

# "Superior Performance & Meritorious Service"



Robert Bromwell Marshall IV was born September 21st, 1956 in Havre de Grace, Md to Isabelle and Robert B. Marshall III. He was raised in the same house as the three preceding Robert B. Marshall's in a rural area of Cecil County known as Battle Swamp.

In 1973 he moved with his mother and younger brothers and sister to Aberdeen, where he lived until he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1975.

Today he lives in Aberdeen with his wife of 13 years, Connie. Together they run the local bowling establishment, Harford Lanes.

Bobby got an early start in bowling. In the early 60's his Dad would take him duckpin bowling at the alleys on Rt. 40 in Aberdeen. But shortly before his 7th birthday the major development in his bowling career occurred when Bob Marshall, Sr., Joe Ciufu, and Tony Moscato purchased Ideal Lanes in Aberdeen, renaming it Harford Lanes.

At age 8 Bobby was old enough to join the junior leagues and averaged 103 his first year. Two years later he bowled his first 200 game(223) and by 12 years old he hit a 170 average and his first 600 series. His first tournament championship was the Md.Na./Del. YBA doubles with his partner Mark Moscato in 1967. In 1969 Bobby won the Md. State Scratch All- Events in the prep division at Turner's Dual Lanes in Hagerstown with a score of 1631. which not only won his division by over 300 pins, it beat all scores in the older junior division and was second high in the major division.

But the teenage years found Bobby's attention turning to other sports. He lettered 3 years in soccer, 2 years in basketball, and 4 years in baseball at Perryville High School. Although he still bowled in the Saturday leagues his progress and interest on the lanes stalled and upon graduating from high school and the junior leagues in 1974 his average was still 170. After one soccer season at Cecil Community College and one season in the adult leagues averaging mid 170's, Bobby withdrew from school and joined the Marines. Shortly before receiving his discharge as a Sergeant in 1979, a phone call from Dad looking for someone to take over as manager of Harford Lanes revived Bobby's interest in the game. Returning home in August 1979 and going to work at the lanes, Bobby pulled out his old yellow dot and his Linds and started learning how to bowl. The full-roller that had served him well as a kid needed to be replaced with the modern 314 release as the game had changed.

The 1981-82 season was the beginning of good things. Bobby booked his first 200 average, 207 in the Snavelly league. Bowling in the new Fair Lanes Classic in Timonium he booked 197 on a tough condition and recorded a 753 series. He was a member of the scratch team champions in the Cecil-Harford tournament and finished second to Chip DiMauro in the 1982 Invitational. But the highlight came in November 1981 in the Snavelly league when he rolled 257, 290, 266 for the first 800 series bowled in league play in Harford County history.

His bowling accomplishments:

Average: 200 every year since 81-82.

High of 219 (94-95 Brookside Bowl & 97-98 Harford Lanes).

High in CHCBA yearbook 85-86 206 & 86-87 206.

First full season 190+ in Edgewood history: 191 in 82-83

ABC Tournament: 22 years 191.2 average 2002 all-events & 7 19 team, 1996 Salt Lake City Huntsville

13W doubles with Cory Marshall -1991 Toledo & 1997

MSBA Tournament

Team scratch 1985 (Hagerstown) with Letscher, Abraham. M. Moscato, & Finley

Team scratch 1997 (Hagerstown) with J. Walker, Barton, Abraham, & Moor

CHCBA Tournament

Team scratch 1982 (Harford Lanes) with Davis, Jc, Abraham, Lastowski, & Marshall,

Sr. Doubles scratch 1991 (Forest Hill) with Cory Marshall 1272 Doubles scratch 2000 (Forest Hill) with Mike Poist 1467

GBBA City Tourn Doubles scrdtch 1985 (BA Dundalk) wth Steve Finley 1327

The Invitational 1980. 3rd place 1982: 2nd place. 1983: 1st place

Other tournaments and awards:

CHBA 700 Club 1" place member, non-member at Edgewood w iD. Bonsall

1st Place Tournament of Champions at Harford Lanes 1994

2 seconds in open toum's.

