

Arlington Dental Bowling Team

Week 13 Newsletter

Redemption Has To Wait.....

The Headline

I think the last team I expected to bowl against was Pin Chasers. After our disappointing effort on position night two weeks ago, they were the last team on my mind. But, when I saw we were bowling them, the first thing that popped in my head was revenge, or as Mark put it, "it's time for a little redemption".

Unfortunately, so far this year these guys seem to have our number. Although we faired a little bit better, we still only managed to take two points. I'm not sure if we will see them again before the play-offs start, but this makes me want to beat them even more.

The scary thing is their new team member Reed is making it far less painful to bowl them. He's actually down right funny at times. I mean damn, how can you not like a guy that buys us a round of Jager Bombs!! That's just crazy!! I'm sure the laughter and generosity is NOT sitting well with the Miserable Prick Ted. Although I guess he's been happy being they've beaten us twice now. I'm not sure if anyone heard, but after Reed bought us the shots Charlie spoke up with this, "We just kicked him off the team because he's being too nice". I'm SURE he was speaking for Ted! It will be interesting as time goes on to see if Reed has some kind of effect on the rest of those guys. By the way, I guess Rich is AWOL? Man, I miss him so! Especially after being the last team to finish last night.

We really didn't bowl that badly. We were over average in all three games, believe it or not. They just once again bowled out of their collective asses in all three games! As much as I hate to, I have to give them credit for bowling well both times we bowled them. They even beat us scratch in the third game.

This was only the second week of Part 2, so there is certainly a lot of bowling to go. We were in first place, but we dropped down to fourth. We are in a three-way tie with SAFX and Done In the Third. L&O took all seven, and so did Trojans, which gives them both eleven points. Pin Chasers taking five gives them 10. We have nine.

Next week we bowl Team 11 (Glueckert) on lanes 13 & 14. I might have to bring the video camera!

Time to get back to business....so, "Shut up and bowl!"

The Business of Bowling

Starting things off, Chris had another solid night with games of 174, 195 and 141. That's the third week in a row he has averaged 170 or better. Your average is climbing son. Keep up the good work. Chris did share his revelation that he always bowls worse in the third game, because he gets tired due to throwing the ball harder now. I say WHAT? Tired? Are you kidding me? How old are you? Twenty right? Twenty year-olds do NOT get tired! Damn, I wish I had half the energy I had at twenty years old! Holy shit! That's not an excuse boy. Run some laps or start lifting more weights. Besides, for the record, you worse game is not your third game. It's your first!! Surprise!! Your first game average is 155. Your second game average is 175.27. And your third game average is 158.91. Anyway, well done again young

man. And oh yeah, thanks so much for not hurting me when you stole my beer! I was vevy afwaid there for a second! Bahahahaahahaha!!!!

Rolling out of his familiar two-slot, Mark rolled games of 159, 146 and 201. I would say it just took him a while to wake up and catch his second wind. Very nice third game though! By the way Chris, what does this say about you? You're twenty years old and getting tired in the third game. Mark is double your age and rolling two-hundreds in game three!! He rolls the ball just as hard as you do. Start eating your Wheaties on Fridays!! Way to go Mark!

Bill bowled out of the three hole and I think he found his home, because.....**BILL BOWLED A 200!!!! BILL BOWLED A 200!! BILL BOWLED A 200!** Yes, it was worth saying three times!!! HOW AWESOME IS THAT!?? Congrats my friend! That's just damned GOOD STUFF!! Very well deserved! You worked hard for that one!! That went a long way towards our win in game two! Congrats again!!

I've been saying for a while that it was only a matter of time before I got on a roll. It started a few weeks back, but last night solidified it with games of 204, 258 and 212 for a 674. That's two six hundred series in a row. The seven straight strikes in game two felt great! Let me tell ya! Let's just hope I can keep this going for a while. Like I've also been saying, it's all about rolling *MY SHOT*. If it's there I will score big, that's for sure. For the past few weeks, it's definitely been there! By the way Chris... guess which game I bowl my best? That's right... my THIRD!! Just thought I'd throw that in there!! Ha ha!!

