

*The  
Horseshoe Pitcher's  
News Digest*

*Official Publication of*

**THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA**

**JANUARY, 1958**

**VOL. 2**

**NO. 1**

## A RESUME FROM THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

I want to take this opportunity to thank members for their support to me. Thanks for the Christmas cards you sent. It would be impossible for me to answer them all individually. I thank the many state charter officials for their cooperation, especially the state secretaries, with whom I have most of my dealings.

Because "The Horseshoe News Digest" was a new project in 1957 we have been very lenient in giving all members every possible consideration in service beyond what could ordinarily be expected. This has made considerable extra work for Mr. Cobb. When your membership or subscription expires, and for those that were receiving the magazine last year, Mr. Cobb is giving you ample notice of this expiration so you can renew it in time so you will not miss an issue. We cannot send you back numbers like we did last year. This policy has entailed extra expenses as well as extra work. (Most of this extra work on Mr. Cobb.) We want to work on a business basis; when your subscription expires your magazine stops until renewed.

This places considerable responsibility on the state secretary. When the money for any memberships is placed in your hands you are responsible for getting it into the National Secretary promptly enough so that your member will not miss an issue of the "Digest" after he has paid his membership. This also applies to any agent you may place cards with for sale. I must send these names in to Mr. Cobb before he makes his mailings on or before the 15th of any month they are received. Remember one all important item: **send the correct, full mailing address of each subscriber.**

We would again like to urge members to join as early in the year as possible. It costs no more to join early than it does to join late. You will have the satisfaction of knowing you are doing your share.

All memberships start January 1 and run the full calendar year thru December 31. If you have not joined by January 1st, of any year, you are delinquent and really no longer a member until you have again joined by buying a card. Many of us have become so accustomed to getting a card after the horseshoe pitching season starts we do not realize this.

The magazine is not actually a part of membership but is one of the benefits furnished to those that join. Your dues to NHPA are really very reasonable compared to membership in almost any other sport or a club for any entertainment purposes. The National portion is less than one cent per day.

We sent several hundred copies of the 1957 Murray, World Championship tournament results out last year to members that joined after July. This was quite an added expense in postage, material and work. We sincerely hope all will be joined up before this date in 1958 so they will receive these in the same way as those that joined earlier. If you pitch in any sanctioned tournaments you must have a card at the time tournament is played.

Now, that 1957 has come and gone, we have many things to be thankful for in the horseshoe sport.

Altho we lost our dearly beloved horseshoe enthusiast, Mr. Arch Stokes, he lived to see another of his dreams come true. That was the successful launching of NHPA owned magazine. He was well aware of it's success before his passing, which must have been some comfort to him. This was one project, among his many, that he had faith in and worked vigorously to bring about. Of course to give part credit, where credit is due, it also required the support of the great majority of members in many states throughout the nation. Power is usually more effective in the hands of many, as demonstrated with our "Horseshoe Pitcher News Digest" project. Just a small bit from many individuals adds up to make it a success for many. Then last, but certainly

not least, our fine editor, Ellis Cobb. He has done a magnificent job. I think every subscriber realizes this. He has devoted much time, thought and effort without pay. We sincerely hope the project will grow to a point where he can be, at least partly, reimbursed for the tireless effort he has put forth.

For those that wish to make advance vacation arrangements to attend the World Championship tournament at Murray, Utah, next summer and are not certain of the dates, here they are: July 23 thru July 30. Qualifying also on July 22nd to run thru until midnight July 23rd. Convention in forenoon of July 24. The regular round-robin pitching to start that same evening.

Delegates in convention voted to conduct the same type of tournament we held last July, except that a second try at qualifying will be allowed for those that desire it. Archie Gregson will be tournament manager.

I offer my thanks to all Executive Board members. Your President, Cleus Chapelle, has worked especially hard and deserves much credit for our success. He has laid the ground work for better things to come. Mr. Bob Pence has done outstanding work in lining up support of horseshoe manufacturing companies. He is a busy and efficient man as secretary of the largest membership state, Indiana. There are others too, too numerous to mention, who deserve credit for helping to make a good year.

We are hoping NHPA will have an even greater year in 1958 than they had in 1957. If everyone will do his own small bit, these small bits will add up to a big lump sum for a greater success for 1958.

With all due respect and no reflections on any of our great horseshoe champions, I would like to express a personal opinion: Be a good sport, a humble one, and you will be a real CHAMPION. This accomplishment deserves more credit than reaching the top position in most any sport.

We welcome Idaho as a new state to procure a charter in NHPA.

