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GREG TURNER

*Following his PBA victory,
he continues his success
on the lanes in the
NCAUSBCA Senior
Tournament*



15 QUESTIONS

Greg Turner

NCAUSBCA Hall of Famer Greg Turner of Temple Hills, Md., became a PBA champion on September 1, 2021 by defeating Darryl Bower of Middletown, Pa., 216-214 in the PBA60 Kingsport Convention & Visitors Bureau Open in Kingsport, Tenn. For some, the [final frame](#) undoubtedly brought back memories of the 1995 Bayer/Brunswick Touring Players Championship [title contest](#) between Randy Pedersen and Ernie “I don’t believe it!” Schlegel.

At the recent NCAUSBCA Senior Tournament at Bowl America Fairfax, Turner, after continuing his excellent bowling, answered several questions posed by editor Bob Cosgrove.

What was your outlook coming into that PBA60 tournament?

The month before, I had bowled on that same [Dick Weber] pattern, and I thought I had a good look, but it didn’t pan out, so I went home and picked up some balls and came back to that same pattern. I was looking for a better outlook and outcome. Did I think I was going to win it? Not in the beginning, no. I thought I would have to throw a lot of strikes, but luckily I did, so it worked out.

What went through your mind as you prepared to bowl for the title?

Just trying to make the same shots I’ve made all day because during warm-up, I saw had a good look, so I was just trying to make the shots I’ve been making and stay with the game plan.

What’s it like to win your first PBA Senior regional title?

It was very exciting, emotional. All of the hard work that I know I’ve done. I’ve always wanted to be a PBA player, and to be a champion, that was really great, very exciting.

What’s been the reaction from people after your victory?

They’ve been excited for me. For some reason, they think I’m carrying the banner for the Black people, so they’ve been excited. They’ve given me love, so I appreciate that. Everybody kept saying that they expected me to do that—if I ever got out there and got a chance, they knew it was coming.

Can it be said your title match with Darryl Bower had a most interesting ending?

Yes, I felt sorry for him because he actually bowled well, and that shot was a great shot when he left that (solid) 8-pin. And I’ll never be mad with the 8-pin again!

He needed a double to win, and he got the first one. I thought when I didn’t strike, he was going to throw all three in the tenth—I just knew it. But luckily, it didn’t happen.

Bower is a really nice guy. I felt bad for him, and I gave him his props when I took my seat.

I’ve always wanted to be a PBA player, and to be a champion, that was really great, very exciting.

How does this win rank among your bowling moments?

The greatest—without any question.

A dream come true?

I’m living the dream, believe me.

How does your victory affect your thinking about yourself as a bowler?

I don’t think it has changed any. I still think I’m pretty good. I probably could be better. I still have a lot of stuff to learn. The guys don’t tell me much out there, but I’ve have gotten a couple of tips from a couple of guys. It’s been okay. I expect to win again.



How do people react when they learn you bowl with a 14-pound ball?

Besides *you*, nobody's really thought about it. A lot of people know, and when I tell people, it's no big deal. You're the only one who makes a big deal about it!

Who services your bowling equipment?

Adonis Taylor—"Pooh"—at World Class Pro Shop. I can tell him what I want, and I don't even have to be there. We've been working together for a long time, so he was excited. We've been going through layouts and stuff.

Who are your strongest competitors in the area?

Ron Holt, Bobby Hall [II] ... we battle a lot. I would say those two on the senior level. I don't really play much with the young guys anymore.

PBA60 KINGSPORT CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU OPEN STEPLADDER FINALS

Was there ever any doubt that a victory in PBA competition would occur?

Yes. I joined [the PBA] last year, and I was about ready to quit before this tournament because I thought I couldn't figure it out. Everybody kept pushing me, saying, "*Man, you can do it. You can do it.*" So I just stayed with it. I feel better now.

How did you celebrate your victory?

I really haven't, I guess. I was kinda like in shock, so the wife drove most of the way back home until I could calm down. We haven't really celebrated; we're just look forward to the next one.

What bowling balls did you use?

Hammer Obsession Tour, which I used almost exclusively. I tried to change, but nothing else looked good, so I kept that ball in my hand and used it for the entire tournament.

And for your spare ball?

Just a regular spare plastic ball—the Radical Spare Ball.