

**Michigan State USBC
Youth Masters Tournament
Nov. 12/13, 2022**

The 2022 Michigan State USBC Youth Masters Tournament was held at Lodge Lanes in Belleville, Michigan and had no shortage of excitement and drama throughout the weekend.

The Saturday eight-game qualifier (with 66 boys and 27 girls) started with various bowlers shooting games of 258, 266, 267 for the boys and 222, 235, and 236 for the girls. When the dust settled after qualifying, eight bowlers were in the plus column, ranging from 1619 to 1792, with Donald Jacobs leading the boys and Alissa VanHorn leading the girls. The field was then cut to the top 16 boys and top 12 girls who returned on Sunday for a two-game, total-pins, double-elimination bracket.

Unfortunately, Donald was soon bumped from the winners bracket, as was Alissa. Nick Weidenbach soon took the lead and held it going into the final match, where he had to face Kyle Pranger. Kyle made a charge, defeating Nick in the first set, 402-393, forcing a winner take all rubber match. Nick found his line and managed to defeat Kyle, 442-395, to claim the boys championship.

It was no less suspenseful in the girls division where Melanie Straub defeated Elizabeth Teuber in the quarter finals, only having to face her again in the final match. After Elizabeth managed to defeat Melanie in the first set of games, both girls settled in and made a match of it, with Elizabeth squeaking by Melanie, 416-407, to claim her first championship.

The exciting finals truly capped off two days of great bowling, competitiveness, and sportsmanship.

As always with our tournament, all bowlers making the cut, as well as the alternates, will earn scholarship points through the MSUSBC and SMART program, in accordance with Michigan State UBSC and MHSAA guidelines

I want thank Bob Goike and the entire Lodge Lanes staff for so graciously hosting us this year. I also want to again thank our sponsor, Motiv Bowling, for their sponsorship and contribution to youth bowling. And I certainly have to extend my sincere thanks to my co-workers, Karen, Ann, Scott, Dale, and Natalie, as this tournament would not be possible to run without them.

I also want to extend a special THANK YOU to all the bowlers and parents for helping make this tournament a success. Stay strong, be safe and we look forward to seeing all of you again next year.