



The National Horseshoe Pitcher's Association



NEWSLINE

VOL. 7 NO. 2

MARCH / APRIL 1995



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C O N T E N T S

President's Message	4
Letters to the Editor	5
1995 World Tournament Information	7
Junior Window	11
Regional Director Report <i>by Dick Hansen</i>	13
<i>Newsline</i> Costs Increase...You Can Help	14
Ed Domey <i>A profile by Jim Haupt</i>	15
Las Vegas Funfest <i>by Jim Haupt</i>	17
Minutes of 1995 Council Meeting	18
Sanctioned Club/League News <i>by Bev Born</i>	20
1995 Regionals Awarded	21
Sports Performance <i>by Dave Loucks</i>	21
Here and There <i>by Dave Loucks</i>	22
Financial Report	23
The Toll of Time	24
Charter Chatter <i>by Bob Champion</i>	25
Eight Regional Tournaments	29
Special Event Calendar	30
Tournament Travel Contacts	Inside Back Cover

PAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Six Pac Horseshoes	6
Music City South Central Regional	10
Heart of Kansas	10
Imperial Horseshoes	11
Elmer Hohl Horseshoes	14
Horseshoe Pitchers' Companion	14
Stewart Snyder	19
Glory Horseshoes	19
Deadeye Horseshoes	28
Gordon Horseshoes	28
Ted Allen Horseshoes	28
Bill Vanderburg Horseshoe Co.	30
St. Pierre	Back Cover

ON OUR COVER

Ed Domey. See story page 15.

President's Message

This issue contains a lot of information about the 1995 World Tournament to be held in Perry, Georgia. The pitching format will be one that was presented to and approved by the delegates at the 1994 World. I think the delegates made a good decision. Like the pitchers who were near unanimous in their vote for it, the tournament committee is especially pleased by the uniformity the format offers. Scheduling and keeping the pitching shifts on time is made much easier by this format. I hope it will continue into future World Tournaments.

As was the case last year, your entering percentage and class seeding will be determined by your NatStat average. If you are an infrequent pitcher who may be close to the minimum 4 sanctioned tournaments in the previous 12 months required for entry, I suggest you write to NatStats. Include a self addressed return envelope or post card to get a report of your record. Unfortunately one or more of your tournaments may be among the 8.5% that were unreported to NatStats as of December 31, 1994. Last year, long hours were spent trying to track down unreported tournaments for individuals who entered the 1994 World but did not have the minimum 4 in the NatStat data file. This year, we will not do that. It is and has been, the responsibility of your Charter President to appoint a person who will ensure that all results of sanctioned tournaments in your charter are sent to NatStats. As of the end of the 1994 year, 152 tournaments had gone unreported. If you are among them, your chance of playing in the 1995 World may be in jeopardy. Don't wait until it's too late. Your contact might even help NatStats run down some of those missing tournaments.

The plan is to use new portable courts in Perry. The Executive Council reviewed a sample of a low profile por-

table that will set right on the concrete floor with an open front. The clay depth will be about 3½". This court appears to be more substantial and protected with heavy duty rubber than the portables we have been using at the World since 1991. It is similar to a lot of portables in use today around the country so many pitchers will be at ease with them. Our old portable boxes were showing signs of wear and tear and they had to be used with fabricated wooden platform risers which were very costly to the hosts. Besides the cost, set-up and break down time was excessive with the old portables. These new courts will save at least \$25,000 in costs to a host which we believe will stimulate more bidding interest. Not all players will be fond of pitching into slightly elevated clay but 77% of the responses to our National *Newsline* survey in 1993 said they would not mind. So, we feel confident that this change will be beneficial to the all around success of the World Tournament, now and in the future.

You will find a World Tournament entry form in this issue. Charter officers are being mailed a good supply. Note the 43 day window for entry. This is to ensure that all entrants will be using an average that is on record as of the latest possible date we can allow, May 22nd, and still develop, print and distribute the schedule. A Senior Women's division is back on the form this year after being dropped a few years ago for lack of entries. If we do not get at least 32 women to sign up for this category, it will again be dropped and the ladies will be seeded into Open Women.

Finally, I would like to thank all those members who took the time to write or phone about my well-being following the open heart surgery I had in December. My health is improving daily and I expect to be back on the courts by April.

Dave's Court Report

■ Two years ago, *Newsline* reported a 6/7/92 game between Vicki Winston and Alan Francis as the greatest ever pitched in the Missouri charter. Well, that record game stood for just 24 months. On 7/17/94 in the Kansas City Open, Alan Francis was matched against Don Harris. They pitched 110 shoes before Alan won 40-13. For the first 50 shoes, both players were pitching over 90%. Along the way, Alan threw 44 consecutive ringers. By the end, he had 103 ringers for 93.64% and Don had 94 ringers for 85.45%. The Show-Me State does it again. Can you top it?

■ NatStats year end report showed 1790 sanctioned tournaments and 229 leagues were scheduled for 1994. Total participants were 13,295 with each participant averaging 4.48 events. 65% participated in 4 or less events while 35% took part in 5 or more events. The greatest number of sanctioned events entered by an individual was 61, by Lowell Parnell of Northern California.

■ During 1994, the Northern California Charter scheduled 129 sanctioned tournaments over eight months. For 1995, they have scheduled 148.

■ Last issue I spoke of a study being undertaken on existing

computer programs being used in the various charters. The purpose is to evaluate what is being used and perhaps develop an NHPA program that would include the best features and make this program available to all charters. The response to the request is so far very positive. More than 40 people have written. However, there are still about 25 charters that have not been heard from. If you are one of them, please respond soon.

■ NatStats continues to improve its service and capabilities. 21 charters are reporting some or all of their results in the prescribed ASCII format on floppy disks. Director Oliver Smith is developing the capability of manipulating files which are not in the requested format which will broaden the base and eventually result in fewer input errors.

■ Final 1994 year end membership is reported as 13,512 adults (down 3%) and 896 juniors (up 5%). 21 charters reported an increase, 33 a decrease, and 3 remained unchanged. 79% of the total year membership loss came in 3 charters. Missouri had the most significant loss but still remains the largest membership charter. Wisconsin and Colorado posted the biggest membership gains.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor,

Sorry to say I was unable to attend the World Tournament at Syracuse this summer ('94). I was appalled and saddened to read in the *Newsline* that some people in attendance would applaud when Walter Ray would miss a ringer in the title matches. They should have been asked to leave the tournament. Surely these persons are certainly very poor sports. Walter Ray Williams should be commended for all he has contributed to the sport of horseshoes. I sincerely hope those in the audience will abstain from doing this gesture in the future.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Moore, Lady Lake, FL

Dear Dave,

I just want to say that, while I've always thought you have done a fine job as editor, I'm disappointed to see a different format for listing State Tournament results.

Now I realize that we (Texas) have a Charter newspaper to get our Charter results from, but I have friends in several states that I like to keep up with. By listing *only* the *class winners*, below the championship groups, a lot of friends are not listed. Please consider a change.

Johnny Davenport, Post, TX

Dear Mr. Loucks,

I bought your video, *The Basics of Horseshoe Pitching*, about two months ago, and it has increased my percentage by 18%. Every time I get in a slump I pull it out and watch it. Thanks a lot for your help.

Jim Dreiling, Kensington, KS

Dear *Newsline*,

Southern Maryland is becoming a good place to pitch horseshoes. In 1988 I was Commissioner of the New Carrollton Men's Horseshoe League. In 1990 I moved to Calvert Co. and began working on getting a horseshoe league in my community. I talked to the General Manager of The Chesapeake Ranch Estates (CRE) and told him of my experience in organizing and running a league. He was excited about the idea of having another activity for the members of

CRE and gave me a piece of land, cleared it and paid for all materials, including horseshoes.

1995 will be the 4th year the CRE Horseshoe League has been running, and I am very happy that we have applied for sanction with the NHPA. I have been a member of the NHPA for about ten years and enjoy pitching anytime I can (just ask my wife).

Last year I joined an indoor league at the VFW in Calf, MD and I am working on sanctioning that league also. I pitch on 3 leagues during the year, about 46 weeks. I love the game and am dedicated to it, but one person is more dedicated than me. That is my wife Bonnie. She doesn't pitch on any league or even play very much, but her dedication is deep. Many times, she has come down to the courts and just watched me pitch. Going to tournaments and sitting for hours while I wave thumbs up if I'm winning, or thumbs down if I'm losing. Never once has she complained. She is the best thing to happen to me and I love her!

In the Spring of '94, Ray Matlock, RD for Maryland, asked me to be an ARD. I was proud that he asked me and hope to work hard in trying to help promote the great sport of horseshoes, and work with the NHPA.

Thanks, and I hope everyone pitches more ringers!

Don Lawyer, ARD, Lusby, MD

Newsline Editor:

I expect to enter the National Senior Olympics this May in age group 70-74. To fare well there I'll probably have to move from a 40-foot pitcher to 30 feet. I'll not buy a card until after June 1. In the meantime I'll compete as a 30-footer in non-sanctioned tournaments or as a pacer in the sanctioned tournaments I can get in.

What card will I buy after June 1? At this time there is no answer. With all the hatred there seems to be in our ranks for the 30-footer—due to all the "advantages" they are supposed to have—it behooves me to think before I move from 40 to 30 feet.

A 30-foot pitcher competes in tournaments and sets a ringer percent just like the 40-footer. When they both get in a class at the next tourna-

ment, the 30-footer has to pitch near his average to do best—same as the 40-footer. Why does the 30-footer have an advantage of making the ringer percent he has established? I just don't know. Maybe time will tell me if I get up enough courage to move from 40 to 30 feet permanently.

In your last issue, Les Jones of Terra Bella, CA, enumerated the several sports facilities, except horseshoe courts, where the 70-year-old always plays on the same size facility as the 20-year-old. He's correct on size of facilities but how much organized statewide competition is there where a team of 75-year-old basketball players competes against a team of 20-year-olds? Is there even any competition where partial teams of the above ages compete against each other? I think not. In horseshoes the above can occur and the 75-year-old 30-foot pitcher is not relegated to the sidelines to await the graveyard. Maybe the NHPA should reorganize and become like the Senior Olympics where competition is by age group and the 30-footers can only compete against each other. In Oklahoma there aren't enough male and female 30-footers in any tournament to make up their own class of eight.

I've pitched horseshoes all my life but never heard of the NHPA until seven years ago at age 65. Boy, would I have enjoyed organized competition in horseshoes at an earlier age, as I did in baseball and basketball. But now I'm in the dying stage of a sportsman's life and must face all that disrespect out there if I want to pitch horseshoes at some distance less than 40 feet. Age is taking its toll of ringers. The percent is gradually slipping. So why the abuse?

You may rest assured that I am getting the word around to all horseshoe pitchers I hear of who do not know the NHPA exists. I don't want anyone else to miss out on his or her competitions, camaraderie, etc at any age as I did.

I just don't think it is that much more difficult for a 40-footer to pitch his or her established ringer percent than it is for the 30-footer if both pitch with the same consistency, desire and decency.

Bob Reese, Ada, OK

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

In my opinion, there are several reasons why horseshoe does not receive the recognition it deserves.

1. Not enough interest by pitchers. MOST, *only* participate as pitchers, and care less about the work involved to administer, conduct, and report the work required.

2. The *burden* of promoting horseshoe is found/accomplished on the backs of a few, and as such, the name(s) of those that are truly involved, become more known, than the sport itself.

3. There is a lack of unity among both players and the charters.

4. There is much complacency by players, that are not willing to accept change.

5. *Newsline*, the official magazine, is not being procured by enough players.

6. We that truly promote the sport, and that work very hard to grow the support of our local businesses and community(ies) DO NOT receive much assistance from fellow horse-

shoe pitchers, especially in the promotional realms. Far too often, I am hearing that horseshoe is becoming a money-making activity, and as such, individuals are being turned off.

I am of the opinion that we need to require a change in the method of becoming a Charter/NHPA member, and I *highly* recommend that a Lifetime Membership Dues Structure be adopted, as follows:

1. Juniors ages 12-18 \$5 on an annual basis or \$30.00 (no rebate to charter)
2. Rates for life adult membership, including magazine and insurance, that could be paid for over a set number of years.

Age 40 and under.....\$500.00

Age 41-60\$400.00

Age 61-69\$200.00

Age 71 and over\$100.00

Note: Such, could allow for a rebate to each Charter, based upon membership, and for use towards annual State Tournament. Using such a system would reduce the overall cost of *Newsline*, and make for a wealth of information to be included, since it would be supported by the majority of the membership.

Then too, by having a far wider distribution, I would think the magazine would be able to receive advertising from other than horseshoe related activities, and this in turn, would further promote the sport, as it may also be possible to send the magazine to other than members of the NHPA.

This, in turn, provides more revenue, that could increase cash prizes at NHPA State, Regional, U.S. Championship, and World Tournaments.

In summary, we have the vehicle to grow our sport. It is of my opinion, we need to re-think our membership fees structure, to include lifetime, that enables all members to receive *Newsline*, a publication that would enlighten all pitchers on horseshoe matters.

