



Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

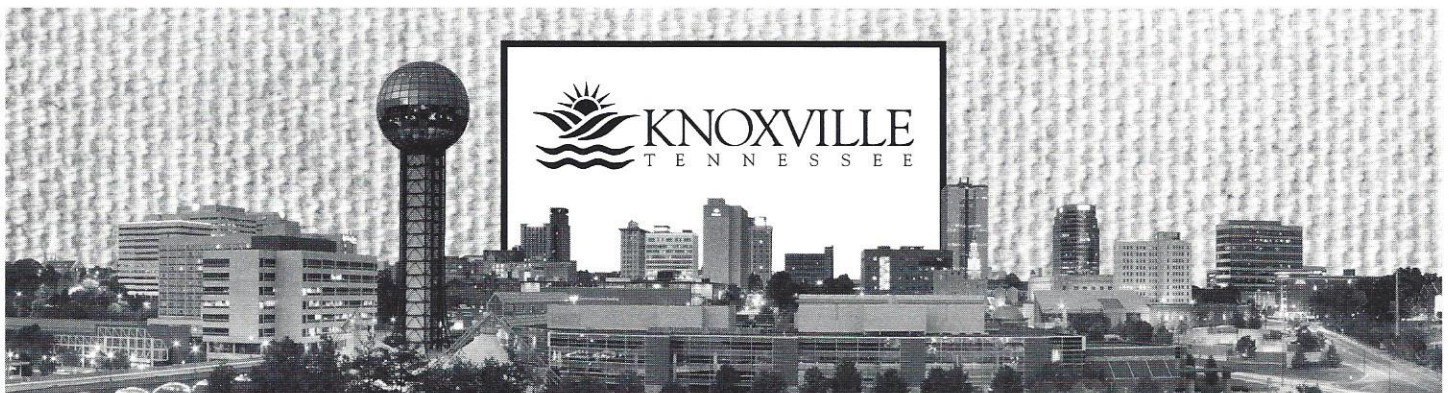
Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

VOL. 24, NO. 2

MARCH/APRIL 2012



**2012 WORLD TOURNAMENT
JULY 30TH - AUGUST 11TH**



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 out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA 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 contact the NHPA 5th Vice-President who is in charge of all RDs. She should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 5th VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Stu Sipma*

I want to first start by welcoming David Sidles to the NHPA Council as the 3rd Vice President. Dave has been a NHPA member since 1989. He has served as the Sanctioned League Director for over ten years, Iowa Charter Secretary/Treasurer/Statistician for four years, Nebraska Charter Statistician, Iowa Games Horseshoe Co-Commissioner for ten years and is the recipient of the 2006 IHHPA Frank Jackson Award.

The 2012 NHPA Council Winter Meeting was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel January 13th and 14th in Knoxville, Tennessee, host site of the 2012 World Horseshoe Tournament. I would like to recognize Connie Spicer, Sales Manager with the Crown Plaza Hotel and her team for the excellent job they did in providing the necessary accommodations for our meeting and hotel stay.

This year's meeting included two full days of agenda items to discuss. The first day was spent going over the 2012 NHPA goals, NHPA financials, rule changes and agreeing to an operating budget. I want to commend everyone on the NHPA Council for all their work and efforts in discussing and coming to a resolution on our agenda items. We managed to decrease the negative spending trend; however, work still remains to be done and I appreciate everyone's efforts. The Council balanced the world tournament account and will continue to look at ways to control world tournament expenditures. Our main focus this year is "Newslines". For those of you who receive Newslines, we are sure you are enjoying it and hope you find the information provided to be very beneficial. To make the Newslines more attractive for members, the Council has decided to put an issue on the website for viewing. The Newslines account is one of our biggest expenditures and felt this was one area we would try to reduce costs due to the high costs associated with the production and mailing of this publication. The second day of the meeting consisted mostly of World Tournament topics and Publicity items.

In finalizing the 2012 operating budget, it appears there will not be a lot of extra money to do the things the Council would like to do to promote our sport. At this time, it is **not** our intention to raise membership dues, however, I must remind everyone due to our declining membership (which is our only source of revenue) and our increasing expenses we may have no other alternative. We will be reviewing this at our next winter meeting. Dick and I presented to the Council a PowerPoint showing the membership numbers from 1992 to present. For the record, membership in 1992 was 14,396 and to date is at 10,000 members. With spring coming soon and leagues beginning to form, please assist in trying to solicit new members to come out and pitch. I am counting on the Charter Officers to take the lead on this. At this year's Officers meeting in Knoxville, we will be discussing with all Charters membership growth strategies and ways to implement these strategies, so please come prepared to discuss.

The World Tournament will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center. The Convention Center has two large exhibit halls; however we will be utilizing Exhibit Hall "A" for the pitching competition. This section of the Convention Center has a total square footage of 70,740, which is plenty of room for both pitching and the practice courts. The facility is an air-conditioned facility with multi-levels. To move from level to level, access to power escalators will be available. The front lobby will house the host site registration

table, souvenir sales booth, space for the 2014 bidders, NHPF booth, and NHPA Game Related Sales. The main arena will have viewing from each end utilizing portable pull out bleachers. Concessions will be provided on the main floor. The only negative will be roof supports which will limit viewing on a few courts for the spectators, however, will not affect the player competition.

The Convention Center is located in downtown Knoxville similar to Springfield in 2009. There will be plenty of parking, restaurants, and shopping. I want to thank Mary Miltenberger, Vice President of Client Services and Kelli Gibson, Director of Events Operation, both with the Knoxville Tourism, Sports Corporation and the Convention Center Team for the great hospitality they extended in showing us their fine city. The NHPA Council is really looking forward to bringing this tournament to Knoxville; this is definitely a "fun" city with lots to do in your spare time.

The bidding status for the 2014 deadline is coming up soon (March 15, 2012) and I have still been working to obtain three bidders to compete this summer in Knoxville to host the 2014 World Tournament. Interested sites include Tulsa, OK; Buffalo, NY; Fargo, ND; Albuquerque, NM and Charleston, WV.

I wish everyone a very successful and safe new year. I am looking forward to a great turnout this summer at the 2012 World Tournament in Knoxville TN, July 30 – August 11, 2012.

Remember St. George, UT will be hosting the World Tournament July 22 – August 3, 2013.

World Tournament Experience Raffle

Tickets are \$5.00 each, or 5 tickets for \$20
The drawing will be held on October 7, 2012

GRAND PRIZE (Estimated Value: \$1,300-\$1,500) INCLUDES:

Entry into the 2013 W.T. in St George, Utah (\$125 value)
One week luxury hotel stay (approximately \$700 value)
Free local "goodie" package from hosts (approximately \$300 value)
2 Tickets to a Broadway show/dinner at Tuacahn Amphitheater
2 Rounds of Golf
2 Tickets to the Rosenbruch Wildlife Museum
St. George Gift Bag (Hat, Shirt, etc.)
Merchandise from GRS (\$100 value)
Customized Tournament shirt (\$50 value)
Photo package from Bowdell Photography (\$15 value)
2 Hall of Fame Banquet tickets (\$60 value)

2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th prizes: entry into the world tournament

- * Need not be present to win
- * All prizes are transferable
- * Proceeds from this raffle will be split between the NHPA and NHPF

If you are interested in purchasing tickets or if you would like to be a ticket seller for your charter, please contact Casey Sluys at kclusus@sbcglobal.net. There will be more details in the next issue of Newslines, or you can go to www.horseshoepitching.com.

NHPF NEWS VIEWS & DONATIONS by Dave Loucks

It's February 1st as I write this and we are in Arizona for a couple of months. While the temperature in Arizona at this time of year is only 10-12 degrees warmer than our home in Northern California, we come south to avoid the normally heavy rains that fall in the foothills at home. This year has been different however, as home has seen very mild temps and only two days of rain in the last two months. This is not a favorable weather pattern for an area that gets no mid-year rain and is subject to the potential danger of forest fires during the summer and fall months.

As I wrote in the last issue, contributions to the NHPF remain well below those we experienced when the economy was in better shape. NHPA membership in 2011 fell by a larger percentage than the slow decline we have seen in the past 5-6 years. While the two, declining membership and contributions are undoubtedly related, let's hope that during 2012 we can reverse course and begin to see gains. Neither however will become a reality unless more people become involved and make a concerted effort to bring in new members and promote contributions to the NHPF.

This is the year for inspection and re-sanctioning of horseshoe courts. If your club courts are in need of major upgrades that may be beyond the financial ability of your club treasury, you might want to consider applying for an NHPF grant. The foundation guidelines currently allow the directors to approve up to six, \$1,500 grants per year. Applications are reviewed during the months of March and September with the first day of those months being the deadline for receipt of the application.

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation has already issued more than \$50,000 in grant money. This is not a great amount I know, but considering that it is solely supported by your contributions and pledges to hold fund-raising tournaments, a grant from the NHPF may be the start you need. Just remember, grant applications can be considered to improve or build courts that are located on Public land only. That means courts that will be open to the general public on city, county, state or federal land. No private land.

While all the grants issued in 2010 were returned unused for one reason or another, we did have a major disappointment with one of the 2011 grants. The money never reached the club bank account as an officer of the club, since suspended from the NHPA, placed an irregular endorsement on the check and found a merchant who cashed it. Both the club and NHPF have filed complaints to recover the funds, the club with the DA office and the NHPF through banking channels.

Over the holidays, I was very happy to receive a six-page letter and brick order from a long-time pitching friend and former World Champion, Jim Knisley. Jim, who has been away from the game for some time says he is back pitching again and hopes to make the Knoxville World Tournament. I certainly hope so because Jim had one of the best controlled high shoes and was one of the top five pitchers in the world during his time on the courts. It would be great to see Jim on the courts again and you Iowa members, how about pushing former World Champion Kevin Cone to rejoin tournament play. Our membership has seen too many good young pitchers leave the game for one reason or another.

Let's all strive to give more support to our club, charter and association in 2012. A few individuals can't do it all. Promote the NHPF in your club and charter newsletters. Remember, this is your Foundation, but without your financial support, giving back to clubs in need becomes more difficult. Contributions to the NHPF are recognized by the IRS as tax-deductible and should be sent to the NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. The Foundation extends its thanks to those mentioned below for the contributions and brick orders received during December and January.

Donating \$25-50

Mel Yockstick, CO
LeRoy Law, IA
James Andrews, NC
Raymond Welsh, OH
Douglas Carr, TN
Charles Bunner, WV

Donating \$100-150

Andy Anderson, CA
Gerald Ramey, NC
Timothy Woodden, OR

Donating \$200

Bob Dunn, MN

Donating \$415

Minnesota GSHPA

Other Income

\$54, Hall of Fame Donation Box
\$3000, QRHC 4th Qtr. Bldg. rent

Bricks Purchased By
Don & Jeanette Claas, MO
Milton Gillette, MO
Nancy Pallardy, MO
Eastern Nebraska HPA, 12 bricks
Jim Knisley, OH



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PUBLICITY PROMOTION

by Tina Hawkins

By the time you receive this issue of Newslite, winter will be drawing to an end and thoughts will be turning to springtime... Time to rake the leaves... off those horseshoe pits and get them ready for another fun-filled season of pitching!

Your NHPA Executive Council has been spending a good part of the "off" season developing strategy for insuring the future of our association, as well as to increase membership.

The students in the Marketing Department of the University of Central Oklahoma performed a study of our operations and twelve groups presented proposals with suggested actions to help promote the sport and make it more appealing, both to prospective members and to potential sponsors.

The most common and most feasible suggestions have been compiled and were considered by the council at its recent winter meeting. Based on these recommendations, you will be seeing some changes occur over the course of time – some may be gradual and could go unnoticed, but all will be for the greater welfare of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

Some of the proposed actions which may be implemented are: a more modern, easier to navigate website; a redesigned, easily recognized logo; vehicle wrap on the World Tournament equipment trailer (making it a mobile billboard); Newslite magazine made available to all members online; easier registration – online.

These items, and others, will help give the NHPA a more modern appearance and make it appeal to a broader range of participants. Society is becoming more and more technologically advanced - the association needs to grow in that direction as well to avoid becoming antiquated and obscure. The younger generations seek most of their information on the internet – the NHPA should be there – easily accessible to the world with readily available information.

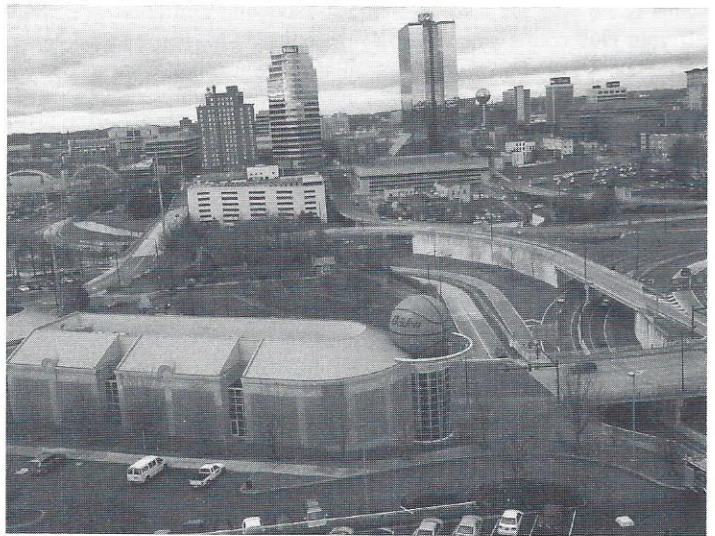
The NHPA Facebook page will be updated more frequently, with pertinent information, as well as fun facts and challenges. All members are encouraged to "like" this page and suggest it to all their friends, and to contribute and participate in discussion there. The more exposure we receive, the better our chances of becoming more recognizable, gaining new members and attracting major sponsors.

On the subject of gaining new members – The NHPA is challenging every charter to hold at least ONE promotional event each month for the purpose of introducing horseshoe pitching to the public and increasing membership. Ideas and suggestions for successful events will be sent out via the Charter Communications network. Your help is necessary to grow and foster the sport and bring more people into the fold.

ARE YOU READY FOR WORLD?

The 2012 NHPA World Tournament will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center, located in the World's Fair Park in Knoxville, TN. The city is chock full of activities to keep you entertained on your summer vacation! While performing the site visit for the event, the Executive Council experienced many of the offerings, including outstanding dining, plentiful shopping, stellar accommodations and friendly, welcoming townspeople.

The down town area is home to the historic Tennessee Theatre – the Official State Theatre of Tennessee, as well as the Market Square where you will find shopping, dining, and a farmers' market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, river boat rides, galleries and Old City nightlife. All within easy access by foot from the convention center or on the FREE trolleys!



