

## Gelling Defends Title at Meagor Classic

Nate Gelling was on his game and it resulted in another championship at the 37th Annual Bill Meagor Peterson Point Scratch Bowling Classic held at Star Lanes. By topping the field, Gelling captured the 3rd title of his young career.

Gelling averaged 209 over twelve games, played on some challenging lane conditions, which resulted in lower scores, but a good test of the skills of the 34 keglers who participated. Youth was served at the tourney, as 4 of the 5 bowlers who made the top 5 were close to 30 years of age, with 8 time champion, Mark Hodges, being the exception. Hall of Famer Hodges is 59 years old.

The stepladder finals opened with 4th seed Hodges downing 5th seed Derek Burch, 213 to 144. Burch rolled a solid tournament and it was the first top 5 appearance in his career. The veteran Hodges was then defeated by 3rd seed Joe Martinich 182 to 158, which led to a battle of cousins in the next match. Joe Martinich toppled Dave Martinich Jr. 215 to 177 in a test of skills leading to the title match. Martinich Jr. had a fine tournament winning the most matches leading to the stepladder with 9 match victories.

In the championship match, Joe Martinich faced the defending champion Gelling. In a tight match, Gelling prevailed 192 to 179. Martinich's runner-up finish was the best of his career thus far, as Gelling was again crowned the champion.

In this year's side competition, Dave Martinich Jr. and Kalee Tripp won all of the skins in their divisions to capture the championships in this edition of the "Skins Game"

In the Count-down, Count-up challenge, Martinich Jr. won again besting Gelling, 8 points to 3 points to claim the championship. Neil Midtlyng was the consolation champ.

The remaining qualifiers and their Peterson Point totals were as follows::

6	Marcus Mosness	54.40
7	Dave Martinich Sr	54.32
8	Todd Edelen	54.29
9	Ed Robbins	54.04
10	Brad Cottom	52.39
11	Mike Krankowski	52.02
12	Kyle West	51.29
13	Barry Butori	51.26
14	Ray Grundhauser	51.17
15	Denton Martinich	50.33
16	Bill Abraham	47.37
17	Mike Reed	45.26
18	Tim Gross	44.05

*Submitted by Walt Parrett – Tournament Manager*