ELMER O. BELLER

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## COMMENTS FROM SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR

I was delighted to learn through the December issue of The Horseshoe Pitchers' News Digest who are the members comprising the Regional Directors of the National Association. This article will serve as my introduction to them and to all members who may not know me. To get acquainted with ALL members, who desire to promote the game, I shall welcome a letter from you. In our correspondence no doubt we can be of help to each other in solving our problems to the end that during 1958 we can accomplish much for the good of all concerned. Naturally, I am particularly interested in my own region, comprising the States of Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Mississippi, and Louisiana. To my many friends in these States I am appealing to you to communicate with me and offer your assistance to help accomplish great things in 1958. You know who you are, and I know what you can do; so, to get a quick start, rally around this call and put on the battle armor, with a firm stand that we will show those who have confidence in our ability to do a job when necessary. And for sure, NOW IS THE TIME. In this world in our activities we place the stamp of approval on ourselves, we can soar to great heights, or we can remain idle and watch someone else gain the coveted prizes. We can be considered noble by our fellowmen, or we can pass through life conscious of the fact that we didn't do our best. A great writer once wrote, "The way to resume is to resume." The way to accomplish an objective is to work toward that end; not talk about it. I am a fellow who only has less than four years to attain my allotted time, three score and ten. Surely, you fellows will not let me down, if I am trying so hard to leave a record that will be of mutual benefit. I have accomplished many things in the horseshoe field, and by hard work I expect to continue. I assure you I will appreciate your considering my request to help ourselves and the National Association to place horseshoe pitching on a dignified plane, and keep it there.

PERL "PEP" PEPPLER, Regional  
Director  
South Central United States  
401 Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas

## GREETINGS FROM OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The Holiday Season is past and I trust that it was enjoyed by everyone. The Chapelle family experienced the best one ever and take this means of thanking our friends for their expressions of thoughtfulness and well wishes. I only wish that I could thank each one personally.

The long awaited film of the last National tournament is now available and should be used in the interest of promoting the game in all areas of the country. Please contact our national secretary, Elmer Beller, 15316 Cabell Avenue, Bellflower, California, for use of the film. Membership activity should be started NOW and by doing so it will leave more time for playing later on.

We happily welcome the state of Idaho as a new member of our official family. Through the efficient efforts of Jim Kosterman of Boise, Idaho, he has secured the necessary members and has been issued a charter in the NHPA. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to them.

On the other hand I am forced to inject a sad note at this time. The Ohio Horseshoe Company of Columbus, Ohio has decided against further affiliation with us. Inasmuch as they have not purchased any official stamps since 1956 and are unwilling to sign our contract for 1958, their shoe is **now illegal and will not be permitted to be used in any sanctioned tournament**. We have enjoyed their cooperation for many years and naturally feel that we have lost an old time friend.

I take pleasure in announcing the appointment of Ted Burrows of Port Credit, Ontario, Canada as Regional Director of Canada. Ted is also secretary of the Canadian association. Our Director family is now complete and I feel that we are represented by a swell group of men. If we will all give them the backing that they have a right to expect from us, then their job can and will be a successful enterprise.

CLETUS CHAPELLE, President

# 1958



The 1958 Spin-On Horseshoe is rolling off the production line, it is a tried and true shoe, used by many in championship pitching. Get the shoe that has made great in-roads of success to many pitchers.

**IT IS READY NOW — GET YOURS**

*Write for Prices*

**THE GORDON HORSESHOE COMPANY**

**235 Tennyson Street**

**Cincinnati 26, Ohio**

## **EASTERN NATIONAL TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD IN PENNSYLVANIA IN 1958**

After a lapse of one year, the Eastern National Tournament will be held in 1958 at Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania.

The committee in charge of placement for the Eastern National, has accepted the bid of \$500.00 plus entry fees from the committee at Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania.

The Tournament will be held August 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 1958. Of course, the earlier part of the week will be devoted to qualifying. Additional information concerning details of such will be published later.

Mt. Pleasant is located off the Pennsylvania Turnpike on route 119. There are a good number of cabins, hotels, and motels located within a few miles of the horseshoe courts.

There are 9 excellent courts located here, which are well lighted and the site of the 1957 Pennsylvania State Tournament. Located at the courts is ample parking facilities for about 150 to 200 cars. Also at the courts is a very fine restaurant which can serve sandwiches or a full course meal and all legal beverages.

With this advance notice, I believe the pitchers can plan their vacations in advance and make this the biggest Eastern National Tournament ever.

Milton Tate of Illinois is the defending Eastern National champion and we would certainly like to see all the pitchers who have participated in previous Eastern National Tournaments as we have always had a good turnout and a good tournament.

More news about the tournament will be published later, however, if additional information is desired before that time, please get in touch with

Alex Zebrun, Pa. State Secretary  
R. D. 2  
Clearfield, Pa.

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## **EASTERN NATIONAL PLACEMENT COMMITTEE DISSOLVED**

We, the members of the Eastern National Placement Committee who were elected by the membership to serve in that capacity, desire as of this date, September 12, 1957, to withdraw our names from the Eastern National Horseshoe Association.

For the betterment of the game we believe that the Pennsylvania State Association should hold the Eastern National Tournament when and where they want to. The Eastern National was originally started in Pennsylvania and we feel that it belongs to them. If any other state wants a tournament, they can call it an Open Tournament and use some other name.

