Review Summaries and Statistics for 113 Bowling Balls

Updated ‘Real World’ Ratings for Every Ball
UNDERSTANDING THE BALL GUIDE RATINGS

BJI BALL REVIEWER Vernon Peterson provides hook, length and breakpoint ratings for each ball reviewed throughout the year. All of that data for balls released during 2014 can be found in BJI’s 31st annual Ball Guide. Here is an explanation of numeric ratings:

HOOK RATINGS
35-45: Balls with lower total hook ranges, best suited for lighter oil concentrations. Players with slower speeds or higher rev rates may also prefer balls in this range for medium oil applications.
45-51: Balls with medium hook ability, best suited for the vast majority of “typical house shots” and some lower-volume Sport patterns. This hook range should be represented by the “centerpiece” ball in most arsenals.
51-60+: Balls with greater total hook, designed for heavier oil volumes. Players with higher speeds or lower rev rates, who need added lane traction, may also prefer balls in this range.

LENGTH RATINGS
8-12: Earlier rolling balls that read the lane sooner. These products generally come factory-sanded with lower grit surfaces, and match up well for speed-dominant styles and those bowling on longer oil patterns.
12-15: Medium-length balls that produce easier length through the midlane. Good for most house shots and medium-volume Sport patterns.
15-19+: Balls offering extra length for those bowling on lighter oil concentrations. Also beneficial for slower speed players, or those with higher rev rates needing added push downlane.

BREAKPOINT RATINGS
10-13: Slower-response balls that read the friction areas more gradually. This range may include balls with a urethane or mild reactive cover, designed for a smooth arc to the pocket. Also can help those with higher rev rates control motion and match up well from outside angles of attack.
13-15: Balls rated for slightly stronger and quicker reactions when encountering friction areas (as when the ball leaves the oil pattern). This range offers a balance of control and back-end angularity.
15-18+: Balls that respond more quickly and aggressively to friction areas. This range can help those with less hand action create more angularity near the pocket. Also preferred when playing deeper inside angles, which generally require more entry angle for above-average pin carry.

ABOUT THE BJI 31ST ANNUAL BOWLING BALL GUIDE

FOR THREE DECADES, Bowlers Journal International has been reviewing bowling balls, helping readers select the equipment that best matches their game and the lane conditions they normally encounter.

On the pages that follow, you’ll find summaries of all balls reviewed by “No Holes Barred” columnist and reviewer Vernon Peterson during 2014. Included is a short “snapshot” of each review. However, we highly recommend reading the full reviews in order to gain a clearer understanding of the balls, their capabilities and their recommended uses. To that end, each capsule review includes the month of the original review.

At the end of this section, you’ll find contact information for bowling ball manufacturers. Company websites may provide additional useful information.
**HAMMER**

**JULY 2014**

**ABSOLUT FLIP**  
49 Hook • 16 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: H200 Pearl  
BOX FINISH: 500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished  
RG: 2.48 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .048  
**REVIEW:** Stronger version of the Absolut Hook; motion and angle similar to the Spike Pearl’s.

**900 GLOBAL**

**AUGUST 2014**

**ALL DAY**  
53 Hook • 15 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: S64 Solid Reactive  
BOX FINISH: 2000, Polished  
RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .046  
**REVIEW:** A strong benchmark ball providing strong mid-lane reaction while remaining smooth on the backend.

**900 GLOBAL**

**AUGUST 2014**

**ALL NIGHT**  
49 Hook • 18 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: S64 Pearl Reactive  
BOX FINISH: 2000, Polished  
RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .046  
**REVIEW:** Likes friction; excels on medium to dry conditions; provides length and a strong backend.

**MOTIV**

**JULY 2014**

**ASCENT APEX**  
47 Hook • 18 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: Fusion XL Pearl Reactive  
BOX FINISH: 1500  
RG: 2.59 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .025  
**REVIEW:** Works from multiple angles; a good choice when heads are hooking or there’s a lot of friction.

