



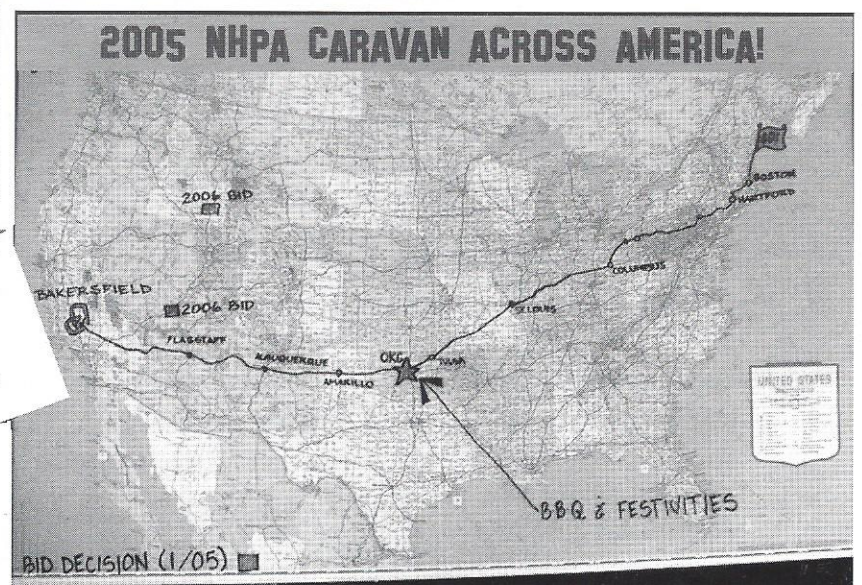
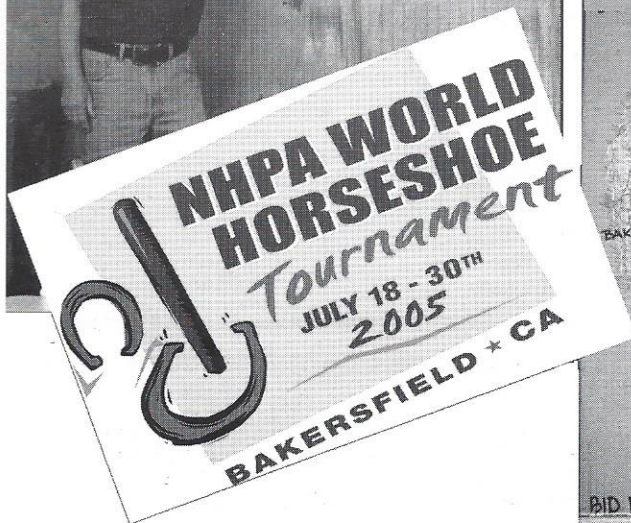
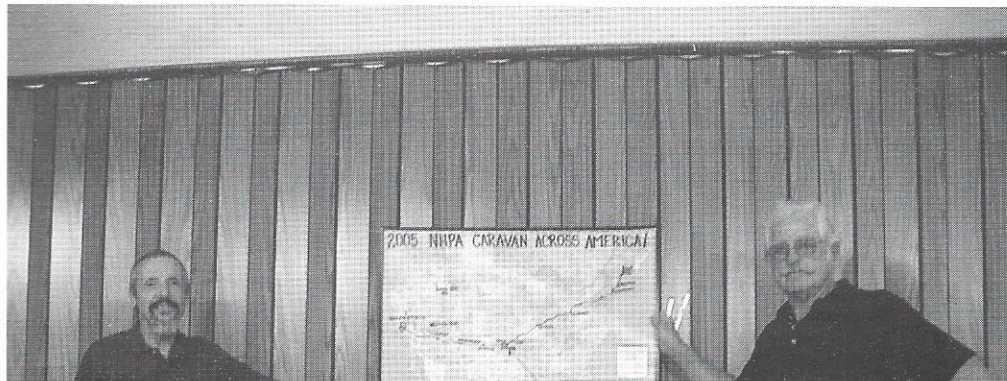
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VOL. 17, NO. 1

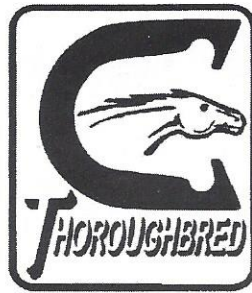
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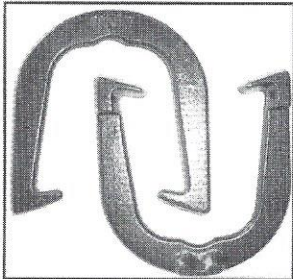


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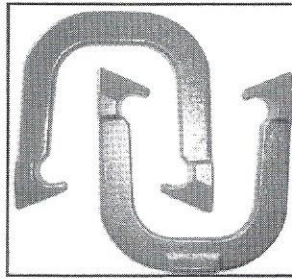


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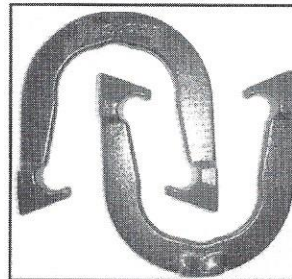
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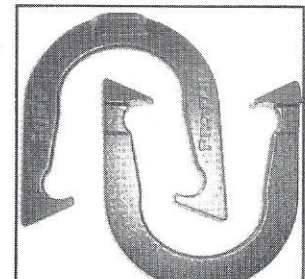
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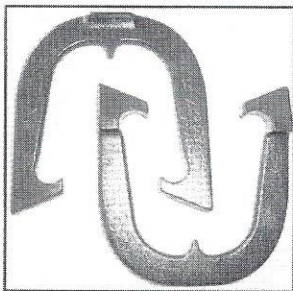
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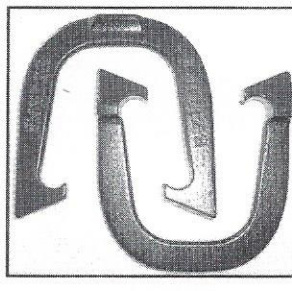
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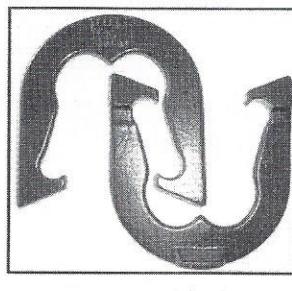
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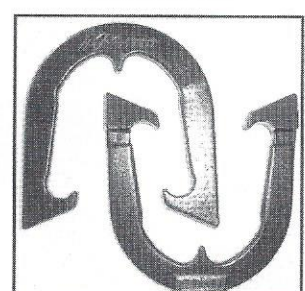
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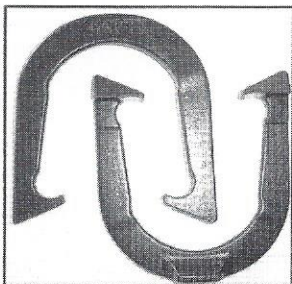
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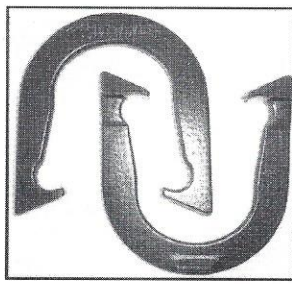
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COVER STORY

The map on the cover is the proposed route that the caravan will take. It was planned out by the "Good Sam Club" and presented by Leo Michaud, MA. The major rally point will be Oklahoma City with a huge BBQ planned there. See caravan article for more details.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Paul Stewart

As we start a new year, let me be among the first to wish all of you a healthy and prosperous 2005. There is something about a New Year that energizes people, creates vigor, enthusiasm, and makes people look ahead with optimism for the New Year. And so it is with the NHPA membership. Each member is making new plans. People who cause happenings to happen are working on new happenings. Dreams will become reality. What dreams will become reality this year? We are hoping for a year of increasing membership, more publicity promoting our sport, higher individual averages, and a new high in participation in our World, State, and local tournaments. How many of these dreams can we achieve? All of them, if we all participate.

The Executive Council has scheduled their winter directors meeting for January 28-29th in Las Vegas. Why Las Vegas? Several reasons, (1) It is cheaper for flights and rooms in Las Vegas than other locations. (2) Prior to our meeting, I will be traveling from Las Vegas, to Bakersfield, CA to meet with NHPA 2nd VP, Casey Sluys, and 2005 World Tournament Host Director, Jim Gorth, for an on site visit of the 2005 World Tournament facilities. (3) Prior to our meeting, Dick Hansen will be traveling from Las Vegas, to St. George, UT for an on site inspection of the facilities of one of our 2006

World Tournament bids. (4) We have invited representatives from each of the three 2006 World Tournament bidders, Pocatello, ID, Gillette, WY and St. George, UT to attend our directors meeting. All three bidders have accepted and will be sending a representative. Each representative will be given ample time to present their 2006 World Tournament package to the council. Since there were no bids for the 2006 World Tournament at our 2004 convention, the NHPA Council will be choosing one of these three bids for the 2006 World Tournament site. Our choice for the 2006 World Tournament will be announced in the next issue of Newsline and also on our web site at: www.horseshoepitching.com

I have heard from many of you wanting to know when the World Tournament is coming back East, or to a Central location. I can't give you an answer to this question because we have to have World Tournament bids from Central and Eastern locations of the country before the delegates can choose a site for the World Tournament in these regions. Most pitchers in the West have no complaints with locations from the West doing all the bidding. I can tell you that 2007 looks very promising for World Tournament bids from all regions across the country.

SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT by Lorraine Sternberg

This time of the year is pretty quiet for most leagues. Not much work to do in my office, so I decided to take the quiet time and go over some of the things that need to be addressed before the start of the 2005 season.

This past year we sanctioned nineteen new leagues. They are: Plymouth HSC, IN; Rockford HSC, IL; Apple Valley HSC, CA; Ringer 5 HSC, KS; Lake Orion HSL, MI; Hilo Ohana HSC, HI; Caldwell City HSL, ID; Half Moon Bay HSC, CA; Marion County HSC, OH; Crossville HSC, TN; Red River Valley Men's League, ND; Fleet Reserve Sanctioned Pitchers HSL, WI; Wilmington HSL, OH; Grand Forks HSL, ND; Valley HSL, CT; Whitley County HSC, IN; Clarksville HPA, AR; Taylor Moose HSC, MI; and Tri-Town HSC, MA. I am still hoping to get sanctioned leagues going in charters (Arizona, Washington, Oregon, and North and South Carolina) that have none. It would be great to see leagues started in these states in 2005.

Membership was up for most leagues this past year. Let's keep promoting and bring in a new person with you this coming year. Remember, when you have new pitchers on your league, make them feel welcomed. Help them out with their pitching and scorekeeping. Make them feel like they belong on the league. It will bring them back next season. By going out of your way, you will help develop a new friendship.

For those league directors that will be passing on their duties to a new league director for your club, I ask that you spend some time with them and explain what the duties are as a league director. Please contact me ahead of time, if you are changing league directors. This brings up one very important item. This past season it seems that there have been leagues allowing non-sanctioned pitchers to pitch on their

sanctioned leagues. A sanctioned league is for sanctioned pitchers ONLY. By allowing non-sanctioned pitchers to pitch on your sanctioned league, it means that your league is not covered under the NHPA insurance. Also your club sanction can be revoked. This is why new league directors need to be advised of their duties. League directors should be checking everyone's NHPA membership cards. It's only fair to those pitchers on a sanctioned league that everyone be sanctioned. On the same subject, it's been brought up to me by Natstats that there were many incorrect NHPA membership numbers submitted on final stats reports. Please double check all numbers before submitting your final stats reports. This would save Glenn and me a lot of time.

I was hoping to see many more juniors submitted for the Sanctioned League Scholarship in 2004 than what I received. Please remember to do this for 2005 if you have juniors on your league. Guidelines are in the Red Book. We will be awarding the scholarships at our January council meeting.

2005 looks to be a great year. If you are planning on going to the World Tournament in Bakersfield, CA and you RV, why not hook up with the caravan. It's being headed up by Homer Cane and Leo Michaud. They have great things planned for the trip out to CA. It starts in Boston, MA and goes to Bakersfield, CA. Check it out.

In October we will be having our 2nd National League Tournament. It's not too early to plan your teams. I will have more information about the tournament in the next issue. Also the Top Ten will be published in the next issue of Newsline.

Happy New Year to All!

CHARTER CHATTER *by Debby Michaud*

THE CARAVAN

Read about the proposed RV caravan elsewhere in this issue. Plans are underway and details will be announced as they are finalized. We are looking forward to this for the 2005 World Tournament! It is sort of a "Bean town to Bakersfield" thing!

ALABAMA

Participation in the state doubles increased from 34 in 2003 to 56 in 2004. Great numbers - good work!

ALBERTA, CANADA

Alberta's Fall Newsletter was dedicated to the memory of Don Griffith, who passed away in June, 2004, just before he was to be inducted into the Canadian Hall of Fame. Most of us don't know him but we DO have something of his in our homes if we won a plaque in Red Deer - Mr. Griffith make ALL OF THEM. He worked long and hard in Alberta and made the Alberta HPA a viable, improved organization, one which turned a profit from the 2002 World Tournament. The first Don Griffith Memorial Trophy was presented to Wilf Donald. Part of his legacy is the Calgary Horseshoe Club, an indoor facility that Canadian pitchers rave about.

MINNESOTA

At its annual Awards Banquet, the Gopher State handed out some interesting awards. One is the Rookie of the Year which is 71 year old Dale Husted! What other sport offers that opportunity? The Frank Stinson Pitcher of the Year was Norm Wunderlich, based on points earned throughout the year. The annual Ringer Toss Award was won on the first pitch, very unusual, and a bowling ball from Walter Ray Williams, Jr. was auctioned off to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The pitching for the Labor Day weekend was held at the Genola indoor courts - good thing because they received over three inches of rain that weekend!

MISSOURI

The 2005 State tournament will be held in the state capital, Jefferson City. The Jefferson City Convention and Visitors Bureau will work with the Jefferson City Parks and Recreation Dept. The NHFP helped in this endeavor because of their grant to help repair and update the Jefferson City horseshoe courts. In other news, Joe Faron is stepping down as president of the MO HPA after eight productive years. Mr. Faron also serves on the Board of Directors of the NHFP. In his tenure, MO has grown and flourished, having 97 tournaments in 2004 including tournaments at indoor facilities across the state throughout the cold winter months. Good job, well done, Joe.

OHIO

Another very active state, the OHIO HPA has announced a new award that will be given annually. It is the Francis Asher Memorial Award and will be given to an individual who has displayed outstanding leadership and service to the sport of horseshoe pitching in Ohio. The first recipient of this award is Larry Woolace, current president of the OHPA. Congratulations to him and to the winners of the Achievement Awards, Sharon Jones and Mike Worthington, as well as the winners of the Jim McCombs Sportsmanship Awards, Linda Bailey and Mose Miller. There were three inductees into the Ohio HPA Hall of Fame in 2004. They were Rita Sarbaugh, Janet Reno, and Toni Kucharski.

OKLAHOMA - TEXAS

In the annual Oklahoma - Texas Shoot-out, Oklahoma won 66-48. Seems as if Oklahoma is way ahead in this series, 8 -2. Get on your horses, Texans! There are more new courts in Oklahoma, in

Glencoe and in Hodgen. They also have a new president in Tina Hawkins. Congrats!

TENNESSEE

There will be 24 new courts in Crossville, TN at the Fairgrounds. This will be a definite boost to the TN HPA. To increase participation and gather new members, the state will also increase their doubles tournaments for next year.

VERMONT

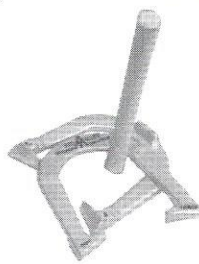
This small but very active state can be proud of many things. One is their successful junior program. In addition to the World Champion Nick Preston, they have several other juniors who pitch regularly and well, AND they had three juniors pitch in the State Tournament in the nine and under division. Their Junior Promotion Director is Debra Brown. There are three active clubs in Vermont which cover the entire state, north, middle, and south.

