

DAVIDSON WINS N.W.S.T. SEASON OPENER AT SUNSET LANES

The Northwest Senior Tour kicked off its twenty-third season on August 26 at Sunset Lanes in Beaverton. A field of 45 bowlers included 11 new members and was the most geographically diverse season-opener in recent memory, with competitors coming from the panhandle of Idaho, the Seattle-Tacoma area, stretching south across the Oregon border and into northern California.

The excitement started early as Frank Dietz, Jr., the N.W.S.T. career leader in 300 games, almost added to his record in round one of qualifying. But a stubborn 7-pin left him with a 299 game. By round three, 11 bowlers had joined the + 100 club. Portland's Trent Zabelle led the pack with an opening three-game set of 752. Close behind were left-hander Frank Dietz, Jr. at 741, Vancouver's Bob Porter with 732, and Dallas, Oregon's, Dennis Day at 730.

Round four began to establish the likely cut line for the 14 qualifiers to the finals, looking to be well north of the + 100 target. Frank Dietz, Jr. regained the lead with a solid 248 game, bringing his four-game total to 989--a 247 per game average. Zabelle dropped one spot to second place at 969.

Rounding out the top five were Sandy, Oregon, right-hander Bill Sanders, his outstanding 290 game moving him into third place with a total of 960. A 247 game moved Sunset Lanes co-proprietor, Jon Tang, into fourth place at 954. Bob Porter settled in fifth place with a 952 pinfall. Washington left-hander Bob Davidson shot the round's high game, his near-perfect 297 moving him into a solid ninth place position.

As qualifying headed into the homestretch, only 2 players had achieved a + 200 total by the end of round five. Averaging 253 over his last 4 games, right-hander Jon Tang took over first place with a 5-game total of 1212--a 242 per game average. Frank Dietz, Jr. followed closely in second place at 1201--averaging 240 a game. Gresham, Oregon's, Jay Spellman climbed back into third place on the strength of a 246 game for a 1187 total. Bill Sanders and Bob Porter remained in the top five, the N.W.S.T. rookies in fourth and fifth place at 1186 and 1177.

Entering the sixth and final game of qualifying, over half the tournament field had a realistic chance to make the finals. A 250 + game could advance a bowler outside the cut line into match play, while those on or inside the number faced the pressure of shooting a solid final game to secure their ticket to the finals.

Saving his best for last, 2012 N.W.S.T. all-star Tim Myers vaulted from tenth place to leading qualifier on the strength of his 290 game, finishing with a six-game total of 1448--a 241 per game average. Five other bowlers broke through the 1400 ceiling. Bob Porter moved up to second place with a 1424 total--a per game average of 237. Jay Spellman held onto third place with 1420 in total pinfall--averaging 236 a game.

Frank Dietz, Jr. led all “super seniors;” his six-game total of 1411 placed the Oregon left-hander in fourth. Rounding out the top six qualifiers were Beaver state right-handers Trent Zabelle and Jon Tang with 1408 and 1402 totals.

Washington bowlers secured three of the next four qualifying spots, with Mitch Vernon in seventh at 1376, Bob Davidson in eighth with a 1364 total, and Bryan Minnig in tenth at 1355. Northern California’s Bob Reed broke through into ninth place with 1362 in total pins.

The remaining qualifiers included Oregon right-hander Bill Sanders in eleventh place with a 1353 pinfall. A final game of 224 lifted the reigning N.W.S.T. player-of-the-year, Tom Anderson, into a twelfth place tie with Dennis Day at 1336.

Deadlocked for the 14th and final qualifying position were Oregon right-hander Bill Starnes and Sunset Lanes co-owner Tom Burke, both totaling 1334 for a 222 per game average. In the 9th/10th frame roll off, Starnes defeated Burke, 39-29, to become the first N.W.S.T. bowler to make the finals in the new “super senior-plus” category.

Tom Burke earned \$150 as the alternate. P.B.A. Hall-of-Famer Ernie Schlegel claimed the remaining “super senior” check of \$100, closing with games of 248 and 257 for a 1311 total--a 218 per game average.

