

The
Horseshoe Pitcher's
News Digest

Official Publication of

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

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VOL. 2

NO. 3

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Volume 2

MARCH

No. 3

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Spring will soon be here and bring with it the start of the most successful year in our history. The Minneapolis Park Board is backing a league in that city. I was sent a copy of their Constitution which I regard as a well written document. As I receive reports from various parts of the country, I have been made to realize that there is far more interest in the horseshoe game than I had ever imagined. Our task is to concentrate and direct that interest and we are doing a creditable job. Of course there is still much room and plenty of opportunity for devoted players to accept positions of leadership in their various clubs. There is no financial remuneration for such work but there is an honest sense of pride derived from being one of the motivating influences in your group. The NHPA will certainly appreciate your efforts and give you a pat on the back whenever possible.

Don Titcomb and his committee have given us a handicap system which I wish you members would give a serious trial. If it will fill the bill, we want to know it. If it won't, we also want to know it. Then we can work further on this item. But please give it a fair trial before condemning or approving it.

Elsewhere in these pages you are being informed of the present status of the Ohio horseshoe. This will answer your many questions and please be governed accordingly.

Cletus Chapelle, President

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A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM NATIONAL SECRETARY

By ELMER O. BELLER

"If you wish to join the National Association and your state has a charter and a state secretary, that state secretary is the only one who can furnish you with a membership card". All cards are combination State and National cards. All state secretaries have a supply of cards stamped with their own state on it. List of all state secretaries appears in the "Digest". Most all of the state associations have a small fee of their own above the \$3.50 that goes to the National. If your state does not have a charter or a state secretary you can secure a card by sending \$3.50 direct to the National secretary. However, if you are visiting in another state that has a secretary, you are privileged to buy a card of that state. Such cards will be honored at World tournament. If you can return to your own state to play in any match that is not an "Open" match, they might require you to pay their state portion of dues.

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WORLD TOURNAMENT MOVIES NOW AVAILABLE

The movies taken of the 1957 World's Tournament at Murray, Utah are now available through the national secretary, Mr. Elmer O. Beller, 15316 Cabell Avenue, Bellflower, California. These movies show many of the thrilling scenes that provided the crowds with that tenseness that make a world tournament so exciting to watch. Why not give your club members that same thrill by sending in your request now. The only charge will be for postage and insurance which is very nominal.

DEADLINE FOR "NEWS DIGEST"—FIRST OF MONTH

ATTENTION STATE AND LOCAL CLUB OFFICERS

How are the sale of your N.H.P.A. membership cards at this time compared to this date in 1957? I am hoping you are enjoying a nice increase in your N.H.P.A. membership sales. Don't let any of your club members miss any of the issues of the News Digest.

State and local officers should apply their efforts in a way as to give their expanding membership the type of Horseshoe activity in which they will be happy to take part. Schedules should be given extra consideration. If each state will run an extra open tournament sanctioned by N.H.P.A., it will help promote interest locally as well as nationally.

Local club officers will increase their club membership by promoting the beginner, average and better pitchers on even terms by fair handicap methods and league play. It does take work to promote leagues but the results are satisfying and enduring. Time and effort is freely given because we love the game and we want to reach the height enjoyed by other sports.

Are you doing anything to increase its popularity and enable it to lift its head in the sport circles where it rightly belongs? Have you signed a new membership for 1958? The larger our membership in the N.H.P.A., the stronger our national organization will become.

The art of pitching ringers in horseshoes has been classified as the most difficult game to master. This game of horseshoes demands considerable organization, well designed and well kept courts, plenty of good American sportsmanship on the part of the participants and fair share of the sports pages in our newspapers.

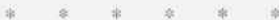
More publicity was given horseshoes by newspapers, radio and television in 1957 than ever before. This is what the game of horseshoes needs. These are the factors that make all well known sports so popular. If the proper contacts can be made throughout our playing seasons, there is no doubt that horseshoes can be made as popular a game with the public as any other sport.

Don't forget the teen-agers when you officers are planning your summer activities. We need new blood and there are millions of youngsters who can supply it.

Please send in a list of your summer activities into the "News Digest" as soon as you have them figured out. More players will be able to make your tourney if they know enough time in advance to plan for them.

