



NOTE: Aleta Sill and Bob Learn Jr., legends both, are 2016 BJI Top Coaches. Their omission from this list in the October issue of BJI was due to a regrettable clerical error. So, for this year, call it "102 Top Coaches."

BowlersJournal

100

Top Bowling Coaches

A sampling of the many men and women working to better the sport through instruction.

One thing I think it is important to stress each year we run our much-anticipated 100 Top Coaches list is that it features just that — 100 top coaches, not *the* top 100 coaches. That is more than a semantic distinction; it means that the names listed below rank *among* the best coaches in the world today; they are not to be perceived as *the* best 100 coaches. That said, this year, as is the case every year, our selection panel took as its primary objective the desire to assemble a list that reflects the finest talent a given year's field of 100 Top Coaches applicants contains.

Which brings to mind the different approach we took to presenting this year's selections. Every year that our panel reviews applications they come across the many impassioned statements applicants send in with their information. No one else ever gets to see these statements; they stay in-house. This year, however, I thought it might be time to give our readers a glimpse of the tremendous passion our 100 Top Coaches possess.

Mark Baker, for instance, has worked with plenty of the greatest bowlers who ever took to the lanes — Chris Barnes,

most notably. That is why the "top achievement" he describes below is such an endearing expression of the love he has for what he does. PBA50 champion and Gold coach, Mike Dias, explains why he feels that the status of Gold coach comes with an enhanced sense of responsibility, while Matt McNeil, making his debut on this list, offers his vision for what makes a "great coach."

The other comments you see below, from the likes of Team Canada's Tyrel Rose and Webber International's Del Warren, come from the outstanding presentations they each gave at the World Bowling Coach Conference, which was held in May at the International Training and Research Center in Arlington, Texas. Bowling coaches who have not yet attended that event are depriving themselves of a galvanizing, instructive and inspiring experience. I heartily recommend that all bowling coaches attend that conference in the years to come, just as I eagerly welcome them to please apply for our 2017 100 Top Coaches list. The application form will be available on our website, bowlersjournal.com, early next year.

— Gianmarc Manzione

100 TOP COACHES

BARBARA COUNCIL-ARMSTEAD

Philadelphia, PA
2015 David Dahms Coach of Year
► *Silver Coach*

DONALD ARMSTEAD II

Philadelphia, PA
Coach, Erie Lanes
IBPSIA-certified Technician

DIANDRA ASBATY

Chicago, IL
Coach, IAB
2012 USBC Queens Champion
Students include 2016 Girls' U15

Junior Gold champ, Mabel Cummins

MARK BAKER

Yorba Linda, CA
Coach, Mark Baker Bowling
Director, Camp Bakes Clinics

DEL BALLARD JR.

Keller, TX
Storm PBA Tour Representative
13-time PBA champion

CAROLYN DORIN-BALLARD

Keller, TX
Former Director, USBC Coaching

JIM CALLAHAN

Las Vegas, NV
Storm PBA Tour Representative

STEVE BARNIQUE

Live Oak, TX
IBPSIA Master Military Instructor
Member, IBPSIA Board of Directors
► *Silver Coach*

JASON BELMONTE

Orange, NSW, Australia
Coach, IAB
Three-time PBA Player of the Year

"AT WEBBER, we call the settee area the 'thinking box' and the approach the 'playing box.' We're one of the fastest teams in the country because our players prepare earlier in the shot process and they trust their training, so they can just bowl. Most of the time, we're three frames ahead of everyone. This helps us stay completely oblivious to the other team; the worst thing we can do is get into a 'match' with the other team. Then it becomes about a testosterone match rather than who is going to knock down the most pins."

— Del Warren



TOM BLASCO

Satellite Beach, FL
Coach, Shore Lanes Palm Bay
► *Silver Coach*

PARKER BOHN III

Jackson, NJ
Member, PBA and USBC Halls of Fame
35-time PBA Champion
► *Silver Coach*

DAVID BOLT

Champaign, IL
President, IBPSIA
► *Silver Coach*

HANK BOOMERSHINE

Perry, UT
Former Storm PBA Tour Representative
International Coach (Korea)
► *GOLD Coach*

FRED BORDEN

Akron, OH
Former Head Coach, Team USA
Instrumental in establishment of USOC coaching curriculum