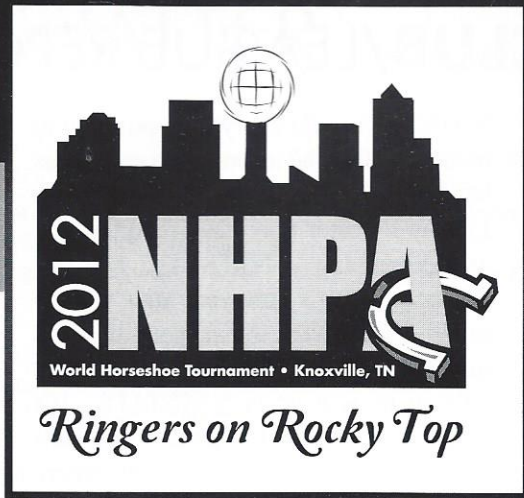
If you are a history buff, you can enjoy the many Civil War events, or tour landmark houses ranging from log cabins to stately stone mansions. Sports enthusiasts may enjoy the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame which offers hands-on interactive exhibits. Or maybe the Knoxville Botanical Garden is more to your liking, only five minutes from downtown.

For even more adventure, visit the Knoxville zoo. Then it's just a short trip toward Pigeon Forge for DOLLYWOOD which boasts over 40 rides and attractions and 50 unique shops and restaurants; or journey to Sweetwater for a Lost Sea Adventure at America's largest underground lake. You may also want to visit Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies in Gatlinburg...

And don't forget about the SMOKIES! The mountains – AND Knoxville's hometown baseball team, which is the Double-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs!

Whether you want to eat, shop, tour or PLAY – it's a pretty good bet that Knoxville has something for YOU and your family!

Make plans now to enter the 2012 NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Championships and join the fun in Knoxville! SEE YOU THERE!!



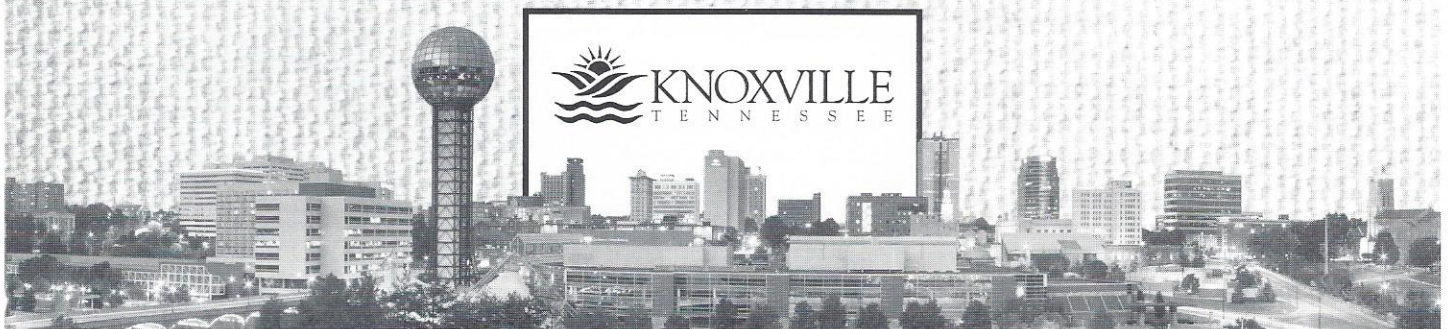
WELCOME TO KNOXVILLE, TN!



Knoxville is honored to host the 2012 World Horseshoe Tournament this summer at the spectacular Knoxville Convention Center! This is sure to be an event to remember as the best in horseshoe pitching compete in a city where Southern hospitality is second to none.

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www.Knoxville.org/horseshoe



SANCTIONED CLUB/LEAGUE REPORT *by David Sidles*

Winter is going by quickly and the short holiday break is now over. A new Sanctioned Club/League Program season has started. I've settled into my new position and had a chance to get through all the materials that were passed on to me. (OK, almost all of them). To date, I have received about a dozen 2012 membership reports. About 3/4 of those were by e-mail. I have also received a few 2011 year end stats reports. It is certainly not too late to submit your 2011 stats. There are 32 clubs that played in 2010 that have not reported either a membership report or a stats report yet for 2011. I posted a list of these clubs on the website Forum page under Sanctioned Leagues. If you don't see your league stats posted on NATSTATS, this could be the reason. If you have any information on any these clubs listed, please let me know so I can update their status. Something to remember, your club is affectively NOT sanctioned until a membership report is submitted. Please refer to the Red Book for a complete list of reporting requirements and deadlines. A note to players, you are not eligible for any league awards if you not listed on a membership report.

One of my first objectives as National Director is to try to make reporting easier for everyone. I have revised most of the reporting forms to make them more user friendly, particularly for computer users, and hope to have them available for you to download on the NHPA website or another site if necessary. If you download forms, you will have your choice of MS Word or MS Excel. Of course, I will certainly mail you anything you need also. One major change you will notice is no player address column. All communications will be handled through your League Director. If I need an address for a particular player, I will contact your Director. Who knows, I may need to mail you your National Top Ten Plaque!

Now a couple of things about reporting in general. I am coordinating with

NATSTATS to do everything possible to makê sure that the information each of us has on players is exactly the same. Your League Director may have reported you as Preston, but if NATSTATS has you as Skeeter, that's how your stats will go in. If NATSTATS shows your division differently than your league report, it will go in as it is on NATSTATS. It's a computer thing. In regard to the stats sheets, there are several places where calculations are involved. My program does this automatically and as long as you have filled out the rest of the necessary numbers, this will be done for you. One important thing to remember is to always show things like High Ringer Game to two decimal places. A lot of awards are decided by hundredths of a percent.

As most Sanctioned League players are hopefully aware, one of the nicest awards given out by the NHPA is the Top Ten award. These are all based on your participation in a NHPA Sanctioned

League of course. Because I am now using a database program similar to NATSTATS, I may be posting periodic updates to the Top Ten lists. Hopefully these will be able to be posted on the NHPA website. Again, and it bears repeating, there are yearly deadlines to figure out who all these award winners are and league participation and results are a huge part of this. Don't be denied a chance to receive one these prestigious awards because a report wasn't submitted.

One other award given out annually is the National League Director award. As I am still new at this, I have already asked Lorraine to assist me in choosing this person this year. This award is normally given out at the annual awards banquet in conjunction with the World Tournament and I will not have had a chance to meet many of you by then. But I am getting to know many of your names by the reports you send me and this will be a starting point in choosing next year's recipient.



The advertisement features two horseshoes: a 'GORDON' horseshoe on the left and a 'LEGEND' horseshoe on the right. The 'GORDON' horseshoe is a drop-forged, carbon steel horseshoe with a hard tip. The 'LEGEND' horseshoe is a similar drop-forged, carbon steel horseshoe with a hard tip. The text below the horseshoes reads: 'Gordon and Legend Horseshoes are pitched successfully by both flip and turn players. Order today and discover why World Horseshoe Pitching Champions have preferred them Drop Forged (The only way to make Horseshoes) - Carbon Steel - Hardened Tips Medium Soft - 2.8 lbs - One year Guarantee - NHPA Sanctioned'. At the bottom, the Omega Horseshoe Co. logo is displayed, along with the address '777 West Midvalley Road Cedar City, Utah 84721', the phone number '1-877-865-1066', the email 'sales@gordonhorseshoes.com', and the website 'www.OmegaHorseshoes.com'. Payment logos for VISA, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover, and PayPal are also shown, along with the text 'Also available from www.dennishorseshoes.com & NHPA Distributors'.

SANCTIONED ADULT LEAGUE 2011 TOP TEN LIST

ADULT NATIONAL DIVISION-MIXED DISTANCE

High Point Average

Pos	Name	Club/State	Pts.
1.	Bobby Fields	Crossville, TN	127.20
2.	Brian Simmons	Sodbusters, VT	126.93
3.	Gregg Craven	Liberty, MO	123.73
4.	Ralph Adrian	Green County, OH	123.64
5.	Paul McGee	Frederick, MD	119.33
6.	Elmo Cox	Crossville, TN	119.24
7.	Brenda Tawney	Kahrig's Indoor, OH	116.48
8.	Stan Griggs	Heart of America, MO	115.40
9.	Debra Brown	Sodbusters, VT	114.81
10.	Rose Diekamp	Quail Ridge, MO	113.73

High Point Game

1.	Brian Simmons	Sodbusters, VT	144
2.	Bobby Fields	Crossville, TN	143
3.	Ralph Adrian	Green County, OH	142
4.	Gregg Craven	Liberty, MO	141
5.	Wayne Cowger	Clearwater, FL	138
6.	Brenda Tawney	Kahrig's Indoor, OH	138
7.	Doug Farnsworth	Crossville, TN	137
8.	Michael Bowman	Lions Park, MO	136
9.	Debra Brown	Sodbusters, VT	136
10.	Elmo Cox	Crossville, TN	135

High Point over Average

1.	Ferman Salazar	Pueblo, CO	45.68
2.	Al Mueller	Clearwater, FL	44.20
3.	Christine Byrd	Pueblo, CO	42.05
4.	Rebeca Osland	Kilkenny, MN	41.72
5.	Hannah Johnson	Liberty, MO	39.54
6.	Robert Bastel	Lake of the Ozarks, MO	38.69
7.	Erika Myler	Lions Park, MO	37.92
8.	David Correia	Frederick, MD	37.83
9.	Helen Velasquez	Liberty, MO	37.71
10.	Larry Sullivan	Clearwater, FL	37.21

MEN'S 40' DIVISION

High Ringer Average

1.	Brian Simmons	Sodbusters, VT	78.91%
2.	Chan Herrell	Frederick, MD	71.83%
3.	Stan Griggs	Heart of America, MO	70.70%
4.	Dale Lipovsky	Bloomington, MN	69.85%
5.	Steve Johnson	Capital City, MO	68.95%
6.	Allen Withrow	Mountaineer, WV	66.67%
7.	Darrin Potts	Kahrig's Indoor, OH	64.67%
8.	Jerry Wykle	Mountaineer, WV	63.69%
9.	Mark Smith	Greenfield, MN	63.35%
10.	Pete Shomette	Frederick, MD	63.33%

High Ringer Game

1.	Brian Simmons	Sodbusters, VT	94.00%
Tie 2.	Michael Bowman	Lions Park, MO	90.00%
Tie 2.	Steve Johnson	Capital City, MO	90.00%
Tie 2.	Dale Lipovsky	West St Paul, MN	90.00%
5.	Bill Navratil	Central CT, CT	83.33%
6.	Randy Smith	Central CT, CT	83.33%
7.	Gary Roberts	Ross County, OH	82.50%
8.	Mark Smith	Greenfield, MN	82.50%
9.	Stan Griggs	Heart of America, MO	82.00%
10.	Randy Rein	Little Bull Falls, WI	80.00%
10.	Allen Withrow	Mountaineer, WV	80.00%

High Ringer over Average

1.	Martin Beloit	Marion County, OH	36.47
2.	Ray L McGrady	Edgewater, CO	35.80
3.	Randy Smith	Central CT, CT	35.61
4.	Dave Mazuraitis	Central CT, CT	34.17
5.	Bob Hunt	Central CT, CT	33.39
6.	Vin Sylvester	New London, CT	33.28
7.	Bob Brown	Central CT, CT	33.03
8.	Jim DeNigris	Central CT, CT	32.84
9.	Mike Kenniston	New London, CT	32.84
10.	Barren Dahl	Greenfield, MN	32.29

MEN'S 30' DIVISION

High Ringer Average

1.	Bobby Fields	Crossville, TN	80.63%
2.	Gregg Craven	Liberty, MO	77.92%
3.	Ralph Adrian	Green County, OH	76.17%
4.	Paul McGee	Frederick, MD	75.08%
5.	Hershel Walters	Plymouth, IN	74.13%
6.	Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids, IA	74.01%
7.	Elmo Cox	Crossville, TN	73.76%
8.	Bob Hudnall	Edmonson County, KY	70.11%
9.	Robert Zumbahlen	Clearwater, FL	67.77%
10.	Martin Papesh	Wolf River Ringers, WI	67.17%

High Ringer Game

1.	Bobby Fields	Crossville, TN	94.00%
Tie 2.	Ralph Adrian	Green County, OH	92.00%
Tie 2.	Gregg Craven	Liberty, MO	92.00%
4.	Hershel Walters	Plymouth, IN	91.70%
5.	Elmo Cox	Crossville, TN	90.00%
6.	Doug Farnsworth	Crossville, TN	90.00%
7.	Larry Purcell	Cedar Rapids, IA	90.00%
8.	Wayne Cowger	Clearwater, FL	88.00%
9.	Wayne Dusenbery	Heart of America, MO	86.00%
10.	Paul McGee	Frederick, MD	86.00%
10.	Ted Sauer	Nelson County, KY	86.00%

High Ringer over Average

1.	Dan Sanders	Perry, GA	38.75
2.	Larry Hittle Try	County, OH	34.13
3.	Dick Allspaugh	New Haven, CT	33.77
4.	Marvin Grubb	Brevard County, FL	33.70
5.	Jim Holland	Greenfield, MN	33.27
6.	John Olson	Little Bull Falls, WI	32.37
7.	Darrell Bowers	Black Swamp, OH	32.36
8.	Herb Nash	Central CT, CT	31.39
9.	Jim Beyer	Greenfield, MN	31.01
10.	Al Mueller	Clearwater, FL	30.77

WOMEN'S DIVISION

High Ringer Average

1.	Gert Wilcziek	Eau Claire, WI	77.15%
2.	Rivers Prewette	Blue Barn, NC	75.83%
3.	Tamara Burke	Winchester, VA	73.33%
4.	Debra Brown	Sodbusters, VT	71.81%
5.	Brenda Tawney	Kahrig's Indoor, OH	71.71%
6.	Doris Hieden	S. Central TX, TX	71.05%
7.	Sheila Shepard	Edgewater, CO	69.69%
8.	Jennifer Speakman	Boulder, CO	68.67%
9.	Rose Diekamp	Quail Ridge, MO	68.53%
10.	Renee Cowan	Ruther Glen, VA	62.91%

