

Curtis Foss Holds Off Jim Pursel for 6th Masters Title



OCTOBER 24, 2021 -- Medina's Curtis Foss captured his sixth Genesee Region USBC Masters Tournament title on Sunday at Medina Lanes, holding off a spirited challenge from Batavian Jim Pursel to claim the \$550 first prize.

Foss, 34, took a 53-point edge over Pursel into the position round final game of the eight-player Peterson Point round-robin match play finals. That meant that Pursel, 54, would have to beat Foss by 24 pins in the last game to claim his first Masters crown.

In Peterson Point competition, bowlers receive 30 points for a victory and plus or minus points based on their score when compared to 200. So, if a bowler rolls a 220 game and wins the match, he would get 50 points.

Pursel, who averaged 247.7 for his eight games yesterday, defeated Foss, 238-237, in the decisive game, but it wasn't enough to win the tournament as Foss finished with 572 Peterson Points to 550 for Pursel, who earned \$280.

The final match was close throughout with both bowlers registered a string of strikes in the last half of the game. Foss entered the 10th frame on a three-timer and then spared and got nine on the last ball for the 237. Pursel also had three in a row going into the 10th, and added two more strikes and nine for the 238.

"It was exciting," said Foss. "Jim kept the pressure on me that's for sure."

Foss started the day with a bang by topping Scott Culp of Honeoye Falls, 267-234, in the opening match between No. 1 and No. 2 seeds from Saturday's semifinals.

The high-revving right-hander went on to win six of his next seven matches, including a 279-214 victory over Pursel in game six.

Culp, the 2016 Masters champion, kept on his heels, however, riding a 289-258 win over Batavian Geoff Harloff in game six to pull within 50 points of Foss.

Game seven was a big one for Pursel as the 109 Peterson Points earned for his 279-160 win over Medina's Hayden Allis put him within striking distance of Foss, who gained just 33 points with his 203-180 victory over Alex Allis of Medina.

Using Roto Grip Idol Pearl and Storm Axiom Pearl balls in the finals, Foss – who didn't miss a spare in his 16 tournament games -- pointed to games six and seven as keys to his victory.

"The sixth game was huge, especially because Scott started with the first 10 strikes (en route to the 289), so I needed a big score," Foss said. "In the seventh game (against Alex Allis), the pair we were on, 17-18, was really tricky and I was able to get four strikes at the end to get to 200 (actually 203) and win."

Pursel put up big scores throughout the day, but ran into tough luck in his first three matches, losing 215-211 to Harloff in game one, 254-247 to Culp in game two and 269-255 to Jim Foss of Medina in game three before rallying to win four of his last five matches.

"I bowled well; a couple carries here and there could have made the difference, but all the bowlers got tapped at times," said Pursel, another bowler who generates a lot of revolutions on the ball. "Give Curtis credit, he's a horse and he's tough to beat in these things. I have no problem losing to Curtis."

Batavian Jason Quilliam placed third with 443 points, averaging 226 for the finals while compiling a 7-1 match play record. He posted victories over Culp in games seven and eight to jump into the third spot, good for \$220.

Culp placed fourth with 433 points and won \$190). He was followed by Jim Foss (321 points, \$180), Harloff (304 points, \$170), Alex Allis (182 points, \$160) and Hayden Allis (177 points, \$150). All of the finals are right-handers.

Other cashers from Saturday's semifinals were Mark Brown of Attica, \$110; John Ross of Middleport, \$100; Matt Balduf of South Byron, \$90, and Devon Leach of Batavia, \$80.

Curtis Foss won his first Masters tournament in 2008 at Mancuso's, and followed that with victories in 2009 at Oak Orchard Bowl in Albion, 2014 at Medina Lanes, 2015 at Letchworth Pines in Portageville and 2019 at Scopano's Lanes in Oakfield. The tournament did not take place in 2020. The two-day tournament drew 42 entries.

Submitted photo: Mike Johnson, center, Genesee Region USBC president, congratulates Curtis Foss, left, and Jim Pursel after an exciting Masters Tournament finals.

Fifteen Cash in Gladys Ford Senior Women's Event

NOVEMBER 18, 2021 -- Forty women competed in the 36th Gladys Ford Memorial Women's Senior Singles Tournament earlier this month at Oak Orchard Bowl in Albion.

