

History of Bowling in Mount Pearl

Bowling is a sport that engages youth in a social recreational atmosphere while simultaneously teaching them the values of sportsmanship and fair play in a structured environment.

Bowling in Mount Pearl started when the very first lanes were built on Commonwealth Avenue (this is where the Critters and Things pet store is now located). Charlie Riddle was the individual who started it all for Mount Pearl, he was there when the lanes were built in the late 1960's and he tried to maintain the popularity of the lanes for the next 6 years. Unfortunately 6 years is as long as the lanes lasted, but that was simply a bump in the road for the bowling community of Mount Pearl. Ed Kinsella and Wayne Peacock then opened the Pearlgate lanes in 1988.

In 1988 Dave Holloway started youth bowling at the Pearlgate bowling lanes. For 18 years Dave built the Pearlgate youth bowling club from the ground up; it eventually hit an amazing membership of 350 youth bowlers around the year 2000.

Pearlgate youth bowlers were an unstoppable force under Dave's guidance; they won 55 provincial gold medals, 6 national gold medals, 3 national silver medals and 10 national bronze medals. Indeed, the Pearlgate Youth Bowling Club (YBC) bowlers also won numerous youth challenge provincial championships and several of the team bowlers were selected to play with provincial All-Star teams.

Every 4 years, the Pearlgate youth bowlers represent Mount Pearl in the Newfoundland Winter Games; they have won several titles while representing Mount Pearl. Being one of the initial members of the Mount Pearl Sport Alliance, the athletes' talented performances were recognized very early on; Bowlers were nominated for sports awards and numerous adult volunteers were honored by the Sports Alliance for their contributions. The Pearlgate Lanes were then taken over by the Max Athletics Group in April 2012 and the Pearlgate Club moved to Paradise to continue to bowl. The Paradise Youth Bowling Club celebrated their 25th anniversary in 2013.

As a sports program, the Pearlgate youth bowlers have represented the city of Mount Pearl and the province well on the competitive scene at a national level. Over the years they have undertaken numerous charitable responsibilities such as their association with the Children's Wish Foundation and the St. Vincent de Paul food drive in which thousands of food donations were collected and distributed.

“The YBC youth bowling has won 64 provincial titles and 8 national gold medals. [Our adults] have won three national gold medals”- Jim Bulger

Did you know... at it's peak there were over 80,000 kids involved with the Youth Bowling Club in Canada? And that the 1996 Bantam boys bowling team won the first ever National Gold medal for Mount Pearl?

Volunteer history:

Dave Holloway – co-founder; Jim Bulger - co founder

Leila and Paul Boland, Sharon and Wayne Upshall, Dianne and Dennis Smith, Kay and Mike Ledrew, Brad Ford, Nisa Wells, Lee Didham, Carl and Joan Lundrigan, Gayle Cave (program director as of 2013), Donna O’Toole, Liz Beer, Max Butler, Chris Fowler, Darryl Murphy, Tom Kennedy, Doug Kennedy, Darlene Johnston, Denise Stirling, Keith Beer, Paul Phelan, Jim and Janet Mallard, Ed Beer, Peggy Beer, Deborah Noseworthy, Mary and Wade O’Reilly, Dawn Osmond, Leanne Boland, Lesley Boland, Patsy Hynes, Valda Mercer, Larry Fawcett, Dave Holloway Jr., Karen Morrey, Gerry Evans - and many more.

Accomplishments:

- 6 national gold medals; 2 national classifieds/singles
- highest enrollment 367 (1998) – highest in Eastern Canada
- Donated \$10,000 to Children’s Wish Foundation (3 year project through Household Finance)
- Donated 15,000 items to St. Vincent de Paul over 15 years
- Major fundraiser for diabetic pump for a bowler
- 1990 - Thunder Bay Ontario - Bantam girls Sherry Smith, Dawn Evans, Rhonda Mercer, Stephanie Rowe, Lori Jones, Coach Kay Ledrew
- 1992 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Bantam girls - Angela Voisey, Lori Newman, Shelly Brown, Cathy Woodman, Gail Bradbury, Coach - Leila Boland.
- 1995 – St. John’s - Bantam girls- Krista Burrige, Ashley Walsh, Candice Underhay, Dawn Osmond, Stephanie Duggan, Coach Deborah Noseworthy- team achieved the national bronze medal.
- 1995 - St. John’s - Junior boys - Corey Walsh, Jeffrey Barbour, Steven Andrews, Andrew Cameron, Brian Murphy, Coach Paul Boland – team achieved the national silver medal.
- 1995 - St. John’s - Bantam girls singles - Lesley Boland, Coach Jim Bulger
- 1996 - Saskatoon - Bantam boys - Adam Lawlor, Tony Noseworthy, Andrew Williams, Justin O’Reilly, Chris Barnes, Coach Wade O’ Reilly- team achieved the national gold medal.
- 1996 - Saskatoon - Bantam boys single - Andrew Chafe, Coach Jim Bulger.
- 1997 - Sudbury Ontario - Bantam boys single – Justin O’Reilly, Coach Jim Bulger- achieved the national bronze medal.
- 1998 - Vancouver B.C. - Junior girls - Ashley Walsh, Stephanie Duggan, Keri lynn Garland, Leslie Hynes, Dawn Osmond, Coach Leila Boland – team achieved the national bronze medal.
- 1998 - Vancouver B.C. - Junior girls singles - Lesley Boland, Coach Jim Bulger- tied for national gold
- 1998 -Vancouver B.C. - Bantam boys singles -Chris Mallard, Coach Jim Bulger – achieved national bronze medal
- 1999 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Bantam boys - Kolin Walsh, Danny Noseworthy, Steven Hynes, Chad Budden, Mark Noseworthy, Coach - Dave Holloway
- 1999 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Bantam girls -Leanne Brace, Katie Walker, Amanda Carter, Heather Mercer, Sandi Ford, Coach Deborah Noseworthy

