creating a desire for physical fitness, mental alertness and morally sound patterns of behavior; maintaining the ideals of amateurism to protect athletic eligibility, and providing a membership services program, adult leadership and guidance in the game of tenpins.

'On August 1st, 1964, the AJBC began operating out of ABC headquarters in Milwaukee, under the policies set forth by the WIBC-ABC joint committee on junior bowling. The junior program was turned over to the two groups by the National Bowling Council in an effort to provide more dynamic leadership and greater encouragement to the bowling program for boys and girls of 18 years of age and under.'

With that report from the American Bowling Congress it was full speed ahead for the AJBC. In just two months under WIBC-ABC leadership, 471 junior associations were organized in 48 states and in Canada. Today there are 930 associations with more than 375,000 individual members. At the present rate of growth membership is expected to reach 400,000 by the end of the 1967-68 bowling year.

In the Washington area, junior programs had been active for many years. In August 1963 the Vir-Mar District Junior Bowling Association was organized. Edward Allen served as the association's first president and Johnna Nordenson as its secretary. In the five years of its existence the association has grown to 3500 members who participate in 88 leagues and bowl in 29 area bowling centers.

Membership in the AJBC is open to all boys and girls who have not reached their 19th birthday on or before August 1st of the bowling year. Bowlers are divided into divisions based upon their ages. There are three divisions:

Bantams - Boys and girls 12 years of age and under as of August 1st of the bowling year.

Juniors - Boys and girls 13 through 15 years of age who will not reach their 16th birthday on or before August 1st of the

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I welcome all Junior bowlers participating in the state tournament. We are happy and proud to host the championship. I hope you enjoy your visit and that your scores will reflect your true ability. We are proud of our Vir-Mar District JBA. Like most other junior organizations we have continued to grow. Presently we have more than 3500 members who participate in 88 leagues. They have kept us quite busy but we find the results heart warming. It has been a pleasure for me to work with a wonder group of officers and coaches who have done an outstanding job in supervising our youngsters. During the two weekends of the tournament (June 22-23, 29-30) we will need a lot of assistance in conducting the tournament. We will need scorekeepers and checkers to help the events run as smoothly as possible. If you are in the area of the Annandale Bowling Center please drop in and give us a hand. To the champions of tomorrow who are participating in the tournament I ask your cooperation in helping the officials perform their duties by remembering to abide by the AJBC code.

Betty Allen

bowling year.

Seniors - Boys and girls 16 through 18 years of age who will not reach their 19th birthday on or before August 1st of the bowling year.

To assist the AJBC in operating its ever growing programs in this area, the Vir-Mar District AJBC Council was organized. Membership consists of representatives from the Washington City Tenpin Bowling Association, the Washington D.C. Area Women's Bowling Association and the AJBC Officers. From this body representatives are sent to the State AJBC association to help direct the activities of that organization.

The Virginia State JBA was founded in 1965 and consists of representatives from all city JBA. Currently serving as the head of the state association is Presi-

dent John Moore of Petersburg, Va. Edward Allen, a director of the Washington Men's Bowling Association and its advisor on AJBC affairs is a state vice president. Christine T. Ferguson of Richmond is also a vice president and Bill Wynn of Roanoke serves as secretary-treasurer.

In Washington the Allens have kept the top AJBC position in the family as wife Betty succeeded Eddie to the presidency. Johnna Nordenson turned the secretarial duties over to Betty Cook.

Under the direction of a national headquarters, the city and state AJBC operates quite similar to their local parent organizations. A sanction form and membership cards are prepared by leagues and forwarded to the association secretary. Juniors must include their ages in order to determine eligibility and class.

All divisions of junior bowlers may compete in one league, however, their awards are based on their age groups. A wide and varied awards program has been established to recognize performance on the lanes. In the Bantam Division a girl is recognized for a 150 single and a 450 series. A boy must reach 175 and 500. In the Junior Division a girl needs a 200 game or a 475 series. Junior boys need 225 and 575. Senior girls 210 and 500 while Senior boys must reach 250 and 600. Some of these scores may seem to be quite high for the youngsters but locally 734 awards were presented last season for high games, series, triplicates, all spare, big four and the 7-10.

Junior bowlers are guided by adult coaches and instructors who have attended specially established clinics to develop the necessary techniques required for teaching youngsters. The following philosophy guides the course of instruction.

When individuals enter a bowling establishment for the first time, with the intent to learn to bowl, there can be but two results of their first efforts. Either they won't care if they ever bowl again - or they won't be able to wait to bowl again. Things that discourage a beginning bowler can be avoided with correct and proper instruction.