



President's Message

John Cresswell

Here we are at the end of August and how things are not like they used to be. Right now, we all would be looking to go to fall fairs or the Canadian National Exhibition, but society has been and continues to be under a cloud of concern called COVID-19. In Ontario, we shut down the world back in March 2020 and since then have all worked diligently to protect ourselves and those around us. There have been many trying times for all of us, but I think we are all going to be stronger when we come out of this.

Our partners, the Bowling Proprietors, have been working diligently to ensure their facilities were prepared to open when the government gave them permission to do so. With Phase 3 of the government plan now in place across the province, most of the facilities have re-opened and are working with the limited 50 customer base. Hopefully in the near future, this number will be increased to allow more patrons to not only be in the centre but bowling as well, based on the facilities' ability to manage social distancing.

The Board of Directors and Office Staff have been working on behalf of the members throughout the summer and cannot believe we are already at the end of August. With the O5 Office being closed since mid-March 2020, due to circumstances beyond our control, we are a little behind on getting the season started, but hopefully that will all be done shortly.

Emails have started to go out to Zone and DC Presidents with the beginning of season forms and paperwork. We ask that you complete and submit all the necessary documents back as soon as possible. The Secretary's Handbook, Calendar of Events and Greenbook, have been delayed due to a number of complications with respect to COVID-19 emergency measures. If you require additional supplies information, please contact Rhonda Gifford via email in the O5PBA office.

Tournaments as we have run historically, will not be taking place at this time as per Ontario's Framework for Reopening Team Sport and Live Events: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/framework-reopening-our-province-stage-3>.

Hopefully everyone's batteries are charged up from the great summer weather and we are all ready to take on the tasks at hand in your bowling centres across the province.

I would personally like to thank Rhonda Gifford and Jackie Henriques for the work they performed on behalf of all of us this past season, especially while working from home, due to the office being closed starting in March 2020. As well, to all our volunteers, you are second to none for all sports in this province, and without you and the great work that you do this Association would not exist and succeed. Thank you all for your time and dedication in continuing to help grow this great sport of 5 pin bowling into the future.

With most of our Provincial Tournaments and all the C5PBA National Championships being cancelled for the 2019-2020 season, we look forward to once again, being on the lanes when government regulations allow gatherings large enough for us to run our tournaments.

The Bowling School was to be hosted by Echo Bowl in Brantford. As with everything else it too was cancelled for the first time in what seems like an eternity. Hopefully that does not happen again.

For leagues starting up, please be sure to work with your local Bowling Facility. They are the most knowledgeable on what requirements are in place to ensure all of us can safely return to the lanes and participate in the sport of 5 Pin Bowling, that we all love!

Please ensure that everyone is aware of and reads the O5PBA Return to Play documents located on our website in the Policy section. They include important information all bowlers should be aware of when the season starts.

For those wondering about the Annual General Meeting that was scheduled for June 2020, we are investigating numerous options, with a possibility of holding the meeting virtually or if government regulations allow in the near future, in person. Please stay tuned for further announcements on the 2020 AGM and 2020 SAGM meetings.

I hope you are all keeping safe and taking the necessary steps to ensure those around you are safe as well. Have an enjoyable and successful 2020/2021 bowling season and I hope to personally see many of you on the lanes at our Provincial Tournaments, government willing.



Welcome Back Everyone From the Editor

Although weatherwise it has been a great summer, but for all of us, a very different one, I hope you were able to get out and enjoy some of this great weather with your families, while practicing social distancing and staying safe.

When things get back to normal, which should be by October, this newsletter will go back to its regular timing of being sent to you by the 20th of the month. **Remember, this is your newsletter.** Please send in any articles you would like to have included. There are incentive points awarded for articles sent in. They should arrive in my inbox by the 10th of the month to ensure placement in that month's newsletter. Send all submissions to brendahamilton@o5pba.ca.

The O5PBA reserves the right to review all items received before publishing. If it is determined that an article should not appear in the newsletter, you will be advised of this decision and the reasons why.

Membership

It was the consensus of the O5PBA Board of Directors to lower the cost of becoming a member of our Association to \$10.00 from \$15.00 for this coming season only

It was felt that this reduction in cost may help bowlers to return to their respective leagues and rejoin our Association since many have been out of work since March. It was also felt that it may encourage bowlers who have not previously been a member of our Association to join this year.

Return to Play Documents

You will find Return to Play Stage 1, 2 and 3 for bowling on our website under Policies. <http://o5pba.ca/policies/>

Lane Certification

Due to Covid-19, the O5PBA Board of Directors passed the motion that any bowling centre that passed lane certification in the 2019/2020 season and has not had work done since, will be granted a pass for the 2020/2021 season.

Any Proprietor wishing to have their lanes measured will be at the discretion of both the Certification Agent and the Proprietor.

Upcoming Events

55th Annual General Meeting and Semi-Annual Meeting November 1, 2020

The bowling calendar shows that this date was reserved for the SAGM, but since we have not yet held our AGM, we have slotted it into this spot and combined it with the SAGM. There possibly might also be a Tournament Committee Meeting taking place prior to that.

As of this date we do not know if we will be holding a virtual meeting or face to face. This will be determined when we know where the Province is by this date as to the number of people that we can safely have inside a public facility. Please stay tuned for more news on this.

O5PBA Marketing Sponsors

We would like to acknowledge our great sponsors that have been sponsoring the O5PBA for a number of years. Be it, Corporate, Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze, you all have contributed to the success of the tournaments and events run by the O5PBA.

We wanted to show our appreciation by extending your sponsorship from last year into 2020/2021 at no cost to you. Depending on your level of sponsorship, you will continue to be included in our calendar of events, this newsletter, on our sponsorship poster, on our lane sheets and in announcements at our events, etc.

Thank you from the Board of Directors of the O5PBA.

Corporate Sponsor

