



Save the complaints!

Complain, complain, complain.

I have reached the conclusion that the development of skill is no longer needed in the sport of bowling as long as bowling patrons can complain about lane conditions which aren't to their liking and get them changed.

Give me a break, bowlers!

Better still, give the *game* a break. Whatever happened to the concept of knowing how to make adjustments? What's wrong with learning the whys and how-tos of playing the sport?

It's a given that scoring—not form and not technique—is the most important facet to the sport of bowling. Just scores. The manner in which these scores are obtained has gone completely away from a sense of accomplishing to a sense of giving bowlers easy conditions—not to mention these new pieces of equip-

ment—and watching scores go through the roof. I somehow don't feel this was the intent of the game.

Whatever happened to the concept of knowing how to make adjustments?

Misinformation provided by supposed-ly-knowledgeable bowlers regarding lane conditioning or dressing provides newer- or lower-average bowlers with a number of negatives that may follow these individuals for the rest of their kegling careers or until such time as they learn that all conditions, while playable, may or may not be exceptionally scoreable.

This misinformation is what keeps individuals from participating in various

tournaments where scoring conditions may or may not be as easy as one would like, and where the *real* test is demonstrated in one's ability to make the necessary adjustments in order to compete in a respectable manner.

"Play in that center because the shot is great." Sound familiar?

But what really constitutes a great shot? What might be great for one may be a nightmare for another.

If you can only play from one area of the lane—be it outside, inside, deep inside, or wherever—your game needs to be expanded. A bowler will always have a stronger area to play from, but he should also be able to play from any other area so as not to be shut out on a certain condition.

Be versatile: Expand your game and enjoy it more. Otherwise, keep it confined and become a member of that growing segment who *complain, complain, complain.*

Harry Ladson, a youth coach at Bowl America Silver Hill, is a past recipient of the Greater Washington Bowling Senate's James "Sonny" Steward Award for his numerous contributions to the sport of bowling.