High Ringer Game

1 tie	Tamara Burke	Winchester, VA	90.00%
1 tie	Carolyn Coyle	Whitley County, IN	90.00%
1 tie	Rivers Prewette	Blue Barn, NC	90.00%
2 tie	Debra Brown	Sodbusters, VT	88.00%
2 tie	Brenda Tawney	Kahrig's Indoor, OH	88.00%
2 tie	Gert Wilcziek	Eau Claire, WI	88.00%
7.	Rose Diekamp	Quail Ridge, MO	86.00%
8.	Sheila Shepard	Edgewater, CO	86.00%
9.	Doris Hieden	S. Central TX, TX	82.00%
10.	Janet Anzalone	Central CT, CT	80.00%
10.	Pat Knapp-Harwood	Gate City Clangers, NH	80.00%
10.	Tonja Pettit Marion	County, OH	80.00%
10.	Connie Reimer	Whitley County, IN	80.00%
10.	Jennifer Speakman	Boulder, CO	80.00%
10.	Marlys Timm	Rockford, MN	80.00%

High Ringer over Average

1.	Marlys Timm	Rockford, MN	39.94
2.	Nancy Salazar	Southern Nevada, NV	38.27
3.	Verdell Woollard	Bradenton, FL	35.71
4.	Sue Gerber	Central CT, CT	32.87
5.	Teri Lyn Newsom	Shreveport, LA	32.47
6.	Roxanne Navratil	Central CT, CT	31.56
7.	Starla Kuhrt	Fireside, WY	31.42
8.	Tonja Pettit	Marion County, OH	30.72
9.	Melissa St. Pierre	Loon Pond, MA	30.63
10.	Carolyn Coyle	Whitley County, IN	30.25

SANCTIONED JUNIOR LEAGUE 2011 TOP TEN LIST

NATIONAL DIVISION-MIXED BOYS/GIRLS

High Point Average

Pos	Name	Club/State	Pts.
1.	Steve Drozd	Pawnee Ringers, NE	87.88
2.	Joshua Olson	Alexandria, MN	82.97
3.	Brianna McCormick	Sodbusters, VT	81.42
4.	Abby Green	Try County, OH	80.90
5.	Devin Wetzel	Liberty, MO	80.00
6.	Jordan Salazar	Pueblo, CO	72.80
7.	Joshua Cantrell	Lions Park, MO	70.83
8.	David Heathman	Shelbina Liberty Park, MO	69.75
9.	Thomas Rodriguez	Burbank-Joshyn, CA	67.42
10.	Jennifer Trader	Grand Forks, ND	60.08

High Point Game

1.	Steve Drozd	Pawnee Ringers, NE	117
2.	Devin Wetzel	Liberty, MO	109
3.	Brianna McCormick	Sodbusters, VT	105
4.	Abby Green	Try County	104
5.	Joshua Olson	Alexandria, MN	104
6.	Joshua Cantrell	Lions Park, MO	98
7.	Thomas Rodriguez	Burbank-Joslyn, CA	93
8.	Gunnar David	Fleet Reserve, WI	89
9.	Jordan Salazar	Pueblo, CO	87
10.	Heather Selleck	Sodbusters, VT	85

High Point over Average

1.	Katlyn Barr	Try County, OH	35.71
2.	Heather Selleck	Sodbusters, VT	33.00
3.	Gunnar David	Fleet Reserve, WI	29.76
4.	Steve Drozd	Pawnee Ringers, NE	29.12
5.	Devin Wetzel	Liberty, MO	29.00
6.	Savanna Johnson	Liberty, MO	27.73
7.	Joshua Cantrell	Lions Park, MO	27.17
8.	Adriane Hull	Try County, OH	26.72
9.	Bruce Thomson	Liberty, MO	26.50
10.	Thomas Rodriguez	Burbank-Joslyn, CA	25.28

BOY'S DIVISION

High Ringer Average

1.	Steve Drozd	Pawnee Ringers, NE	51.03%
2.	Joshua Olson	Alexandria, MN	45.67%
3.	Devin Wetzel	Liberty, MO	44.00%
4.	Jordan Salazar	Pueblo, CO	40.20%
5.	Joshua Cantrell	Lions Park, MO	38.33%
6.	Chris Callihan Jr	North Texas Ringers, TX	37.74%
7.	Joey Mueller	Fridley, MN	37.00%
8.	Ben Webb	Edmonson County, KY	36.00%
9.	David Heathman	Shelbina Liberty Park, MO	33.50%
10.	Thomas Rodriguez	Burbank-Joslyn, CA	33.05%

High Ringer Game

1.	Joey Mueller	Fridley, MN	74.00%
2.	Steve Drozd	Pawnee Ringers, NE	70.00%
3.	Devin Wetzel	Liberty, MO	68.00%

4.	Joshua Olson	Alexandria, MN	62.00%
5.	Ben Webb	Edmonson County, KY	62.00%
6.	Jonathon Sherwood	Danbury, CT	60.00%
7.	Gunnar David	Fleet Reserve, WI	56.00%
8.	Chris Callihan Jr	North Texas Ringers, TX	55.00%
9.	Josh Cantrell	Lions Park, MO	54.00%
10.	Thomas Rodriguez	Burbank-Joshlyn, CA	54.00%

High Ringer over Average

1.	Joey Mueller	Fridley, MN	37.00
2.	Jonathon Sherwood	Danbury, CT	35.87
3.	Gunnar David	Fleet Reserve, WI	24.97
4.	Ben Webb	Edmonson County, KY	24.00
5.	Devin Wetzel	Liberty, MO	24.00
6.	Brian Nussbaum	Sweetwater, WY	22.60
7.	Jamey Huff	Edgewater, CO	22.06
8.	Keegan Warner	Wright, MN	21.98
9.	Jordan Johnson	Moorhead, MN	21.81
10.	Travis Johnson	Arkdale, WI	21.60

GIRL'S DIVISION

High Ringer Average

1.	Brianna McCormick	Sodbusters, VT	43.00%
2.	Abby Green	Try County, OH	38.66%
3.	Jennifer Trader	Grand Forks, ND	28.83%
4.	Marguerite Lapiere	Doling Park, MO	22.50%
5.	Heather Selleck	Sodbusters, VT	20.76%
6.	Savanna Johnson	Liberty, MO	20.59%
7.	Chessa Baumgardner	Minot, ND	19.11%
8.	Payge Quintana	Topeka, KS	15.83%
9.	Haley Figgins	Winchester, VA	15.52%
10.	Katlyn Barr	Try County, OH	12.21%

High Ringer Game

1.	Brianna McCormick	Sodbusters, VT	64.00%
2.	Abby Green	Try County, OH	58.00%
3.	Heather Selleck	Sodbusters, VT	46.00%
4.	Savanna Johnson	Liberty, MO	40.00%
5.	Katlyn Barr	Try County, OH	38.00%
6.	Payge Quintana	Topeka, KS	37.50%
7.	Jennifer Trader	Grand Forks, ND	34.00%
8.	Marguerite Lapiere	Doling Park, MO	32.50%
9.	Adriane Hull	Try County, OH	28.00%
10.	Chessa Baumgardner	Minot, ND	26.00%

High Ringer over Average

1.	Katlyn Barr	Try County, OH	25.79
2.	Heather Selleck	Sodbusters, VT	25.24
3.	Savanna Johnson	Liberty, MO	23.09
4.	Payge Quintana	Topeka, KS	21.67
5.	Brianna McCormick	Sodbusters, VT	21.00
6.	Abby Green	Try County, OH	19.34
7.	Adriane Hull	Try County, OH	17.43
8.	Destinnie Wilke	Sodbusters, VT	15.35
9.	Ashley Craven	Liberty, MO	13.96
10.	Jessica Martell	Sodbusters, VT	13.90

ATHLETES AT THE ARCH

NATIONAL VETERANS GOLDEN AGE GAMES TO BE HELD IN ST. LOUIS!
NHPA HALL OF FAME SELECTED AS SITE FOR THE HORSESHOE EVENT!

The St. Louis VA Healthcare System is honored to host the 26th National Veterans Golden Age Games to be held on May 31-June 5, 2012. It is the only national multi-event sports and recreation senior's competition program designed to improve the quality of life for Veterans, including a wide range of abilities and disabilities. It is a national showcase for the preventive and therapeutic value of sport, fitness and recreation for Veterans.

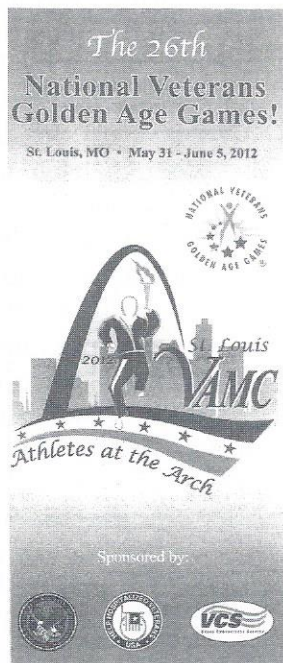
If you are a Veteran 55 and older and receive care from the VA, this is your chance to shine. Sign up as an athlete and compete in four of the 14 medal events: swimming, cycling, golf, shot-put, discus, air rifle, table tennis, dominoes, shuffleboard, horseshoes, nine-ball, bowling, checkers and croquet. Deadline is February 29, 2012.

If you are interested in helping our Veterans; showing them how much their service means to this country and promoting healthy living... become a volunteer. Contact www.stlouis.va.gov or the NVGAG website, www.veteransgoldenagegames.va.gov for more information.

The QRHC has donated the usage of the NHPA facility to host the horseshoe event to be held on Monday, June 4th beginning at 7AM – 7PM. If you are interested in serving as a volunteer contact "2012 National Veterans Golden Age Games" and pull the volunteer entry form from the website. Follow directions and send to the STL Veterans Association. Each volunteer will be receiving a shirt to wear on the day of the event.

The QRHC is anticipating 350-400 Veteran horseshoe pitchers to participate in the horseshoe event. It is a one day only horseshoe event. We will be very busy providing adequate service to our fellow countrymen and women such as serving meals, keeping score, retrieving horseshoes, etc. Your help will be much appreciated if you can make the trip. There will be media coverage and a wonderful way to promote horseshoes. We hope to make this event an extraordinary experience for our National Veterans!

Contact Jeanette Claas at 636-734-9095 for further information.



CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS

by Jerry LaBrosse

Greetings to All

Recently we conducted an update of the Charter Communications System. The information gathered during this update was extremely interesting.

The good news is that there are a lot of charters out there that are very active and have established communication lists. If a CC email is sent out and forwarded by all the charters that have their own lists; it is reaching over 3,000 households. That number is derived from the charters that provided me with their info. There are several other charters who may have lists that I haven't heard about, and several more with plans in the works to create lists. So I figure that if we are reaching over 3,000 households, we are reaching probably upwards to 4,000 or more members. We could conceivably be reaching over half of our membership via CC emails in the near future. I sense a solid wave of excitement among many charters, based on the feedback I've received. The emails I've gotten back have been very encouraging. We have a lot of good dedicated people out there working hard to advance our sport, and I want to take this opportunity to thank every one of you who are doing this important work.

In the weeks and months to come, there will be a lot of information sent out to the charters, and forwarded on to your charter email lists. Please consider joining your charter email list and stay "in the loop" on what's happening in the NHPA.

Not only will there be information sent out to help your charter grow and improve, but there are sometimes important announcements that need to get spread around quickly.

There will be lots of information sent out regarding the World Tournament plans, the World Tournament Raffle, and other items of interest.

Anyhow, I just wanted to let you all know that the CC system is as up-to-date and as far reaching as it has ever been, and I invite ideas from all of you as to the best way to utilize it for the betterment of the NHPA.

Best of luck to all
Jerry

Support the NHPF

The only horseshoe pitching related charity needs your tax-deductible donations to support many programs of the sport including the Hall of Fame and Grants to install new or upgrade existing courts.

Deadlines for Grant Applications

March 1 and September 1

Mail inquires & contributions to:

NHPF
P.O. Box 1628
Penn Valley, CA 95946

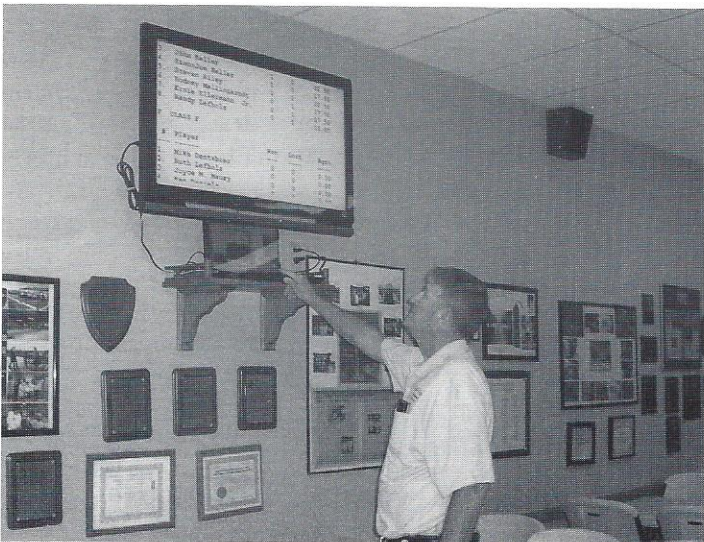
NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM ELECTRONIC SCORING SYSTEM INSTALLED AT THE HALL OF FAME

by Jeanette Claas

Since the opening of the NHPA Hall of Fame & Museum facility in October 2007, the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club has made many changes and improvements to its interior for the enjoyment of all horseshoe pitchers. It is hard to believe that almost five years have past since its inception. The QRHC really had no idea what was in store for them as they ventured into their new role as caretakers. All they knew was that they would be able to enjoy pitching in the finest horseshoe facility in the world, year after year, month after month, and day after day.

Since that time, major horseshoe tournaments and events have been held bringing the greatest of all time horseshoe pitchers to its facility, not to speak of the monthly tournaments and league play that goes on daily during the weeks. Two big events are being planned for 2012; the Hall of Fame Invitational, May 5-6, and the National Veterans Golden Games to be held on June 4, 2012 bringing in 350-400 Veterans pitching horseshoes in one day.

With all the exposure and events held at the Hall Of Fame, the QRHC wants to keep it a first class facility with all its enhancements. Some of the major additions that have taken place since its opening are: suspended ceiling in the lobby, new backboards, wall mural, safety screens,



Gary Buehler checks the monitor in the lobby as it scrolls the tournament class results.

new bar stools, demo horseshoes, and the wall horseshoe collection display. These items have been made possible through the expertise and craftsmanship of some QRHC members and with the support and financial backing of the NHPF and the NHPA.

Our latest major undertaking was the installation of the Electronic Scoring System (ESS). The idea first came to mind when the ESS was introduced and tested at the 2010 World Tournament at Cedar Rapids, IA. And then everyone saw just how successful it was during the 2011 World Tournament in Monroe, LA when the NHPA utilized the ESS on all courts. We knew at that point in time it was only befitting for the best horseshoe arena in the world to have the best scorekeeping system in the world!