Charles M. Bunner, Fairmont, WV

Editorial Response: A lifetime membership fee, as suggested by Mr. Bunner, has come up several times before but it has never made economical sense for the NHPA and it still doesn't, especially at the figures proposed. Selling a lifetime

membership is a bit like selling insurance. You gamble that the dues collected will be sufficient to pay all the costs incurred.

First, let's consider that at least twice before, the members have voted down having the magazine included as part of the dues structure. The hard fact is—that not every member wants to read *Newsline* and that would go for life members as well.

Second, while we have over 13,500 individual members, there are only an estimated 10,000 different households involved. *Newsline* currently goes to about 30% of the households. To double circulation or even make it 100% of the households would not appreciably reduce the unit cost of the magazine. We would have to have circulation figures 10 times greater to see meaningful publication savings. Even then, our readership would not be sufficient to attract very many advertisers outside the world of horseshoes. We would still be too small and too narrow a readership for most companies to invest advertising dollars.

Third, in the past six years, if you disregard the \$3.00 that goes to the World Prize fund, dues have increased 28%. In the same period of time, *Newsline* production costs have risen 19% despite a 30% increase in subscriptions and the number of copies printed each issue. Mailing costs have increased 15%. If you project inflationary increases at just 3% a year (below what the NHPA has experienced), the combined cost of dues and magazine in ten years will be \$31, in twenty years \$40 and in thirty years, over \$50.

It is impossible to determine what dues or the magazine cost will actually be in years to come but it's a sure bet they will be more and probably close to the amounts projected above. With that in mind, there is no way that lifetime membership dues could be adopted anywhere near as low as suggested by Mr. Bunner. It is the estimate of this writer that it would take numbers at least 3 times higher than those of Mr. Bunner to have a reasonable chance of breaking even on actual costs incurred over the expected lifetime of a member. Finally, if a set fee, lifetime dues structure were somehow implemented, I cannot see the wisdom of allowing members to pay the fee over a period of years and then having the NHPA rebate some of the money back to the charters. The logistics and administration of such a program would prove to be very costly.

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1995 World Tournament Information

The pitching format for entrants to the 1995 World Tournament will be similar to last year except for changes to the Championship Divisions. This format was presented and overwhelmingly accepted by the delegates at the 1994 convention. It offers the advantages of allowing everyone to pitch 3 days in evenly scheduled time frames which is a big help in the flow of the tournament. It could be that at last, we are approaching the time when we can expect the same format from year to year. Let's hope so. Here's what you can expect as an entrant.

CLASS PLAY

All entrants will be seeded in their category by their NatStats average into a class of 16 starting with the highest entering percentage and running down to the lowest. All will be scheduled to pitch 15 forty shoe games over 3 days. The only possible exceptions to this could be those who are in the last class or two where we can't make an even group of 16. We will however, endeavor to form those classes so all will pitch 3 days and as close to 15 games as possible. Each adult class of 16 will have \$800 in prize money paid out to the top 5 positions with trophies for first, second and third. All juniors at the class level, both boys and girls, will be mixed together. Each will receive a trophy.

OPEN MEN and OPEN WOMEN

After all class play, the 16 highest percentage men and the 16 highest percentage women will advance to their championship finals which will be 40 point games. Each man and woman advancing will be required to pay an additional fee of \$50.00. Each will win a share of \$13,500 paid to both the men and women with trophies to first and second.

SENIOR MEN

After all class play, the 10 highest percentages will advance to the championship group who will play 40 point games and also be required to pay a \$50.00 finals fee. These 10 championship finalists will share \$6,000 in prize money with trophies to 1st and 2nd.

ELDERS

After all class play, the 6 highest percentages will advance to the championship group and pay a \$25.00 finals fee. All six finalists will play 40 point games and share in \$1,750 prize money with trophies to first and second positions.

SENIOR WOMEN

This category will be scheduled only if 32 or more women enter, sufficient to initially form two classes. Assuming this happens, the 6 highest percentages after class play will advance to the championship group paying a \$25.00 finals fee and playing 40 point games. These six finalists will share in \$1,750 prize money with trophies to first and second positions. If less than 32 women enter this

category, no Senior Women play will be scheduled and those entering will be seeded into the Open Women category. The prize money that would have been paid to the Championship Senior Women will be split and added back into the Men's and Women's Championship groups.

JUNIOR BOYS and GIRLS

During class play, boys and girls will be mixed by entering percentage into groups of 16. After class play, the best 6 boy percentages and the best 6 girl percentages will advance to their respective championship groups to play 40 point games. \$1,750 in trusts will be awarded to each group with all finalists getting a trust fund award. Trophies will be awarded to first and second positions.

1995 World Tournament Prize List Championship Divisions

MEN & WOMEN	SR. MEN	ELDERS, SR. WOMEN, JR. BOYS & GIRLS
1. \$3,200	\$1,400	\$500
2. 1,700	1,000	300
3. 1,300	750	275
4. 1,000	600	250
5. 800	500	225
6. 750	450	200
7. 700	400	
8. 650	350	\$1,750
9. 600	300	
10. 550	250	
11. 500		
12. 450	\$6,000	
13. 400		
14. 350		
15. 300		
16. 250		
	\$13,500	
		EACH CLASS OF 16
		1. \$200
		2. 180
		3. 160
		4. 140
		5. 120
		\$800

Total Purse for Championship Divisions.....\$40,000

- Note:** 1) If Senior Women do not reach a minimum of 32 entrants, their \$1,750 allocated prize money will be split and added to the top six positions of the Men and Women's Division bringing the new amounts for those spots to \$3,500, \$1,900, \$1,425, \$1,100, \$900 and \$800.
2) Men, Women and Senior Men advancing to the Championship Finals will be required to pay a \$50.00 finals fee.
3) Elders and Senior Women advancing to the Championship Finals will be required to pay a \$25.00 finals fee.

Entry Form

July 24 - August 6, 1995
National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America
World Horseshoe Pitching Championships
Perry, Georgia

Name _____ 1995 NHPA Card # _____
Address _____ SS# _____
_____ ZIP _____ Date of Birth _____
Telephone Number Home _____ Work _____

All registrations must be dated and mailed between April 3, 1995 and May 15, 1995. Any registration received with a postmark outside this 43 day window shall be placed on a waiting list and pay an additional \$10.00 penalty if they are later accepted into this event. **NO PHONE REGISTRATIONS.** You must have completed a minimum of four (4) sanctioned events, one of which may be a sanctioned league, in the twelve (12) months prior to the mailing of this entry. They must be on file with NATSTATS which will accept results through May 22, 1995.

REGISTRATION FEES & POLICY: Adults - \$50.00 Juniors - \$10.00 Non-NHPA Member Foreign Players - \$55.00 — US Funds
NO REFUNDS AFTER JUNE 3, 1995.

READ CAREFULLY: Any male pitching 40 feet 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 Divisions, you must be 60 years or older as of July 23, 1995. **Any individual 70 years or older as of July 23, 1995 or a physically impaired person of any age, all of which must pitch less than 40 feet, may enter the Elders Division.** Junior Division entrants must be 18 years old or less for the entire 1995 calendar year.

You can play in only one division. PLEASE CIRCLE THE DIVISION YOU ARE REGISTERING FOR:

1. Open Men 2. Senior Men 3. Open Women 4. Elders 5. Junior Boys 6. Junior Girls 7. Senior Women*

* A Senior Women's Division shall be held only if 32 or more enter. Otherwise, they will pitch with the Open Women.

PARTICIPANT 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, causes of actions, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in a World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament.

Please indicate what you think your three (3) high average should be _____%. Circle how many sanctioned events you have completed in during the last twelve (12) months. 4 5-6 7-9 10 or more

We reserve the right to disallow your participation if we discover errors on this form or if your records don't appear in NATSTATS.

Signed _____ Date _____

MAIL REGISTRATIONS & FEES (PAYABLE TO NHPA) TO:
NHPA
P.O. Box 7927
Columbus, Ohio 43207

DIRECT TELEPHONE INQUIRIES TO:
Donnie Roberts
614-444-8510

If you want confirmation that your entry was received, please include a self addressed, stamped postcard.

1995 WORLD HORSESHOE PITCHING TOURNAMENT

July 24 - August 5, 1995 *

Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter • Perry, Georgia

RV sites are available on the property of the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter for the 1995 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. The fee for hook ups will be \$12/per night/per unit. These are full-service hook ups with water, electricity, and sewerage. The Agricenter property is enclosed by a fence with 24-hour security. RV sites will be filled on a first-come, first-

served basis. Tournament participants may begin arriving up to seven days before the tournament (July 17) and can stay up to seven days after the event (August 12). Check in must occur between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the East Gate. Please fill out the form below and be sure to include a check for the proper amount.

*Tournament date may be extended dependent upon number of entries.

1995 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament — RV Reservation

(please print clearly)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____

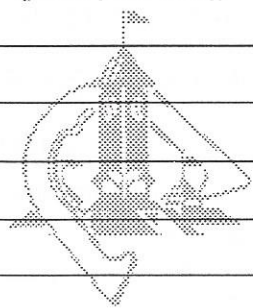
DEPARTURE DATE _____

MOTORHOME OR TOW (circle one) _____ LENGTH OF UNIT _____

EMERGENCY PHONE _____ EMERGENCY CONTACT _____

LICENSE PLATE NUMBER(S) _____

FULL PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY EACH RESERVATION FORM. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND MAIL FORM TO:
 Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter
 P.O. Box 1367 • Perry, GA 31069 • 912/987-3247



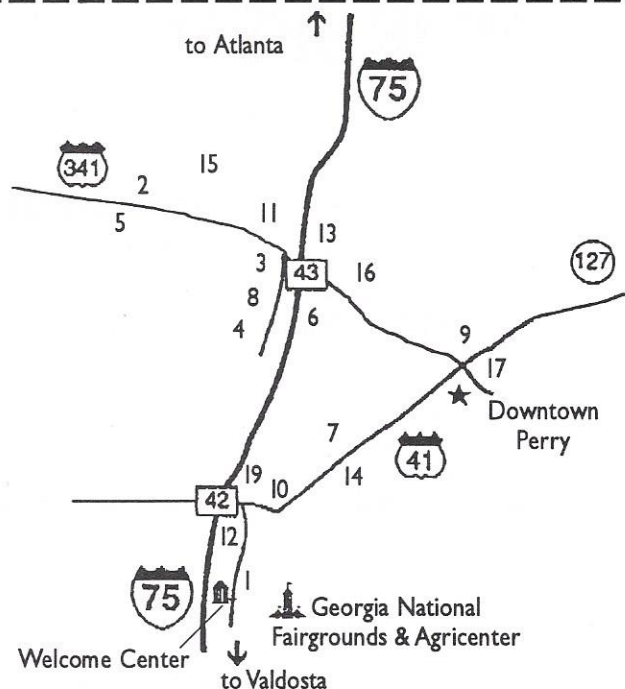
Perry Hotels

Exit 42

1. Capri Motel, 912/987-3622
7. Hojo Inn, 912/987-7747
10. Friendship Inn, 912/987-3200
12. Red Carpet Inn, 912/987-2200
14. Sandman Motel, 912/987-2393
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Reedley Juniors

by Chuck Seal

This is my third year working with Juniors. I teach the Flip shoe to all juniors because it is the easiest shoe to teach and the students have immediate success. Therefore, they tend to pitch more tournaments.

During school I teach horseshoe pitching in my P.E. classes during April and May. I reward students with an "A" for the day when they throw a ringer. Any student wanting to be on the horseshoe team practices after school from 3-5 p.m. Students may come and leave any time they choose. When on the courts, they must participate, practice and be "coachable" at all times. Mild competition is held every day. We play "11 point" count-all for beginners and "21 point" for proven veterans.

We have approximately 22 pitchers (14 tournament and 8 non-competitive). In 1992 I had 3 Juniors, 1993-13 Juniors, 1994-14 Juniors including 2 girls. All students that travel must be at practice.

Louise (my wife) and I took 5 boys and 2 girls to the State Tournament in 1994. We pitched tents and cooked our own food (one big family). The students all helped keep score, clean-up and set-up. They all did well: In Boys Class A-Luis Escareno 2nd, Luis Hernandez 3rd, Micandro Hernandez 4th, Elio Angulo 5th, Carlos Jaurgia "B" Boys 2nd. In Girls Class A, Mary Roman 2nd; Michelle Montoya 4th.

The students must be polite, be on task, be helpful and be positive. Any violation terminates their privilege to travel with Mr. Seal.

