Bowling fans will be treated to a thrilling spectacle next month when Australia takes on a team of five international superstars in a made-for-television competition series – the AMF Australian Masters INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE. Action on the lanes will commence at 3pm on Thursday, 20 October at AMF Bowling, Rooty Hill in Sydney and spectators are welcome.

The bowlers representing Australia match the 4-male and 1-female international team, and include some of this country’s most experienced and versatile bowlers. Defending Masters champion Sam Cooley, Australia representatives George Frilingos and Jason Walsh, and winner of this year’s prestigious ESPY Award, Jason Belmonte will be joined by Carol Gianotti whose stellar career has recently been rewarded by induction into the USBC Hall of Fame.

Opposing this talented line-up will be another highly awarded team of athletes that Australian fans rarely have the opportunity to see in a real-time contest with their local heroes. Current PBA Player of the Year, Mika Koivuniemi from Finland, PBA bowlers Mike Fagan and Tommy Jones from the United States and Canadian-born pro-bowler Dan MacLelland are the male team members, with USBC Queens and QubicaAMF World Cup champion Lynda Barnes from Texas completing this high profile group of international players.

The International Challenge will comprise a series of singles, doubles and team matches in which the winner of each match will be awarded points to determine the overall champion of the inaugural 2011 AMF Australian Masters INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE. The event will subsequently be produced into a series of up to nine television episodes. These shows will be televised via the digital TV platforms of TVS Sydney, QCTV Brisbane, C31 Melbourne/Geelong, C44 Adelaide and WTV Perth, and will be available to a global audience online, 24 hours after being televised, via www.youtube.com/user/TenpinBowlingShow

Admission is free, and spectators are invited to join the audience for this unique bowling competition that promises an exciting display of some of the world’s top tenpin talent.
Celebrating 50 years of the National Championships

With the 50th Australian National Championships and AMF Australian Masters just around the corner what better opportunity to reflect on the events of yesteryear. The first National Championships were held in 1962 at Rushcutter Bowl in the heart of Sydney. The event was organised by the sport’s inaugural national governing body, the ATBC (Australian Tenpin Bowling Congress) and for the first year did not incorporate the Australian Masters. The first Australian Masters (now the AMF Australian Masters) was conducted in 1963 and was won by Eric Jang from New South Wales. Pictured (left) is an article from the ATBC publication ‘Tenpin News’ in the lead up to the 1965 Australian Masters. 2010 was the first year an International Bowler won the Australian Masters with Team USA star Lynda Barnes taking the title.

Rushcutter was one of the premier tournament houses in Australia and not only did it host the Australian National Championships and the Masters three times in the first eleven years of the Championships, in 1984 it also hosted the Bowling World Cup (now QubicaAMF Bowling World Cup). Pictured (left) are the participants of the 1984 World Cup in Rushcutter Bowl.

Last year’s AMF Australian Masters also saw the return of some of the greats of Australian Tenpin Bowling. Steve Mackie, a member of the Hall of Fame, was back on the lanes in addition to providing commentary for the final match after a long absence from the Australian Bowling scene. Mackie who was a regular writer with his ‘Strike Out’ columns in ‘Pin Action’ last year accompanied wife Dana Miller-Mackie to have a chance at the $100,000 AMF Australian Masters prize pool. Both Dana and Steve have won the event, Steve in 1967 and 1970 and Dana in 1989 and were looking to replicate those wins last year. TBA uncovered a 1991 ‘Pin Action’ article titled ‘Mackie A Texan’ detailing the pair’s move to the US, Steve as a Regional Manager for AMF and Dana as a professional bowler on the professional women’s circuit.

With the recent surge of interest in the AMF Australian Masters and sponsorship provided by AMF for this event we are sure the next 50 years of the Australian Masters and the National Championships are going to be just as exciting as the last half century. With the return of Lynda Barnes from the US to defend her title and male defending champion Sam Cooley entering the event again there is sure to be plenty of action coming from Australia’s newest super-centre AMF Rooty Hill RSL.