Cashers in the six age classifications are as follows:

75-and-Up -- Frances Matthews, 738, \$86; Dawn Bertrand, 701, \$75; Grace Bogle, 662, \$50.

70-74 -- Georgene Della Penna, 654, \$85; Margie Page, 613, \$65; Kathy Pacino, 608, \$45.

65-69 -- Arlene Underhill, 608, \$85; Patricia Gilbertson, 569, \$55.

60-64 -- Chris Bovee, 735, \$100; Dawn Luckenbach, 614, \$85; Linda Johnson, 607, \$75; Karen Moran, 604, \$60.

55-59 -- Terry Gilman, 603, \$80; Pam Jenks, 592, \$60.

50-54 -- Becky Arft, 580, \$55.

Prize checks will be mailed on Friday, Nov. 19.

Albion's Cole Wins GRUSBC Senior Masters



NOVEMBER 22, 2021 -- Albion's Reid Cole stepped into the Genesee Region USBC Senior Masters Tournament winner's circle for the first time Saturday, topping LeRoyan John Lowe, 179-138, in the title match at Perry Bowling Center.

The 62-year-old right-hander was at or near the top of the standings throughout the scratch singles event's four rounds, averaging 214 for his seven games. He earned \$300, a free entry into the GRUSBC Scratch Memorial Tournament and a plaque for his efforts.

Only three other bowlers averaged 200 or better on the challenging lane conditions – Lowe (200), who won \$160; Mike Johnson of Batavia (203), who placed third for \$120, and Don Parrott of Warsaw (211), who finished fourth for \$90.

Lowe defeated Johnson, 175-166, in the opening game of the three-bowler stepladder finals to earn the right to face Cole. Cole was the third-high qualifier with 669 for three games, and then posted 393 in the two-game semifinals to reach the top six. From there, he rolled a 257 game to claim the top spot in the finals.

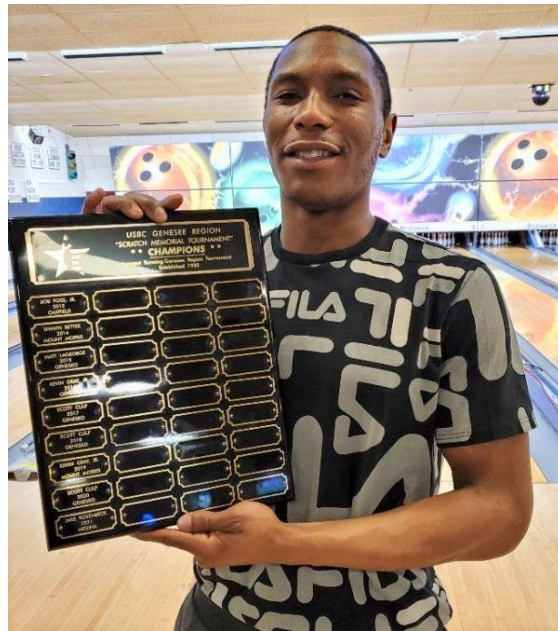
Lowe recorded 706 in qualifying – second to Parrott's 709 – and went on to roll 386 for two games in the second round and 197 in the third round to advance. Johnson qualified seventh with 637 before posting 417 in the second round and 202 in the third round.

Bill Logan of Albion and two-time defending champion Mickey Hyde placed fifth and sixth, respectively, each winning \$90.

Other cashers, all for \$70, were Brett Van Duser of Perry, Duane Barrett of Warsaw, Scott Shields of Batavia, Fred Walters of Perry, Paul Spiotta of Batavia and Matt Balduf of South Byron. Steve Krna of Alexander cashed for \$50. The tournament drew 42 entries – 24 from the ages of 50-59, 12 from 60-69 and six in the 70 and over bracket.

Photo: Reid Cole, left, and John Lowe, champion and runner-up, respectively, of the Genesee Region USBC Senior Masters on Saturday at Perry Bowling Center. Submitted photo.

Devon Leach Wins Scratch Memorial



JANUARY 10, 2022 -- Batavian Devon Leach's gutsy move toward the end of the title match of Sunday's 68th Genesee Region USBC Scratch Memorial Tournament paid off in the best possible way as the 28-year-old right-hander defeated LeRoyan Tom Rohl for the \$700 first prize.

Down by 13 pins after seven frames – and just coming off a split – Leach went into his bag for a different ball and proceeded to roll three consecutive strikes en route a 203-174 victory at Letchworth Pines in Portageville.