These students have improved greatly and have practiced almost every day including weekends:

Luis Hernandez
2nd year 56% High Game 75.0%

Luis Escareno
2nd year 49% High Game 67.5%

Elio Angulo
2nd year 41% High Game 65.0%

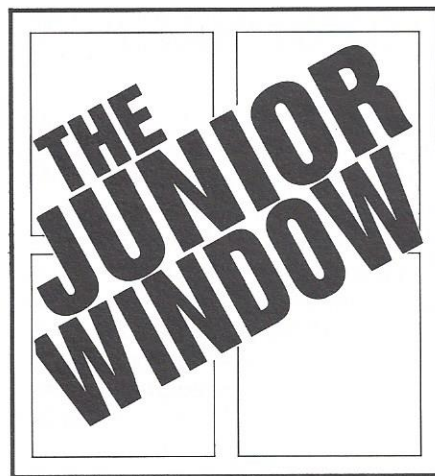
Micandro Hernandez
1st year 45% High Game 67.0%

Reedley has 12 courts that sit next to Grant Middle School. Bill Wachatel,

the principal, gave permission to teach horseshoes in girls' and boys' P.E. classes. Currently, 530 students are introduced to horseshoes each year. Reedley Horseshoe Club holds a class for Junior scorekeepers prior to tournament season.

Club members donate horseshoes for students to use. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rapp donated the nice shirts the Juniors wear. My wife and I provided food and transportation for students to tournament. Members of other clubs donated trophies, food, drink and entry fees to the Juniors. Supervision time is also donated.

The Juniors have had the pleasure of being advised and instructed by Walter Ray Williams Jr., Jesse Gonzales, Billie Sue Pennington, Jeff Williams, Ray Santana and other top pitchers. It doesn't get much better than that.



Junior Window's feature story this issue is an article by Chuck Seal, Reedley Horseshoe Club, Teacher at Grant Middle School. It is provided via the NCHPA (Northern California) newsletter. Mr. Seal gives a fine report of Junior activity along with helpful information. There are many programs as this one being conducted around the country but we have few details, as people don't take the time to write them up. We need more articles as this one so we can recognize the efforts and give credit to dedicated individuals like Mr. Seal.—Bob Dunn



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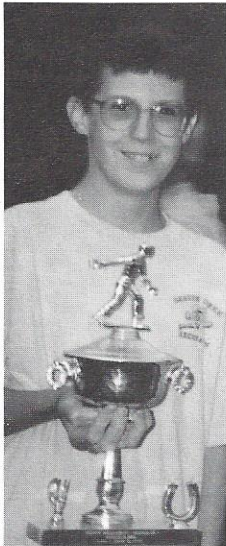
Junior Jottings

by Bob Dunn

■ Notes of 1994 from Betty Lapping, JPD Western Pennsylvania—A slogan was used "Strive For More in '94", this past season. WPHPA had 19 Junior NHPA members in '94 and an impressive stat as all 19 pitched in the State Tournament. This is the first time there has been three classes in the Junior division. All but one Club in the charter are allowing free club membership to the Juniors. Betty took time last spring to communicate with each Junior member individually, to encourage their recruiting efforts to invite friends and other youngsters to join our sport.

Again, this fall, she wrote each one to congratulate them on their participating in the PA State Tournament. One Junior member came back with the suggestion that a poster be made to read, "Help keep our kids on the courts, not in the courts," and have pictures of a horseshoe court and a courthouse. There's one youngster that already has a love for the sport and is thinking promotion.

■ Stephan Morris—A state champion. Stephan began pitching horseshoes in 1991, through the invitation of grandfather, Ed Bloom. Ed also provided some coaching time and early-on encouragement. Stephan, a freshman in high school, and honor student is now in his second year of



sanctioned tournament competition. There are already notable accomplishments; a third place finish in Junior Boys Class B at the World Tournament in Syracuse; Beaver County Junior Champion in 1993 and 1994 and newly crowned 1994 Pennsylvania Junior State Champion. With a ringer average of over 50%, Morris has goals to win at least two more state titles to stay even with his brother Joe, who won titles in 1981-1983, and to win a class at a W.T.

■ The Paul Anderson Junior Tournaments are into their second year. The events of this season are scheduled December 28th and March 11th, at the Yavapai County Fairgrounds (Prescott, AZ). Classes are set up in age groups 10-12, 13-14, 15-16 and 17.

■ Of the state tournament results reported in *Newsline*, every one showed Junior Classes and Junior State Champions. Just a few years ago this was not the case, there were many states that did not have Juniors participating in state championships. This is a proud moment for all those who have worked towards bringing more youth into our sport, at each level and in each charter.

■ Notes by Colorado JPD from the Double Ringer—the CHPA Juniors were active during August thanks to dedicated people like Ken McKenzie, Norm Neumon and Walter O'Dell. Norm and Ken conducted a successful tournament in Ft. Collins, August 5th, and had 11 entries. On August 20th, Walter ran an excellent tournament in Edgewater. Ken helped run Junior classes at the North Weld Open. It was the first time in many years that North Weld event has had a Junior class.

In his area, Ken started with three boys. This year, Seth Atkinson took first in Class D in the state tournament. Jonathon Peaslee was second in Class C. Others now in the group are—Jon McKenzie, Landon VanSoest, David Waldo, Dani Barch and Jill McKenzie.

In plans for the future, a doubles tournament is planned for next spring, pairing an adult with a Junior, an opportunity to bring either a card holder or a new member.

■ Few may be aware of the "Trust Fund" awards that are earned at the World Tournament for high achievement by Junior pitchers. In 1994, \$2,625 in trusts were earned by 8 individual Juniors, placing in the top in the Championship Classes. These trusts range from \$200-\$500 and can be most helpful in furthering education after high school, especially if one places well over a two or three year period. Charters with high skilled Junior pitchers should work to ensure that their young elite are able to participate in the World Tournament competition.

This is something that can't always be totally left up to the families. It is unfortunate if high-skilled youngsters are left out of opportunities to gain funds for college, only because their family can't afford or are unable to accompany the youngster in travel. There are unlimited ways charters can provide sponsorship to Juniors to participate in our own World Championships.

■ David Reynolds, JPD New York, held the first ever New York State Youth Sectional Championships. The event was held October 2nd at Bill & Lattie's River Tavern Courts, home of the Junior Program in New York state. Competition was between the Central, East and West Regions and the Central Regions emerged as the winners. Here are the Junior participants and their performance.

	Ringer	Shoes	Average
Keith Wilkenson	74	152	48.7%
Rebecka Botting	12	210	5.7%
Jason McCormick	27	198	13.6%
Gary Rice	14	202	6.9%
Charlie Metler	7	300	3.5%
Mark Toolan	11	206	5.3%
Shane Stramba	8	204	3.9%

■ Steve Hatch, JPD Iowa, provided an update of the events of their 1994 efforts, and there were successful steps. On May 7, a Junior tournament was held at Indianola. The event had a \$6.00 entry fee and that included the purchase of an NHPA membership card. This was a handicap event with 50 shoe games, count-all scoring. A picnic lunch and door prizes were provided and all participants were presented trophies. There were only eight entries, but more are expected in 1995. The Junior membership for the Iowa charter is up to 23 for the year.

Two Iowa Juniors made the trip to Syracuse to pitch in the 1994 World Tournament. Joseph Smith placed 4th in the Championship Class with an 8-6 record and a 69.46% average. Richie Boll placed 4th in Class "A" 50.71%, winning 7 games. Within the charter, two sportsmanship awards have been established. The Cathy Carter Award was presented to Jerrica Jackson of Kellerton and Raymond Rains of Decatur City was recipient of the Kevin Cone Award. With these awards, sportsmanship and fellowship is emphasized as an important part of our sport.

Regional Director's Report

by Dick Hansen

Within the past year there have been nine new Regional Director appointments made, four more have now been added to the list.

New Regional Director appointments are—Dave Garbani, Southern California; Ron J. Latiolais, Louisiana; Pat Wemhoff, Nebraska; and Hazel McCall, Texas. Hazel takes over for Charles Posey who passed away January 11th. He will be missed by both the NHPA and the Texas Charter.

Retiring as Regional Directors are—Leslie Burroughs, John Wilson and Don Koso. Don has been horseshoe in the State of Nebraska for many years and to him and all of the former Regional Directors, I wish to thank them for their many years of service to the NHPA. Each, in their own way, has helped to make the NHPA what it is today.

Pete Shomette, ARD Maryland reports the Frederick Club received a \$5,000 donation from the Shipley Bottling Works and Anheuser Bush. This allowed them to add another major tournament and increase the purse for the State Tournament. The three tournaments were—the East Coast Tournament of Champions, won by Art Tyson, the Frederick Invitational, won by Rick Cale and the Maryland State Championships, won by Elbert Shifflett.

Special recognition goes to Regional Director Ray Matlock for his hard work in securing a major sponsor and for being Tournament Director, Publicity Director and Membership Chairman. The Frederick Club also, for the second consecutive year had a booth at the Frederick County Fair. Horseshoes and game related items were displayed and sold. NHPA literature was also distributed. Over 230 people signed up to receive a tournament schedule and club/ league information for the 1995 season. Many who signed up joined the NHPA and participated in tournaments and or Club/League during the '94 season.

Plans for '95 include showing NHPA videos, building portable courts and having pitching exhibitions. The Frederick and Baltimore Metro Club had a total of six Fun Pitch Doubles Tournaments to increase membership and exposure to the NHPA. The Metro Club, in only its second year had 4 well attended sanctioned tournaments and plans are now underway to add 8 additional courts and install lighting. Pete adds, "Horseshoe pitching is alive and well in Maryland."

Jim Shilling, RD Indiana reports they have 43 tournaments scheduled for the '95 season. This includes the addition of two Junior Tournaments. Indiana has a promising Junior pitcher in Allen Keen who captured the '94 Class A Championship in Syracuse pitching 61.96%. He also won the State Junior Boys Championship by pitching 58.33%.

Jim also reports that the Indiana State Championships was run under the direction of Jim and Cam Shilling, with the computer program designed by Walter Ray Williams. At that State Tournament Curly Seibold, who has been ill, bounced back to pitch the best percentage of his career and placed 3rd in the Championship Class which was won by son Mark. Jim adds that long-time pitcher and friend of horseshoe Jim Pierson was elected to the Indiana Hall of Fame for 1994.

Elwyn Cooper, RD Missouri reports, for your information, that the New Melle Club has invited a number of world class pitchers and will have the top 16 percentages that enter, including Walter Ray Williams Jr., square off on April 23, 1995. If you are in the area, all are invited to stop by.

The following is a portion of a letter sent to me by then ARD but now **RD, Southern California, David Garbani** I felt he made a very valid point and that I should include it in this report. In reference to the dissolving of the Eastern Sierra Califor-

nia Horseshoe Pitching Association he writes: "This was done with much regret but was felt by the majority that it was in the best interest of all Charters in California and the Clubs that made up the ESCHPA.

"I personally feel that the main cause of the breakup was due to the all-too-well-known fact that working units within any organization are made up of only a few reliable persons. It became very tiresome and exhaustive, mentally and physically, for the same few people to run normal Charter events, but also to run and attempt cohesiveness and contentment in the triennial State Tournament.

"I feel the Charter Officers did an outstanding job for the time the Charter was in existence. Much was learned from the experience and I feel that the NHPA should discourage any future requests for new Charters if that Charter would be made up of only a few clubs. It makes for an awful lot of work for very few people year after year."

I think David makes a strong point and I commend him on his straight forward talk on the matter. He will make a fine Regional Director in the years to come.

In an attempt to cut costs I have asked each Regional Director to cut their patch order as close to the belt as possible. I must report to you, the membership, that it looks like each Regional Director is doing just that. The cost per patch may not sound like a lot but when it is multiplied by hundreds it adds up to a sizable dollar amount. Your Regional Director works for You, the members of the NHPA.

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Many of you are concerned about cutting out pieces of your *Newsline* in order to use the forms. Take your issue to your local copy establishment and have copies made.

Newsline Costs Increase...You Can Help

The costs of producing this magazine have taken some big increases since the first of the year. Last Fall, paper prices were increased two and three times. The printer had quoted us a price good for the entire year—it was not until the Jan./Feb. '95 issue


that our printing costs were increased. At the same time new postal rates went into effect. The combination of these two have resulted in nearly a \$300 per issue cost increase.

For 1995, we will hold the line on current subscription rates and hope

fully beyond. We have, however, had to increase the cost of back issues to \$3.00 each because the postal department effectively eliminated third class postage. That means back issues now have to be sent out first class which absorbs nearly 1/2 the \$3.00 charge.

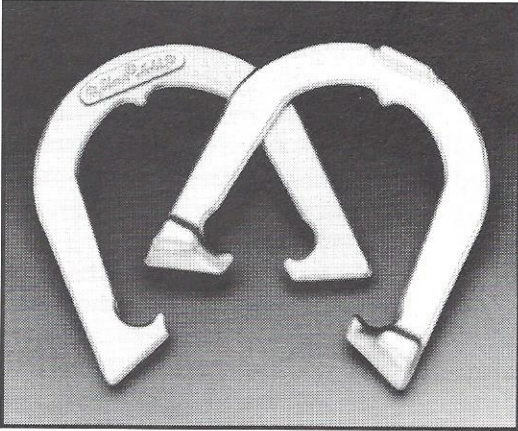
There is another area of expense that we are always trying to control, but with little success. It is an area where we really need your help. With every issue, about 400 subscriptions expire. Getting you to renew in a timely manner has proved to be very difficult. The expiration date on your mailing label is highlighted in a bright color. We often insert a fluorescent colored renewal notice in expiring issues. You have 2 months advance notice yet more than 50% who renew do so late and then ask for the back copies you missed. Many times it takes a special letter from the NHPA to remind you.

