

Karl Schmidt

Superior Performance



Karl Schmidt was born and raised in the Baltimore area and now resides in Arvada, Colorado with his wife of 25 years, Debbie, and their two children; Kellie, 21 and Lindsey, 18.

Karl started bowling in 1969 at age 8 when his brother-in-law, Eugene (Bud) Wheatley, introduced him to the game. His first bowling ball was purchased at Marvin's Sport City. He cleaned it every Friday night and laid it next to him in bed anxiously awaiting Saturday morning league. From that moment on, Karl spent countless hours at Crown Lanes; if not bowling Saturday morning Bantams, he was keeping score at Friday Night Industrial. His passion for bowling grew and he wanted to learn as much about the game as possible.

At the age of 15, Karl started bowling in the junior league at Fairlanes Dundalk and it was there where he met Don Connors. Don taught Karl the "basic fundamentals" of a strong bowling game. Almost every Monday, a group (Don Connors, Ed Zeidman, Russell Brocato, Mike Wheeler, etc.) would spend hours discussing and working on their game. At the age of 17, Karl joined his first adult league and one year later, bowled his first sanctioned 300.

In 1980, Karl started bowling for Essex Community College. He was the first to bowl a 300 for the school and continued to win several collegiate titles thereafter.

Karl has had several highlights of his bowling career, but his proudest moment was at the age of 21 when he bowled back-to-back 300 games with a Galaxy 300 (K-Mart bowling ball). He rolled 29 sanctioned strikes and continued to throw another six strikes. He was the first bowler in Maryland to have sanctioned back-to-back 300s and was featured in the February, 1983 Sport Illustrated "Faces in the Crowd" Cheryl Tiegs issue.

Karl has had 18 300 games and three 800 sets, as well as several tournament wins in Maryland and the surrounding states. He continues to bowl a recreation league to stay in shape, but most of his time in the bowling alley is now spent coaching youth bowlers. Karl is a certified junior coach and spends most Saturdays giving back what he has learned over the years.

Karl's many accomplishments include several 1st place finishes in singles, doubles, and team scratch events. His accomplishments are as follows:

MARYLAND STATE TOURNAMENTS:

- 1986 TEAM SCRATCH 1ST PLACE
- 1991 DOUBLES SCRATCH 1ST PLACE
- 1993 TEAM HANDICAP 1ST PLACE
- 1995 SINGLES SCRATCH 1ST PLACE
- 1995 TEAM SCRATCH 1ST PLACE
- 1995 ALL EVENTS 1ST PLACE

NATIONAL / LOCAL TOURNAMENTS:

- FIRST NATIONAL PBA TOUR 1982 (FAIRLANES TOWSON 35TH PL. FINISH)
- PBA REGIONAL TITLE 1984 (FAIRFIELD NJ) MANY OTHER CASHES
- 24 YEARS BOWLING ABC/USBC NATIONALS/CAREER NATIONALS AVE. OVER 200+
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. TEAM SCRATCH 1986
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. TEAM HANDICAP 1986
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. TEAM SCRATCH 1987
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. TEAM HANDICAP 1987
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. DOUBLES SCRATCH 1988
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. DOUBLES SCRATCH 1993
- GBBA CITY TOUR. 1ST PL. TEAM SCRATCH 1996

OTHER RELEVANT TITLES OR HONORS:

- 1ST BOWLER IN MARYLAND WITH BACK TO BACK "300" GAMES(1983)
- 1ST BOWLER IN MARYLAND WITH COLLEIGATE "300" GAME ESSEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE (1981)
- 1ST CAREER "300" GAME AT 18 YEARS OLD (FAIRLANES DUNDALK 1980)
- 1998 SECTIONAL WINNER TEAM USA(COLORADO SPRINGS)
- 18 SANTIONED "300"GAMES & COUNTING
- 3 "800" SETS
- BOWLED "300" GAME IN 1985 MD STATE TOURNAMENT
- ABC NATIONAL TOUR. TEAM SCORE OF 1251 RANKED IN TOP 10 ALL TIME RECORDS (1996)

Therefore, for his overall performance in the sport of tenpin bowling, the Maryland State USBC Association welcomes Karl Schmidt into its Hall of Fame in the Superior Performance category.