

Sam Lantto wins Minnesota Masters

Sam Lantto of Eden Prairie defeated Jerry Holldorf of Chippewa Falls, WI to win the 28th annual Minnesota Masters tournament on December 30th, 2007 at AMF Earle Brown Lanes in Brooklyn Center. Lantto was undefeated and waited while Holldorf came through the loser's bracket and had to beat Lantto twice in the double elimination single game match play format. Holldorf won the first game 227-218 to force the final and deciding match. Lantto, who was down 19 pins in the 5th frame, ran off 6 consecutive strikes to put away Holldorf 242-178 and claim his first Minnesota Masters' title and a paid entry into the USBC Masters tournament in Milwaukee in October 2008.

89 bowlers started the day bowling 8 games of qualifying. The top 24 advanced to the double elimination single game match play. Holldorf, Lantto and Mike Bischoff of Eagan each won their first 3 matches. Holldorf, having the highest 11 game total to that point received a bye while Lantto & Bischoff squared off. Lantto downed Bischoff 225-184 to send him into the losers' bracket and take on Holldorf. Lantto was not to be denied as he shot 279 to Holldorf's 207 to stay undefeated and be seeded into the championship match. In the semifinal of the losers' bracket Ron Kish of Minneapolis took on Carl Poelzer of Arden Hills with Kish advancing 184-136. Holldorf took care of Kish in the final of the losers' bracket 233-167 to meet Lantto for the title.

The average to make the top 24 was 200.5 (1604 pins) and the 25th place and last cash was a 200.1 average (1601 pins). Jerry Holldorf was also the High Qualifier with a total pin-fall of 1780 (222.5 avg) followed by Arnie Gerdes of Eagan with 1760 (220 avg) and Clayton Mohr of Alexandria with a score of 1745 (218.1 avg) for the 8 games of qualifying.

Chad Nelson of Owatonna, who was 5th in the Minneapolis Masters & 2nd in the St Paul Masters, finished 7th in the Minnesota Masters to claim the On Track Masters Triple Crown. He pockets the \$500 from On Track Pro Shops for the bowler with the best finishes in the 3 Masters' tournaments.

Check out the prize list and all results at www.centralbowlersalliance.com