Why so many of you take so long to renew is beyond us, but it is costing the NHPA a lot of unnecessary expense to process late renewals. Please do your part to help us reduce expense and lost administrative time. Look at your label—get in the habit of renewing your *Newsline* subscription a couple of months early rather than late. Complete the form below and mail it with your check today. Thank you.

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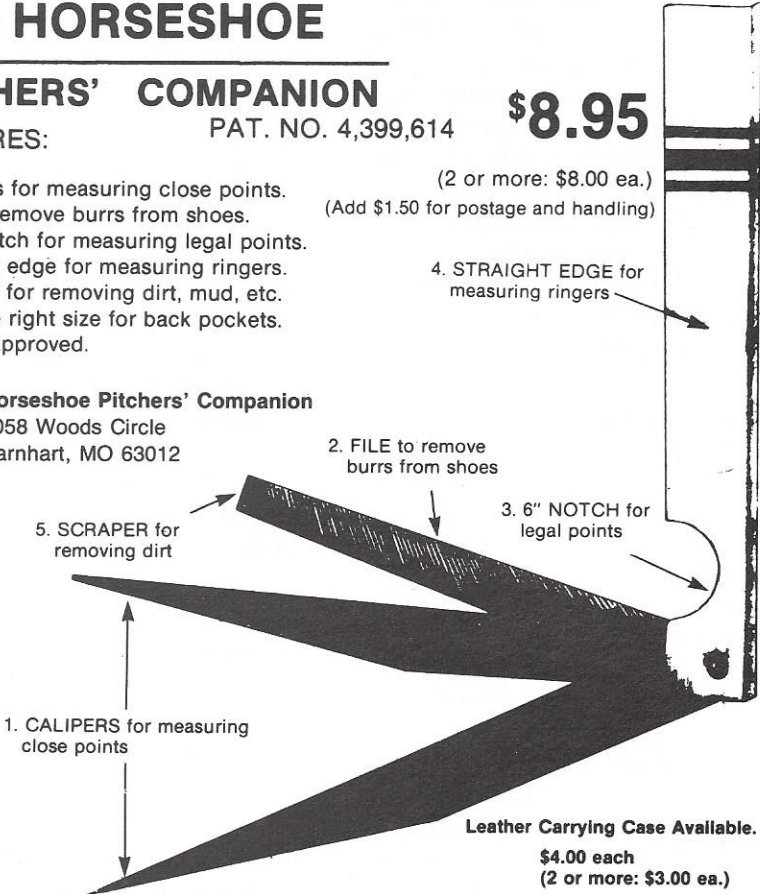
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Ed Domey, the NHPA director of Game Related Sales, is the NHPA dedicated businessman. His manner and even his appearance bespeaks business.

His bread and butter business in Massachusetts is building swimming pools. Demand, he says, fluctuates with the weather. In the heat, business is excellent. "We try to do quality work and offer the people a quality product. Through time it has paid its dividends."

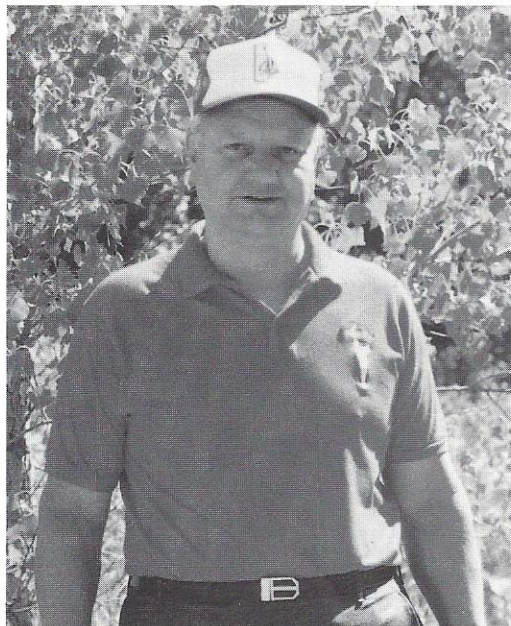
For a time Domey combined his horseshoe ability with his business acumen. Indoor horseshoes became yet another business. In 1973 he built and opened the Heritage Recreation Center in Sutton, Massachusetts, remaining in business until 1984. Looking back Domey regrets showcasing top-of-the-line pitchers in his grand-opening tournament. He believes people associated the facility with "pro" type players. Although they played to a large crowd, perhaps an opening tournament of amateur pitchers, with greater emphasis on ordinary players, would have produced more participation down the road.

Domey was a mid-sixty percent pitcher when he opened the indoor courts, but pitching every day he began to push the eighty percent mark. In 1975 and 1976 pitching in the World Tournament Championship Class, he placed 13th each year, averaging over 75%.

As a young man, Domey started pitching after World War II because, he says, it was popular in the area and his brothers were pitchers. Not yet an old guy, but he's been at it 48 years. Maybe next year, if the business load allows, he'll again enter the World Tournament. Today, he pitches in two leagues and year around.

Domey: "I believe in the physical fitness involved and the activity. The people associated with horseshoes are usually very nice people and it keeps you young—if you can be kept young, this game will do it."

Domey and his wife Ann have three children—Paul, Barbara and Janice.



ED DOMEY

Dedicated Businessman of the NHPA

BY JIM HAUPT

All are grown now and naturally, have all pitched horseshoes.

Already a 1987 NHPA Hall of Fame inductee, Ed Domey was awarded the 1994 Stokes Memorial Trophy at the recent Syracuse, NY World Tournament. It's called the most prestigious NHPA award of the year, next to the championship title. The recurring tributes verify Domey's continuous efforts.

The Arch Stokes award recognized Domey's productive contribution; conducting NHPA sales of horseshoes throughout the United States. This successful business began in the eighties when the NHPA solicited people to sell horseshoes. Just six people initially signed on.

"Had there been more," Domey relates, "we would have more people covering the game today. However, those people were given territories and it's going to take a little time to build up sales. Remember, this concept had never been tried before in our sport and everybody thought it would never work—while the fact of the matter is, it works very well. Now we are in the process of seeking out new live wires who are interested in selling in different areas. We have a system now where if you are interested in being a seller of horseshoes, you can work under the territorial assignee of

your area. Yes indeed, we are always looking for more people to sell horseshoes in all sections of the country."

He was not hesitant in speculating on the future for horseshoes:

"Electronic scorekeepers—we're in the process of putting together a prototype of an electronic scorekeeper now. I think it has potential. I see advancement in the type of materials we pitch with. I think down the road we may potentially see stakes that are not made of steel that will absorb ringers a little better. There is great potential for new materials in the shoe itself. I think the future may see horseshoes other than steel!

"There is a need for artificial clay to make the game a little cleaner. There are so many advancements to be made down the road that you'll see it

will be a cleaner game to play. People will tend to like it more then.

"I don't think anything, in the minds of established pitchers, will replace real clay until we get a material that acts exactly like real clay. When we do I think we'll see a big influx of pitchers into the NHPA and organized horseshoes."

As director of Game Related Sales, we assume you have no trouble defending the purchase of all horseshoes through the NHPA. Is that correct?

"There are several ways to defend NHPA horseshoe purchases, but it's all based on support. When you belong to any local club, be it a veteran's club or a Legion Post, part of your commitment is to support it. If your club is involved in selling some product, be it candy bars or sodas, it behooves you not to bring your own, even if it costs you a little more to buy there.

"When individuals buy direct from manufacturers or non-NHPA people they are not supporting their game, they are supporting the individual or product manufacturer. What I foresee is the support of the NHPA coming from its own members and when they pool these resources together and realize what their resources will do, they'll be very happy they supported their National organization.



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Las Vegas Funfest

1995 KICKOFF

by Jim Haupt

Rich Pintor of Colorado won the celebrated final match of the 1995 Las Vegas Open out-pitching the Canadians. Pintor, seeded third in the ladder finals, started by successfully defending his position against Alberta's Myrna Kissick. She had already removed finalists Claude Schannahan, Michigan, and Art Sperber of the State of Washington from further competition. Pintor advancing, pounced on the #2 seed, Marv Ellison, of Saskatchewan. (Sick and suffering Ellison said he forgot how to make a ringer.) Next was number 1 seed, Colin Finnie, also of Saskatchewan, and the 1994 Candian Nationals Champion. (Coincidentally, Finnie and Uncle Marv, Ellison, played-off for that title.)

For that last match of the finals, tournament co-directors Don Weaver and Donnie Roberts, delayed the start of play while one court was lined with seating. TV camera crews induced the modest crowd to do the "wave," undulating three or four times around. (Discovery Channel; "Amazing America;" time of programming unknown.) A judge was assigned to each pit and Roberts moved his microphone to courtside. As Pintor and Finnie walked to retrieve shoes, Roberts announced his assessment of the shoe positions and impending score.

In the forty shoe game, Finnie, starting with a 7 point handicap, led until Pintor caught-up at 24 shoes. They traded the lead, by just a few points the rest of the way with Pintor going out on top at 94-92. Pintor was enthusiastically applauded as the tournament champion of the 1995 Las Vegas Open. Finnie shared the accolades for a fine match.

Roberts, in a pre-game announcement, said it would be appropriate to applaud on any occasion of four ringers. Funny thing, it happened just twice and not until the game was on the line and the end only a few shoes away. The last call was 6-6 (4-dead). It was not the ordinary

monotony of "four-dead" and that fact made it an exciting game to watch. Both pitchers lost a few shoes; maybe on other iron, maybe on thin synthetic clay, and maybe on just bad tosses. Their play, while good, was the sort the bleacherites could associate with. "While the paint dried," these fans enjoyed a great game.

It should be repeated, the success of the final game was due in no small part to the orchestration of the tournament directors.

As horseshoe pitchers checked their iron through the metal detectors and flew into Las Vegas on the first weekend of the year, the football playoffs were underway. Some people had to catch a score while changing planes, others already in the tinsel town could lay their wagers down.

Sunday, only hours before the early Monday start, the last players signed in for the Las Vegas Open. A record number (for Hacienda) of 400 plus entrants made 17 classes of 24 pitchers each. That evening, while classes were being seeded, the usual orientation came under the guise of a cocktail party. Co-directors Don Weaver and Donnie Roberts held center stage.

Weaver opened ceremonies introducing the entire Valley High School Marching Band. As they marched in and then played the U.S. and Canadian National Anthems it became apparent to many players, this was the first time they had seen a horseshoe tournament opened with real and live big band noise. Continuing, Weaver welcomed players and guests playing Santa Claus with a seemingly endless array of door prizes.

Roberts laid down the extraordinary "Vegas rules of play." Introducing a new type of scoresheet, he showed the ringer column split, one side for Xs, the other for Os. All the ringer points were another column. Points other than ringers had a sep-

arate column. That made it possible to total the live ringers (Os) multiply by 3, add the points with the result necessarily equal to the score. It is a check any good scorekeeper can handle. Roberts indicated the new scoresheet will be used for the Georgia World Tournament.

Who said old champions just fade away? Last year's Las Vegas Funfest winner, Karl Van Sant of Indiana, flew in, though it was just to keep score. Van Sant's doctor says, no long tournaments. The patient says he will try a few shoes while in Florida this February.

Weaver set up six additional courts this year using the entire Matador Room. Oliver Smith of NatStats fame and his computer took residence in a separate room. He was part of the support group never seen. Although the extra courts kept late night pitching to a minimum, the 2,288 pre-lim games consumed all of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Some people kept score earning two dollars per game and others tried their luck in the Hacienda Casino with their leisure time. Shows, tours, the sights and sounds of other resorts on the strip were all popular pastimes.

Report time Thursday for the six finalists of each class was 6:00 a.m., like in the morning! Don Helmick, a wandering math professor/pitcher (oxymoron?) from California, said he involuntarily reached for his fishing rod when the alarm went off.

About 300 dined at the awards banquet including all seven members of the NHPA executive council. The ordinarily glib Weaver lost his voice... again. Donnie Roberts announced winners for \$20,400 of award monies.

During the tournament the word heard was, the Hacienda Hotel had been sold, but Weaver assured that he would negotiate soon with the new management group and/or other select resorts willing to host the 1996 Las Vegas Funfest.

Minutes of 1995 Council Meeting

JANUARY 13, LAS VEGAS

The meeting with all seven officers in attendance started at 9 a.m. in room 118 of the Hacienda Hotel. The topics covered and decisions made were:

1. GENERAL ITEMS

The President passed out copies of recent letters received pertaining to subjects of which the entire Council should be aware. They included updates on the continuing promotional efforts by a West Virginia member to have facilities built to house the Hall of Fame, legal interpretations of IRS codes affecting tax deductible donations to the association and reports of internal problems in one of our charters.