Here's to more and better horseshoe pitching in 1958.

Curt Day
Membership Chairman



LADIES — FIGURE(TIVELY) SPEAKING . . .

W. A. Lerner of Lincoln, Nebraska, superintendent of a home for children, reports the following statistics gleaned from the records of the 1957 Nebraska state tournament held at Curtis, Nebraska last fall.

Exclusive of the practice shoes tossed by the 23 participants in the 1957 Nebraska state tournament, a total of 13,878 shoes were thrown. Since each shoe weighs 2½ pounds, a grand total of 34,695 pounds of steel or 17½ tons were tossed by the players. The forty feet walking distance between stakes netted a total of 52½ miles walked by the participants.

A pleasant way to reduce

Computing the average bend on picking up the shoes to be two feet, a total of 5¼ miles of combined "body bending exercises" took place. No mention of pounds lost by the players is needed because by the daily practice during the year keeps all excess avoirdupois to a minimum thereby gaining that much desired figure.

Mr. Lerner concludes his report with the fact that not a single breach of good conduct was in evidence, no utterances of a profane nature were heard even when efforts failed to bring desired points.

OPEN MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS

Many of you members are naturally curious as to what is the status of our dealing with the Ohio Horseshoe Company. You users of that shoe are vitally interested as to where you stand in these negotiations, since reading the announcement in the January issue.

Article IV of The By-Law section of the Constitution of the NHPA states in the first paragraph—"The NHPA will not recognize nor sanction as an Association-endorsed horseshoe, any brand of pitching horseshoe that is made by a manufacturer who has not made a written, signed-by-the-firm, altogether legal, agreement directly with the NHPA, that the manufacturing firm will affix one of the NHPA's five-cent endorsement stamps to each pair of horseshoes, or the box containing same, the manufacturer puts on the market, for sale."

The NHPA has, commencing in 1958, entered into written contracts with various horseshoe manufacturers concerning the Association's approval of horseshoes. This supersedes the former method of the manufacturers' buying stamps on oral agreement that shoes, so stamped would be approved by the NHPA. The new contracts give the manufacturer an alternative of buying stamps or paying a set amount each year, each with the end result that NHPA approval is granted.

Ohio Horseshoe Company of Columbus, Ohio, has not, as of this date entered into the written contract, nor have they purchased stamps since 1956. Under the Constitution, therefore, the NHPA cannot approve any shoes sold by that company until they enter such contract **except** as to shoes which have been or may presently be being sold by them with NHPA's official stamp affixed; as to these latter shoes pre-1958 approval has already been given and must remain in force and effect. There is some chance that they still have stamps on hand to affix to their shoes; if so, these shoes have been approved by us. Therefore, any member who purchased Ohios in 1956 or 1957 which had stamp affixed, may use such shoes in our tournaments. 1958 purchases of Ohios will be left to the integrity of the member in reporting as to whether or not shoes then bought had a stamp affixed. By 1959 we well imagine that, unless they have entered into the written contract, Ohio will have no more shoes available with stamps.

In our January Digest it was stated the Ohio shoe was now "illegal." By this we were referring only to its contravention of Article IV of our Constitution. "Illegal" in the accepted sense it is not. It is a good shoe, manufactured and sold in accordance with State laws. Its specifications are up to par. It apparently sticks to the peg for a ringer as well as any shoe made. NHPA does **not** tell you, its members, "don't buy Ohio Horseshoes." Buy all you want for as long as you want. But remember only that in NHPA sanctioned and approved tournaments, Ohio's shoes will not be allowed except under the above stated conditions. In daily play and non-NHPA sponsored play we have no say-so concerning what shoe you use. But a major portion of NHPA's revenues comes from payments from horseshoe manufacturers who, in return for our approval, pay us nominal amounts yearly. As far as our tournaments are concerned, therefore, we must support these manufacturers who in turn support us.

