

Ladies and Gentlemen,

When I woke up this morning, the first thought I had in my mind was to write up what happened last night so Rich Curro can exhale, relax, and put a wrap on 9 months of intense bowling. For the 4 teams in the playoffs, our lengthy season came to a crescendo and I'll briefly recap it for those who missed it.

I'll start by thanking everyone for their participation in a night that didn't end until 12:15am. People had planes and trains to catch at 6 in the morning and nights like these don't make it easy. With 2 best of 3 series being rolled, bowler's arms were wearing down and the lanes were dryer than the Sahara by the end.

The first match started with Rack City taking game 1, Sock Life evening the score in game 2, and Rack City prevailing in the 3rd game. Johnny Nguyen threw a monster 740 series for Sock Life, but it wasn't enough to overcome the consistency of Rich, John, Michelle, and Chris. On the other side, Strykers Dojo took care of Pocket Pounders in 2 games. The Dojo was a bit of a question mark in my eyes after a huge first half of the season, a middling second half, and then wondering what team was going to show up. They answered that emphatically with this playoff series. The Pocket Pounders left disappointed as the team with the most potential (**season** high scratch game 935) was eliminated.

This set up the final match between Rack City and Strykers Dojo. At this point of the night, the righthanded bowlers had run lines and had to adjust in. The jersey strikes were flowing, and frustrated looks were commonplace. Rack City jumped out to the game 1 victory of which the details escape me. The Dojo answered back with a monster game by Phal (278) which he took perfect into the 10th. This brought us to the final game of the night for all the marbles.

I'll sum this up simply, foot stomps, hulk flexes, chest bumps, and Tarzan screams invigorated the alley. Rich Curro hyped himself up with a 230 last game which was followed by fresh recruit John Horcher's 215, and subtly the playoff MVP. This is to take nothing away from Michelle and Chris who rolled well enough for Rack City to claim their second championship in as many years. The Dojo were warriors until the end and I'm sure they'll be back in the running next year.

If you've read this far, and you'd have to be a maniac to, thanks for the support throughout the season. A league is only as good as the bowlers in it. Banquet details will follow and it's looking like June 13th at South Bowl's newly added outdoor area. I hit some balls at the batting cages last night and it's a great addition. If you're in for summer, I'll see you June 10th, if not, hopefully you can attend the banquet. If you didn't claim your envelope, email me or Nichole and we'll get it to you. Thanks again.