Joe Faron, NHPF Board Director and QRHC member, submitted bids to the NHPF and the NHPA directors for their approval and advice. The estimated cost would be \$6,500 which was agreed to be split three ways by the NHPA, NHPF and the QRHC. Gary Buehler, QRHC member, met with Rob Hagman, NHPA NATSTATS statistician, familiarizing him with the ESS. He also met with Kurt Whaley, who designed the HS Master, the program used to set up tournaments as well as HSScorekeeper, the program used to actually run the tournament. After the completion of the 2011 World Tournament and finding some glitches within the ESS, it was determined by these gentlemen that there would have to be some upgrading in the laptops and other miscellaneous items in the initial quote in order to meet the county code specifications. The upgrading would change the financial burden to \$10,000.

After returning from the World Tournament a meeting was held in August for the QRHC members to approve the expenditure for the project. At that time the club members unanimously agreed to move forward. The goal was to have the ESS operational by the time of the 2011 NHPA Halloween Bash that was to take place on October 27, 2011. The planning and installation of the wiring began almost immediately. The QRHC was fortunate to have two certified electricians to perform this task, Gary Rehm and Mike Thomson. Others helping on the ESS Committee were: Larry Langewisch, Joe Faron, Bob Cutright, Gary Buehler and Norm Pierce. Under the advisement of the Best Buy representatives, this project took approximately three weeks to complete.

Rob Hagman and Jerry LaBrosse, NHPA 4th Vice President of Minnesota, arrived at the Hall Of Fame two days before the Halloween Bash. They stated that about 90% of the work had been completed by the ESS

NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

Continued



Joe Faron demonstrates the cabinet on wheels in which the laptops are stored and safely secured.

Committee before their arrival. They installed special ends on the Cat-5 cables and set up the software in each laptop requiring about 13-15 man-hours. The system was up and running successfully just in time for the Halloween Bash.

Since that time the QRHC has held five tournaments using the ESS. Gary Buehler and Rich Altis are getting acquainted with the program through experience and are ready to train other members the process of running a tournament with the new system. Many QRHC members and outsiders have found themselves keeping score on the laptops, some of which have never kept score before, expressing it easy to do so. As you know getting scorekeepers has always been a major horseshoe problem, but now with the new incentive of \$2 per game we are confident that this problem will be eliminated. Instead of 16 scorekeepers, we now only need eight. The QRHC will also save money by not having to purchase scoresheets, nametags, etc. The eight new 40" monitors, mounted between the two courts, are easily read by the scorekeepers and horseshoe pitchers. As part of the ESS setup, a flat-screen monitor was installed in the lobby area with an attached laptop that continually scrolls tournament results. It is wonderful to see the horseshoe pitchers as they gather to watch the running scores on that monitor. At this time a program is being tested in Minnesota for league play indicating a possibility for usage at our courts during our league play.

What next? Naturally we needed a safe place to store the laptops. With their wood craftsmanship skills, Joe Faron and Bob Cutright designed and built a cabinet on wheels to store the laptops. The cabinet has a storage unit on top for other miscellaneous items. As a safety precaution to protect the laptops, they designed a tray for each laptop to sit upon while in use by the scorekeeper.

The ESS has been another learning process for the QRHC members, one of which we are most proud of. Again, the QRHC thanks the NHPA and the NHPF for sharing their support and financial backing. The QRHC has now reached the point where they can say "We have done enough, now let's sit back, maintain and enjoy our great facility."

The QRHC wants you to enjoy it as much as we do, so every chance you get, please come by and visit YOUR Horseshoe Hall of Fame facility. We know what it means to you. Keep on supporting the NHPF with your donations and brick orders which can be sent to the NHPF, P.O. Box 1628, Penn Valley, CA 95946. It is the



Gary Null, a beginner in horseshoes who has never kept tournament scores, adapts to the ESS very easily.

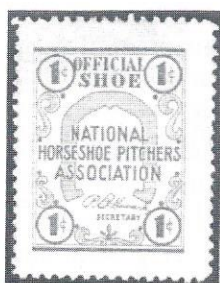
only way to preserve the history, showcase the present and build the future of horseshoe pitching – the game we all love and enjoy.

HORSESHOE FACTS & FOLKLORE by Bob Dunn, NHPA Historian

The NHPA Stamp Program

The NHPA began the "Stamp Program" in the mid-1930's, as a method to increase revenue rather than to increase membership fees. The program collected money from horseshoe manufacturers, similar to today's horseshoe sanctioning process and lasted into three decades.

There was a very narrow purpose in the program; to have income designated for conducting World Tournaments and this was totally at the expense of the horseshoe manufacturers. These manufacturers would purchase sheets of stamps to affix to their product. All manufacturers participated, at least all those that were producing tournament style shoes or that were NHPA tournament pitchers for business. From the sanctioning standpoint, when pitchers purchased a new pair of shoes, these stamps would be attached to the container and meant that the shoes enclosed would meet all standards and dominions of the NHPA regulations.



There is also a curious feature that is occurring and what has brought this old forgotten program back into view. Stamp collectors are now after those old stamps. So now we learn that stamp collections are not only for postage stamps. These old NHPA stamps are referred to as "cinderella" stamps and have been featured in *Linn's Stamp News*, including a photo of the original one-cent stamp, which is pictured in this article. Other examples include: Christmas and Easter seals, Boys Town stamps, NHPA's National Wildlife

Federation seals and one-cent stamp exhibition or advertising stamps.

The NHPA Stamp Program started at the 1935 NHPA convention in Moline, Illinois. This program was the notion and creation of Hall of Fame member Harry Duncan, a fact that we probably would never know about if it was not for Ted Allen's hand written nomination for Duncan. Duncan did not make the Stamp Program proposal at the NHPA convention and his name was not even attached to the motion. In fact the official motion was presented to the convention by C.C. Davis and seconded by Ted Allen. Here's how Ted Allen's notes tell us about Duncan's involvement:

"After he and I got my shoe on the market, he helped me on the mailing of shoes at home while I started traveling. He came to me one day and asked me if we could offer the NHPA another contribution. It was all his idea that I put before the National Convention, a proposal that all horseshoe companies be approved as official shoes, if they bought stamps, printed by the NHPA and place a stamp on each parcel of a pair of shoes sold. The funds to be held by the NHPA and allowed to accumulate so that when there was no World Tournament sponsor, the funds would be used to hold the tournament. It was presented, voted on and accepted by the delegates. In a later convention, John A. Gordon made a move to raise the stamp price to 5 cents. It was carried. This is what caused misunderstanding that John Gordon put forth the stamp fund idea and of course he later claimed just that too."

The new fund raising plan was announced in the September 1935 *Horseshoe World* . . .

New Financial Plan Adopted

"The new financial plan, which promises to put the National Horseshoes Pitchers Association on its feet and bring it to the foreground as the prominent sport that many believe it is capable of becoming, was adopted at the Moline convention.



Vol XIV LONDON, OHIO No. 12

December, 1935

Just Among Ourselves

I WISH
EACH AND
EVERY READER
OF THIS MAGAZINE
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A VERY HAPPY
NEW YEAR!

THE NEW YEAR
WILL INAUGURATE
OUR STAMP PLAN
AND MEMBERSHIP
CAMPAIGN.

LET'S CO-OPERATE!

LOOK FOR THE STAMPS!

Horseshoe pitchers are urged to look for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association stamp on each horseshoe purchased after January 1.

The appearance of this stamp will mean that the manufacturer of that shoe has paid one cent (2 cents per pair) toward the support of the game you like so well. It may be that there will be some shoes sold after January 1 that were on the jobbers' and merchants' shelves which do not carry the stamp, but you will be given a list in the January *Horseshoe World* of the equipment manufacturers co-operating in this stamp plan, so that you may feel perfectly safe that the manufacturers listed are doing all they can to support the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association.

It behooves you to buy equipment from manufacturers who are boosting YOUR game!

OUR READERS COME FIRST

In publishing *THE HORSESHOE WORLD*, our readers come first. The magazine is printed monthly for them and every article is run with the idea of interesting them. Suggestions to the editor for the betterment of the magazine are always welcomed.

The time that your magazine expires is printed on the address slip, directly after your name, showing the month and the year.

Subscription price — \$1 per year, cash in advance. Canadian subscription \$1.25; 10 cents per single copy. Entered as second-class matter, March 18, 1924, at the Post Office at London, Ohio under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

R. B. HOWARD,
Publisher and Editor

Business Offices, Madison Press Co. Building,
45 W. Second Street, London, Ohio

Official Organ of the National Horseshoe
Pitchers Association

Manufacturers Line Up

At a meeting called by Secretary R.B. Howard, to which had been invited all horseshoe manufacturers known at the time, a majority of the leading shoe manufacturers expressed their willingness to help finance the National Association.

It was pointed out to them that the continuation of a National Association and its strengthening was the only assurance they had that the game would continue to grow and that their outlet for equipment would continue.

The manufacturers expressed interest in the plan and asked what would come to them as direct benefits, which were outlined by Secretary Howard to include an educational campaign of a general nature, increased publicity through various means, a contact with playground and park board associations, an attempt to extend the game into school sports requirements, etc., as well as the adoption of a rule by the National Association that no shoe not included in the sales stamp plan would be allowed in a sanctioned tournament, whether it be national, district, state, city or county. This, it was pointed out, if backed by a strong education campaign urging pitchers to buy only shoes manufactured under the stamp plan, and bearing these little stamps, would result in advantages to the manufacturers cooperating. As a further check on this, the constitution was revised by the convention making it punishable with suspension of membership for one year for any pitcher to use unsanctioned shoes, as well as making it compulsory that he pitch only in sanctioned tournaments, the latter ruling also to carry with it a one year suspension for failure to comply.

HORSESHOE FACTS & FOLKLORE *Continued*

Among those in attendance were Otto Swanstrom, Diamond Horseshoe Company, Duluth, Minnesota; John A. Gordon, the Gordon Horseshoe Co., South Gate, California; Fred M. Brust, Ohio Horseshoe Co., Columbus, Ohio; Earl Strick, Erie Malleable Iron Co., Erie, Pa.; Leo Lattore and E. Levagood, Lattore Horseshoe, Dearborn, Michigan; C.C. Davis, Kansas City, Missouri and W.L. Issacs, Hamilton, Ohio; all representing manufacturers and Bert Duryee, Rev. E.V. Stevens and R.B.

ARTICLE IV

“SECTION 1. Any horseshoe manufacturer, who desires to introduce a new horseshoe, or make a change in any horseshoe he is manufacturing, must first submit blueprints indicating the change, to the National Association Secretary, to see if official approval can be obtained. The acceptance can be obtained only by a unanimous vote of the Executive Council. If sanction for a new shoe or change in an old one is granted, the manufacturer then must submit a sample pair of the shoes, to the Secretary and Executive Council for the final verdict, before he may affix the official ten-cent manufacturer's tax stamp to each pair of shoes that are sold by the manufacturer and or his agents.

If a manufacturer prefers to submit a sample pair of new shoes or remodeled shoes, instead of submitting blueprints, the manufacturer may.

At the end of each year, all endorsement stamps that have not been used by a manufacturer may be returned to the National Association for reimbursement in cash or an equal number of the new year's issue of stamps. Revenue from the National Association's sale of the stamps shall be used to promote and aid the game of horseshoes in whatever way the association believes is best.”

The stamp plan continued on through 1959 at which time the N.H.P.A set up an Associate Member program where manufacturers were required to pay annual dues and to take part in other forms of financial support to the N.H.P.A. This certainly was a less cumbersome process and probably brought in as much or even more revenue. Here is the list of the initial participating Associate members:

- Diamond Tool and Horseshoe Co. Duluth, Minn.
- Dixon Victory Shoe Co., Des Moines, Iowa
- Gordon Horseshoe Co., Cincinnati, Ohio
- Ohio Horseshoe Co., Columbus, Ohio
- Ted Allen Horseshoe Co., Boulder, Colo.

Pitch Ohio Horseshoes and Increase Your Ringer Percentage



1949 MODEL
Made in 4 tempers

Price \$3.50 per pair postpaid. Write for quantity prices in lots of 4 or more pairs.

(We use the 5c association stamps)

OHIO HORSESHOE COMPANY
(Makers of quality pitching shoes for 28 years.)
Station F Columbus, Ohio

“CASEY” JONES champion horseshoe pitcher and holder of two great world's records (87½% ringers and 13 games of 90% and over in the Milwaukee National tournament), says, “I changed to OHIO shoes in 1948 and increased my ringer average over 5%. OHIO shoes are well balanced and stay on the stake. I recommend them to beginners and all players who want to improve their game.”

Howard, representing the National Association. Present L.E. Tanner was unable to attend, as he was busy at the courts where the night games were being played.

The motion made by C.C. Davis and seconded by Ted Allen, that the Association ratify the agreement which the special committee made with the manufacturers and the following, effective January 1, 1936, is to be added to Rule 6 of the Playing Rules: Effective January 1, 1936, no shoe shall be considered official for tournament play unless in addition to meeting the specified weights and measurements, it is manufactured by a person or firm who has paid to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association the sum of one cent for each shoe sold and has affixed a one cent official stamp, furnished by the National Association to each shoe sold. Lists of manufacturers cooperating in the plan to help finance the National Association will be published from time to time and pitchers are urged to make sure that stamps are affixed on each shoe purchased.”

That description sounds as if the stamps were physically stuck on the shoes themselves, but the stamps were actually affixed to the carton in which the shoes were sold in.

Ted Allen had mentioned that at some point later on, the stamp price had been raised to five cents. That action took place in 1939. At the 1946 convention, the first held since 1941, manufacturers balked at the process claiming they had surpassed a three year agreement with the N.H.P.A. Leland Mortenson made a motion that the program be continued at the same 5 cents per pair of shoes sold and the program continued with specific assigned uses of the funds. The following transcript is from May 1950 of the *Horseshoe Pitcher*, and describes the current stamp plan process, 15 years after its initial inception.

JOIN and SUPPORT . . .

THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION

ACCEPT NO HORSESHOES UNLESS YOU SEE THE N.H.P.A. OFFICIAL STAMP ON THE PACKAGE

These are the only "Official" Pitching Shoes Approved by THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION

<p>Arch Stokes, President Solt Lane City, Utah 1310 Woodland Avenue</p> <p>George Hart, 2nd V. P. 559 West 191st St. New York, N. Y.</p> <p>Mrs. Truman Standard, 4th V. P. Route 2 Canton, Illinois</p>	<p>Sam Sumnerholder, 1st V. P. Nebraska</p> <p>Ray Ohms, 3rd V. P. 3510 S. 14 E. Salt Lake City, Utah</p> <p>Elmer Baller, Secy.-Treas. 111 Via Buena Ventura Redondo Beach, Calif.</p>
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These are your Regions; Directors on Publicity. Contact them for information, or any assistance you might give them.