2. JUNIOR SCHOLAR AWARDS FOR SANCTIONED CL/LG PLAY

Last year the Council voted to increase the number of Trust Awards from 2 to a maximum of 4, the total of which could not exceed \$1,000. No single trust could be more than \$400 or less than \$100. Sixteen youngsters met the minimum qualifications for the 1993-94 school term. We voted to award the top four as follows: Michael and Michelle Newton, \$275 each; Cassandra Willms, \$250 and Paul Iverson \$200. Each will also get a plaque.

3. NHPA INSURANCE

Bonnie Seibold reported that some inquiries had been received about whether our liability insurance would cover individual play or a small informal gathering of members. The answer is no! NHPA insurance is in force only at NHPA sanctioned events, tournaments or club/league play.

4. NHPA TOURNAMENT PATCHES

Dick Hansen reported that nearly 1700 patches were returned by the RDs after the 1994 season. These are patches with the year already sewn on so they are not usable in another year and become a financial loss for the association. Dick will institute some controls with the RDs and may start to actually under order. This problem is precisely why we went to patches without the year on them

some time ago only to be pressured to return to the years in 1993.

5. SANCTIONED COURTS

Regional Directors will be given the power to sanction courts per NHPA rules. They can do this on the first visit and will have a certificate they can sign and leave with the club. Any such court sanctions must be reported to the NHPA 5th VP with details so he can compile a list of sanctioned courts in the county. The old list of requirements to sanction courts is no longer valid.

6. SPECIAL TOURNAMENTS

The 1995 bylaws say that all tournaments must provide a pitching opportunity for all eligible 30' and 40' players. There is a provision to allow special tournaments for Juniors only, Seniors only, etc. These special tournaments will be sanctioned if reported to the NHPA beforehand.

7. REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Eight bids for 1995, two from each time zone were received. All were approved. They are Statesville, NC and Fairmont, WV in the East; Joelton, TN and Des Moines, IA in the Central, Socorro, NM and Grand Junction, CO in the Mountain States; Davis, CA and Hermiston, OR in the Pacific. For 1996 and future years, the bid deadline is moved up to November 15 so there will be more time to announce, advertise, and prepare Springtime events. Details will be published in *Newsline*.

8. WORLD TOURNAMENT PRIZE LIST

Several options to develop the 1995 World prize list were presented by the President. The goal is to have the Championship Divisions funded by the \$3.00 per year member set-aside. This will not be an exact, to-the-member figure every year, but some number that is close and makes sense. Last year's Championship Division prize list was a bit high relating to 1993 membership. This year it will be a bit lower, but in line with our best membership estimates. Class prizes will all come from entry fees which will be returned

100% to the individual classes.

Finals Fees—will be charged this year for those who advance on percentage from their class to a Championship Division. \$50.00 for Men, Women and Senior Men, \$25.00 for Elders and Senior Women. It will take a minimum of 32 entries to schedule Senior Women. If this number is not obtained, entrants will be seeded into Open Women and their prize money split between Open Women and Men.

Trophies—Two trophies will be awarded to all adult and junior Championship Divisions, 1st and 2nd places only. All adult 16 person classes will award 3 trophies, 1st, 2nd and 3rd. All junior participants at the class level will be awarded a trophy.

9. WORLD TOURNAMENT COURTS

Much resistance on the part of World bidders has been noted to the large expense for material and fabrication of the wooden platform risers such as used in Columbus and Syracuse. There is no after tournament use and due to the very large size and volume of such fabrications, the NHPA cannot consider purchase, storage and transportation. Besides, the product has a natural tendency to warp and would not be a cost effective investment.

As an alternative, the Council reviewed a new low level 3' x 4' portable court that would be set right on the concrete floor. This has an open front and would contain about 3½" depth of clay, similar to many portables in use around the country and previously used at the Eau Claire W.T. To avoid possible foot slippage by the players on the concrete floor, rubber runners 18" wide would be used on both sides of the court for the full 46' distance. The Executive Council approved the purchase of these courts and runners which will be used for the first time in Perry, Georgia. Hosts for the next 2 years have agreed to increased rental fees, realizing that in the overall picture of things, their costs will be reduced by some \$25,000 which will encourage more bidders for the World.

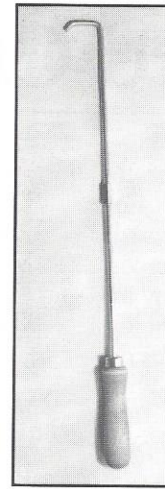
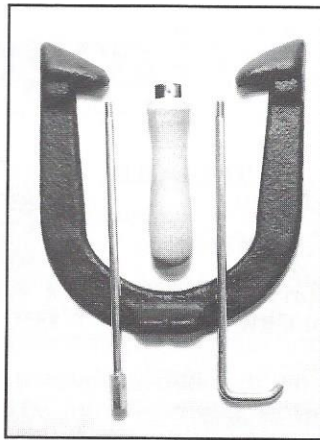
10. RULES

Casey Sluys presented a list of member proposed changes to the Playing Rules. These were discussed as 6 of the 15 member Rules Committee are Executive Council people. Some have merit, some are members just unable to accept changes approved two years ago. All proposals will be sent to the full 15 person committee who will vote as to which ones will be brought to the delegates in Perry for vote.

11. OFFICERS TRAVEL GUIDELINES

Dave Loucks presented a revised set of travel SOPs (Standing Operating Procedures) that cover the guidelines for officers and others traveling on official NHPA business. These relate to the positions stated in Article 5, section 5 of our bylaws. These revisions include a new expense reporting form, reformatted policy statements and better defined expense limits.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m. These minutes prepared by Dave Loucks.



SMS COLLAPSIBLE HORSESHOE PICKUP HOOK

A new hook— a second name.

VICKI WINSTON - 10

VICKI—10 times Women's World Champion Horseshoe Pitcher

VICKI—Uses SMS Pickup Hook

VICKI—Freely expresses satisfaction: *"It has made horseshoe pitching less hassle for me. Without a Hook I no longer would be pitching. The SMS Hook fills my needs completely on court and off; its unique collapsible style allows it to fit into my horseshoe box or my travel case."*

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Sanctioned Club/League News

Twenty four cancellations, seven by request, mainly due to just not enough interest. This is really sad! The other seventeen were forced because no one would reply to my inquiries or notices of no reports being received. It is a shame when clubs do not have even one person with enough responsibility or dedication to do the required paper work. Especially when there is only one form which is actually mandatory to maintain a sanction from year to year. That one form is a complete, annual list of membership and all NHPA card numbers for the current year. The other report forms are only mandatory if awards are wanted or to have league averages entered in NatStats.

CANCELLATIONS

Anchorage, AK	#91C011
Barstow, CA	# 88C25
Dwight Ringers, IL	#87C251
Iowa City, IA	# 84C47
Ohio-Kentucky, KY	#91C015
West Side, MA	# 78C49
Fridley, MN	# 79C51
Pony Express, MO	# 88C17
Moriarty, NM	# 93C02
Trenton Lake, ND	# 93C04
Toledo Area, OH	#84C114
Woodward County, OK	# 81A40
Cornallis, OR	# 92C18
Prews Pitts, TX	# 92C19
Tri County, WV	#82C116
Edgewater Jr. Lg., CO	#92Jr25
Winchester Jr. Lg., VA	#93Jr27

CANCELLED BY REQUEST

Millers Retreat, IN	#87C261
Bald Hill, ND	#87C257
Horseshoe Fun, NM	# 93C16
Chief Okemos, MI	# 88C34
Riverside Jr. Lg., TX	# 85Jr1
Goldendale Jr. Lg., WI	#87Jr13
Moline Pony Shoe, IL	#91Jr19

The following five have been put on hold for '94, hoping they can recruit and create more interest. If you live in these areas, perhaps you could join and help these fine folks with their club. These are ones that were thoughtful enough to correspond with me and it is extremely appreciated.

ON HOLD

Galesburg, IL	# 83C94
Round Robin, NY	# 93C21
M-46, MI	# 90A01
Kingston Moose, NY	# 94L03
Capitol City, MI	#85C123

League membership was down again in '94. Down 547 from '93 with only 12 new sanctions in '94 and 29 that filed no reports) Hopefully things will improve this year. As of this writing there are already 8 new sanctions for '95. All of us should be encouraging new members or getting past members to rejoin our great sport. Don't be bashful, ask a friend or neighbor to join you any time you go to the courts. Tell and show them what a good time can be had. Our sport is a great pastime, with good people, exercise that anyone can handle and it can be great fun for all ages!

In 1995 this program awarded 8,457 patches, not counting Top Ten (approximately 100) and scholar pitcher patches, (17), plus 25 top ten plaques and 4 junior scholar plaques and \$1000 in trust funds. The Top 4 Juniors receiving trust funds, as decided by the council are Michael and Michelle Newton of SD, \$275 each; Cassandra Willms of MN, \$250; and Paul Iverson of WI, \$200. On behalf of the NHPA, I congratulate these four fine young people and also all of the others that were turned in with a GPA equal to B or above. It is a good feeling to know that these youngsters are not only pitchers, but are dedicated to becoming fine upstanding and educated adults.

Other awards given by this program for continuous years of sanction were 23 for 5 years, 15 for 10 years and 6 for 15 years. I am very proud of you all. We did lose one 1978 charter club, leaving 8 out of the original 13. The first charter club to fold or drop out of the program in the past 7 or 8 years. I will miss them, as I do all that are lost.

FIVE YEARS 1990-1994

1. Edgewater, CO	# 90C04
2. Nutmeg Indoor, CT	# 90C40
3. Silver Valley, ID	# 90C20
4. White Hall, IL	# 90C03
5. New Horseshoe, IL	# 90C05

6. Moline, IL	# 90C17
7. Ken Rasko, IA	# 90C27
8. Millville, KY	# 90C37
9. Harahan, LA	# 90A13
10. Shreveport, LA	# 90C32
11. Athol-Orange, MA	# 90C18
12. Saline County, MO	# 90C22
13. Pawnee Ringers NE	# 90C30
14. Cowboys & Indians, MY	# 90C28
15. Bismarck Men's, ND	# 90C33
16. Bismarck Women's, ND	# 90C38
17. Bismarck Jr. Lg., ND	# 90Jr8
18. Knox County, OH	# 90C09
19. Franklin, OH	# 90C23
20. Enid Area, OK	# 90C19
21. Lost Pines, TX	# 90C29
22. Claudius-Crozet, VA	# 90C06
23. Fireside, WY	# 90C24

TEN YEARS 1985-1994

1. Mat Shuu, AK	# 85C48
2. N.W. Arkansas, AR	# 85A11
3. Hot Springs, AR	# 85C97
4. Burbank-Joslyun, CA	#85C128
5. Woodward Governor, CO	#85C57
6. Loveland, CO	# 85C67
7. AVF Berwyn, IL	# 85A37
8. Raynhan, MA	# 85C63
9. Heart of America, MO	#85C126
10. Hardin County, OH	# 85C80
11. ECHPA, OK	#85A122
12. Camphill, PA	# 85C31
13. Riverside, TX	# 85C36
14. Arlington Iron Benders, TX	# 85C77
15. Beloit, WI	# 85C53

FIFTEEN YEARS 1980-1994

1. North Weld, CO	# 80C35
2. Central Iowa Travel Lg., IA	# 80L46
3. Greater St. Louis, MO	# 80C56
4. Nashua, NH	# 80C30
5. Lakeside, TX	# 80C55
6. Eau Claire, WI	# 80C39

I wish to apologize to all my friends of horseshoes in Hawaii for not being able to get together with them. We spent two short days on Oahu, walking around Honolulu, driving around the island, seeing Pearl Harbor and there just was not enough time for all we would have like to do. On Maui we did go by the courts and saw a couple of our friends from two years ago, but no time for pitching. Did learn that the old, but so nice courts, on Maui are going to be torn out to make room for more ball fields.

by Bev Born

The good news is that the city is going to build them 32 new courts in a new location. They have dreams of having a world tournament over there someday. I know it sounds like a pipe dream and a long ways to get much participation, but who knows, stranger seemingly more impossible things have happened.

My sincerest thanks to all of you who have supported this program through the years and congratulations to all of those who earned the program's awards. "Viya con dios."

I almost forgot something that pleased me very much. The NJSHPA has now voted in favor of allowing sanctioned league play to count as one event to be used for their state tournament entry. Thank you! NJSHPA, members and officers.

1994

SUMMARY & COMPARISONS

	1992	1993	1994
No. of States	42	44	44
No. of Clubs	204	209	198
Adult Members	6477	6180	5656
Junior Members	504	411	388
Total Members	6981	6591	6044

In case some would like to know there were 1016 women, 128 girls, 4640 men and 260 boys pitching in 1994 sanctioned leagues.

I'd like to extend congratulations to a hard working, dedicated and extremely nice gentleman. Richard "Dick" Belcher from Savage, Minnesota, director of the Dan Patch HSC, whom I am proud to announce is the 1994 "Director of the Year." Dick has been the director of this club since its beginning and becoming sanctioned in May of 1981. His reports have always been completed neatly and submitted in a timely way. A photo and article prepared by Dick will be in the next issue of *Newsline*. I hope the club's average of 40 to 50 members know and acknowledge what a fine person they have working and playing with them. Thank you Dick!