Lee kept right on doing his thing, with another six hundred series. This time it included games of 224, 218 and 213. Yes, he had to beat me by one pin in the last game! Pain in my ass!! His average is at 211, which should keep him in the number three slot in the league for highest average. I'm throwing out a challenge to Lee right now. That challenge is this. I want to see you finish with the highest average in the league. How's that? I KNOW you can do it. What do you think guys? I think it would fun to watch!!

So, here's how the night went. Game one Lee and I led the way with 224 and 204 respectively. Chris was over average too with a 174. We were 14 pins over average as a team, totaling 896 scratch and 1064 with handicap. Good enough to get our asses kicked by 94 pins! Pin Chasers bowled 108 pins over average. That along with their 274 pin handicap did the trick.

In game two we turned things around. My 69 pin over average 258, Bill's 58 pin over average 206, Chris' 33 pin over average 195 & Lee's 8 pin over average 218 gave us 1023 scratch and 1191 total. Pin Chasers bowled over average again with an 844 giving them a total of 1118. We pulled within 21 pins with a 73 pin win. I really thought we had 'em right where we wanted them.

Game three Mark led the way with a 28 pin over 201, along with my 23 over 212 and Lee's 3 pin over 213 gave us 900 and 1068. But Pin Chasers did it again rolling 927 scratch which is 151 pins OVER AVERAGE! That gave them a 1201 to 1068 win by 133 PINS!! That my friends is a serious ass beating!!

For the night, we bowled 2819 scratch, which was 173 pins over our average. With handicap we rolled a 3323. Pin Chasers rolled a 2655 scratch, which was 327 PINS OVER AVERAGE!! With handicap they rolled at 3477!! I guess in a nutshell that explains why we lost. They bowled out of THEIR MINDS!! There just isn't a whole lot you can do about that.

Other Stuff

A big discussion after the game involved whether or not there is an advantage to getting pins, or having a higher handicap. My theory is yes, there does seem to be an advantage. Charlie was saying the same thing. Lee believes there is no advantage, because mathematics proves it. In other words, it's all even. That's what a handicap is for.

On paper, I agree. However, I truly believe there is some other driving force that gives those teams constantly getting pins an advantage. That driving force to me is psychological. No, I do not have solid proof that THAT IS the cause. But, I'm working on it.

All I can offer up IS mathematics. As they say, the proof is in the pudding. That means, right now there IS something going on giving most teams an advantage when constantly getting pins. Remember, I said MOST... NOT ALL. Here are some numbers and you'll see what I mean.

Our record when giving pins is 30 - 26. When we are getting pins, our record is 32 - 10. That's a .760 winning percentage vs. .536, a HUGE difference.

I ranked all of the teams by scratch bowling, and then looked at the final finish for the first part of the season. Pin Chasers was DEAD LAST in scratch bowling pins....that's 14th out of 14 teams!!! This pretty much means they had a higher handicap every single week, and at times that number was huge compared to their opponents. And we all know where they finished, and what they did to us in position weeks.

We were 5th best in the league for scratch pins and finishing tied for second. SAFX ended up second in the league in scratch score and they finished tied for second. From there, the tide totally changes. Glueckert finish fourth in the standings and 12th in total scratch pins. The fifth place team ended up 6th in scratch. The sixth place finisher was 10th. The seventh place finisher was 13th. The bottom line is MORE bottom tier scratch teams finished in the upper half of the standings. That means so far, thirteen weeks into the season there does seem to be an advantage for most of the teams that are getting pins.

