



Monsen, Spada capture their first ISBT titles at Dream-Bowl Palace

Janne Monsen of Norway and Italian **Spada Spada** captured their first career title on the International Seniors Bowling Tour when they won the women's and men's division in the 4th Senior Open Dream-Bowl Palace Sunday at Dream-Bowl Palace in Unterföhring near Munich, Germany.

The seventh stop on the 2017 ISBT season was the third visit of the year to Germany, this time to 52-lane Dream-Bowl Palace (below right), Europe's biggest bowling center. The tournament was held immediately before the World Senior Championships and had World Bowling sanction, and so attracted a strong entry, including competitors from countries new to the ISBT. In total, 111 men and 46 women from 23 countries took part.



The format for the tournament was a single six-game qualifying block, with unlimited re-entries. For those not able to qualify through the main leaderboard, there were additional opportunities through Turbo games, Early Bird qualification and a Desperado squad.

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.

Qualification started the weekend before the finals for the Early Birds, and in the men's section the top scorers were **Gianni Marchiori** of Italy with 1366, and **Horst Albert** of Germany with

1340.

In the ladies' section, it was a good weekend for the Albert family, with wife **Beate Albert** scoring a massive 1360 block, ahead of **Angela Laub** of Germany with 1278. As the top two ladies and five men from these squads would qualify to the finals as Early Birds, these players were now guaranteed their places in the next round.

Qualification squads resumed on Wednesday, and the top scores all came from German bowlers. 2016 winner **Helmut Ulber** showed he was still in good form with a 1569 block, ahead of current ISBT ranking leader **Hermann Wimmer** with 1353. **Angelika Hernitschek** completed a good day for the Germans with 1195 in the ladies' section.

Thursday saw more good scoring, with Wimmer improving to 1488, and five women posting scores over 1200, led by **Alessandra Morra** of Italy with 1281. Friday's squads were led by **Maurizio Celli** of Italy with 1511, followed by Wimmer who posted exactly the same score of 1488 as he had the day before.

Scores in the women's section were increasing quickly, led by **Farida Pascoal-Blom** of Netherlands with 1278, ahead of **Kimberley Oakley** of England with 1252.

There were three squads on Saturday, the final qualification day, with a number of players trying to improve to ensure qualification for the finals.

In the first squad of the day, **Steven Jeeves** of England confirmed his place with 1442, ahead of **Alvaro Cardona** of Spain. Top lady in the squad was **Martina Beckel** of Germany, but her 1219 looked unlikely to be enough to make the cut.

In the second squad of the day, **Amedeo Spada** of Italy booked his finals place with 1479, while **Bianca Völkl-Brandt** ensured her spot on her first attempt with 1297, ahead of **Jan Hodge** of England.

The final qualification squad was won by **Lol Ellis** of England with 1431, while **Nadine Robert** of France, and **Claribel Muis** of Netherlands posted scores to ensure their top 10 places in the ladies' section.

The top 24 men from the qualification list were now guaranteed finals places, along with five Early Birds, seven Scratch and two Turbo qualifiers.

The men's standings were led by **Helmut Ulber** and **Maurizio Celli**, with **Auke Broekhiezen** of Netherlands making the cut in 24th place with 1346.

Beate Albert and **Bianca Völkl-Brandt** led the ladies' section, with a tie for the final qualifying place at 1245 being decided in Norwegian **Janne Monsen**'s favor, as she had the highest scratch score.

There remained just two Desperado places for the men, and one for the ladies. 18 men and 9 ladies took part, with **Conn Casey** of Canada and **Klaus-Uwe Lischka** of Germany being the clear qualifiers in the men's section, with **Jana Lebrova** of Czech Republic being the sole woman qualifier.

The first final round on Sunday saw the male qualifiers from 19th place downwards bowling a four game block, with only the top 10 staying in the competition. **Dario Ancarani** of Switzerland came out on top, with 959. 10th place and the cut to the next round was **Jurgen Laermans** of Belgium with 851.

The next round saw all the remaining players bowl six games, with the top eight in each division going through. **Carlo Greulich** of Germany led after this round with 1469, with first round leader Ancarani just making the all important 8th place to reach the third final's round in the men's section.

In the ladies' section, **Alessandra Morra** and **Janne Monsen** were some distance ahead of the remainder of the field, with **Bianca Vólki-Brandt** just stealing the eighth and last qualifying place.



The next round would cut the eight bowlers down to four after a further three games were played, with scores from the previous round carried through. **Amedeo Spada** finished this round in the lead, with **Lol Ellis**, **Carlo Greulich** and **Hermann Wimmer** joining him in the last four (left, l-r).



Alessandra Morra retained her lead in the women's section, ahead of **Claribel Muis**, **Janne Monsen** and **Bianca Vólki-Brandt** (right, r-l).

The final rounds were single game elimination, all the remaining players played one game, and the lowest was eliminated.

In the first men's match, the top three were very close, with **Carlo Greulich** being eliminated being some way behind the others. The second round saw **Hermann Wimmer** leave the finals, leaving Lol Ellis and Amedeo Spada to contest the final game.



Lol Ellis couldn't find the double he needed to secure a win, so **Amedeo Spada** (left) struck out in the last two frames to take the win, 215 to 202, for his first ISBT title.



In the women's section, top-seeded **Alessandra Morra** was first to go, followed by **Claribel Muis** in the second game. The final between **Janne Monsen** and **Bianca Vólkl-Brandt** was low scoring but close, with a 5-7-10 leave for the German in the 10th frame ending her chances of a win, losing 184-180 to **Janne Monsen** (right), who took her first ISBT title on her first attempt.

The next stop on the 2017 International Seniors Bowling Tour is the first in England since 2012. The **English Senior Open** will be held at Stroud Bowl September 13-17. Full details are available at the [ISBT website](#).

Story and Results courtesy of Tony Brown.