



AGUIAR PROVES HIS POINT – WINS EBONITE PLI IN ICE STORM AT ALLEY KATZ

Alex Aguiar claimed his fifth NEBA title with a victory at the Ebonite Point Leader Invitational held at Alley Katz Lanes in Westerly, RI. Aguiar won his first win at the non-champions tournament in 1999 at 20 years old. After five games of qualifying, the righty was fourth with games of 255, 257, 235, 259 and 205 for 1211; 48 pins behind tournament leader Randy Hagemoser. He shot 690 in the semi's to hold onto the fourth seed in the finals. Four of the top six after qualifying made it to the finals (Wetzler, Lichstein, Aguiar and Van Hees). They were joined by Eric Copping who threw 826 in the finals to grab the top spot and Cliff Wheelock who shot 772 to jump from 17th to 6th.

Like last year's low scoring finals, this year's finals were exciting. Lichstein led for the first three games with Aguiar and Van Hees close behind. Aguiar took advantage of sub-200 games by those two in game 4 to take over the lead with a 216-172 victory over Van Hees. In game five, all bowlers shot 200+ to tighten up the standings. Aguiar was first with 1275, Lichstein second with 1257 and Copping third with 1187. With less than 20 pins between first and second, the winner of the match would be champion unless third place could make the jump above them both. Aguiar took control of the position round match against Lichstein establishing a 28 pin lead by the sixth frame while Copping had the front 6. Aguiar tossed another double at Lichstein who was unable to strike to give Aguiar the win. Copping's 274 game in the final round moved him into second place.

Aguiar and Copping tied for the highest block in the finals with 1421 but Aguiar earned 40 extra bonus pins for winning. Aguiar had the best match play record with 5-1. He suffered his only loss of the day in match one to Michael Lichstein 236-275 then defeated Geoff Wetzler 247-210, Eric Copping 260-191, Jon Van Hees 216-172, Cliff Wheelock 236-201 and Michael Lichstein 226-197 in the position round.



Scoring recap:

- The qualifying field average was 216.1
(215.8 game 1, 220.1 game 2, 213.4 game 3, 219.5 game 4 and 215.1 game 5)
- The average increased to 220.0 in the semi-finals
(233.8 game 6, 217.4 game 7 and 215.0 game 8)
- In the finals, the top six averaged 223.4
- Aguiar averaged 236.8 in the finals and 237.2 for the day

NEBA's eighth annual Point Leaders' tournament was open to forty-eight bowlers based upon points earned in 2008. Forty of the top forty-eight point leaders competed along with eight alternates. The cut to the top twenty-four was 1089 for five games. It took 1889 for eight games to qualify for the six-man round robin match play finals. **Eric Copping** was the tournament high qualifier with 2016 including 826 in the semis (games of 267, 226, 229, 243, 225, 258, 268, 300).

Honor Scores: **300/826** by **Eric Copping**, **300** by **Randy Hagemoser**, **299** by **Geoff Wetzler**

Champion's Message - First i would like to thank the neba staff for another successful tournament. Also Joe Farley and Ebonite for their continuous support of neba. Thanks to Alley Katz for hosting this event. Thanks to Hammer and Buddies Pro shop for all their help and support. - Alex Aguiar

Match Play Finals (wins in bold)	Total w/Bonus	Win/Loss Record	Total Scratch	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Game 4	Game 5	Game 6	Money Won
1. Alex Aguiar	1521	5/1	1421	236	247	260	216	236	226	\$1,700
2. Eric Copping	1481	3/3	1421	245	227	191	236	248	274	\$1,050
3. Mike Lichstein	1454	3/3	1394	275	255	217	195	255	197	\$ 750
4. Jon Van Hees	1417	4/2	1337	221	247	231	172	219	247	\$ 575
5. Geoff Wetzler	1367	3/3	1307	234	210	216	208	235	204	\$ 475
6. Cliff Wheelock	1165	0/6	1165	211	169	199	203	201	182	\$ 400