<p>Pacific Coast States Don Tilcomb 1087 E. Duane, Sunnyvale, Calif.</p> <p>North Central States Chas. Hopkins 912 E. 2nd St., Ottumwa, Iowa</p> <p>New England States Charles Gerrish The Garrish Place, Kittery Maine</p>	<p>Rocky Mt. States Ray Ohms 1510 S. 14th East, Salt Lake City, Utah</p> <p>South Central States Alvin Dahille 947 Illinois, Lawrence, Kan.</p> <p>New York, New Jersey, Penn. George Hart 559 W. 191st St., New York 10, N. Y.</p>
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Southeastern States
Arner Lindquist, 305 6th St., Morgantown, W. Va.

Was the stamp plan successful and if so, how successful? Other than knowing that the program was in existence for 23 years, we may never know the answers for sure as there has been no financial report uncovered which specifically states how much money the program took in during a year's time. The best information we have can be found a 1951 letter to the membership from then NHPA Secretary, Archie Gregson, which states “Recently we mailed out checks to various state associations totaling \$131.20 for their portion of the stamp funds.”

As set up at the 1946 convention, the charters were to receive 25% of the total stamp fund income. So doing the math – the NHPA took in \$524.80 in 1950 for the sale of 10,496 pairs of horseshoes.

Harry Duncan was inducted to the N.H.P.A. Hall of Fame in 1983.

Danville, Illinois' 24th Annual Open Horseshoe Tournament July 14 & 15, 2012

AWARDS:

Class "B" and below

1st = \$110.00 *and* Plaque
2nd = \$70.00
3rd = \$45.00
4th = \$25.00

Designated "A" Sponsorship brings awards to:

1 st = \$625.00 <i>and</i> Plaque	5 th = \$125.00	9 th = \$60.00
2 nd = \$400.00	6 th = \$100.00	10 th = \$50.00
3 rd = \$300.00	7 th = \$ 80.00	11 th = \$40.00
4 th = \$225.00	8 th = \$ 70.00	12 th = \$25.00

(Class "A" Mens, Womens, & Elders play Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.)

FREE MONOGRAMMED TOWEL TO ALL ENTRANTS

COURTS: 20 Courts with full walkways. Located in Douglas Park just off I-74 at the Bowman Ave. exit (#216)

ENTRY DEADLINE: ALL PAID ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 29th!!!

Register online also at: http://www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?event_id=1999879 by June 27th

ENTRY FEE: \$25.00 (includes scorekeeping fees). Make checks payable to: Danville Horseshoe Club.
PREPAYMENT REQUIRED FOR ALL ENTRIES. Scorekeepers to be paid \$2.00 per game.

SANCTION: 29-12-001

SEND ENTRIES TO: Leo Bratland
41 Country Club Dr.
Danville, Il 61832
217-443-5818 (home)
E-mail: bratlnd@aol.com

- OR -

Bobby Vandivier
Box 23
Ridgefarm, Il 61870
217-247-2261 (home)



The following info is required for all entries:

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail address _____

2012 NHPA Card # _____

Please Circle One: **Men - 40 ft.** **Men - 30 ft.** **Women** **Junior** **Cadet**

SECRETARY/ TREASURER CANDIDATE

DICK HANSEN



I would like to announce that I will be a candidate for re-election as NHPA Secretary-Treasurer. I want to take this time to thank everyone for your support over the years. It has been a real privilege for me to serve the NHPA at this level. It is a daily challenge running the day to day operation of the NHPA. But I have decided that I would like to hold this office for two more years with your support.

Every Council I have worked with has always given one hundred percent to help build and improve the NHPA and over the years many new ideas have been tried to increase membership and awareness of the sport of horseshoes. But for the last six years our membership has been in decline. Nothing we have done at the national level has seemed to work. It is my belief that any increase in membership must start at the local level. It is the NHPA Council that must provide the tools needed to the charters to increase their membership, but the charters have to be willing to do the work involved. Yes we are on hard times, but we can do it. I challenge every charter to set a goal to increase their membership by just five percent. Think about it. We can do it.

I was first elected to the NHPA Council in 1993 and have been the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer since 1995. The years just seemed to fly by. But this decision to run for re-election has not been an easy one for me. My wife, Paulette, and I have talked this over a great deal and it is only with her blessing that I will even consider taking on two more years. But this will most likely be my last term if elected.

Thank you again for your support and hope to see many of you at the World Tournament in Knoxville, TN.

Dick Hansen
NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT CANDIDATE

TINA HAWKINS



Since joining the NHPA "family" of the Executive Council, I have gained a far better understanding of the effort and dedication every one of your NHPA officers put forth toward the well-being and growth of this association. The hours are long and the work is not easy. At times there seems to be no appreciation for what they do.

WITHOUT A DOUBT!!

The NHPA instills a passion in me... There is a drive and determination to do everything in my power to help guarantee the success of our association and bring our sport to the forefront. My desire to run for re-election and serve a third term as your NHPA Second Vice President rests in your hands...

Please support me in my quest to put the National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association in the spotlight by giving me your vote!

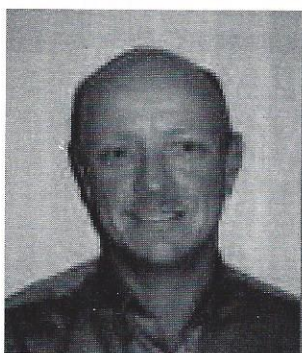
It is with great enthusiasm that I am looking forward to serving you again!

Mid-way through my second term as Publicity/Promotions Director, I am faced with the decision – Do I **REALLY** want to do this for 2 more years?? For me, the answer is simple...

Tina Hawkins
Oklahoma

NHPA 4TH VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATE

JERRY LABROSSE



I would like to announce my candidacy for re-election to the position of NHPA 4th Vice President. For the past two years we have been working to build a direct and instant link across the entire NHPA through Charter Communications. We have made great progress in this

effort, largely thanks to the cooperation we've seen from all of you. I have enjoyed serving you in my various duties, and would appreciate your continued support in building a better NHPA.

Thank You,
Jerry LaBrosse
NHPA 4th VP

REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT *by Debby Michaud*

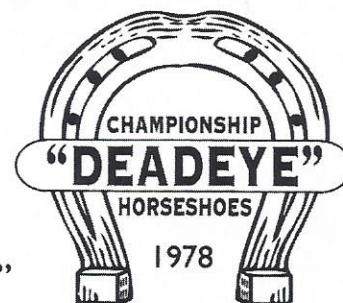
January of every year is the month for the NHPA Executive Board Winter meeting. This year's meeting was held in Knoxville, TN, site of the 2012 World Horseshoe Tournament. I LOVED Knoxville! This is an excellent venue for our premier event. The Convention Center is right downtown and there is MUCH to see in downtown Knoxville with a bonus – much of it is within walking distance of the Convention Center. There are two YMCA's nearby for exercisers or swimmers, a few blocks away is Gay Street where you can spend hours walking and checking out the storefronts, museums, and theaters. Market Square is a couple of blocks away with everything you need to spend an afternoon. While we were there, they were dismantling the temporary ice skating rink that had been there for a couple of months. There is even a candy factory close by with award winning chocolate. You can travel high up into the "Gold Ball", built for the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, and view the city and the surrounding areas – there are trolleys for sightseeing, the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, riverboat rides – well, I guess you'll have to see it for yourself! I am looking forward to being there – the friendly and helpful people are another bonus!

All are getting ready for a new year. More new RD's to report – Nate Haley in South Carolina and Bryan Wilson from Colorado are taking over for Terry McPeck and Lyle Saine. Thanks go to Terry and Lyle for helping out with the re-sanctioning of courts in their charters and for getting a taste of the Regional Director's life! There are some charters that have not finished their re-sanctioning. It is a big, time-consuming job and we are thankful for all the work that the Regional Directors have finished – I know some of it is continuing as we speak. We just checked out an improved facility in Nashua, NH three days ago. They have brought back a once-flourishing league that had dropped down to 6 - 8 members and had let many of their courts grow weeds. It is now a club of over 50 pitchers with 24 wonderful courts – they are looking forward to some good tournaments in 2012 and predict a bigger membership again this year. I have received lists of sanctioned courts from many of you but my list is still incomplete. If all of the sanctioned court facilities are up to date on your website, give me a heads'-up and I can get my information from there, but we still want to know if and when courts are re-sanctioned and when there are new courts. One state, Missouri, has all Full Sanction Court facilities. I would love to know if there are any more charters that can claim this – is a great accomplishment. Also, there are some charters that have informed us that they are going to have some more facilities in 2012. Just got a note from Dave Montgomery in OK about new sanctioned indoor courts. Great!

Speaking of Missouri, we are planning to have a Doubles tournament this year at the Hall of Fame facility in Wentzville, MO. We are looking at July 7th as the date and will let you know more about it as details develop. We might call it the Red, White and Blue Walking Doubles. We hope to have a "Pro-Am" prior to the competition. So many charters are increasing their doubles tournaments that I am going to have to order more patches for that – that is a GOOD thing! That is why the idea of a doubles tournament at the Hall of Fame building makes good sense. But we are also open to having some kind of doubles competition at some World Tournament, IF there is room for it. There was a "challenge" doubles match in 1987 at the World Tournament that was quite successful, lots of spectators and good competition. The 1986 World Tournament runners-up, man and woman, challenged the 1986 World Tournament champions to a best two out of three match. The runners-up emerged victorious in two games so that was even more fun (for me, especially! – guess why!). But the number of spectators there showed that doubles was popular even with the serious pitchers who attend the World Tournament.

Back to the winter meeting which was a good, productive meeting. The World Tournament was reviewed in detail and we did tour the site – Jerry and Tina had done a more intensive site visit prior to the rest of us arriving. Jerry will probably fill you in on the facility, but it is planned that, again, ALL the courts will be electronically scored. Because of some upgrades, there should be even fewer glitches this year (there were very few last year!) – training for scorekeepers will occur on-site again this year – the whole thing was very smooth last year – much thanks to the "Team" (Rob and Ann Hagman, Jerry Smith) and to Kurt Whaley for the thousands of hours he has put into this. Much of the winter meeting is taken up with finances, ways to

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REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT *Continued*

increase our membership, possible Rules changes, and some charter issues and questions. It is a very interesting, two-day meeting and the Executive Board is a good mix of personalities, priorities, and expertise. There are some changes coming that should improve and update our sport and the communication within it. The bottom line is that we want our pitchers to have a good time pitching in a good competitive environment. One of the items discussed was a survey that was constructed by college students for the NHPA. Tina will have some discussion of that in her column I am sure, but the results were quite interesting. Another item we talked about was the World Tournament Experience Raffle - see Jerry's column for more on that - the inaugural year for that, 2011, was so successful and we are hoping for another good one with some happy winners. We welcomed Dave Sidles from Nebraska to the board and missed Lorraine Sternberg who was 3rd VP for 12 years - good job, Lorraine, and thank you!

It would be interesting to find out how many local clubs have electronic scoring. Central Connecticut has had

it for years for their winter, indoor tournaments. North Dakota has it indoors and I think Kansas has some. Of course there is now electronic scoring at the Hall of Fame building as well. Let us know if you use paper, or cyberspace!

Many of you will be having your meetings for 2012 by the time you read this. The southern states will be starting to wrap things up. We hope for a good year in 2012 with an increase in membership in most charters and no floods or major weather issues! Good luck to you. If you have a successful program, let us know. If you had a new idea that flopped, let us know that, too. Some things work in one place but not another, some things have to be tweaked and they turn around to become great things. We are all in this sport to improve our pitching and to have a good time in very competitive tournaments.

Just one little note - by the time you read this, it will be too late for you to echo my words for this year's Super Bowl, but -- GO PATS!

JUNIOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT KATE KNIGHTS



Hello, my name is Kate Knights. I am in the middle of my freshman year up at Colorado State University. Colorado State University just began a double major program with any original engineering coupled with

biomedical engineering. Within five years I will graduate with a double bachelorette in chemical and biological engineering as well as biomedical engineering. This was my choice path because in high school I excelled at chemistry and math. I believe that this major could help me in my professional years by giving me skills to work somewhere in the medical field. My hope is to research and improve the sciences behind artificial organs and tissues. If I could help in this field I would try to lower the rejection rate of tissues in the human body.

I have participated in gymnastics, diving and horseshoes for many years now. These sports have enriched my life with memories and friendships that I will cherish for as long as I can. This summer (July 2012) I will be participating in my fourth World Horseshoe Tournament in Tennessee. It will be the first year that I will take part as an adult and not a junior.

NHPA RULES AND BYLAWS

by Dan Sanders

The following Proposed Rules Changes (PRCs) have been approved by the NHPA Rules Committee and by the NHPA Council, for voting by the Convention Delegates at the 2012 World Tournament in Knoxville, TN. As required by our NHPA Bylaws, these PRCs are published here, so that our members and delegates can read and discuss these proposals prior to voting. Please study and review these possible changes to our Rules, discuss them with other members, and let your Charter Officers and appointed delegates know how you would like for them to vote. As there have been many proposed changes submitted, not all of them can be published in this issue, due to space limitations, and some are, in fact, still being reviewed and voted on by our Committees. All remaining proposals that are approved will be published in the next issue of Newline Magazine. Also be aware that these same proposed changes will be published on our NHPA Website.

Here is the first round of proposed Rules changes:

PRCs Passed by the NHPA Rules Committee and by the NHPA Council:

PRC1 – Rule 1, Section E.1

Current Wording: (also see RGS, page 8)

Section E – Elder Men (become eligible to pitch in the Elders Division upon purchase of an NHPA card dated for the calendar year that they become seventy (70) years old).

1. Elder Men may pitch from any place on either the extended or full-distance platforms, and shall observe the twenty-seven-foot (27') foul line. Elder Men must notify their Charter secretary, in advance, of the date that they intend to begin pitching from this shorter distance. Once a member declares himself a short-distance pitcher, he must remain a short distance pitcher for that entire calendar year. Alternately, if a member starts the year as a short distance pitcher, he may change to the Open Men's Division, but must remain in that Division for that entire calendar year. *Note:* See RULE 11, Section D.1 for additional information about re-qualifying.

Proposed Change Of Wording: (new wording is in *italic/bold* print)

Section E – Elder Men (become eligible to pitch in the Elders Division upon purchase of an NHPA card dated for the calendar year that they become seventy (70) years old).

