



Beate Albert, Hermann Wimmer win Italian Senior Open

Germany's **Hermann Wimmer** and **Beate Albert** won the men's and women's titles in the **Italian Senior Open**, the fourth stop on the 2016 International Seniors Bowling Tour, which was held from June 4-12 at Reno Bowling in Bologna, Italy.

All champions this season, men and women, come from either Germany or England. Wimmer, who won the season-opening [Arthur's 11th Senior Open](#), became the first two-time winner this season.

The tournament attracted an entry list of 115 men and 20 women. The format for the tournament was two six game qualifying blocks, with re-entries allowing the lowest blocks to be replaced.

For those not able to qualify through the main leaderboard, there were additional opportunities through Turbo games and Early Bird qualification. Age bonus started at age 51 (1 pin per game), then increased a pin for every additional year of age with no limit. As with all ISBT events, there was a separate division for ladies.

Qualifying started a week before finals day and in total there were 21 qualifying squads. After completion of qualifying **Loris Masetti** of Italy was top male qualifier with 2875, just one pin ahead of Wimmer with **Daniele Bronzetti**, Italy, in third place.

The top 24 would proceed to the finals stages, the cut was a tie between Italian **Antonio Maddaloni** and **Helmut Ulber** of Germany with Maddaloni going forwards having the highest scratch total. These 24 were joined by 6 early bird and 2 turbo qualifiers.

In the women's section, **Alessandra Morra**, Italy, had a slight lead with 2506 over **Angie Brown** of England, these two being some distance ahead of third place qualifier **Marianne Pelz**, Germany. The women's cut for 5th place was **Maria Grazia Locatelli**, Italy, with 2341.



The 32 male players from qualifying were then divided into four groups of eight bowlers, each playing a round robin format. The top two from each group (pictured above) progressed to the grand final, which was another 8-game round robin. The group winners were **Giorgio Desimio** of Belgium, **Horst Albert** of Germany and Italians **Santo Provenzi** and **Bruno Baravaglio**.

Both men and women were then scheduled to play an eight-person round robin final. However, with all the competitors on the lanes, a problem was found with the ladies' Early Bird qualification results.

Gisela Insinger of Germany, had been incorrectly missed off the Early Bird list and should have been in the final instead of **Beate Albert**. After having warmed up and been ready to start playing, Albert now found herself packing away, allowing Gisela Insinger to take her place.

A further discussion then took place, where it was considered that as no protest had been made earlier, the incorrect finals lineup should stand. However, in friendly ISBT fashion, a compromise was reached in that both players would now complete in a nine-player round robin final (pictured below).



In the men's final, **Hermann Wimmer** finished with a clear lead of over 100 pins to become champion, ahead of **Maurizio Celli** and Francesco Didon, both of Italy. In the women's final, 9th place qualifier **Beate Albert** took full advantage and emerged the winner by a small margin over compatriot **Marianne Pelz** with ISBT title leader **Angie Brown** in third place.

The next stop on the 2016 tour is at the **Böblingen Senior Open** at Dream Bowl in Böblingen, Germany. The tournament runs from July 16-24. Full details are available at the [ISBT website](#).

Story and Results courtesy of Tony Brown.