

Linda (Kelly) Fitzgerald

Meritorious Service



Linda (Kelly) Fitzgerald was born in Baltimore on July 29th, 1951, to Jack and Ann Fitzgerald. She has two children, Amy and Mike, brother John and sister Lisa who were also bowlers. She has been blessed with four grandchildren Sierra, Destiny, Joshua and Addyson.

Kelly's love of sports began in the late 60's. She lettered in Volleyball and Lacrosse. She also participated in Rec Council softball and played until she was able to join her daughter Amy on the same adult team, as well as soccer and retired at the age of 40.

While committed to athletics Kelly was by no means limited to participating in only sports but also marched in the Dundalk Cadets Drum and Bugle Corp which was a military group that marched in many tournaments and parades. She also sang with the junior choir and auditioned and selected to join the school choir and the Advanced Girl's Glee Club. The involvement in choir culminated in a performance at the Lyric Theater where Kelly's high school (Patapsco) joined Pikesville's choir and had the opportunity to sing on stage with Beverly Sills. Kelly was involved in Junior Achievement which was a program to educate high school students to design, develop and implement a product-based business model. She was also a member of the GAA (Girl's Athletic Association).

Kelly's involvement with the sport that would eventually lead her to bowling was the opening of the Colt Lanes in Dundalk in the 60's where she joined the youth program. She participated in the youth tournaments during those years. She also dabbled in duck pins with her mom at Pinland Bowl. It would be on the ten-pin lanes where Kelly would truly excel, prompting her to commit her time and energy to promoting and supporting the sport of bowling.

Kelly was elected to the Maryland State USBC Association board in 2010. A position she still holds today. Kelly was the Tournament Directors for the Women's Championship 2 times and served as an assistant another time. She continued to volunteer to help to other MDUSBC Tournaments. Kelly served as the State Delegate to the National Convention in 2012.

Kelly volunteered for the Baltimore Women's Bowling Association Board (BWBA) for a few years and was appointed to the Baltimore Women's Association board in 1996. Kelly is current serving on the merged Greater Baltimore USBC Association (GBUSBC). She served as a BWBA / GBUSBC delegate to the National Convention for 19 years from 1997-2021. For her hard work and dedication, she was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2012 for Meritorious Service.

On the lanes she has had a good deal of success, especially in tournaments. In 1982 Kelly participated in her 1st adult tournament in Denver, Colorado. Her and her teammate took first place in doubles. She did win the All Events and a doubles event at the GBUSBC Women's Local Championship Tournament. Her team won two MDUSBC Team Titles. She also took first place in the 500-club. In 2009 Kelly won the Grand Dutchess Tournament, which earned her a free entry into the MDUSBC Senior Championship. Kelly won her age division and represented Maryland State at the national senior tournament, where she finished 7th.

Kelly has bowled in 31 consecutive USBC Women's National Championship. Kelly enjoys bowling the national with her friends. Kelly was excited that she cashed in her 31st tournament in the Singles and All-Events.

After joining the Local board in 1996 and the State Board in 2010, she threw the word "no" out of her vocabulary. Her commitment often goes unnoticed and unremarked upon. She is usually in the background, pushing forward with a quiet grace and with determination

Kelly has repeated the Quip about how if you want something done, you should ask a busy person and how appropriate these words are for her. She has sacrificed year in and year out for our bowlers. She never fails to roll up her sleeves, put her shoulder to yours, and get the job done.

For her dedication The Maryland State USBC Association is proud to induct Kelly Fitzgerald into their Hall of Fame in the category of Meritorious Service.