“I had been using the (Global 900) Honey Badger Extreme until then but figured it was time to switch to the (Storm) UFO Alert,” said Leach, who captured his first scratch singles tournament by running the table in the five-bowler stepladder finals.

Entering as the No. 4 seed after posting 822 in the four-game semifinals on the difficult Autobahn “Sport” condition, Leach turned back Mike Malone of Dansville, 236-176; Adam Philp of Batavia, 198-195, and Brett Van Duser of Perry, 192-154, before facing Rohl.

Rohl dominated the 15-bowlers semifinals, recording games of 198, 254, 241 and 231 for a 924 series – 93 pins better than Van Duser’s 831. The lefty’s chances for victory against Leach were thwarted, however, by splits in the final two frames.

Still, the two-time GRUSBC Masters champion, earned \$360 for his efforts.

Leach, who bowls in four leagues, made headlines earlier this season with an 802 series in league play at Mancuso Bowling Center in Batavia. He is part of the large Leach and Bacon bowling family, but took up the sport in earnest only about eight years ago.

He is employed at Oldcastle Bonsal American concrete factory in Batavia.

Van Duser, proprietor of Perry Bowling Center, finished in third place, earning \$280, while Philp took home \$240 and Malone won \$220.

Philp, who led the 12:30 p.m. Saturday four-game qualifying squad with 837, needed a double in the 10th to defeat Leach, but left the 2-pin after getting the first strike.

Shawn Hurlburt of Freedom, who led the 10 a.m. Sunday qualifying squad with 839, placed sixth, good for \$150, and defending champion Jake Rosenbeck, who was second on the Sunday qualifying squad with 823, finished seventh, earning \$140.

Other cashers were Mickey Hyde of Le Roy, \$135; Brian Weber of Perry, \$130; Scott Culp of Honeoye Falls, \$125; Brady Weber of Perry, \$120; Anthony Drum of Dansville, \$115; Mike Pettinella of Batavia, \$110; Austin Hawker of Geneseo, \$105, and Mel Helms of Nunda, \$100.

Helms led the 4 p.m. Saturday qualifying squad with 843 and earned a \$25 bonus as the overall high qualifier. The tournament drew 66 entries. Five bowlers advanced to the semis from the first squad, four from the second squad and six from the third squad.



TOURNEY FINALISTS: From left, Tom Rohl, Brett Van Duser, Adam Philp, Devon Leach and Mike Malone.

Oak Orchard Team Wins Youth Tournament

FEBRUARY 22, 2022 -- The Oak Orchard Bowl #1 team of Gracelin Mahnke, Gavin Baney, Bailee Snook and Zach Neal placed first in the Genesee Region USBC Youth Team Tournament on Feb. 5-6 at Oak Orchard Bowl in Albion.

The team's winning score was 2,717 with handicap. Each member will receive a \$100 scholarship and a trophy.

Finishing second was the Oak Orchard Bowl #3 team of Baney, Omer Fugate, Neal and Mahnke with 2,683, and in third was the Allie Cats team of Gavin Slocum, Allie Faryna, Ben Sputore and Carter Armijo with 2,541. Each of those youth bowlers will receive trophies.

Adult-Junior Doubles Tournament Results

JANUARY 17, 2022 -- Twenty-two teams participated in the Genesee Region USBC Adult-Junior Doubles Tournament at Legion Lanes in Le Roy on Saturday (Jan. 15).

Youth bowlers on the top team in the 12-and-Under Division and the top four teams in the 13 & Over Division will receive scholarships, as follows:

12 & Under (4 entries)

1 – Mickey Hyde/Gavin Slocum, 1,315 -- \$150 scholarship plus trophy for Gavin

13 & Over (18 entries)

1 – Nate Balduf/Emma Balduf, 1,423 -- \$240 scholarship plus trophy for Emma

2 – Reid Cole/Kyle Brett, 1,402 -- \$190 scholarship for Kyle

3 – John Lowe/Allie Faryna, 1,315 -- \$100 scholarship for Allie

4 – Jason Mahnke/Gracelin Mahnke, 1,314 -- \$80 scholarship for Gracelin

The scholarship amounts have been deposited into the youths' SMART accounts.

