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**March 14, 2011**

### **KOIVUNIEMI, DORIN-BALLARD MAINTAIN LEAD WORLD BOWLING TOUR RANKINGS**

ARLINGTON, Texas – With four events now completed, there was no change atop the World Bowling Tour rankings with Mika Koivuniemi of Finland and Carolyn Dorin-Ballard of the United States remaining the leaders.

In the title match at the Brunswick Euro Challenge in Saint Maximin, France, Dorin-Ballard fell in the championship match to Colombia's Clara Guerrero, 229-204, but added 40 ranking point to bring her points total to 145.

Dorin-Ballard is the only women's player to compete in all four World Bowling Tour events so far this year and she leads fellow American Kelly Kulick, who is second with 100 points. Finland's Krista Pollanen picked up 30 points in France to bring her total to 80, good enough for third place.

In the men's division, none of the top three players in the rankings competed in the Euro Challenge. Koivuniemi leads with 125 points, while Chris Barnes of the United States is second with 68 points. American Sean Rash is third with 65 points.

Koivuniemi, Barnes and Rash are all exempt players on the Lumber Liquidators Professional Bowlers Association Tour and were competing in the tour's final event of the season at the same time as the Euro Challenge.

The World Bowling Tour is made up of various events around the world throughout the course of 2011. Players earn points based on how they finish in the event and those points will be tabulated throughout the season to determine the top three men and top three women who will be invited to compete in the World Bowling Tour Finals presented by the Professional Bowlers Association.

The next stop on the World Bowling Tour is the Kuwait Open from March 18-22 in Kuwait City, Kuwait. The fall swing includes a stop in Bangkok, Thailand, from Sept. 24-30 and wraps up with the AMF Australian Masters from Oct. 10-22 in Sydney, Australia.

The World Bowling Tour finals are scheduled to take place at the PBA's World Series of Bowling in late 2011 and will feature a total prize fund of \$40,000. The event will be aired nationally in the United States.

The World Tenpin Bowling Association, which is made up of more than 100 bowling federations, governs the sport throughout the world. For more information on WTBA and the World Bowling Tour, visit [WorldTenpinBowling.com](http://WorldTenpinBowling.com).



## WORLD BOWLING TOUR POINTS

Top 25 after four events (Pos., Name, Country, Points)

### MEN

1, Mika Koivuniemi, Finland	125
2, Chris Barnes, USA	68
3, Sean Rash, USA	65
4, Norm Duke, USA	50
4, Tom Hess, USA	50
4, Syafiq Ridhwan, Malaysia	50
7, Tommy Jones, USA	50
8, Osku Palermaa, Finland	46
9, Kimmo Lehtonen, Finland	41
10, Jack Jurek, USA	40
10, Thomas Larsen, Denmark	40
12, Dominic Barrett, England	39
13, Paul Moor, England	35
14, Ronnie Russell, USA	34
15, Lucas Legnani, Argentina	33
16, Dennis Eklund, Sweden	32
17, Marco Baade, Germany	30
17, Mike DeVaney, USA	30
17, Ryan Shafer, USA	30
20, Karl Wahlgren, Sweden	29
21, Chris Warren, USA	28
21, Gery Verbruggen, Belgium	28
23, Dan MacLelland, Canada	27
23, Martin Paulsson, Sweden	27
25, Bill O'Neill, USA	26
25, Jouni Helminen, Finland	26

### WOMEN

1, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, USA	145
2, Kelly Kulick, USA	100
3, Krista Pollanen, Finland	80
4, Liz Johnson, USA	70
5, Nina Flack, Sweden	55
6, Clara Guerrero, Colombia	50
7, Jazreel Tan, Singapore	46
8, Rocio Restrepo, Colombia	40
9, Nicki Ainge, England	38
10, Mai Ginge Jensen, Denmark	35
10, Missy Parkin, USA	35
12, Anna Orlova, Russia	30
13, Rebecka Larsen, Sweden	27
13, Patricia Luoto, Germany	27
15, Joline Persson Planefors, Sweden	26
16, Bryanna Caldwell, USA	25
16, Heidi Manninen, Finland	25
16, Marilyn Planchard, France	25
19, Diandra Asbaty, USA	24
19, Marija Tkachenko, Latvia	24
19, Hee Kar Yen, Malaysia	24
22, Jessica Baker, USA	23
22, Sabrina Duncan Rose, USA	23
22, Jacqueline Sijore, Malaysia	23
25, Sophie Herbin, France	22
25, Anggie Ramirez, Colombia	22
25, Brandi Wolfe, USA	22

### **ENDS**

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