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NEWS AND NOTES OF HORSESHOE FOLKS

The Truman Standards of Canton, Illinois, have returned from a recent trip to Florida, and altho the Florida sun did not burn them to a crisp do report a very nice time. They visited at Bradenton Trailer park and also at the Sunshine park courts in St. Petersburg. They bring back greetings from Ray Middleton of Bradenton and R. B. Woodrow of the Sunshine park club. Both of these fine gentlemen extend a cordial welcome to anyone coming to Florida to stop by and throw a few shoes.

PLANS FOR LAKESIDE, OHIO OPEN, BEING FORMULATED

By SAM GOODLANDER

Plans are now being made to again hold an open tournament at Lakeside, Ohio, June 27 and 28, being on Friday and Saturday. Anyone who arrives on Friday may qualify on that day if they desire, between the hours of 9 A.M. and 9 P.M. Qualifying continues on Saturday from 7 to 10 A.M. It is suggested that as many as possible qualify on Friday. Due to the courts being on the Methodist Church grounds, the tournament **MUST** be completed by midnight Saturday as they do not allow any playing on Sunday. Plan now to attend this big meet and enjoy a very wonderful weekend in beautiful surroundings.

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NEW COURTS INSTALLED AT NEOSHO, MISSOURI

Future horseshoe activities will take place on brand new courts beginning with this season. The Recreation department of Neosho, Missouri has installed six new courts under the capable direction of John Elkins, formerly of Stella, Missouri now living in Neosho and employed by the Neosho recreation department. He is very adept in the art of throwing ringers, having won the Missouri state title five times during his career. An open tournament is being planned for sometime in July which it is hoped that a great number of pitchers will journey to that wonderful Osark country to attend. The city of Neosho recently received the "All-American City Award". It is known the world over as the "Flower Box City".

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

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

By **BOB PENCE**

MIDWEST "RINGER ROUND UP" PLANS

The third annual Midwest "Ringer Round Up", Mid America's horse-shoe Tournament of Champions, will again be held over the Fourth of July week end at Dorner Park in Farnkfort, Indiana.

Plans for the event are already being made by the Indiana Division of the N.H.P.A. and the Clinton County Horseshoe Pitchers Association who will be co-sponsors. Nelson Pickering and Oris Harshman, both of Frankfort are co-Chairmen, while Bob Pence of Gary will be the tourney manager.

The 150 shoe qualifying round will be held Friday, July 4 and Saturday, July 5, with finals in the lower classes on Saturday evening under lights while Classes A and B will play on Sunday.

Last year's tourney gave out \$600.00 in cash prizes and trophies and this year's event will equal or exceed that amount. Work has been started on an eight page souvenir program which will contain a lot of interesting horse-shoe pitching data.

Indiana State Tournament Plans

The 1958 Indiana State Tournament will be staged at the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis over the Labor Day Week End.

The Indian State Fair Board has voted to stage the event in co-operation with the Indiana Division of the N.H.P.A. and has named Bob Pence as Tourney Director. The Fair Board will build 12 courts under the supervision of the Indiana Division and supply prize money and trophies for the three day tourney.

Qualifying for the vent will be held prior to the State Fair over the week end of August 16 and 17 at four centers located in different sections of the state. Dorner Park in Frankfort, Heekin Park in Muncie, City Park in Wabash and the Bethel Courts near Greencastle have been selected at the qualifying sites.

State Team League Plans

The 1958 Indiana State Team League is rapidly taking shape with 15 teams expected to take to the courts when spring comes.

The powerful Clinton County and Frankfort club will enter two teams, the Frankfort city group to be captained by Evertt Unroe and the county boys will be managed by Nelson Pickering. Both teams will use Dorner Park's courts as home grounds.

Adams County players will also be represented by two teams both of whom will play at the ten new courts being constructed at Geneva. One team will represent Berne and the other will carry the Geneva name. The prime movers of this alignment will be Clyde Green and Paul Tattman of Portland, Red McClain of Geneva and Percy Gould of Berne.

Fayette County will field a team which will play at Roberts Park in Connersville. This team will be led by Marvin Chrisman of Connersville who helped Bob Pence get the 1958 Indiana State Tournament into the State Fair.

Indoor Activity

Groundhog's Day was celebrated by a couple of tournaments on several Indoor Courts in Indiana.