Father, Son Place First in Doubles No-Tap

FEBRUARY 21, 2022 -- The father-son team of **Kevin Gray Sr. and Scott Gray** took first place in the **Genesee Region USBC Doubles No-Tap Tournament** on Saturday at **Mount Morris Lanes**.

The duo combined for a score of 1,618 to claim the \$540 first prize in the tournament, that drew 45 teams over three squads.

Jacklyne and Zach Farruggia placed second with 1,607 and will split \$270.

Other cashers are as follows:

Cory Towner and George Frew, 1,577, \$200; Alishia Foss and Corey Winters, 1,566, \$185; Amber Stackhouse and Mike Bramer, 1,551, \$175; Chase Cone and Dan Turek, 1,535, \$170; Rodney Cobb and Tina Burger, 1,510, \$160; VJ Frew and Kallie Hinsken, 1,494, \$150; Gary Kuchler and Scott Gibson, 1,491, \$140; Geoff Harloff and Rick Underhill, 1,480, \$130; Dean Cadieux Jr. and Rich Mortellaro, 1,477, \$120.

JAMM posts 3,061 to win Open Team event at 15th annual Association Tournament

Doody/Harloff 1st in Doubles; Daniels 838 in Singles; Cline wins All-Events

[CLICK HERE](#) for the official prize list -- over \$10,000!

MARCH 28, 2022 -- A high-scoring 15th annual Genesee Region USBC Association Tournament at Mancuso Bowling Center in Batavia came to a close on Sunday with the JAMM team of Batavia taking over the top spot in the Open Team division and Ricky Daniels of Albion jumping into the lead in the Open Singles division.

In unofficial standings released today, the squad of **Jason Quilliam, AJ Allenbrandt, Mike Lambert and Mike Johnson** posted a 3,061 score – 2,886 scratch – to move past Balduf's, which had been leading the tournament at 2,920.

[CLICK HERE](#) for official final standings.

Allenbrandt led the way with 757, his best series ever, while Lambert shot 729, Johnson 702 and Quilliam 698.

First place in the Open Team event is \$1,000.

O'Dell's is in third place at 2,902, with Trigger Tribute II in fourth at 2,852.

In Open Singles, Daniels found the line for 233-245-279—757 scratch. Adding his 81 pins handicap based on a 195 average, he finished with 838 to go ahead of previous leader **Matt Bourg**, who had 780 – 537 scratch plus 243 pins handicap based on his 135 average.

Batavian **Mike Pettinella** rolled 232-288-250--770 to place third and claim the scratch singles title.

In Open Doubles, last week's 1,504 (1,456 high scratch score) by **Geoff Harloff and Ed Doody** was challenged but remains in the top spot.

Lambert and Quilliam combined for 1,497 on Saturday – with Quilliam posting a 279 game and 791 series – to move into second, with Harloff and **Rick Underhill** in third with 1,482 and Johnson and Allenbrandt next at 1,472. Underhill had a 289 game in the doubles event.

Brian Cline leads in Open All-Events with 2,295 – all scratch – with Allenbrandt in second at 2,264 and Shayne Herold in third at 2,249. Daniels finished at 2,204 and Brian Green tallied 2,201, including a 300 game in singles competition on Saturday.

Green also had an 802 series in the team event, second in the tournament behind Harloff's 814.

In the Women's Team event, PBC Women held on with 2,339 edging Wendy's Girls by 22 pins.

Members of the Perry team are **Montana Bzduch, Joann Van Duser, Rachel Huntz and Katy Bzduch**.

In Women's Doubles, **Christine Bovee and Karen Henry**, bowling out of Mount Morris Lanes, is in first with 1,276, with Batavians **Donna Wolff and Wendy Morse** next at 1,259.

Wolff's 690 (488 scratch) leads in Women's Singles, with Morse next at 648 (522 scratch), and Wolff also leads in Women's All-Events with 1,997, with **Bonnie Wass** of Warsaw in second with 1,837.

The tournament drew 43 teams (four more than last year) and 62 doubles sets (13 more than last year). There were two 800 series, 41 700 series and 13 games of 279 or better.

At least one in five will cash. The Genesee Region USBC has 30 days to pay the prize list, which is being boosted by \$400 from the association treasury and \$900 from the bowling ball raffle and 50/50 drawings.

Three high-performance bowling balls were raffled to support the tournament. Winners were Batavians **Matt Buckley** and Geoff Harloff and **Jeff Parton** of Bergen.