*** MARK YOUR CALENDARS ***

FEBRUARY 21-22 AT EAST PROVIDENCE LANES IN EAST PROVIDENCE, RI

MARCH 7-8 NON-CHAMPIONS TOURNAMENT AT AMF CRANSTON LANES IN CRANSTON, RI

MARCH 28-29 AT AMF CIRCLE LANES IN EAST HAVEN, CT

QUALIFYING ROUNDS - POINT LEADERS INVITATIONAL - JANUARY 11, 2009

		TOTAL	QUALIFYIN	SEMI-FINALS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	\$
1.	ERIC COPPING	2016	1190	826	267	226	229	243	225	258	268	300	Finals
2.	JON VAN HEES	1942	1209	733	236	267	203	258	245	248	269	216	Finals
3.	MIKE LICHSTEIN	1907	1235	672	235	249	279	258	214	246	222	204	Finals
4.	ALEX AGUIAR	1901	1211	690	255	257	235	259	205	201	231	258	Finals
5.	GEOFF WETZLER	1894	1252	642	226	201	277	249	299	206	181	255	Finals
6.	CLIFF WHELOCK	1889	1117	772	210	259	195	217	236	246	285	241	Finals
7.	RANDY HAGEMOSER	1886	1259	627	231	225	223	280	300	232	207	188	\$ 350
8.	BRIAN BOGHOSIAN	1876	1160	716	204	243	201	277	235	254	267	195	\$ 325
9.	STEVE BLANCHET	1872	1181	691	237	258	192	234	260	189	278	224	\$ 300
10.	TIM HEALEY	1870	1205	665	227	232	249	238	259	227	180	258	\$ 295
11.	TONY BENNETT	1830	1126	704	199	269	188	233	237	278	182	244	\$ 290
12.	JOHN RUSIN	1812	1095	717	246	194	234	230	191	252	239	226	\$ 285
13.	RUSS MICHAUD	1809	1138	671	203	215	225	241	254	234	226	211	\$ 280
14.	DAVE FORCIER	1808	1139	669	165	269	226	193	286	200	256	213	\$ 275
15.	MIKE CORDEIRO	1800	1160	640	235	229	215	268	213	226	204	210	\$ 270
16.	TOM DURAND	1789	1148	641	213	258	257	225	195	240	202	199	\$ 265
17.	STEVE JONES	1766	1138	628	236	258	237	215	192	258	190	180	\$ 260
18.	BRIAN GASKILL	1752	1101	651	268	181	203	225	224	247	211	193	\$ 255
19.	OLLIE ELLARD	1739	1108	631	237	200	279	202	190	259	214	158	\$ 250
20.	CHRIS VIALE	1739	1139	600	243	247	244	204	201	200	210	190	\$ 245
21.	ROGER BARAL	1735	1090	645	235	203	222	226	204	255	166	224	\$ 240
22.	JOHN WILLISTON	1735	1106	629	234	241	223	219	189	238	166	225	\$ 235
23.	RJ BROEGE	1701	1101	600	170	279	214	224	214	241	191	168	\$ 230
24.	ROB MOTO	1620	1089	531	249	194	176	244	226	177	174	180	\$ 225
25.	CHRIS SOLE	1086	1086	0	236	253	233	181	183	ACCOUNTING Total Receipts \$7,200 48 Entries @ \$150 \$7,200 Total Expenses \$11,776 Prize Fund \$10,000 (\$2000 Ebonite, \$1,976 NEBA, \$6,024 Entries) Expenses \$480 Lineage \$696 ----- <i>Thanks to Ebonite for their sponsorship of NEBA throughout the year</i> <i>Next year's Invitational will be held in January 2010. Welcome to new sponsor AtomicVerve.com</i>			
26.	TODD LATHROP	1084	1084	0	170	206	236	217	255				
27.	SCOTT WIDMER	1080	1080	0	216	190	216	232	226				
28.	TOM HANSEN	1061	1061	0	244	199	180	224	214				
29.	STEVE FIUME	1050	1050	0	220	180	184	244	222				
30.	BOB GLENN	1050	1050	0	215	247	205	213	170				
31.	CHRIS JOLICOEUR	1042	1042	0	215	235	200	181	211				
32.	CHRIS FORRY	1036	1036	0	204	215	191	203	223				
33.	CHRIS HALL	1035	1035	0	232	246	193	180	184				
34.	BRANDON ROBERTSON	1021	1021	0	233	244	180	192	172				
35.	TOM ANDRELLI	1010	1010	0	179	178	215	202	236				
36.	DAVID REALI	996	996	0	189	212	198	196	201				
37.	STEPHEN DALE JR.	992	992	0	164	194	204	203	227				
38.	SCOTT SANTOS	992	992	0	189	206	203	188	206				
39.	TIM GILICK	985	985	0	194	177	200	249	165				
40.	CHAD AUTORE	970	970	0	202	176	172	193	227				
41.	MATT BROCKETT	967	967	0	235	221	154	172	185				
42.	CRAIG ASSELIN	938	938	0	245	166	147	191	189				
43.	JOHN ELLIS	935	935	0	135	238	205	181	176				
44.	LARRY KING	930	930	0	192	156	229	187	166				
45.	TIM HANSEN	923	923	0	177	171	193	186	196				
46.	JIM RUSIN	823	823	0	184	162	255	222	DNF				
47.	JOHN KIRKER			0	DNF								
48.	BILL WEBB			0	DNS								

Next Tournament: February 21-22 ~ East Providence Lanes ~ East Providence, RI

Squad Times: Saturday 6 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m. and Sunday 12:30 p.m. **Entry Fee:** \$80
 All members residing within a 35-mile radius of the bowling center should bowl Saturday or Sunday morning

Reservations: Call the NEBA number (203) 377-0161 OR make a reservation on-line at www.BowlNEBA.com
before 10:00 p.m. on Friday to make a reservation. Leave a message with your squad and name.
Those with reservations will be entered in a raffle for an Ebonite ball!

Directions: East Providence Lanes is located at 80 Newport Avenue in E. Providence, RI ~ Telephone (401) 438-2300
In addition to the directions below, call the bowling center or check on-line

From Boston, MA, ME & NH: Take best route to I-95 South. Follow I-95-South to Exit 2A (IN MASSACHUSETTS)
 ** Newport Avenue South (Route 1A). Stay on Newport Avenue (1A) for 3-4 miles. Look for the Gansett shopping plaza on the left with the McDonald's. The center is in the back right corner of the Gansett shopping plaza.

From CT & NYC: Take best route to Providence, RI via I-95 North. Take Massachusetts Exit 2A - Pawtucket. Follow above **.

*** There is no open paid practice allowed in the center - This is a 3 month trial basis through March ***