

# Bowling team looks for some recognition

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by sports editor

The North High bowling team participated in the Bellevue Invite on December 1st and 2nd. It is really to bad that the school couldn't pay for them to compete.

The NSAA (Nebraska Schools Activities Association) sanctions all sports that are in the state of Nebraska. For many reasons bowling is not sanctioned as a sport in this state.

What comes in being a sanctioned sport you might ask? What comes in that is competition is paid for by the school. Most tournaments cost teams 75 dollars to enter.

This means that every person on the team has to pay 125 dollars at the beginning of the year to pay for tournaments for the year.

The bowlers feel that this should be changed and they should be recognized as a sport.

"I'm not really sure why people don't recognize us as a sport," senior bowler Jessica Hedges said.

"I understand that it isn't the most athletic of sports and it is a club sport but I think we should be considered a sport because we have tournaments and awards."

Also the teams feel that bowling should be taking more seriously by the school.

"I think that our team is and has worked very hard this year and that it needs to be more recognized," sophomore bowler Angela Misfeldt said.

"It's not just a club it's a sport and people should take it as that."

One reason it cannot be sanctioned is the mixed feelings of the bowling associations in Nebraska.

Two associations that effect the decision on the high school bowling are the Federation Association and the Coaches Association.

North High School and many other metro schools, bowl under the Coaches Association.

The Coaches Association allow teams to have one varsity and as many junior varsity teams as they want but participants do not letter.

The Federation Association is what most Lincoln schools are under.

This allows just one varsity team and one junior varsity team and all participants letter.

Another reason is there would be so much lost.

"If it becomes sanctioned the opportunities would be lost," Omaha North High Athletic Director Dan Bartels said.

By that he means, instead of having students just join there would have to be a select number of participants.

In spite of the fact that it is not a sport North High has rostered both girls' and boys' that compete in tournaments all across the metro.

These teams are coached by Dana Ryley with the boys' team getting some help from Dave Nelson and Mark Petrini.

The girls' varsity includes senior captain Nicole Ryley, senior Jessica Hedges, junior Kim Forrest, and sophomore Angela Misfeldt.

Senior Aaron Braden, sophomore Craig North, sophomore Luke Petrini, and sophomore Jason Hansen round out the boys' varsity.

Other schools around the metro have found it hard to roster a bowling team.

Students from these other schools that have no team to compete for find there bowling home at North High.

Mercy High senior Christina Baumister, and Westside senior Savannah Harpster compete with the Omaha North girls.

Roncalli Junior Mike Mazur bowls with boys' varsity team.

Both teams bowled well the first day of the Bellevue Invite but slipped on Sunday.

The girls placed fourth out of six teams at the tournament.

"As a team I think that we could have done better," junior bowler

Kim Forrest said," It was kind of like we just gave up on the step ladders and no one picked anything up."

Step ladders

are the four top teams bowl against each other.

**"It's not just a club it is a sport and people should take it as that."**

The fourth place team bowls the third and the winner bowls the second place team in order to bowl the first place team.

The boys bowled well the first day placing fourth but dropped to ninth on Sunday.

They finished ninth out of ten teams.

Many boys' teams from the state bowled on Saturday but did not come back on Sunday making them disqualified to place.

Both teams want to come together and push for some recognition from anybody they can get it from.



*Sophomore Luke Petrini follows through as he lets go of the ball during practice at Kelley's North Bowl.*