WASHINGTON

For 40 years, the Winetrout series of horseshoe tournaments has been going strong here in the Northwest. There are two tournaments in each of the coldest months, January, February, and March. The series was originally started to encourage early renewals and to prevent rust on the horseshoes! It is a way for horseshoe pitchers to stay connected through the winter months - I hear there is always clam chowder at a Winetrout series tournament! Yum!

HORSESHOES OVERSEAS

Because of our NHPA website and e-mail, there are now soldiers in Iraq and in Kyrgyztan who are pitching horseshoes! Thanks to Casey Sluys, NHPA Publicity Director and Kim Stocklie for their quick thinking!



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NHPFNEWS VIEWS & DONATIONS

by Dave Loucks

The year 2004 ended on a disappointing note for the NHPF. Contributions for the year from individuals, Charters and Clubs were the lowest since 1997, the first full year of operation for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. I'm sure the inactivity at the Joelton courts and the non-settlement of the Jack Freeman estate problems were factors. The estate attorney has not passed along any word that would indicate a settlement to be close at hand.

As one reviews the State rankings list, it's plain to see that the bulk of contributions are coming from a handful of States. The top ten States on the list have accounted for 64% of all the funds received from the various Charters. Not a very good record of support by the overall membership of the NHPA. While I reported last issue that a total of 98 individuals, Charters or Clubs had donated \$500 or more, 50 of those engraved plates carry a name from one of the top eight States on the rankings list. There are 17 names that have contributed \$1,500 or more. There are four individuals who have made 25 or more separate contributions. Art Moran of MN has sent a donation 80 consecutive months, Randy Joines of NC has donated 43 times while Ward Lutz, MN, and Dave and Cathie Loucks, CA, have donated 25 times. On the down side, 18 Charters haven't yet reached \$1,000 in contributions over a span of eight years. During 2004, 14 Charters failed to send in even one contribution and 13 other Charters had total contributions of \$100 or less. This is indeed a poor showing of support.

Because of the uncertainty surrounding the Jack Freeman indoor courts in Joelton, The NHPA Council and NHPF Directors feel the Hall of Fame may have to be relocated. We have started to investigate other potential sites. In November, I visited two sites in Missouri that had contacted us. While both have potential, the city officials of one want until after the Holidays to formulate an offer of what they can provide and what they would expect the NHPF to bring to the table. While Missouri would be a location, perhaps preferred over Joelton,

nothing is yet beyond the discussion stage.

I hope everyone had a very pleasant Holiday Season. Keep in mind that the NHPF works for you, the NHPA and the betterment of Horseshoe Pitching. Make it a point this year to support our sport by sending your tax-deductible contribution to the NHPF at P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. Those that donate \$25 or more will receive an acknowledgement letter of thanks.

The following contributions were received and acknowledged since my last report.

Donating \$10-45

Art Moran, MN
Washington State HPA
Edmund Harrington, MA
Bob Champion Doubles, CO
Fred Nilsson, NC
Sodbusters H.C., VT

Donating \$50-90

Seattle H.C., WA
Mylan Park HPC, WV
Robert Knudtson, MN
Mel Yockstick, CO
Bob Champion, CO
Mark Bergon, CO **
Blind Pigs H.C., NC
Dave & Cathie Loucks, CA

Donating \$100-180

Anonymous, WI
St.Clair Shores H.C., MI *
Randy Joines, NC
George Muse, NC
New Haven H.C., CT

Donating \$200-250

Missouri HPA

* In Memory of Ted Kowalski

** In Honor of Rich Pintor

NHPA MMA Interest Rcvd, \$324

Total contributions deposited YTD
\$37,804

How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

	Contributors	Donations	\$	
1.	TN	29	58	\$20,427
2.	CA	88	180	\$18,919
3.	NC	26	114	\$11,855
4.	MN	39	186	\$10,403
5.	OR	20	63	\$9,195
6.	MO	47	91	\$8,866
7.	MI	44	98	\$7,484
8.	WI	29	91	\$7,382
9.	GA	15	20	\$6,770
10.	CO	23	58	\$5,969
11.	FL	41	61	\$4,813
12.	MA	10	14	\$4,730
13.	WA	30	54	\$4,140
14.	PA	27	48	\$4,074
15.	IL	36	64	\$3,710
16.	TX	22	32	\$3,585
17.	OH	53	76	\$3,571
18.	KS	17	32	\$3,571
19.	NJ	20	33	\$2,959
20.	IA	18	30	\$2,651
21.	KY	16	32	\$2,560
22.	NE	13	23	\$2,468
23.	NY	30	34	\$1,930
24.	IN	20	23	\$1,753
25.	LA	8	14	\$1,652
26.	VA	16	22	\$1,443
27.	MD	21	29	\$1,372
28.	SC	9	19	\$1,270
29.	ND	6	10	\$1,220
30.	CT	14	21	\$1,072
31.	NV	9	11	\$1,030
32.	ID	7	16	\$873
33.	MT	4	9	\$720
34.	AZ	8	13	\$594
35.	AL	4	5	\$570
36.	SD	10	15	\$534
37.	WV	9	18	\$523
38.	OK	9	12	\$458
39.	NM	2	4	\$235
40.	AR	5	5	\$185
41.	WY	3	3	\$182
42.	HI	3	3	\$150
43.	UT	2	4	\$130
44.	VT	1	5	\$125
45.	AK	1	1	\$120
46.	NH	2	2	\$105
47.	ME	1	2	\$50
48.	DE	1	1	\$7
49.	MS	1	1	\$5

JUNIOR CORNER *by Jackie Hughes*

Happy New Year!

With this issue, I wish a *Happy New Year to Everyone!* Each of us is blessed by being home with our families. With horseshoes, we are one very big family. This brings up the nostalgic reason why I'm even writing this article today. To all of you junior horseshoe pitchers—young ladies and gentlemen—your parents truly love going to horseshoe tournaments with you. I remember when I was a junior pitcher going to tournaments wondering "what the heck am I doing here?" Ya know that feeling—your school friends have no idea what you're doing since they don't go to tournaments—that feeling of "why am I?" attitude. Now that I'm older and a parent myself, I want to say, "Thank you, Dad...going to horseshoe tournaments turned out to be some of the best times of my life! I love you." I will cherish the 1979 MN State Tournament for the rest of my life. My Dad won the Men's State Championship for the first time,

my brother Pete won the Boys' State Championship and I won the Girls' State Championship. My Dad won four more State Championships before he needed to retire his 'shoes. He was a great promoter and teacher of the sport.

My Dad (Jack O'Connor) has recently passed away. We all have to go through these sorrowful times...nobody says it's easy, I guess I just didn't realize how hard it was going to be. My Dad was the best promoter for horseshoes—he always said it was great for your health: 1) it's great exercise, 2) you meet a lot of great people, and 3) you won't break any bones! I want to take this time to thank all of the horseshoe pitchers who sent cards, letters and emails to my Dad before he passed away—it was so wonderful to see my Dad smile, laugh and shed some tears from all the kind words all of you sent to him. I will never forget that smile on his face...

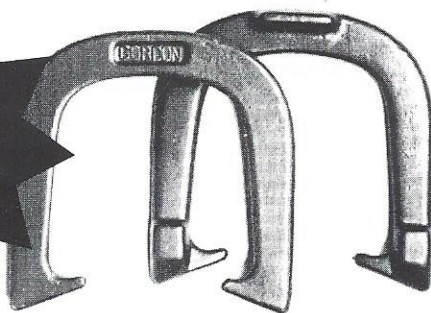
Switched

Currently, I have not heard anything new with the program "Switched." I will keep current with this as much as possible. Chase Battle, one our selected junior pitchers for the program, has recently enrolled into the army. God is with you, Chase, as well as all of us.

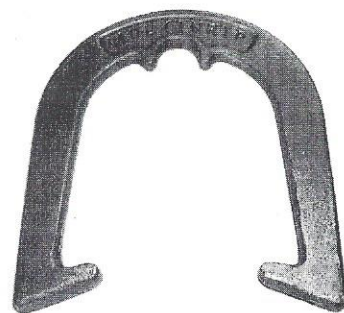
Junior Director

I have been asked to move further up into management at my workplace and it will consume much more of my time. Therefore, the NHPA will be looking for a new Junior Director. If you are interested, please contact myself or Paul Stewart, NHPA President. Thank you.

Thanks for letting me be part of this one great big family!



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2005 WORLD TOURNAMENT CARAVAN

by Leo Michaud

A caravan to the 2005 World Tournament in Bakersfield, California is in the planning stage. Hopefully this can be the first of a yearly venture to wherever the World Tournament is held.

The main reasons for this caravan are:

1. To promote the NHPA.
2. To encourage more pitchers from the eastern half of the country to enter the World Tournament on the west coast.
3. To hopefully collect some monies for the "Make a Wish" fund.

4. To have a good time as a group traveling to the same destination.

This caravan will start in Taunton, Massachusetts on July 8th or 9th, and moving southwest at 350 - 400 miles per day will end in Bakersfield, California on July 16th.

A barbeque is planned in Oklahoma City on July 12th where we will be joined by other caravaners heading west.

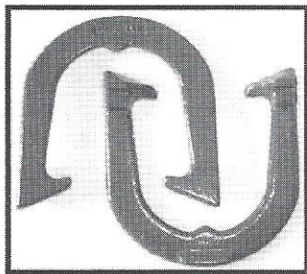
Upon reaching Bakersfield we will be treated to an escorted parade through their downtown and onto the fairgrounds where we will be assigned our campsites.

Some of the details of this trek could change as the planning continues.

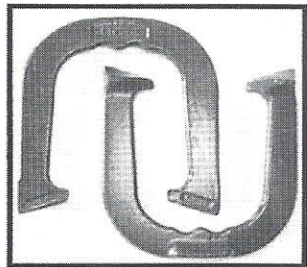
Anyone who is interested has a chance to join us in this 1st Annual Caravan to the World Tournament for any part or all of this journey.

Further information concerning dates, times, routes and campgrounds will be publicized as they develop.

You can keep up to date on the details by visiting www.horseshoepitching.com



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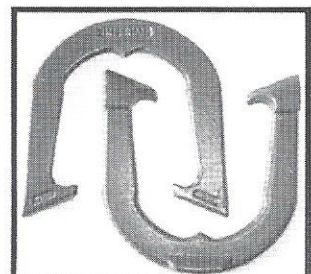
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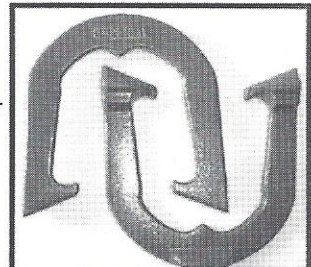
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See our inside front cover ad for details on S & H fees.

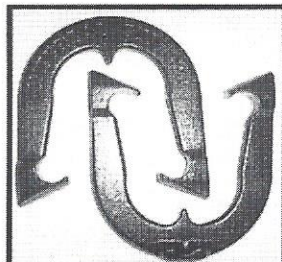


PLUS
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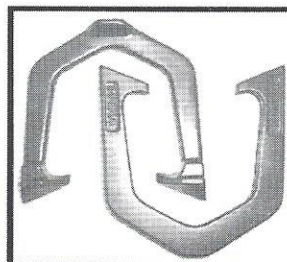


MAXX
\$48.00 per pair

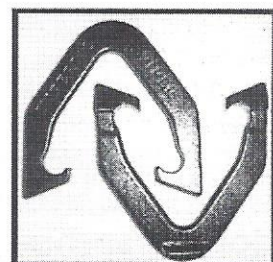
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\$46.00 per pair

BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIA TO HOST THE 2005 NHPA WORLD TOURNAMENT

Make plans to be in Bakersfield, California for the 2005 NHPA World Tournament July 18-30. With a metro population of over 250,000 people, the city is large enough to offer a wide variety of dining and entertainment options, yet small enough to make you feel welcome.

Bring the kids!! Bakersfield is a great place for a horseshoe tournament and a family vacation. The Buena Vista Museum of Natural History takes its visitors back 15 million years ago to a time when some really big and nasty creatures roamed the streets of Bakersfield. Fossil remains of local residence such as "Allodesmus" and teeth from giant "Megalodon" sharks are on display.

The Kern County Museum gives visitors a glimpse into the rich history and heritage of Bakersfield and Kern County. Tour historic homes and buildings packed full of artifacts and historical memorabilia. The highlight of the museum is "Black Gold". This hands-on, one of a kind, multimillion dollar exhibit tells the story of oil and the roll it played in the history of Bakersfield and its importance to the entire world.

Don't forget to pack the swim suit!! The newest attraction to Bakersfield is the McMurtry Aquatics center in downtown. The center features waterslides and a splash pool for the kids and lap pools for the serious swimmer. Visitors can also keep their cool in Bakersfield by ice skating at the Bakersfield Ice Sports Complex. The center offers public skate times and skate rental. Both the ice rink and aquatic center are within walking distance of the headquarters hotel and only 1.5 miles from the fairgrounds.

The California Living Museum lets visitors get up close with some of the wilder residence of Kern County. CALM (Bakersfield's zoo) features animals native to California.

Kick up your heels at Buck Owens' Crystal Palace and Steakhouse. Bakersfield's hometown boy, Buck Owens, performs on Friday and Saturday nights at his award winning museum-restaurant-concert hall.

Plan to watch up-and-coming NASCAR drivers at Mesa Marin raceway, top fuel dragsters at Famoso raceway and fast 1/8 mile oval-action at Bakersfield Speedway.

Make no mistake; Bakersfield is hot in the summer. The average temperature in July

is 96 degrees. BUT, because we are on the western edge of the Mojave Desert, the humidity is low and the evenings are cool. Bring casual clothes, a hat and sun screen.

GETTING TO BAKERSFIELD

BY PLANE

Fly directly into Bakersfield via America West 800.235.9292, Continental 800.523.3273, and United 800.241.6522 airlines. The airport is seven miles north of downtown.

Visitors to Bakersfield may also choose to fly into one of several other airports in the area. Fresno is located one hour North, Burbank is 1.5 hours and LAX is 2 hours to the South.

BY TRAIN

The Amtrak station in Bakersfield is the 12th busiest station in the nation. It is located within walking distance of the Holiday Inn Select and is 1.5 miles from the tournament site.

BY AUTOMOBILE

Many roads lead Bakersfield!! From the North or South on the West Coast use I-5. From Northern states, take I-80 to San Francisco then South on I-5. From the Eastern and central states, you can take I-70 to I-15 (stop off in Las Vegas), then highway 58 to Bakersfield. Another option is I-40 to highway 58 into Bakersfield. I-5 will take you from Los Angeles to Bakersfield.

MAKE TIME TO SEE IT ALL

Located in central California, Bakersfield is just a short drive from a vacation of a lifetime. Within 2 1/2 hours of Bakersfield, you will find Disneyland, Knottsberry Farms, Magic Mountain, Hollywood, Universal Studios Theme Park, the beach, giant Sequoia trees, the Mojave desert, Death Valley National Park and Mt Whitney. After you have done all of that, there are still miles of mountain trails to hike, dozens of ghost towns to explore and unlimited natural wonders to discover.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

The Holiday Inn Select in Downtown Bakersfield is the official host hotel for the tournament. Located 1.5 miles from the fairgrounds, the hotel offers everything a visitor to Bakersfield needs.

In addition to a full service restaurant, bar and outdoor pool, the hotel will also provide two tournament quality raised horseshoe courts for guest to use. This will be the ideal location to warm up before the

tournament or to settle the bragging rights afterwards.

The hotel only has 250 guest rooms and at \$59 per night, they will sell out quick. The hotel is now taking reservations at 661-323-1900. You must mention horseshoes to get the rate.

RV INFO

Walk to the tournament!!! The Kern County Fairgrounds has hookups with water and electric for 200 RV's. The park also provides showers. The fee is \$20 per night.

Information for RV reservations will be available in the next issue of NEWSLINE. Don't forget to join the group that is caravanning across the US to the tournament. Contact Homer Cain through the NHPA message board for information.