The 2011 AMF Australian Masters and National Championships will again be held at AMF Rooty Hill RSL from Saturday 8th October until Saturday 29th October. The AMF Australian Masters will be held on the 21st and 22nd October after the completion of the Walter Rachuig Tournament. For all your National Championships information including schedules and entry forms head to the Tenpin Events webpage accessible from www.tenpin.org.au. Live scores from the National Championships and the AMF Australian Masters will also be streamed from this page.
Nell Weir Tribute

Tenpin Bowling has lost a wonderful and very passionate person: Nell Weir. Mrs Weir’s contribution, values and dedication to Junior bowling in Queensland are truly a legacy. Mrs Weir touched so many lives during her time in bowling and will be sadly missed. Tenpin Bowling Australia offers it’s deepest condolences to the Weir family and friends. Mrs Weir was a truly remarkable woman.

Mrs Weir was inducted into the TBA Hall of Fame in 2001. Nell was a physical education teacher prior to starting with Tenpin Bowling. She began bowling in a league at Exhibition Bowl (Qld) in 1970. Both Nell’s children bowled in junior leagues at this time also. Nell became the Junior Guardian for the league and from this time on became a dedicated devotee to our sport.

Nell attended the very first Junior Nationals in 1971 and has not missed one since. Nell served as Secretary of the Brisbane Area Junior Tenpin Bowling Association (BAJTBA) for 10 years and was subsequently appointed President in 1980 until present day. Nell is a Life Member of the Brisbane Area Junior Tenpin Bowling Association.

Some of the significant contributions Nell made over the 40 years of involvement in Tenpin Bowling include the following:

- Served 10 years as a Secretary/Treasurer of the South Queensland Junior Tenpin Bowling Committee and later held the position of Chairperson for the next 18 years in various roles including Coordinator, Team Manager, and Selector for the President's Shield.
- Served 6 years as President of the Tenpin Bowling Association of Queensland (TBAQ)
- Nell was one of seven, who in 1996 was inducted into Queensland’s inaugural Hall of Fame.
- Achieved Coaching accreditation and completed Level 2 studies at the AIS Canberra
- Attended meetings with representatives of the Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing with key personnel from TBAQ.
- Was instrumental through meeting with Bob Rae from the USA in introducing of Port-A-Bowl in Queensland Primary Schools. Now over 50,000 children per year now participate in TBAQ’s Roll n Strike program

Furthermore Nell served on working committees associated with the following events:

- World Masters Games (Brisbane)
- State Championships for people with a disability
- Queensland State Championships
- 1995 Junior Nationals at Clayfield Bowl.

When inducted into the TBA Hall of Fame in 2001, Nell commented "I am very proud and find it rewarding to serve the ATBC (in a small way) TBA Ltd, Brisbane Area Juniors in the Junior Committee, and the Tenpin Bowling Association of Queensland Inc".

There are 22 Hall of Fame Members in the Australian Tenpin Bowling Hall of Fame and in 2001 Nell joined this group.

For a list of the current Hall of Fame Members and their photos head to the Tenpin Events website under the Records and Past Winners section.
Youngest Australian Female 300 Bowler

Katey Furze from North Queensland has created history and has become the youngest documented Australian Female to have bowled a 300 game at age 15.

Katey’s story was published in the Cairns Post and if she keeps bowling perfect games she will easily make the Asian Schools Team next year.

From the Board and Staff of Tenpin Bowling Australia Ltd we congratulate you Katey on this tremendous achievement.

All Just a Little Bit of History Repeating

Below is the 1991 Pin Action Article featured on David Brooker the then Youngest Male Bowler in Australia to have bowled a perfect 300 game.

Katey Strikes a Perfect 300

She’s only 15, but Cairns tenpin bowler Katey Furze has achieved something most men and women in her sport will never come close to. Furze bowled a perfect 300 game, which involves bowling 12 strikes in a row, at a recent tournament in Innisfail and is believed to be one of the youngest females in Australia to achieve the milestone. With a previous best score of 260, Furze admitted the nerves kicked in as she started racking up more and more strikes. “At the start I was nice and relaxed, but as I started getting the strikes I became a bit more serious about it,” Furze said. “When I got the last one it felt so good. I was so excited. It was just so much easier for me on that day than what it normally is”. Furze comes from a family of bowlers and hopes to qualify for the Australian under 19 team next year.

In the meantime, she plans to keep on practising. “It’s a great sport. It’s exciting and a real big challenge and you get to meet lots of new people,” Furze said. “You’re not just bowling against people your own age, but people who are a lot older than you”.