**ROTO GRIP**

**FEBRUARY 2014**

**ASYLUM**  
53 Hook • 14 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: 63 MH Hybrid  
BOX FINISH: 3000  
RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .043  
**REVIEW:** Best on medium-heavy oil, and effective from multiple angles on an array of patterns.

**HAMMER**

**OCTOBER 2014**

**BAD ASS**  
55 Hook • 15 Length • 16.5 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: Juiced Reactive  
BOX FINISH: 500, 2000 Abralon, Polished  
RG: 2.48 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .048  
**REVIEW:** Shows cleaner motion through the heads than the Black Widow, with 2-3 boards more reaction.

**LANE MASTERS**

**JANUARY 2014**

**BIG BANG-SE**  
49 Hook • 15.5 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: Precision P3 Particle  
BOX FINISH: 1000 Abralon Polished  
RG: 2.52 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .043  
**REVIEW:** Best looks on light-medium and medium oil volumes with reasonably clean backends.

**HAMMER**

**MARCH 2014**

**BLACK WIDOW ASSASSIN**  
54 Hook • 16 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: First Blood NBT Hybrid  
BOX FINISH: 500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon  
RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .058  
**REVIEW:** Super clean through the fronts, with slightly smoother motion than original Black Widow.

**HAMMER**

**AUGUST 2014**

**BLACK WIDOW LEGEND**  
56 Hook • 15.5 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: NBT Hybrid Reactive  
BOX FINISH: 500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished  
RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .058  
**REVIEW:** Enables all types of bowlers to match up on most medium to oily lane patterns.

**BRUNSWICK**

**JUNE 2014**

**BLUE RINGER**  
52 Hook • 15 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: CPT Controlled Reactive Solid  
BOX FINISH: 500, 2000 Siaair  
RG: 2.534 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .038  
**REVIEW:** Reminiscent of the Blue Rhino, this is a great choice for a No. 1 ball on a fresh condition.

**COLUMBIA 300**

**JUNE 2014**

**BLUR HYBRID**  
46 Hook • 16 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: Full Tilt 5.0 Hybrid  
BOX FINISH: 800, 1000, 2000, 4000, Polished  
RG: 2.52 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .045  
**REVIEW:** A good choice for slower ball speeds, or high-rev players when the fronts start to burn up.

**COLUMBIA 300**

**JULY 2014**

**BLUR PEARL**  
47 Hook • 17 Length • 17 Breakpoint Shape  
COVER: Full Tilt 5.0 Pearl  
BOX FINISH: 800, 1000, 2000, 4000, Polished  
RG: 2.52 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .045  
**REVIEW:** Great choice for the money for bowlers needing easy length with a strong down-lane flip.
**COLUMBIA 300**

**JULY 2014**

**BLUR SOLID**
44 Hook • 14 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** Full Tilt 5.0 Solid
**BOX FINISH:** 800, 1000, 2000, 4000, Polished
**RG:** 2.52 • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .045

**REVIEW:** Provides smoothest reaction among the Blur balls, with about two boards less hook than the Hybrid.

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**LANE #1**

**MARCH 2014**

**CRANK/R**
52 Hook • 15 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** Shined Hybrid Composite
**BOX FINISH:** Neat (4000 equivalent)
**RG:** 2.493 min/2.546 max • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .053

**REVIEW:** Offers predictable, controlled motion; needs friction to make its move to the pocket.

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**900 GLOBAL**

**AUGUST 2014**

**BOOST HYBRID**
44 Hook • 18 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** S43 Hybrid Reactive
**BOX FINISH:** Polished
**RG:** 2.54 • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .043

**REVIEW:** A sharp-looking ball that provides a good amount of hook for a reasonable price.

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**STORM**

**DECEMBER 2014**

**CRUX**
58.5 Hook • 13 Length • 13.5 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** ERG Hybrid Reactive
**BOX FINISH:** 3000
**RG:** 2.50 • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .052

**REVIEW:** Reads the midlane stronger than any recent Storm ball; provides forgiveness with good carry.

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**BRUNSWICK**

**OCTOBER 2014**

**BRUTE**
50 Hook • 17 Length • 16.5 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** Fortify Hybrid Reactive
**BOX FINISH:** 500 Siaair, Polished
**RG:** 2.491 • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .032