Veteran Ed Sharp won Class A with a clean sweep of his games at Frankfort with Oris Harshman finishing second. Curt Day posted a sensational 88 ringers and 274 points in his 100 shoe qualifying round, but could only manage third in the finals. Other Class A players were Carl Atwell, Morris Briney and Fay Emery.

Orval Ely, Elvin Cast and Kenny Achors finished in a three way tie for Class B honors with Ely winning the playoff. Left handed John Shuck defeated Earnest Potts in the playoff for Class C.

Clarence Bellman of Warsaw won an informal Groundhog's Day round

robin at John Coble's indoor court near Peru without the loss of a game. Bob Pence finished second. John Coble had the best individual game. Other players were Art Moore and Elbert Boone of Wabash.

Details are lacking, but we hear that Bill Neilson and the boys at Dugger have two nice indoor courts.

Hoosier Notes

Bill Dunn has been elected head of the Kokomo club for 1958 and is making plans for a busy season.

Ten fine courts are being built on the school grounds at Geneva and the high school basketball coach will take care of them during the summer. The Geneva and Adams County boys hope to eventually stage a big tournament of some type on the new courts.

Alton Corson is working on getting indoor courts built in the new 4 H building in Monroe, Indiana. Luck to him.

Marvin Craig has constructed five courts in Parker, Indiana which the Randolph County boys will use in the State Team League this summer.

Indiana's 1958 N.H.P.A. membership is now well over the 80 mark and should exceed the 100 mark by March first. Indications are the Hoosier State will have the largest membership in its history this year.

Delayed Report

A flood of tournament results last fall prevented the "News Digest" from carrying the results of the Central Indiana tourney at Heekin Park, Muncie.

Lowell Edmonson of Danville averaged 67.1% and threw 80% in the playoff against Eugene Mendenhall of Noblesville to win Class A. 67 year old veteran George Johnson of Indianapolis annexed Class B, left handed John Shuck of Forest won Class C and Jim Finchum, Jr. of Muncie was the winner in Class D.

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

When Milton Tate of Peoria, Illinois was in California this past season, he was talking with some players that were interested in writing a book on the history of horseshoe pitching. He informed them that he had an old letter from former world's champion, Frank Jackson, as to world tournament play. He has located the letter but has misplaced the names and addresses of the persons that he was talking to. He thought that perhaps he might obtain them through the columns of the "News Digest". If any reader can assist him it will be appreciated. Send information to Mr. Milton Tate, 2626 Eugenia, Peoria, Illinois.

SEND IN THOSE BITS OF NEWS

To all of our readers who have any news such as might be of interest to members of the association please send it to the editor. Items such as weddings, births, special celebrations, personality stories, etc. Season's schedules listing tournaments also results of matches, are also requested as soon as they are completed.

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.

SOME OF THE ADVANTAGES AND REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF "NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION"

By **ELMER BELLER**, National Secretary

A few of the many reasons "The National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association" is necessary to the welfare of all horseshoe pitchers in the United States and elsewhere.

There is the tendency of local areas to fall into certain methods of horseshoe pitching, as to rules, etc., intimate only to that area while others use another method. You often overhear some old time pitcher say "when I used to pitch horseshoes a ringer counted five points, a leaner so much, etc." This condition is slowly fading away due to NHPA influence. Not that the figure made any particular difference but it is necessary to have a uniform basis of count in all places. When any type of play is introduced in any community, that has merit over others in use, it is quickly recognized and publicized by NHPA so all may have the advantage of it's use. Thus, the best is always coming into its own. This is a healthy condition and encouraged by NHPA.

The benefits that have come to one and all, who enjoy the sport of pitching horseshoes, have come so gradually over the past thirty years, (NHPA was incorporated in 1921 and in 1928, incorporation certificate was amended) that very few are aware they have received any benefits. Let's enumerate a few of these benefits, direct and indirect.