FRANK BUFFA

Montreal, Quebec, Canada
► *GOLD Coach*

CHRIS BURNETT

Scappoose, OR
Coach, Sunset Lanes
► *Silver Coach*

TOM CARTER

Columbus, OH
Coach, Hilliard Bradley High School

RYAN CIMINELLI

Cheektowaga, NY
Worldwide coach, Brunswick Clinics
2015 U.S. Open Champion

JACK CLEMENTE

Flushing, NY Coach, Whitestone Lanes, Jib Lanes, Astoria Bowl

DONNA CONNERS

Houston, TX
Member, Houston and TX State Halls of Fame
► *Silver Coach*

PAT COSTELLO

Orlando, FL
► *GOLD Coach*

ELYSIA CURRENT

Ephrata, PA
Head Coach, Delaware State University
2015 DSU Coach of the Year

MIKE DIAS

Lafayette, CO
2-time PBA50 Champion
► *GOLD Coach*

JEFF DREYFUS

Fort Wayne, IN
Assistant Coach, Indiana Tech
Has coached Junior Team USA star, Sydney Brummett

JAMES EBELS

Stanton, MI
► *GOLD Coach*

CHUCK GARDNER

Charlotte, NC
Brunswick PBA Tour Representative
► *Silver Coach*

JERI EDWARDS

Akron, OH
Former Head Coach, Team USA
Head Coach, Team Puerto Rico

RUBEN GHIRAGOSSIAN

Lake Wales, FL
International Coach (England, Indonesia, Latvia, Singapore, Venezuela)

ONDER GURKAN

Ankara, Turkey
Chairman, ETBF
Education Committee
Head Coach, Trianka Bowling Academy



"MY TOP achievement as a coach: The many bowlers who come to me for a lesson before they quit the game. They're all still bowling today!"

— Mark Baker

ALEXANDER GURKOV

Moscow, Russia
Head Coach, Russian National Youth Team
► *Silver Coach*

BRAD HAGEN

Huntsville, TX
Head Coach, Sam Houston State
► *Silver Coach*

RON HATFIELD

Pataskala, OH
International Coach (Ukraine; Scotland; Lithuania)
Head Coach, RKH Coaching Group
► **GOLD** *Coach*

AL HENDERSON

Jacksonville, FL
Coach, Jax Lanes
► *Silver Coach*

RON HOPPE

Marysville, WA
► **GOLD** *Coach*

DEREK JAMES

Wyandanch, NY
Head Coach, Stony Brook University
► *Silver Coach*

MIKE JASNAU

Liberty, UT
Coach, National Bowling Stadium
Students include Marshall Kent, Ryan Ciminelli, Danielle McEwan
► *Silver Coach*

KIM KEARNEY

Former Assistant Coach, Team USA
Head Coach, North Carolina A&T
► *Silver Coach*

DENNIS KNEPPER

Belleville, IL
Men's Head Coach,
McKendree University
2016 USBC ITC Champions
► *Silver Coach*

CORY KNOP

Tuscon, AZ
Coach, Brunswick Camino Seco Bowl
IBPSIA-certified Technician
► *Silver Coach*

CHRISTOS KONSTANTAKOPOULOS

Skövde, Sweden
Head Coach, Västergötlands Bowling Federation
► *Silver Coach*

"WHAT MAKES a coach truly great? I believe a great coach stays in touch with the sport as it evolves. I love to learn new things. I learn something from every lesson I give, every athlete I work with, at every camp I attend, and in every conversation I have. The opportunity to better yourself and broaden your horizon always is there."

— *Matt McNiel*


MICHAEL KUBACKI

Griffith, IN
Head Coach, Calumet College of St. Joseph
2013 NAIABCA Coach of the Year
2013 NCBCA Coach of the Year
► *Silver Coach*

TOM LASKOW

Dover, NJ
International Coach (Cyprus)
2015 Bill Bunetta Lighthouse Award
► *Silver Coach*

BOB LEARN JR.

West Palm Beach, FL
Co-founder, Revolutions Coaching
► *Silver Coach*

AVORY ROLLINS LEITCH

Jensen Beach, FL
Former PWBA standout
Coach, Superplay USA
► *Bronze Coach*

MARK LEWIS

Wichita, KS
Assistant Coach, Wichita State University
International Coach (United Arab Emirates)
Three-time NCBCA Women's Coach of the Year
► *Silver Coach*

TIM MACK

Indianapolis, IN
Storm PBA Tour Representative
International Coach
70+ International Titles

JUHA MAJA

Kuortane, Finland
Lead Instructor, ETBF
Coaching Programs

Founder, Kuortane Bowling Training Center
Former Head Instructor, Finnish Bowling Federation