- 1999 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Junior boys singles - Chris Barnes, Coach Jim Bulger
- 2000 - Kitchener -Waterloo Ontario - Senior boys - Corey Walsh, Greg Au, Cody Field, Matt Jones, Brandon Cross, Coach Paul Boland
- 2000 - Kitchener Waterloo Ontario - Bantam girls - Maria Tuff, Sheri Upshall, Melinda Barron, Erin Osbourne, Amanda Carter, Coach Lee Didham – team achieved the national bronze medal.
- 2001 - Calgary Alberta - Bantam girls - Maria Tuff, Jessica O’toole, Nicole Bishop, Melinda Barron, Brittany White, Coach Lee Didham – achieved the national silver medal.
- 2001 - Calgary Alberta - Bantam boys - Tyler Drover, George Ingerman, Patrick Bragg, Chris Fowler, Shannon Cross, Coach Dave Holloway – achieved the national bronze medal .
- 2001 - Calgary Alberta - Junior boys - Kurtis Walsh, Danny Noseworthy, Travis Burke, Steven Sheppard, Mark Osbourne, Coach Carl Lundrigan.
- 2001 - Calgary Alberta - Senior boys - Joel Manchur, Mark Abbott, Cody Field, Greg Au, Chris Barnes, Coach Paul Boland – team achieved the national silver medal.
- 2001 - Calgary Alberta - Bantam girls singles - Kristina Nurse, Coach Jim Bulger
- 2002 - Gatineau Quebec - Bantam girls - Jessica O’toole, Brittany White, Brittany Milmore, Sandrina Walker, Kristen Elliot, Coach Lee Didham – team achieved the national gold medal
- 2002 - Gatineau Quebec - Junior boys - Andrew Williams, Chad Budden, Tyler Drover, Kolin Walsh, Chris Fowler, Coach Jim Mallard- team achieved the national gold medal.
- 2002 - Gatineau Quebec - Senior girls - Wendy Mcrindle, Sara Upshall, Dawn Osmond, Keri Garland, Bonnie Hudson, Coach Leila Boland - team tied for national gold medal.
- 2003 - Regina Sask. - Bantam boys - Craig Ford, Alex King, Peter Tobin, Joseph Snook, Jesse Burns, Coach Dave Holloway – team achieved national bronze medal
- 2003 - Regina Sask. - Junior girls - Sherry Lynn Upshall, Nicole Bishop, Erin Osbourne, Brittany White, Melinda Barron, Coach Joan Lundrigan
- 2003 - Regina Sask. - Junior girls singles - Keri Garland, Coach - Jim Bulger
- 2004 - Mount Pearl Nfld. - Taylor Holloway, Krista Hill, Sarah Beer, Maria Flynn, Courtney Morrell, Coach Leila Boland.
- 2005 - British Columbia - Bantam boys - Peter Tobin, Andrew Pope, Justin Wheeler , Zach Baker, Adam Keating, Coach Paul Boland- team achieved the national bronze medal.
- 2005 - British Columbia - Senior boys - Chris Mallard, Andrew Williams, Chad Budden, Danny Noseworthy, Brandon Field, Coach Carl Lundrigan.
- 2005 - British Columbia - Junior girls singles - Brittany White, Coach Jim Bulger.
- 2006 - Sudbury Ontario - Bantam boys - Thomas Wall, Steven Loveys, Mitchell Pope, Thomas Crummell, Coach Leila Boland.
- 2006 - Sudbury Ontario - Junior boys - Craig Ford, Matthew Kennedy, Alex King, Peter Tobin, Adam Good, Coach Lee Didham.
- 2006 - Sudbury Ontario - Senior girls - Sheri Lynn Upshall, Nicole Bishop, Maria Tuff, Ashley Carter, Melinda Barron, Coach Joan Lundrigan.
- 2006 - Sudbury Ontario - Junior boys singles - Mitchell Williams, Coach Jim Bulger
- 2007 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Bantam boys - Thomas Wall, Quinn Whalen, Liam Kavanagh, Avery Heath, Kyle Kinsella, Coach Brad Ford – team achieved the national bronze medal.
- 2007 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Junior boys - Thomas Crummell, Brandon Tibbs, Jeff Osmond, Andrew Pope, Peter Tobin, Coach Lesley Boland.