1. The standardization of horseshoes as to weight, opening, hooks, etc. If this had not been done shoes of most any weight, size or shape would be pitched. As in baseball, football, bowling or any of the major sports there could be no fair competition unless all contestants were placed on the same basis in competition by using the same equipment. Altho' there are still a number of shoes pitched that do not meet these requirements, they are not used by NHPA members or by few pitchers that show any distinction in the art of pitching horseshoes. Thus, anything but the approved shoes are gradually disappearing from the horseshoe courts. All pitchers are benefited, members and non-members alike.
2. The same holds true as to horseshoe courts. Pitching distance and other standards have been set up by NHPA to make horseshoe pitching a real art instead of just a game of luck. It is quite important that the pitching distance is uniform for all. This has been established by NHPA. Now no matter if you pitch horseshoes in Maine or California, Washington or Florida, or any points in between, or even in Canada or overseas, the distance is the same. You do not have to learn to pitch a different distance when you move from one location to another. If this were not true many a good pitcher would be ruined.

Also, it has been well established a pitcher can only improve and enjoy the sport more by pitching from a level smooth standing platform and foul lines that require you to pitch an exact distance at all times. Also proper clay in the pits to allow the shoe to lie where it lands. Those that pitch under other conditions than these will find they are being deprived of much of the pleasure that could be theirs if they had the proper set up. NHPA has standardized these details.

3. Rules of play — Universal rules are pretty well established for walking games or types of games played to determine State and National Champions. Of course there are many types of play; cancellation, count-all, doubles, team play, league, etc. This is all well and good for the sport. It has been realized by many that to increase interest in horseshoes, es-

pecially in club pitching activities, a system of handicapping should be used. This has been quite popular in certain places under a system they have devised for themselves. Handicap has proved successful in bowling and some other sports. In horseshoes the one retarding feature has been the wide variation of types of handicaps used in various localities. The NHPA has taken cognizance of this and are in the process of formulating a plan they hope will solve this difficulty. They have the minds of the most experienced, in handicap play, at work to try to standardize the best, or a combination of several of the best, methods. This can, then, be incorporated into the rules and the NHPA will have accomplished, once more, a real service for the horseshoe pitchers. These things come about gradually but they are the labors of the NHPA. The NHPA is responsible for the universal way of counting points and number of points to constitute a game. Simple things in a sense. Anyone could set a figure. Many would set various figures. That is just what would cause confusion. Another example of why we need NHPA, a determining factor on details as well as major factors.

Many horseshoe pitchers, who have never played in a World championship or State championship or much lesser matches, make use of these rules, methods and equipments. Many have never seen such matches. Many have never been members of National or State organization, or even clubs. Yet they make use of these standards set up by NHPA. This is alright and well to be expected. This by no means indicates these pitchers are not competent to do all these things; such as standardizing equipment, forming good rules, laying out good courts, etc. The difficulty some would do it one way and others another way in different areas, no limit. Many of these methods might be good. But this haphazard way would lead to confusion. The point is it takes an overall central organization to ferret out the best methods and have the authority to say this is it by decision of this organization thru it's officials and membership. It is the NHPA's business to act in the best interest of all horseshoe pitchers. Otherwise the horseshoe sport would never have made the progress it has without a governing body such as NHPA.

4. The "Horseshoe Pitchers' News Digest" is the official publication of the NHPA. It plays a vital part in the activities and welfare of the organization. We know this magazine is of no particular interest to many horseshoe pitchers and that includes many that are members of NHPA. There are many others that take a keen interest in it. Some are enough interested in it's welfare to participate by sending in articles and news items. Others eagerly await each issue in hopes of reading something of interest from another part of the country. To those that think the magazine is of little or no use to them, we say, it fills an urgent need to help tie an organization together a little closer that is so widely spread over the entire nation. Indirectly it will benefit all, even those that do not care to read it. It is a means of communication, so to speak, that nothing else can fill. Many news items that seem trivial to some are of real interest or importance to others. We learn of important events coming up or news items about some well known personality. Last year we learned of the projection of horseshoes coming on TV. There may be times when a single incident recorded there may be worth the full price of membership for that year. Some things are of interest to one person and others to another. Altho' some may feel it has meant nothing to them for a full year it is the one way to knit the organization together as a whole. The fact that it fills this purpose, it is doing some good for everyone that enjoys pitching horseshoes, members and non-members alike. The magazine is a part of all membership, not an added charge.
5. To any member that thinks any part of his membership dues are going into any purse for tournament play he is mistaken. All prize money for
(Please turn the page)

World Tournament is put up by sponsors. The only other money used in World Tournament is qualifying money received from those entering these tournaments. This is used to actually defray expenses of putting on the tournament. Not even a National official gets a dollar of this. Thus, a World tournament is of no expense whatsoever to any member except to those that are there to participate. This also holds true of most all State and local matches of any consequence.