The numbers are saying something. The question is what? **1.)** Is it coincidence? **2.)** Is it luck? **3.)** Is it something else like a psychological advantage? I know what my theory is. That is, teams that are constantly giving pins are at a psychological disadvantage, because it feels like they are constantly bowling from behind, which puts more pressure on them. Teams that are constantly getting pins are at a psychological advantage because they can relax because they feel like they are starting the game ahead. The handicap is front-loaded on the scoreboard. So, anyone that pays attention can see that before one ball is rolled they are behind or ahead. I know, I know....mathematically it does not matter because the handicap is only there to even it out. I get it. However, something is favoring the bottom tier teams. What exactly is it? I just don't think it's all about math. Other than my theory and conjecture I don't know. I don't really know if we will ever have a complete answer, that's why we debate it, and that's what makes it fun. Someone call Charlie Eppes from the show Numbers. Maybe he can help.

Let's see how the rest of the year shakes out. I am now real curious to see how the bottom scratch teams do.

Oh here's a little tid-bit question for you. What team in the first part of the season had the highest total pins with handicap? The answer as at the end of the newsletter. This way you have some time to think about it.

By the way, for the record, just in case anyone was wondering, Lee and I weren't really arguing. That was just a friendly difference of opinion. We are Totally Cool. This is nothing new for us. It happens from time to time. How boring would it be if we thought the same on everything? It's just fun and quite a challenge sometimes to try to convince the other of our opinion.

- Hey! Did I tell you Bill bowled a 200!! He did! He really did!!
- I got 4 ACES in a card game!!!
- There is a NEW poker rule. If you get a dick, YOU AUTOMATICALLY LOSE! That means you cannot win the \$5 on the table no matter how good your hand is, not even 4 ACES!! You must continue to take cards though. This way we can all laugh when you have the highest hand, but don't get the money!!

- And finally, we think Bill bowls better with a pretzel in his mouth. Oh boy... we better leave that one alone especially after what he did with it.

The FUN Stuff

Mushrooms

Mark had the only joke of the night.....

The punch line was, "she didn't like mushrooms!"

I guess we all need to make sure his next wife likes them...

Can I have.....

After Chris picked a spare, one in which he had to roll his strike ball to get it, he threw this out to Ted and Bud.

Chris: Can I please have a "second ball first!"

Needless to say, there was no response other than Ted's pathetic scrunched face! Good try Chris.

Mark who...

Mark realized he would not be here next week but his dad will

Mark: He's going to be disappointed next week when I'm not here.

Pete: Oh yeah, that's right.

Mark: But put once tells a few jokes, he'll forget all about me.

Pete: It'll be more like, Mark who?

Rename your balls

Bill decided to try and bowl like Lee. He got a strike

Reed: You should bowl like that all the time!

Bill: Yeah, that was really good!

Reed: You'll have to rename your balls though!!

Bill: OH NO, NO, NO! We're not going there!!

At that point Bill could not run far enough away!!

Taking Guys home

We all noticed that Colonel Sanders was absolutely HAMMERED! I think when he fell down after rolling as shot that gave it away.

Bill: I hope someone is going to arrange a ride home for him.

Lee: Me too.

Pete: Hopefully he has good enough friends or knows someone to even get him a cab.

Bill: He's a nice guy. He even bought me a beer last week.

Pete: You gotta like a guy that does that.

Bill: I'll even chip in to get him a cab.

Lee: Sure why not.

Bill: I've handled plenty of guys like that in my day.

Lee: So, you've taken guys home before?

Bill's Line of the Week

I'm going to give this one to Bill, although Lee's was very close. Lee wasn't around to hear it, I almost peed my pants with this one

Mark: Where's Lee?

Pete: I have no idea.
Bill: I think he went to buy beers.
Mark: Oh okay, because he's up.
Bill: *Just call him Beer Bitch!*
And THAT'S Bill's Line of the Week.....
The End.....

Lineups

12/7: Lee, Pete, Art, Bill, Chris
12/14: Mark, Lee, Bill, Art, Chris or Brad will bowl
12/21: Mark, Lee, Pete, Chris, Bill
12/28: Mark, Lee, Pete, Art, Chris

Answer to which team had the highest pin count with handicap?
ARLINGTON DENTAL!!