Article courtesy of Cairns Post, 2011, ‘Katey strikes a perfect 300’, August 17
Commonwealth Games Bid Update

As part of an intense campaign underway in Australia to showcase the sport of tenpin bowling to the GOLD COAST 2018 COMMONWEALTH GAMES BID COMMITTEE, Tenpin Bowling Australia, TBAQ and the Commonwealth Tenpin Bowling Federation are coordinating a series of PR activities and events.

Primarily focusing on the Gold Coast and Brisbane, invitations have been extended to the Ministers for Sport and Education, State and regional politicians and government officials, as well as senior officials of the GC2018 Bid Committee and the Australian Commonwealth Games Association to participate in various Opening and Closing ceremonies and to view the sport being played competitively first-hand.

In May, state-of-the-art centre, AMF Robina Bowl, hosted the Queensland State Teams Roll-Off and late August the prize-giving ceremony of TBAQ’s Secondary Inter-School Challenge was attended by Strathpine MP Carolyn Male, representing the Minister for Education, the Hon Cameron Dick. The Inter-School Challenge is a TBAQ program that provides a structured tenpin bowling competition to school teachers, students and parents. See page 6 for the full story on this event.

The following week, Gold Coast Mayor, Ron Clarke MBE, officially opened the Darrell Holt Restricted Challenge, the founding event of a carnival of bowling held at Go Bowling Ashmore. Vice-President of the Australian Commonwealth Games Association, Mike Victor OAM, his Queensland Association Deputy, Brian Stewart, and other dignitaries participated in the Opening ceremony which was compered by popular media personality and former professional bowler, John Burgess. The GC2018 Commonwealth Games Bid DVD was televised during the Opening to several hundred bowlers from all around Australia who travelled to the Gold Coast for the 2011 Holt Challenge.

The GC2018 Bid DVD was also televised during the Opening ceremony at AMF Robina Bowl in May and the recent ceremony at Strathpine Hyperbowl in Brisbane, with the Bid Committee providing posters, stickers, lapel badges and presentation packs of branded promo items in recognition of the enthusiastic support that Australian bowlers, and the bowling industry, is throwing behind their bid.

With the generous support of AMF Australia and independent Bowling Centre proprietors in Queensland, welcome letters and invitations for complimentary bowling and refreshments are provided for CGF Zone delegates and CGF EC members who are making regular inspection visits to the Gold Coast in the lead up to choosing the successful host city for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. This announcement will be made at the CGF General Assembly being held on St Kitts & Nevis on 11 November 2011.
Top Marks for Toowoomba at Inter-school Challenge

Lynne Clay

A tournament high-game 257 by Brendan Woodley of Runcorn SHS propelled the teenage bowler to top placing in the 2011 All Stars team at this year’s TBAQ Inter-School Challenge. Woodley posted games of 246, 235, 248 and 224 on his way to a total pinfall of 2152 over ten games in last weekend’s finals of the 2011 Inter-School Challenge at Strathpine Hyperbowl.

Fellow 15 year-old Runcorn team member, Sean Bowling also blitzed the lanes with a 208.8 average but the strength of the team from Toowoomba State High was evident from the outset, as Toowoomba jumped to the points lead from Game 2 ahead of Runcorn which had won back to back titles in 2009 and 2010.

Toowoomba maintained its lead going into Day Two of the Finals and clinched a decisive win by accumulating a total of 98.5 points, with Helensvale SHS second on 79.5 and Runcorn SHS third on 72 points, edging out a strongly finishing Kepnock SHS by just one point. Close in contention for third place until the last game, Bundaberg SHS finished on 69 points.

“What the two Runcorn boys did on the weekend was quite remarkable,” said Tournament Director, Ian Renfrey. “With only four players they were unable to get bonus points as they had to win all five team points to get the other two bonus points, whereas Toowoomba won the bonus points twice,” Renfrey explained. “Nevertheless, Toowoomba’s victory was definitely well-earned and it was pleasing to see bowlers from Trinity Bay, Caboolture and Bundaberg also featuring in the top 20 individual placings,” he added. Seven teams battled over 10 games for the honour of becoming 2011 Secondary State School champions, with SHS teams from Toowoomba, Helensvale, Runcorn, Bundaberg, Kepnock, Caboolture, and Trinity Bay qualifying for the Challenge finals.

Rounding out the All-Star team - bowlers who scored the top five averages over 60% of games - was 13 year-old Chloe Hodge and 15 year-old Luke Hotz from Toowoomba SHS, and Helensvale State High School’s David Colbran who rolled a 223 in Game 6 to help secure his All-Star title.

