

Bowlers Journal International's 2010 Top Bowling Coaches

Saluting the men and women who dedicate their lives to helping bowlers of all skill levels improve their games.

CHANGE CAN BE CHALLENGING, and so it was with the "100 Top Coaches" selection process for 2010.

Because previous judging panels had difficulty verifying the credentials of some nominees in the past, this year the process was changed so that the coaches themselves submitted the applications. Dozens who had been nominated in the past did not submit application forms this year, and no "grandfathering" was allowed.

For ease of processing, applicants this year were required to submit their credentials by mail only. Because of this stipulation, *BJI* was forced to discard 37 applications submitted by email and another 13 sent in via fax.

Finally, in order to guarantee the exclusivity of the

list, *BJI* asked the judging panel to carefully assess all aspects of each application. As a result, 47 applicants were deemed lacking the credentials to be included.

So, even though some 170 applications were received, the judging panel named only 73 men and women to the 2010 "Top Coaches" list. Exclusive? You bet.

"We hope that some of the coaches who either forgot to submit their applications or submitted them incorrectly will take note and apply again in 2011," said *BJI* Editor Bob Johnson. "Our goal is to recognize deserving coaches, but we also had a process in place, and our judging panel stuck to it. The result is that we have a very exclusive list for 2010."

Here are capsule biographies of the honorees...

DIANDRA ASBATY, Chicago, Ill. This long-time Team USA member also is an exceptional coach, whether in a clinic setting or working one-on-one. She holds a Silver-level certification from the USBC.

STEVEN BARINQUE, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. This Silver-certified coach and pro shop operator focuses primarily on youth bowlers, but also coached the 2009 Texas State Senior Queens champion.

TOM BLASCO, Satellite Beach, Fla. Silver-level coach who works with all skill levels, from recreational to professional. Also accredited in sports psychology, he gave 633 individual lessons in 2009.

NICHOLAS BOHANAN, Arlington, Texas. Silver-level coach who serves as the athletic trainer and strength and conditioning coach for Team USA.

FRED BORDEN, Akron, Ohio. Bowling's first Gold-level coach continues to work with bowlers, including conducting seminars for the

Wichita State teams.

JACK BRUDERLY, Salem, Ohio. Several members of the 2010 Ohio state high school champion girls' team grew up bowling under Bruderly's tutelage. A Bronze-certified coach who specializes in youth development.

TONY BILELLO III, Bayville, N.J. This former head coach of the United Arab Emirates national team has been a lead instructor for Dick Ritger Bowling Camps since 1995. Coached more than 500 students in 2009.

MICHAEL CARON, Carmel, Ind. One of the top high school coaches in the nation, his teams have been conference champions four years running. Almost all of his coaching has been on a volunteer basis. Silver-certified.

TOM CARTER, Rockford, Ill. This 25-year coaching and 32-year ball drilling veteran has overseen five state high school champion girls' teams. Conducts two clinics per year for high school and college bowlers on Sport patterns to help them become more versatile.

JEFF COMBS, Portland, Ore. Involved in the early development of two Team USA players. Silver-certified, Combs oversees the highly regarded youth program at Dave Husted's Milwaukie Bowl, and also conducts Parks & Recreation Department and community college classes.

DONNA CONNERS, Houston, Texas. This Silver-certified coach works with all skill levels, and conducts weekly classes in addition to giving individual lessons.

JIM CRUZ, San Antonio, Texas. Volunteers as head bowling coach for two private high schools. In 2009, this Silver-certified instructor was asked to provide coaching for the Wounded Warriors program at Fort Sam Houston.

MICHAEL D'AMBROSIO, Lynbrook, N.Y. This Bronze-certified coach has worked at the center, high school, college and national team (Philippines, United Kingdom) levels, and views himself as a "bowling ambassador."

THOMAS DAWSON, Kirkwood, Mo. Lost his

right leg in an auto accident at age 19, but continued to pursue both bowling and coaching. Last year, this Bronze-certified coach helped a double-amputee learn how to enjoy the sport again with a one-step delivery.

