

LAYMAN DOMINATES IN SEASON OPENER IN STATESVILLE

Rob Layman showed why he contended for last season's B.O.Y award by put on a dominating performance in the season opener at Pla-Mor Lanes in Statesville, N.C. as he led and won the event in convincing style. This was a great opener to what's to be a very competitive season on the Laneshark Bowlers Tour. We used the Kegel Challenge Series Pattern the Beaten Path which is 41 ft. in length. Layman lead the field of 49 bowlers which consisted of some of the best regional pros and amateurs from N.C., S.C. and Va. Layman shot 1191 for his 5 games of qualifying and the cut to make matchplay was 1060.

We cut to the top 11 bowlers since we had 45 paid entries. The top 5 received first round byes. In the first round we had a very strong field of competitors. The 6th seed, Randy Weiss from Columbia, S.C., faced off against last year's only two time champion and the winner of the SharkBowl, Brian Dennis from Durham N.C. Dennis won the match with ease 268-205 to advance to the round of 8. The 7th seed, Shawn McKee who has been one of the hottest bowlers over the summer took on a new and up and comer from Christianburg, Va., James Smith Jr. McKee was able to hold off Smith with 256-232 victory to secure his spot in the round of 8. In the battle of our two seniors that made the cut, Charlie Tomey from Spartanburg, S.C. defeated the legendary George Pappas from Charlotte, N.C. 252-206 to advance to the round of 8.

The round of 8, McKee defeated the 2nd seed, Michael Heath from Asheville, N.C. in a close low scoring affair 181-173. Ronnie Horton the 5th seed from Christianburg, Va. locked horns with the 4th seed, Alan Pomatto from Charleston, S.C. Horton was able to hold off Pomatto 207-188 to advance to the final 4. Brad Cummings from Spartanburg, S.C. took on Brian Dennis in a closely fought match. Dennis needed a double to advance, but failed to get the second strike which sent Cummings to the round of 4. Layman kept up his strong performance by defeating Tomey 233-211 to get the final 4. Layman easily put Horton out of the tourney with a 248-197 win. McKee and Cummings were not so lucky as the match went down the 10th frame. Cummings doubled in the tenth to force McKee to double. McKee's first shot tripped out the 4-7 and the second shot kicked out a half ten. The pin gods were on McKee's side on this day. McKee defeated Cummings 257-245.

The Championship match didn't disappoint the folks that stayed around to watch. This match also went the distance with Layman needing the first hit in the tenth to win the match. Layman dead flushed the shot and needed only a 9 and a spare to secure the win. He simply struck again to get his first win of the season and became the second two-time champion on the Laneshark Bowlers Tour.

Thanks to Chad Estes and the staff of Pla-Mor Lanes. You guys are first class and treated us great. We always look forward to coming to your facility. If you want to improve your bowling skills and compete against some of the best talent both regional pro and amateur on competitive lane conditions with guaranteed prize funds, then you need to come out and bowl with the sharks! Hope to see everyone at Northside Lanes in Winston-Salem, N.C. on Oct. 18th for the K.R. Strikeforce Fall Open. \$1000 guaranteed to win!

49 entries / 45 paid entries / 4 free entries
Prize Fund - \$3105 plus \$200 added by Brunswick
Total Prize Fund - \$3305

1- Rob Layman	\$1000
2- Shawn McKee	\$500
3- Brad Cummings	\$300
4- Ronnie Horton	\$300
5- Michael Heath	\$200
6- Alan Pomatto	\$200
7- Charlie Tomey	\$200
8- Brian Dennis	\$200
9- Randy Weiss	\$135
10- James Smith Jr.	\$135
11- George Pappas	\$135

Thanks to everyone who came out to bowl. Hope to see each and everyone of you at Winston-Salem on Oct. 18th.