**REVIEW:** Great No. 2 ball when one needs to get through the fronts with a strong drive off the breakpoint.

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**HAMMER**

**NOVEMBER 2014**

**BURGUNDY HAMMER**
54 Hook • 16 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** Reacta-Thane
**BOX FINISH:** 500, 500 Abralon
**RG:** 2.57 • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .032

**REVIEW:** Looks like urethane but performs like a reactive ball; provides smooth roll throughout its motion.

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**AMF**

**SEPTEMBER 2014**

**DECIMATE**
53 Hook • 14 Length • 13 Breakpoint Shape

**COVER:** F75 Hybrid
**BOX FINISH:** Neat-T (4000 equivalent)
**RG:** 2.55 • **RG DIFFERENTIAL:** .055

**REVIEW:** The hookingest ball ever from AMF; provides good reaction for those needing a little help.
### 31ST ANNUAL BALL GUIDE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Ball Name</th>
<th>Hook</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Breakpoint Shape</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEISMIC</strong></td>
<td><strong>APRIL 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>DESPERADO TSE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NOVEMBER 2014</strong></td>
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<td><strong>COLUMBIA 300</strong></td>
<td><strong>MARCH 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>DISORDER</strong></td>
<td>55</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COLUMBIA 300</strong></td>
<td><strong>OCTOBER 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>ERUPTION PRO HYBRID</strong></td>
<td>46</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DV8</strong></td>
<td><strong>FEBRUARY 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>DIVA PEARL</strong></td>
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<td><strong>900 GLOBAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>AUGUST 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>DREAM</strong></td>
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<td><strong>DECEMBER 2014</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NOVEMBER 2014</strong></td>
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<td>16.5</td>
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<td><strong>JET</strong></td>
<td><strong>JUNE 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>FIGHTER</strong></td>
<td>46</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td><strong>BRUNSWICK</strong></td>
<td><strong>JULY 2014</strong></td>
<td><strong>FORTEIRA EXILE</strong></td>
<td>52</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVER:**
- TSE Reactive
- Intensus JR2
- Bend-It Hybrid
- Class 5F Reactive
- XL4500 Hybrid
- Fortify Pearl

**BOX FINISH:**
- Polished
- 500, 2000 Abralon
- 500 Siaair Polished
- 500, 500, 500 Abralon, 1500 Abranet, Polished
- 4000 Abralon
- 500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished
- 500, 500, 500 Abralon, Polished
- 500 Siaair, Polished
- 500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished
- 500 Siaair, Polished

**RG:**
- 2.58
- 2.50
- 2.46
- 2.56
- 2.55

**RG DIFFERENTIAL:**
- 0.030
- 0.052
- 0.040
- 0.054
- 0.050
- 0.036

**REVIEW:**
- Use when playing more direct angles to the pocket for a smooth and soft back-end reaction.
- A strong asymmetric ball that needs oil; great for those needing extra help on longer patterns.
- Easy to get lined up on multiple patterns with great control; benchmark ball for adjustments.
- Works well on lighter house patterns; can move deep inside on broken-down patterns.
- Provides a lot of hook, reads the midlane well, and keeps trucking through the pins.
- Maintains strong motion through the pins; provides more mid-lane roll than original Source.
**FORTERA INTRIGUE**
*December 2014*

