

A Griffith man and a 2014 Hall of Fame inductee lead the Bowlers of the Year for 2013-14 in the Greater Calumet Area USBC.

Members of the GCA USBC's Bowler of the Year committee met Sunday at Olympia Lanes in Hammond.

John Verbich of Griffith was chosen as Male Bowler of the Year. Verbich, who averaged 236 at Plaza in the 2013-14 season, rolled four 300 games, had one 800 series and recorded three 11-in-a-row games. He was also the Indiana State Masters champion and was a member of the annual GCA Tournament's championship Team in Actual and Pins Over Average (POA) divisions. He was also 3rd in Actual All-Events, 4th in Doubles Actual and 11th in Singles Actual.

Kathi Tucker, a Schererville elementary school principal who was inducted into the GCA Hall of Fame in December, was named Female Bowler of the Year. Tucker averaged 212 in league at Stardust III in Dyer and also won the GCA Championships in the Women's Singles Actual division. She was also a member of the second-place women's Team Actual and women's Doubles Actual. Tucker had five 700 series, including a 734 in the annual GCA Championships. At the Women's state tournament, she finished 15th in all-events and 94th in Singles.

Senior Bowler of the Year for bowlers 50-59 is Mike Kozy of Griffith. Kozy won his second consecutive Times-Pepsi Classic A Division title in June. He had a high series of 846 in the Times Classic, rolled two 300 games and averaged 223 in league at Olympia.

The Senior Female Bowler of the Year is the only repeat winner. GCA Hall of Famer Colleen Lidster of Griffith led the women in the GCA with an 818 high series and an average of 228. She recorded one 300 game, had one 11-in-a-row award and had 11 series of 700 or more.

Super Senior Bowler of the Year for bowlers 60 and older is Keith Betts of Highland. Betts tied for second in his division at the GCA Senior Singles tournament at Set 'Em Up Lanes in Griffith and averaged 222 at Olympia and 221 at Stardust III. He had one 300 game and two 11-in-a-row games.

Female Super Senior Bowler of the Year is Linda Grentzer. She averaged 195 at Stardust III and 194 at Lynwood Bowl.

All winners will be honored Dec. 7 at the 28th Annual Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet at Dynasty Banquets in Hammond.

The GCA USBC represents 6,500 sanctioned league bowlers in centers in Dyer, Griffith, Highland and Hammond Indiana and centers in Lansing and Lynwood in Illinois.