Signed:

Truman Standard, Chairman  
Rte No. 2, Canton, Illinois

Paul Focht  
1051 W. Dorothy Lane, Dayton, Ohio

Nelson Pickering  
Rte No. 5, Frankfort, Indiana

Lee H. Jacobs  
11105 Quirk Road, Belleville, Mich.

John Fulton  
Rte No. 5, Carlisle, Penna.

A copy of the above was retained by each of the committee and a copy was forwarded to the "News Digest" for publication. Further information concerning the Eastern National will be found elsewhere in this issue.

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

The National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association enjoyed a very good year in 1957 thanks to all the members of the NHPA. Special thanks go to Mr. Ellis Cobb for doing such a wonderful job publishing our "News Digest." Our magazine keeps us all posted on the activities of the horseshoe world. We cannot afford to miss a single copy of this news medium.

If you have not already purchased your 1958 card, please do so immediately. Let's all get behind our horseshoe game and make 1958 the best year yet. As we all know, the NHPA is just as strong as we members make it. It is up to each member to do a little more than he did in 1957. Do not leave the job of promoting horseshoes strictly up to the officers of your local club. Let each of us make an extra effort to better the welfare of our local clubs as well as keeping our State secretary busy writing out new membership cards.

Unless you have indoor courts, you cannot pitch horseshoes in the winter time but you can keep up on the game during the cold months. Send in your ideas and suggestions to the "News Digest" and let the other players around the nation hear about them.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many friends that sent me Holiday greetings.

CURT DAY, Membership Chairman

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## YOUR EDITOR SPEAKS . . .

As we enter upon a new year the outlook is a very cheerful one. After our first year of publishing an Association magazine, we have made many new friends. From their reactions comes a wonderful inspiration to go forward in our endeavors in 1958.

From the great volume of club news and open tournaments held throughout the country is proof of the greater interest being taken in our sport. The interest of our youth in the game made great strides during the past year. It is through these younger players that the game of tomorrow will survive.

I want to thank all the members and friends all over the United States and Canada for the many nice letters that I received during the year and also for the many beautiful Christmas greetings. It is truly a wonderful feeling to have so many nice friends for which I am very grateful.

Best wishes to you all for a Happy and Prosperous year in 1958.

F. ELLIS COBB, Editor

## TED ALLEN HORSESHOE CO. — BOULDER, COLO.

Again winning the World's Championship, 1957. Almost yearly, now, Allen's have made new World's records, including several of 1957. Of the 18 major world's records now standing, all but three are currently held, or having had a hand in, by Allen's.

Several factors are involved in winning a title but the advantages of the Allen's played a major part.

1. Twice, in establishing world's qualifying records — 1953, of 556 pts. or 90.5% ringers; 1955, of 570 pts., 187 ringers for 93.5% it requires ringers to stay on. Not a single ringer came off. And, too, to make 36 consecutive doubles, and to win close games.
2. Hardened points on soft shoes have a tremendous advantage over battered points. They get many ringers out of near misses.
3. Time and again Allen's were "on" in a close measure, on account of good points.
4. Hard points save ringer averages, money in winnings and longer life effectiveness. Makes the shoes good as long as the body lasts. In old days I used 2 pair for each tourney to have good points. But the past two tourneys were won by only one pair of shoes, and good for more, lasting many times longer for top playing.

We can supply you with score-sheets at \$7.50 per thousand, post-paid. Reduced rates in larger quantities. Send your order to National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association, 15316 Cabell Avenue, Bellflower, California.

## ELLIS GRIGGS REGAINS ILLINOIS STATE TITLE

Displaying a cool and collected style which has always been his, Ellis Griggs of Plainville, Illinois, a former state champion, out-distanced Milton Tate of Peoria, Illinois, a former state champion, in a two out of three game play-off to regain the Illinois state title. It was a terrific contest by both players. It being the twentieth anniversary of his first state title, Tate was making a tremendous bid to win. He will be remembered as the TV champion of the "Championship Horseshoes" program of last winter. Griggs has held the title several times in the past few years. Immediately following the match he was interviewed by a sportscaster from station WILL, Champaign-Urbana. He gave a short resume of his horseshoe pitching career. The tournament was carried in part over WTAZ, Springfield, in a short interview with Ellis Cobb, state secretary. E. C. Swarigen of Springfield deserves much credit for his part in making this possible.

This tournament drew pitchers from thirty-two counties in the state with 60 players making a bid for honors. A qualifying round was the main event for the first day with Ellis Cobb of Aurora, Illinois taking top honors with a score of 263 points and 82 ringers. The 24 highest qualifiers were divided into groups of eight and played the semi-finals in round robin play. The finals were made up of the top four of each group from the semi-finals. The spectators were able to follow the games by means of a scoring device on each court visible from the bleachers. Highlights of the two day tourney were given over the association's public address system, including a running account of the play-off which was masterfully done by the association president, Ralph Dykes of Chicago, Illinois. Scorekeepers for an event like this are to be highly commended for the wonderful way they kept score. Following the regular men's tourney, a boys' tournament was conducted with fifteen young hopefuls making a bid. Eight of these played a 7-game round robin with Gary Farnsworth of Potomac, Illinois gaining the coveted trophy and certificate. The final standings are as follows:

### MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP — FINALS

	Won	Lost	R	S.P.	%
Griggs, Plainville .....	10	1	553	720	76.8
M. Tate, Peoria .....	10	1	548	748	73.2
G. Anderson, Moline .....	9	2	607	812	75.3
T. Standard, Canton .....	8	3	546	748	72.9
J. Lindmeier, Broadview .....	7	4	505	714	70.7
R. Vogel, Manito .....	6	5	533	730	73.0
H. Kohlenberger, Millstadt .....	5	6	415	670	61.9
G. Lauver, Canton .....	3	8	449	720	62.3
F. Palka, Chicago .....	3	8	410	672	61.0
L. Clewell, Canton .....	3	8	344	608	56.5
A. Dugle, Chicago .....	2	9	468	734	63.7
G. Bancroft, Greenup .....	0	11	230	520	44.2

### GROUP "A" SEMI-FINALS

	Won	Lost	R	S.P.	%
T. Standard, Canton .....	6	1	360	470	76.6
A. Dugle, Chicago .....	6	1	387	536	72.2
M. Tate, Peoria .....	5	2	398	524	76.0
J. Lindmeier, Broadview .....	5	2	392	554	70.8
E. Bomke, Springfield .....	3	4	333	484	68.8
W. Grimes, Mattoon .....	2	5	319	470	67.8
J. Bennett, So. Pekin .....	1	6	191	372	51.3
V. Ioerger, Minonk .....	0	7	179	362	46.6

## GROUP "B" SEMI-FINALS

	Won	Lost	R	S.P.	%
G. Lauver, Canton .....	5	2	299	444	65.8
F. Palka, Chicago .....	5	2	298	482	62.3
L. Clewell, Canton .....	5	2	304	500	60.8
H. Kohlenberger, Millstadt .....	4	3	316	468	65.5
E. Cobb, Aurora .....	3	4	333	540	61.6
C. Hefner, E. Peoria .....	3	4	320	526	60.8
H. Plautz, Rock Falls .....	2	5	260	461	56.3
I. Eilers, Chandlerville .....	0	7	234	442	52.1

## GROUP "C" SEMI-FINALS

E. Griggs, Plainville .....	6	1	314	404	75.2
G. Anderson, Moline .....	6	1	312	424	73.6
R. Vogel, Manito .....	6	1	345	512	67.5
G. Bancroft, Greenup .....	3	4	281	450	60.2
W. Bettisworth, Galesburg .....	2	5	242	448	56.2
F. Hart, Jacksonville .....	2	5	235	446	52.4
W. Daunhauer, Chicago .....	2	5	206	394	52.3
F. Cotton, Decatur .....	1	6	275	474	58.0

## BOYS' FINAL STANDINGS

	Won	Lost	Points
Gary Farnsworth, Potomac .....	7	0	210
Tom Tincher, Pekin .....	6	1	194
Darrell Wade, Pekin .....	5	2	171
Keith Jacobs, Quincy .....	4	3	154
John Slater, Smithfield .....	2	5	143
Jim Von Bockman, Pekin .....	2	5	104
Byron Scroggins, Mt. Pulaski .....	2	5	98
Donald Tossart, Pekin .....	0	7	106

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1957 SEASON OF THE INDIANA COUNT-ALL LEAGUES

By FRANK CASNER

The 1957 season of play was concluded with successful league and tournament play. The Central Indiana League was won by Jasonville by the margin of a single game and the Indiana NHPA tournament was won by Curtis Day of Frankfort with an average of 131 points per game, William Neilson of Dugger was second with a 131 point average also, followed by Arlo Harris of Indianapolis with a 130 point average, their ringer averages were all over 80%. More is being done to help the player who cannot pitch the higher scores.

1957 saw five new members added to the 100 point club, bringing the total membership to 33, they are as follows: Walter Horner of the Jasonville team with a 107 point average, Howard Overton of the Washington team, 106, Robert Arnold of Bloomington with 104, Burl Williams of Bedford with 102, and Paul Combs of Washington with 100.

The high point player for the year was William Neilson of the Dugger team with a 124 point average per game, Neilson was also the high point man in 1956 with a 122 point average. The 1957 runnerup was Arlo Harris of Indianapolis with a 121 point average followed by Wilbur Kelso of Washington with 115, Ed Jeffers of Jasonville with 115, Henry LaFollette of Jasonville with 114, and Tom Wetnight of Brazil with 112.

The previous record of 764 for six games, held by Ed Jeffers of Jasonville, was broken by Neilson's 795 with 253 ringers and 111 doubles, which is a .843 ringer average.

There were 20 games of 700 or better in 1957, 8 players representing five different clubs taking part in it. A total of 152 games scoring 600 points or over were made by forty-one different players representing all eight of the clubs in the league.

Two very close matches were played both involving the Vincennes club, the closest being the defeat of Washington by nine points, 4775 to 4766 in the last game of the season, the other in defeating Indianapolis 4766 to 4723.