- **Hook:** 51
- **Length:** 18.5
- **Breakpoint:** 14

**Cover:** Fortify Hybrid
**Box Finish:** 500 Siaair, Polished
**RG:** 2.512
**RG Differential:** 0.050

**Review:** A versatile ball, especially for those needing help getting to the breakpoint on hooking lanes.

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**FORZA**
*December 2014*

- **Hook:** 52
- **Length:** 14
- **Breakpoint:** 13

**Cover:** Helix Solid Reactive
**Box Finish:** 3000 LSS
**RG:** 2.50
**RG Differential:** 0.051

**Review:** A benchmark ball for reading patterns; provides smooth, strong mid-lane reaction.

---

**GAME BREAKER 2**
*September 2014*

- **Hook:** 55
- **Length:** 15
- **Breakpoint:** 15

**Cover:** GB 10.7
**Box Finish:** 500, 2000 Abralon
**RG:** 2.48
**RG Differential:** 0.048

**Review:** Leaves no doubt about recovery on friction to the right; strong hitting power from several angles.

---

**GET SOME**
*February 2014*

- **Hook:** 53
- **Length:** 15
- **Breakpoint:** 14

**Cover:** “Aeration Technology” Verdict
**Box Finish:** 4000 Abralon
**RG:** 2.49
**RG Differential:** 0.051

**Review:** Provides surprisingly strong motion off the breakpoint in a very controlled manner.

---

**GREASE MONKEY**
*February 2014*

- **Hook:** 50
- **Length:** 16
- **Breakpoint:** 16

**Cover:** Hybrid
**Box Finish:** 500 Siaair, Polished
**RG:** 2.54
**RG Differential:** 0.048

**Review:** A versatile ball on other than heavier/longer patterns; effective for all styles of bowlers.

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**GREASE MONKEY POW**
*August 2014*

- **Hook:** 53
- **Length:** 14
- **Breakpoint:** 14

**Cover:** Solid Reactive
**Box Finish:** 500 Siaair, Polished
**RG:** 2.52
**RG Differential:** 0.048

**Review:** Provides lots of hook on heavier or longer oil patterns, and at a reasonable price.

---

**GURU**
*November 2014*

- **Hook:** 61
- **Length:** 13
- **Breakpoint:** 13

**Cover:** Solid Reactive
**Box Finish:** 500, 1500 Siaair
**RG:** 2.49
**RG Differential:** 0.044

**Review:** Provides more hook than any ball reviewed to date; ideal for longer, heavier patterns.

---

**HONOR**
*September 2014*

- **Hook:** 53
- **Length:** 14
- **Breakpoint:** 14

**Cover:** RCH Hybrid Reactive
**Box Finish:** 500, 500, 500, 1000, Polished
**RG:** 2.48
**RG Differential:** 0.049

**Review:** Especially good for higher rev players, it controls the backend and adjusts well during transitions.

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**HOOLIGAN**
*November 2014*

- **Hook:** 52
- **Length:** 17
- **Breakpoint:** 17

**Cover:** 3F Reactive Pearl
**Box Finish:** 500 Siaair, Polished
**RG:** 2.55
**RG Differential:** 0.040

**Review:** Clean through the fronts on drier lane conditions, with strong flip off the breakpoint.

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**HX 05**
*March 2014*

- **Hook:** 47
- **Length:** 16
- **Breakpoint:** 15

**Cover:** DR-4 Pearl
**Box Finish:** 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished
**RG:** 2.49
**RG Differential:** 0.038

**Review:** Best for high-rev players on medium lane conditions and during lane transition.

---

**HX 10**
*August 2014*

- **Hook:** 50
- **Length:** 15
- **Breakpoint:** 14

**Cover:** DR-6 Hybrid
**Box Finish:** 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished
**RG:** 2.50
**RG Differential:** 0.049

**Review:** Designed for high-rev players, it reads the midlane well and stays strong through the pins.

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**HYPER CELL**
*February 2014*