6. The National secretary issues sanctions for tournaments in various States as they are requested. The winner of any sanctioned tournament is presented a nice certificate of award with the NHPA gold seal and signed by President and Secretary of NHPA. The NHPA also awards embroidered sleeve or shirt emblems for State champion of any State each year he has won same in sanctioned tourney.
7. A complete report is sent out each year to every member of NHPA of the World Championship tournament and convention proceedings. These reports consist of 15 to 18 mimeographed sheets. We give free use of picture films taken by NHPA.
8. We print up a supply of official rule sheets on horseshoes. These not only give rules for pitching but lay-out of courts and shoe requirements. We get many, many requests from all parts of the country for these rule sheets and a number from foreign countries. These we send out free on request. We feel this is important not only to build up interest in horseshoes but it helps more players to start pitching the right shoe and playing by the right rules. Many eventually become NHPA members. They receive the opportunity to get more pleasure out of pitching horseshoes because of the proper start. This service can best be administered by a central organization such as NHPA.
9. Only thru the efforts of NHPA and some of it's more ardent supporters did we get horseshoes on TV last year. We hope to get more of it in the future. Such features are not only of great interest to many but it exposes many new people to horseshoes.
10. The NHPA secretary gets requests from many noted publications for statistics and other information on horseshoe pitching each year. Some of you may have noted articles in some of these papers, magazines or books. These requests have come from A. S. Barnes Co., Times Sports, N. Y., World Almanac Encyclopedia, Information Please, American Peoples Encyclopedia, Year Book, The World, and Collier's Encyclopedia to mention a few. Only because of a head central organization, such as NHPA, would these publications be able to receive and print these interesting and reliable statistics relating to the horseshoe sport. The fact that these publications contact us for this information supports the fact that we are the recognized head of the horseshoe pitching sport. We have established a source for them to acquire this information.

The above listed advantages to membership in NHPA, as well as in part to non-members, who indirectly benefit because of the NHPA organization, are not nearly all the advantages of having an overall supreme head for the horseshoe sport. Many advantages that are intangible, so to speak, bring service in some form or another to everyone interested in horseshoe pitching.

It is not the intention to intimate that the NHPA has originated all the good ideas and points that have been incorporated into their rules, constitution or other proceedings. Their mission has been to recognize good ideas from the past and those presenting themselves during the years up to the present. Those ideas and fundamentals most acceptable to officials and majority of membership in their judgment are incorporated into our organization. Much, yea very much, is yet to be desired. But we feel these objectives can only be accomplished by building a stronger central organization backed by loyal membership for the good of each and every horseshoe pitcher.



JUNE . . . in DECEMBER

Picture at left was taken Sunday, December 22. It shows Alex Zebrun, left, and Roy Carson, right, both of Clearfield, Pa. taking advantage of the 69 degree temperature and pitching a game of horseshoes. That kind of weather was very unusual around there for that time of year.

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MINNEAPOLIS HORSESHOE RECREATION CLUB

We, the members of the Minneapolis Horseshoe Recreation Club, in order to promote the fine sport of horseshoes, and to bring credit and respect to the Park Board and the City of Minneapolis, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

The purpose shall be to encourage horseshoe pitching for physical and mental recreation, for sociability, and for fun of competition for both men and women. The Club shall hold good members in highest esteem as well as good players.

The Club shall be a non-profit, democratic cooperative open to everyone. Its powers shall be derived from the majority consent of the members.

It shall be the duty of every member to conduct himself as a gentleman, to be present at every scheduled match unless properly excused, to take pride in keeping the courts neat, to score and provide scorers, and to abide by the Constitution and other rules of the Club.

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Coming Tournament Dates

June 27-28 — Lakeside Open Tournament, Lakeside, Ohio.