Round one of match play opened with qualifying leader, Tim Myers, defeating Bill Starnes, 237-171, closing his game with a five-bagger. Starnes, on the other hand, could not overcome three splits in the first seven frames.

Second seed Bob Porter failed to generate any striking momentum in his contest versus Dennis Day. On the other hand, Day followed a first frame spare with eleven strikes in a row to cruise to a 290-185 win, moving him from 12th to third place in the standings.

Highlighting round one was Bob Reed’s first perfect game of his N.W.S.T. career. His 300-233 victory over Jon Tang catapulted the right-hander from ninth to second. Tang dropped to seventh with the loss.

In other matches, third seed Jay Spellman ground out a razor-thin 194-193 win over Tom Anderson. Bill Sanders posted two five-baggers en route to a 269-189 win over Frank Dietz, Jr. to move the Mt. Hood Lanes right-hander from eighth to fourth. As a result, Dietz, Jr. fell to tenth and Spellman dropped to fifth.

Remaining first round contests saw fifth seed Trent Zabelle edge Washington right-hander Bryan Minnig, 195-191. Lefty Bob Davidson threw a six-bagger to defeat fellow Washingtonian Mitch Vernon, 244-199.

Round two matches began with Milwaukie’s Tim Myers holding onto first place, 23 pins ahead of Weed, California’s, Bob Reed. Both registered clean games, with Myers’

three-bagger in frames 3-5 and double in frames 7-8 being one strike better than Reed's early and late game double. Myers' prevailed, 225-211.

Dennis Day overcame a ninth frame split with a pair of turkeys to defeat Bill Sanders, 224-191, to cling to his third place position. Making the biggest move of the round was Bob Davidson, opening his game with a seven-bagger and adding a string of three more in frames 9-11 to overpower Jay Spellman, 278-176. The victory moved the Mountlake Terrace lefty into second place.

Jon Tang also jumped into contention, starting his game with a four-bagger and closing with five strikes in a row to defeat Trent Zabelle, 244-205. The win moved the Sunset Lanes bowler into fourth place.

Bob Porter rebounded from his first round loss to defeat Frank Dietz, Jr., 214-200. In a battle of intrastate rivals, Olympia's Mitch Vernon overcame a third frame split with a seven-bagger in frames 4-10 to outdistance Marysville right-hander Bryan Minnig, 249-205. Round two of the finals concluded with Bill Starnes defeating Tom Anderson, 224-185.

Entering round three, Tim Myers held a slim 24 pin lead over Bob Davidson, with four other bowlers in a "must win" situation to keep their title hopes alive. Davidson opened with seven strikes in the first eight frames before being stopped by a ninth frame split. Meanwhile, Myers could only muster one double in the first six frames before a missed single-pin spare in the seventh frame sealed his fate. Davidson's 234-227 victory moved him into the tournament lead. Myers dropped to third place, but only 13 pins out of first place.

In the match between third and fourth seeds, Dennis Day and Jon Tang traded strikes through most of their match. Day posted seven strikes in his first eight frames while Tang, after a first frame spare, threw seven strikes in a row. Day's missed 4-pin in the ninth opened the door and the Portland right-hander took advantage, winning the match 268-224. Tang's victory moved him into second place, only 3 pins behind the tournament leader. Day fell to fifth with the loss.

Mitch Vernon made the most dramatic move of round three. The Washington right-hander opened his game with a six-bagger and ended it with a five-bagger to overwhelm Bob Reed, 279-190. Vernon's win propelled him into fourth place and within reach of his second N.W.S.T. title. Reed slipped to seventh.

Bob Porter used an opening three-bagger and strikes in frames 6-9 to outdistance Bill Sanders, 232-181. The victory moved the O.B.A. titleholder into sixth place while Sanders slid to tenth. Current N.W.S.T. all-star Trent Zabelle held onto his ninth place position with a 214-186 triumph over Jay Spellman.

Closing out round three of match play, longtime doubles partners Frank Dietz, Jr. and Bill Starnes squared off. The Jefferson southpaw prevailed over Starnes, 255-226. And in a close but low-scoring contest, Bryan Minnig defeated Tom Anderson, 193-181.