Queensland Minister for Education, the Hon Cameron Dick, was represented at Sunday’s Closing ceremony by popular Pine Rivers MP, Carolyn Male who presented trophies to individual bowlers and the coveted Inter-School Shield to the winning Toowoomba SHS team. In congratulating the winners, Ms Male stated “It’s competitions like this that give students the chance to develop and showcase their special talents - you are all wonderful representatives for your school community and for the sport of tenpin bowling. I’m sure many of the students here today will become lifelong friends, and a few may even go on to compete at a State, national or international level. “I’m told a former World Masters Champion started out as a junior right here in Queensland, and there may even be future world champion tenpin bowlers among us here today,” she added.

Reflecting the sport’s enthusiastic support for the Gold Coast’s bid to host the Commonwealth Games in 2018, an inspirational DVD highlighting the Gold Coast’s attractions was screened during the Closing ceremony. The tournament Sportsman and Sportswoman, elected by their peers – Sarah Birt from Caboolture SHS and Runcorn’s Brendan Woodley – were rewarded with a presentation pack of GC2018 Commonwealth Games gift-bags and Bundaberg SHS won the Best Presented Team award.

The Inter-School Challenge is a Tenpin Bowling Association of Queensland program that provides a structured tenpin bowling competition to school teachers, students and parents. The Inter-School Challenge concept was devised in 2000 to introduce the sport of tenpin bowling as an inter-school sporting event within the primary and secondary environment and enables current and new participants of tenpin bowling to compete in a State-wide competition and represent their school in their chosen sport.

Entries are now open for schools throughout Queensland and Northern New South Wales to participate in the 2012 Primary and Secondary Inter-School competitions. Further details of next year’s program are available by contacting Ian Renfrey at TBAQ via email, ian@tbaq.org.au or by phoning Tenpin Bowling Association of Queensland Inc. on (07) 3876 5400. Full scores and a gallery of photos from the 2011 TBAQ Inter-School Challenge can be found on TBAQ’s official website – www.tbaq.org.au
Northern Territory News

June Voukolos Honoured

34 years is a long time to dedicate to any sport and Tenpin Bowling is very lucky indeed that 34 years is the length of service June Voukolos (pictured right) has dedicated to Tenpin Bowling in Australia.

1977 was the first time June Voukolos picked up a bowling ball in the Nightcliff centre in the Northern Territory and since that year she has never looked back. June has had a variety of roles throughout our organisation and her immense contribution to the sport was recently acknowledged with a special recognition award from the Prime Minister, Julia Gillard. The special pin was awarded to June by the NT Chief Minister, the Honourable Paul Henderson, for ‘services to Sport, Promotion of Women in Sport and Services to Tenpin Bowling over years.’

In her service to the sport of Tenpin Bowling June has:

- Served on location association committees raising funds for State Teams
- Coaching juniors, youth and adults from beginners to elite bowlers
- Established Junior Development Programs in NT
- Served as the first female Chairperson of Tenpin Bowling Australia Ltd
- Coached a winning Rachuig Team (2001)
- Awarded NT Administrator of the Year Award (1998), NT Coach of the Year (2002)
- Awarded the Australian Sports Medal by Prime Minister John Howard (2000)
- Coached successful Australian Teams on the International stage
- Established NT High Performance Program
- Inducted into the NT Hall of Champions Honour Roll

Darwin Gold Cup

The Annual Gold Cup with divisions in Open Ladies & Men’s and Mixed Graded was held during September at Planet Tenpin, Nightcliff.

The Men’s Division proved an exciting finish with the finalists Bruno Maglieri and Ronald Voukolos going into the Grand Final with equal pinfall. For the final this pinfall was, however, dropped and the winner was decided by a one game sudden death final. The eventual winner Maglieri defeated Voukolos by a narrow 2 pins with games of 224 to 222 to claim the title.

Bec Voukolos continued her dominance after her return from the Women’s World Championships taking out the Open Ladies division. The Mixed Graded section saw the winner, Craig Humphries rising to the challenge and averaging 31 pins over his entering average of 142 for the 9 games to be declared the Champion in his division.