Dugger was a new team in the league this year, being organized by William Neilson, with the aid of the Dugger park board they installed four new courts in the Dugger Park on the west edge of town on State Road 54. They also have two nice inside courts in the center of town on Main Street.

Pitching has steadily improved in the past years as shown by the records of the winners 1952 through 1957.

Year	Winner	Pts.	R	D.R.	Point av.	Pct.
1952	Arlo Harris, Indianapolis .....	791	238	84	113	.680
1953	Ed Jeffers, Hymera .....	807	246	86	115	.703
1954	John Stimac, Terre Haute .....	842	253	88	120	.723
1955	Peyton Printz, Indianapolis ....	873	270	99	125	.771
1956	Ed Sharp, Mulberry .....	879	272	102	126	.777
1957	Curtis Day, Frankfort .....	915	292	122	131	.834

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## FINAL RESULTS OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA 1957 STATE MEET

### DIVISION "A"

	Won	Lost	R	S.P.	%
Lloyd Swartwout, Aberdeen, S. Dak.....	11	0	457	688	66
Leigh Dunker, Warner, S. Dak. ....	10	1	394	626	63
Arnold Christensen, Vermillion, S. Dak. ....	9	2	368	606	61
Louis Gednalski, Dell Rapids, S. Dak. ....	7	4	392	714	55
Dennis Moe, Brookings, S. Dak. ....	6	5	377	686	55
Everett Peterson, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	5	6	339	714	48
Werter Christensen, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	5	6	337	662	51
Walter Fickbohm, Elk Point, S. Dak. ....	5	6	319	652	50
Percy Pascoe, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	3	8	258	604	43
Henry Jensen, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	2	9	192	638	30
Milford Anderson, Akron, Iowa .....	1	10	240	556	40
J. B. Morris, Pierre, S. Dak. ....	1	10	261	640	40

### DIVISION "B"

Eldon Anderson, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	7	1	221	494	45
Kermit Eastman, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	6	2	236	534	44
Luverne Fickbohm, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	6	2	195	480	41
Henry Anderson, Akron, Iowa (lives S.D.)	4	4	195	526	37
Melvin Nielson, Akron, Iowa (lives S.D.)	4	4	212	498	43
John Edwards, Canton, S. Dak. ....	4	4	185	524	35
Jim Fillback, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	4	4	192	504	38
Loyal Carnes, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	1	7	158	422	37
Arley Rasmussen, Elk Point, S. Dak. ....	0	8	133	466	30

### DIVISION "C"

Melvin Larson, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	6	1	199	466	43
Kenneth Fedderson, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	6	1	182	426	43
Curtis Burdette, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	5	2	195	446	44
Henry Hallickson, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	5	2	178	454	40
Carl Skovly, Worthing, S. Dak. ....	3	4	167	450	40
Merle Rasmussen, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	2	5	132	420	31
Homer Nagel, Volga, S. Dak. ....	1	6	130	446	30
Marvin Tschudy, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	0	7	160	428	40

### DIVISION "D"

Henry Dornath, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	7	0	141	422	33
Russell Nagel, Brookings, S. Dak. ....	5	2	167	488	34
Alvin Neuharth, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	4	3	155	454	34
Cliff Schrader, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	3	4	109	474	23
Novello Blumer, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	3	4	115	436	26
Emmett Juul, Lennox, S. Dak. ....	2	5	114	478	24
Martin Anderson, Beresford, S. Dak. ....	2	5	120	426	30
William Miller, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. ....	2	5	106	456	25

NOTE: All ties in the respective divisions were settled by the TOTAL number of points scored, when WON and LOST games were equal. The player scoring the greatest total was placed as winner in case of ties in games in the won and lost column.

# INDIANA DIVISION OF THE N. H. P. A.

By **ROBERT PENCE**

The regular off season organizational meeting of the Indiana State Association was held on Sunday, November 17 at the new indoor courts of the Clinton County Club in Frankfort.

The meeting was well attended as twenty-eight State Association officers and Committee members along with representatives of various County groups were on hand to make plans for the 1958 season, some of them traveling well in excess of 100 miles.

A 1958 membership drive was gotten underway. Indiana had 170 NHPA members in 1957 and 100 entries in the State Tournament.

A State Team League was organized with 15 clubs as prospective members. A team will consist of seven players plus alternates and a match will consist of 49 games. Each team will play two matches at home and two away with the top teams meeting at the end of the season for the championship. Probable teams with manager's name in parenthesis follow: Berne (Percy Gould), Bethel (Burl Taylor), Connersville (Marvin Chrisman), Crawfordsville (Doc Haffner), Frankfort (Nelson Pickering), Gary (Bob Pence), Indianapolis (Paul Van Sickle), Kokomo (Claude Fewell), Grant County (Niel Farr), Lafayette (Joe Schilling), Muncie (Jim Finchum), Noblesville (Lester Crask), Portland (Rev. Tattman), Randolph County (Marvin Craig), Wabash (Art Moore).

