

May 2018 Newsletter Article by Steve Cieslewicz

What a great 2017-18 bowling season is just wrapping up! BCAW continues working to improve the programs we offer to help you grow your business. Just a couple of weeks ago, I bowled in the Wisconsin Adult-Youth Scholarship Tournament. In spite of the spring snow storm last month, over 165 teams bowled at Lakeshore Lanes in Sheboygan. Did you participate in hosting an in-center qualifier? For those of us who did, this event provided flexible opportunities to have added lineage at times when we might otherwise not have much going on in our centers. Look for information later this year on the 2019 event, when we hope to have over 200 teams competing for over \$4,500 in youth scholarships.

Now that the snow's melted and bowling banquets are wrapped up, hopefully spring has sprung. So what's next? How about the BCAW Scholarship Golf Fundraiser! This will be our fifth annual event, raising money to provide four \$1,000 scholarships to employees, their family members and an additional \$1,000 to a USBC certified youth bowler from a member center. These scholarships are a benefit of your membership with BCAW, but we need to raise the money to be able to continue offering them.

Anyone can come out and join us for the fun day at the Foxfire Golf Course in Waupaca on Monday, June 11th. Sign up as a foursome (\$300) or as a single/double for \$75 per person. In addition to the 18 holes of golf with a cart, there are prizes and a fun dinner afterwards. We appreciate any donations for our prize table. If your local area golf course will donate a foursome or you have a cool prize to donate contact Bob Maki at the BCAW office. Go to <http://www.bowlwi.com/bcaw-events/scholarship-golf-fundraiser/> for more information!

How about some vacation time? I hope some sort of get-a-way is in the cards for our proprietors! There are about 100 days . . . that's how much time we typically have from the end of league season until we have to start contacting leagues for next year. Or do we wait that long? I feel it's better to talk to each captain and see where their thoughts are before another center or pool or darts or indoor volleyball team asks them to commit to other prospects before yours.

There are a lot of things happening with the BCAW now and through the summer. Before you head out "up north" or to your favorite little getaway, we want to remind you of some pretty important things coming up.

We invite every BCAW member to nominate someone worthy of being recognized by the association with our highest honor, the BCAW Award of Excellence. This award is given at our annual meeting on October 1, 2018 in The Dells. For more information, including the nomination form, please go to our website: <http://www.bowlwi.com/2018/05/01/help-us-recognize-excellence/> .

This fall BCAW will again run the Miller Lite Wisconsin Adult Pins Over Average Tournament. We continue to tinker with this event to make it easier for you to conduct qualifiers. As with our adult-youth scholarship tournament, the best part of this event is that you can host in-center qualifiers when it is most convenient for you and your bowlers! Qualifiers must be concluded by October 28, 2018; with all state finalists cashing for a minimum of \$20. This year's state finals

will be held at Watertown Bowl North on November 10 & 11, 2018. Information, including event rules may be found on our website as well: <http://www.bowlwi.com/tournaments/adult-pins-over-average-tournament/> .

I will close by saying what a pleasure it has been to serve as BCAW President for the past three and a half years. This fall we will elect a new president as I conclude my second two-year term. Each year we announce that we are seeking members to help the association through serving on our BCAW Board of Directors. We have a good group of proprietors involved, with some thinking about stepping aside to let the next generation of leaders come forward.

If you are interested in serving BCAW as a volunteer or learning more about the BCAW Board of Directors, please feel free to contact BCAW Nominating Committee Chairman Steve Hanson, BCAW Executive Director Yvonne Bennett or me. Any one of us can help you find the perfect volunteer opportunity with BCAW.

Until next time, have a great summer and enjoy “those 100 days” doing whatever it is that provides you with an opportunity to relax and recharge!