1. Elder Men may pitch from any place on either the extended or full-distance platforms, and shall observe the twenty-seven-foot (27') foul line. Elder Men must notify their Charter secretary, in advance, of the date that they intend to begin pitching from this shorter distance. Once a member declares himself a short-distance pitcher, he must remain *in that Division until the next year's membership card is purchased. At that time he may switch back to the Open Men's Division, but must remain in that Division until the next year's membership card is purchased, etc.* *Note:* See RULE 11, Section D.1 for additional information about re-qualifying.

Reasons For Proposed Changes:

After once entering the Elders Division, there are some very good reasons why pitchers should not be allowed to switch Divisions *during* the card year. Here are some of them: This could be very problematic for TDs, for placing all pitchers in their correct Division, and having the correct NatStats ringer percentage for that pitching distance. Also, whether or not they have re-qualified at this new distance may be more difficult to determine. This would, in turn, create a probable nightmare for NatStats, based on incorrect information they might be receiving from TDs, and having to make later corrections. This would also require that Charter Secretaries issue new cards at mid-year (with the correct pitching distance marked), and then report the changes to NatStats. And so after the initial/first change of a qualified, long-distance pitcher to the Elders Division (which could happen at any time of the year) we are now attempting to require that any further changes (moving back to full-distance, then back to short-distance, etc.) take place only when new membership cards are purchased, and which become available in October.

PRC2 - REQUIREMENT 2 – ALL NHPA TOURNAMENTS/LEAGUES (also see RGS page 23)
Section E – Tournament Credit

Current Wording:

For singles and doubles events, all contestants must have completed at least half of their scheduled games to receive NatStats credit for that event, with a minimum of one hundred (100) shoes pitched.

Proposed Change of Wording: (new wording is in *italic/bold* print)

1. For singles and doubles events, *a contestant* must have completed at least half of their scheduled games (*including any scheduled "bye" games*) to receive NatStats credit for that event, *or must have pitched* a minimum of one hundred (100) shoes.

Reasons For Proposed Change:

1. It is possible to pitch more than half of the scheduled games in less than 100 shoes, which is now required in the current wording. This may happen where there are small Class sizes, and/or in a Class where the "top" pitcher may win more than half the scheduled games in less than 20 shoes per game. This sometimes happens in Junior Classes, for example.

2. There have been questions about whether scheduled "bye" games should be included for the "at least half" requirement, and so this proposal clarifies this question. These "bye" games should be included as when a pitcher is scheduled to pitch their bye game is beyond their control. Also a Pacer opponent may not be available to pitch the bye game, or the court may not even be available (a 7-man Class on three courts, for example).

3. Another reason for this proposed change has to do with "all contestants" (currently) having to finish at least ½ of their games, compared with "a contestant" (proposed change of wording). This way, at least some of the contestants could receive tournament credit; where there was a rain-out, for example.

NHPA RULES AND BYLAWS *Continued*

PRC4 – Rule 3, Section D – Position of Contestants During Delivery

Proposed Changes (Part A): (see/compare RGS page 11 for current wording) – It is proposed that Rule 3, Section D.1 (below), with indicated changes/additions (in *bold/italic print*) be moved to a new location, under Rule 3, Section C.2 (see RGS page 10).

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

Exceptions:

(a) A contestant observing the thirty-seven-foot (37') foul line may start directly behind the pitching platform provided they step within it when they release the shoe.

(b) A physically challenged contestant *requiring the assistance of special equipment, such as a wheelchair*, must have at least some contact with the pitching platform and be completely behind the twenty-seven-foot (27') foul line when the shoe is released.

Reasons For Proposed Changes (Part A): The movement of this text information from Section D.1 to Section C.2 seems *logical* as this information deals with the Delivery of Shoes. There is also a need for clarification of Exceptions (b) as some pitchers on Medical Exemptions have taken this to mean that they were allowed to move out closer to the center of the court, for better alignment, which was not the original intent of this exception.

Proposed Changes (Part B): It is further proposed that the following text information replace the current text in Section D.2, as follows: Note: Proposed changes are either in bold or regular *italic* type.

When not pitching, *contestants* shall stand quietly and stationary on or behind the same court's opposite *full-distance or extended* pitching platform, *at a distance of at least two feet (2') behind any contestant who is pitching from the same court or from the adjacent pitching platform of another court. They shall remain quiet and reasonably still until both opponent's shoes have been delivered. More specifically:*

1. In Open Men's (full distance) Classes - The above information shall apply for the forty-foot (40'), full-distance pitching platforms.

2. In Mixed distance Classes - The short-distance pitcher who pitches first must return to the position described above; on or behind the forty-foot (40') pitching platform. When the full-distance pitcher pitches first, he must remain on that pitching platform, as described above, while his opponent delivers his/her shoes.

3. In Short-distance Classes – After pitching first, contestants may remain on the extended pitching platforms, as described above, unless there is a full-distance pitcher on an adjacent court, in which case he/she shall return to the

forty-foot (40') pitching platform, if that pitcher is pitching from an adjacent pitching platform.

Reasons for above Proposed Changes (Part B):

As currently worded in Section D.2 - *The Opponent*, there is no information provided here about where competitors in Short-distance Classes should stand/wait while their opponents are delivering their shoes. This needed information is provided here, for all three possible combinations of competing distances. Also, this additional information makes it possible for Judges to know/understand the specifics of this Rule, and to monitor/remind pitchers of, and enforce any violations.

Proposed Change (Part C): For editing reasons, it is further proposed that the current text heading for Section D.3 – *The Contestants*, will be changed to Section E – *Crossing Over*, as presented below. The current text information will remain the same, other than the reference change to *Section D*, in two places. Proposed changes are in *bold/italic print*.

Section E - Crossing Over

If both contestants use the same pitching platform to deliver their shoes, the contestant pitching first should cross over (in front of the pit) to the other pitching platform and then move back to the position described in *Section D*, above. As the first contestant is crossing over in front, the second contestant should be crossing over and onto the same pitching platform, from the rear. If the contestants use opposite pitching platforms, the contestant who pitches first should step directly back, to the position described in *Section D*, above.

PRC6 - RULE 3 – PLAY OF THE GAME AND VALUE OF THE SHOE

Current Wording: (also see RGS, page 10)

Section C – Delivery of Shoes (currently reads):

1. Delivery – The contestant pitching first shall deliver both



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NHPA RULES AND BYLAWS *Continued*

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 pitching 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/arm, except in the case of a medical emergency (to be determined by the Tournament/League Officials).

Proposed Change of Wording: (new wording is in *italic/bold print*)
Section C – Delivery of Shoes

1. Delivery – The contestant pitching first shall deliver both shoes (*underhand, and* one at a time) and then the other contestant shall deliver both shoes (*underhand, and* one at a time). A contestant may deliver the shoes from either the left or right pitching 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/arm, except in the case of a medical emergency (to be determined by the Tournament/League Officials).

Reason for Proposed Change:

This change will provide a clear directive to contestants and tournament directors to follow when the occasional question/request surfaces about pitching the shoe overhand. The way the rule is currently written, it leaves the door open to anyone who would wish to pitch the shoe overhand, and raises all sorts of flags about whether this can be done safely.

PRC7B – Rule 1, Section E – Elder Men

Current Wording: (also see RGS, page 8)

Section E – Elder Men (become eligible to pitch in the Elders Division upon purchase of an NHPA card dated for the calendar year that they become seventy (70) years old).

Proposed Change of Wording: (new wording is in *italic/bold print*)
Section E – Elder Men (become eligible to pitch in the Elders Division upon purchase of an NHPA card dated for the calendar year that they become *sixty-five (65)* years old).

Reasons for Proposed Change: (from author of RC Proposal)

As I visited with the past ME committee chairpersons in our charter, it became very evident that we have more of a problem here with folks quitting the sport rather than asking for the medical exemption (only 5 requests over 20 years), although no one has ever been turned down. In 2009 I know of at least two of our very strong members that did not pitch at all because they were not physically able to pitch full distance, but would have if they would have been able to pitch from the short distance without a medical exemption. I know of these two because they have been club members for many years and I am pretty close to them. I am sure that there are several more out in the charter that I am not aware of that fall into that 65 and 70 age group that have stopped pitching for the same reason. I feel that the NHPA can benefit from this change in a big way, by increased membership numbers. The sooner this can be done the greater the benefit to the NHPA and some of the suffering membership who fall in that age group

PRC8B – Rule 1, Section A - Juniors

Current Wording: (also see RGS, page 7)

Junior Cadets (any pitcher nine (9) years old or younger for the entire calendar year).

Proposed Change of Wording: (new wording is in *italic/bold print*)
Junior Cadets (any pitcher *ten (10)* years old or younger for the entire calendar year).

Reasons for Proposed Change:

Thirty feet is too far for many 9 year olds. It is not good to get them interested and then move them back 10 feet, where they get discouraged.

PRC10 – Rule 1, Section A – Juniors

Current Wording: (also see RGS, page 7)

Junior Boys (any male pitcher eighteen (18) years old or younger for the entire calendar year).

Junior Girls (any female pitcher eighteen (18) years old or younger for the entire calendar year).

Proposed Change of Wording: (new wording is in *italic/bold print*)

2. Junior Boys (any male pitcher *seventeen (17)* years old or younger for the entire calendar year)

Note: This will become effective January 1, 2014 if approved at the 2012 Convention.

3. Junior Girls (any female pitcher *seventeen (17)* years old or younger for the entire calendar year)

Note: This will become effective January 1, 2014 if approved at the 2012 Convention.

Reasons for Proposed Change:

The generally accepted age for “adulthood” in our society is 18. At 18, a young man can vote for president, buy tobacco, register for the military, and in some states can buy alcohol. With the advancement of health and nutrition programs these juniors are growing larger and taller at an earlier age. I think it looks very silly to see an 18 year old boy that’s 6 feet tall standing up to the 27 foot foul line pitching against a 10 or 12 year old. Agreed not all 18 year old boys are 6 feet tall, but there is definitely a large potential spread in the dynamics of this division, and the age should be lowered to 17 years. Many of these same reasons also apply to young women. As for the *Note:* this is included as a part of the proposal, out of a concern about this reducing of the age of the Boy’s/Girl’s Junior Division. If a Junior was competing in this Division in Knoxville this year, and was 17, that Junior would be thinking (and would have been thinking this for several years) that, “Well, if I don’t win it this year, I’ll have one more chance next year”. And then, at this Convention, the age is lowered by a year and he or she is *out*, for any chance of winning the Title next year! (this Convention, and decision, will occur *after* they’ve pitched) What a disappointment that would be! This is not a problem when the age is *raised*, of course. But with this deferred date, they’d still have that “one more chance”, they thought they’d have, and others who are younger will have some time to better prepare/adjust for this change.

THE 1ST ANNUAL HALL OF FAME INVITATIONAL By Jeanette Class

MAY 5-6, 2012

ATTENTION ALL 30 AND 40 FOOTERS!

The Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club is proud and excited to be hosting the 1st Annual Hall of Fame Invitational on May 5-6, 2012 at the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame and Museum facility in Wentzville, MO. The Hall of Fame Invitational will be replacing the Six Pac Invitational Horseshoe Tournament. The pitchers will be competing for a total purse of \$8,000. The traditional playoff game between the Champions of the 40 and 30 footers will be played for additional prize money.

2012 to see if you qualify in the top 100 in the United States. Look for an invitation in the mail sometime during the middle of February. Please notify the tournament director if you qualify and have not received an invitation.

While you are making plans to attend this spring tournament please support our hotel sponsor, the Holiday Inn Express in O'Fallon. The hotel is located 10-12 minutes away from the horseshoe arena.

40 Footers: This tournament is for the top "Sweet Sixteen" 40 footers in the Mens Division who have the highest ringer percentage and accept our invitation. The format is a round robin event consisting of 15 forty-point games. Eight games will be pitched on Saturday, and seven games will be played on Sunday. The prize money is \$4,000, paying the top eight places. If you are interested in pitching in this tournament and need more information, contact Tournament Director Joe Faron at 314-704-7082; email address: Bugsfaron@aol.com.

Whether you plan to pitch in the tournament or to come as a spectator, the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club members promises you an unforgettable experience. The QRHC members are planning a home-cooked dinner at the facility on Saturday evening for a small donation for all to attend. The QRHC is looking forward in anticipation of your attendance at this exciting horseshoe event.

30 Footers: The exciting 30 footers tournament will be held in conjunction as the 40 footers tournament. If you are among the top 50 in the Womens and the top 50 in the Elders Division, this tournament is for you! The format will be the same as the 40 footers; with a round robin format, pitching on Saturday and Sunday. The prize money is \$4,000 paying the top eight places. If you are interested in pitching in this tournament contact Tournament Director Bob Diekamp at 636-240-6260; email address: rdiekamp@charter.net.

If you haven't visited the NHPA/NHPF Hall of Fame & Museum facility, this is your opportunity to come and see what the NHPA/NHPF has provided for you. After viewing the beautifully designed Jack Freeman Memorial Brick Plaza, you will enjoy touring the indoor facility where an impressive National Horseshoe Hall of Fame & Museum enshrines horseshoe memorabilia from the past 100 years. The 16 indoor courts are climate-controlled for your comfort. If you have not already purchased a brick for the Jack Freeman Memorial Brick Plaza, this would be the perfect time to do so. Your engraved brick would be engraved by the time you arrive for the new Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament this spring. What a great way to support the NHPA Hall of Fame building project and at the same time feel a part of our great horseshoe organization.

If you have a high ringer percentage in the Mens, Womens and Elders Division check the NHPA NATSTATS as of April 1,

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HALL OF FAME

by Vicki Winston

Hello again. Even though you don't hear from me real often, the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee continues to function. It has been hampered in recent months by my inability to get around, but I have undergone knee replacement surgery and am currently in the rehab process. By the time you are reading this, the committee should be completing their voting on the 2012 Hall of Fame ballot. It will be interesting to see who will be selected to be honored at the Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet this year in Knoxville, Tennessee.

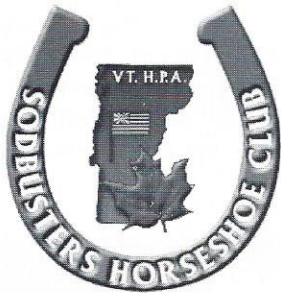
Although nominations have closed for consideration on the 2012 ballot, it is not too soon to begin the process of nominating someone for placement on the 2013 ballot. You will find a Nomination Form on the Hall of Fame link of the NHPA website. To be considered for the 2013 ballot, the nomination will need to reach me no later than Jan. 31, 2013. In the best interests of all concerned, it is wise to not wait until the last minute to submit a nomination.