It was voted to use a multiple center qualifying system for the 1958 State Tournament with a 150 shoe qualifying round held the weekend of August 17 at four clubs located in different geographic sections of state, namely Frankfort, Muncie, Wabash and Bethel. The finals will be held over the Labor Day weekend, probably at Frankfort.

The Clinton County Association will again stage the big Mid-West "Ringer Round Up," Tournament of Champions, at Frankfort over the Fourth of July weekend.

## INDOOR HORSESHOE COURTS, FRANKFORT, INDIANA

Freezing weather and blizzards will not silence the clang of "ringers" striking the stake this winter in Frankfort, Indiana, for the Clinton County Horseshoe Pitchers Association has three beautiful courts on the second floor of an old school building on Magnolia Avenue in this Hoosier city.

Ample heating facilities, a spacious rest room, a fifteen foot ceiling, blue clay pits, excellent lights and huge scoreboards for each court makes for a set up that the club can justly be proud of. Finishing touches in the way of decorations are being added and the place will also serve as excellent club rooms.

Organized League play has been scheduled for Thursday and Wednesday nights during the season and indications are the number of players will force the addition of another evening of scheduled play each week. Clubs for other cities are invited in for matches every other Sunday.

Officers and individual members of this live wire club did all the work themselves and hard work it was — painting, electrical wiring, removal of a partition, plastering and carpenter work in addition to building the courts. The boys deserve praise for a job well done.

## HORSESHOE PARTY

A five piece orchestra, card games and plenty of refreshments featured the annual party of the Clinton County (Indiana) Horseshoe Pitchers Association at the clubs new indoor courts in Frankfort and was attended by almost 100 players, wives and children.

The party celebrated the opening of the club's new indoor courts as well as honoring players who won various events during the season. Club Secretary for 1958, Earnest Potts and the retiring Secretary Tom Moon were in charge of the affair. Oris Harshman acted as master of ceremonies.

Emery Smith was awarded the Sportsmanship Trophy for the season. Ed Sharp received the first place trophy for Class A in the annual County

Tourney as did Kenneth Achors for Class B, Byron Bemis for Class C, Orval Ely for Class D, Earl Dick for Class E and John McClain for Class F.

Members of the Metzger Pure Oil Co. team which won the Team League and were awarded individual trophies were Maurice Metzger, Earl Dick, Curt Day, Jim Day, Paul Day, Bob Day, Paul Royer and Everett Unroe.

Members of the runner up team in the League who received awards were Earnest Potts, Orval Ely, Hubert Dick, John Schuck, Tom Moon, Sam Barker, Mel Reed and Gil Sharpe.

Bob Pence of Gary, Secretary of the Indiana State Association, was a guest and presented N.H.P.A. Certificates of Championship for victories in various sanctioned tournaments during the season to the following players, Ed Sharpe for first place in Mid-West "Ringer Round Up," Curt Day for first in the Indiana State Tournament, John Shuck for Class C in the Central Indiana and Manfred Swanson for the Consolation Division of the State Tournament.

\* \* \*

## FINAL RESULTS WISCONSIN STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS "A"

	Qual.	Won	Lost
1. Tommy Bartlen, West Allis .....	245	10	1
2. Carl Pfeffer, Milwaukee .....	240	9	2
3. Earl Ramquist, Beloit .....	245	7	4
4. Wally Saeger, Ixonia .....	201	7	4
5. Ed. Schimek, Milwaukee .....	230	7	4
6. Steve Rajec, Milwaukee .....	237	6	5
7. Joe Madden, Waukesha .....	216	6	5
8. Grif Mosher, Milwaukee .....	207	4	7
9. Orville Degner, Jefferson .....	192	4	7
10. Norman Comero, Independence .....	194	3	8
11. Ed. Weide, Oconomowoc .....	194	2	9
12. Frank Filiput, Milwaukee .....	197	0	11

Class "B" was won by Alden VanIten of Green Bay, winning 5 straight games in the round robin.

Class "C" was won by Floyd Rogers of Mukwonago, also winning 5 straight games in the round robin.

At the annual meeting A. J. Klement of Fort Atkinson was reelected president of the association for the thirty-third time. Art Nieman of the Milwaukee Washington Park Club was elected vice president, replacing Casey Jones of Random Lake. Robert H. Klement of Jefferson was reelected secretary and treasurer for the fifth time.

\* \* \*

## WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF THE NHPA

By ARTHUR LIEDES

(Handicap Horseshoes)

Looking over the past 12 issues of the News Digest, the eventual progress of horseshoe pitching seems to be going ahead and up. Specially interesting the articles on handicap horseshoes.

This type of play is particularly suitable for local league and special tournaments. Intercity team play probably would increase with a uniform system of handicapping such as used in bowling.

For the past six years we have been dabbling with a percentage system of handicapping which has helped to increase our membership.

To get away from any complicated figuring of handicaps we established a chart with a gradual scale to determine the handicap. This scale can be altered to increase or decrease the handicap and run consecutively from zero to the highest percentage if desired.

