

**Iowa State U.S.B.C. B.A.**

**Hall of Fame Class of 2014**

**Induction March 29, 2014**

**Burlington, Iowa**

**“Special Category”**

**Merlyn H. Brown**

**Spencer, Iowa**

**The Spencer USBC Bowling Association is proud to submit the name of Merlyn H. Brown for consideration and nomination to the Iowa State USBC Bowling Association Hall of Fame in the Meritorious Service Category.**

**Merlyn's bowling career began while serving in the United States Air Force at Wildwood Air Force Base in Kenai, Alaska as a substitute bowler during the 1969/1970 season. Merlyn went on to serve on the Board of Directors at Wildwood that next season. This was the beginning of many dedicated hours and offices held in the following years in Alaska and Spencer.**

**Merlyn served on the Spencer Area Bowling Association as a Director from 1982 – 1984 then as it's Secretary from 1984 – 2005. He has been chairman of the city tournament from 1984–present. In 2006 Merlyn became Manger of the Spencer Association and still holds that position today. During this time as Association Secretary/Manager Merlyn has gone beyond his duties to find old records of the sanctioned men bowlers in Spencer and in 2004 he put together a book of averages ranging from 1973 to the present. Then in 2011 he did the same thing for the women bowlers. He has kept these books up to date and has now done this for the youth bowlers of Spencer dating back to 1999.**

**Merlyn had been the main focus person in hosting the Iowa State Fall Jamboree's in 1986, 1994, and 2001 providing countless hours setting up schedules and keeping stats.**

**Merlyn was elected President of the High Rollers League from 1981 thru 1986. After serving a president, he committed himself to serve as secretary of that league from 1986 –1999. He also served as secretary of the Spencer Church League / Sunday Night Flip-Flop League from 1981-1995 the 300 League secretary from 2001 to present, and the Saturday Night Couples League from 2005 to present. In 2008 he took on the responsibility of secretary of the Buckeye League and still holds that position today. His duties do not stop there as he also manages the records for the youth program in Spencer since 2006.**

Merlyn's skill is not just in record keeping but has also earned a reputation for his skills on the lanes. In 1987 in the Iowa State USBC Bowling Association Tournament, he bowled a 276 game and in a men's league in the 86/87 season a 632 series. He did this with his unusual style of bowling right handed and stopping on his right foot. Merlyn was part of the 1<sup>st</sup> place team in 1970/1971 at the Wildwood Air Force Base Station. In 1971/1972 he was the handicap singles champion at Wildwood. Merlyn bowled with the High Rollers team in Spencer and as part of that team placing 1<sup>st</sup>. in 1981/1982, 1985/1986 and 1997/1998. They placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in 1982/1983, 1983/1984, 1986/1987 and 1987/1988. He also bowled in mixed leagues and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in 1985/1986, 1988/1989, 1989/1990. and 1993/1994. He bowled on the city tournament champions team in 1984/1985, 1985/1986 and 1991/1992 seasons. Merlyn has also bowled in many Lakes Conference Tournaments in his bowling career along with several others from around the area. These tournaments include Wildwood AFS, Elmendorf AFB, Big Sioux Tournament in Sioux City and tournaments in Rock Rapids, Georgia, and Spencer. In 1997 Merlyn was inducted into the Spencer Area Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

Merlyn doesn't limit his bowling to just local establishments, he also has bowled in Iowa State USBC Tournaments from 1982 – 1997. He still puts teams together for the Iowa State Tournament and has attended the Iowa State Delegates meetings for many years keeping up to date with rule changes and new proposals.

A recap of Merlyn's career:

1969-1970	Substitute Bowler	Men's Intramural at Wildwood AFS
1969-1972	Summer League	Wildwood AFS
1969-1972	Men's League	Wildwood AFS
1972-1973	Men's League	Elmendorf AFB
1972-1973	Men's Intramural	Elmendorf AFB
1973-1974	Men's League	Rock Rapids, IA
1976-1978	Non-sanctioned	Spencer, IA
1979-1999	Men's League	Spencer, IA
1979-1995	Mixed League	Spencer, IA

## Local Offices

1981-1986	League President	High Rollers League
1986-1999	Secretary	High Rollers League
1981-1995	Secretary	Spencer Church League/Sunday Flip/Flop
2001-Present	Secretary	300 League
2005-Present	Secretary	Saturday Night Couples League
2006-Present	Secretary	Spencer Youth League
2008-Present	Secretary	Buckeye League

## Local Association Offices

1982-1984	Director	Spencer Area Bowling Association
1984-2006	Secretary	Spencer Area Bowling Association
2006-Present	Manager	Spencer Area USBC Bowling Association

It is with this background and dedicated service that we believe Merlyn to be a worthy candidate for the Iowa State USBC Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael Johnson     *Spencer Hall of Fame Committee*

Richard Hamilton     *President Spencer Area Bowling Association*

Gil Scribner     *Spencer Hall of Fame*