There is exciting news concerning the Hall of Fame display at Wentzville, Missouri. As was announced recently, the viewing or theater room is being enhanced by the addition

of a touch screen TV. The NHPA and the NHPF have joined together to make this possible. With the labor of Rob Hagman, the NHPA NatStats director, all available videos, etc. have been downloaded into the equipment and as of this writing he is planning on being in Wentzville on March 2nd to install the TV. When it is up and running, visitors to the Hall of Fame will be able to touch the screen and select any video for their viewing pleasure. I am very excited about this dream finally becoming a reality and I know that many visitors will enjoy viewing film from the past. It will make it possible to see pitchers in action that up to this point in time perhaps have only been read about or pictured in still photos. I would like to personally thank the NHPA Council and the NHPF Directors for making this possible. If persons reading this article have never visited the Hall of Fame, or haven't been there recently, you might want to include a visit as part of your Things to Do List for later in 2012 after the touch screen is up and running.

I hope everyone has a great year. It is too early yet for me to be sure of my plans, but perhaps I will be able to see many of you in Knoxville, TN.

SODBUSTER HORSESHOE PITCHING CLUB RENAMES COURTS



On Father's Day, June 19, 2011 the Sodbuster Horseshoe Pitching Club (our 45th year) renamed their courts after the longtime founders Roger and Beverly Forgues.

The club was founded in 1966, and Roger and Beverly have been members of the club for all those years.

Over the years both of those members have held many offices of the club. Their dedication and commitment have been an inspiration to all of us. The respect we all feel for these two individuals cannot be put into words.

Roger and Bev have six boys. At one time they all played horseshoes. For many years they have traveled all over the state, and New England to play horseshoes. They have also participated in several world tournaments.

Every Labor Day weekend they travel to Keene New Hampshire for the largest tournament in New England. Many times their sons and families have met them there. Family is

very important to both of these individuals, and when you are around them they make you feel like you are their family.

I would just like to close by saying that our club would not be as strong as it is without the love and devotion of these two individuals. We love and respect you more than we can say.

Debra Brown
President
Sodbuster Horseshoe Pitching Club



CHARTER CHATTER by Jane Smith

Georgia - Ronnie Miller

We are getting ready for another great year of horseshoe pitching in Georgia. We start our new season on March 17th, weather permitting. It will be like a big family reunion as we get together and share stories from our short off-season.

Here's a brief recap of the 2011 season-ending State Singles Tournament held in Marietta Georgia on October 8, 2011. We had 76 pitchers in attendance, as Lee Presley won his second consecutive Men's Championship, Andrea DeFoe won her first Women's Championship, Billy Barnes won his third consecutive Elder's Championship and Braeden Taylor won his second consecutive Junior Boy's Championship.

2011 was a great year in Georgia for horseshoe pitching as we had 153 GHPA members signed up this year, which is the largest membership in several years as we had about 30 new members sign up thanks to the hard work of our members spreading the word about our great sport. We hope 2012 will be even better.

At our annual meeting Mary Ann Gibbs and Jimmy Coile were inducted into the GHPA Hall Of Fame. Mary Ann was selected in the Player Category and Jimmy was selected in the Promoter Category. Also at our meeting Ronnie Miller was elected GHPA President and Buddy Ayer was elected 1st Vice-President for the next two years.

Milton Vinson, our oldest member, proves that you are never too old to pitch as he celebrated his 90th Birthday in 2011; still out on the courts pitching, and still winning tournaments. Happy Birthday Milton!

Louisiana - Ron Latiolais

Louisiana is ready for a new year. We have 27 tournaments scheduled for the year so far. Everybody is getting ready for the first tournament.

Maryland - Diana Ratliff

Spring is around the corner, and we are ready for the 2012 pitching season! To stave off possible winter blues, a mini tournament in the ProTour format was held on January 28th at Pete Shomette's indoor "Iron Benders" courts. Bobby Faidley of PA, took 1st place, followed by Chan "Hoss" Herrell and Elbert Shifflett of MD. The PA pitchers (Bobby, Mike Creek and Steve Strausbaugh) won the Ringer Challenge by 24 shoes.

The Frederick HPA would like to congratulate our 2011 National Top Ten (league) Award winners. Chan Herrell was 2nd in the Nation for High Ringer Average (71.83%), Pete Shomette had the 10th High Ringer Average (63.33%) and David Correia was 8th for High Points Over Average (37.83). In the 30 ft Division, Paul McGee was a multiple award winner, placing 4th for High Ringer Average (75.08%),

Income & Expenses Statement / December 2011 & January 2012

Income

Membership Dues	\$6,445.00
Newsline Subscriptions	\$4,081.00
NHPF Grant for the Hall of Fame	\$2,000.00
Sanctioned League Patches	\$6.00
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	\$1,100.00
Insurance Refunds	\$3,686.00
US Bank Checking Interest	\$12.13
US Bank MMKT Interest	\$45.06

TOTAL **\$17,375.19**

Expenses

Newsline Printing, Supplies & Mailing	\$2,939.58
Newsline Publication, Editing & Misc.	\$920.64
Sanction League Postage & Printing	\$381.35
Saction League Officer, Supplies & Telephone	\$147.40
All Junior Trust Accounts	\$1,049.15
World Tournament Admin. Costs.	\$404.00
Printing, Office Supplies, Etc.	
Hall of Fame Awards Supplies & Expenses	\$6,429.41
Regional Director, Postage, Telephone, Supplies & Printing	\$212.38
Equipment Purchases, Rentals & Repairs	\$1,636.60
Printing Paper & Office Supplies	\$1,682.51
Postage	\$607.02
Officers Telephone	\$153.85
Officers Travel	\$3,681.70
Sec/Treas Allowance	\$3,350.00
Presidents Allowance	\$1,000.00
Vice Presidents Allowance	\$5,000.00
Publicity, Promotions & Ads	\$808.00
Insurance	\$10,730.40
Misc. Fees, Bonds, Bank Charges, Etc.	\$90.00
Refunds	\$13.00
NatStats	\$1,360.00
Internet Access & Web Site	\$2,110.16
Software Development	\$1,000.00

TOTAL **\$45,707.15**

From the books of
NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen

CHARTER CHATTER *Continued*

6th for High Ringer Game (86%) and 5th for High Points Average (119.33).

As of this writing, Metro is trying to get their 3rd annual indoor Baggio league started in an effort to warm up those pitching arms. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bonnie Lawyer of the CRE Club as she continues to battle her illness. Get well soon Bonnie!

We once again remind all members of the challenge to recruit one new pitcher for 2012! If we are successful in doing this, we can double our membership in one year!!!!

Minnesota - Jerry LaBrosse

With the short horseshoe season here in Minnesota...we truly appreciate having a facility in which we can conduct winter leagues and tournaments. In a small town about 1.5 hours Northwest of Minneapolis called Upsala, there is a community building that houses eight permanent clay courts. It has a small kitchen and lunch area. The building recently underwent a facelift, and is now all new and modern, and very well lighted.

Tournaments are held in this arena each month beginning in December. There are also winter leagues running for those who live closer to the facility.

Mel and Joyce Larson have been the caretakers of this facility as long as I can remember. They were recently honored for their dedication to our state association by being inducted into the MGSHPA Hall of Fame as long time promoters. Everybody who pitches there owes a big thank you to Mel and Joyce for their hard work and dedication in providing such a great place to play during the winter months.

Missouri - Dee McIntire

Missouri's own Vicki Winston spent a short spell in the hospital recently; she had knee replacement surgery, but is back at her computer cranking out all those new 2012 Sanction Cards! Welcome back Vicki!

Missouri is fortunate to have many indoor horseshoe courts across the state, so most of us get to pitch year round! There are lots of die-hard horseshoe pitchers here, some that travel 60-70 miles one way just to pitch in a winter league indoors once a week. We are very thankful for all our indoor courts and all our dedicated horseshoe pitchers.

New England - Debby Michaud

(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)

The New England Horseshoe Pitching Championships will be held on Labor Day weekend this year for the 75th time! Planning the celebration of this accomplishment of longevity is ongoing, with sweatshirts, patches, a photo show of the many years, Karaoke, you name it! Many are involved in the planning, but Deb Scully and Paul and Laura Jary are really getting things "cranked" up for a great weekend. We expect well over 300 entries for this premier tournament. Can't wait!

In Sterling, CT, a teacher named Mike Parillo, who is a new player from Rhode Island has received permission from the school to start a "Horseshoe Pitching Program". Mike's enthusiasm for the game has spilled over to some of his students in Sterling and he has received permission from the school to start this program. Pit construction has already begun. We will keep you updated on how Mike and these students do. It will be a wonderful thing for our sport.

Rhode Island, though a very small charter, has been active in holding "Horseshoe Mania" non-sanctioned tournaments. They are run with a different format that pitchers really seem to like and, at the end of the day, the winner can be a quite unexpected. Some of the entry money goes to the club for its expenses but most of the money goes back to the winners. They picked up several new members for 2012 with this tournament. This format has already been copied at the indoor Connecticut courts. The Central CT H.C. ran it, but added a barbeque and Karaoke into the mix, making it a great Saturday event to get rid of the winter doldrums. You can bet it will be copied in other places this coming season. Thanks to Dan Molineaux for this idea!

Wisconsin - Jane Smith

Glenn Bogenschneider, newly elected WHPA President, is hitting the horseshoe leadership with ringers blazing. He is organizing an executive board meeting in February to begin to develop new ideas and pitching locations for the coming season. His agenda in running for the office was to be a "visible" leader at as many local, state and world events as possible. He is retired and has had leadership roles in a variety of organizations. He should be a positive model with some big shoes to fill from retiring President Tom Steinke, who has left his mark on Wisconsin Horseshoes. We thank him for his time, dedication and leadership skills of the past decade. Jim Haupt is taking over the Regional Directorship for the 2012 year as Ed Wheeler resigned at the Spring meeting. Thanks to Jim and Glenn for their devotion to a great sport.

THE TOLL OF TIME

Sandra Dunn
Minnesota

Sandra Dunn, wife of NHPA Historian Bob Dunn, passed away on December 10, 2011 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Our condolences go out to Bob.

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2012 WORLD TOURNAMENT UPDATE By Dick Hansen

At the NHPA Council meeting, held in Knoxville, Tennessee on January 13th and 14th, the Council reviewed both the World Tournament entry form and the championship prize fund. As most of you know, part of the championship prize fund comes from the \$3 per adult member that is set aside to fund the championships as per the NHPA Bylaws. Because of a decline in membership over the past few years it was obvious to the council that some changes had to be made in the form of cuts to this prize fund. We also had to take into consideration the ever growing number of Elders that are entering the tournament each year. So the following changes were made. The Elders this year will have the same amount in their prize fund as the Men's and Women's Open division. There will be 16 move ups in each of those three Championship divisions. To allow for this, some prize money was reduced for the Men, Women and Sr. Men. There were no changes made to the Juniors, Cadets or the Sr. Women. A complete list of the Championship Prize Fund is printed elsewhere in this issue.

this year be holding the World Tournament Experience raffle. One half of the profits from the raffle will go to help fund the new equipment. 2) The Council approved a \$5 surcharge to be added to the entry fee, for this year only, to help cover the cost of the new equipment that will be needed for this year's tournament. The \$5 plus the raffle should make this a "break-even" tournament and next year we will go back to the \$125 entry fee. The computerize scoring has many benefits and in the long run will save the NHPA thousands in the cost of running this event. We also found out last year that it saves between 15 and 20 minutes per shift.

There were no changes made to the payouts for class play. First place in all classes will be \$500. The entry form is available in this issue and also on the NHPA webpage.

One other change was made to the Championship finals. On the last day of the tournament, the Men's, Women's and Elder's Championships will all have the same starting times. This is being done this year because the host has requested that we have the courts out of the area that night. In order to have enough time to do this, all three of those divisions will start about 10 AM on the last day. This may cause some inconvenience to both pitchers and spectators, but this was out of our control.

Last year for the first time, the World Tournament was done completely with computerized scoring on 32 courts. This year we plan on adding at least eight more courts, but may need 16 more depending on the number of entries. That will mean an additional cost in computer equipment that the Council felt could not be just taken from the NHPA's general fund. The goal is to make the World Tournament a "break-even" event. To make that happen we are doing two things. 1) We will again

Thank you for your understanding to these changes and we hope to see many of you in Knoxville this summer. The arena is going to be a great setup this year. I think those that make the trip will enjoy both their time in Knoxville and the pitching. My wife Paulette was along for the trip and said everyone will enjoy the downtown shopping. Well maybe not everyone! See you there.

Dick Hansen
NHPA Secretary/Treasurer and Tournament Director

2012 World Tournament Prize List

Championship Classes									Class Play			
Place	Men	Women	Elders	Sr. Men	Sr. Women	Boys	Girls	Cadets	Place	12	14	16
1	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$1,200.00	\$800.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$300.00	1	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
2	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	2	\$250.00	\$275.00	\$275.00
3	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$700.00	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$150.00	3	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
4	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$600.00	\$300.00	\$270.00	\$270.00	\$135.00	4	\$125.00	\$150.00	\$175.00
5	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$475.00	\$250.00	\$230.00	\$230.00				\$125.00	\$150.00
6	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00					\$125.00
7	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$150.00	\$150.00				\$1,025.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,425.00
8	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$320.00	\$100.00	\$100.00						
9	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$300.00								
10	\$325.00	\$325.00	\$325.00	\$250.00								
11	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$150.00								
12	\$275.00	\$275.00	\$275.00	\$100.00								
13	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00									
14	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00									
15	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00									
16	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00									
Totals	\$10,950.00	\$10,950.00	\$10,950.00	\$5,645.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,000.00	\$785.00				
	\$46,230.00	Total Championship Prize Fund							Note 1. The number of Cadets in this class may change depending on the number of entries received.			

Registration Fees:

Adults \$130.00

Juniors \$25.00

Pitching Schedules

will be posted

by June 4th.

See note #4 below

ENTRY FORM
National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
World Horseshoe Pitching Championships
July 30th to August 11th
Knoxville, Tennessee

Entry Deadline May 17th 2012

NAME (please print) First Last 2012 NHPA Card # (or Canadian)

ADDRESS SS # (See Note #1)

CITY STATE/PROV ZIP/POSTAL CODE

Telephone: Home # Work # Date of Birth

Please list your local Newspaper Did you enter last years tournament - Yes No

Do you need a schedule mailed to you, or will you print it off the NHPA web site? Check one. Web Site U S Mail

Circle the division you are entering - You can enter only one division (See notes near bottom of page)

OPEN MEN SENIOR MEN OPEN WOMEN SENIOR WOMEN ELDER MEN JR. BOYS JR. GIRLS CADETS
40' 40' (see note #2) 30' 20' (see note #3)

I believe my current average is approx % No refunds will be made after May 25th 2012

PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, all officers, employees, agents and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. In addition it is understood that the NHPA has sole rights to any and all pictures and/or articles for publication.