TOURNAMENT FACILITIES

The 2005 NHPA World Tournament will be held at the Kern County Fairgrounds in Bakersfield. The courts will be set up in two buildings that are connected by a plaza. The covered, outdoor Bolthouse Courtyard is adjacent to one of the buildings and is the perfect location to relax and enjoy lunch. WARNING!!! Bring a sweater if you don't like COLD buildings. During the California State Tournament, many of the scorekeepers and spectators complained of being cold, even though it was 100 degrees outside. The players however loved it!!

Come to the tournament hungry!! A large concession stand will be open featuring a full and varied menu. Of course, the usual hotdogs will be available along with burgers, fries (chili cheese and regular), hot and cold sandwiches, Tri-tip and breakfast items. Beer will also be available.

Coolers are not allowed on the fairgrounds. State law prohibits glass and metal beverage containers on the grounds. An exception has been issued for the RV area. Small containers of water may be brought into the tournament. Participant help in enforcing this rule will be greatly appreciated and save some embarrassing moments for all involved.

STILL GOT QUESTIONS???

If you need additional information on Bakersfield, please contact the Bakersfield Convention and Visitors Bureau at (866) 425-7353 or by e-mail at GBCVB@bakersfieldcvb.org

WORLD TOURNAMENT UPDATE *by Stu Sipma*

In January the Executive Council will be attending their annual meeting. Many items will be discussed at this year's meeting, one of which will be the progress report for Bakersfield. Prior to the meeting, Paul Stewart and Casey Sluys will be making a site tour of Bakersfield. At the conclusion of this meeting, we will have a better idea on what tasks are left to be completed.

While attending the TEAMS Conference in Houston, I had the privilege of visiting with Don Jaeger, President of the Bakersfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, and Beth Javens, Sports Director for the Bakersfield Convention and Visitors Bureau. We discussed this past year's California State Tournament which was held in the same venue as will the 2005 World Tournament. Don assured me the two buildings will be plenty cool for this event! Jim Gorth, Host Director, has been working very hard with the local horseshoe club to make this tournament a success. I wish Jim and all of his volunteers best of luck. After being through this once myself, I know how much work and dedication it takes everyone involved in order to make this event a success! When making your arrangements for attending the World, keep in mind all the attractions within a couple of hours of Bakersfield.

Most of you are probably wondering who's getting the bid for 2006. I am happy to announce we have the following three locations to choose from:

Pocatello, Idaho - Raul Cano, Sales Director for the Pocatello Convention and Visitors Bureau, has been working hard at making sure we bring the World Tournament back to Pocatello. The community of Pocatello really enjoyed the horseshoe pitchers and look forward to seeing them again in 2006. The


proposed host site will be the Holt Arena, the same facility where the 2004 World Tournament was held. Their proposed dates will be July 23-August 5, 2006.

St. George, Utah - Jeff Harding with the Sports and Events Marketing Team and the Southern Utah Horseshoe Pitchers Association is proposing the Dixie Center as the potential host site for the 2006 World Tournament. Jeff was the first to submit a letter of intent to bid to the NHPA. He assured us that the State of Utah is looking forward to this event coming to St. George. The proposed dates will be July 23-August 5, 2006.

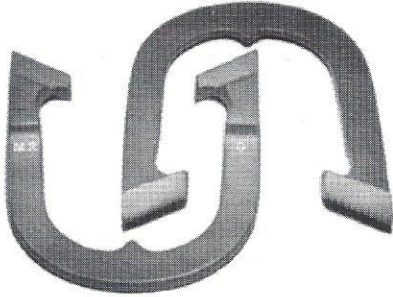
Gillette, Wyoming - Rexina Brown, Marketing Manager at the Cam-Plex, wants to bring the World Tournament back to Gillette. As most of you know, Gillette hosted the World Tournament in 1996. Rex is proposing the Cam-Plex Multi-Event Facilities, the same location where the 1996 World Tournament was held. The proposed dates will be July 10-22, 2006.

All three of these locations are great indoor, air-conditioned facilities. The Executive Council will have a tough decision to make in January. For the two locations that don't succeed, I hope I will be able to work with them for 2007. Be watching the website for the results from the meeting to see where the 2006 World Tournament will be held.

I have already begun working with sites interested in bidding for the 2007 World Tournament. Any site interested in this event, please contact me either by e-mail or phone. I will be glad to work with you. The deadline for submitting applications is March 31, 2005.




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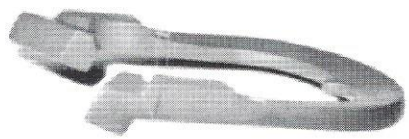


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PUBLICITY PROMOTION *by Casey Shuys*

"Beantown to Bakersfield"

The planning and organization for the caravan from Boston to Bakersfield is well underway. Wagon master Leo Michaud and originator Homer Cain along with 26 others and me met in Oklahoma City in late October planning a route and discussing details such as how to draw interest and participation in this caravan. Early on in the planning we brought in the children's charity foundation "Make-A-Wish" Foundation. It was suggested by Rachel Lewis, development director of the Oklahoma Make-A-Wish Foundation, that at each overnight stop the local chapter of Make-A-Wish be contacted and various fund raising activities be held each evening with proceeds going to the local chapter. This, of course, serves a dual purpose: assisting a very worthwhile charity and increasing awareness of the NHPA.

Let's make this caravan a huge success by encouraging participation! Even if you do not plan to come all the way to Bakersfield please attempt to join them at their overnight stops and assist with the fund raising efforts. You could even drive along with them for 50 miles or so to show your support of organized horseshoe pitching. For more information please see the Message Board of the NHPA website at <http://www.horseshoepitching.com>. If you'd like to join this caravan, please contact Homer Cain at: (580) 268-3243 email: grambo41@yahoo.com or Leo Michaud at: (508) 822-9610 email: loonpnd@comcast.net. Each caravan participant vehicle will receive two free car flags to display during their trip.

NHPA Flag Contest

Due to time constraints we were unable to publish the NHPA flag contest in Newsline. Each charter secretary received via email and/or regular mail a letter describing this contest. The deadline needed to be set at January 1, 2005, therefore while you are reading this, a winner will have been determined. We sincerely hope that the message was relayed to you and you were able to participate.

New Members

In the June/July issue of this magazine we published various promotion and publicity ideas that work for the individuals who wrote them. These are a compilation of ideas from what is a new member committee. We have hopes of gathering more information and eventually compiling them into a "How to Promote Horseshoe Pitching" brochure. We could certainly use more ideas though and are open to any and all suggestions!

Is the goal of gaining 1,500 new members by the beginning of 2006 realistic? It's only a 10% increase and could easily be attainable with only 20% of you bringing in a new member. Granted, as I've stated before, nationwide there is probably a 30% turnover rate in the NHPA. We certainly need to know why that is, don't you think?

Returning Members

The folks that were members in the past; why did they quit organized horseshoe pitching? Is it too structured for them? Is it because they are not allowed to hoot-and-holler like they do at picnics? Perhaps they like to down a few while pitching shoes? What can we do to encourage these folks to come back and give us another shot? Would we need to become less rigid with some of our rules? It certainly is possible to have fun under our present structure, but perhaps too much emphasis is put on winning, maybe we need more social events, you know; fun type stuff that the whole family can enjoy.

The NHPA was initially set up to unify the various rules there were throughout the country in the 1920's. Even though sanctioned pitching has evolved to what we use today, there is still significant room in this sport to make it more appealing to the average person.

It's sort of a "Catch-22" situation though. How do we make this sport more appealing to people without some serious sponsorship money? Then where would the sponsorship money come from, unless the activity was a crowd pleaser? We need the ability to draw spectators before most sponsors will even talk to us. Can you imagine a method by where we could increase the spectator appeal of horseshoe pitching? Let your imagination run this winter while sitting by a nice warm fire. We need new ideas!

Sincerely hope you all had a wonderful holiday season! Let's bring in a new member this year!

SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

JANUARY 2005

29th and/or 30th

Winter Magic NHPA Sanctioned Horseshoe Tournaments – Pitch either day or both! Dakota Magic Convention Center, Hankinson, ND, Hosted by North and South Dakota HPAs. \$2,000 + Added Purse. Limited to 72 pitchers on Saturday and 48 pitchers on Sunday. Make checks payable to "NDHPA" and mail entry fee of \$25.00 for adults or \$15.00 per junior (per day) (includes scorekeeping fees) to Archie and Connie Filley, 901 Meyer Blvd., West Fargo, ND 58078 by the deadline date of January 15, 2005. For more info email: horshue@msn.com or call (701) 282-7706

FEBRUARY 2005

6th – 13th

47th Annual Valley of the Sun Horseshoe Tournament; Hosted by Phoenix-Mesa Horseshoe Pitchers Club – Pioneer Park, Mesa, AZ. Additional Prize Money of \$3,000 donated by Casino Arizona (Equal payout to all classes) Deadline for \$50 entry fee (scorekeeping included): January 17th - Make checks payable to PMHPC and send to: Rick Durkit, 10400 E. Trailhead CT, Gold Canyon, AZ 85218 All classes will play 2 consecutive days. NHPA or Canadian Card Required. Tournament average from NatStats / 3 Tournaments Required.

APRIL 2005

22nd – 24th

38th Annual Carolina Dogwood Festival Horseshoe Tournament, Jack H. Springer Horseshoe Courts at Lakewood Park, Statesville, North Carolina. \$7,500.00 in Cash Prizes & Trophies. Pre-Registration (Required) By March 1, 2005. Tournament is limited to first 240 Entries! Send \$25 Entry Fee To: Carolina Dogwood Horseshoe Tournament, Statesville Recreation & Parks Dept., P.O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687-1111. Print an entry form, from the coming events at: www.horseshoepitching.com. Tournament Director: Paul Stewart, (704)528-0398 nhpapaul@bellsouth.net Statesville Recreation & Parks (704)878-3429

MAY 2005

13th – 15th

Team World, Edwards Activity & Sports Center, Beloit, WI. 4-Person Team, no more than 2 short distance pitchers per team roster. Entry Fee: \$240.00 per team. Increased Prize Money. Entry Deadline: April 15th. Mail entries to: Earl Paulson, 7105 So. County Rd. H, Beloit, WI 53511 Phone: (608)879-2304 email: epauls@peoplepc.com

"STEWLIES"

Paul Stewart Fan Club

Born August 2000, Bismark, N.D World Tournament

(Please let me try to **EXPLAIN**) GRIN!!!

by Gene Burlingame (Burly)

Let me try to explain what has happened since I put a bag over my head that said "Paul Stewart Fan Club" at the World Tournament in Bismark, ND in 2000 and stood beside the courts where Paul was pitching, very badly, I must say.

Billie Sue Pennington (Walter Ray's favorite mother-in-law, grin!!!) was the Publicity Director at that time and wanted to take a couple pictures as Paulette Hansen cut holes in the bag so I could see where I was walking. There were lots of laughs when Paul and the others saw me standing there like that.

Paul and Pork Taylor (**Paul's other friend**) pitch each year for the right to keep the Iron Hog Trophy. If Pork wins, it stays in South Carolina and if Paul wins then North Carolina. Pork won and Paul didn't bring the trophy with him. Pork called me to start a lawsuit against Paul because he violated the Hog By-laws, etc. I said I couldn't take the case cause I was Paul's # 1 fan and President of the Paul Stewart Fan Club, but if Pork joined I would get the Iron Hog Trophy for him. Pork agreed and we doubled our membership in one day. Grin!! SO, we started the P.S.Fan Club with two members and Paul as the STAR to break ties in voting, etc.

Billie Sue # 3 wanted to join the Paul Stewart Fan Club and also Sam Tamosevic of B.C. # 4 who was helping Billie Sue with the NHPA newspaper publicity and we were off running with it, not knowing or caring what we were getting into, except a few laughs. **And do we ever have them. "Everyday!" Grin!!!** We decided we would make the first 50 Horseshoe friends who asked to join the Fan Club a Charter with a number and a Club Name. Jenny and Jim McCombs from Ohio # 16 & # 17 sent an e-mail saying they would be proud to become Paul Stewart "STEWLIES".

STEWLIE JENNY & STEWLIE JIM. We decided the name "Stewlies" would be perfect for all of us so we asked Jenny and Jim if we could make everyone who asked to join the Fan Club a "STEWLIE" with a short two word Stewlie name like a nickname or we would name them, (no swear words) Then we changed Jenny and Jims Stewlie names to JENNY HER and JIM HIM.

We also thought we would be called male chauvinist pigs if we didn't get some gals involved. So we went down the Stewlie list and selected the first two Gals to make the Exec Council equal and Paul to break ties; Billie Shoe and Donna Body, Pork Taylor and me, Da Prezz.

The e-mails started coming real fast so we decided to make the first 100 that asked to join, Charters. They kept coming and now we are very close to 700 and we make everyone who asks to be a

Stewlie a Charter. Now we have 23 Stewlies from the Shamrock Horseshoe Club in Dublin Ireland. In fact, Paddy Kennedy from Donnybrook Ireland is Stewlie Charter # 28. We also have one Stewlie from Norway, plus the many Stewlies from all over Canada. World wide!!! We got some great new Stewlie friends when we were in Pocatello from Idaho, Washington and California, Utah and others. It seems we are out of control and don't know what to do about it. Except we are having lots of laughs and we are all becoming the best of friends. So that's good enough for us. Long may it continue to go. "It's a STEWLIE thing"

Paul and I just keep on laughing. We have a Button Maker to make Stewlie Buttons (pink for the Gals and blue for the Guys) and a Laminator to make Stewlie Business Cards that we attach to a Ribbon to hang around the neck. Now please let me explain about the STEWLIE DOLLS. Stewlie BUCKEYE BILLIE, (Billie Baldwin from Ohio) was having a tough time with her chemo and radiation for her cancer. Paul and I decided to send e-mails to the Stewlies and send Billie some cheer. It was overwhelming to say the least and gives a person chills thinking about it. Then one evening I decided to make a small Stewlie Doll with a bag and send to Billie. (I had made one for fun about a year before and sent to Stewlie # 8 Donna Dodson which she cherishes). Billie just loved her doll and sent us a real moving letter. Billie has since passed away and we all miss her very much and the others who have passed on. That is life as we all know. I knew about Billie's horseshoe friends support group and thought what are they going to think when they see Billie's Doll on her entertainment center? Only thing to do was make her support group (all Stewlies) dolls too. Next question was what about all the other Stewlies? So to date I have made over 700 Stewlie Dolls plus a Button and a Card with red, white and blue ribbon. We also send out e-mails (no dues you know) to the Stewlies about other Stewlies that are hurting in one way or another and also some very caring cards and letters to help them along. Also every now and then we have some good cheer to send out. The result has been over whelming to say the least.

It's an AMZING thing that has happened. And it's mind boggling about what great friends we are all becoming. Seems each day we have laughs about some Stewlie happenings. And sometimes tears.

The following is a Stewlie Intro letter we now use:

"We have No Dues, No Fees, We don't engage in any rumors, we don't support any causes, we don't oppose any causes. We don't do anything. In fact we ain't even thinking about doing anything. We just have all become very good friends and kinda help each other if we can.

continued on page 13

"STEWLIES"

Paul Stewart Fan Club

continued from page 12

I write a Stewlie Nooz (if I feel like it!!) once in awhile to let the Stewlies know what we are up to. We have our own Stewlie website that Billie Shoe takes care of, <http://www.stewlies.com/> Maybe you can sing and learn our "Stewlie Anthem" that Amy Francis and her mom Helen wrote for us and sang at Eau Claire and again at Pocatello Grin!!! We love it and it says it all.

Plus you can catch up with all the goings on there too. Please sign our Guestbook. It is not necessary for you to put your e-mail address on there that prying eyes might see, if you so choose.

Complete STEWLIE list is available from Burly, e-mail by request. Fourteen pages if you print it. It is in RTF (rich text format) so you should have no problem getting and printing.

*Again we say "Welcome to Da "Stewlies"
Burly, Stewlie # 1 (Da Prezz) and Paul, Stewlie # 0 (The Original)"*

We were having so many e-mail addresses that AOL shut me down for being a Bulk Mailer. I called them and tried to explain the STEWLIES had no dues, no fees, we don't sell anything and that we don't even do anything. Grin!!!

