

Roger Dalkin USBC:

Over the last few months I as a member of the Bowling Writer's since 1971 have received notices of adjustments in the bowling ball specifications. I can only hope it may not be too little too late. An uneven playing field and out of line scoring has been going on since the 1970's. Bill Taylor lead the cause in the 70's to the pins and he was not completely wrong as the pins are moving off the pin deck about 15% faster. He and I had plenty to write about the blocking of the lanes which still goes on today and accounts for about 35% of the high scores. I can still remember in 1971 when Ken Hurley was the Executor of the ABC, I introduced a proposal to have the lane tolerance lowered to 30,000ms from 40,000ms producing a flatter lane surface where blocking would not be so effective only to be rejected by the Board along with my effort to get the lane conditioner applied at a 2 to 1 ratio from the 1st 10 boards on each side to the center 20 boards for a distance of 40 ft. in 1994 in Reno, Nevada.

Reducing the power of the bowling balls is certainly a step in the right direction but make sure attention is paid to the cover stock as well and also the materials used in the cores. Using materials that have the properties of metal other than conduction capabilities is wrong. Everyone that knows anything concerning this subject knows that bowling balls over the last 15 years are too powerful and that anyone with a good sense of direction and a certain amount of lift & turn with the speed of 20 to 25 mph along with blocked lanes can average between 200 & 235.

Your big problem along with the power of the bowling balls is getting the proprietors to lay down a 2 to 1 oil pattern 40 ft. in length. Such modifications along with the ball specifications would bring scores back in line over-night. Back in 1958 I bowled my 1st 300 game with a rubber ball on a flat oil pattern 40 ft.long. That year there were some 1400 perfect games. I am concerned as most are that last year there were between 35,000 to 40,000 perfect games. I could write 20 or 30 pages on the high scoring but I know all of you are aware of all of it.

Information on me and my 50 year career in bowling can be obtained by going to my web-site or write me or e-mail.

I can not be with you in Florida so I am writing this letter to have some input on such an important matter concerning the sport of bowling.

Sincerely yours

Bob Daubney