

# The Best Bowling Tip I've Ever Had

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**1983 ABC MASTERS CHAMPION**

In order to understand the effectiveness of this tip, I have to preface this by saying that I'm talking about bowlers who have developed a sound, basic game and have the fundamentals down. I'm not talking about a beginner bowler; I'm talking about decent bowlers so that the tip means something.

The best bowling tip I've ever had came from Bill Taylor when we were in Las Vegas in 1975. I was practicing and I guess I was impatient and wanted to improve at a faster rate than I was because I was bowling on the PBA Tour and it was costing me money. I wasn't improving and it was very expensive.

He said, "Just remember this: greatness is a grindout." At the time he said that, we just sorta chuckled and I said, "Yeah, right." I really didn't know what he meant.

But I would say this now: that was the best tip because once you've got a basically-sound, fundamentally-correct game, it's the tenacity, the grindout, the drive, the push to keep going in the face of adversity. Believe in yourself and just keep working hard, practicing, making every shot as good as you can make it at that particular point in time.

The winning takes care of itself. You don't bowl to win; you bowl to make the best shot that you are capable of making. The winning's automatic.

It's like the figure skaters. They don't go out and skate for the score; they skate for the performance and then the judges hold up the score.

The bowling score is the same as the judge holding up the 5.9 or whatever. If you do it right, you get the 5.9—it goes with it. It's not the goal.

So greatness is a grindout. I think that would sum it up. I know it took me from when I first got that tip in '75 until 1983 when I won a national tournament, and I think that was a grindout for me. That was a long time!