

Star Lanes hosts youth Pepsi tourney

by Keith Meagor

More than 260 youth bowlers from across Montana will descend on the Mining City this weekend to compete in the State Pepsi Youth Tournament at Star Lanes.

Competition starts on Friday with most Butte bowlers posting their scores. Qualifying continues on Saturday with the remaining youth, and Sunday will be a round robin with the winners decided.

The hometown area youth will bowl their qualifying scores on Friday, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Saturday qualifying will occur throughout the day, but starts with younger division at 8 a.m. finishing with the oldest division starting at 8 p.m. Sunday competition starts at 9 a.m. until complete. A full qualifying schedule for Friday and Saturday can be found [here](#).

The Pepsi tournament is a national tournament and this is the state qualifier for Montana. The field for each division will be cut to the top-six high qualifiers. Those that qualify to Sunday will compete for scholarships and some will have the ability to move on and compete further at the National level.

This year there is approximately \$9,000 in scholarships to be distributed between the divisions. Champions in Divisions U12, U15 and U20 will advance to the North Pointe Junior Gold Championships on July 12-18 in Buffalo, NY. Bowling Ball Raffle tickets are being sold (\$1) at Star Lanes to help these young athletes with travel expenses with the drawing on Sunday, May 4.

There are ten divisions: U8 (DOB 8-1-05 or later), U10 (DOB 8-1-03 to 7-31-05), U12 (DOB 8-1-01 to 7-31-03), U15 (DOB 8-1-98 to 7-31-01), & U20 (8-1-93 to 7-31-98). There is a boys and girls classification for each division. Everyone started by qualifying at their local center during the bowling season, there were two qualifying weeks. They were then eligible to advance to the state tournament.

If you are in the area and want to see some of the area youth have fun competing, stop out at the Star Lanes this weekend to support and watch.

[The entire tournament and all scores can be found at butteusbc.com.](http://butteusbc.com)