

5.3 Oil Pattern Matching

Oil Pattern Matching

Oil pattern matching is one of the most powerful features in Spectre Stats for competitive bowlers. By logging the oil pattern alongside your ball selection and scores over time, the app builds a personal reference that tells you — based on your own performance history — which balls in your arsenal have worked best on which conditions. Instead of guessing at the lanes, you arrive with data behind your equipment decisions.

☐ How Oil Pattern Matching Works

Spectre Stats builds your pattern matching data automatically from your session logs. Every time you record a session with an oil pattern and a ball selected, that data point is added to your history. Over time, patterns emerge — certain balls consistently produce stronger scores on specific pattern lengths or volumes, while others underperform on the same conditions.

- ☐ No manual matching required — data builds from your normal session logging
- ☐ The more sessions you log with pattern and ball data, the more accurate your matching becomes
- ☐ Results reflect *your* game — not a generic recommendation based on ball specs alone
- ☐ Surface changes are factored in — the app knows what grit each ball was at during each session

△ **Verify:** Confirm how oil pattern matching is implemented in the app — whether it is a dedicated matching tool, a filter within performance charts, a view on the ball detail page, or a combination of these. Confirm whether pattern matching is a Pro feature.

☐ Logging an Oil Pattern During a Session

Pattern matching data is only as good as what you log. The key habit is recording the oil pattern when you log a session or game — it takes seconds and unlocks the matching feature over time.

1. When creating or editing a session, locate the **Oil Pattern** field.
2. Either:
 - Select a pattern from the **pattern library** if the pattern is listed, or
 - Enter the pattern details manually — name, length, and volume if known.
3. Save the session as normal.

△ **Verify:** Confirm whether Spectre Stats includes a built-in oil pattern library (e.g. common sport patterns, PBA patterns, house shot descriptions), whether custom patterns can be saved for reuse, and what pattern details can be recorded (e.g. name, length in feet, volume in units of oil, pattern type).

☐ Viewing Ball Performance by Pattern

Once you have enough sessions logged with pattern data, you can view how each ball in your arsenal has performed on specific conditions.

1. Go to **Arsenal** and open the ball you want to review.
2. Tap or click the **Oil Pattern Performance** section or tab.
3. Review the list of patterns this ball has been used on, along with your average score and strike rate for each.
4. Optionally, filter by **surface preparation** to see how the same ball performed at different grits on the same pattern.

You can also approach this from the pattern side — looking up a pattern and seeing which balls have produced your best results on it.

1. Go to **Arsenal** and tap or click **Oil Patterns** or **Pattern Matching**.
2. Select the pattern you want to look up.
3. Review a ranked list of your balls sorted by average score or strike rate on that pattern.

△ **Verify:** Confirm whether the app supports both the ball-first view (ball → patterns) and the pattern-first view (pattern → balls), and the exact navigation path for each on mobile and web.

☐☐ Understanding Your Pattern Matching Data

The pattern matching view surfaces several data points for each ball-and-pattern combination.

Data Point	What It Tells You
Average Score	Your mean game score across all sessions on this pattern with this ball
Strike Rate	Your first-ball strike percentage on this pattern with this ball
Sessions Logged	How many sessions this data point is based on — more sessions means more reliable results
Surface at Time of Use	The grit or finish the ball was at during those sessions — so you can replicate the preparation that worked
Last Used	When you last bowled this ball on this pattern — useful context if conditions or the ball have changed since
Venue	Where the sessions took place — house shot patterns can vary significantly between bowling centers

△ **Verify:** Confirm which data points are displayed in the pattern matching view and whether surface-at-time-of-use is tracked automatically from the maintenance log or requires manual entry.

☐☐ Using Pattern Matching Before a Tournament

Pattern matching is especially valuable when preparing for a tournament where you know the oil pattern in advance. Here's how to use it effectively:

1. Find out the oil pattern for the tournament — name, length, and volume if available.
2. Open **Arsenal > Oil Patterns** and search for that pattern or the closest match in your history.
3. Review which balls have produced your best scores and strike rates on similar conditions.
4. Check the **surface at time of use** for those top performers — consider whether your ball is currently at the right preparation.
5. If needed, log a **surface change** in your maintenance record before the event to get the ball to the right grit.

△ **Verify:** Confirm whether the app includes any pattern similarity matching — for example, suggesting comparable patterns from your history when an exact match isn't available (e.g. matching a 40-foot medium oil pattern to similar patterns you've logged).

📁 Building Your Pattern Library

The more precisely you log pattern information, the more useful your matching data becomes. A few habits that make a big difference:

- 📁 Always record the pattern name when it's posted at the bowling center or provided by tournament officials
- 📁 Note the pattern length in feet if available — even an approximate range (short / medium / long) adds useful context
- 📁 Record the oil volume or pattern type (house shot, sport shot, PBA pattern) where known
- 📁 Use consistent naming — if you bowl on a house shot at your home center every week, use the same pattern name each time so your data aggregates correctly
- 📁 Add a note if the pattern was playing differently than expected — transition, carrydown, or re-oil mid-session

△ **Verify:** Confirm whether Spectre Stats includes any pre-loaded pattern names or a searchable PBA/sport pattern library, or whether all pattern entries are user-created.

🌩 Oil Patterns and Spectre Cloud

If your pro shop uses Spectre Cloud, pattern data associated with your drilling specs or past shop visits may be available to pull into your Spectre Stats pattern history. This can give you a head start on pattern matching data without needing to manually build it all from scratch.

△ **Verify:** Confirm whether oil pattern data from Spectre Cloud is shared with Spectre Stats, and what specifically syncs — pattern names, ball-pattern pairings, or pro shop recommendations.

Related Sections

- Ball Notes & Your Arsenal
- Ball Maintenance Records
- Recording Shot Data
- Performance Charts
- Spectre Cloud Integration

Tip: Don't wait until you have a lot of data before you start using pattern matching — even three or four sessions logged with pattern information will start showing you useful signals. The habit of logging the pattern is more important than having a complete dataset from day one.

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