We added a novel idea using a plus and minus division on our scale. The plus handicaps started with 50% scratch to zero and minus 51% up. For instance 40% had 13 points, 30%—27 points, 20%—40 points. Minus handicaps 55%—7 points, 60%—13 points, 70%—27 points. Whenever a plus and minus player meet the minus handicap goes over to the plus and when two minus

players tangle the difference is added to the lower percent player. When two plus players meet they each add their handicap.

We use the cancellation system playing a 50 shoe game. The boys prefer the cancellation to the count all. The 50 point game cannot be used as some players are spotted more points. The 50 point game adopted to a handicap system is not too effective as the high percent player generally is capable of holding the lower percentager.

Our players find the handicap league play very interesting and our two loss elimination handicap county singles tournament draws more players than any of our other tournaments.

We realize its not much interesting for real top notch players to tangle with novice pitchers even with handicap, but they do have to concentrate on keeping the shoe around that stake or else. One thing for sure a handicap summer league will increase any club's membership if properly supervised.

\* \* \*

## 1957 NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Howard White of Portsmouth successfully defended his New Hampshire horseshoe pitching title on Sunday, September 8, at Henry Law Park in Dover, before a large crowd of spectators.

Ralph Dow of Canaan, the class "B" Champion last year, came in 2nd.

Jim Guyett of Dover, who won the title in 1955, came in 3rd. These three men played each other a best 4 out of 7 round robin match for the title.

Although White won every game, Dow at times had the Champ in trouble. In their fourth and final game, Dow led White by a score of 24-9, by tossing on over 60% of his shoes for ringers. Guyett's only win was against Dow in their 4th game of their match. Guyett was unable to show his old stuff that had made him the New Hampshire King off and on since 1938.

Clyde Robinson, the New England Class B Champ continued his winning ways by taking first place in Class B. Eddie Paquin of Pelham, a newcomer in New Hampshire tourneys came in 2nd after losing a play-off game to Robinson 50-44. Robinson's only loss was to Calvin Davis.

In Class C, Phillip Drew of Portsmouth has at last established himself as the New Hampshire Class C Champion by winning a 3-way play-off tie, 50-29 against Babbie and 50-42 win over Belhumeur who finished 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

Herman Babbie, President of the New Hampshire State Association presented the nine trophies. Leon "Speedy" West did his usual excellent job of announcing and scoring the tourney. The sound system was donated free of charge by Cris, the Hot Dog Man of Dover. We wish to again extend our thanks to these two fine men.

The final event of the year was the State Banquet held at Flagstones Restaurant on the White Mountain Highway.

### CLASS "A"

	W	L
1. Howard White, Portsmouth, N. H. ....	8	0
2. Ralph Dow, Canaan, N. H. ....	4	5
3. James Guyett, Dover, N. H. ....	1	8

High Game, White 72%

### CLASS "B"

1. Clyde Robinson, Derry, N. H. ....	3	1
2. Eddie Paquin, Pelham, N. H. ....	3	1
3. Arthur Fernald, Portsmouth, N. H. ....	2	2
4. Calvin Davis, Rochester, N. H. ....	2	2
5. Eugene Beckingham, Dover, N. H. ....	0	4

### CLASS "C"

1. Phillip Drew, Portsmouth, N. H. ....	4	1
2. Herman Babbie, Dover, N. H. ....	4	1
3. Albany Belhumeur, Dover, N. H. ....	4	1
4. Normand Durand, Hudson, N. H. ....	2	3
5. Samuel Raymond, Pelham, N. H. ....	1	4
6. David Segee, Dover, N. H. ....	0	5



# “From Out Of The Mail Bag”

F. Ellis Cobb, Editor  
The Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest  
1307 Solfisburg Avenue  
Aurora, Illinois

December 13, 1957

Dear Mr. Cobb:

As a new Regional Director I am attaching a news item for the Digest. I appreciate the information on page 4 of the December issue listing the Regional Directors. I am glad to know who the other directors are and what States comprises their region. Very soon I intend to start working in a systematic manner in accordance with instructions received from Mr. Howard J. White, Chairman. It is too early to do much in this particular territory for the simple reason that horseshoe pitchers will not come out of “hibernation” from the cold winter to become interested in promoting a sport that is engaged in during the warm months. At the appropriate time I am going to “give 'em both barrels”, and see if I cannot do something for the game, especially to increase memberships, the life of the organization.

You are doing a very excellent job with the Digest. It contains much information of interest, and which is useful. On page 9, titled, “Missouri Teen-Ager Sets State Record”, I read with great interest. This David Baker is a whiz. In his first world tournament at Murray when he was 15 years old he beat our present Kansas State Champion, Roland Kraft, 50-49. He went on to beat 7 others in the tournament. I predict great things for this young fellow. I saw him in a tournament which I directed and helped to promote in Lawrence, Kansas. I made up information sheets to be passed out to the public. The Missouri fellows were “tickled pink” for the sheets, for it made them feel fine that the public could identify each player on the courts. The sheet covers only the betters who had better than ordinary records. If other clubs or associations would follow this suggestion and use similar sheets it would improve the game. Publicity is what we want. And this puts it directly to the public at the courts. It also inspires pitchers to do well to get on future sheets. I have had great success with the sheets in our State tournaments, and many other types of tournaments.