LOU MARQUEZ

Coach, Metro Detroit Bowling & Resource Center
Former President, IBPSIA
► **GOLD** *Coach*

MATT McNIEL

Minneapolis, MN
Has coached Scott Pohl, Kayla Bandy
► *Silver Coach*

MARYFRAN MILBANK

Winter Haven, FL
Coach, Kegel Training Center
► *Silver Coach*

PEDRO MERANI

Doha, Qatar
World Bowling Ambassador
Head Coach, Qatar Bowling Federation

JIM MERRELL

Florence, KY
Coach, Northwest Lanes
IBPSIA Advanced Technician
► *Silver Coach*

SUSIE MINSHEW

Alvarado, TX
Two-time USOC Bowling Coach of the Year
BowIU Skill Development Coach
Bronze and Silver Instructor
► **GOLD** *Coach*

COSTAS MITSINGAS

Aradippou, Cyprus
Director, Bowl to Win Training Center
► **GOLD** *Coach*

AMLETO MONACELLI

Aventura, FL
Member, USBC and PBA Hall of Fame
Co-Founder, Revolutions Coaching

DON MOYER

Mt. Pleasant, S.C.
► **GOLD** Coach

MICHELLE MULLEN

Farmington Hills, MI
Coach, Aleta Sill's Bowling World
BJI "Foundation Frame" Columnist
► **GOLD** Coach

PAENG NEPOMUCENO

Makati City, Philippines
Member, USBC Hall of Fame
► **GOLD** Coach

DALE NIEMELA

Midlothian, VA
Co-founder, Next Level Bowling
International Coach (Saudi Arabia)
► **Silver** Coach

CAROL NORMAN

Houston, TX
Member, USBC Hall of Fame
► **Silver** Coach

MICHAEL NYITRAY

Parkland, FL
Two-time USOC National Development
Coach of the Year
► **GOLD** Coach

BRYAN O'KEEFE

O'Fallon, IL
Former Assistant Coach, Team USA
Director of Bowling, McKendree
University
► **GOLD** Coach

SHANNON O'KEEFE

O'Fallon, IL
Women's Head Coach, McKendree
University
► **Silver** Coach

DENNY O'NEILL

Rochester Hills, MI
Head Coach, Lake Orion H.S.
IBPSIA-certified Technician
► **Silver** Coach

ANDY PARKER

Miamisburg, OH
Head Coach, Centerville H.S.
► **Silver** Coach



"ASK YOURSELF, what is your MVP — Mission, Values, Philosophy? Your mission should not include winning in general, or winning this year. That is not a mission; that is a goal for one year. My mission is to create sustained excellence at an internal level through a holistic athletic approach, coach development and long-term athlete development. Values: What are the principles that guide you as a person and as a coach? These must be reflected in your culture and will influence your coaching style. Philosophy: This is not about what you want, but about who you are. As a coach, I seek to master all elements of coaching to help my athletes achieve their potential and their goals, whatever they may be."

— Tyrel Rose

STEPHEN PADILLA

Mansfield, TX
Director, USBC Coaching
Assistant Coach, Team USA
► **GOLD** Coach

ANDREW PENNY

Stevenage, Hertfordshire, U.K.
► **GOLD** Coach

VERN PETERSON

Winter Haven, FL
Pro Shop Manager, Kegel Training Center

KAREN PULLMAN

Salt Lake City, UT
► **GOLD** Coach

JOCHEN REHBEIN

Lorsch, Germany
ETBF Instructor
► **Silver** Coach

STEVE RICHTER

Sheboygan, WI

IBPSIA Advanced Technician
► **Silver** Coach

TYREL ROSE

Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Head Coach, Team Canada
Coaching Excellent Award
Coaching Association
of Canada

ROD ROSS

Cedar Hill, TX
Head Coach, Team USA
► **GOLD** Coach

CHRIS SAND

Sterling Heights, MI
Coach, Turbo Tech
Collegiate Expo
► **Bronze** Coach

LUCY SANDELIN

Tampa, FL
Member, USBC Hall of Fame
► **Silver** Coach

JACK SCHMID

The Villages, FL
Coach, Spanish Springs Lanes
▶ *Silver Coach*

CHUCK SCHOMMER

Columbia, SC
Coach, Royal Z Lanes
▶ *Silver Coach*

MIKE SHADY

Girard, PA
Coach, Turbo Tech Collegiate Expo
Coach, Peak Performance Camps
▶ *Silver Coach*

