

EXCITING NEW YOUTH BOWLING EVENT ANNOUNCED



On June 28, 2014 in Grand Rapids Michigan the first annual, “Indiana Michigan All Stars - Battle for the Michiana Cup” will take place at Spectrum Lanes. Top level youth bowlers from Michigan and Indiana will face off in what promises to be a fresh, competitive and exciting day of bowling. Members of the Indiana All Star team will be selected from the from the up and coming Northwest Indiana Junior Tournament Players Association (NIJTTPA) while the Michigan stars will be comprised of members from the Michigan Junior Masters Association (MJMA), one of the premier youth tours in the country.

“We are excited to partner with the MJMA, and provide this opportunity to our members,” NIJTTPA Director Mike Kraushaar stated. “The MJMA is one of the elite, if not the standard organization, for scratch junior tournament bowling in the United States. The MJMA talent level is outstanding, and it will provide our Indiana bowlers a great competitive experience prior to Junior Gold. We expect that this added benefit of NIJTTPA membership will also help us continue to grow our tour, while also giving both the Indiana and Michigan youth bowlers additional opportunities to compete throughout the season as they become more familiar with the benefits of both organizations.”

The event will feature 18 of the top players from each state’s premier junior tour (6 U20 Boys, 6 U20 Girls, 3 U15 Boys, and 3 U15 girls) competing in a “Ryder Cup or PBA Team” style scoring system employing multiple formats. “A total of 51 points will be up for grabs, with 26 required to take ownership of the traveling Michiana Cup” Kraushaar added. The format will include 5-person team baker matches, 3-person team baker matches, 3-person traditional team matches, doubles and mixed doubles, both of which will use traditional and baker formats, and singles. Each match will be worth one point to the higher scoring team. “This event doesn’t focus on total team pinfall but rather a more diversified, exciting, and challenging scoring format that will keep the players battling to the end.” Additional plans are being finalized by MJMA Executive Director Jerry Tarabek to further enhance and emphasize the team experience for the competitors.



Players will arrive in Grand Rapids on Friday evening where Spectrum Lanes will host a practice session for the bowlers as well as an after bowling activity at their outdoor fun park allowing the competitors to get to know each other.

Saturday’s competition will start at 8am with the 5-person team baker matches and conclude with 18 singles matches following the afternoon lunch break. Each all-star will bowl six individual games (in addition to multiple team baker games) that will be used to determine an overall individual champion. The event is expected to award in excess of \$1000 in scholarships to the top performers. Two WTBA sport compliant patterns will be used (one for the singles matches, one for all other matches) that will test the players ability and versatility.

Collegiate coaches interested in attending or seeking further information can contact either Kraushaar or Tarabek. For information on the MJMA please refer to their website www.mjma.net or for the NIJTTPA at www.ihsbsuburban.com.