The tournament was again a great success and we look forward to the 2012 event being even bigger and better.
Tenpin Bowling Tasmania held their annual Hall of Fame and 2010 Sports Awards presentation dinner on the 18th June at Hobart’s Tattersall’s Park. The night proved to be a resounding success with a record number of 98 bowlers, family and friends in attendance. The highlight of the night was the induction of Marg Tucker & the 1998 Women’s ATBSO Team in to the Tasmanian Hall of Fame.

Marg was inducted because of her outstanding service to the sport over the last 24 years which includes being a foundation Member of Launceston’s Select Club (Established 1985), Secretary of Select Club since 1987 & Secretary/Treasurer since 2007, Treasurer of Launceston Tenpin Bowling Association since 1987 and Treasurer of Tenpin Bowling Tasmania and the TBT - Tournament Committee since 1990. The Women’s ATBSO team were recognised for being the 1st Tasmanian ATBSO side to win a national title with their victory in the 1998 ATBSO Teams Challenge.

We would also like to congratulate the following on their success in the 2010 Tasmanian Sports Awards :-

Female Junior Bowler Of The Year – Kaitlyn Commane
- Jessica Nicholas

Male Junior Bowler Of The Year – Jack Deane

Female Adult Bowler Of The Year – Debbie Riley

Female Adult Restricted Bowler Of The Year – Michelle Gunn

Male Adult Bowler Of The Year – Garry Crick

Male Adult Restricted Bowler of the Year – Garry Arnold

Female Senior Bowler Of The Year – Vicki Corbett

Male Senior Bowler Of The Year – Garry Crick

Volunteer of the Year – Paul Oakley

Representative Team Of The Year – Mens ATBSO Restricted Team

Junior Encouragement Awards – Callen Daly & Tayla Russell

New Hall of Fame Inductee Marg Tucker

1998 ATBSO Ladies Team—first Tasmania ATBSO Team to win a National Title
South Australian Junior Youth Circuit Heats Up

After the conclusion of the 2011 Tenpin SA Youth Masters and the AMF Noarlunga event the race for the 2011 SA Junior Youth Circuit Overall title has become a little more intense. In the Junior Girls division Shona Forbes used the double points of the Youth Masters to put herself 12 points clear of President’s Shield Captain Sarah Bernhardt. Shona is now in a position to be the first bowler to win the overall title for 3 consecutive years. She will not only have Sarah hot on her tail but young star Lisa Wilford is showing some great form having finished 1st and 2nd in the last two SAJYC events and is only 15 points behind Forbes.

The Junior Boys division got a big shuffle after the Tenpin SA Monthly Star for March young Adam Sims made the top 16 cut for the Youth Masters and finished as the highest placed South Australian Junior Boy. This elevated him to first place sitting on 219 ranking points. Woodville event winner Ryan Hall currently sits in second place only 4 points behind Adam. Both of these bowlers will be kept honest as Michael Murray is entering the picture only 2 points behind Ryan and has finished 1st and 2nd in the last two events.

2011 Sydney Youth Cup winner Dion Alexander is showing he wants to be in the winners circle again taking full advantage of the Youth Masters double ranking points round and sits 11 points in front of fellow Rachuig Team Member and 2011 Geelong Youth Cup winner Matt Krinis. The two will have a heated battle on their hand with it all being decided in the last event at AMF Cross Road.

The Junior Graded section will also come down to the wire with Junior Development Squad member Kyle Finey only 2 points clear of Cross Road’s Scott Holtze in the boys and another member of the Junior Development Squad Grace Perry only 4 points clear of Shaylee Hollobone. With the final event to come on November 6th at AMF Cross Road this years SA Junior Youth Circuit is set to finish with a bang.

For full results and entry details check the Tenpin SA website for details. SA Junior Youth Circuit Bowlers are also reminded that the AMF Cross Road and Overall Presentations will occur at Nando’s Glenelg immediately after the conclusion of the Step Ladder Finals.

Tenpin SA News

McRae & Whiting take out the Youth

After an action packed weekend of bowling overnight leader Kevin McRae and third placed qualifier Bec Whiting have taken out the 2011 Tenpin SA Youth Masters. Highest female qualifier Jaimie-Lee Spiller was overtaken by Bec during Stage 2 but held onto second position to qualify for the final stage. Spiller put up a great fight against the Australian representative for the Women’s World Championships but Bec found another gear and beat the fellow Victorian in 3 games.