ALETA SILL

Farmington Hills, MI
USBC Hall of Famer
MI State Sports Hall of Famer
Coach, Aleta Sill's Bowling World

DAVE SILL

Titusville, FL
Coach, Shore Lanes

RICHARD SHOCKLEY

Loves Park, IL
Coach, BowlersMart
Former Team USA coach
Former Kegel coach
▶ *GOLD Coach*

BRENT SIMS

Lake Wales, FL
Coach, Kegel Training Center
International Coach
(Dominican Republic)

JOE SLOWINSKI

Budapest, Hungary
International Coach (Brazil; Egypt)
▶ *GOLD Coach*

BRAD SNELL

Mt. Prospect, IL
▶ *Silver Coach*

PETER SOMOFF

Tacoma, WA
Storm Global Technician Director
International Coach
▶ *GOLD Coach*

BRETT SPANGLER

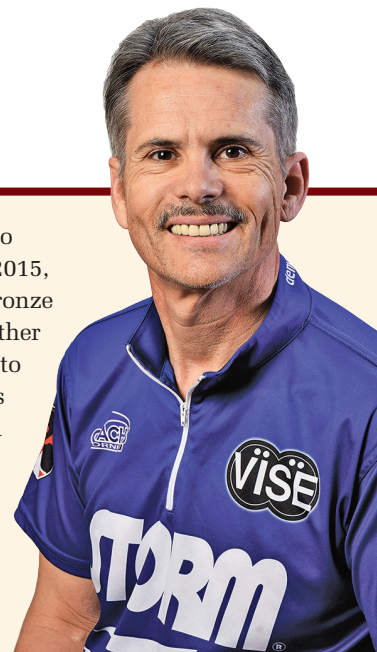
Niles, OH
Motiv PBA Tour Representative

GARY SPARKS

Vincennes, IN
Head Coach, Vincennes University
NJCAA Bowling Coaches Hall of Fame

"AS A GOLD coach, I feel a responsibility to 'give back' to the coaching community. In 2015, I was able to do that by teaching my first Bronze certification course. I feel that I can teach other coaches the art of coaching, to really listen to each student and meet their needs. There is nothing as sweet as being on the lanes with a student at any skill level who makes an improvement that puts a smile on their face and creates that joy and love for this great sport. I still feel I learn something from every student I work with."

— Mike Dias



Two-time NCBCA Coach of the Year
▶ *Silver Coach*

BILL SPIGNER

Vernon Hills, IL
Head Coach, Vernon Hills H.S.
Coach, IAB
USA Bowling Instructor
▶ *GOLD Coach*

DEBBIE STEIN

South River, NJ
Coach, Brunswick Zone Carolier
▶ *Silver Coach*

RANDY STOUGHTON

Lake Wales, FL
Women's Head Coach, Webber
International University
Coach, Kegel Training Center
▶ *GOLD Coach*

HARRY SULLINS

Chesterfield, MI
Top metro Detroit-area coach
for more than 25 years

DANIEL TRISKE JR.

Minnetonka, MN
USA Bowling Coach
Coach, Minnesota High School Bowling

JIM UBENHOWER

Broken Arrow, OK
Coach, Coffee Creek Lanes,
Sheridan Lanes
▶ *Silver Coach*

GORDON VADAKIN

Wichita, KS
Head Coach, Wichita State University
Member, USBC Hall of Fame
Member, National Bowling Coaches
Hall of Fame

Member, Kansas Bowling and Wichita
Sports Hall of Fame
▶ *GOLD Coach*

JORDAN VANOVER

Auburn Hills, MI
Silver Instructor
IBPSIA Instructor
BowlU-certified Coach
▶ *Silver Coach*

DEL WARREN

Coach and VP, Kegel Training Center
Men's Head Coach,
Webber International
▶ *GOLD Coach*

RICHARD WILTSE

Lake Wales, FL
Coach, Kegel Training Center
Assistant Coach, Webber International
University
▶ *Silver Coach*

SHAWN WOCHNER

Head Coach, University of Wisconsin
Whitewater
2014 Men's Kerm Helmer Coach of
the Year

KEN YOKOBOSKY

Rockaway, NJ
Head Women's Coach, Caldwell College
Former Team USA Assistant Coach
▶ *GOLD Coach*

JOHN YORK

New Egypt, NJ
Head Coach, Wilmington University
▶ *Silver Coach*

BILL ZUBEN

Largo, FL
▶ *GOLD Coach*