I finally gave that up after two shutdowns and now have the addresses broken down into separate contacts of Charters with about 40-50 in each and we have over ten of them. We also have to keep the WEBTV ones isolated because they can't get some of the STUFF we send out. Sometimes we wonder "what the heck have we done" and then when the thank you's and letters like Billie Baldwin's and others come we understand and are very thankful and pleased for it all.

When we first created the Stewlies we stated you had to have e-mail to be a Stewlie, otherwise we couldn't contact you. However that was leaving out some great horseshoe friends of ours, so now if you know a family member or friend that has e-mail and will see that you get what we send, then that works just fine.

Just send an e-mail to Bburly7@aol.com and ASK to be a STEWLIE. No problem!!!

As the saying goes. **"THE REST IS HISTORY"**

Burly, Stewlie # 1 Da Prezz and Paul, Stewlie #0 The Original

P.S.

When we got home from Pocatello I made new cards with ribbons, Stewlie buttons and Stewlie Dolls for the 23 new Stewlies from the Shamrock Horseshoe Club in Dublin, Ireland. Dick Hansen sent me some old Newslines to send along. I put in some CD's and DVD's of Horseshoes and a couple books and Horseshoe tapes. I boxed it all up and air-mailed it off to Paddy in Ireland. Paddy is a fun lad too. A neat Stewlie for sure.

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NEW INDUCTEES INTO LSHPA HALL OF FAME

Three of our horseshoe players were inducted into the Louisiana State Horseshoe Pitchers Association Hall of Fame at the State Horseshoe Singles Tournament held in Shreveport on the weekend of September 26th.

Rodney Fromenthal and Al Dodson, members of the Bayou Horseshoe Pitchers Association, along with Patricia Strain of the Harahan Horseshoe Pitchers Association, became the newest inductees and bring the total membership into the elite group to seventeen.

Patricia, better known as Pat, began playing horseshoes in 1988, when she became a member of the Harahan Horseshoe Pitchers Association. She was elected Vice President of that organization in 1993, a position she still holds today. Pat has been responsible for coordinating the auction at the annual HHPA Muscular Dystrophy Tournament each year. She competed in her first World Tournament in 1990 and won the Women's "Class J-2" Title. She finished that Tournament with a 23.6% average, entering with a 6.2%. She has attended the World Tournament every year since, where she has represented the LSHPA as its delegate at the NHPA annual meetings. She currently has moved up to the Class "B" category and placed third in 2003. She has placed twelve times in the Women's State Doubles Event, winning the Class "A" title five times with partner Elise Atchley. She has placed six times in Women's State Singles, winning the Class "A" Title twice in 2000 and 2003. She finished with a 60.00% Tournament average in claiming the 2003 title. Pat received the NHPA "TOP 10" award in 1992 and again in 1995. She ended the 2003 season with the highest LSHPA ringer percentage of 58.15%. She is currently ranked 67th in the NHPA Natstats.

Fromenthal became known for his horseshoe expertise at the State Knights of Columbus Tournaments, claiming the State Championship twice and being runner-up twice. Rodney was a charter member of the LA 70 Ringers, which was formed in 1993, served as its Secretary, and was instrumental in getting horseshoes organized and sanctioned in his local area. When the Bayou Horseshoe Pitchers Association was formed in 1997, Rodney was elected its first Third Vice-President. Rodney has recruited many local and statewide players into the LSHPA over the years, including his son, Yogi, who, with Rodney's coaching, claimed the State Junior Title twice. Rodney currently holds two BHPA records: an 80% ringer game (32 ringers out of 40 shoes) a 100 point scratch game in league play. At the State level, Rodney's accomplishments include two State Doubles Championship Titles as well as a State Singles Title.

Dodson began his horseshoe career in 1994, when he joined the LA 70 Ringers Club, who constructed the first ten courts at Kemper Williams Park in Patterson, which became a regular venue for sanction Tournaments, and hosted their first State Tournament in 1995. In 1996, Al was elected 1st Vice-President of the LSHPA, a position he has held until this year, when he was elected President of the State Association. Al was instrumental in the formation of the Bayou Horseshoe Pitchers Association in 1997, which combined the LA 70 Ringers and the Atchafalaya Horseshoe Club into one organization. Al was elected President of this Association, a position he still holds today. Al's accomplishments on the Courts include: six State Titles, including four singles in three different classes and two doubles. Three time "LA 70 Ringer Tournament" Champion. Three-time "Doubles for Dollars" Champion



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HALL OF FAME

by Earl and Vicki Winston

We trust that all of you have had a happy holiday season and are keeping healthy during the winter months. In our last article we told you of the committee meeting held at Pocatello, ID and of the fine tuning the committee did to the list of nominees. There is still time to add others, although the deadline for nominations is Feb. 28, 2005. Let us hear from you if you would like us to send you a nomination form. By the time you read this, there will probably be a printable form available on the NHPA web site. If there are updates to those nominations already in place, those should also be submitted by the Feb. 28, 2005 deadline. The following is a list of the candidates who are currently on the ballot.

PLAYER - A person who, with distinguished outstanding performances in World Tournament Championship play, has brought presitge to the art of horseshoe pitching.

Harold Anthony
Ed Arionus
Charles Bobbitt
Frank Bohun
Tom Brownell
Mike DiMartino
Harvey Elmerston
Jesse Gonzales
Loren May
Robert (Bob) May
Spud Napier
Ron Simmons
Ralph Simon

PROMOTER/ORGANIZER - A person who has made significant and beneficial contributions to the NHPA in an administrative capacity; such as promoter, organizer or NHPA officer.

George Anderson
Francis Asher
Reinhard Backer
G. A. Berger
Frank Crum
Will Gullickson
Henry Haynes
Floyd Hix
Don Weaver
Walter I. Williams

PLAYER/ORGANIZER - A person who has excellent credentials in both of the two other two categories.

Curt Bestul
Alex Cummings
Alvin Dahlene
Clayton "Boo" Henson
Genevieve Lavett
Len Lipovsky
Curly Seibold
Ralph Spencer
William Weis
Woody Wilson

A few nominations have been removed from the ballot for what the committee felt was lack of proper credentials. Those names may be resubmitted for nomination in the future, if someone so desires. Please use the NHPA HOF nomination form.

QUIZ

1. An outstanding promoter/organizer of major Iowa tournaments, he conducted the annual Midwest National tournament at Des Moines during the years 1936-39 when the NHPA was unable to hold official World Tournaments. Ted Allen and Fernando Isais were among the participants in these events.

2. From our neighboring country to the north, he was a good pitcher and outstanding organizer, serving as president of the Manitoba HPA for 30 years. He spent much time instructing youth in the sport of horseshoe pitching.

3. He was first to tabulate the history of the NHPA World Tournament and first to index the state and world tournament career of individuals. He was also first to compile an all-time State and World Tournament victory list. He is also a recipient of the Stokes Memorial Award for his outstanding contributions to our sport.

4. A resident of Ohio, his horseshoe pitching career lasted 62 years. During the twilight of his World Tournament participation he won two consecutive Senior Men's World Championship titles.

5. An avid promoter and horseshoe pitcher in his home state of Washington, he also won two consecutive intermediate Division World Championship titles. He sponsored junior pitchers to the World Tournament and he organized and helped to direct a series of outdoor winter tournaments, which are still held and bear his name.

6. His pitching career spanned 52 years in organized play. He spent many years promoting and organizing horseshoe pitching events in the Des Moines, Iowa area. He was co-chairman of the 1978 World Tournament.

7. She is one half of the only sister duo to be elected to the NHPA Hall of Fame thus far. She won two consecutive Women's World Championship titles with ringer averages of 81.7% and 80.4%. She is also a ten time Minnesota state champ.

8. He won the 1924 Boys World Championship. In 1976 he was Senior Men's World Champion. In between, he made 15 Men's Championship Class appearances with a career ringer average of 72.03% He was also Minnesota state champ eight times.

9. As a rookie in the 1969 World Tournament Men's Championship Class, he averaged 71.8%. He appeared again in 1972 averaging 74.0%. He was Maryland state champion 14 times.

10. He attended many World Tournaments and was highly regarded for his service and promotional activities in the states of New Jersey and Florida. He also served as the NHPA New England Regional Director. He was seen many times on the World Tournament courts serving as an official judge.

Answers can be found on page 19

NATSTATS

by Glenn Jamieson

The end of the season/year is here for many states. Many pitchers are hanging up their shoes for a few months till the good weather comes again next year. Others are moving to indoor courts to keep their tournament and league activity going. It is also time for all pitchers, officers and any one concerned about their average to check the NHPA web page to see that all the tournament results for your state have been reported to Natstats and/or your local state charter.

On the NHPA web page under NATSTATS -- Charter -- click on REPORTED EVENTS to view all the Sanctioned Events that have been recorded in Natstats for this year. If there is a Sanction Number not listed, then I have not received the results for that event. Every year I have to track down 30 - 40 events that were somehow overlooked and not reported.

Any tournament that was cancelled for whatever reason - rain - heat - snow - hurricane - bugs etc needs to be reported (by Sanction Number) so I can list it and have it accounted for.

There are quite a few results sent in during the year that are incomplete. For entry of results into Natstats I need the following information: Sanction Number - Date of tournament - Name of tournament/City played - Card number for each pitcher - Pitchers name - Pitching Category - Ringers - Shoes.

I do get many results by email which is real fast as many results are sent the same day of the tournament or many times the next day. This way we can keep pitchers averages very current.

Many results are sent by email in ascii format which I can then import directly and not have to put them in manually. I do have a couple of forms available for those that may want to fill out a form to mail or email. Let me know and I can email the form or put a copy into the mail for you. There are people using Walter Ray's and HSMaster programs and sending results in on paper. These programs can create an ascii file that can then be sent by email and I can import the information. If you want to know the ascii format, let me know I can send you a copy of what it looks like.

Next year when I receive incomplete tournament results I might be returning them to the sender to fill in the missing information before I enter into Natstats.

So be a little more careful when submitting results, check to see that everything is listed, especially new pitchers card numbers and card numbers for out of state pitchers. If card numbers are missing those are the tournaments I will probably be sending back. It may sound strange but I do get many results with card numbers that are duplicate of someone already assigned that number. Also sometimes there are two even three people reported with the same card number in the same tournament.

All you State Secretary/Treasurers - I could really use current information. When you make changes in your files, then I need to know that information also. When a lady gets married, I need to know their new name. When a person moves from another state, I need to know that. When a person changes pitching category, I need to know that. Sometimes this information comes in tournament results, but then I don't know if an error was made in reporting because

the information doesn't match my records in Natstats. I then have to pull out old records to see if this is the way information has been reported in the past or if this is the first time they are listed this way. Please try to list all pitchers the same way I have them listed in Natstats. If changes in the spelling of a name are needed, let me know, I can change my files. My files are set up the way information was first sent to me. If you want to change your files, let me know and I will change to match your files.

For those people that still do not know, there is a wealth of information on the NHPA web site. You can check a person's average from any state, also the pitchers from Canada. You can also view and print out a pitchers individual pitching record for the past 12 months. It lists each sanctioned event pitched with ringers and shoes and average pitched for tournament. There are many other "sites" to click on and view. The NHPA By-Laws and Rules are available. How to build courts - results from tournaments from around the United States - World Tournament results going back many years - and much more. Check out horseshoepitching.com - - - have fun!



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Horseshoe Pitching Facts and Folklore



By Bob Dinn

A Look Back in Iowa

Back In 1940, the NHPA produced a booklet "Horseshoe Pitching Compendium." The book is now one of the few resources for our sport's history. While I was writing the 'Focus on Promotion' articles, with most issues I had reprinted excerpts from that book. That is except for the state of Iowa. Not that there wasn't any horseshoe pitching history, just the opposite. It was a case that the article available was just too long to include in the series. The article is even too long to reprint for this series, if put into one issue. But it is such a fascinating article, it needs to be part of this series, so we will just print it up over the next three issues. This article was written by Leland Mortenson, a Hall of Fame member, and he did a delightful job. Not only is the sport's history in the state of Iowa covered well, but stories of the personalities of so many of the game's major stars. What is so extraordinary is to have this first hand accounting of all that that had taken place. Today, there would be no way possible to ever recapture most of this information, no matter how skilled the researcher may be. Leland's article is the greatest illustration of the word - folklore.

As horseshoe pitching jumped into the national sports limelight in the early 1920's, Iowa was right at the top of the list with Ohio for having super stars of the sport. Mortenson has done a marvelous job in telling us about the early-days. In this first section, you again see the match between C.C. Davis and Frank Jackson mentioned. This is the same challenge match that was mentioned in last month's article. Now we will learn a bit more about that match, especially what was behind the 41' stakes. Still no report of what happened to the side bet though. And so, here is part I.

IOWA

By Leland Mortenson

It is a pleasure to write this history of Iowa in horseshoes for the NHPA. This shall be a history of the game in Iowa and shall touch upon the national scene when Iowans have had connection with it.

So far as we are able to learn, the horseshoe game was with America before Iowa became a state. Perhaps it was adopted here after the arrival of blacksmith shops with their large number of cast-off horseshoes.

The game, once it began in Iowa didn't change much until the twenties. The courts varied in length from 30 feet to 55 feet; the stakes were generally rusty, easily bent pipes,

three inches high, or perhaps three feet; maybe bent and leaning in any direction. The earth around the stake was generally at least two feet deep and as hard as a brick. The players generally competed in two-man teams, tossing castoff shoes of different size and weights. For the most part the men were old. Games were of 21 point duration, five points for a ringer, three for a leaner, ten for a ringer covering an opponent's ringer, and twenty for a double ringer upon an opponent's double ringer.

No official champions existed. About the only honor to be gained from being an expert was to be a most desired partner. The only prizes ever won were such items as a keg of beer or something of similar or less value, offered at an occasional picnic, and the man who won was generally he who was fortunate in having the largest and heaviest shoes, for these would slide the best and bounce the least.

In 1909, the promoter of a colt show somewhere in Kansas, conceived the idea of staging a world's championship horseshoe pitching tournament in connection with the show. An Iowa farmer, Frank E. Jackson, of Kellerton, won the title and a championship belt.

Jackson in 1909, was 39 years old, and he had been tossing cast-off horseshoe since a boy. His method was like all others, to spin the shoe with one finger and pray for an open shoe. At that time he was fortunate if he could hook 20 per cent ringers. Jackson claims to have kept his title until 1919, and that he gradually improved and finally regulated his shoe to turn $1 \frac{3}{4}$ times.

In 1920, Jackson induced the Iowa State Fair Board to put some cash prizes for a two-man team tournament. This competition was held in front of the race track and Jackson and his oldest son Carrol, won first prize. The contest was changed to singles competition in 1921 and Jackson won the 'bacon'.

The two state tournament had been successful enough in drawing entries and in entertaining the State Fair visitors that the Fair Board made a successful bid in 1922 for both World and State Tournaments. Frank Jackson held both titles, and he was an overwhelming favorite to defeat all rivals. For these tournaments new courts were installed directly north of the brick horse barn. A small section of bleachers were set up, but there was no fence to keep spectators from getting too near the pitchers. Model T Ford axles were used as stakes.

Frank Jackson was considered to be so skillful that he was barred from the State tournament but a \$50 prize was set aside for a two-of-three contest between the winner of the tournament and Jackson for the Iowa championship.

A newcomer to the State Fair was a rather thick-lipped 20-year-old shabbily dressed boy from New London, Iowa. His name was Frank Lundin. He never said much, just pitched. And with and with ever pitch he bit his lips, so that while he was in a game it was a common sight to see his lips bleeding.

The state meet was held before the national, and Lundin easily won. He was said to be absolutely nerveless. After

continued on page 18

Horseshoe Pitching

Facts and Folklore



By Ed Dwan

continued from page 17

disposing of his rivals, Lundin cracked Frank Jackson in two straight games, 50-13, 50-17, averaging 61 per cent ringers and starting the first game with seven consecutive double ringers. Sixty one per cent would be poorly today, but Lundin was using horseshoes, although made especially for pitching, were greatly inferior to the best of today.