- **Hook:** 58
- **Length:** 14
- **Breakpoint:** 15

**Cover:** 80H Microbite Solid Reactive
**Box Finish:** 2000 Abralon
**RG:** 2.52
**RG Differential:** 0.056

**Review:** Think the original Cell on steroids. Gives rev-challenged bowlers hook on oily conditions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Hook</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Breakpoint Shape</th>
<th>Cover</th>
<th>Box Finish</th>
<th>RG</th>
<th>RG Differential</th>
<th>Review</th>
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<tr>
<td>Storm</td>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>HY-Road Solid</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>R2S Solid Reactive</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2.57 + 0.046</td>
<td>An excellent benchmark ball, and one of the most hooking balls at its price point.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm</td>
<td>January 2015</td>
<td>IQ Tour Fusion</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>R2S Hybrid Reactive</td>
<td>1500 Polished</td>
<td>2.49 + 0.029</td>
<td>Designed for medium to heavy patterns; cuts through heavier oil for a strong move.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>February 2014</td>
<td>Mastermind Genius</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Honor Roll Hybrid</td>
<td>500 Siaair, Polished</td>
<td>2.54 + 0.052</td>
<td>More power on typical house patterns, with no need to move out of one's comfort zone.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>February 2014</td>
<td>Mastermind Intellect</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Honor Roll A+ Solid Reactive</td>
<td>500 Siaair, Polished</td>
<td>2.488 + 0.052</td>
<td>Fits between the original Intellect and the Genius; provides a smooth back-end reaction.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>July 2014</td>
<td>Melee Cross</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Savvy Hook Solid</td>
<td>500, 2000 Siaair</td>
<td>2.48 + 0.050</td>
<td>Much stronger version of the Melee, with more predictable motion on fresh oil conditions.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>December 2014</td>
<td>Melee Jab</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>Savvy Hook Pearl</td>
<td>500, 2000 Siaair</td>
<td>2.487 + 0.050</td>
<td>One of the most angular balls from Brunswick; for slower ball speeds needing back-end kick.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Columbia 300</td>
<td>December 2014</td>
<td>Melt Down</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Bring-It Max Solid Reactive</td>
<td>500, 2000 Abralon</td>
<td>2.51 + 0.053</td>
<td>A great choice for a fresh condition, or for bowlers needing a little extra help with hook.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.bowlersjournal.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Hook</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Breakpoint Shape</th>
<th>Cover</th>
<th>Box Finish</th>
<th>RG</th>
<th>RG Differential</th>
<th>Review</th>
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<tr>
<td>DV8</td>
<td>Misfit Orange</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Class 1C Reactive</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished RG 2.57</td>
<td>.032</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>Smoother reacting ball in Misfit line with friction downlane; opens up house patterns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DV8</td>
<td>N’Sane Antics</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>AR300 Solid</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 500, 1000, 2000, 4000 Abralon, Polished RG 2.50</td>
<td>.042</td>
<td>2.480</td>
<td>Forgiving ball, especially for lower rev rate players that need a little help to open up a lane.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900 Global</td>
<td>Moxie</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>78 Dig Hybrid Reactive</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 4000 RG 2.49</td>
<td>.052</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>Helpful for higher speed players without a lot of revs; opens up the lane on heavier oil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900 Global</td>
<td>Network</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>XPT74 Pearl</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 4000 Neat RG 2.49</td>
<td>.051</td>
<td>2.503</td>
<td>Strong mid-lane roll with pop off the spot; versatile from many angles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMF</td>
<td>NightHawk SE</td>
<td>51.5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>F55 Hybrid Reactive</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 4000 Neat RG 2.53</td>
<td>.046</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>For all bowlers, from those needing some hook to high-rev players who need smooth motion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLEND10</td>
<td>NST</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>B10A16 Pearl</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 1500 RG 2.480</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>2.480</td>
<td>Provides a clean push through the front part of the lane with a strong motion in the backend.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOTIV</td>
<td>Octane</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Agility SFX</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 5000 LSP (Laser Scan Polished) RG 2.55</td>
<td>.043</td>
<td>2.55</td>
<td>Produces strongest back-end reaction to date from Motiv; great for bowlers needing back-end help.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STORM</td>
<td>Optimus</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>R2X Pearl Reactive</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 1500 RG 2.67</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>Great for an arsenal in need of a strong pearl ball; more back-end kick than the Zero Gravity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLEND10</td>
<td>OSW</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>B10A6 Solid</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 1500 RG 2.503</td>
<td>.035</td>
<td>2.503</td>
<td>Provides true “old school” motion, but with harder drive through the pins than you’d expect.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DV8</td>
<td>Outcast</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Class 1 Reactive</td>
<td>BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished RG 2.54</td>
<td>.030</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>Great for new bowlers seeking hook and value; performed well on all three test patterns.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EBONITE

**Roto Grip**

**Outcry**
49 Hook • 15.5 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: 53M Hybrid Reactive
- BOX FINISH: 4000
- RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .030

