



## Mika Koivuniemi

### PBAsia Ambassador and Mentor

Career PBA 300 Games: 85 times in 21 countries

Mika Johani Koivuniemi (pronounced MEE-ka koi-voo-nee-EM-ee) resides in Hartland, Mich., with wife Leena and daughters Ida and Lidia. He is a Finland native who has won titles in 21 countries (Austria, Bahrain, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, Qatar, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand and the United States) and bowled 85 perfect games in 21 countries.

He was a member of Team Finland from 1988 until 2000 and 2008 and 2010, with the exception of 1990. Under Team Finland, he came in 2nd position for All Events in the 1991 FIQ World Champion Masters in Singapore, and was the champion in the 1995 European Individual Cup and the 1996 World Team Cup. Additionally, Mika has also 10 other medals at the world level until he retired from Team Finland in 2010.

In January 2011, he won the 41st Brunswick Ballmaster Open and followed that up with wins in the Qubica AMF Open and European Bowling Tour Masters in Slovenia. To date he owns nine European Bowling Tour titles. In 2013, Mika won the Bahrain International Bowling Championship, defeating Ildemaro Ruiz 248-194 in championship match. He also won the 2013 Weber Cup teaming with Dom Barrett, Stuart Williams and Martin Larsen.

In 2013, Mika also became the Technical Advisor/ Assistant Coach for Team Denmark. Currently, he is also a Pro Staff of Track, Dexter and Turbo Grips. He is also a WTBA Executive Board member as the players' voices, as well as the Chairman of the WTBA Players Committee.

Before he made bowling his career, Mika was trained as an electrician. He was also active in other sports as well. He was competitive in hockey, basketball and soccer in high school, and won the 1981 Finland Youth miniature golf championship.

#### **2014:**

- Won a record fourth Brunswick Ballmaster Open for 13th career title by defeating Dom Barrett 188-172 in title match.
- Finished fourth in Kingdom of Bahrain International Open.
- Finished sixth in Emir Open.

#### **2012-13:**

- Won Round1 Japan Cup for 11th career Tour title with 268-164 win over Japan's Yoshihiro Kaji, 268-164. It was his second Japan Cup title having won his first in 2007-08.

- Won Qatar Open for 10th Tour title, making it the 19th country where he has earned a bowling title.
- Finished second to Sean Rash in WBT Thailand losing 235-225 and 245-228 in the final round.
- Finished second in Viper Championship, losing to Brad Angelo in title match 233-232.
- Finished second in Kuwait Open losing to winner Sean Rash 235-201 in title match.
- Finished second in Bayer Advanced Aspirin men's World Bowling Tour Final conducted during GEICO PBA World Series of Bowling.
- Lost to Chris Barnes in championship match 244-228 to end bid to defend 2011 title.
- Finished fifth in USBC Masters losing to Parker Bohn III in opening televised match 278-246.
- Won 12th Tour title in and third of the season in Columbia 300 Vienna Open, defeating fellow Finn Pasi Uotila 258-237 in the championship match.

### **Career:**

- Owns 13 career PBA Tour titles including the 2000 USBC Masters, 2001 U.S. Open and 2011 Tournament of Champions.
- Won his first title in his first career TV finals appearance (2000 Masters).
- The only foreign-born player to win both the Masters and U.S. Open.
- Rolled the 17th perfect game on television in PBA history against Jason Couch in the 2003 Cambridge Credit Classic.
- Made seven TV finals and won two titles en route to 2003-04 PBA Player of the Year honours.
- Only European player to win the Japan Cup (2007).
- Finished the 2010-11 season with \$1,560,813 in career PBA earnings.
- Had career season in 2010-11 winning Tournament of Champions for ninth Tour title and third major, topping 2010-11 season earnings with \$330,040 to become only the fourth player to earn more than \$300,000 in a season.
- Earned second Player of the Year honor in 2010-11.
- T o C win ended two-season drought without a title. - The only player to earn television appearance in all four majors.
- Was part of historic T o C semi-final match where he beat Tom Daugherty 299-100 for largest margin of victory in a TV match.
- Finished disappointing second to Norm Duke in 2011 U.S. Open after missing 10-pin in 10th frame of championship match.
- Won inaugural World Bowling Tour Finals conducted at 2011 PBA World Series of Bowling by defeating Sean Rash in championship match 237-224.
- Owns 5 PBA Regional Titles.
- 4 WBT wins to-date. Currently ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the world.

### **Career Standard Titles (10):**

2003-04 - Windsor Locks, Conn., Reno, Nev.  
 2004-05 - Mesa, Ariz.; Indianapolis, Ind., 2006-07 - El Paso, Texas 2007-08 – Tokyo (Japan Cup)  
 2012-13 - Qatar, Tokyo (Japan Cup), Vienna, Austria  
 2014 - Helsinki, Finland

### **Career Major Titles (3):**

2000 USBC Masters, Albuquerque, N.M.  
 2001 U.S. Open, Fountain Valley, Calif.  
 2011 Tournament of Champions, Las Vegas.

### **Awards:**

2003-04 and 2010-11 Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year and George Young High Average Award.  
 Ranked 49th on list of 50 Greatest Players in PBA History in 2009.  
 2011 George Young High Average Award.  
 Elected to World Bowling Writers Hall of Fame for 2010.