C.C. Davis, a very famous pitcher, then from Ohio, saw Lundin defeat Jackson for the state title, and said something to this effect, "We'll take him in the National." But Davis became a Lundin victim, 50-12.

By the way, I rank Lundin's state championship 1922 victory over Jackson as one of the three outstanding games in Iowa history for suspense and surprise. When the old-timers get together now it is the game they like most to talk about.

The people in new London were so proud of Lundin that they erected a huge sign beside the road leading into town. It read, "This is the home of Frank Lundin, World's Champion Horseshoe Pitcher."

In the 1922 National Meet Lundin did lose one game to Lyle Brown, then 17 years old, and from Des Moines 50-48. The Lundin boosters claim that Lundin threw the game in order to put Brown into third place, but this can be discounted. Brown led 49-48 and threw a ringer and a close shoe. Lundin topped with a double which should have won the game, but his second shoes hopped off away, giving Brown the point he needed.

Frank Jackson lost two games to Lundin and to his second oldest son, Hansford. If Hansford had lost to his father then there would have been a tie between Jackson and Lundin for the championship. This single instance is pretty good proof that the Jackson's didn't practice game-throwing to much extent, if any.

It may be stated that by this time National rules about the same as those today existed.

An Iowa Horseshoe Pitchers Association was organized that year and Dr. J.H. Becker of Des Moines was elected secretary and treasurer. Becker held his association together until 1927, when he withdrew. However, Becker never called for any more conventions, but collected dues. The money was used for tournament prizes. This was not a case of dishonesty, but simple a matter of keeping oneself at the head of an organization by not calling a meeting. The other officers were not interested enough to argue

with Becker about the matter.

Lundin and Jackson went to Florida early in 1923, where a 15 year-old boy from Ohio, Harold Falor, copped Lundin's title. Lundin's friends say this tournament was a joke, that sand was placed around the stake instead of clay; that Falor had practiced for a month to slide his shoe to the stake which he learned quite well, and that the other threw their ringers directly on, only to have them bounce off. I don't know whether this is true or not. However, most Iowa's remember Lundin lost his title. They think he retired undefeated except for the game they think he threw to Brown.

Why did Lundin retired from horseshoes? The answer is that he lost his fine touch of one of his finger nerves. He is not crippled today, but just simply can't regulate the turn of the shoe.



Frank Lundin

A popular fable about Lundin is that he never injured a nerve, but that some gamblers bought him off for a period of years, that he pitches about 100 per cent in secret daily practice, and that he will be back at the fair when his time expires. Believe it or not, I have heard that tale over 200 times from different sources in the past ten years.

The only significance of this fable is that Lundin is No. 1 in the hearts and memories of the older Iowa fans.

It was shortly before Lundin retired that a Des Moines man whose name is now forgotten, promoted some matches at the fair grounds. In one of these Lundin beat Jackson six straight games, and in another, C.C. Davis vs., Jackson an amusing incident occurred.

Davis and Jackson had put up a side bet and there was a small sum of gate receipts to be divided. Jackson's shoes continually fell short of the stake, but Davis shot a rich ringer percentage. Immediately after the game, Jackson measured the court and found the stakes to be 41 feet apart. Why 41 instead of 40? Tom Fogarty, of Des Moines, and long associated with horseshoe pitching, says that Jackson's friends claimed that Davis had purposely practiced on 41 foot courts and that the night before the match Davis or some of his friends went to the fair grounds and moved the stakes.

At any rate, Fogarty says, the promoter couldn't get anything settled; that Mr. Corey, of the Fair Board, was called to make the decision, which he promptly did by tossing the funds into the school fund. *To be continued.....*

KENOSHA HORSESHOE CLUB HOLDS ANNUAL BENEFIT

by Harry Nelson

The Kenosha Horseshoe Club held their annual benefit tournament for the "Hospice Alliance, Inc." Hospice Alliance, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to caring for the terminally ill and empowering those who support them.

The KHC held a ten-team round robin doubles tournament on our five indoor courts on June 12, 2004. We divided our 20 pitchers that signed up according to their ringer percentage into ten high pitchers and ten low pitchers. Then we matched the highest with the lowest to form ten teams. The format used was count-all, 20 shoes.

We started at 10:00 by introducing Kathy Carroll and Bob Moynihan from Hospice who each gave a short talk on how Hospice functions. Then we introduced all the pitchers in the tournament and gave them each a special towel. After that Bob Moynihan pitched the first two shoes and we started the tournament. After four games we took a break for dinner which was Wisconsin Brats prepared and served by Pat Nelson and Judy Peroutka. Pat was also our statistician who kept the scores on the board.

The Kenosha Horseshoe Club thanks all the pitchers and workers that participated and made 2004's benefit a success. Together we raised \$3,139.00 for the Hospice Alliance. Our four top fund raisers were Harry Nelson, Paul Papenfuss, Vera Johnson, and Linda Johnson. One of our best workers was Paul

Papenfuss who went out and got 39 sponsors. We thank you Paul for your extra effort. It was greatly appreciated.

There was a play-off for first place between the team of Tom Endler and Mort Papenfuss and Don Peroutka and Ryan Hyatt because they each had a 7/2 win/loss record. Don from Kenosha and Ryan from Racine won the play-off and took first place. Ryan had one of his best tournaments, pitching 58.5%.

At the presentation, \$3,139.00 was given to Connie Matter, the Executive Director of Hospice Alliance, Inc.

HALL OF FAME ANSWERS

1. Leland Mortenson
2. Bert Snart
3. Gary Kline
4. Ray Miller
5. Francis Winetrout
6. Marion Lange
7. Beverly Nathe
8. Frank Stinson
9. Dale Carson
10. Lee Davis

NHPA Income And Expenditures October/November 2004

Receipts

Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$1,600.00
Logo Use Fee	\$100.00
Membership Dues	\$16,608.00
Newsline Ads	\$1,564.00
Newsline Subscriptions	\$3,581.00
Refund From AT&T	\$6.46
Refund From US Bank	\$310.67
Sanction Club/League Patches	\$77.00
US Bank Interest / Money Market	\$214.70
US Bank Interest / Checking	\$6.82
US Bank Refund	\$50.00
Total	\$24,118.65

Expenditures

Newsline Printing Supplies & Mailing	\$12,039.74
Sanction League Postage & Printing	\$378.81
Sanctioned League Patches & Awards	\$6,785.41
Sanctioned League Office Supplies & Telephone	\$12.36
Hall Of Fame, Awards, Supplies & Expenses	\$228.74
Regional Director, Postage, Telephone, Supplies & Printing	\$610.00
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$347.36
Printing, Paper & Office Supplies	\$1,982.44
Postage	\$582.90
Officers Telephone	\$183.53
Officers Travel	\$1,957.92
Secretary-Treasurer Allowance	\$3,040.00
Presidents Allowance	\$912.00
Publicity, Promotions & Ads	\$44.98
Direct & Indirect NHPF Donations & Support	\$214.64
Insurance	\$1,922.00
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges, Etc.	\$131.00
Special Events	\$376.06
Internet Access & Web Site	\$83.80
Total	\$31,833.69

From the books of NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen

THE TOLL OF TIME

Geof Brunson

On October 27, 2004 and at only 58 years young, Geof Brunson lost his year long battle with cancer and died at home with his family nearby. We think he had a hand, from above, in the fourth and final Red Sox World Series Game victory later that evening. Geof was a very effective manager for the local franchise of Morton Buildings, having won national awards from that business. He was better known to his fellow pitchers in the Loon Pond Horseshoe Club as the "best cook in the world" - he annually planned and cooked the banquet food for us at the end of each season - the best banquet food anywhere. He was also known for his organizational skills and quick, efficient decision-making, along with a great speaking voice. We all feel a great sense of loss with his passing, especially his partners, Ron Harris and Dave Boyd. We will miss him.

Submitted by Debby Michaud



Curt Day

Frankfort, Indiana

Curt Day of Frankfort, Indiana died on December 4th at St. Elizabeth Hospital. He was born on July 6, 1917 in Science Hill, Indiana, the son of James Harvey Day and Sara Lu Creecy (Sipple) Day. He married Mary Helen O'Bryan on May 22, 1941 in Lebanon, Indiana and she preceded him in death on December 10, 1981.

Curt was a 1935 Graduate of Frankfort High School. He worked at Allison Division of General Motors from 1951-1981 retiring in 1981. A veteran of the U.S. Army, he served during WW II from 1943-1945 in the European Theatre.

He has been World Champion three times; 1966, 1971 and 1974. He also holds 18 Indiana State Titles, 1955, 1957, 1959-1972 and 1974. Curt had an 80% ringer average in all tournaments and set a record of the highest ringer percentage (86.6%) in a complete tournament in 1966.

In 1969 Curt was inducted into the National Horseshoe Hall of Fame and was a Charter Member of the Indiana Horseshoe Hall of Fame. He appeared in Lincoln Library of Sports, Guinness Book of World Records, World Almanac and the September 1984 issue of Sports Illustrated.

Curt was a member of the Saint Mary's Catholic Church, American Legion, Moose Lodge #7, VFW, Knights of Columbus in Frankfort and the Indiana Horseshoe Hall of Fame Committee.

He is survived by sons: James of Sarasota, FL, Richard of Frankfort, IN, Paul of Brownsburg, IN and daughters: Joyce Houser of Grand Rapids, MI, Margie Roberts of Lafayette, IN, one sister and two brothers, 14 Grandchildren and four Great Grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two sons, Michael and Curtis, three sisters, his wife and parents.

Curt will be missed by all the Indiana State Pitchers and by National Horseshoe pitchers as well. He was a terrific pitcher and a true gentleman.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT *by Allen Baptist*

I was saddened to learn of the passing of North Carolina Regional Director Wayne Roope. I was informed that Wayne passed away several months ago. Wayne was a hard working Regional Director and I will miss working with him. Wayne is replaced by Glenn Mitchell from Wilkesboro NC. Also Kansas Regional Director Bernie VanLerberg has decided to step down. He will be replaced by Monica Vaughn from Bonner Springs Kansas.

From the Mail Bag

I would like to pass on outgoing New Jersey Regional Director ED Quigley's last letter.

"I've had an enjoyable and rewarding run as RD for NJ and I've worked with a lot of fine and energetic people on the State and National levels. The position of RD gave me an opportunity to communicate news and ideas to members of the NJSHPA via Regional Director's corner in the Jersey Jargon. In addition I was able to write many stories about tournaments and pitching accomplishments of members. As I approach my 80th birthday and 3,153,600,000 heartbeats, it is time to pass the RD shoes to quicker pitchers."

Bob Reese - Oklahoma Regional Director reports that Glencoe, Madill Baptist Village and Hogden Talking Trees Campground

will host their first sanctioned tournaments in 2005. The town of Seminole will be building six courts in Johns Park, which construction is now underway. Bob and Gerald Brown, with pitching help from Billy Walters and Leon Bell, are conducting horseshoe pitching classes for Brad Coyle, East Central University physical fitness instructor. A total of 49 students are enrolled in the two-hour long classes. The necessary horseshoes are being furnished by Ada's City Recreation Director as well as the four OHPA instructors.

Rick Rebman - Oregon Regional Director reports that Oregon has four new State Champions for the first time ever. Their oldest pitcher, Warner Kerlin was 94 years old, was still pitching a month before he died and was still pitching at 40'!

Darle Eshe - Pennsylvania Regional Director reports that The New Brighton Horseshoe Club has five new indoor lighted courts, with fifteen foot ceilings and ample room between and behind the courts. The courts are also clay.

Dan Sanders - Ohio Regional Director reports that Ohio has 16 indoor tournaments on the schedule for 2005, with five active winter leagues around the State. Dan is also very busy working on the Rules re-write committee.

2005 WORLD TOURNAMENT RV REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION FORM

- 1 Campgrounds are located right on the fairgrounds at 1142 South "P" St. Bakersfield, Ca.
- 2 There are approximately 200 RV spaces with hookups available right on the fairgrounds.
- 3 Camping spaces will be \$20.00 per day.
- 4 Fees are payable in advance.
- 5 **Make all checks or money orders payable to Bakersfield CVB. Sorry no credit cards.**

**SEND THIS COMPLETED FORM TO:
GERALD PATTERSON
4607 BLOMQUIST DR.
BAKERSFIELD, CA. 93309**

OR

YOU CAN CALL GERALD PATTERSON AT 661-831-7617 TO MAKE PHONE RESERVATIONS

<u>Last Name</u>				<u>First Name</u>			
<u>Address</u>				<u>Phone No.</u>			
				<u>Alt. Phone No.</u>			
<u>City</u>		<u>State</u>		<u>Zip Code</u>			
<u>RV Length</u>		<u>Hook-Ups</u>		Yes		No	
<u>No. of Days Staying</u>				Please Circle Days On Calendar Below			
Jul-05							<u>No. of Days Staying</u>
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31	Aug.1	Aug.2	Aug.3	Aug.4	Aug.5	Aug.6	X \$20.00 Per Day = _____

**New York State Championships
September 6, 2004**

Men's Championship	W/L	%
1. Bob Hayes	7/0	72.66%
2. Art Tyson	6/1	73.40%
3. Michael J DiMartino	5/2	65.87%
4. Alan L Overbaugh	3/4	59.17%
5. John E Merrill	2/5	55.69%
6. David N Scott	2/5	51.94%
7. Tom Bernard	2/5	51.72%
8. Chris Jackson	1/6	52.92%

Women's Championship	W/L	%
1. Ellen Perry	7/0	54.09%
2. Karen Graham	5/2	55.14%
3. Traci A Hastings	5/2	51.94%
4. Julie Bernard	4/3	49.16%
5. Patricia Turner	4/3	44.44%
6. Margaret Wilkinson	2/5	30.46%
7. Joan A James	1/6	38.34%
8. Tenesia Mayer	0/7	15.55%

Elder's Championship	W/L	%
1. Stanley Towne	5/0	69.68%
2. Glen T Addicott	4/1	59.18%
3. John Kozik Jr	3/2	40.78%
4. Patrick McCarthy	2/3	44.91%
5. Glenn Brown	1/4	46.79%
6. George S Lovell	0/5	25.61%

Junior Boy's Championship	W/L	%
1. John Perry	7/0	56.77%
2. Jason Bowerman	6/1	47.40%
3. Nathan Metott	4/3	37.31%
4. Shad Wright	4/3	36.50%
5. Thomas Goodman	2/5	34.94%
6. Joshua Bowerman	2/5	34.47%
7. Travis Goodman	2/5	30.45%
8. Joshua Wright	1/6	34.30%

Junior Girl's Championship	W/L	%
1. Natanna Metott	5/0	15.60%
2. Nicole Wright	3/2	9.20%

3. Ashley Best	3/2	4.80%
4. Kerri Pike	2/3	4.00%
5. Katy Pound	2/3	2.40%
6. Dakota Marshall	0/5	3.60%

Men's Classes	W/L	%
A Art Tyson	7/0	74.29%
B Richard R Pike	5.5/1.5	52.14%
C David N Scott	5/2	55.00%
D Roy Emrich	7/1	41.33%
E Lawrence E Kurowski	7/0	48.93%
F Rick Ashby	5/2	38.21%
G Jerry Jessmore	6/2	39.33%
H Kodjo Amouzou-Edah	6/1	39.29%
I Paul Black	7/1	45.67%
J Martin R Lindner	6/1	40.36%
K Albert W Buckland	7/1	34.87%
L Paul Piazza	7/0	31.43%
M Edwin Comfort Jr	7/1	31.33%
N Richard Korhumel	6/1	32.86%
O Wayne Hamilton	7/1	43.00%
P Ralph Whitney	7/1	23.68%
Q Eric L Hyde	6/1	22.14%
R Kenneth Edsall	7/2	20.68%
S Tim Wright	7/1	24.33%

Women's Classes	W/L	%
A Karen Graham	7/0	54.29%
B Joan A James	6/1	48.21%
C Samantha Marshall	8/1	33.70%

Elder's Class	W/L	%
B Raymond L Hall	5/0	46.00%
Junior Boy's Class	W/L	%
B Zachary Marshall	5/0	9.50%

**Vermont State Championship
August 7 & 8**

Men's Class A	W/L	%
1. Kevin Hollister	6/1	66.10%
2. Len Johnson	5/2	57.27%
3. "Grant Lewis, Sr."	5/2	47.63%

4. Ray Charbonneau	4/3	64.29%
5. Don Choinere	4/3	62.56%
6. Leon O'Dell	2/5	42.94%
7. Ray Gokey	2/5	35.11%

Women's Class A	W/L	%
1. Jean Choiniere	4/0	57.45%
2. Brenda Preston	2/2	52.40%
3. Debra Brown	2/2	40.00%
4. Meagan Bigelow	1/3	41.15%
5. Bev Forgues	1/3	40.28%

Junior Boy's Class A	W/L	%
1. Nick Preston	6/0	69.26%
2. Cody Preston	4/2	44.59%
3. Dave Dickinson	1/5	46.67%
4. "Randy Little, Jr."	1/5	41.19%

Junior Girl's Class A	W/L	%
1. Melissa Bigelow	4/0	45.40%
2. Jessica Chevrier	2/2	34.95%
3. Torri Selleck	0/4	15.12%

Under 9 Mixed	W/L	%
1. Brianna McCormick	3/1	7.50%
2. Brandon Keyes	3/1	18.33%
3. Heather Selleck	0/4	0.83%

Men's Classes	W/L	%
B Dan Cassidy	6/2	44.90%
C "Ray Barrows, Sr."	7/0	33.03%
D Stan Bigelow	5/1	36.86%
E Linus Kinner	7/0	35.23%
F Derek Lefebvre	6/1	24.73%
G Alan Curler	5/0	21.20%

Women's Classes	W/L	%
B Virginia Harrington	7/0	33.81%
Junior Boy's Class	W/L	%
B Dylan Racine	5/1	20.69%

Announcing!!!