**Review:** Versatile enough to work on many patterns; a good choice for a bowler’s benchmark ball.

**Storm**

**Pitch Black**
43 Hook • 11 Length • 12 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Black Control Solid Urethane
- BOX FINISH: 1000
- RG: 2.57 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .022

**Review:** Hitting power similar to old-school urethanes, but with a little more kick through the pins.

**Ebonite**

**Pivot Point**
52 Hook • 16 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: RCP Max Reaction Control Pearl
- BOX FINISH: 500, 1500 Abralon, Polished
- RG: 2.48 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .049

**Review:** Works well for many player types, but needs some friction to make its move on the lane.

**Jet**

**Propulsion Hybrid**
47 Hook • 16 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: VersaMAXX-9 HD Hybrid
- BOX FINISH: 1500
- RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .055

**Review:** Provides a smooth reaction off the midlane with a predictable back-end reaction.

**Storm**

**Punch Out**
50 Hook • 17 Length • 17 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: R2S Reactive Pearl
- BOX FINISH: 1500, Polished
- RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .038

**Review:** Good choice for slower ball speed bowlers, providing more back-end kick than the Lights Out.

**Seismic**

**Raging Bull TSE**
47 Hook • 17 Length • 13 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: TSE Solid Reactive
- BOX FINISH: Polished
- RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .054

**Review:** The “middle” ball of Seismic’s TSE line: hooks less than the Solaris but more than the Desperado.

**Ebonite**

**Salute**
52 Hook • 16 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Big Time Hybrid
- BOX FINISH: 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished
- RG: 2.50 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .056

**Review:** Should fit a lot of different bowler styles; clean motion through the fronts with a strong midlane.

**Radical**

**Reax 2 Pearl**
53 Hook • 16 Length • 17 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Pearl
- BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished
- RG: 2.508 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .048

**Review:** Stronger in the midlane than the Grease Monkey, providing predictable motion downlane.

**Radical**

**Reax Gusto**
53.5 Hook • 16.5 Length • 17.5 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Pearl
- BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished
- RG: 2.536 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .038

**Review:** Provides the most aggressive motion off the breakpoint in the Radical line to date.

**DV8**

**Ruckus Feud**
60 Hook • 13 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Class 12 Solid Reactive
- BOX FINISH: 500, 1500 Siaair
- RG: 2.59 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .052

**Review:** Reads midlane strongly and allows one to open up a longer, high-volume pattern.

**DV8**

**Ruckus Schizo**
54 Hook • 16 Length • 17 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Class 12F Pearl Reactive
- BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished
- RG: 2.54 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .052

**Review:** Most aggressive ball seen from DV8; stands out with its big hook and strong back-end reaction.

**DV8**

**Rude Dude**
53 Hook • 14 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

- COVER: Class 70 Reactive
- BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished
- RG: 2.557 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .040