The stage was set for a dramatic finish as the tournament's final round began. The top three places were separated by 13 pins or less. Lurking in fourth was the high-scoring potential of Mitch Vernon, ready to take advantage of any slippage from the top.

Leader Bob Davidson opened his match against second place Jon Tang with a three-bagger. Tang, however, struggled to find the pocket, posting only one strike through his first six frames.

Davidson failed to capitalize but stayed clean with a key split conversion in the fourth. Single-pin spares followed in frames 5-6. Tang tried to respond but failed to muster even one double the rest of the way.

Davidson rediscovered the pocket to record a double in frames 7-8 and three strikes in the tenth. His 234-192 victory secured a perfect 4-0 match play record en route to capturing his first N.W.S.T. title. Jon Tang settled in fifth place with the loss.

Tim Myers hopes to overtake Bob Davidson were dashed by a seventh frame split and Mitch Vernon's five bagger in frames 3-7. The Olympia right-hander defeated Myers, 238-214, to claim second place. Myers fell to fourth with the loss.

Dennis Day faced Bob Porter in a rematch of their round one contest. A back-and-forth struggle was turned to Day's favor when he carried a headpin hit to keep a late game six-bagger alive. His 257-237 win moved the Oregon right-hander into third place. Porter dropped one spot to finish in seventh.

Remaining matches saw Frank Dietz, Jr. defeat Bob Reed in a close but low-scoring contest, 193-190. The win allowed Dietz to hold onto eighth place while Reed slipped to ninth.

Trent Zabelle fired the the final round's highest game, opening with the first eight strikes before settling for a 277-225 victory over Bill Sanders. The Portland right-hander jumped to sixth place with the win, while Bill Sanders remained in tenth.

With both bowlers plagued by splits, Corvallis' Bill Starnes was still able to piece together a mid-game double and close with a four-bagger to defeat right-hander Jay Spellman, 193-151. Starnes moved up one spot to eleventh place with Spellman falling to fourteenth.

In a rematch of their third-round contest, Tom Anderson turned the tables on Bryan Minnig, posting a 245-199 win. Despite the loss, Minnig climbed one place to finish twelfth. Anderson did likewise, moving up to finish thirteenth.

The Northwest Senior Tour would like to thank proprietors Tom Burke and Jon Tang, and the entire Sunset Lanes staff for their hard work and hospitality in hosting this season-opening event. A sincere thank you, as well, to Hammer Bowling and Widmer Brothers Brewing for their generous and continued sponsorship of N.W.S.T. events.

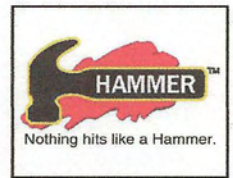
Our next tournament will be the annual Bi-Mart Senior Open, scheduled for Sunday, September 23rd, at Emerald Lanes in Eugene.