South Australian Dion Alexander finished fast to take second place in the male field. After losing the first two games in the final stage, Alexander found his form and took the next two to take the match to a fifth and final game. Starting off where he had finished in the two games prior Alexander started with the first 5 strikes and looked a potential Champion. McRae held strong and the match was in the balance coming into the 10th frame. With strikes for both bowlers for their first in the 10th and McRae striking on his second in the 10th, Alexander needed to strike to force McRae to strike for the win. With it all riding on the line South Australia’s SA Junior Youth Circuit ranking points leader delivered another shot to the pocket but luck was not with him as the 7 pin slid but did not fall and gave the title to the left-handed Victorian.

Tenpin SA would like to thank all the bowlers that supported the event and to Nando’s Peri-Peri Chicken Restaurants for their ongoing support. Congratulations again must go to Kevin and Bec. Full results can be found at Tenpin SA Youth Masters page.

Nando’s

SAJYC

September 2011
Bowler Profile—Sam Cooley

Birthday: 16th August 1991

Star Sign: Leo

Born At What Town: Wollongong, NSW

First Job: Support Worker at Just Better Care

The Reason I Bowl: I first got into bowling when I was invited to a friend’s birthday party when I was around 4 years old and got hooked on the game straight away. I’ve stuck with bowling because of all the friends I’ve made through state, national and international competitions and it was really the only sport I was ever good at from the very start.

If I wasn’t a bowler I would be: A Professional Golf Player

The Bowler I’d most like to partner in a doubles tournament: Robert Smith


My Proudest moment in my bowling career: Winning Silver and Bronze at the 2010 World Youth Championships and winning the 2010 AMF Australian Masters.

My Nickname: None

Favourite Food: Spaghetti Bolognese, Chicken Parmigiana, Black Pepper Beef, Wan Ton Mee Noodle Soup, Pine-apple Upside-Down Cake, Icecream

I Can’t Get By Without: Modern Technology

I Like to Watch On TV: Little Britain, Family Guy, various anime cartoons including Dragon Ball, Dragon Ball Z, Dragon Ball GT, Pokemon

I Like to Listen to: Death Metal, Deathcore, Metalcore, Melodic Death Metal, Post Hardcore, Symphonic Gothic, Metal, Screamo

Favourite School Subject: Maths

Where I Would Like To Be In 10 Years: Hopefully bowling either on the PBA Tour or at least internationally
300 Club for August-September 2011

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YOUTH RANKED TOURNAMENTS

AMF AUSTRALIA YOUTH CUP

Contact: To be Advised

OPEN & WOMEN’S RANKED TOURNAMENTS

AMF AUSTRALIAN MASTERS

21st-22nd October, AMF Rooty Hill RSL
Contact: TBA Ph 07 3262 4455
email tenpin.bowling@tenpin.org.au

NSW OPEN

11th-13th November, Campbelltown City Bowl
Contact: Leanne Triulcio Ph 0418 889 888
email leagae@bigpond.com

AMF AUSTRALIA CUP

3rd-4th December, AMF Tuggeranong
Contact: To be Advised

SENIOR RANKED TOURNAMENTS

NATIONAL SENIORS CUP

10th October, AMF Rooty Hill RSL
Contact: TBA Ph 07 3262 4455 email tenpin.bowling@tenpin.org.au
On The Lanes With Chris Batson

Usually National Coach, Chris Batson, puts together an informative piece for everyone to read and improve their game. This month, however, we thought we would share a bit of the story behind the man that shares these tips and demonstrate where all this knowledge has come from.

Chris first started bowling at the age of 14 and quickly took to the sport. It was only two years later at 16 years of age that Chris won his first tournament and started his path as a successful athlete. Over the next three decades from 1969 to 1998 Chris had forty one (41) 1st places, six 2nd places and three 3rd place finishes in major international and national events - a massive achievement in anyone’s eyes.

The career highlight and milestone for Chris was his dual gold medal performance at the 1982 World Games. Chris won the gold medal in the Masters competition and the Mixed Doubles at the event in California.

He was not just commended on the lanes for his fine performances but in 1982 just after his outstanding World Games performance he received an award from the Sports Ministry of Australia for Outstanding Achievement in the Sport of Tenpin Bowling.

This was followed almost two decades later with an induction into the Australian Tenpin Bowling Hall of Fame in the year 2000, the same year Cheryl Munson OAM was inducted.