Your Friend For Horseshoes

1995 Regionals Awarded

Eight Regional Tournaments have been scheduled for the year. The sites were selected from bids submitted by interested parties. It doesn't take a great deal of extra effort to host a Regional. If you already have an existing event or location that can draw pitchers from other states, you have a chance of landing a Regional. A minimum of 12 courts are required. An added purse is nice for the draw but a host is obliged to return only 80% of the entry fees as prize money.

Two top groups of a regional cannot be mixed. You must crown a 40' champion from a group of full distance pitchers and a 30' champion from a group of short distance pitchers. Women, Elders and Juniors can all be seeded together in the 30' group. The two winners of Regionals qualify to pitch with the other seven Regional winners for

the U.S. National Championship the next year. This event is currently scheduled during and at the site of the annual World Tournament. It is our hope that the Regional tournaments will grow in participation and one day we can expand the list of winners to class levels and have many more players involved in a National Championship. When that day arrives, the championship will be held at a separate time and location.

Regionals are NHPA tournaments run by the hosts selected. It takes four (4) sanctioned events played in the previous twelve months and a NatStats average to enter. Why don't you get involved? Enter a Regional or two and get your club or charter to bid for one in 1996. Bidding forms are available from the NHPA and the 1996 deadline is November 15, 1995.

Sports Performance

by Dave Loucks

Why some athletes perform better than others has been debated for years. For decades, the question has been the focus of much research. Performance can vary significantly from day to day, even from game to game. How you perform can depend on factors that may range from being tired, playing on unfamiliar courts, taking medication, stress, weather conditions or even your mental attitude about the game.

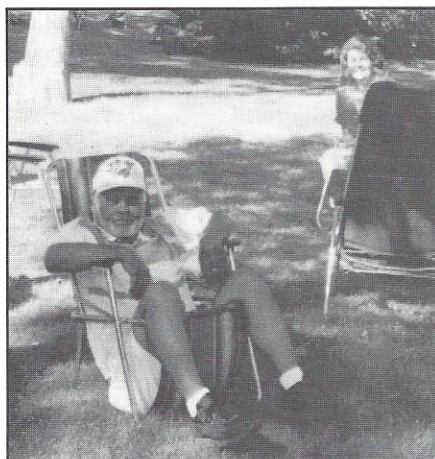
There is a company called Performance Factors which has been working with some doctors of well known professional teams in various sports. The thrust of their work has been to develop a new technology to measure hand-eye coordination. The research examined how and what influenced coordination. It determined that performance is not uniquely an ability to use the hand or another part of the body, but rather a measure of the neurological

system's capacity to perform a task.

Studies have shown that visual acuity in professional athletes, especially the very good ones, is what separates them from the general population and allows one to perform at a higher level than a teammate. Further studies have shown that as vision declines, so does the performance level of athletes needing excellent hand-eye coordination. Improving vision with glasses or contacts did not always improve skills to the former level.

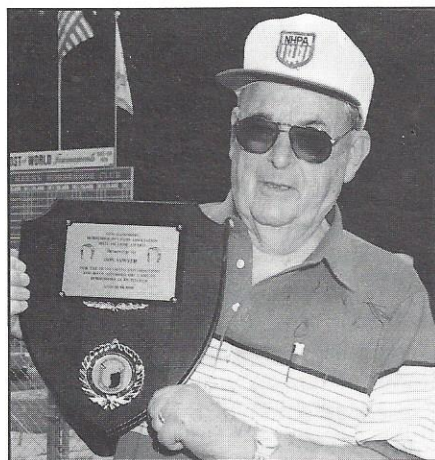
Horseshoe pitching is a sport that requires hand-eye coordination skills. If your game is not to the level you want it to be, it may not be for lack of effort but for lack of good visual acuity. As hard as it may be to accept, your performance level may already be as good as it can get because your vision, due to age or other factors, is on the decline.

Here and There . . . Happenings around the NHPA



Incarceration or Just Dessert?

Last summer in Bend, Oregon, Eddie Garcia from California set out to show the locals his new 30' pitching skills. He was pretty impressive, winning the tournament with a reported percentage of over 70%. Afterward, Eddie went to rest in the shade of a tree but for some reason, overwhelmed the chair. We hear it took three people to extricate Eddie, but not before they left him to suffer a bit.



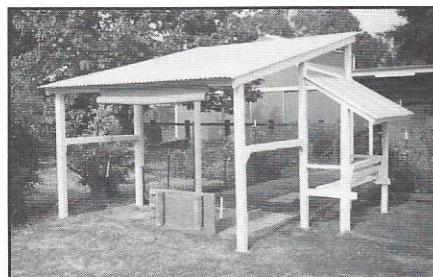
Don Sawyer Honored

At the 1994 State Tournament, Don Sawyer of Milford was inducted into the New Hampshire Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame. Three times state senior champion and 19 times the Nashua Club title holder, Don, now 77 years old, enjoys the game from the sidelines due to the loss of eyesight.



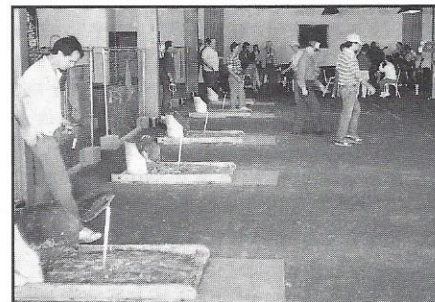
Starting Early

Bud and Mildred Ivester of Dalton, Georgia are very proud of grandson Aren Howell Ivester. Even before he could walk, Aren displayed an interest in horseshoe as he would sit in his stroller and watch every move of "Papa Bud." At 18 months of age, Aren was photographed with his "hoss shush" taking aim in the same serious manner as Grandpa.



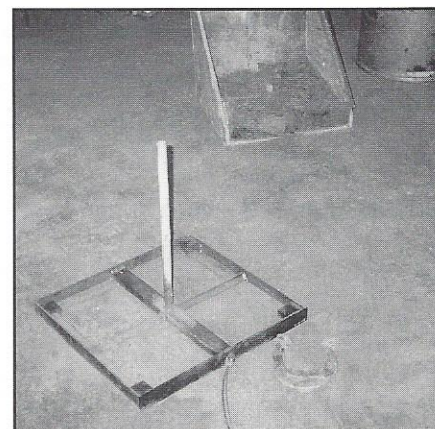
Pitching in The Northwest

Living in the Northwest often means getting wet if you play horseshoes. Tod Berridge of Longview, Washington decided to do something so he could stay dry and enjoy pitching year-round. He built 12' x 12' structures over each pit of his backyard court, installed lights and even included a covered seating area at each end. The expense was a lot less than the cost of building an indoor court and Tod is now able to pitch all winter long.



Sunflower Horseshoe Club

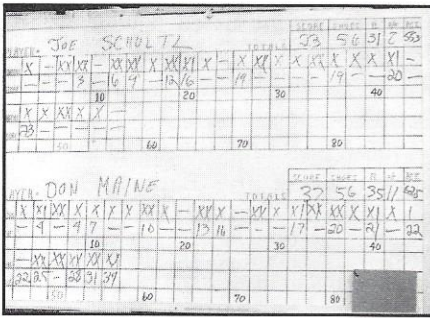
In the last issue of *Newsline*, we did a story on the new indoor courts of the Sunflower Club in a suburb of south Wichita, Kansas. In January, the club hosted a tournament that attracted 84 pitchers from a four state area. Everyone seemed to enjoy the pleasant and warmly heated facility, especially the "play dough" floor based pit material which is used in place of clay.



A Small Truly Portable Court

Tim Henderson of St. Clair, Missouri has fabricated a horseshoe court that can really be moved around. The stake support and base is only two foot square, made of welded 2" angle iron with steel and channel supports. The three sided box with bottom is made of 3/4" plywood and fits inside the frame. A 1/4" piece of plastic can be added on the inside for protection. Setting just 2" above floor level, the entire court can be put up or taken down in about five minutes. It needs only a 5 gallon bucket of clay for each end so this court is truly portable. You can contact Tim for details after 4 p.m. central time at 314-629-0001.

by Dave Loucks



Connecticut Displays The Score

When you pitch in Connecticut you will always be able to see not only the game score but your ringers and points as well. They use a large melamine style marker board with dry erase color markers to record the shoe by shoe running score of each game. When it is over the totals are recorded for reporting purposes and the board is erased and made ready for the next game.



Questions, Questions Questions

At World Tournaments, the office workers are constantly being questioned by the players for one thing or another. One Syracuse worker got so tired of being asked the same question that she taped the answer to her head.

NHPA Income and Expenditures:

November, December 1994 and January 1995

INCOME

Membership Dues.....	\$25,422.00
Newsline Subscriptions.....	6,783.00
Newsline Advertising.....	3,322.00
Patch and Misc. Sales.....	38.00
1995 World Bid Payment.....	15,000.00
Postal Meter Turn-in Refund.....	546.00
Bank & Affinity Card Interest, Collections.....	1,142.00

Total 3 Month Income \$52,253.00

EXPENDITURES:

Newsline Production and Mailing.....	7,944.00
Newsline Editor Allowance.....	560.00
Sanctioned League Director Allowance.....	200.00
Sanctioned League Postage and Printing.....	871.00
Sanctioned League Office, Phone, Supplies.....	275.00
Sanctioned League Patches and Awards.....	10,001.00
Regional Directors' Postage, Phone and Supplies.....	336.00
Regional Director Allowances.....	175.00
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies.....	4,977.00
Equipment Purchases, Rental and Repairs.....	541.00
NHPA Postage.....	2,246.00
NHPA Officers' Phone.....	808.00
NHPA Officers' Travel.....	1,729.00
NHPA Insurance Premium.....	17,461.00
Secretary/Treasurer Allowance.....	2,800.00
President Allowance.....	840.00
Vice President Allowance.....	2,125.00
1994 World Banquet and Awards.....	22.00
Publicity and Promotion.....	475.00
NatStats Administration.....	500.00
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds, Fees.....	39.00

Total 3 Month Expense \$54,925.00

NOTE: These figures, rounded off to the nearest dollar, are from the books of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer and do not include monies handled by other NHPA personnel.

The Toll of Time

ROBERT E. "BOB" CHAVIE

Minnesota lost one of its premier horseshoe pitching promoters, as Bob Chavie passed away on December 1, 1994.

Chavie was a charter member of the West St. Paul Horseshoe Club and his leadership efforts helped build the league into the nation's largest sanctioned club in the late 1980s.

He was also instrumental in gaining the city's approval in 1985 to construct a sheltered court facility as part of the \$900,000 Wentworth-Oakdale Sports Complex. In 1990, his attention turned to focus on establishing a Junior League and within two years he had built up a Junior League of 60 youngsters, the largest Sanctioned Junior League ever in the NHPA.

His efforts and skills to recruit sponsorship brought in over \$2,000 each season to fit the entire Junior membership in new uniforms, provide free association cards, and for trophies and the awards banquet.

The MGSHPA will dearly miss the contributions Bob Chavie brought to our sport. Our condolences to his family and his horseshoe pitching friends.

CHARLES EDWARD POSEY, SR.

Charles Posey, Sr. of Arlington, Texas, passed away unexpectedly, January 11, 1995 of a heart attack. He was 63 years of age.

Charlie always had a very easy-going manner about him, but was a very tough competitor on the horseshoe courts. He was, for years, an important part of the local, state, and national horseshoe pitching scene.

He joined the local Arlington Iron Benders Club, and the Texas Horseshoe Pitching Association in 1975, and started out with a ringer percent higher than most seasoned pitchers. He was the Most Improved Pitcher in the State of Texas in 1977. Charlie won two State Championships—in

1978 and 1979 and attended several World Tournaments, placing 5th in Class B in 1988. At the 1991 World Tournament he won Class A-2.

Charlie held virtually every office, at one time or another, in the Arlington Iron Benders Club, including President, and has held the important job of Statistician for the last several years.

On the State level, he had held the office of Treasurer/Secretary and President and was elected to the THPA Hall of Fame in 1988. He was also the current NHPA Regional Director for Texas.

Charles is survived by his wife Leah, one son Eddie, two daughters Jeannie and Brenda, his mother and father Sadie and R.D. Posey, one brother Rodney, and one sister, Jean.

ONIE SISNEROS

The New Mexico Associations were saddened by the sudden passing of Onie Sisneros, Mountainair, New Mexico in Mountainair on Sept. 21, 1994 at 59 years of age.

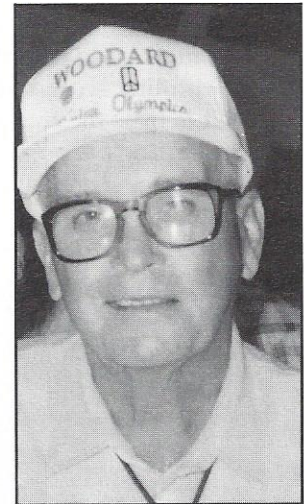
Onie only recently became an NHPA member (1992), a very enthusiastic pitcher, raising his percentage from 18 to near 40 in less than three years. A keen competitor, usually arriving at the courts earlier than anyone for practice. He competed in many tournaments, placing #3 in his class at the Las Vegas Open in Nevada and also received a Top Ten plaque, certificate and patch for his participation in League play at Socorro, NM. Onie Sisneros will be sorely missed by all pitchers in New Mexico.

