

## **Tom Barna Jr. Youth Star of Tomorrow**



Tom Barna Jr. is a 15 year old sophomore at Delone Catholic High School in McSherrystown, PA. He is the son of Tom and Erin Barna and the brother of Brianna and Amanda, avid bowlers themselves. Tom began his bowling career a month before he turned eight years old by joining an adult/youth league with his dad. Tom joined his first youth league that fall and has never thought of not bowling, even after thumb surgery at age 11 due to “bowlers’ thumb”. After years of dealing with thumb and finger pain in his bowling hand he was finally diagnosed with arthritis in the fall of 2009 and with the support of his rheumatologist, hand surgeon, and of course his ball driller, he has been able to remain on the lanes and be competitive. Tom also has played on his school’s basketball team since 4th grade and played on the freshman team for Delone which was undefeated.

Tom started his bowling career at Terrace Lanes in Frederick and is now at Thunderhead Bowl in Taneytown. Tom has bowled in a sanctioned league for seven and a half years. He has competed in the Central Maryland USBC Youth Tournament and has placed numerous times in the Maryland State USBC Youth Tournament and won first place in All-Events in the Prep Division.

Tom helps out at the bowling center his family owns whenever needed, especially when there is a tournament. Tom enjoys the opportunity to watch and learn the sport he loves. He has volunteered as score keeper during fundraising tournaments, state and local tournaments. He also helps in coaching rookie bowlers during the St John league at Thunderhead Bowl. Tom has volunteered for numerous events sponsored by his parish, St John of Westminster, as well as serving lunches at Our Daily Bread in Baltimore City. He attended the 2009 USBC convention and had the opportunity to participate in numerous seminars while there. He has also volunteered his time by assisting the Central Maryland USBC BA in certifying lanes.

Tom bowls several times a month in the Pennsylvania Junior Bowlers Tournament (PJBT). He won the Highest Average in the handicap division for the 2008-2009 season. He also competed in Maryland State Youth 600 Tournaments, the first year he placed fifth and earned a spot for the Junior Olympic Gold National Tournament. In 2010 he placed first and earned a spot for the 2011 Junior Olympic Gold National Tournament.

In the 2009 and 2010 State Pepsi Tournaments, he placed fourth each year in the scratch division. Tom earned a spot and competed in the Maryland State Youth Top Ten Invitational

Tournament in 2010. He has competed annually in the USBC Youth Open Tournament since the very first one in Buffalo, NY, in 2007.

Tom finished the 2009-2010 with a 211 average. His highest game of 298 and his highest series of 759 were rolled during the 2009-2010 season.

Tom has attended the summer bowling camps offered at Wichita State University for two years and plans to continue going in his endeavor to learn all he can about his sport. He is coached by his Dad who is a USBC Certified Bronze level coach. Tom hopes to bowl on the collegiate level and earn a degree in engineering.

