

New Jersey State USBC Bowling Association

RICCARDI CAPTURES NJ STATE MASTERS TITLE

Byline Joanne Ramsey

Sean Riccardi of Piscataway (last year's runner-up), captured his first NJ State Masters title at the 30th New Jersey State Bowling Association Masters Tournament held at Brunswick Zone - Carolier in North Brunswick on December 10-11, 2011.

Riccardi after qualifying fifth with an eight-game score of 1768 (Matthew O'Grady of South Amboy, was the leading qualifier with an 1823) then compiled a 6-0 match play record with a 218 tourney average. In the two-game match play finals he defeated Andrew Suscreba of Clifton, 387-356. Riccardi then defeated Tom Panebianco of Lakewood, 408-407. He then defeated Ed Szygiel of Mt Laurel, 536-368. Continuing his winning streak, he then defeated Charlie Bruno of Deptford, (the Masters Champion in 2007 and 2009), 435-427, followed by Eric Cornog of Cherry Hill, 418-379, to gain entry to the Championship match to face Eric Cornog again, the survivor of the losers bracket.

Cornog earned his way to the championship match going through the winners bracket defeating Walter McKnight of Brick, 413-322, Shawn Slocum of Ewing, 426-423, Louis Gaudio Jr of Staten Island, 366-364, and William Ripley of Burlington, 446-387, before meeting Sean Riccardi in the fifth match which sent him into the losers bracket, 379-418. Cornog then defeated Slocum again 421-412, to meet Riccardi in the Championship match.

In the championship match, Riccardi reigned supreme when he met Eric Cornog, where Riccardi was the victor with 426 to Cornog's 422.

Honor scores bowled in the tournament were: 11-in-a-row games were rolled by Sean Riccardi, Andrew Suscreba and Antony Buonanno of Belleville.

156 participated in the tournament.