

Richard L. McFadden, Sr.

Superior Performance



Richard L. McFadden, Sr. was born in Edgewood, Md. on June 3, 1947. He attended Edgewood High School and graduated in 1965. While in high school he excelled in football and played Varsity for two years until broken ribs ended his career.

In 1967, Richard settled in Edgewood and raised two boys, Rich, Jr. and Robbie. Both boys have followed their father's lead and are avid bowlers in their own right. He currently resides in the Sparrows Point area with his wife Theresa.

Although his football career was over he still had the burning desire for competition. Richard began playing competitive slow-pitch softball at the Marylander complex in Aberdeen. He finally succumbed to age along with the aches and pains that accompany it and retired (for now) from the game. During his early years he developed the reputation of a go-to-guy. He always wanted to be in the position to make a difference with the game on the line. This attitude would carry over into his bowling career.

In the summer of 1974, Lee Partin needed a 150 average bowler to fill his roster. Richard, always the competitor, accepted the challenge. He finished that first summer with a 167 average. He was hooked. The following winter season he joined four leagues at Fairlanes Edgewood and finished the season with a 169 high average.

Each year he improved. After averaging 180 during the 1978-1979 season, Richard needed more. He was running out of competition at Edgewood. The 1st Nighters league at Be1 Air Bowl was known to be one of the most competitive handicap leagues in the area. So Richard put a team together and left for Be1 Air. He finished the season with a 184 average. The next season it rose to 193 and then 195 in 1982. He was off and running and never looked back.

His next major jump was in the 1982 winter season traveling to Harford Lanes and the Bill Snavely Scratch league. Bowlers traveled from four states to bowl in that league. It was loaded with PBA members and many others who today reside in various Halls of Fame. Richard was not intimidated. During February 1984 he threw the first of his eleven career 300 games. It was one of only two 300 games thrown that year in the association. His series that night was also the first of more than 300 that exceed 700.

Richard averaged 203 that season and has maintained a 200 average ever since.

Richard has won many league championships during his bowling career. There have been many bowlers with numerous league awards. However, one would be hard pressed to find anyone in this area that can approach his tournament accomplishments. With the money and title on the line, Richard shines.

Over the last 25 years, Richard has bowled in 8 ABC National Championship Tournaments. Twice he has represented the GBBA (1987 & 1997) in the prestigious ABC Masters Championship. He has also bowled in 24 MSBA, 22 CHCBA and 17 GBBA Championship Tournaments. The following highlights his many accomplishments during his still growing career.

11 MSBA TITLES

1988 Doubles Scratch 1989, 1990, 1991 Team Scratch 1993 Team Handicap 1995 Team Scratch
1996 Team Scratch (Still the State Record Score 3443) 1999, 2000, 2001 Team Scratch

The eleven state titles are the most by anyone in state history. This year he had two young guns and a former PBA member on the team, but it was the "Old Man" who led them all with a 710 series.

10 CHCBA TITLES

1979 Team Scratch
1986 Team Singles Doubles & All Events Scratch
1988 Team Singles & Doubles Scratch
1995, 1996 Team Scratch
700 Club (2) Doubles titles
Harford Lanes Invitational (1) title

13 GBBA TITLES

1986 Team Handicap & Scratch 1987
All Events Scratch 1988, 1990
Team scratch 1991 Team Scratch (GBBA Record Score 3594)
1997 Team Scratch
1997 All Events Scratch
Five Doubles Scratch

INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

300 GAMES	11
299 GAMES	5+
298 GAMES	2+
803 SERIES	
750 SERIES	50+
700 SERIES	300+
223 Career High Average 1996	

During the 1990/1991 season, he was a member of the 4-man team that shot the 3rd highest ABC series in the country.

In addition to his on lane accomplishments, Richard has given back to the game. He served on the CHCBA board as a director for three years until his work schedule interfered. He also coached at Fairlanes Edgewood from 1976 through 1983 with the youth program. He enjoyed working with all of the youth but he got his greatest satisfaction working with the elite bowlers in the travel leagues. It was there he could impart some of his knowledge on the raw talent he worked with. One of his students is a member of his winning team this year.

This year's inductee is no stranger to Halls of Fame. The honor is being bestowed on him for the third time in six years. In February 1995, Richard was inducted into the CHCBA Hall of Fame. He followed that with his induction into the GBBA Hall of Fame, November 1999.

It is with great honor and respect that the Maryland State Bowling Association welcomes Richard L. McFadden, Sr. into its Hall of Fame in the Superior Performance Category.