northwest



senior tour

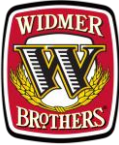
2012
SUNSET LANES
SENIOR OPEN
BEAVERTON, OR



QUALIFYING

POS	TOTAL	+ / -	NAME	LANE	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	1448	248	Myers Tim	31	250	227	224	235	222	290	
2	1424	224	Porter Bob	20	279	256	197	220	225	247	
3	1420	220	Spellman Jay	18	267	257	201	217	246	232	
4	1411	211	Dietz Frank (SS)	32	299	225	217	248	212	210	
5	1408	208	Zabelle Trent	26	257	248	247	217	203	236	
6	1402	202	Tang Jon	23	202	266	239	247	258	190	
7	1376	176	Vernon Mitch	14	247	236	245	186	249	213	
8	1364	164	Davidson Bob	18	195	224	215	297	236	197	
9	1362	162	Reed Bob	24	218	253	249	191	246	205	
10	1355	155	Minnig Bryan	21	254	201	247	246	216	191	
11	1353	153	Sanders Bill	29	169	235	256	290	226	177	
12	1336	136	Anderson Tom	23	269	168	248	245	182	224	
13	1336	136	Day Dennis	22	257	279	194	196	214	196	
14	1334	134	Starnes Bill (SS+)	35	206	252	213	225	222	216	
15	1334	134	Burke Tom	19	208	226	227	235	247	191	CUT
16	1324	124	Karch Mike	26	209	205	268	184	235	223	CASH
17	1313	113	Borgaro Joey	30	212	211	266	225	178	221	
18	1313	113	Yamasaki Gary	28	247	174	279	188	205	220	
19	1311	111	Schlegel Ernie (SS+)	16	193	183	226	204	248	257	SS
20	1308	108	Surina Matt (SS)	29	200	225	259	204	207	213	
21	1297	97	Lindberg Larry (SS)	35	209	240	235	173	182	258	
22	1292	92	Butkovich Fred	33	215	201	215	255	215	191	
23	1291	91	Kelly Mike	28	244	217	243	196	205	186	
24	1290	90	Gustafson Jon (SS)	31	209	163	226	201	265	226	
25	1288	88	Eskew Lori	19	208	198	246	226	201	209	
26	1288	88	Gahan Larry	21	189	257	213	225	214	190	
27	1286	86	Pierce Tim	36	199	213	201	227	213	233	
28	1284	84	Michaliszyn Steve	24	213	246	229	204	191	201	
29	1274	74	McNelly Bill (SS)	30	154	236	171	269	227	217	
30	1272	72	Bernasconi Dan	22	212	210	247	207	199	197	
31	1267	67	Tolnai John	36	246	180	225	247	184	185	
32	1266	66	Martin Mike (SS+)	15	207	175	202	258	227	197	
33	1263	63	Polinsky Mike	13	236	215	217	202	193	200	
34	1237	37	Burrows Doug	21	216	195	217	215	214	180	
35	1227	27	Knapp Jeff	17	193	204	211	194	234	191	
36	1219	19	Nogle Mike	25	181	208	204	188	242	196	
37	1217	17	Hess Harold (SS)	34	188	201	214	228	183	203	
38	1205	5	Mawson Len (SS)	33	213	254	198	194	185	161	
39	1194	6	Peterson Dale	13	244	191	205	191	191	172	
40	1193	7	Barber Mike	34	192	237	168	200	188	208	
41	1182	18	Myers Rick	20	205	201	194	193	206	183	
42	1165	35	Dasenbrock Dave	15	216	154	227	235	145	188	
43	1149	51	Grepon Larry (SS+)	27	202	211	180	199	195	162	
44	1142	58	Sturdevant Robert	25	169	223	169	203	195	183	
45	1119	81	Hoage Jeff	32	160	160	176	258	166	199	

— NORTHWEST — SENIOR TOUR



FINAL RESULTS August 26, 2012

Bowler		QUALIFYING	FINALS	BONUS	TOTAL	PRIZE	
1	Bob Davidson	Mountlake Terrace, WA	1364	990	120	2474	\$600
2	Mitch Vernon	Olympia, WA	1376	965	90	2431	\$450
3	Dennis Day	Dallas, OR	1336	995	90	2421	\$400
4	Tim Myers	Milwaukie, OR	1448	903	60	2411	\$350
5	Jon Tang	Portland, OR	1402	937	60	2399	\$300
6	Trent Zabelle	Portland, OR	1408	891	90	2389	\$280
7	Bob Porter	Vancouver, WA	1424	868	60	2352	\$270
8	Frank Dietz (SS)	Jefferson, OR	1411	837	60	2308	\$260
9	Bob Reed	Weed, CA	1362	891	30	2283	\$250
10	Bill Sanders	Sandy, OR	1353	865	30	2248	\$240
11	*Bill Starnes (SS+)	Corvallis, OR	1334	814	60	2208	\$230
12	Bryan Minnig	Marysville, WA	1355	788	30	2173	\$220
13	Tom Anderson	Bonney Lake, WA	1336	804	30	2170	\$210
14	Jay Spellman	Gresham, OR	1420	707	30	2157	\$200
15	*Tom Burke	Beaverton, OR	1334			1334	\$150

*Starnes defeated Burke 39-29 in rolloff for 14th qualifier

Other Super Senior Cashers

Ernie Schlegel	1311	\$100
----------------	------	-------

Honor Scores

Bob Reed	300
Frank Dietz	299
Tim Myers	290