- 2007 - Winnipeg Manitoba - Senior girls - Ashley Taylor, Melinda Barron, Kristina Nurse, Sheri Lynn Upshall, Ashley Carter, Coach Joan Lundrigan.
- 2008 - Edmonton Alberta - Bantam girls - Emily Hepditch, Courtney Aylward, Erin Morry Laura Cave, Courtney Lucas, Coach Nisa Ford – the team achieved the national gold medal.
- 2008 - Edmonton Alberta - Bantam boys - Mitchell Pope, Steven Loveys, Thomas Wall, Avery Heath, Matthew Coady, Coach Brad Ford – team achieved the national gold medal.
- 2008 - Edmonton Alberta - Junior boys - Peter Tobin, Thomas Crummell. Brandon Tibbs, Andrew Pope, Adam Keating, (Zachery Snow), Coach Lesley Boland.
- 2008 - Edmonton Alberta - Senior girls - Amanda Carter, Ashley Carter, Nicole Bishop, Maria Tuff, Sherilynn Upshall, Coach Wayne Upshall
- 2008 - Edmonton Alberta - Bantam boys single - Liam Kavanagh, Coach Jim Bulger
- 2008 - Edmonton Alberta - Junior boys single - Kyle Kinsella, Coach Jim Bulger- achieved the national bronze medal
- 2009 - Oshawa Ontario - Bantam girls - Emma Hillier, Courtney Lucas, Laura Cave, Courtney Aylward, Coach Nisa Ford
- 2009 - Oshawa Ontario - Bantam boys - Kyle Kinsella, Thomas Wall, Mitchell Pope, Josh Kavanagh, Coach Brad Ford
- 2009 - Oshawa Ontario - Senior girls - Sherilynn Upshall, Nicole Bishop, Maria Tuff, Stephanie Decker, Coach Wayne Upshall.
- 2009 - Oshawa Ontario - Senior boys - Mitchell Williams, Tyler Drover, Craig Ford, Justin Tibbs, Coach Brad Ford.
- 2010 - Gatineau Quebec - Junior boys singles - Kyle Kinsella, Coach Jim Bulger
- 2010 - Gatineau Quebec - Bantam boys - Ryan Butt, Tyler Peddle, Avery Heath, Matthew Coady, Coach Sean Hepditch – team achieved the national bronze medal.
- 2010 - Gatineau Quebec - Senior boys - Josh Lavers, Matt Power, Andrew Pope, Jeff Osmond, Coach Brad Ford.
- 2011 - Regina Sask. - Bantam boys - Matthew Coady, Billy Smith, Ryan Strickland, Matthew Barrett, Coach Sean Hepditch.
- 2011 - Regina Sask. - Junior boys - Jordan Brown, Mitchell Coady, Avery Heath, Zachery Snow, Coach Denise Stirling
- 2012 - Newfoundland - Junior girls - Erin Morry, Shannon Morry, Laura Cave, Courtney Lucas, Coach Wayne Upshall (Denise Stirling)- team achieved the national gold medal
- 2013- British Columbia Junior girls- Victoria Hiscock, Courtney Lucas, Laura Cave, Stephanie Beer, Coach Elizabeth Beer.
- 2013- British Columbia- Bantam boys- Aidan Dominie, Nicholas Keating, Anthony Peddle, Nathan Parkinson, Coach Max Butler.
- National Youth Challenge, Winnipeg, Manitoba, NL Select Team - 3 girls - 3 boys- Mount Pearl rep - Jeannine Kennedy-- national Gold medal winners - first ever for youth challenge.
- 2015 – Oshawa, Ontario - Senior Girls Team - Laura Cave, Jessica Kennedy, Jeanine Kennedy and Erin Morry, Coach Karen Morry.
- 2015 – Oshawa, Ontario - Bantam Boys Team - Daniel Careen, Jack Corcoran, Samuel Massey and Jackson Rose, Coach Max Butler -
- 2015 – Oshawa, Ontario – Senior Girls Singles – Courtney Lucas with Coach Jim Bulger
- 2015 – Oshawa, Ontario – Junior Girls Singles – Brooke King with Coach Jim Bulger

- 2016 – Calgary, Alberta – Bantam Boys Team – Luke Walsh, Jackson Rose, Coach Max Butler
- 2016 – Calgary, Alberta – Senior Girls Team – Courtney Lucas, Nicole Caines, Jeanine Kennedy, Erin Morry, Coach Karen Morry
- 2016 – Calgary, Alberta – Junior Girls Singles – Brooke King – Achieved a national bronze medal

Source:

Statistics, achievements and history courtesy of Jim Bulger