July 4-6 — "Ringer Round-Up", Dorner Park, Frankfort, Indiana.

July 23-30 — World Tournament, Salt Lake County Fairgrounds, Murray, Utah.

August 3-9 — Eastern National Tournament, Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania.

August 9-10 — Minneapolis Centennial Open, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

August 12-13 — Illinois State Tournament, State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Illinois.

August 13 — Illinois Boy's Tournament, State Fairgrounds, Springfield, Illinois.

August 17 — Indiana State Tournament Qualifying at Frankfort, Muncie, Wabash and Bethel, Indiana.

1957-1958 RULES FOR CLINTON COUNTY, INDIANA WINTER HORSESHOE LEAGUES

(Played on three Indoor Courts)

Each player must hold a Clinton County Horseshoe Club Card. All league competition will be "Doublesplay" or Partners type of play. The count all method of scoring will be used. (Each player receives all points he makes.) 80% handicap will be used. (4/5 of the difference between players league average and 130 points).

Each league team will consist of six players, plus as many alternates as may be desired.

Each pitcher will pitch 50 shoes each game. (Each player receives total points scored plus handicap).

Each team will play three games each league night.

Each team will use three courts. Each pair of pitchers using different courts each game. One team moves clockwise after first game, the other team (opponent) moves counterclockwise.

On the first session of league play, the players (four pitchers to a court) will throw 150 shoes to establish their game average and handicap.

A player's average will be figured on total number of games pitched after each league night.

The scores of the players of each of the six man teams will be added together at the end of 50 shoes plus each pitchers' handicap. The team with the highest score will win that game.

League Championship will be determined on the basis of games won and lost. If two teams tie for first place in the final standings of league play, there will be a play off match to decide team champion.

If more than two teams tie for first place in the final standings of league play, there will be a round robin play off between the teams involved. League play for the first shift will start at 6:30 p.m. each league night. League play for second shift will start at 8:15 p.m. each league night. League play will start on scheduled time.

If a team is short a pitcher when league starts, that team may take a blind, which will be 80 points only. (No handicap for blind).

If a pitcher shows up late, he may start pitching in the inning that his teammate is in, providing the game isn't past the 5th inning.

In case of tie game, each team will receive 1/2 game.

League play for first half will run twelve weeks. Schedule of league play for second half will run twelve weeks. (New averages and new handicap at start of second half schedule).

Rules committee for league play will consist of officers of The Clinton County Horseshoe Club and Manager of each league team.

We use score sheets similar to bowling score sheets. In fact our league play is patterned after bowling.

Note to Mr. Vail Rasmussen of California on our method of play in State tournaments, we place our players in different classes by qualification. Everyone pitches 150 shoes and counts all points. the top 14 or 16 men make up Class A. The next 8 or 10 men make up Class B. The next 8 men make up Class C etc. We usually run eight different classes besides a consolation and Booster division. We take care of everyone that enters the state tourney. Sometimes a pitcher will qualify high or maybe low. This accounts for different ringer percentage in tourney play. We feel that our method of tourney play (qualifying) is the best.

KAMMAN COPS VALLEY-OF-THE-SUN OPEN HORSESHOE CHAMPIONSHIP

By WALTER STEARNS

Sub-zero temperatures, snow and ice were plaguing many sections of the nation on February 15 and 16; but in Mesa, Arizona, natives, winter visitors, and six ringer artists from neighboring California, invaded Rendezvous Park and pitched horseshoes under sunny skies and 80-degree temperatures.

The best horseshoe tournament held in Arizona in years thrilled a crowd of spectators as they witnessed some close, exciting, and well-pitched games.

Art Kamman, Mesa's new 1957 Arizona State Champion, met Stan DeLeary, former State Champ for eight consecutive years, in a do-or-die skirmish. DeLeary after pitching 40 shoes was leading Kamman by a 32 to 7 score; then Kamman came alive with six straight doubles and put on a real Frank Merriwell finish and won 50 to 48. Kamman went on to win the tournament with a 14 — 1 record. His lone loss was to Homer Moefield of California.

