



Issue No. 2 | Fall 2024



BVL Mission Statement

The mission of BVL is to brighten the lives of America's veterans and active-duty men and women through recreational and therapeutic programs and services.

What Is BVL?

Founded in 1942, BVL is a non-profit charity where state and local associations, bowling centers, and bowlers around the nation help raise money to fund recreation therapy programs that address emotional and physical needs of veterans and active-duty military, including sports, music, crafts, technology, and adaptive equipment for rehabilitation activities.

State and local associations can elect to designate their fund raising efforts to stay local supporting VA programs in their area. All BVL funds raised by the GRUSBC **stays local** supporting the Richmond VA Medical Center (formerly McGuire VA Medical Center). In April 2024 at the national USBC convention, the GRUSBC presented a check to the BVL in the amount of \$7,000 which is the largest amount of money raised by the association to date. That money was routed back to the Richmond VA Medical Center. Thank you to all the bowlers in the Richmond area who purchased 50/50 tickets and participated in our BVL tournament. You helped make it happen!

How Can You Help?

November is BVL month for the GRUSBC where Board members will be visiting all the leagues in the city conducting a 50/50 raffle where 1/2 of the money raised will go toward our BVL donation. When you see us, buy tickets! Additionally, we will be having our 3rd annual BVL tournament on November 9th at Bowlero West End hosted by Double D Tournaments where all proceeds will be donated to BVL. Bowlers can win prizes by participating in raffles, Mystery Game, and brackets. Watch for more information on GRUSBC's website and Facebook page. Finally, you can make a donation in any amount. Reach out to any GRUSBC board member who will be happy to add to the association's total donation.

The GRUSBC thanks you in advance for your support this year!



HOUSE REPS

GRUSBC House Reps—Who Are They? What do they do?

In each of the centers where there are USBC certified leagues, GRUSBC has assigned House Reps. House Reps are the initial point of contact supporting the bowlers, leagues and centers answering any questions they may have. They may not always have the answer right away, but they'll know where they can get it. League officers have invited them to their league meetings to help explain USBC rules or just be there to answer any questions that may come up. New league officers can reach out to their House Rep should they need assistance or have any questions about their new role. Additionally, they will present special recognition awards when bowlers have notable achievements such as 300 games, high score plaques, or to make announcements in general.

Do you know who your House Reps are?

Bowl America Short Pump



Margo Beck



Raymond Clark

Bowl America Southwest



Kurtis Jackson



Aaron Layne Sr

Bowlero Mechanicsville



Bret Loeb



Ollie Morton

Bowlero West End



Andy Kubyako



Don Blowers

Bowlero Richmond



Clint Corry Jr

Hall Of Fame

Nomination Deadline: November 15

Know an outstanding bowler who might be worthy of being inducted into GRUSBC's Hall of Fame? Maybe for Bowling Achievement? Maybe for Meritorious Service? **Any GRUSBC member** can nominate a fellow bowler who meets the criteria to be inducted into the HOF. The nomination form and criterias can be found on GRUSBC's website and are due by **November 15, 2024**.

Trivia Questions

Answers on page #4

Below are some common questions among bowlers. Do you know the answer?

- 1) True or False: After throwing the 1st ball, the 5- and 10-pins were left standing, but the 5-pin slid to the right almost where the 6-pin was. The rack knocked it over when lifting the pins. The pin needs to be respotted where the 6-pin was.
- 2) I'm throwing my 2nd shot at the 10-pin and in doing so, I barely nicked a deadwood in the gutter just before my ball knocked down the 10-pin. Does it count?
- 3) True or False: A prize fund must be voted on by each bowler in the league and the one with the most votes wins.



Bowler Spotlight: James Washington

This quarter's spotlight is on Bowl America Southwest Manager, **James Washington**, who has been a center manager for 31 years with the last 29 at BA Southwest. James got his start in bowling while attending Virginia Tech in 1983 as a control desk operator. He was a volunteer assistant coach for the Women's bowling team and saw the team go to the National Championships for two consecutive years.

James has been involved in the youth programs for many years coaching many of Richmond's youth who continue to bowl in adult leagues today. He's been recognized as Coach of the Year by TNBA (2022) and CIAA Bowling (2024) where he proudly displays his recognition banner in his center (pictured below). "Although I never bowled as a youth, I really focus my attention on the youth over my years as a Manager. I enjoy coaching youth bowlers and can always be heard saying, 'They grew up in my youth program'," says Washington. "It makes me proud to see many bowlers who bowled in my program over the years now have their kids in my program."