JOHN DILL, Wheaton, Ill. This Silver-level coach maintains a staff of certified coaches to help youth bowlers develop and enjoy the sport more. Says Fox Bowl proprietor Kimberly Sims: "John's selfless dedication is a stellar example of how to grow the sport and game of bowling."

JERI EDWARDS, Akron, Ohio. This former head coach of Team USA led American bowlers to an unprecedented number of medals in international competition in the pre-"Dream Team" era. Gold-certified, she counts Chris and Lynda Barnes, Rhino Page and Diandra Asbaty among her students.

JOHN GAINES, Orlando, Fla. Works with Tommy Jones and other top-level players, including his wife Kendra, a member of Team USA. Silver-certified, he also is on the coaching staff of "Camp Bakes."

KENDRA GAINES, Orlando, Fla. Back coaching regularly after taking a break to have a child, this Silver-certified coach partnered with Lucy Sandelin to form Gold Medal Bowling Camps, serving central Florida.

TOMMY GENOVA, New Hyde Park, N.Y. A Bronze-certified coach who helped a girl with no previous bowling experience make her high school team after only a few lessons.

JACK GREGORY, Beavercreek, Ohio. Has coached the Fairborn High School boys' team to eight conference and division titles in nine years. Named 2009 Ohio Bowling Coach of the Year by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

ONDER GURKAN, Ankara, Turkey. Instrumental in the development of bowling in Turkey, Gurkan helped assemble the Level I and Level II materials for the European Coaching Program. Students have won multiple national championships and medals in international competition.

DEBBIE HAGGERY, Weimar, Calif. A coach for 18 years, she oversees a 225-bowler strong youth program which includes several Junior Gold members. Also has worked to certify approximately 50 other coaches.

CHUCK HALFPAP, Arlington Heights, Ill. The head coach of the Loyal Academy boys' bowling

team is Bronze-certified, works with a center youth program and Strike N Spare Bowling Camp, and has produced champions at various levels, including Junior Gold.

RON HATFIELD, Pataskala, Ohio. Gold-certified, Hatfield serves as head coach of the Ukraine adult teams and Moldova's youth teams, and also is Rhino Page's personal coach.

RON HOPPE, Marysville, Wash. One of bowling's most honored coaches, Hoppe has lent his expertise to five national teams around the world, and was a founder of the International Bowling Pro Shops & Instructors Assn.

DEREK JAMES, Farmingdale, N.Y. Silver-certified, James conducts weekly clinics on the physical game, lane play and mental techniques for league and tournament bowlers. Also offers private lessons.

JIM KING, New Braunfels, Texas. A veteran of the Super School, King has coached several students who have received scholarships to universities with nationally respected bowling programs.

DENNIS KLEIN, Anthem, Ariz. Led North Canyon High School girls' team to the 2009-10 Arizona state championship, and was called upon to fill in as an assistant coach for Team USA at the 2009 Women's World Championships.

CORY KNOP, Tucson, Ariz. A member of Dick Ritger's coaching staff, this Silver-level coach saw his students win nine of a possible 22 awards in the scratch division of the Tucson City Youth Tournament.

DAVID LEVERAGE, Peoria, Ariz. This former PBA exempt player and Silver-certified coach gives lessons at four centers in the greater Phoenix area. Developed the "Leverage 3x5" spare system.

MARK LEWIS, Wichita, Kan. Head coach of the Wichita State women's team, which won the 2009 Intercollegiate Championship. Over a 10-year period, the team won three titles and never finished lower than fifth.

BILL LISH, Carrollton, Texas. This Silver-level coach provides clinics and lessons for all levels of bowlers under the banner of Coach's Eye International. Keeps up-to-date records on students, for whom he has drilled more than 4,000 balls.

MICHAEL LUONGO, Howells, N.Y. A Silver-

level coach, Luongo works with a number of high-level bowlers, including two who won their first PBA regional titles within the past year.

