

Arlington Dental Bowling Team

Week 18 Newsletter

King Pin.... Take 5

The Headline

How ironic can you get? After last week's comedy over *King Pin*, that's who we bowl against! I don't know about you, but I about peed my pants when I saw we were bowling them. I know when Lee showed up he couldn't keep a straight face. That was just too damned funny. By the way, their team name is Jokers Wild.

Anyway, it looks like we are slowly but surely climbing our way back up the ladder, one rung at a time. In the past few weeks we have gone from zero to 5 points step by step: 0, 2, 4, and finally 5 last week. What we really need now is a nice 7 point night. I'd say we are well over due. What do you think?

I'd like to officially welcome Brian to the team. Brian is Mark's partner at Arlington Dental. So, does that make him a co-owner of the team? Does that give him 50% ownership and half the revenue? How's that going to work? There will be no ownership in-fighting on this team! LOL! The rule is, "*Just shut up and bowl!*" And of course buy some beers, add to comedy and help us win! Other than that, it's pretty simple. Welcome Brian!

The addition of Brian means we have made an official change to our roster. As you know, we can only carry seven bowlers on the roster. And once a bowler is taken off, he cannot come back on. So unfortunately, due to his work schedule Brad has been replaced by Brian.

As most of you should know by now, I sent a note to Brad about the roster change. I am hoping you were all comfortable with the way I portrayed the situation.

The Business of Bowling

Chris decided to go on a little roller coaster ride. Overall, he did his job two out of three games. So, I guess he gets a pass on game two! Although according to him he was having some sliding problems. I think that was just a poor excuse for the little dance he was doing after releasing the ball. For sure though, his whole "my last game is my worst theory", is completely out the window. I think he needs to concentrate on not falling asleep in game two. Anyway, in game one he rolled a very nice 47 pin over average 210. He hasn't rolled a deuce in a while so that was long over due. Nicely done. In game two he got skipped, stuck and danced his way to a 23 pin below average 140. In game three he caught his second wind, used my extra slide cover on his shoe, and stopped dancing, en route to a 17 pin over average 180.

I think Mark showed up kind of sleeping as it took him a while to get going. Maybe he just wasn't used to having his partner around. He's used to having his dad, so this has to be quite the adjustment. But, he managed to get his act together for a very nice night. In game one he rolled an 18 pin under average 154. But, that all got erased when he came storming back with a 28 pin over average 210 and a 23 pin over average 205. His series totaled a very productive 569. That's a nice way to go on vacation. Mark is headed to Florida for the next few weeks. Safe and fun travels my boy. Remember... pictures, videos and stories!!!

Our newest team member Brian bowled in the three slot. He's a lefty so that gave us a new look. He is coming off of a 17-year lay-off, which I can totally relate to because I came off of a 20-year hiatus. My prediction when he started was that he would bowl his average. Being he didn't have

an average, I was right!! Rumor has it, that at one time he was a 200 average bowler. I'd say he's off to a pretty good start after so much time off. He got better each game with: 179, 183 and 200. His average starts at 187. Nice job Brian. Looking forward to having you fill Brad's spot. Brad's average before he left was 200....so, no pressure!!

I just looked at Bill's score and it reminded me of a Bruce Springsteen song called, Downbound Train! It's a good thing he started off so high in game one because by the time game three rolled around he could have been off the charts ☺. Game one was an awesome 33 pin over average 183. Game two was a very nice 13 pin over average 163. Game three was a 26 pin under average 124. Don't worry my wild friend. You picked the right game to bowl under your average. We had your back in that game as we won anyway. Good overall night though. Nice to have you back!

Last Friday, my night was highlighted by sticking and falling over the foul line. This week it gets highlighted by a gutter ball. That by the way had been a *Mark Special*. He hasn't done that in quite some time, but he used to do it on a regular basis. Me, I'm good for one every few months. That's not often enough to name it "*A Pete*". Let's hope it never comes to that. I don't mind a 199 game being named after me, but I think I would mind the gutter ball reference. Anyway, I am not sure we won game one with my strikes in the 10th, but it had to be close to that. I wound up with a 13 pin over average 207. On the other hand, I think I did the opposite in game two. With a shot to win it and I opened with a split. Although, after looking at the scores and our actual handicap (after figuring out Brian's average & handicap) I don't think we had a shot, because we lost by 24. Maybe we did... I don't know. Needless to say I was not happy with that game as I bowled a 12 pin under average 182. Wait, I just changed my mind again. I take the blame because opening in the tenth and bowling 14 pins below average, to lose by 24 is my fault. No one said I was perfect. I came back with a 223 in game three though, so two out of three ain't bad. Hey... that's a Meatloaf song isn't it!? That's two musical references in one newsletter. Pretty good huh?

Game One: Led by Chris' 47 pin over average 210, Bill's 33 pin over average 183, and my 13 pin over average 207, we shot a 933 scratch, 67 pins over our average. That combined with our 184-pin handicap gave us an 1117. Our opponents shot an 859 scratch, 32 pins over their average. They also had a whopping 223-pin handicap for a 1082 game. We came out ahead by 35 pins.