**Review:** Makes a strong arcing move off the breakpoint; provides welcome help on medium to oily patterns.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Hook</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Breakpoint Shape</th>
<th>Cover Type</th>
<th>Box Finish</th>
<th>RG</th>
<th>RG Diff.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VISIONARY</td>
<td>MARCH 2014</td>
<td>SAMURAI</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>React-a-Tack Pearl</td>
<td>1500, Polished</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>0.050</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Provides clean motion through the fronts, with a strong and heavy roll for a pearl ball.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RADICAL</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 2014</td>
<td>SCORE</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>Reactive</td>
<td>500 Siaair, Polished</td>
<td>2.492</td>
<td>0.054</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Reads the pattern with predictable motion; provides a good picture of how a pattern is playing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROTO GRIP</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2014</td>
<td>SCREAM</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>42L Pearl Reactive</td>
<td>1500, Polished</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>0.022</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Provides 2-3 boards more hook than the Shout, with more length and more angle off the breakpoint.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROTO GRIP</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2014</td>
<td>SHOUT</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>45L Solid Reactive</td>
<td>500 Siaair, Polished</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>0.053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> A good choice for bowlers with slower ball speeds or needing predictable back-end motion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROTO GRIP</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2014</td>
<td>SINISTER</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>76H Hybrid Reactive</td>
<td>1500, Polished</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>0.054</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Might be the most hooking ball we’ve seen from Roto Grip; stand left and throw right.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEISMIC</td>
<td>APRIL 2014</td>
<td>SOLARIS TSE</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>TSE Solid Reactive</td>
<td>Polished</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td>0.048</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Of the TSE balls reviewed, this is the one to pick when needing to open up the lane.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAMMER</td>
<td>JUNE 2014</td>
<td>SPIKE PEARL</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>GTR III Pearl</td>
<td>500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>0.054</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Cleaner than the original Spike, with more kick in the backend for a nice pop through the pins.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLUMBIA 300</td>
<td>JANUARY 2014</td>
<td>TAKEDOWN</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>Bring-It Pearl Reactive</td>
<td>500, 3000 Abralon</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>0.053</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Good looks on a variety of shots; cleaner through front/midlane than Smack Down.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LORD FIELD</td>
<td>MAY 2014</td>
<td>TALENT</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>Proton Reactive</td>
<td>2000, Polished</td>
<td>2.515</td>
<td>0.044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Quite versatile, it’s smooth through the burn without overreacting when it hits its breakpoint.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLUMBIA 300</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2014</td>
<td>THROW DOWN</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>Bring-It Solid Reactive</td>
<td>500, 500, 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished</td>
<td>2.51</td>
<td>0.053</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> Higher rev and higher speed players will love this ball when lanes are hooking or broken down.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DV8</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 2014</td>
<td>THUG</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16.5 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>Class 13F Reactive Hybrid</td>
<td>500 Siaair, Polished</td>
<td>2.505</td>
<td>0.052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> A ball with a lot of hook that saves energy down the lane and really pushes the pins around.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMF</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2014</td>
<td>TORCH</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16 Breakpoint Shape</td>
<td>F69 Pearl Reactive</td>
<td>Polished</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>0.038</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>REVIEW:</strong> A ball with an asymmetrical core at a mid-level price is rare, and this is a good one.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Cover:** The cover material and finish of the bowling ball determine its weight and balance, affecting grip and motion on the lane.

**Box Finish:** The box finish refers to the surface smoothness which can affect ball reaction on the lane.

**RG (Rake-up Guide):** The Rake-up Guide is a measurement of how much a ball reacts to the lane conditions when rolled.

**RG Differential:** The RG Differential is the difference between the front and back weights of the ball, affecting its reaction and hook potential.

**REVIEW:** A descriptive analysis of the ball’s performance and suitability for different bowling styles and conditions.
31ST ANNUAL BALL GUIDE

TOUR SIC
53 Hook • 15 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: MR-6 Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 500, 3000 Abralon
RG: 2.59 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .032
REVIEW: A versatile ball for various medium lane conditions played from different angles.

TOUR X
46 Hook • 17 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: Luxury DR-4 Pearl
BOX FINISH: 500, 800, 1000, 2000 Abralon, Polished
RG: 2.58 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .055
REVIEW: Smooth through the fronts for slow- and high-speed bowlers, and strong off the spot.

TRAITOR
47 Hook • 15.5 Length • 16.5 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: E85M Reactive
BOX FINISH: 2000 Abralon
RG: 2.51 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .036
REVIEW: Best on blended patterns with moderate oil inside and moderate friction outside.

TRIBAL FIRE
52 Hook • 17 Length • 17 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: Fusion Hybrid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 5000-Grit Laser Scan Polished
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .037
REVIEW: Will fit into most bowlers’ bags, providing strong but predictable drive through the pins.

TROPICAL BREEZE PEARL
42 Hook • 17 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: Pearl
BOX FINISH: 1500, Polished
RG: 2.57 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .009
REVIEW: Great choice for getting down the lane easily on a short pattern, or when there’s a lot of friction.

TYPHOON
57 Hook • 12 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: F5 Hybrid
BOX FINISH: neat
RG: 2.467 min/2.516 max
REVIEW: Out-hooks the CrankR; works especially well on fresh medium and longer patterns.