ROBERT MAXFIELD II, Irving, Texas. Possessing coaching certifications from USBC and Dick Ritger, Maxfield presently is working with the University of North Texas and various high school bowling programs in the Dallas area.

JIM MERRELL, Florence, Ky. A bowling coach since 1976, Merrell is Silver-certified and counts among his students 2009 Dexter High School All-American Team honoree Mark Allen.

MARYFRAN MILBANK, Winter Haven, Fla. Coached the adult male and youth male all-events and singles champions in the Orange Belt association tournament, and runs a year-round Sport-certified "tough shot" league for youth bowlers.

SUSIE MINSHEW, Alvarado, Texas. A coach in the Bowling Success Camp — with Norm Duke, Wes Malott, Ron Hoppe, Del Warren and Dr. Dean Hinitz — Minshew has been Gold-certified for 10 years.

MICHELLE MULLEN, Farmington Hills, Mich. A gold-level coach since 1998, Mullen conducts countless clinics and camps, and coaches the team that won the Michigan State High School Championship from 2006 through '09.

DON MOYER, Mt. Pleasant, S.C. One of the original group of coaches to earn Gold certification, Moyer gives lessons and conducts clinics in three states, and is the coach of PBA Women's Series champion Joy Esterson.

CAROL NORMAN, Houston, Texas. This 20-year veteran of the women's pro tour is just as dedicated to coaching. Silver-certified, she combines coaching with ball drilling and videotaping to give students the best experience possible.

MICHAEL NYITRAY, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. A Gold-certified coach since 1999, Nyitray counts current Junior Team USA members Andrew Koff and Samantha Hesley among his students. Received the Kerm Helmer Horizon Award in 2009.

BRYAN O'KEEFE, Arlington, Texas. This assistant coach of Team USA and Junior Team USA developed the coaching curriculum for "two-handed" bowling, made famous by Jason Belmonte, Osku Palermaa and others.

STEPHEN PADILLA, Mansfield, Texas. This seven-year veteran of the acclaimed Kegel Training Center now works at the International Training Center in Arlington and has been a "guest coach" for Team USA and Junior Team USA.

ANDY PARKER, Englewood, Ohio. Named Ohio Youth Coach of the Year in 2008, Parker has earned certification from USBC (Silver), Dick Ritger, IBPSIA and Powerhouse.

GARY PARSONS, Hyattsville, Md. This Silver-certified coach has studied with icons of coaching, and over the years has helped develop advanced curricula for IBPSIA. A John Davis Award winner.

DAVID PEARSON, Rochester, Minn. USBC's Developmental Coach of the Year in 2007, this Silver-certified instructor last year founded Bowling Coaches Associates to teach clinics in southern Minnesota and Wisconsin.

VERNON PETERSON, Lake Wales, Fla. Part of Kegel Training Center's "all-star" roster of coaches, Peterson expanded his horizons in 2009 by coaching a high school team and conducting a clinic in San Jose, Costa Rica.

BOB RICHARDSON, Humble, Texas. The 2009 Youth Coach of the Year in Texas has built one of the largest and most successful youth bowling programs in the state. Travels 42 miles each Saturday to oversee the program.

STEVE RICHTER, Sheboygan, Wis. The Vice President of Coaching for Bardon Bowling Centers teaches hundreds of bowlers each year with the goals of making them better and, ultimately, growing league bowling. Silver-certified.

NICK ROCCO, Dayton, N.J. This Silver-level coach has mentored, among many others, *B/I* Top High School Prospect Morgan Brown. Believes not only in teaching his students, but setting a positive example for them.

LUCY SANDELIN, Tampa, Fla. A Silver-certified coach since 1997, Sandelin serves as the house teaching pro at eight Tampa Bay area centers. Co-sponsors the Southwest Florida Youth Classic Tour.

JACK SCHMID, The Villages, Fla. Specializes in coaching seniors to help them enjoy the game more and longer. A Silver-level coach, he gave more than 320 lessons in 2009.

