

IAA Members Lead Hebron Entry to Crown Point Bowling Association Team Challenge Title

For the second consecutive year, the Hebron Lanes entry into the Crown Point Bowling Association's World Team Challenge qualifier walked away with the title. And for the second consecutive year, IAA members Scott Hansen, Mike Kraushaar, John Cleve, and Jerry Michalak teamed with Hebron Lanes owner George Clarke to lay claim as the association's top scratch team.

The qualifying portion of the event was held at Country Lanes, Lowell, and it appeared that the defending champs were in trouble early, staggering into a ninth place position, nearly 350 pins behind tournament leaders, and favorites, Team Super Bowl. Team Super Bowl included John Riffle, Greg Steapleton, Gary Younkers, and Bob Kammer Jr, all top IAA bowlers. With only the top four teams in the 12-team field advancing to Sunday's baker round in Morroco, Hebron needed to take advantage of the "generous" scoring conditions Country Lanes offered. And, following a key "pep" talk from Riffle, they did. Finishing with team games of 1158, 1153, 1141 and 1138, the defending champs vaulted into second place with a 6,573 total, 90 pins short of tournament leaders Team Superbowl. Clarke's 1,429 6-game total led Hebron, while Michalak added a fine 1,389. With no pins carrying forward to Sunday, the tournament outcome was far from predictable particularly when considering the always difficult conditions in Morroco, where experience can never be undervalued.

With three five game baker matches (rounds) and up to 150 bonus pins available each match, winning games became paramount. Both Super Bowl and Hebron dismantled the two Lowell entries in round one, setting up the showdown in round 2. After three games, both teams each won one game and tied the third, but, a strong fourth and fifth game by Hebron turned out to be the pivotal point of the event, as Hebron turned a 120-pin deficit after round one into a 60-pin advantage following round two. But, Michalak, Hebron's anchor, who was to accept his award as Greater Calumet's Bowler of the Year honor in Hammond at 2pm was forced to yield to "super-sub" Greg Kolisz for the third and final match. Hebron shuffled their lineup moving tournament-proven Scott Hansen to anchor, and with their never say die attitude, rebounded from a first game defeat to win the final four games of match three, while Team Super Bowl faded as their third match progressed against a hot Country Lanes (Lowell) quintet, losing the final four games and match.

Hebron's 3,204 total easily outdistanced runner up Team Super Bowl's 2,964. Hebron finished match play with a 11-3-1 record (3-0 in match play) while not one of the