TEAM WORLD 2005

Edwards Activity & Sports Center • Beloit, Wisconsin

May 13, 14 & 15, 2005



2004 WORLD CHAMPIONS—TEAM TENNESSEE

*Harold Morgan, Shannon Foster, Joan Elmore, Paula Hunsicker,
Bobby Fields, NHPA President - Paul Stewart*

NHPA SANCTIONED • 21ST ANNUAL • ADULTS ONLY

- **4 Person Teams** Representing Your State or Province
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- **New for 2005!!** Increased Prize Money
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Attention Charter Officers!

Now is the time to get your teams organized.
Make sure your state or Province is represented!

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National Horseshoe Pitchers Association Rules and Guidelines Re-write

Prepared by The Rules Re-write Committee:

Bonnie Seibold, Stu Sipma, Dan Sanders, Casey Sluys

During the last year or so, this committee has been working on the re-writing of our current NHPA Rules. This re-write is being published here so that all members will have sufficient time to read and discuss the information before the National convention in Bakersfield, CA. We have changed wording on some to simplify the Rule and make it easier to understand. We also have a Table of Contents page that should make them easier to find. (The page numbers have been eliminated here as this re-write has been condensed from 10 pages to 6 pages for the purpose of printing them in Newsline.)

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National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

OFFICIAL RULES OF HORSESHOE PITCHING

Published By

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America (NHPA)

(Jan 1, 2005)

Rule 1 - Equipment

Section A – Legal Shoes

Any official (legal) horseshoe must be sanctioned and approved by the NHPA, and must pass the following maximum weight and measurement standards (there is no minimum weight). The horseshoe weight shall not be more than two (2) pounds, ten (10) ounces. It shall not exceed 7-1/4 inches in width or 7-5/8 inches in length. The opening of the shoe must not exceed 3-1/2 inches, measured from a parallel line 3/4 of an inch inward from a straightedge touching the points of the shoe. (A 1/8-inch tolerance to 3-5/8 inches is allowed on used shoes) No part of the original manufactured shoe may exceed one (1) inch in height. Shoes not meeting these requirements shall not be used in any NHPA sanctioned competition and all games pitched with illegal shoes shall be forfeited. All horseshoes used by a pitcher may be checked at any time to verify that they are legal shoes. A judge or other tournament officials will do this checking.

Section B – Altered Shoes

Any shoe that has been changed from its original design (calk, notch, welding, etc.) shall be considered an “altered” shoe. An “altered” shoe is illegal and cannot be used in any (tournaments or leagues) sanctioned play. **Note:** The NHPA Executive Council has the right to waive the “altered” shoe provision for a physically impaired contestant.

Section C – Shoes Sanctioned by Other Countries

Any shoes sanctioned by another country are permissible in NHPA sanctioned play, but only for contestants from that country, and then only if they meet NHPA specifications. They are not allowable (for U.S. citizens) in NHPA sanctioned events unless they are also sanctioned by the NHPA.

RULE 2 – PITCHING DISTANCES

Section A – Juniors (any pitcher eighteen years old or younger for the entire calendar year)

Junior contestants may pitch from any place on either the full-distance or extended platforms. They must observe the 27-foot foul lines. Juniors age nine or under, for the entire calendar year, may observe a 20-foot foul line.

Note: * Juniors may choose to move into the Open Men or Open Women Divisions prior to the age guidelines, but cannot return to the Junior Division, once this declaration has been made.

Section B – Open Men (beginning age 18 or 19*) and Senior Men (beginning age 60)

All Open Men and Senior Men contestants shall pitch from on or behind the full-distance platforms adjacent to the pits and observe the 37-foot foul

line. Physically impaired males may be given permission by their governing Charter or NHPA officials to move onto the extended platforms and observe the 27-foot foul lines. The prior completion and approval of a Medical Exemption Form is required.

Section C – Elders (beginning age 70)

Elders are classified as short-distance pitchers, shall pitch less than the full distance, and observe the 27-foot foul line.

Section D – Open Women (beginning age 18 or 19*) and **Senior Women** (beginning age 60)

Female contestants may pitch from any place on the full-distance or extended platforms and shall observe the 27-foot foul lines, except that any woman pitching in the Elders class must pitch from less than 40 feet.

Section E – Male Pitchers with an Approved Medical Exemption Form

Male pitchers less than 70 years old and with an approved Medical Exemption Form (available from State Secretaries) are classified as short-distance pitchers. They shall pitch from less than 40 feet and will observe the 27-foot foul line. At the World Tournament and at State Championship Tournaments, they shall compete in the Elders Division.

RULE 3 – GAME PREPARATION

Section A – Court Assignment

Each contestant shall find his or her court assignment and warm up on that court for their first game. The court shall be prepared for play in a timely manner so that all games can begin at about the same time.

Section B – Start of Game

Each game will begin with the flip of a shoe or coin. The winner of the flip will have choice of first or second pitch.

Section C – Court Rotation

After each game, contestants shall go promptly to their next assigned court and each shall prepare one pit for play, **but only after all games of that round are completed**. If, during the time it takes to complete a round, a contestant wants to practice, he/she shall practice on the court where they just finished their game so as not to cause a distraction by preparing a court near a game still in progress. After both pits have been prepared, the contestants have the option of pitching no more than four warm-up shoes, and then the next game must begin immediately.

RULE 4 – PLAY OF THE GAME AND VALUE OF THE SHOE

Section A – Innings

The game is broken down into innings. Each inning consists of four pitched shoes; two by each contestant.

Section B – Value of the Shoe

1. Ringer – A ringer is a shoe that comes to rest while encircling the stake. A straightedge touching either the points or any part of the heel calks of the shoe must clear (not touch) the stake in order to be declared a ringer. A ringer has a value of three points.

2. Shoe in Count – A shoe that is not a ringer but comes to rest with any portion of it within six (6) inches of any part of the stake is a shoe “in count”. A shoe in count has a value of one point. A “leaner”, or any other shoe which is touching the stake (but not a ringer), is considered a shoe in count and has a value of one point.

3. Shoe out of Count – A shoe that comes to rest further than six (6) inches from the stake is a shoe out of count and has no scoring value. A foul shoe is also considered to be a shoe that is out of count, no matter where it comes to rest.

Section C – Delivery of Shoes

1. The contestant pitching first shall deliver both shoes (one at a time) and then the other contestant shall deliver both shoes (one at a time). A contestant may deliver the shoes from either the left or right platform, but in any one inning, both shoes must be delivered from the same platform. A contestant shall pitch the entire tournament with the same hand or arm, except in the case of a medical emergency.

2. A contestant shall deliver both shoes within thirty (30) seconds. This time limitation shall be measured by a judge and will start when the contestant steps onto the platform with the intention of pitching. **Exceptions:**

- Extra time will be allowed to repair a damaged shoe (filing a burr for example).
- If a player becomes distracted due to unusual playing conditions or by

another contestant or spectator, they will not be penalized.

Section D – Position of Contestants During Delivery

1. The Pitcher – During the entire address and release of a shoe, the pitcher must not start or step completely outside the platform with either foot.

Exceptions:

- A contestant observing the 37-foot foul line may start directly behind the platform provided they step within it when they release the shoe.

- A physically-challenged contestant must have at least some contact with the platform and be completely behind the 27-foot foul line when the shoe is released.

2. The Opponent – An opponent’s position, when not pitching, shall be standing quietly and stationary on or behind the same court’s opposite platform and at least two (2) feet behind a contestant who is pitching from the same or adjacent court. In mixed-distance pitching, a short-distance pitcher who pitches first must return to this position, on or behind the 40-foot platform.

Rule 5 – FLOW OF THE GAME

1. Once the four shoes in an inning have been pitched, the contestants shall walk to the opposite pit to determine the score for the inning and retrieve their shoes. No shoe shall be moved before its’ scoring value is determined. If the decision is in doubt, a judge shall be called. The judge shall make the necessary measurements and determine the scoring for the shoes in question. To help speed up play, contestants are encouraged to carry measuring tools and to make their own decisions on scoring whenever possible. Play shall continue in a similar fashion for each inning until the game is completed.

2. No contestant shall walk to the opposite stake (except to remove a foul shoe) or be informed of the position of any pitched shoes prior to completion of an inning.

3. At any one time, a contestant shall carry and use only two sanctioned horseshoes during the course of a game. A spare shoe or shoes should be taken along to the courts in case of a broken shoe or if the contestant chooses to switch shoes. Shoes may be switched between innings, but not during an inning, unless a shoe breaks.

4. If it is discovered during an inning that a contestant has pitched the shoe of an opponent (and if the opponents agree), the remaining shoes may be pitched and the score will be based on the shoes they pitched. If the contestants do not agree on pitching the remaining shoes, then the shoes pitched shall be picked up and the entire inning shall be re-pitched, using the correct shoes.

5. When a contestant is measuring a shoe and the shoe (or the stake) is accidentally moved, the inning shall be scored only if the contestants can come to an agreement. If no agreement can be reached, a judge shall be called. The judge shall either determine the scoring or void the inning and order it to be re-pitched. When a judge is measuring a shoe and the shoe (or the stake) is accidentally moved, the judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or void it and order it to be re-pitched.

Exceptions: Any shoes for which point values have been agreed upon by the contestants, such as ringers which may have been removed to measure other shoes, should not be re-pitched or have their value changed due to a re-pitch of other shoes. Only the shoe(s) in question when the shoe or stake was moved should be ordered re-pitched by the judge. If one or more shoes are below the shoe(s) in question, they shall remain in place for the re-pitch.

6. It is legal for a contestant to carry and use a blunt-ended hook or shoe pick-up device not exceeding thirty-six (36) inches in total length. Any hook cannot protrude more than two (2) inches from the main shaft. Care should be taken in using the hook so as not to endanger the opponent or other contestants. Contestants are also encouraged to carry a file and towel to keep their shoes burr-free and shoes and hands clean and dry.

RULE 6 – BROKEN OR CRACKED SHOES

Section A. Broken Shoes

1. If a shoe breaks into two or more parts as a result of striking the stake, striking another shoe in the pit, or from landing into the pitching substance, the parts shall be removed and another shoe shall be pitched in its place. If the shoe breaks when striking the backboard or other “foul” ground, it shall be considered a foul shoe and may not be re-pitched.

2. If a shoe has landed in the pit and becomes broken by having another shoe

land on it, it shall be scored as it appears to lie. If there is any disagreement, a judge shall be called. The judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or order the shoe to be re-pitched.

Section B. Cracked Shoes

1. If a shoe is discovered to be cracked (but not completely broken into two or more parts), it shall be scored as it lies. Once the scoring is determined, the shoe shall be replaced.

RULE 7 – BROKEN STAKES

A broken stake is defined as any stake not in the same position as when the game started, and when both contestants agree that it is broken. When the stake breaks during an inning, the game shall be discontinued at the end of the previous inning and the stake shall be replaced. If a stake breaks as the result of being struck by the fourth shoe of the inning, then the inning may be counted. If the contestants cannot agree on this, then a judge shall be called to determine the scoring for the inning or void it and order the inning to be re-pitched once the game resumes. Once the scoring for the inning is determined, the tournament officials may decide to complete the game on another court, resume play after the stake is replaced, or to complete the game at a later time. A judge or tournament official will notify the contestants about resumption of play.

RULE 8 – FOUL SHOE

A foul shoe is a shoe that was delivered in non-compliance with one of the rules of the game. It scores as a shoe out of count and is to be removed from the pit (if it is in the scoring radius of the stake) before any more shoes are pitched. Shoes already in the pit that have been disturbed by a foul shoe are not to be removed, unless they were knocked into foul territory and are returned to the scoring area.

1. The following are rules violations that must be spotted and called by an assigned judge. The penalty is to declare the shoe a foul shoe.

- Any shoe pitched when the contestant has stepped on or over the foul line before the shoe is released.
- Any shoe pitched when the contestant has started or stepped completely outside the pitching platform with either foot before releasing the shoe.
- Any shoe not delivered within the thirty-second time limit.
- Any shoe pitched with the opposite hand/arm, unless there is an approved medical emergency.
- The second shoe, if it is pitched from a different platform than the first shoe.

2. The following occurrences are also considered foul shoes and the shoes must be removed from the pit (if they are in the scoring radius of the stake) before any more shoes are delivered unless all competitors in that game agree to leave the shoe where it is.

- Any shoe that contacts the backboard, platform, court frame, or any ground outside the pit area before it comes to rest.
- Any shoe that strikes a previously-defined object such as a tree limb, wire, indoor court ceiling, etc.

NOTE: A shoe that strikes a foreign, moving object is not foul and may be re-pitched.

c. The second shoe if the contestant changes shoes after the first shoe has been pitched. The only exception is if the first shoe has broken and qualifies for a re-pitch.

d. Any shoe that leaves a contestant's hand once the final, forward swing of the delivery process has started shall count as a pitched shoe. A shoe that is accidentally dropped by a contestant before the final forward swing has started shall not be considered a foul shoe and may be picked up and pitched.

e. A contestant's shoe(s), if the contestant removes any shoe before the scoring of that shoe has been agreed upon. If the contestants cannot agree, a judge shall be called to determine the scoring or may order the inning re-pitched.

Note: Shoes already in the pit area that may be disturbed by other live shoes or by a foul shoe are not to be removed, unless they were knocked into foul territory and then came to rest in the scoring area. They shall be scored "as they lie" after all shoes for the inning have been pitched.

RULE 9 - PROTESTS

If a contestant desires to make a protest, the protest shall be made to the judge or tournament official(s) at the time the problem occurs. If the problem

cannot be resolved on the courts, the tournament director or committee shall make the final ruling on all protests. This ruling may occur after the game has been completed.

RULE 10 – LENGTH OF THE GAME

The length of a game and method for breaking ties shall be determined and announced by the tournament officials before play begins. There are three options:

1. **Point Limit** – The game shall be played to a pre-determined number of points. Forty (40) points is the suggested amount. The first contestant to reach (or exceed) that amount is the winner.

2. **Shoe Limit** – The game shall be played to a pre-determined number of shoes. Forty (40) or fifty (50) shoes is the suggested amount. It shall be an even number. When that number is reached, the contestant with the highest score is the winner. If the score is tied, there are three options:

- Each contestant may receive ½ win and ½ loss. (This option should be used if a handicap system is in effect).
- A one-inning tiebreaker may be played, using the same method of play that was used in the game. In the event of another tie, this same procedure shall be continued until the tie is broken. This is recommended for cancellation play.
- A two-inning tiebreaker may be played, using the same method of play that was used to begin the game. In the event of another tie, this same procedure shall be continued until the tie is broken. This is recommended for count-all play.

