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**January 18, 2012**

## **KOIVUNIEMI, ANDERSSON LEAD WORLD BOWLING TOUR RANKINGS**

ARLINGTON, Texas – Finland’s Mika Koivuniemi and Sweden’s Sandra Andersson lead the World Tenpin Bowling Association World Bowling Tour points list after the opening event of the 2012 schedule.

Andersson has moved into the women’s lead for the first time with 151 points, while Koivuniemi leads the men’s rankings with 233 points. The World Bowling Tour points system is based on a continuous two-year cycle, so points earned in 2011 are added to points earned in 2012 to determine the points list.

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> Brunswick Ballmaster Open in Helsinki, Finland – the opening event of the 2012 season – Andersson picked up 40 points for a second-place finish among the women’s field. The United States’ Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, who did not compete in Finland, is in second with 145 points.

Sweden’s Nina Flack remained in the top three by earning 15 points to bring her total to 135, while Finland’s Krista Pöllänen won the women’s rankings at the Ballmaster for the second straight year, bringing her fourth-place total to 130 points.

On the men’s side, Koivuniemi picked up 35 points to increase his lead on the men’s field. Sean Rash of the United States added six points to his total in Finland to bring his total to 148 for second place. The United States’ Mike Fagan is third with 140 points after finishing second at the Ballmaster and adding 40 points.

The World Bowling Tour is made up of various events around the world and players earn points based on how they finish in each event. The current points system is based on a continuous two-year cycle, so points earned in 2011 are added to points earned in 2012 to determine the points list.

The top three men and top three women will be invited to compete in the World Bowling Tour Finals presented by the Professional Bowlers Association at the end of 2012.

The World Bowling Tour Finals will feature a total prize fund of \$70,000. The top three men and top three women will bowl a stepladder finals format in their respective divisions. The prize money for each division is the same, with the winner taking \$20,000, second place earning \$10,000 and third place winning \$5,000.

The tour continues with the United States Bowling Congress Masters from Jan. 24-29 and is immediately followed by the WTBA International Open from Jan. 28-Feb. 5.

The World Tenpin Bowling Association, which is made up of 115 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 (Pos., Name, Country, Points)

### MEN

- 1, Mika Koivuniemi, Finland, 233.
- 2, Sean Rash, USA, 148.
- 3, Mike Fagan, USA, 140.
- 4, Jason Belmonte, Australia, 120.
- 5, Osku, Palermaa, Finland, 112.
- 6, Chris Barnes, USA, 92.
- 7, Dominic Barrett, England, 90.
- 8, Tommy Jones, USA, 82.
- 9, Dan MacLelland, Canada, 82.
- 10, Su Hong Wu, Hong Kong, 77.
- 11, Bill O'Neill, USA, 76.
- 12, Chris Loschetter, USA, 71.
- 13, Paul Moor, England, 66.
- 14, Norm Duke, USA, 65.
- 15, Tore Torgersen, Norway, 65.
- 16, Martin Larsen, Sweden, 59.
- 17, Ronnie Russell, USA, 55.
- 18, Tom Hess, USA, 54.
- 19, Syafiq Ridhwan, Malaysia, 50.
- 20, Jeong Seung-Soo, Korea, 50.
- 21, Martin Paulsson, Sweden, 48.
- 22, Kimmo Lehtonen, Finland, 45.
- 23, Karl Wahlgren, Sweden, 44.
- 24, Jack Jurek, USA, 40.
- 25, Thomas Larsen, Denmark, 40.

### WOMEN

- 1, Sandra Andersson, Sweden, 151.
- 2, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, USA, 145.
- 3, Nina Flack, Sweden, 135.
- 4, Krista Pollanen, Finland, 130.
- 5, Kelly Kulick, USA, 100.
- 6, Liz Johnson, USA, 70.
- 7, Elin Adolfsson, Sweden, 51.
- 8, Clara Guerrero, Colombia, 50.
- 9, Helen Johnsson, Sweden, 50.
- 10, Kim Min-Hee, Korea, 50.
- 11, Angkana, Netrviseh, Thailand, 50.
- 12, Shannon Pluhowsky, USA, 50.
- 13, Jazreel Tan, Singapore, 46.
- 14, Darya Kovalova, Ukraine, 44.
- 15, Cassie Staudinger, Australia, 43.
- 16, Jeon Gui-Ae, Korea, 40.
- 17, Rocio Restrepo, Colombia, 40.
- 18, Tannya Roumimper, Indonesia, 40.
- 19, Yanee Saebe, Thailand, 40.
- 20, Nicki Ainge, England, 38.
- 21, Marjo Pontinen, Finland, 37.
- 22, Heidi Manninen, Finland, 36.
- 23, Mai Ginge Jensen, Denmark, 35.
- 24, Veronica Lantto, Sweden, 35.
- 25, Lexi Nicoll, Australia, 35.

## ENDS

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