GEORGE WILFON

George Wilfon of Reno, Nevada, age 70, died Dec. 19, 1994 of injuries suffered in an automobile accident that day. An Indiana native, born 6/20/24, George had been a Reno resident since 1961. An avid horseshoe pitcher and several times charter delegate and judge at World Tournaments, George pitched in

many tournaments each year, often driving several hundred miles to events in the Northern California charter.

Wilfon was a retired postal worker, a member of the Baptist Church and a World War II Air Force veteran who received a purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He is survived by his wife, three sons, three daughters, one brother and three grandchildren. All his friends in the Nevada and Northern California Horseshoe Pitching Associations will miss him.



BILL WEST

Bill West, 73, a nine year member of the NHPA in Vallejo, CA, horseshoe pitching club died Dec. 29, 1994 of heart failure.

Bill lived in Vallejo for sixty seven years. He is survived by Dorothy, his wife of 52 years, and three children. Bill was a dedicated horseshoe pitcher, expert fisherman, Captain of the Vallejo Elks Billiard Team, a champion bowler and former scoutmaster.

He was a veteran of World War II and Korea. Bill was awarded numerous citations and decorations for valor as a combat infantryman. Bill retired in 1972 as a leading machinist at Mare Island Naval Shipyard. He will be sorely missed by his fellow pitchers.



Bob Champion's

Charter Chatter



This is the "off" season in many states who have not been able to muster some indoor courts. Any charters that do not have newsletters or do not publish during the winter months are asked to send news items by letter to Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont #176, Boulder, CO 80301.

News about your pitchers is always welcome, and you can keep a lot of pitchers happy to see their names in print.

ALASKA

Pete Imhof won the 1994 state tournament at Eagle River Lion's Park on a 70% effort in a playoff against Norm Rousey. Imhof closed with a 60.5% tournament, a new men's record for Alaska.

Karen Drury won the Women's title for the 10th consecutive year with an overall 75% including one game of 89%.

ARIZONA

Wayne Minnick is the president of the State officers, Ed Shandley, Cal Cordes and Jim Benson fill the vice president's chairs and Virginia Chalberg is the secretary-treasurer.

The Central Arizona "YMCA" Horseshoe Club officers are as follows: Bob Tobin, president; Tony White, Les Fillipi and Joe Smith, vice presidents; and J.T. Wilkinson as secretary-treasurer.

CALIFORNIA

A super-active Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association boasted 662 members, 618 adults and 44 juniors in 1994. Highlights of the season included a 100% game in the state tournament by Walter Ray Williams, Jr. plus a 97.50 game during the season. Jeff Williams' 88% game was third on the list.

Most improved pitchers were Tim Johnson with a plus 20.93, Mate McBride in the Men's 30-foot with a plus 12.83 and Gail Kane's plus 31.05% for the women.

There were 127 NCHPA sanctioned tournaments. Lowell Parnell pitched in 61, followed closely by Chet Carter with 60. Jeff Williams competed in 52. Ken Schulze tossed iron in 38 in the 30-footers, Gail Sluys topped the women with 41, Luis Escareno and Bonnie Robbins each competed in 16 for the boys and girls.

1994 inductees into the NCHPA Hall of Fame were Eldon Bryhan (active) from the Sonoma County Club and Ray Williams (inactive) from the Redwood Empire Club.

COLORADO

One of the few father-daughter teams in state competition—Rich Pinter and Lisa Pinter went undefeated with a 7-0 record to win the Ed Knaub Doubles at the Knaub Arena.

For the first time, Colorado will compete in the Team World Tournament at Beloit, Wisconsin. The team will be composed of state champions Rich Pinter and Paul LaCrosse, Don Schneck, who has gained some fame in Senior Olympics and Allen Baptist, the sponsor of the team. Baptist, manager of a lumber company in Eagle, plans to pay the entry fee and air transportation for the team.

132 pitchers are eligible to compete in the fourth Annual Tournament of Champions in Colorado.

Last year's winners were Pinter in Class A, Allan

Withrow in "B", Lee Stevenson nailed Class C, and Bea Horovitz was a playoff winner in Class D. Other winners were Allen Baptist (E), Monty Rains (F), and Mary Lou Conklin (G).

IDAHO

Charlie Ault from Sagle, captured the 1994 State Class A title like Grant took Richmond. Charlie may be the only pitcher from Sagle, since the population of the town is only 100. Lou Piva scored only four points against Charlie's 32 ringers in 40 shoes, an 80% game, the highest game in Idaho in 1994. Ault's '94 finals were 11-0 at 64.50%.

Gary Kollman from Nampa was 2nd in Class A with 9-2 and 56.65% and Piva was 3rd at 9-2 with a percentage of 48.46.

Topping the list of pitchers receiving NHPA membership patches was Ralph Warthen with 42 years of membership. In second was Dean Curry with 38, followed by Dave Storck 25, Elmer Curry 22 and Wayne Scriven and Jack Beebe with 21 years each.

The State's HIGH FIVE percentages are headed by Ault with 60.52, followed by Bob Thackery, Jerome 59.01; Linda Van Gorder, Fairfield 56.25; Jim Taylor, Caldwell 54.78 and Nick Piva, Challis 54.09.

ILLINOIS

Earl Shire went 5-0 with 51% to win Class A in the Annual Downer's Grove Fall Festival Tournament in November.

Ric Carmazino took Class B (5-0, 32.0) and Terry Hlavac won Class C with a 4-0 record and 38.0 ringer percentage.

Something new has been added in the state. Each pitcher's current ILSHPA average is placed in the top right hand corner of the mailing label.

The city of Casey now has three indoor courts and will play on Tuesday evenings and Saturday all day.

INDIANA

In an attempt to introduce horseshoes to juniors, Classic City Indoor Courts held a Halloween party. Homer Keen, Northeast Indiana's junior promoter for NHPA organized the event. To the surprise of court owners Cam and Jim Shilling, 34 juniors and several parents attended.

The 6-court facility was filled with juniors who were given instructions regarding safety and pitching. After an afternoon session they were served food and beverages.

Ages of the juniors ranged from 8-15. For most it was the first time they had ever had a horseshoe in their hands.

Some have returned to practice and want to play in a sanctioned junior tournament which was scheduled after the first of the year.

KANSAS

Mary Ann Peninger went 7-0 with her all-time high percentage of 70.35 to win the Championship flight in the Merrill Cook Mixed Open in December. She defeated second place Doug McConnell by one point.

Three classes ended up in ties for first place and there was only one class that didn't have a tie for one of the places. Bill Reh took first in Class A in a four-way play-

CHARTER CHATTER

off against Harold Keener, Dick Kinney and Jim Mihura.

Tom Swain won Class B, Orville Pfortmiller won Class C, Greg Turner captured Class D and Cato Hernandez was the Class E winner.

According to their newsletter, Harvey (The Bucket Man) Washburn finished third in Class D. Son Robert was fifth in Class E and wife Letta was fourth in Class E. Harvey did win the B-2 division.

MICHIGAN

Horseshoes Remembered—23 years ago. In 1971 Gerald "Dock" Maison from Warren, placed 10th at the World Tournament held at Middlesex, New Jersey with a 25-10 record and 78.2%. He was tied with Ray Martin, Bob West, and Danny Kuchcinski recordwise, but was dropped down by percentage.

Curt Day won the Championship with a 35-0 record. During the 35-game round robin Gerald defeated Abe Austin 52-7, Jim Knisley 51-29, Ralph Maddox 50-39, Kuchcinski 50-37 and Al Zadroga 52-35. Danny was the defending champion.

The tournament was played over six nights. Play consisted of six games the first five nights and five the last night. Qualifying consisted of throwing 200 shoes (600 points). Ray Martin was high qualifier with 540 points. Doc qualified with 511 points. It was toward the end of his career, as Gerald defeated Ted Allen 54-24. Ted finished 3rd in the tournament and retired two years later.

MINNESOTA

World class pitchers in the state who are members of the MGSHPA Hall of Fame and still active in competition are Dale Lipovsky, Len Lipovsky, Phyllis Negaard, Dave Hughes, Edi Holland and Bev Nathe. Dale has won 14 state titles, Negaard has won the same number and Nathe has won four. Junior Vance Harren has won six and Frank Stinson won four titles pitching at 40 feet as a junior.

The state tournament was held in the Preimesberger Arena seven straight years from 1978 through 1984.

State Champions in 1994 were Dale Lipovsky, Nathe and Harren. Nathe from St. Stephens headed up the list of Top Ten pitchers and received the Pitcher of the Year Award at the Banquet in Hibbing. Others winning Top Ten honors and plaques were Gerald Stangland, Mark Baumann, Buds Gedatus, Mike Dowling, Bill Larson, Mary Matuke, Ed Ackman and Edi Holland.

MISSOURI

New Melle has a new 150 pitcher league that compete in sanctioned play all year long. They have 12 courts indoors in the heated facility and the sides can be removed for summer play. They have eight additional courts under roof which has allowed them to host the state tournament for four years.

On April 23, the New Melle courts will host an invitational. Joe Faron, Tim Henderson, Jerry Dumstroff and Harvey Wobbe have put together a special tournament. When you read the names of those being invited, you'll want to be there to watch.

This Midwest Six Pac Invitational has sent out 60 invitations to the top pitchers in 12 states. The top men who have been asked to participate from each state are Gene Reno, AR; Walter Ray Williams, CA; Kevin Cone, IA; Cliff

Baker, IL; Mark Seibold, IN; Danny Erbe, KS; Don Titcomb, KY; Dale Seybert, NE; Jim Walters, OH; Glenn King, OK; Shannon Banks, TN; and Alan Francis, MO.

NEBRASKA

Tom Durham of Madison won a gold medal in the horseshoe event of the Nebraska State Senior Olympics in August, at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds in Kearney. Durham won the Seniors division of the sport.

Durham is planning to publish a newsletter for Nebraska in the near future.

NEW JERSEY

NatStats has provided some interesting averages with New Jersey World class pitcher Joe McCrink at 76.87. The state can boast a second plus 70% pitcher in Sonny Durando with 71.77.

Going down the list to 50% pitchers the following are recorded: George Patrick 58.56, Dennis Joslin 55.79, Gil Franke 54.85, Bernie Mullady 53.20, Lou Testa 52.75, Ray Shoher 52.75, Ron Ballinger 52.68, Wayne Harrison 51.50, George Egel 50.57.

NEW YORK

Patches have been sent out to many state pitchers. Leading the count is Lou Gancos, who received his 40-year patch after 43 years of membership.

Thirty year patches were given to Anthony Cusimano (31), Charles Dickinson (31), Albert Hilsinger (31), Harry Kinner (31), Ruth Hangen, Lorraine Thomas and Paul Thomas (30), and 20-year patches to Leo Ouellette and Robert Sutton (28), Walter Hooley (26), Helen Quелlette (25), Ken Nixon (24), Ken Frazer, Art Tyson and Robert Yeomans (23), Frank Disinger and William Johnston (22), Clair Rigby, Dean Rogers, Joseph Schultzer, James Sharkey and Marie Zichelle (21), Esther Tyson (20).

This past year Ken Nixon was inducted into the Niagara Falls "Old Timers" Sports Hall of Fame, a result of his overall sports participation over the years, but was based primarily upon achievements in horseshoes.

NORTH CAROLINA

The NCHPA player of the year award was won by Ronald Walker. He was presented a jacket and a new pair of horseshoes. N.A. Moore was only two points behind for second honors. The club player of the year was Earl Caudill.

In the Autumn Leaf Open in Marion the entire 8-man Championship class averaged 68.5%. Charles Cooper from Marion won the tournament. In the tournaments from Sept.-Nov., N.A. Moore was in the winners circle in five events and Clyde Southern was on top in three.

Twenty-One members have been inducted into the NCHPA Hall of Fame. They are Gurney York, J.B. Fuller, Fred Church, Flake Dyson, Mark Dyson, Jack Springer, Douglas Shear, Pete Seagraves, Joe White, Lloyd Hathaway, Glyndon Moore, Randall Jones, Walter King, Luther Hines, Joe Young, Donald Douglas, Jones Burrow, John Goins, B.J. Thomas, Paul Stewart and Clyde Southern.

OHIO

A total cash purse of \$8,000 was paid out to winners in the Annual Ohio State Fair tournament, the richest event in Ohio. All positions were decided by total points

CHARTER CHATTER

since this a count-all event. Every class paid \$200 for first, \$150 for second, \$100 for third and \$50 for fourth.

1994 World Champion Sue Snyder won the Class A division with Amy Brown taking second. Finishing out of the money were former World Champions Mark Seibold and Jim Knisley.