DeLeary and Moefield were tied for second place with 13 — 2 records, and in the play-off, DeLeary was the winner and took home the runnerup trophy. Moefield pitched the highest percentage game hitting a sizzling 93.2%.

Jim Weeks from California pitched some games but was bothered with a sore finger. Russ Shaffer of Scottsdale, Arizona, also gave a good account of himself.

Elmer Beller N.H.P.A. Secretary, participated in the tournament and brought along the films of the '56 and '57 World's Tournament. These were shown in the Park Club House following a chicken potluck dinner, served by the wives of the Arizona players, with the California players and wives as guests.

How about you players from the East and Midwest planning to take your winter vacation next February, and playing in the Valley-Of-The-Sun Open? Earl Winston, President of the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association planned to be here for our Tournament but wired his regrets — "Snow too deep to qualify". Next year come along and qualify when you get here!

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VALLEY OF THE SUN OPEN TOURNAMENT FEBRUARY 15-16, MESA, ARIZONA

	Won	Lost	R	S.P.	Pct.
Arthur Kamman, Mesa, Arizona	14	1	573	902	63.5
Stan DeLeary, Phoenix, Arizona	13	2	594	836	71.0
Homer Moefield, Long Beach, California....	13	2	551	804	68.5
Russ Shaffer, Phoenix, Arizona	12	3	490	737	66.4
Jim Weeks, Norwalk, California	12	3	541	819	66.0
Roy Hearn, Ontario, California	9	6	463	872	53.0
Elmer Beller, Bellflower, California	7	8	433	824	52.5
Waldo Hagy, Long Beach, California	7	8	443	874	50.6
Archie Martin, Vinton, Iowa	7	8	400	826	48.5
Charley Carson, Mesa, Arizona	7	8	347	768	45.0
Tony Cederburg, North Dakota	5	10	404	828	48.7
Gifford Thompson, Tempe, Arizona	5	10	410	840	48.8
Alfred Teigland, Mesa, Arizona	4	11	354	798	44.5
Charley Palm, Albin, Wyoming	4	11	336	820	40.9
Walter Stearns, Mesa, Arizona	1	14	250	744	33.6



“From Out Of The Mail Bag”

The Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest
1307 Solfisburg Ave.,
Aurora, Ill.

Dear Mr. Cobb:

Looking back on the December issue, on page 13, your picture appeared along with Curt Day and Bob Pence. I must say Ellis, that you're sure a dead ringer of our able and worthy Frank Wagner, president for the Conn. H. P. A.

During these long winter nights gives a person time as to what can be done to stimulate more interest in the fine art of horseshoe pitching to the public and to the players as well. (I'm writing this article during a near blizzard snowstorm, far from ideal condition for tossing horseshoes.)

In about a month or so, various states and league teams will hold their annual meetings, dates for tournaments, lining up schedules, election of officers and other matters will be formulated. For some reason or other, it's usually the same ones that do most of the chore. Surely there must be many "outsider" players that can help out by expressing the pros and cons.

We are fortunate to have a person such as Mr. Cobb, who puts in lots of time and effort for his fine magazine, "The Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest". It's the only magazine presently that I know of devoted to horseshoe pitching.

Sincerely yours,
Mickey Vecchitto

The Horseshoe Pitchers' News Digest
Aurora, Illinois

Dear Mr. Cobb:

May I express my appreciation for the honor paid me in the February issue of the Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest. A normal person desires a good name and a good record of achievements in a worthy field, and when it is made known to him he has been successful he is pleased. I shall do my best in the future to continue to merit the respect of the horseshoe fraternity. I shall do my very best to prove that their confidence placed in me was not wrong.

However, I know of many horseshoe pitchers, both professional and amateur, about whom I could write a tribute because of their fine work and they would be very deserving of all I could say. We all know that no person by himself can achieve very much in any endeavor, but when he has the cooperation and help of others much can be attained. Man by nature is an animal of society. Each contributes and supplies something for the other fellow, and as a result we are all able to sustain life, to create, and leave satisfying and enduring records.

To those of you who have worked with me for years in doing the things we thought would give better tournaments, make better pitchers, and dignify the great game of pitching horseshoes, I offer you my sincere thanks.

Perl "Pep" Pepple
Regional Director
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