

# Australian Pinball Museum Newsletter

After the COVID closures of 2020, we were finally able to open up again in December 2020.

Since then it has been constantly changing between being allowed to open and having to close – and of course every type of restriction in between.

## Top Games for 2020

Each year we create a list of the most played games at the museum.

We publish the top 10 list on Facebook, but for anyone interested in seeing a longer list, below is a list of the top 30 most played games at the Australian Pinball Museum during the months we were open in 2020.

- 1 - Elvira's House of Horrors "Premium" (*Stern 2019*)
- 2 - Star Wars "Limited Edition" (*Stern 2017*)
- 3 - The Simpsons (*Data East 1990*)
- 4 - Twilight Zone (*Bally 1993*)
- 5 - Guardians of the Galaxy "Pro" (*Stern 2017*)
- 6 - Creature of the Black Lagoon (*Bally 1992*)
- 7 - Iron Maiden "Pro" (*Stern 2018*)
- 8 - Jurassic Park "Pro" (*Stern 2019*)
- 9 - ACDC "Back in Black Limited Edition" (*Stern 2012*)
- 10 - Black Knight "Pro" (*Stern 2019*)
- 11 - Champ (*Bally 1974*)
- 12 - Banzai Run (*Williams 1988*)
- 13 - Aerosmith "Pro" (*Stern 2017*)
- 14 - Fish Tales (*Williams 1992*)
- 15 - Kiss (*Bally 1978*)
- 16 - Fashion Show (*Gottlieb 1962*)
- 17 - Star Trek "Premium" (*Stern 2013*)
- 18 - Kiss "Limited Edition" (*Stern 2015*)
- 19 - Pinball Magic (*Capcom 1995*)
- 20 - Judge Dredd (*Bally 1993*)
- 20 - Playboy (*Stern 2002*)
- 21 - Game of Thrones "Limited Edition" (*Stern 2015*)
- 22 - College Queens (*Gottlieb 1969*)
- 23 - Devil Riders (*Zaccaria 1984*)
- 24 - Total Nuclear Annihilation (*Spooky Pinball 2017*)
- 25 - Revenge From Mars (*Bally 1999*)
- 26 - Sinbad (*Gottlieb 1978*)
- 27 - Swords of Fury (*Williams 1988*)
- 28 - Top Score (*Gottlieb 1976*)
- 29 - Wrestlemania (*Stern 2015*)
- 30 - Dracula (*Williams 1993*)

## Music Video Filmed at APM

We had a country music video filmed here recently. The museum, the Nhill Oasis Motel and some farming areas around Nhill were used as the set for their music video.

It was a great change from the COVID stuff of 2020 to have the band and film crew around – so much fun and positive vibes, much better than what most of 2020 was like.

The artist is Ben Mastwyk and the song is called The Chicken and The Egg.

<https://youtu.be/UaCPYcfRhpQ>

## Stern Army IFPA Tournaments

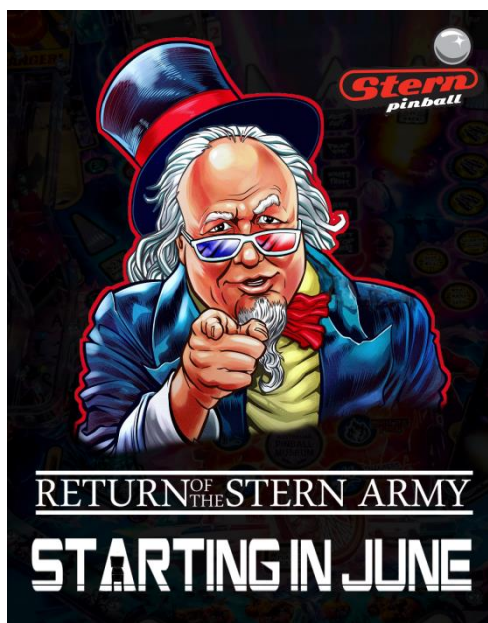
Official Stern Army tournaments returned in June. IFPA worldwide tournament rankings will return in August.

We have also joined the VFPA (the Victorian state version of the IFPA), all tournaments are VFPA and all tournaments from August onwards are IFPA and VFPA.

The VFPA is a state championship where players can earn points at pinball tournaments held in Victoria.

Each participant at every tournament increases the prize pool by \$1.

At the end of the year, the top 32 players will be invited to a championship tournament.