SIGNED DATE

-mail top half only-

The NHPA Council reserve the right to disallow your participation if we discover errors on this form or if your records don't appear in NatStats, CanStats, or false or misleading information is on this form. Or for any other reason by majority vote of the NHPA Council.

MAIL THIS FORM with REGISTRATION FEES (PAYABLE TO NHPA)

TO: NHPA
3085 76th St
Franksville WI 53126

Direct Telephone & Email Inquiries to:
Dick Hansen NHPA Sec/Treas.
262-835-9108 - nhpa22@yahoo.com

All Entries must be on this form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 17th 2012. Entries received with a postmark after May 17th shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the tournament only as space is available. NATSTATS/CANSTATS files must substantiate that you have pitched a minimum of four (4) sanctioned events in the preceding twelve (12) months, at your divisions pitching distance, prior to May 17th 2012, which is the last date NATSTATS will accept results to determine entering averages. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors. Participants will be required to show their 2012 NHPA or CANADIAN membership card when checking in to pitch.

REGISTRATION FEES: ALL ADULTS -- \$130.00 • ALL JUNIORS -- \$25.00 • U.S. FUNDS ONLY
CANADIAN ENTRIES USE MONEY ORDERS REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES SCORE KEEPING FEES
NO REFUNDS AFTER May 25th 2012.

You may enter at anytime prior to May 17th. All adult averages used will be the average on record in NATSTATS/CANSTATS on May 19th. Entry fees received before April 1st will be held until that date.

READ CAREFULLY: Any adult male pitching from the full distance platform may enter the OPEN MEN'S DIVISION regardless of age, just as any adult female may enter the OPEN WOMEN'S DIVISION. To enter the SENIOR DIVISION, you must be 60 years of age or older before the end of 2012. Any man that turns 70 years of age in 2012 or is older or physically impaired person of any age may enter the ELDER MEN'S DIVISION. Provided they meet the requirements listed above. JUNIOR DIVISION entrants must be 18 years old or less for the entire 2012 calendar year.

Note # 1. A Social Security number is required from all adult pitchers that move up to the Championship Classes.

Note # 2. For class play a minimum of 48 must enter this division or it will be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Women.

Note # 3. Junior Cadets must be 9 years old or younger for the entire 2012 calendar year.

Note # 4. A surcharge of \$5 has been added this year to cover the cost of additional scorekeeping equipment. Adults only. Thank You You can check your average on the NHPA Web Page at www.horseshoepitching.com

The pitching schedule will be finalized by May 25th and will be mailed to the address you have listed above the 1st week in June.

The NHPA Hall of Fame Banquet will be held August 5th. Please sign up for this event prior to July 20th 2012. Look for a registration form in the pitching schedule. DON'T MISS OUT.

SILHOUETTES ON WHEELS

By Jeanette Claas

When Tommy was a young lad, his Daddy told him, "Son, you need a plan in life. You work the plan, but don't let the plan work you." Tommy never forgot those endearing words that stuck in his mind for a lifetime.

Tommy Hall hails from Iaeger, West Virginia. He married his wife Charlotte, had three children and now enjoys four grandchildren. Tommy worked thirty years for Chrysler Motors in Warren, Michigan and retired in 1996. He and his wife planned to spend their retirement years in the sunny state of Florida. His wife passed away in 2006. Today Tommy keeps busy pitching horseshoes, playing pool and enjoying each day as it comes.

Tommy resides in Springhill, Florida. He began pitching horseshoes in Florida and joined the NHPA in 1998 at the age of 65. He belongs to the Clearwater Horseshoe Club and to the Brookville Horseshoe Club.

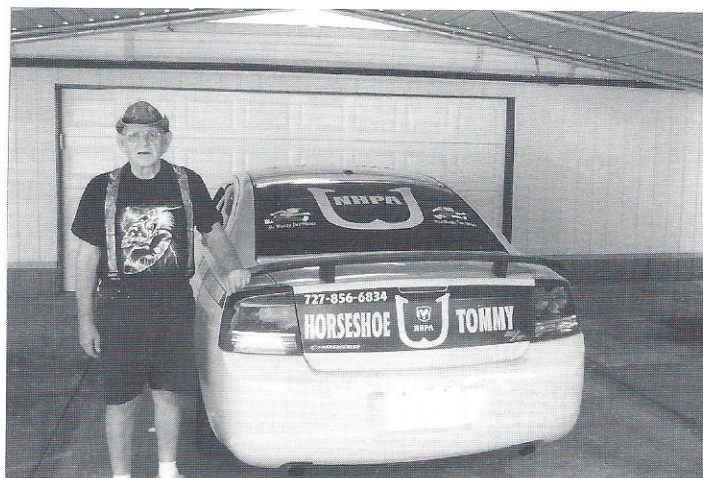
There was a horseshoe event held at Disney World using portable courts. A horseshoe tournament director, Charlie Thornberg, was the recipient of these courts when the event was completed. He gave four of the pits to Tommy. Tommy installed these pits in his backyard where his friends come over and pitch 2-3 times during the week. In a phone conversation with Tommy I said, "With all that practice, Tommy, you ought to be getting pretty good!" "Yeah", he says, "I'm working on Herschel Walters right now!" Out of curiosity I looked on the NHPA website and to my surprise Tommy ranks #4 in the Elders Division with a 79.85% average. WOW! I can see this man does indeed have a plan!

When Tommy turned 72 he moved up to 30 feet and began his collection of awards and trophies. Since that time he has



won the Florida Elders State Champion in 2009 and 2011. His most thrilling horseshoe moment came when he won the Triple Crown Trophy in 2009 winning the Mix Doubles State Championship, the Florida Singles State Championship and the Elders Doubles State Championship. In 2010 he received a trophy for entering 32 tournaments, the most tournaments of

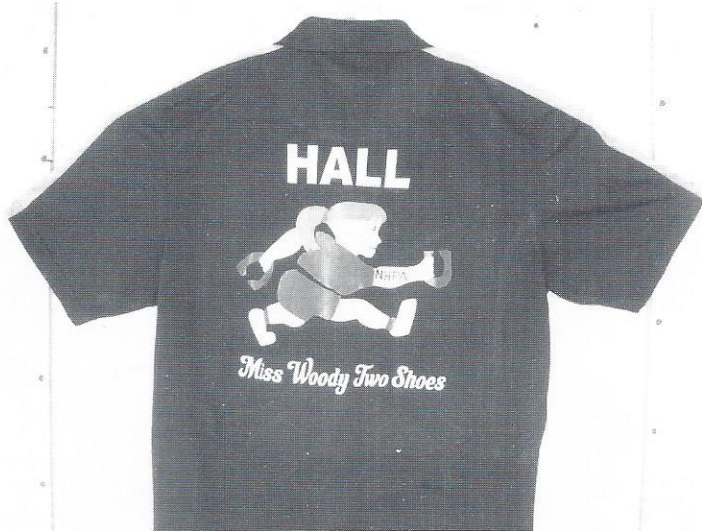
that year. And in 2011 he earned the trophy for having the high ringer percent of 70.6%. His biggest competitor in Florida is Bob Zumbahlen. In December 2011 Tommy won the Florida Senior Championship in the Senior Golden Games, earning him a gold medal and qualifying him for the National Event in Cleveland Ohio.



Tommy is a horseshoe enthusiast and a great promoter of horseshoes. He saw the "silhouette" article in the Newsline Magazine and liked what he saw. He purchased the large patterns in 2009 when they were first designed and then in March of 2010 he purchased the small silhouette patterns. After receiving the patterns, he transferred them onto plywood and got out the paintbrush. He now has a small pair in his home perched on top of a hutch. Another large pair is on display in his garage.

He has now taken the silhouette movement one step further. He took the pattern and had it shrunk down to a size and had it transferred onto a shirt for him. He has two shirts, one with Mr. Woody and the other with Miss Woody Two Shoes. A lady friend asked him what he wanted for Christmas and Tommy replied, "I don't need anything, what I need I just go out and buy!" Tommy has a 2006 yellow Dodge Charger -- banana yellow, that is. And then another idea popped into his head. He told his friend he would like to put some vinyl lettering on his trunk to advertise his favorite game of horseshoes. She gave him some money and he ran with the plan! The Print Shack in Brookville, FL went to work. He had a good size horseshoe put in the back window with a small silhouette on each side. He complimented the trunk of the vehicle by adding his name, phone number and another horseshoe with NHPA in the middle, all done in banana yellow vinyl to match the paint of the car. Within two weeks of driving the "new look" on his car, Tommy received many honks, thumbs up, and people wanting to know about horseshoe pitching. He now has "Silhouettes on Wheels." You can see for yourself what this man is doing for horseshoes! In fact, you might say he is a moving billboard advertisement for the NHPA!

SILHOUETTES ON WHEELS *Continued*



Tommy has only been to one World Tournament, the 2009 at Springfield IL. You can look forward to meeting Tommy at the

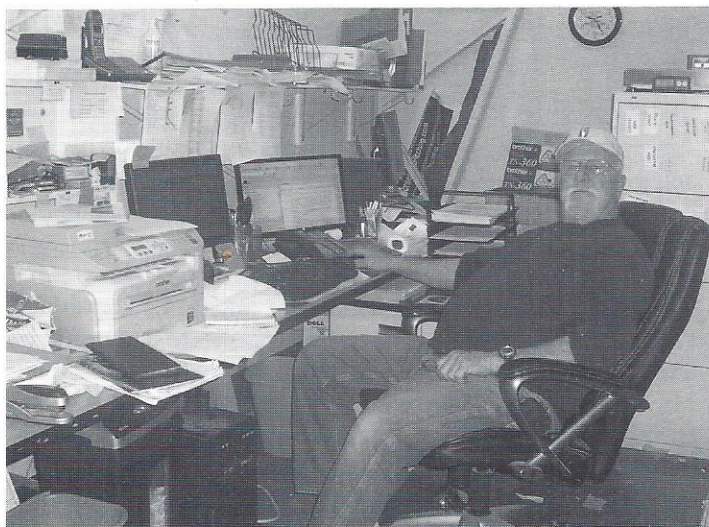
2012 WT in Knoxville, TN, most likely in the Championship Class. Even more so, look for his first class banana yellow Dodge Charger in the parking lot – it will definitely be noticeable and the envy of every horseshoe enthusiast there. Bring your sunglasses and cameras for a bright Kodak moment!

Thinking back to those words of wisdom that his Daddy told him way back when, it seems that Tommy has made all kinds of plans during his lifetime and accomplished all of them by living his life to its fullest. Perhaps Someone greater than he had it planned for him the entire time!

Help promote horseshoes with a display of silhouettes. It doesn't matter if you are not as creative as Tommy. No matter where you put them, I guarantee you they are an eye catcher and will add a smile to someone's lips. If you are interested in purchasing these silhouette patterns, contact J-Net with the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club at 636-734-9095 or email djelaas@sbcglobal.net for more information. All proceeds go the QRHC.

HORSESHOES IN MACEDONIA

As Reported to Larry Lagewisch



Larry Langewisch, NHPS GRS director, donates horseshoes to pitchers in Macedonia.

Horseshoes is a popular outdoor game in the United States and Canada. Until recently, it was unknown in Macedonia—a small country in the middle of the Balkan or Southeast Europe. In September 2010, Peace Corps Volunteer, Mike Erhartic who hails from Chelmsford, Massachusetts, but worked as a teacher in Probistip, Macedonia, invited neighbors in his neighborhood in Probistip to join him in learning and playing the game of horseshoes. They played in a vacant lot next to Mike's apartment building. Over the next few months, eight to ten men began to show an interest in the “new” game and started to “pitch” horseshoes.

Mike soon realized the need for a permanent location for the game. He and fellow Peace Corps Volunteer in Probistip, Dave Johnson, contacted the local Retirement Center and, in June 2011, obtained enthusiastic permission to play the game on their grounds. Here, not only can the men enjoy playing the game but they can also socialize over refreshments and food that are served in the nearby Retirement Center's bar and grill.

Originally, the actual horseshoes were made by a local blacksmith. While they “worked” fine, they were of uneven size, weight and quality. A letter by Mike to the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America resulted in the very generous and thoughtful gift of two sets of premium quality horseshoes. They have been greatly appreciated by the locals and have contributed to the successful introduction of the game in Probistip. And soon the game may be played elsewhere in Macedonia – a Peace Corps Volunteer in Bitola, a town in southwest Macedonia, has expressed an interest in starting the game at his worksite.

A note to Larry Langewisch, NHPA GRS Director, from Dave Johnson, Peace Corps Volunteer Several months ago, your organization donated two sets of premium horseshoes to Michael Erhartic. As the remaining Peace Corps Volunteer in Probistip, Macedonia, I want to keep you and your organization informed about horseshoe activities here in Probistip. Michael and I as well as the local population want to express our appreciation for your organization's support of the introduction of horseshoes in Probistip. The game of horseshoes is a wonderful pastime and provides another option for exercise and entertainment.

Mid-Atlantic Classic



May 26-27, 2012

Sponsored by:



**Gaston County
Parks and Recreation**

**NHPA Sanctioned Tournament
Sponsored by
Gaston County Parks and Recreation**

Tournament starts at 8:00am on Saturday.
Class Placement based on top 3 avg. ringer% from NatStats as of May 1, 2012.

\$30 Entry Fee for participants and entries must be received by May 11, 2012
Entry fee only refundable based on weather!!!

Limited to 180 participants
Tournament fee includes T-shirt.
Trophies for all classes. Prize money for adult classes only.
Prize money is based upon the number of entries for the tournament.
For more information contact tournament director:
Hal White 704.922.2164 or Hal.white@co.gaston.nc.us

Send entry forms and checks payable to: Gaston County Parks and Recreation,
P.O. Box 1578, Gastonia, NC 28053

For a list of all accommodations in Gaston County for this event, please visit
<http://www.visitgaston.org/gaston-county-hotels>.

Gaston County strives to make its program, services, and activities accessible to all. If you will require an accommodation we request that you contact our office at least 5 days before the event.

Mid-Atlantic Classic Entry Form

Name _____

Please check one: Adult 40ft Adult 30ft Junior

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

NHPA Card # _____ Top 3 Avg. Ringer% will be taken from NatStats. **T-Shirt Size** _____

Signature _____ Date _____

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VOL. 24, NO.2

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