3. **Point Limit or Shoe Limit** – For example, thirty-five (35) points or fifty (50) shoes, whichever comes first. In the event of a tie when the shoe limit is reached, each contestant may receive ½ win and ½ loss (this option should be used if a handicap system is in effect), or additional single innings may be played until the tie is broken.

RULE 11 – SCORING THE GAME

There are two methods of scoring in horseshoes – cancellation and count-all.

1. **Cancellation Scoring** - In cancellation scoring, only one contestant can score in each inning.

a. **Ringers** – Ringers cancel each other. A ringer of one contestant shall cancel a ringer of the other contestant and those shoes shall not score any points. Any uncanceled (live) ringer scores three points.

b. **Shoes in count** – A shoe "in count" must be within six inches of the stake and shall score one point under the following conditions:

- If there are cancelled ringers and no live ringer, the closest shoe to the stake that is in count shall score one point.
- If there are no ringers, the closest shoe in count shall score one point. If the other shoe of that same contestant is the second closest shoe in count, it shall also score one point.
- If there is one uncanceled ringer and if the other shoe of the scoring contestant is the closest in-count shoe to the stake, it shall score one point (four points total).
- Opposing contestant's shoes that are touching the stake, or that are in count and determined to be an equal distance from the stake, shall cancel each other and (like cancelled ringers) shall score no points. In this situation, the next closest shoe in count (if there is one) shall score one point.

2. Calling the Score

Points shall be awarded in the following situations. The contestant scoring the points shall call the score.

- No ringers with the closest shoe in count – call "one point".
- No ringers with the two closest shoes in count – call "two points".
- One ringer with either no shoe in count or the other contestant having the closest shoe in count – call "one ringer, three points".
- One ringer with the closest shoe in count – call "one ringer, four points".
- Two cancelled ringers with the closest shoe in count – call "one ringer each, one point".
- Two cancelled ringers with one uncanceled ringer – call "three ringers, three points".
- Two uncanceled ringers – call "two ringers, six points".

Note: No points shall be awarded in the following situations. The score shall be called by the contestant who pitched second in the previous inning. This contestant shall also pitch first in the next inning.

8. All four shoes out of count – call “no score”.
9. Two cancelled ringers with no shoes in count – call “one ringer each, no score”.
10. Two cancelled ringers with two shoes an equal distance from the stake or out of count – call “one ringer each, no score”.
11. Four cancelled ringers – call “four dead”.

3. Count-All Scoring

- a. Count-all scoring is where each contestant receives credit for each of his or her shoes that have scored, for all innings of the game. Each contestant may score zero, one, two, three, four or six points per inning.
- b. Count-all scoring can also be used where the contestants only receive credit for the *ringers* they pitch, for all innings of the game. This format may be called a “Ringers Only” game. Each contestant may score zero, one, or two points per inning. This type of scoring should generally be limited to higher-percentage classes.

4. Recording the Score

Care should be taken in reporting the scores to the scorekeeper so that the proper score is recorded for each contestant. In tournament play, the score sheet (not the scoring device) shall be the official record of the game. Contestants are encouraged to pay close attention to the score at all times. If a question or discrepancy occurs regarding the correct score, the contestants may approach the scorer between innings or during their half inning to clarify the situation. If the discrepancy cannot be corrected to the satisfaction of both contestants, a tournament judge shall be called to make the final decision.

RULE 12 – PITCHING ROTATION DURING THE GAME

Section A. - Cancellation Rotation

If the game is to be played under cancellation scoring, there are two ways to determine who shall pitch first in the next inning, once the game has started. The method to be used shall be determined before play begins.

1. **Cancellation Play** – The contestant who scored in the preceding inning shall pitch first in the next inning. If neither pitcher scores, the contestant who pitched last in the preceding inning shall pitch first in the next inning.
2. **Alternate Pitch** – Alternate first pitch is used to guarantee each contestant an equal number of first and second pitches during a game. It can be done in three ways. If the game is to be played to a shoe limit, it is recommended that the limit be a number divisible by four.

- a. One contestant shall pitch first in innings 1,4,5,8,9,12,13,16,17, etc. while the other contestant shall pitch first in innings 2,3,6,7,10,11,14,15, etc. until the game is completed. This is the fairest way and is recommended.
- b. One contestant shall pitch first in innings 1,2,5,6,9,10,13,14, etc. while the other contestant shall pitch first in innings 3,4,7,8,11,12,15,16, etc. until the game is completed.
- c. One opponent shall pitch first from one end of the court and the opponent shall pitch first from the opposite end.

Section B. – Count-All Rotation

Any game played using count-all scoring shall be played under an alternate-pitch format, described above in Section A, 2.

Section C – Handicap Rotation

Any game played under any kind of handicap system shall use an alternate pitch format.

Section D – Out of Turn Rotation

If it is discovered during an inning (before all four shoes are pitched) that the wrong contestant has pitched first, the shoes pitched so far in that inning shall be re-pitched. If the error is not discovered until after all four shoes have been delivered, they shall be scored as they lie and the correct rotation shall be re-established for the rest of the game.

RULE 13 – APPROPRIATE NHPA MEMBER CONDUCT

Section A. On the courts

An NHPA member, while in competition, shall make no disturbing noises or movements that would distract the opponent or competitors on adjacent courts. Other inappropriate behavior would include profanity, abusive language, obscene gestures, etc. The first offense shall call for a warning from the judge or a tournament official. A second offense shall call for a forfeiture of the game being played. Any further offenses shall call for a forfeiture of all games. This member shall also be subject to a one-year suspension from the NHPA.

Section B. Sportsmanship

Any NHPA member who indulges in heckling, unfair rooting, or any other form of un-sportsmanlike conduct toward any NHPA member or tournament official, shall be subject to expulsion from the tournament and from the tournament site. This covers any inappropriate behavior in the area of the courts, such as profanity, abusive language, obscene gestures, etc. This member shall also be subject to a one-year suspension from the NHPA.

Section C. Dress Code

All pitchers competing in a World Tournament shall have, as a minimum, their last name and State or Country abbreviation professionally lettered on the back of their shirts. Said shirts cannot be sleeveless. No cut-offs are permitted and closed-toe shoes must be worn. Further dress code restrictions can be imposed by the Executive Council if all entrants are notified no later than the mailing date of their pitching schedules. This dress code may also be enforced at any State or Regional Tournament or at any local sanctioned event, but must be announced in advance by the Tournament Director or Tournament Committee.

Section D. Alcohol, Tobacco Products, and Illegal Controlled Substances

The use of Alcohol, any form of Tobacco, or Illegal Controlled Substances while in the confines of courts shall be prohibited for all contestants, officials, and scorekeepers.

Section E. Cell Phones

As a courtesy to other pitchers, the use of cell phones shall not be allowed on the courts.

RULE 14 – TOURNAMENT PLAY

Section A. Standard Method of Sanction Tournament Play

The standard method of NHPA sanctioned tournament play is round-robin play with contestants being seeded into classes. Each contestant will play all other contestants in the class. Court assignments and the order of play will follow a printed schedule, given to each contestant at the beginning of the contest.

Section B. Determining Class Winners

At the end of round-robin play, win-loss records or ringer percentage shall determine class winners. In addition, total points may be used if the scoring was done using the count-all method. If ties occur, they shall be settled by playoff, who-beat-whom or one of the other methods that was not used to determine the winner. The tournament committee shall decide how winners are to be determined and how ties are to be broken and announce these procedures before tournament play begins. If playoff games take place, the method of play and the length of the games shall be decided by the tournament director or tournament committee.

Section C. Ringer Percentage

A contestant's ringer percentage shall be determined by dividing the total number of ringers by the total number of shoes pitched. Shoes pitched in playoff games and in extra innings pitched because of tie games shall be included in these totals.

Section D. Seeding Contestants

The rules used to seed contestants in all NHPA sanctioned tournaments are found in Articles X-XII of the NHPA Bylaws. In addition, rules regarding game length and format and tie-breaking situations in State, Regional, National, and World Championship play are found in the same Articles.

Section E. Handicapping

Handicapping may be used in open tournaments and in league play. The tournament director or tournament committee shall determine the amount of the handicap. Class winners will be determined by win-loss record or by total points. An alternate pitch format shall be used. Game handicapping shall not be used in any World, National, or Regional Tournament or in the championship class of a designated division of any State Championship Tournament.

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

OFFICIAL GUIDELINES FOR NHPA SANCTIONED EVENTS

Published By The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America (NHPA)

(Jan 1, 2005)

GUIDELINE 1. COURT LAYOUT (see diagram ...)

SECTION A. PERMANENT GROUND LEVEL COURTS

1. Dimensions - A horseshoe court shall be a level rectangular area six (6) feet wide and a minimum of forty-six (46) feet long. To minimize the effects of sunlight, a north-south orientation is recommended.

2. Pitcher's Box - The pitcher's box is a (six) 6-foot by 6-foot area at each end of the court. It is composed of two parts: a) the pit, and b) the pitching platforms.

a. The Pit - The pit is a rectangular area filled with the substance into which the shoes are pitched. Its' maximum length (in the direction in which the shoes are pitched) is seventy-two (72) inches and its' minimum length is forty-three (43) inches. Its' maximum width is thirty-six (36) inches and its' minimum width is thirty-one (31) inches. The pit must be centered in the pitcher's box. If the pit is less than the maximum dimensions, the extra space shall be filled with the same material of which the platforms are made, or some other material different than the pit substance, and shall be level with the pit and platforms.

b. The Pitching Platforms - The pitching platforms flank the pit to its left and right sides and are parallel to each other. They shall be level with each other and with the top of the pit. They shall be 18 to 20-1/2 inches wide (depending upon the width of the pit) and shall be a minimum of six (6) feet long.

3. The Stakes - The stake is the target at which the shoe is pitched. Each stake shall be centered between the platforms with a minimum of twenty-one (21) inches from the stake to the front and back of the pit. On regulation courts, the stakes are forty (40) feet apart. This distance is measured from the front of each stake, level with the pitching platform. Stakes shall be one (1) inch in diameter and may be made of cold-rolled steel, mild iron, soft metal, or synthetic material. Each stake shall be no shorter than fourteen (14) inches and no higher than fifteen (15) inches above the level of the pit and they shall both have an approximate 3-inch lean toward each other.

4. Pit Substance - Clay, sand, dirt and synthetic compositions are all legal pit substances. The minimum depth of the substance shall be four (4) inches. An 8-inch depth is recommended.

5. Extended Platforms - The pitching platforms on either side of the pit shall be extended forward (toward the opposite pit) an additional ten (10) feet to accommodate pitching at shorter distances. The front of the extended platforms shall be twenty-seven (27) feet from the opposite stake. The extended platforms shall be level with and be of the same width and material as the full-distance platforms. It is recommended that the fourteen (14) feet between the front ends of the platforms be filled in (using the same material as the platforms) to provide a continuous, level walking surface between the two pitcher's boxes. See Rule 1, Section A-5

6. Multiple Courts - In facilities with multiple courts, these layout guidelines should be observed:

a. Side-by-side Courts - For safety reasons and to minimize distractions, the stakes of adjacent courts must be no closer than ten (10) feet apart. A distance of twelve (12) feet is recommended.

b. Back-to-back Courts - The stakes of back-to-back courts must be a minimum of sixteen (16) feet apart and a visual and protective barrier must separate the courts.

7. Backboards & Protective Barrier

a. Backboards - For safety reasons, every pit should have a backboard. It should be at least three (3) feet behind the stake, be at least one (1) foot high and extend to the width of the pit. For spectator visibility, a mesh netting or chain-link material is recommended. If of solid material, it should be a color that will provide a contrasting background so as to keep the stake visible for the contestants.

b. Protective Barrier - For safety reasons, all court complexes should be

surrounded by a protective barrier. This barrier should be at least eight (8) feet behind the stake. A chain-link type of fence at least four (4) feet high is recommended.

8. Foul Lines - Foul lines shall be defined by lines extending across the front of the full-distance and extended platforms. They shall be perpendicular to an imaginary line between the stakes at thirty-seven (37) and twenty-seven (27) feet respectively, from the front of the opposite stakes. They shall be measured at the level of the pitching platform and their location shall be easy to see. For Junior pitchers age 9 or younger, a temporary foul line shall be placed at a distance of twenty (20) feet from the opposite stake.

9. Imaginary Stakes - Imaginary stakes shall be marked (often by a spot of paint or other marker of the same diameter as the official stake) midway between the left and right extended platforms and at a distance of thirty (30) feet from the opposite stake. If the official stakes are not forty (40) feet apart, imaginary stakes shall also be marked on the full-distance platforms, at a distance of forty (40) feet from the opposite stake.

SECTION B. COVERED AND INDOOR COURTS

The regulations for covered and indoor courts are exactly the same as for permanent ground-level courts with the additional stipulation that they shall have a minimum (twelve) 12-foot vertical clearance to the lowest possible obstruction.

SECTION C. TEMPORARY AND/OR RAISED COURTS

The regulations for temporary and/or raised courts are the same as for permanent ground-level courts with the exception that for any raised court, the top of the pit shall be no more than seven (7) inches above the level of the pitching platforms. In addition, the (four) 4-inch pit substance requirement is recommended, but not mandatory. For elevated platforms, the foul lines and the (forty) 40-foot distance between stakes shall be measured from the front edge of the stakes (at floor level) before the pit substance is put into the pits.

Note: The NHPA realizes that many horseshoe court facilities now in existence do not meet all of the conditions listed in the current Rules and Guidelines. The construction of all new courts shall follow these current Rules and Guidelines and all charters are encouraged to modify their existing courts to meet these standards as soon as possible.

GUIDELINE 2. PIT PREPARATION AND MAINTENANCE

SECTION A. THE PIT SUBSTANCE

Every effort shall be made to keep the substance in the pit in a soft, putty-like condition so the shoes will not bounce or move around after coming into contact with the pit substance. The substance in the pit shall be watered (if necessary) and leveled to the top of the surrounding platforms (unless the pits are raised) before a game starts. Between games, each contestant is responsible for preparing one pit, but a contestant may have someone else do the preparation. During a game, a contestant shall not step on, mash, or otherwise repair any of the substance in the scoring area of the pit without the consent of the opponent or a tournament official. Any pit substance removed for the measurement of a shoe or for the removal of a "buried" shoe may be replaced.

Note: Pits composed of sand or dirt often "hollow out" after a few innings. A blanket statement by the tournament director (made before competition begins) shall allow for the leveling of these courts, as needed, without constant consent between the contestants.

SECTION B. THE STAKES

With the permission of the tournament director or committee, the stakes may be painted for better visibility before a game starts. This procedure shall not be allowed while a game is in progress, unless both contestants are in agreement.

GUIDELINE 3. DOUBLES PLAY

In doubles play, two contestants are partners against another team of two contestants. One contestant from each team shall be at each end of the court and the contestants shall be matched by the tournament officials so that the highest rated contestant (by percentage) from each team shall be pitching from the same end of the court. The tournament committee shall determine the length of the game and type of play. When contestants are pitching their shoes, the contestants at the other end shall be well behind and to the side of the pitcher's box (for their own safety) and in a stationary position so as not to distract the contestants on their own or adjacent courts. Otherwise, all

rules for singles play shall apply.

SECTION A. REGULAR DOUBLES

In regular doubles, both team members use the same pair of shoes and all contestants stay at the same end of the court for the entire game. To begin the game, the highest-rated contestants shall decide first pitch and pitch their shoes, just as in singles competition. Their partners, at the opposite end, shall decide and call the score, retrieve the shoes, and pitch them back following the same procedure. The decision on who pitches first in each inning depends upon the scoring system being used, following the rules of singles play. A single score sheet shall be used that clearly shows the ringers and shoes of all contestants.

SECTION B. WALKING DOUBLES

In walking doubles, all contestants will pitch their own shoes. A single score sheet shall be used that clearly shows the ringers and shoes of all contestants.

