

## Dennis Brown

Since before he was born, this inductee has been hearing the sounds of strikes. Dennis Brown's mom Barbara bowled throughout her pregnancy. As soon as Dennis could sit up and push a bowling ball his Dad began sitting him on the lanes and showing him where the ball was destined to roll. Growing up in a bowling center, Dennis was able to play a lot. When he was about 7, he began YABA in Washington. The Browns moved to Idaho where Dennis bowled all the time but it wasn't until he was about 13 that he became more competitive. That is probably about the time he became interested in girls. It was in Idaho when Dennis became an ABC adult bowler. That same year is when he bowled his first 300 game, making him the youngest adult to do this. Dennis said that bowling this 300 gave him a slew of emotions but what stands out the most was his dad sweeping him up in his arms before the ball hit the pocket. Although he has never experienced that same feeling as his dad's arms at the 12<sup>th</sup> strike, he gets the same whirl of emotion. Dennis has not stopped.

Dennis bowls in many tournaments in the local and state associations, as well as on the National Open Tournament. Dennis has also bowled SLV Super bowl in Monte Vista, Co, where he has become one of the favorites. Dennis has placed in all categories - team, doubles, singles and all events - in both city and state tournament. One year Dennis took 3 of the four categories. If you have ever had the opportunity to observe Dennis, he is a joy to watch. One year during the Dick Tanner Mixed Invitational, Dennis was on the path to a 300, but what made that day special was all the bowlers from Texas. This group had a tradition for hugging everyone for every strike after a turkey and Dennis did just that- hugging all of these recycled teenagers. The ladies all enjoyed not only watching him, but his hugs. They ran to line up as soon as it was his turn.

Dennis has been married to Francis for the past 4 years. Together they became a "yours, mine, and ours" family with 3 children. Dennis is currently an assistant coach for the Cleveland High bowling team. Dennis enjoys working with people and working in the Spares and Strikes Pro Shop and giving back to the bowlers.

Dennis joined the ABQ bowling community in 1992 and has been a active participant in many leagues. He has bowled 17 -299's, 3 -298's, 21 -11 in a row, numerous 700's, 15 -800's, 64-300's (two of those were back to back 6 years ago at state). His highest recorded average is 239 in Santa Fe, although he upped it to 240 before the season ended. Dennis has also been Bowler of the Year twice. His highest series was an 856.

Barbara has many great memories of her son but one of her favorites is when Dennis was bowling, and a bowler was surprised that both daughters were such great bowlers. Surprise- one of those daughters was her long-haired son. Dennis has many fond memories from his lifetime of bowling. He loves the game and the friends he has developed through the years. He has always loved the game and inspired to be a great bowler like the men on CBS Sports. But his biggest inspiration was his Dad and his mom is his biggest cheerleader. I am sure that Dennis will continue to add to his achievement.

Congratulations Dennis!