James has been involved in other bowling activities over the years such as serving on the VA State USBC and the Greater Richmond USBC boards. He was also a past member of the NCAA Women's Bowling Championship Committee. He's currently the VA State Junior Gold Tournament Director and has been the Head Women's bowling coach of the VA Union Lady Panthers since 2008. Additionally, he has been inducted into the VA State USBC and GRUSBC Hall's of Fame. In November of this year, he will be inducted into the Greater Richmond Bowling Senate TNBA Hall of Fame. When asked what his biggest achievement was, "Starting a nonprofit Youth Bowling club in 2016 and having that club name a Scholarship in my name," says Washington.

As James looks ahead post operations as a Manager, he plans to stay involved with the youth by starting a VA State Youth Bowler's Tour. The tour will give the youth bowlers an opportunity to bowl on challenging patterns and earn additional scholarship funds at various tournaments throughout the state of Virginia. The tour will start in 2025.

When James is not in the center or working with the youth, he loves to spend his time singing and fellowshiping with family. He's married to Dawn Washington and has four children and three grandchildren. "Because I am Blessed, God Help me to Bless Somebody Else' is my life's motto," says Washington with a look of pride.

On behalf of the Greater Richmond USBC, we thank James for all he's done for bowling and with our city's youth. We are proud of his many achievements and look forward to the things he plans to continue doing with bowling and the youth. He's been a true inspiration that many of us will remember for years to come.





CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

October 12, 2024: Double D Doubles Tournament: 10:00am @ Bowl America Short Pump. Entry details are published on Double D Tournaments Facebook page.

October 5-20, 2024: VA State Senior Tournament: Team event at AMF Lynnhaven, S&D at AMF Norfolk.

October 26, 2024: Double D Trios Tournament: At Bowl America Short Pump. Entry details and times will be published on Double D Tournaments Facebook page.

November 8 - 10, 2024: TNBA Eastern Regional Tournament: ABC West Lanes in Mechanicsburg, PA. Visit TNBA's website for entry forms.



2024 - 2025 GRUSBC TOURNAMENTS

- ◆ **700 Club:** Mar 21, 2025 @ Bowl America Southwest
- ◆ **800 Club:** Jan 19, 2025 @ Bowl America Southwest
- ◆ **Youth / Adult:** Nov 24, 2024 @ Bowlero West End
- ◆ **Youth / Adult:** Jan 31, 2025 @ Bowlero West End
- ◆ **Youth:** Feb 1-2, 2025 @ Bowl America Southwest & Bowlero Mechanicsville
- ◆ **Senior:** Feb 15-16, 22, 2025 @ Bowlero West End
- ◆ **Women's:** Mar 22-23, 29-30, 2025 @ Bowl America Southwest
- ◆ **Open:** Mar 22-23, 29-30, 2025 @ Bowl America Southwest
- ◆ **BVL 3-6-9 Charity Tournament:** Nov 9, 2024 @ Bowlero West End (non-certified - all proceeds go to BVL supporting the Richmond VA Medical Center).

CONTACT US

Greater Richmond USBC

If you have any comments, suggestions, or questions, feel free to reach out to the various people within the GRUSBC.

General GRUSBC questions: Association Manager Raymond Clark at rcgrba@verizon.net.

GRUSBC President: Vickie Rengers at vickiebryant64@yahoo.com.

Newsletter Content: Bret Loeb at bratpk@gmail.com.

High Scores FB Recognition: Scores@grusbc.com.

Website: Kristin Rowlett at kristinrowlett@gmail.com.

Facebook: Mike Snead at mws300@verizon.net.

Trivia Questions Answered: *from page #2*

- 1) FALSE - Per USBC rules, the pin should be respotted in the original position before it slid to the right. It needs to be respotted in the 5-pin spot.
- 2) No, it does not count and it should be scored as a miss. It's always important to have deadwoods cleared from the gutters before you throw your ball. If a deadwood is hit before the ball reaches any of the pins, it's considered a dead ball and the score is a miss.
- 3) In the absence of a league rule stating that each bowler gets a prize fund vote, the prize fund is voted on by the board of directors made up of team captains and league officers. A winning prize fund must have "majority" vote to win. A majority is considered ONE more than 1/2 of the voting body, not necessarily the one with the most votes.