VENATOR PEARL
53 Hook • 16.5 Length • 17 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: SF-8/8 Pearl
BOX FINISH: 4000
RG: 2.48 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .054
REVIEW: Most explosive ball from Seismic to date; provides lots of hook and bang for the buck.

VENOM SHOCK
51 Hook • 17 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: Purple Turmoil MFS Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000
RG: 2.48 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .034
REVIEW: An unusually strong ball for its price point, but not too strong for its core; versatile.

VIRAL
56 Hook • 18 Length • 16.5 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: Violent Flip Reactive
BOX FINISH: 500, 1000 Abralon, Polished
RG: 2.51 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .042
REVIEW: Provides the greatest length and most angular motion of any Hammer ball seen to date.

WIPE OUT
52 Hook • 16 Length • 15 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: R2S Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 3000 Abralon
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .038
REVIEW: A ball for bowlers who are looking for hook, but don’t want to pay a top-shelf price.

Xcite
43 Hook • 18 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape
COVER: F43 Pearl
BOX FINISH: Polished
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .046
REVIEW: A go-to ball for tournament bowlers when the lanes are broken down; strong hitting power.

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January 2015 | Bowlers Journal International

STORM
JUNE 2014

UPROAR
FEBRUARY 2014
REVIEW: Great to use in the burn; has no problem turning the corner when it sees a friction spot.

46 Hook • 16 Length • 15.5 Breakpoint Shape

1000 Abralon, Polished
RG: .046 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .012

COVER: Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: .292 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .046

YETI UNLEASHED
56 Hook • 11 Length • 13 Breakpoint Shape

AMF 300
1303 Hilling Road
San Antonio, TX 78214
p. 800-424-2695
amt500.com
info@amt500.com

2.520 • 2.56 • 2.59 • 2.63

BOWLERS PARADISE
175 Commerce Circle, Ste. A
Sacramento, CA 95815
p. 888-969-2695
f. 916-921-8352
BowlersParadise.com
support@bowlerscare.com

COVER: E50M Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: .292 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .046

Yeti Uncaged
54 Hook • 17 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: Pearl
BOX FINISH: 500 Siaair, Polished
RG: 2.482 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: 0.054

REVIEW: Pushes cleanly through the fronts and finishes stronger than any Radical ball seen to date.

XTREME DAMAGE PLATINUM
46 Hook • 17 Length • 16 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: Flex Molecular Pearl
BOX FINISH: 1000 Abralon, Polished
RG: 2.56 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .051

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and provides most hook of any Yeti ball; ideal for those desiring strong early/midlane reaction.

STORM
58 Hook • 14 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: ERG Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .037

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.

BRUNSWICK BOWLING PRODUCTS
525 W. Laketon Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49441
p. 231-725-4966
800-YES-BOWL
bowlwithbrunswick.com
inquiries@brunswick.com

COLUMBIA 300
P.O. Box 746
Hopkinsville, KY 42241
p. 270-881-1200
800-626-8350
f. 270-881-1201
columbia300.com
bkelly@ebibowling.com

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.

58 Hook • 14 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: ERG Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .037

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.

DVB BOWLING
525 W. Laketon Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49441
p. 231-725-4966
damngoodbowling.com
info@dvbbowling.com

JANUARY 2014

LANE MASTERS
MARCH 2014

Z
46 Hook • 16 Length • 15.5 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: E50M Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: .292 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .046

REVIEW: Solid backend reaction for rev-challenged players or those with slower ball speeds.

ZERO GRAVITY
February 2014

58 Hook • 14 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: ERG Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .037

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.

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f. 270-881-1201
columbia300.com
bkelly@ebibowling.com

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.

STORM
58 Hook • 14 Length • 14 Breakpoint Shape

COVER: ERG Solid Reactive
BOX FINISH: 4000 Abralon
RG: 2.55 • RG DIFFERENTIAL: .037

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.

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f. 270-881-1201
columbia300.com
bkelly@ebibowling.com

REVIEW: A little smoother than the Virtual Gravity, and more forgiving on heavier oil patterns.