Sincerely,  
Perl P. Pepple

December 10, 1957

The Horseshoe Pitchers' News Digest  
Aurora, Illinois, U. S. A.  
Mr. F. Ellis Cobb, Editor

Dear Mr. Cobb:

This letter is long overdue and should have been sent to you and your fine “Horseshoe News Digest” at least a month and a half ago. I had been under the impression that our State Secretary had forwarded this data to you but have just been informed that it was not done.

We have been working quite hard up here in South Dakota to promote this fine game of horseshoes and feel that it is just getting a good start throughout the State.

I am glad to inform you that I won the South Dakota State Horseshoe Meet this year. It was my first State Championship and feel exceptionally fortunate to do so, having defeated Leigh Dunker of Warner, South Dakota,

who has held the championship for many years. Mr. Dunker and I met in the finals without having lost a game throughout the tourney and I feel indeed fortunate to come out of the game with the score of 51 to Dunkers 31.

The tourney was sanctioned by the N.H.P.A. and was sponsored by a group of horseshoe enthusiasts at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Thirty-seven men competed in four divisions. Of that 37 men, all of the Class A players and several of the Class B boys joined the N.H.P.A. and are subscribers to the fine "Digest." Needless to say we're all real proud of the type of magazine you are putting out. A fellow can show it to anyone and know that it is the best information on Horseshoe data available.

I might add that the tourney was a huge success and that trophies and awards were presented to all players participating in the meet. It was held at McKennon Park, Sioux Falls, S. D., September 1 and 2, 1957.

I am enclosing a copy of the tourney results and hope that you will be able to find a spot in the "Digest" to publish at least a portion of it.

I noticed a slip of paper in the December issue advising us to renew our membership for 1958 and am happy to say that I have already done so at our recent tourney, since I don't want to miss a single issue.

Thanking you for all the efforts and the fine job you're doing, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

Lloyd Swartwout

S. Dak. State Assoc. President

\* \* \*

## UTAH STATE HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

Melvin Swain of Payson, Utah is Utah's new Class B horseshoe pitching champion, replacing Arvil Jennings of Murray, Utah's 1956 champion. He won the title in the final round-robin tournament at Ogden, Utah. In winning he also set a new state record for "B" competition with an average of 56% ringers. The old record was 55%, held by Jennings.

### RESULTS

	Won	Lost	%
1. Melvin Swain, Payson .....	7	0	56
2. Earl Davenport, Salt Lake .....	5	2	49
3. Ammon Throckmorton, Payson .....	4	3	55
4. Harold Chipman, Payson .....	3	4	41
5. Robert Strom, Payson .....	3	4	39
6. Roy Fivas, Salt Lake .....	3	4	41
7. Otis Cole, Clearfield .....	3	4	44
8. Gordon Paul, Salt Lake .....	0	7	26

Jerry Bird, a newcomer to Utah's horseshoe pitching scene is the state's new Class "C" titleholder, replacing Bryce Hinkley of Murray, the 1956 champion. Jerry is from Lehi, Utah. This was Jerry's first experience in pitching horseshoes in organized competition, and he proved himself a worthy exponent of the art, taking home the beautiful West Jordan A. C. trophy. The tournament was held on the beautiful West Jordan courts, the home town of Marv Jensen and Gene Fullmer, who helped sponsor the meet.

### RESULTS (Finals)

	Won	Lost	%
Jerry Bird, Lehi .....	5	0	33
Blaine Wixom, West Jordan .....	4	1	33
Arson Hancock, Payson .....	3	2	29
Neldon Walters, American Fork .....	2	3	28
Mike Ontiveros, Midvale .....	1	4	23

The following were elected to lead Utah's horseshoe pitching activities for 1958: Arvil Jennings, Murray, was elected president for a second year. Carl Davis, Provo, was elected vice-president, and Wilford Andelin, Murray, was elected secretary-treasurer for the fifth year. The annual meeting was held at Murray Park.

# National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association

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**Paul S. Rose, 2nd Vice-Pres.**  
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15316 Cabell Avenue  
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**These are your Regional Directors on Publicity. Contact them for information, or any assistance you might give them.**

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Arthur Leides  
1111 E. Market St., Aberdeen, Wash.

**North Central States**  
Charles Hopkins  
912 E. 2nd St., Ottumwa, Iowa

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Portsmouth, N. H.

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Oklahoma—Herbert Anderson, 1501 Crescent Drive, Bartlesville, Okla.  
Oregon—Cletus Chapelle, 7018 N. Greenwich, Portland, Oregon  
Pennsylvania—Alex Zebun, Rte. 2, Clearfield, Penna.  
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Utah—Wilford Andelin, 651 E. 5600 South, Murray, Utah  
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