Game Two: Mark, with is 38-pin over average 210, and Bill with his 13-pin over average 163, tried to carry us. But unfortunately, we did not give them enough help. We dropped a bit rolling and 878, only 11 pins over average. Our total with handicap came to 1062. Jokers Wild rolled an 863, 36 pins over their average. Their total came to 1086. We lost by 24.

Game Three: Mark led the way again with a 33 pin over average 205. I chipped in with 29-pin over average 223. Chris shot a 17 pin over 180. And Brian rolled his first deuce (avoiding "*A Pete*" 199) with an even 200. Scratch, we rolled a 932. Our total with handicap was 1116. Our opponents rolled an 819 scratch for 1042 pin total. That gave us a very nice 74-pin win.

We took total pins by 85, 3295 to 3210. For the night we shot 144 over average.

To say the least, with only 2 weeks left before position week, this is a very tight race. We have not moved up in the standings, but we are now within 8 points of the leader. Obviously, we still have a lot of work to do. This coming week we bowl Maxim Mortgage on lanes 3 & 4. Taking seven from them would be huge. Then in the final regular schedule week, we bowl Mixed Nuts on lanes 11 & 12. That will be another HUGE opportunity to take seven. It's up to us boys. We can seriously make some noise and shake up the standings.

Trojans	32
Done In The Third	31
L&O	29
Maxim Mrtg	29
Lucky Strikes	29

SAFX	28	
Pin Chasers	26	1 st Part Winner = In playoffs
WTFC	26	
Arlington Dental	24	
Unique Carpet	22	
Legion	21	
Jokers Wild	21	
Team 11	13	
Mixed Nuts	12	

Keep in mind, every point counts as the team with the most overall points, after the three winners, still makes the play-offs. So, we will have to keep an eye on that race as well. Going into last week, here were the top 5 teams in points.

Pin Chasers	83	1 st Part Winner = In playoffs
SAFX	74	
Arlington Dental	65	
Trojans	63	
Done In The Third	60	
L&O	60	

We took five, so we obviously now have 70. If SAFX wins the first second part of the season, we can very easily be sitting in first place in that race. Of course, we can make life easier by winning one of the three parts of the season as well.

The FUN Stuff

Asshole

This was my conversation with Chris regarding slide cover I use on my left shoe.

Chris: Where did you get that?
Pete: I got it on line, but you can get them at just about any bowling pro shop.
Chris: Oh, okay.
Pete: Why?
Chris: Cause I keep sticking. That's why I keep doing that little dance thing.
Pete: I have an extra one with me if you want to try it.
Chris: Can I?
Pete: Just give it back at the end of the night because mine is beginning to wear out.
Chris: Okay.
Pete: Why don't you go up and ask the kid at the front desk. I'm sure they sell them. That way if it works out you can just buy a pair.
Chris: Okay. I'll ask him.
The sliding pad worked.
Chris: Can I keep this for the week so I can keep practicing with it?
Pete: Yeah, I guess. But, didn't you ask the kid up front if they carry these?
Chris: No.
Pete: You're an asshole.
Chris: Leave me alone.
Pete: No. And you wonder why I call you an asshole.

Air Mark

Mark has created a very unique way of picking up the ten pin. To say the least, he gets some loft on the ball.

Bill: Man, did he get some hang time on that one.

Pete: Just call him Air Mark

Gutter Ball

This was after I threw my gutter ball.

Pete: That's what happens when I think too much

Chris: That's why I don't think.

Chris proceeded to get a dick card

Pete: That's what happens when you don't think.

Dorkism

There's fine line between being goofy and official Dorkism. Bill created a new way of giving 5 after he gets a mark. He wants everyone to hold their hands out so he can give hands all in one full swoop.

Pete: What the hell was that?

Bill: That's my new thing.

Pete: Don't be a dork

Bill: What, you don't like it?

Pete: There is a fine line to Dorkism.

Bill: Was that close?

Pete: That's right on the edge and I won't cross it. Leave me out of it.

I ran the marathon

Lee made a nodding reference to Mark's gut as he stretched a bit

Lee: What's that? *(nodding at Mark's stomach)*

Mark: What? *(patting his stomach)*

Lee: Did you run a marathon a while back?

Mark: Yeah

Lee: What was it, two years ago?

Mark: TWO AND A HALF YEARS AGO!

From Dorkism to a Billism

Bill continued with his new thing.....

Bill: Pete don't look

Pete: I will not take part in Dorkism.

Bill: Come on. You won't do it?

Pete: Absolutely not

Bill: Pete will just not have fun with me.

Bill, once again did not realize how that came out. Go figure. So, I gave him a look....

Pete: End of conversation!

"Bill's Line of the week"

I have to give this to a guy from the other team, George Shamroski. This guy is a horrible bowler with a handicap of 110. He throws the ball like a little kid, very slow down the middle of the alley. That's what makes this line even funnier. Anyway, I was up getting ready to bowl when he rolled a slow one down the alley and it hit very light on the Brooklyn side. Pins began to topple down like Dominoes. He was left with the 8 pin, which I thought was pretty damned lucky. I guess he didn't think so. This was his reaction after all the pins stopped falling

George: Fucking Balls! Fucking Pins! Fucking People!

And that's Bill's Line of the week!

Lineups:

January 11th: Lee, Pete, Brian, Chris, Bill

January 18th: Lee, Pete, Art, Chris, Bill

January 25th: TBD