MIKE SHADY, Fairview, Pa. A mentor, teacher and coach to PBA champion Michael Machuga,

Shady, a Silver-certified coach, assisted Bill Straub's University of Nebraska bowling team during the 2009 NCAA Championships.

ALETA SILL, Farmington Hills, Mich. One of the all-time greats of women's bowling now provides coaching to all levels of players. Conducts numerous high school clinics annually, and assisted Michelle Feldman in her PBA Women's Series victory in Taylor, Mich.

DAVE SILL, Rockledge, Fla. Coached the Sycamore High School girls' team to first place at sectionals. Silver-certified, he built his reputation by coaching top pro stars, including Aleta Sill during her 1984 and '85 Player of the Year seasons.

BRENT SIMS, Winter Haven, Fla. Has been developing, coordinating and participating in coaching lessons and camps at the Kegel Training Center since 2001. Coached Ana Koff to the 2009-10 Florida state high school title.

JOE SLOWINSKI, Lake Wales, Fla. A true student of the game, Slowinski coaches at the Kegel Training Center and built the highly successful Webber University bowling program from the ground up.

BRAD SNELL, Mount Prospect, Ill. This Silver-certified coach has been helping bowlers for more than 25 years. In 2009, two of his students won Illinois high school state tournament championships.

BILL SPIGNER, Vernon Hills, Ill. The ABC/USBC Hall of Famer's list of students ranges from an Illinois state high school champion to PBA Senior Tour champion Mark Williams. Gold-certified since 2000.

DEBRA STEIN, South River, N.J. This Silver-level coach benefits bowling in two ways: helping players (primarily high school students) bowl better, and motivating young men and women to become coaches.

RANDY STOUGHTON, Lake Wales, Fla. The head coach at the Kegel Training Center also is the head coach of the national champion Webber University women's team. Gold-certified, Stoughton also oversees the Kegel Elite Team.

KIM TERRELL-KEARNEY, Arlington, Texas. The former head coach at Delaware State University was the National Tenpin Coaches Assn. Coach of the Year for 2009.

BRUCE TRES, Chicago, Ill. Known for his work

with youth, high school and college bowlers, Tres founded the bowling program at Loyola Academy and the Girls Catholic Athletic Conference bowling program. Promotes integrity and sportsmanship in addition to bowling skills.

GORDON VADAKIN, Wichita, Kan. This Gold-level coach oversees the bowling program at Wichita State, which has won nine men's and nine women's national championships. In 2009-10, the program generated eight Academic All-Americans.

DEL WARREN, Lake Wales, Fla. Elected President of IBPSIA in 2009, the Kegel Vice President helped turn the Webber University bowling program into an instant success. Gold-certified since 1996.

JULIE WELLS, Westerville, Ohio. Was instrumental in starting two high school bowling programs, and last season coached one of her students to the Ohio state individual championship. Silver-certified.

DON WHITE, Minneapolis, Minn. A lead instructor with Dick Ritger Bowling Camps, White has worked with 30 Minnesota Junior Bowlers Tour champions through the years, including three this year.

DOUGLAS WIEDMAN, West Lafayette, Ind. This Silver-certified instructor is an assistant coach with the highly rated Purdue University bowling program, but specializes in helping new and inexperienced bowlers get better.

KEN YOKOBOSKY, Rockaway, N.J. This Gold-certified coach was a Team USA assistant coach from 2001 through 2009, and last year helped Danielle McEwan win the Teen Masters national championship.

JOHN YORK, New Egypt, N.J. In York's first season as the bowling coach at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, the team averaged 39 pins per game higher than the previous season. Silver-certified.

GREGG ZICHA, Glen Ellyn, Ill. Among the students of this Bronze-level coach are Anthony LaCaze, who won his first PBA title last season, and Tom Sims, winner of two PBA Midwest Region Senior titles.

WILLIAM ZUBEN, Largo, Fla. The 1999 USA Bowling Developmental Coach of the Year continues to coach, and also co-hosts the "Let's Go Bowling" radio program that provides a communications platform for other coaches.