GBBA 700 Club

2nd at BA Odenton 1987

3rd GBBA Masters 1985

Delaware State Top 20 average tournament: 2nd in 1985

Delaware US Open state finals: in 1986

Maryland US Open state finals: Match-play finals 4 times

Pleasant Hill (Newport, DE) monthly Double Elimination 1985-86:

One 1st and two 2nd.

Bel Air Summer Team Toum.:

1st place scratch two straight years early 90's

Baltimore Bowling News All-Metro Team 1984-85

Delaware Men's All-Star Team: 1985-86

Honor scores: High series 813 ( 1981) 300 games: 7 (1st in 1984, most recent in 2000)

299: 3

298: 2

296: 1

In 1984. Jerry Farro decided to step down as youth director at Harford Lanes after almost 20 years. Faced with finding a replacement for the seemingly irreplaceable. Bobby chose to take the job himself. Since then he has spent virtually every Saturday from September through April on the lanes and at the Mike coaching and working the program. By coming up with a few innovative but mostly common sense programs and formats and giving them a chance to plant roots and grow and By sweating the details the youth program at Harford Lanes has grown to 200+ youth bowlers on five shifts of bowling, as well as 100+ in the summer programs.

Bobby became Vice-President of the Eastern Md. Junior Bowling Assn. (now the Cecil-Harford YABA) in 1989 and held that office until 2000 when he became President, his current position. In his time on the board he has helped to re-structure our local scholarship award program to the unique system now in place. He has started the practice of attending the winners school awards ceremonies to present them with their bowling scholarship in front of their classmates and parents. He has conducted the local qualifier for the Maryland State Youth Invitational since 1995. As the youth tournaments have grown he has kept a close eye on the formats and operations to be sure they continue to work smoothly and serve the sport, the bowlers and the industry as they should.

He has been a member of the Maryland Tenpin Bowling Council since 1994. The purpose of this organization is to conduct an annual high school senior scholarship tournament. He supports this event with fund-raisers, donations and by ensuring that all his seniors have the opportunity to compete.

As a member of the Bowling Proprietors Association of America, over the years Bobby assisted in state and local tournament operations on BPAA events such as the US Open, the Miller and Tequila Rose doubles tournaments, and the Family Tournament. Since 1999 he has served as the Maryland state BPA tournament director. In 1995 he was asked to fill a vacated vice-presidency of the Maryland State BPA by then-president Pres Coale. He served in that capacity until Res' retirement in 1997, at which time Bobby was elected state president, an office he held until 2002. In 2000 he was offered, and eagerly accepted a post on BPAA's national tournament committee.

As the proprietor of Harford Lanes, Bobby has continued the tradition of the Invitational since 1984, when his boss, Bob, Sr., told him he could no longer participate himself. The tournament celebrated its 41<sup>st</sup> year in 2002 and the annual awards picnic is a high point in the bowling year for many of the "family" at Harford Lanes. He has also created other house tournaments such as the High Rollers and the Seniors Invitational. 1997 was the first year of the PWBA Aberdeen Regional Open and its popularity has grown every year, not only with the local bowlers (over 140 Pro-Am entries in 2002), but with the pro bowlers as evidenced by the appearance of top national touring pro's the past couple of years. He has staged countless other tournaments of all formats over the years, for all groups of bowlers, and in 1984 he participated in the original organizational meeting whose purpose was the formation of the Cecil-Harford 700 Club.

Bobby sponsors teams and bowlers into tournaments ranging from the ABC Championship, to state and local championships, to the local scholarship fund-raisers. Just as importantly, he sponsors many community, parks and rec, school, and Special Olympic programs, always trying to keep bowling in the minds of the general public.

For achievement in and service to the sport of bowling the CHCBA inducts Bobby Marshall into its Hall of Fame in the categories of Superior Performance and Meritorious Service.