1. **Shoe-limit Games** -The lower-rated contestants will decide first pitch and pitch their four (4) shoes. The higher-rated pitchers will then pitch their four (4) shoes and all pitchers will walk to the opposite end, decide the scoring, and pick up their shoes. The scores for the highest-rated pitchers should be recorded first and they will also pitch first for the remainder of the game. Which one of them (and their opponents) pitches first depends upon the scoring system (cancellation or count-all) being used, following the rules of singles play. This procedure will continue until the game is over.

2. **Point-limit Games** - The higher-rated contestants will decide first pitch and pitch their four (4) shoes. The lower-rated contestants will determine the scoring for these shoes. The partner of the pitcher who scores (or the partner of the contestant who pitched last, in case of a no-score situation) will call or record the score and will pitch first in the next inning. All pitchers will now walk to the opposite end. The highest-rated contestants will pick up their shoes (already scored) and step back. The scoring of the last four (4) shoes pitched is determined and called or recorded. The contestant calling the score always pitches first. This procedure is continued until the game is over. For safety or other reasons, the tournament director or committee may select an alternative walking sequence as long as the scoring sequence remains the same.

GUIDELINE 4. TOURNAMENT AND SANCTIONED LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

SECTION A. GUIDELINES FOR DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

All NHPA sanctioned tournaments and leagues shall have a designated director or committee to administer the activities of the event. The director or committee shall:

1. Publicize the event.

a. Announce the date, place, entry fee, prize list, registration deadline, and

any other information a member will need in order to participate.

b. Announce classifications available to entrants.

c. Announce the method of play (cancellation or count-all), the length of the games (how many shoes or points) and whether or not alternate pitch will be used.

d. Announce the method to be used for handling ties for individual games and at the end of round-robin play.

2. Obtain verifiable ringer percentages for all entrants from their charter statistician or from NATSTATS.

3. Set up the playing format, assign contestants to their proper courts, and provide contestants with a schedule of games to be played.

4. Make sure all entrants are current NHPA members.

5. Arrange for scorekeepers for each court and announce the amount and method of their pay before play begins.

6. Have statisticians available for the checking and recording of game scores and for the compilation of class and tournament results.

7. Have judges and judging tools available.

8. Handle all protests and make the final decisions on any items that may come up.

9. Make the decision to halt play because of inclement weather and decide when play shall resume if or when conditions improve.

10. Present the awards at the end of play.

11. See that the results are sent to the charter statistician and NATSTATS for proper recording.

SECTION B. JUDGES (also see Judging Guidelines booklet)

1. Judges shall be appointed by the tournament/league director or committee. Their duties are:

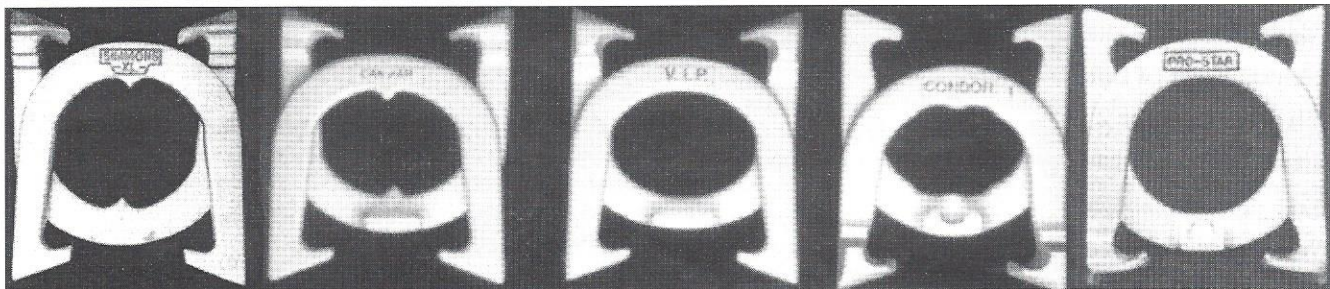
a. To enforce the rules and issue the proper penalties if or when violations occur.

b. To measure for ringers, the closest shoe to the stake, for shoes in count, and to answer other rules questions when called upon by the contestants.

c. To help make the correct decision in situations involving broken shoes, broken stakes, shoes and/or stakes that may be moved by contestants during measurements, shoes pitched out of turn, a contestant's shoes mistakenly pitched by the opponent, and other questions which may arise.

d. To act as a liaison between the contestants and the tournament committee for all possible questions or situations.

2. The decisions made by judges in 1, a-c (above) shall be accepted as final by the contestants and the game shall continue from that point.



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WORLD TOURNAMENT TITLES

MEN NHPA TOP RANKING WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Alan Francis	10	Defiance, OH	2004
Ted Allen	10	Boulder, CO	1959
Fernando Isais	8	Los Angeles, CA	1958
Frank Jackson	7	Kellerton, IA	1921
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	6	Ocala, FL	1994
Elmer Hohl	6	Wellesley, ONT.CAN	1977
Charlie Davis	5	Columbus, OH	1928
Jim Knisley	3	Bremen, OH	1990
Dale Lipovsky	3	Bloomington, MN	1987
Curt Day	3	Frankfort, IN	1974
Dan Kuchcinski	3	Erie, PA	1970
Brian Simmons	2	Coventry, RI	2002
Mark Seibold	2	Huntington, IN	1986
Harold Reno	2	Sabina, OH	1964
Putt Mossman	2	Eldora, IA	1925
George May	2	Akron, OH	1923
Kevin Cone	1	Alta, IA	1992
Carl Steinfeldt	1	Rochester, NY	1976
John Monasmith	1	Yakima, WA	1963
Paul Focht	1	Dayton, OH	1962
Don Titcomb	1	San Jose, CA	1960
Guy Zimmerman	1	Danville, CA	1954
Blair Nunnamaker	1	Cleveland, OH	1929
Harold Falor	1	Akron, OH	1923W
Frank Lundin	1	New London, IA	1922S
Charles Bobbitt	1	Lancaster, OH	1921W
Fred Brust	1	Columbus, OH	1919
Robert Pierce	1	Rosedale, KS	1913

WOMEN NHPA TOP RANKING WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Vicki Winston	10	La Monte, MO	1981
Laura Lanham	6	Bloomington, IL	1928
Sue Snyder	5	Madisonville, KY	2004
Phyllis Negaard	5	St. Joseph, MN	1989
Ruth Hagen	5	Buffalo, NY	1973
Mayme Francisco	5	Columbus, OH	1929
Sylvianne Moisan	4	Chertsey, QB.CAN	2003
Tari Powell	3	Rossville, IL	1991
Sue Gillespie	3	Portland, IN	1965
Bev Nathe	2	St. Stephan, MN	1997
Debby Michaud	2	Raynham, MA	1985
Opal Reno	2	Pike County, OH	1980
Lorraine Thomas	2	Lockport, NY	1974
Katie Gregson	2	Crestline, CA	1954
Pat DeLeary	2	Phoenix, AZ	1953
Sarah Byers	2	Portland, OR	1952
Anne Lindquist	2	Morgantown, WV	1949
Caroline Schultz	2	Harvey, IL	1934
Mildred Brouillette	2	Minneapolis, MN	1927W
Becky Kemper	1	Pleasureville, KY	1998
Cathy Carter	1	Council Bluffs, IA	1993
Diane Lopez	1	Lompoc, CA	1988
Sandy McLachlin	1	Dresden, ONT.CAN	1987
Esta McKee	1	Royal Center, IN	1960
Gertsie Lou Selby	1	Boulder, CO	1957
Hazel Harris	1	Denver, CO	1955
Ester James	1	Hastings, MI	1935
Marie Mathews	1	Minneapolis, MN	1921
Marjorie Voorhies	1	Asbury Park, NJ	1920

ELDERS MEN NHPA TOP RANKING WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Frank Bohun	4	Erie, PA	1999
Robert Logan	3	Kouts, IN	2002
Willard 'Spud' Napier	3	Seal Beach, CA	1991
Floyd Plumb	2	Toledo, OH	1985
Henry Franke	2	Centralia, IL	1983
Paul McCreery	1	Texas City, TX	2004
Marvin Kramer	1	Fulton, IL	2003

Ed Arionus	1	Sequin, TX	2001
Ray Santana	1	Tulare, CA	1996
Pete Rebman	1	Alma, NE	1994
Roy Smith	1	Arkansas City, KS	1993
Edwin Miller	1	Marysville, OH	1992
Russ Lobuzetta	1	Sarasota, FL	1991
Henry Hostetler	1	Williamsfield, OH	1990
Roland Stobaugh	1	Rantoul, IL	1989
Herb Rushing	1	Grass Valley, CA	1988
Sidney Anderson	1	Janesville, WI	1987
Arnie Mortenson	1	Glendale, CA	1987
Johnnie Mullican	1	Huntsville, AL	1986
Sol Berman	1	Cranbury, NJ	1983

SENIOR MEN NHPA TOP WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Stan Manker	5	Lynchburg, OH	1979
John Paxton	5	Ottumwa, IA	1970
Carl Steinfeldt	3	Largo, FL	1991
Ed Arionus	2	Sequin, TX	1999
John Brown	2	Lancaster, OH	1998
Ray Hill	2	Wakefield, MI	1989
Lawrence Miller	2	Chillicothe, OH	1985
Glen Portt	2	Albany, GA	1984
Marv Richmond	2	Piquot Lakes, MN	1981
Ray Miller	2	Springfield, OH	1973
Harold Tuttle	2	Youngstown, OH	1965
Joe Wilkinson	2	Akron, OH	1962
Paul LaCrosse	1	Larkspur, CO	2004
Robert G. Hayes	1	Cuba, NY	2003
Robert Garber JR.	1	W. Manchester, OH	2002
Howard Weitzel	1	N. Battleford, SK.CAN	2001
John Knapp SR.	1	Millersburg, OH	2000
Willard Napier	1	Seal Beach, CA	1996
Don Titcomb	1	Winchester, KY	1995
Merlin Potts	1	Leonardville, KS	1994
Herb Criss	1	Bremerton, WA	1993
Karl Van Sant	1	Cayluga, IN	1992
Herman Standard	1	Orange, CA	1982
Frank Stinson	1	Minneapolis, MN	1976
Ralph Navarro	1	South Gate, CA	1963
W.O. Maxwell	1	Hicksville, OH	1960

SENIOR WOMEN NHPA TOP WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	STATE	LAST TITLE
Teddy Guillotte	4	Sonora, CA	1999
Marge Spray	3	New Port Richey, FL	1992
Laverne Fenlon	2	Cheboygan, MI	2002
Jan Turnquist	2	Sawyer, MN	2001
Angeline Moisan	1	L'epiphanie, QB-CAN	2004
Rivers Prewette	1	Eden, NC	2003
Cyrena Srenaski	1	Green Bay, WI	1989

BOYS NHPA TOP RANKING WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Jim Walters	5	Troy, OH	1993
Alan Francis	4	Blythdale, MO	1985
Gary Roberts	4	Pike County, OH	1964
Mark Dyson	3	Taylorsville, NC	1981
Walter Ray Williams Jr.	3	Auburn, CA	1975
Dave Loucks	3	San Francisco, CA	1953
Drew Becker	2	Kitchener, ONT.CAN	2003
Branson Miller	2	Middletown, VA	1999
Jeremy Umphries	2	Tyler, TX	1997
Jeffery Williams	2	Auburn, CA	1976
Mark Seibold	2	Huntington, MN	1969
Farron Eiseman	2	Riverton, WY	1968
Bryon Bowman	2	Murray, UT	1955
Nick Preston	1	Bristol, VT	2004
Lance Albrecht	1	Rochester, MN	2001
Chase Battle	1	Mt. Ida, AR	2000
Joseph Smith	1	Glad Brock, IA	1995

Vance Harren	1	Badger, MN	1994
Edward Neeb	1	Kitchener, ONT.CAN	1988
Kipp Barody	1	Gansevoort, NY	1987
Tony Hankins	1	Goshen, KY	1986
Steve Holt	1	Wellesley, ONT.CAN	1978
Brian Neff	1	Greenville, OH	1977
Doug Kienia	1	Kittery, ME	1974
Bill Holland	1	Indianapolis, IN	1970
Ross Stevenson	1	Boden, ONT.CAN	1965
Hal Brown	1	Mulberry, IN	1960
Donnie Roberts	1	Pike County, OH	1959
Billy Backer	1	Salt Lake City, UT	1958
Rodney Hilton	1	Murray, UT	1957
Bob Madsen	1	American Forks, UT	1956
Frank Stinson	1	Minneapolis, MN	1924

GIRLS NHPA TOP RANKING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Shalee Sebastian	4	Shinglehouse, PA	2002
Debby Bestul	4	Eau Claire, WI	1988
Celeste Polak	3	East Bernard, TX	1992
Tava Cook	2	Straford, WI	2004
Penny Steinke	2	Waukesha, WI	1996
Boni Boser	2	Pierz, MN	1983
Linda Pateneau	2	South Paris, ME	1979
Jennifer Reno	2	Pike County, OH	1972
Michelle Jarrett	1	Ada, OK	1998
Rebecca King	1	Sand Springs, OK	1997
Heidi Sternberg	1	Richfield, WI	1994
Crystal Curtis	1	Bellevue, AB.CAN	1993
Jennifer Walters	1	Troy, OH	1989
Sandy McLachlin	1	Dresden, OH	1986
Renee Hix	1	Ruther Glen, VA	1982
Sue Williams	1	Cement City, MI	1980
Audrey Reno	1	Pike County, OH	1977
Tari Carpenter	1	Armstrong, IL	1976
Kelly O'Brien	1	Spokane, WA	1975
Lynne Harrison	1	Hamilton, OH	1974
Rosemary Gibson	1	Centralia, IL	1973
Peggy Smith	1	Muskegon, MI	1970
Mary Lee	1	Brooklyn, NY	1969
Carolyn W. Truman	1	Columbia City, IN	1968
Bonita Seibold	1	Huntington, IN	1967

ELDERS(40 FOOT) MENS NHPA TOP RANKING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Willard 'Spud' Napier	3	Seal Beach, CA	1991
Edwin Miller	1	Marysville, OH	1992
Francis White	1	Erie, PA	1988
Arnie Mortenson	1	Glendale, CA	1987

INTERMEDIATE MEN NHPA TOP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

NAME	W	CITY, STATE	LAST TITLE
Monte Latino	3	Sacramento, CA	1982
Glen Henton	2	Maquoketa, IA	1986
Art Holter	2	Minneapolis, MN	1971
Francis Winetrout	2	Lummi Island, WA	1969
Art Sperber	1	Bremerton, WA	1992
Ed Arionus	1	Arlington, TX	1991
Leonard Lipovsky	1	Bloomington, MN	1990
Ben Wiedrich	1	Oregon City, OR	1989
Don Titcomb	1	San Jose, CA	1988
Elwood Johnson	1	Elmore, MN	1987
Elmer Swartz	1	Annandale, VA	1984
Max Roseberry	1	Marion, OH	1983
Carl Steinfeldt	1	Rochester, NY	1978
Woody Martin	1	Pekin, IL	1977
Paul Focht	1	Dayton, OH	1976
Andy Paglarini	1	Hibbing, MN	1975
James 'Pop' Johnson	1	Cincinnati, OH	1974
Ralph Randall	1	Barstow, CA	1973
Abe Austin	1	Oak Park, IL	1972
Wayne Winston	1	LaMonte, MO	1967

2005 Carolina



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Paul Stewart- 1-704-528-0398

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Statesville Recreation & Parks 1-704-878-3429

TOURNAMENT TRAVEL CONTACTS

The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple site information, you might want to write the NHPA 1st Vice-President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 1st VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

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26. Alabama 678 Williamson Kindrick Trail Eclectic, AL 36024 (334) 541-2720 gkindr7918@aol.com	Ron Kindrick	24. Iowa 1809 Lakeside Drive Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 338-8256 clbnj2@aol.com	C. Leo Buell	40. North Carolina 5638 River Rd. N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659 (336) 838-2565 lgmitchell33@aol.com	Glenn Mitchell
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