While Chris is still out on the lanes now and may have improved these stats by the time this article is published, throughout his career he has bowled 22 sanctioned 300 games and 7 sanctioned 800 3-Game series.

Obviously not as active as a bowler as he once was Chris has now moved into the realms of coaching and helping other athletes achieve at least some of the success he had as an athlete. Chris’ international coaching career began in 1982 when he was appointed the National Coach for Indonesia. He held this position for two years and was invited back from 1989 to 1990 to continue his previous great work.

The majority of Chris’ coaching success came from his time in Malaysia. Between 2002 and 2006 Chris was the Malaysian Head Coach and helped the Malaysian bowlers created several new records. During his tenure the Malaysian team won 24 international titles in 2005 and 15 international titles in the first half of 2006. His major achievement as Head Coach and High Performance Coach for Tenpin Bowling in Malaysia was getting Malaysia to win its inaugural Gold Medal at the 2005 Womens World Championship in Denmark. He also replicated this success in the Men where a Malaysian athlete won the coveted Asian Bowler of the Year Award. Chris also developed two coaching manuals and three programs for the National Sports Council of Malaysia and these manuals and training programs have been accepted by the National Sports Council of Malaysia as the official coaching manual.

After his tenure in Malaysia Chris went to Singapore and was appointed the Head Coach for Tenpin Bowling at the Singapore Sports School. The Singapore Sports School is a specialised government sponsored sports school providing a conducive academic and training environment for selected athletes aspiring to be elite athletes. During his time at the Sports School his major achievement was the success of the bowlers he coached at the National Schools Championships who won 13 out of the 14 gold medals at that Championships. Today a number of the bowlers that he coached at the Sports School are members of the Singapore National team.

Australia is now lucky enough to have Chris as our National Coach and is already providing medals for at the International Events. We hope Chris can continue his great work and help our athletes to achieve some great International Results.
Halloween Tenpin Bowling

Halloween bowling is a game that can be played at Halloween parties or even as part of the trick or treating on Halloween. Players use a small pumpkin as a bowling ball. All you need is 12 clean and empty 2-litre plastic bottles (2 extra bottles just in case any of them break) and gather 4 to 5 small size pumpkins (size of a softball) cut off the stems of the pumpkins.

Witch: Construction paper, Black Sharpie to draw on the mouth and nose
Mummy: White spray paint, Old white sheet torn into strips, construction paper
Frankenstein: Construction paper, Bolts (for the neck) Sharpie for the face
Ghost: Spray paint, sharpie for the eyes and mouth
Cat: Construction paper, pipe cleaners for the tail and whiskers, paint for the face, craft foam for the ears
Spider: Black spray paint, construction paper, pipe cleaners
Dracula: Black and white spray paint, sharpie for the face, construction paper hair, black fabric for cape
Scarecrow: Construction paper, hay, sharpie marker to draw on face
Pumpkin: Orange and green spray paint, construction paper, pipe cleaner
Bat: Black spray paint, construction paper, craft foam for the ears and wings

A Brief History of Pumpkin Bowling

According to a leading expert on Pumpkin Bowling, the sport had its start at the first Thanksgiving, way back in 1621. Of course, the Pilgrims didn't have plastic 2-liter pop bottles. So they had to use the old style glass. They had to watch out for broken glass.

The first tournament was dominated by the Indians. The secret of their success has been lost to the ages, but legend says it had something to do with what was previously believed to be the only part of the buffalo that the Indians didn't use.

Over the years, the sport has changed little, although some failed improvements have been attempted. Ben Franklin tried attaching his pumpkin to a kite. And George Washington is thought to have favoured a wooden pumpkin. The tumult of the Civil War almost brought the sport to an end, but it came back strong in the Prohibition era, when people realized that after bowling with the pumpkins, they could be used to make some bathtub pumpkin ale.

American GIs spread the sport around the globe during WWII, giving it a foothold on four continents, as well as in the South Pacific. (The South Americans never warmed to the sport. All they ever wanted to do was kick the pumpkin around.)

In the 1960s, Pumpkin Frisbee Bowling developed as a brief-lived offshoot. But that was just a fad. As had been underwater pumpkin bowling and phone booth pumpkin bowling in the previous decade. Now, in the 21st century, pumpkin Bowling's status as a major sport seems assured. The game is so popular that a pumpkin bowling video game will soon be available.

Do you have a great story to share? If so, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email at tenpin.bowling@tenpin.org.au