

# “GOHAGEN, THIS YEAR’S MASTERS CHAMPION – YES-YES-YES-YES-YES”

Those were the resounding words from George Gohagen (Las Vegas, Nv.) as he finished strong in his two game match against Larry Wheeler, Jr (Suisin City, Ca). George had a 1<sup>st</sup> round bye and then won four straight matches to emerge as our winner’s bracket champion. His only close match was against Alejandra Urritia (Highland, Ca) winning by just 4 pins 466-462. Larry also had a 1<sup>st</sup> round bye but lost his 1<sup>st</sup> match and dropped into the loser’s bracket. He then won seven consecutive matches to emerge as our loser’s bracket champion. His only close match was in round 7 against Christopher Davidson (Fair Oaks, Ca) winning by 3 pins 433-430. In their championship match Larry jumped ahead after game 1 by 28 pins (269-241). At this point it looked like Larry was going to win this match, forcing a second match against George. Larry would have to defeat George again as you have to be defeated twice to be eliminated from the tournament. However, George got on a roll and started stringing strikes. He bowled 259 to Larry’s 215 winning by 16 pins (500-484) and earned the title to become our 27<sup>th</sup> annual Brunswick Modesto Masters champion. George received \$3,150 for the title and Larry received \$1,800 for his runner up efforts.

This year’s tournament had added money of \$4,226.00 thanks to Brunswick and our other sponsors - Cal-West Roofing, Bowling Outfitters-Modesto, McHenry Bowl, Yosemite Lanes, Yosemite Lanes Pro Shop, Modesto USBC Association and Mark Baker Bowling.

Our high qualifier this year was Larry with a seven game total of 1825 or a 260.7 average. This year’s winner – George Gohagen qualified 4<sup>th</sup> with 1796 or a 256.6 average. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> place finisher was Kevin Duffy (Modesto, Ca) who qualified 2<sup>nd</sup> with 1820 or a 260.0 average and received a total of \$1,188 for his efforts. Rounding out the top four was Travis Hewitt (Fremont, Ca) who qualified 14<sup>th</sup> with 1704 or a 243.4 average earning a respectable \$860.

It took a seven game score of 1671 (24<sup>th</sup> place) or a 238.7 average to make it to match play and a score of 1658 (28<sup>th</sup> place) or a 236.8 average to receive the final check from the main prize fund. Local bowlers grabbed 4 of the 28 checks and 3 of them competed in match play.

Local bowlers competing in match play were Kevin Duffy, Michael Pixley of Turlock and Myles Duty of Turlock. Michael qualified 6<sup>th</sup> with 1786 (255.1 avg.) finished in the round of 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> and received a total of \$465. Myles qualified 23<sup>rd</sup> with 1672 (238.8 avg.) finished in the round of 17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> and received a total of \$215. Our other local casher was Casey Custer who finished 28<sup>th</sup> with a score of 1658 (236.8) and received \$155. Casey had tied with Ryder Halliday from Manteca for the last cash spot. Casey places 28<sup>th</sup> on the money list since ties are broken by the bowler who had the higher game in qualifying.

For the twelfth year in a row a new incentive was in place for the top local league bowler out of the cash from the main prize fund. Jim Gauthier of from Salida (finished 31<sup>st</sup> with 1644) and received that award of \$140. In addition, there was a \$10 optional insurance pool for bowlers the age of 50 and over. It paid out 2 spots this year. Bowlers receiving money from the insurance pool were Tony Blakeley from Antioch with a score of 1622 for \$90 and Ron Case of Oakley with a score of 1603 for \$90. This was the 17<sup>th</sup> year “seniors” could put up \$10 in addition to the standard entry fee for insurance. It pays 1 spot for every 8 entries for the “insurance” bowlers. There were a total of 18 eligible bowlers opting to pay the extra amount for “insurance”.

This year there were a total of 112 entries coming from all parts of Northern and Southern California and Nevada. Total sponsorships from **Brunswick** and the local businesses were \$4,226 and along with the prize fund from the entries, the main prize fund paid out \$14,978.

There were some high scores bowled on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday they included 8-300's and 4-800's series of which one of them was a triplicate. On Sunday there were 3 300's. The 300 games were bowled by Kevin Duffy (2), Anthony Thompson from Anderson, George Gohagen, Dan Long from Visalia, Mark Delcerro from Hayward, Alejandra Urritia and Steve R. Davis from Manteca. The 800's on Saturday were bowled by Larry Wheeler, Jr in his 1<sup>st</sup> 3 games 836 (258,279,289), George in his 1<sup>st</sup> 3 games 801 (223,300,278), Dan Long 809 (279,300,230) and our triplicate Shawn Escalante from Sacramento 837 (279,279,279). Sunday's 300's were bowled by Michael Pixley, Chris Hillman from Tracy and Larry Wheeler, Jr.

Congratulations to all the bowlers who cashed and thank you to all bowlers who participated. Special thanks go out to Adam Ishman from Brunswick and all of our local sponsors. Most of all thank you to all of the helpers who worked the tournament and assisted in the ball raffles.

**Next year's tournament is tentatively scheduled for April 12 and 13, 2025 at McHenry Bowl.**

Jim Gordin April 15, 2024

**April 14, 2024**  
**27th Annual Brunswick**  
**Modesto Masters Prize Fund**

|                                    |                      |                |          |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>                    | Goerge Gohagen       | Las Vegas, Nv  | \$3,150  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                    | Larry Wheeler, Jr    | Suisin City    | 1,800    |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>                    | Kevin Duffy          | Modesto        | 1,188    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup>                    | Travis Hewitt        | Fremont        | 860      |
| 5-6 <sup>th</sup>                  | Tyger Miller         | Cottonwood     | 650      |
|                                    | Christopher Davidson | Fair Oaks      | 650      |
| 7-8 <sup>th</sup>                  | Chris Hillman        | Tracy          | 525      |
|                                    | Shawn Escalente      | Sacramento     | 525      |
| 9-12 <sup>th</sup>                 | Michael Pixley       | Turlock        | 465      |
|                                    | Jason Gee            | Castro Valley  | 465      |
|                                    | Scott Boyle          | Rancho Cordova | 415      |
|                                    | Alejandra Urritia    | Highland       | 415      |
| 13-16 <sup>th</sup>                | Anthony Thompson     | Anderson       | 360      |
|                                    | Dan Long             | Visalia        | 360      |
|                                    | Robert Harmon        | Jackson        | 360      |
|                                    | Robby Britton        | Clovis         | 310      |
| 17-24 <sup>th</sup>                | Chris Bennett        | Discovery Bay  | 215      |
|                                    | Donald McKinney      | Modesto        | 215      |
|                                    | Mike Urban           | Pittsburg      | 215      |
|                                    | Paul Mandap          | Oakley         | 215      |
|                                    | Daniel Mclain        | Campbell       | 215      |
|                                    | Myles Duty           | Turlock        | 215      |
|                                    | Cameron Grilione     | Kingsburg      | 215      |
|                                    | Mark Delcerro        | Hayward        | 215      |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> | Steve R. Davis       | Manteca        | 155      |
|                                    | Craig Miller         | Tracy          | 155      |
|                                    | Ryder Halliday       | Manteca        | 155      |
|                                    | Casey Custer         | Modesto        | 155      |
| Local out of cash-                 | Jim Gauthier         | Modesto        | 140      |
|                                    |                      |                | -----    |
|                                    | Total                |                | \$14,978 |