## June 26 – Return of the Stern Army

Congrats to Russ for winning the "Pinball Golf" tournament!

For pinball golf, we set a list of 18 pinball machines which all have a single goal to shoot for, that is the "golf hole". The current ball in play when you shoot the goal is the number you write down for your golf score (1st ball = 1 stroke, 2nd ball = 2 strokes, etc)

The final standings were:

- 1 Russ Barton
- 2 Steve Poulter
- 3 Dave Burke
- 4 Darren Charles
- 5 Andrew Carey
- 6 Tom Diamond
- 7 Willow Williams
- 8 Charlie White
- 9 Simon Carter
- 10 Rodney Boyes

VPPR state championship rankings can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/VPPRs>

## July 31 – Stranger Things Official Stern Army Launch Party



All day UNLIMITED PLAY for only \$25.

You can also participate in a pinball tournament during the day. This month we will be introducing a *strange* new tournament format: "Pinball Bingo".

Each player will be given a bingo card that will have a 5x5 grid on it. In each square will be either a mission objective (similar to PinGolf) or something you need to witness or hear. The aim is to be the first to cross off any row, column or diagonal of grid squares.

This will be the official Stern Pinball delayed launch party for the Stranger Things pinball. We have some great Stranger Things prizes from Stern Pinball to give out!

## August 28 – Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Official Stern Army Launch Party



All day UNLIMITED PLAY for only \$25.

The pinball tournament for this month will be an official IFPA endorsed tournament.

The tournament format we will be running is a standard Flip Frenzy.

From 7pm to 9pm, competitors play non-stop head to head games against each other. At the end of the frenzy of games, the winner is calculated by the most overall games won (wins minus losses).

This will be the official Stern Pinball delayed launch party for the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles pinball. We have some great Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles prizes from Stern Pinball to give out.

Throughout the day we also plan to host a few mini games and competitions based on the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles using some of the new special game modes available.

## COVID

Here in Australia nothing has really changed in the past year and a half – the COVID response is still the same, the second a case is found they lock down the state, close state borders, etc. Australia also has one of the slowest vaccine rollout programs so there is sadly no chance of this changing any time soon.

If travelling long distances to visit the museum, we recommend you also contact

us to make sure we are open.

Due to the fact there are very little tourists travelling, the museum will occasionally close early, so if you are planning on visiting close to our closing time please contact to make sure we haven't closed early.

When you visit all the current government COVID restrictions will apply if applicable at that given time (eg: QR code checkin, wearing masks, etc), entry refused to those who don't comply to government health restrictions.

## Recent Donations

Thanks to Anthony Effrett for donating the Gyruss lowboy arcade video game.

Thanks to Jon Provencher for donating the collection of *Arcade & Flipper Pinball Revue* magazines, *Game Room* magazines and pinball advertising flyers.

Thanks to Dave Armstrong for donating the collection of *Cashbox Magazine* PDF scans which he has done wonderful job with collating and spent a lot of time scanning.

Thanks to the TWIRPYS awards show and those who donated to their fundraiser. It was very thoughtful of the TWIRPYS to run a fundraiser to help out pinball locations across the globe. The cash donation was greatly appreciated.

Every little bit helps, especially when locations have to be closed for extended periods of time. We recommend everyone to keep on supporting pinball locations as best you can as we are definitely not near the end of these COVID lockdowns.

Have any pinball or arcade related items that you don't need anymore? Then donate them to the museum, we preserve/archive/restore anything related to the coin operated arcade industry.

Help the museum keep up with the expenses of spare parts and purchase of new pinball machines, drop some cash into the donation box on your next visit or send a donation via Paypal.

Paypal username:

<https://paypal.me/AusPinballMuseum>

## Museum Magazine Archives

We are hard at work scanning all the magazines in our collection and trying to fill in any missing editions.

We have a new plan which involves hosting these vintage magazines online for anyone to read whenever you want – you no longer will have to visit the museum if you want to read them.

We have obtained permissions from copyright holders for the 2 major vintage Australian magazines – *Cash Box* and *Leisure Line* – so we are able to publish digital scans of these magazines online.

There is still a lot to do, but we are optimistic we may have it all published online in a few months' time.

We received a huge collection of PDF scans of *Cash Box* magazines which has drastically cut down the amount of work we have left to do.

Once *Leisure Line* and *Cash Box* are finished, we will look towards some of the other smaller magazine publications and possibly even start looking at uploading newsletter archives. These of course will be subject to approvals from copyright holders.