Matt Gut won Class B and Helen Eakins took Class C. Michael and Helen Kalb each collared \$200 in winning Classes I and J.

OREGON

The list of members who have pitched their highest percentage game of the year has gotten longer. Some very, very good games were pitched this past year.

Topping the list is Patty Sapp's 92.3 followed by Lowell Davis with 91.6. Rounding out the top ten are Jerry Gorton 90.9, Jo Anne Loy 81.8, David Gorton 75.0, Warner Kirlen 70.0, Bill Graham 63.7, Harold Sapp 63.3, Ruth Heckman 60.8, and Lloyd Kilgore 58.0.

Charter members of the State's Hall of Fame are Cletus Chapelle, Bob West, Henry Cook, Otto Johnson and Roy Getchell. Other members are Elmer Otnes, Barney Hampton, Barry Chapelle, Vicki Chapelle Winston, Henry McGrew, Bill Hulshof, Gib Hamman, Vic Joyner, Lowell Davis, Howard Peterson, Daisy Chapelle, Ridge Leggett, Neta Otnes, Ben Weidrich, Jim Burke, and Sandy Bartel.

The Oregon Hall of Fame was initiated in 1972, mainly through the efforts of Cletus Chapelle, Bob West and Pat O'Day. They have a traveling museum in which to house the memorabilia donated by pitchers and families.

SOUTH DAKOTA

The state's pitchers are already gearing up to attend the 1996 World Tournament in Gillette, Wyoming—just a stone's throw from their location.

John Monson and Ed Gebhart did a great job with their indoor tournament in November. They had pitchers from several states. Their facility was great, and they will have more tournaments this winter.

Jim Newton and Carlene Donnelly are the contact people for Rapid City's indoor courts. Both indoor facilities have scheduling problems, so get there early with your requests.

The following pitchers have, at least, 10 years of membership in NHPA and will receive patches. Monte and Barb Herreman lead the parade with 25 and 24 years respectively. Gene Ficek has 19, Yvonne Ficek and Thurman McKinney are 17-year members, Willard Wardle has 16, Steve Parker 14, Gebhart, Cliff Ziehl and Forest Gaetze 13 each, David Zilverberg 11, and 10 for Jim Jelden, Roland Kleinschmidt and Ted Wright.

TEXAS

Veteran pitcher Coke Bowker won the Mose Sanderson Sportsmanship award for 1994. Coke was the men's state champion, closing with a 69.4%. Henry Carmichael was the elder men's winner, Mary Ann Kramr won the women's title with 68.4, Damien Moore was the junior boys winner (68.3) and Elaine Moore copped the junior girls crown (47.1).

Cody Johnson increased his percentage 25.8, Amy Hill increased 9.0, Kramr was 8.8 over and Jesse Childress increased his percentage 15.8.

The state will be divided into four (4) divisions, north,

south, east and west for the State Championship. Selections will be on a rotation basis two years in advance. The 1995 state singles will be in East Bernard, the mixed doubles in Houston and the doubles in Lubbock.

UTAH

Here are the top games pitched in 1994 for the state, headed by A. Lee Jones; 87.5. John Bracken nailed the next high with 82.5 and tied with Jones and Lorin Condie for third with 80% efforts.

Condie had two 77.5's along with Gordon Lytle. Down the line Condie nailed three 75% games tied with Nate Barney and two by Don Schneck.

Condie also hit 74% and tywo at 72.5 on each side of Gary Wood's 73.5. Lytle and Cleo Wardle had 72.5's to round out the list.

It is interesting to note that the highest single game ten years ago was a 73.3 by Clarence Giles. Games have improved and new pitchers are getting into the act.

In the Southern Utah Championships, Bracken had the high percentage of 62.2 and high game of 70%. The high game in the World Senior games was the 77.5 by Condie.

WASHINGTON

George Sala set a new Washington State record, but it was only ten years late in reporting to horseshoe pitchers. Pitched on June 12, 1985 in the North Idaho Tourney, the record is for the shortest game ever pitched, a 40-0 gem and the first record ever made in an out-of-state tournament.

Sala made 16 ringers in 18 shoes for 88.8%. It was verified by Wally Rehard, WSHPA statistician at the time.

Many high school students at Chelan High School learned the art of horseshoe throwing from expert Duane Moller. Skip Boyd and the CHS physical education staff are introducing the high school and middle school students to a variety of minor sports, showing them some of the activities in life that can actually last a lifetime. So far the students have learned how to properly operate a canoe, throw a horseshoe, play pickleball and how to shoot a bow and arrow.

WISCONSIN

A bowling lane in Friendship, known as the Jack-Pine, has switched to horseshoes. Leagues have started and there has already been a tournament. Eight doubles teams showed up playing a double elimination format. Brian Repinski and Ken Jaeger blew out the field, allowing only one team to get to the halfway mark in the 30-point games.

Tom Robinson, owner-organizer has purchased the electronic scoreboards from the old Pitchin' Palace and has definite plans to replace the readily available sand with cleaner clay.

Robinson is a long haul trucker and he knows how and where to get "Chenoa" clay. Pitchers are advised that tons of space will be available on the truck for more clay if you need some for your private courts.

This new horseshoe house may be a better central-state location for the Spring meeting.



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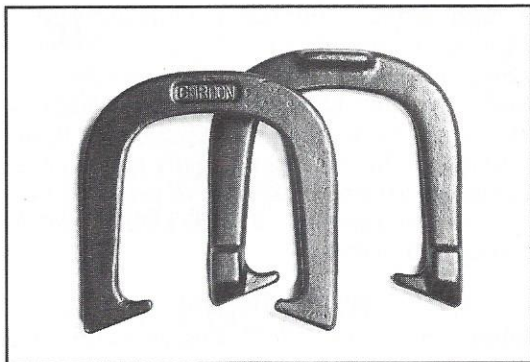
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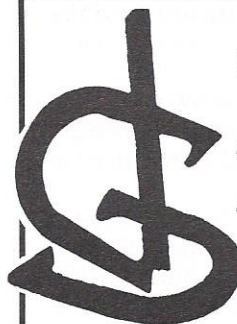
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Eight Regional Tournaments

Southeastern Regional **Statesville, North Carolina** **April 22-23, 1995**

The Dogwood Festival Tournament at the Jack Springer courts in Lakewood Park

Pre-register by April 1, 1995.

Entries limited to first 180. Entry fee \$15 (extra fee for some classes). Purse in excess of \$2500.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Statesville Rec. & Parks Department
P.O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687
Contact Paul Stewart 704-528-5081

Northeastern Regional **Worthington, West Virginia** **July 14-16, 1995**

12 courts in Worthington Park on US Route 19.
Overnight parking available, no hookups in park.

Pre-register by July 5, 1995.

Entry fee \$25 adults, \$5 juniors.

Minimum payout of \$225 per 8 person class. Added purse possible for larger top class. Seeding by NatStats average. Entry fee payable to Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers of MCPARC. Mail with name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Charles M. Bunner
508 Ohio Ave., Fairmont, WV 26554-4155
Phone 304-366-7986

South Central Regional **Joelton, Tennessee** **April 1-2, 1995**

38 covered courts, some indoors
at the Jack Freeman court complex.

Pre-register by March 15, 1995.

Entry fee \$15 adults. Minimum added purse \$2,000.

Fees payable to Tennessee Horseshoes.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Mary Bastian
3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37064-4791
Phone 615-794-5620

North Central Regional **Des Moines, Iowa** **August 19-20, 1995**

20 courts at the Iowa State Fairgrounds

Pre-register by August 5, 1995.

Entry fee \$25. Total purse expected to exceed \$4,000.

Fees payable to IHHPA.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Russ Martin
28585 205th St., Clarksville, IA 50619
Phone Chet Foster 515-964-0159

South Rocky Mountain Regional

Socorro, New Mexico
June 3-4, 1995

16 courts in Sedillo Park.

Pre-register by May 21, 1995.

Entry fee \$25, payable to New Mexico Southern Charter HPA.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Joe or Mary Ann Zamora
P.O. Box 1253, Socorro, NM 87801
Phone 505-835-2562

North Rocky Mountain Regional

Grand Junction, Colorado
July 1-3, 1995

16 courts in Lincoln Park, no overnight parking allowed, RV parks close by.

Pre-register by June 19, 1995.

Entry fee \$25. Added purse probable.

Fees payable to Western Colorado Horseshoe Pitching Club.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Vic Magnus
377 Rodell, Grand Junction, CO 81503
Phone 303-241-6051

Southwest Pacific Regional

Davis, California
April 22-23, 1995

36 courts at the Yolo HPC
RV parking space available, no hookups.

Pre-register by April 5, 1995.

Entry fee \$20. Possible added purse.

Entry payable to NCHPA.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Jerry Smith
920 Charity Lane, Dixon, CA 95620
Phone 916-678-6030

Northwest Pacific Regional

Hermiston, Oregon
June 17-18, 1995.

25 courts at Weber Field
RV parking available at Fairgrounds next to courts.

Pre-register by June 10, 1995.

Entry fee \$25 Class "A", \$20 all other classes.

Total purse expected to exceed \$4,000.

Entry payable to Hermiston Horseshoe Club.

Mail fee, name/address, NHPA card # and NatStat average to:

Rick Rebman
Rt. 5, Box 5257, Hermiston, OR 97838
503-567-8560

Special Events Calendar

APRIL 1995

- 1-2 South Central Regional**—Joelton, TN at the Jack Freeman, 38 Courts Complex. Pre-register by March 15. Entry fee \$15.00 for adults, \$2,000 added purse. Fee payable to Tennessee Horseshoes. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStats average to Mary Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37064-4791. Phone 615-794-5620.
- 22-23 Southeastern Regional**—Statesville, NC. The annual Dogwood Festival tournament at the Jack Springer courts. Pre-register by April 1. Entries limited to 180. Added purse. Entry fee \$15.00. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStats average to Statesville Rec. & Parks Dept. P.O. Box 1111, Statesville, NC 28687. Phone Paul Stewart 704-528-5081.
- 22-23 Southwest Pacific Regional**—Davis, CA at the Yolo Horseshoe Club. Pre-register by April 5. Entry fee \$20.00 payable to NCHPA. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStats average to Jerry Smith, 920 Charity Lane, Dixon, CA 95620. Phone 916-678-6030.

MAY 1995

- 5-7 Team World Tournament**—Beloit, WI in the Telfer Sports indoor arena. Entry fee \$200 per 4 member team representing your state or province. Adults only. \$5,000 in prize money based on 24 teams. Pre-register by March 31. Send fee, team roster, NHPA card # and NatStats average to Team World, 108B W. Main St., Waterford, WI 53185. Phone 414-534-5838.
- 6-7 Best of the West**—Burro Inn, Beatty, NV. Rv park and motel at site. \$2,000 added purse. Limited to 120 pitchers. Pre-register by April 15. Entry fee \$25. Mail fee, NHPA card #, NatStat average to: Best of the West, Burro Inn, P.O. Box 7, Beatty, NV 89003. Phone 702-553-2225 or 800-843-2078 for info and motel/RV rates and reservations.

JUNE 1995

- 3-4 South Rocky Mountain Regional**—Socorro, NM in Sedillo Park. Pre-register by May 21. Entry fee \$25.00 payable to New Mexico Southern Charter HPA. Mail fee with NHPA card # and NatStat average to Joe Zamora, P.O. Box 1253, Socorro, NM 87801. Phone 505-835-2562.

- 11-12 Heart of Kansas Tournament**—Great Bend, KS, at the Cheyenne Horseshoe Club. Pre-register by May 21. Entry fee \$25.00 adults, \$5.00 for juniors. All classes mixed playing 2 days. Check payable to Cheyenne Horseshoe Club. Send with NHPA card # at NatStat average to Violetta Karst, 4111 Sandpiper, Great Bend, KS 67530. Phone 316-793-3175.

- 17-18 Northwest Pacific Regional**—Hermiston, OR at Weber Field adjoining Fairgrounds. RV parking available. Pre-register by June 10. Entry fee \$25.00 Class A, \$20.00 other classes. Checks payable to Hermiston Horseshoe Club. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStats average to Rick Rebman, Rt. 5, Box 5257, Hermiston, OR 97838. Phone 503-567-8560.

JULY 1995

- 1-3 North Rocky Mountain Regional**—Grand Junction, CO in Lincoln Park. Overnight parking not allowed, but RV parks close by. Pre-register by June 19. Entry fee \$25.00 payable to WCHPC. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStat average to Vic Magnus, 377 Rodell, Grand Junction, CO 91503. 303-241-6051.
- 14-16 Northeastern Regional**—Worthington, WV in Worthington Park. Overnight parking allowed, no hookups. Pre-register by July 5. Entry fee \$25 adults, \$5 juniors. Fees payable to Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers of MCPARC. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStats average to Charles M. Bunner, 508 Ohio Ave., Fairmont, WV 26554-4155. Phone 304-366-7986.
- 24-Aug 6 NHPA World Tournament**—Perry, GA. Entries on NHPA form must be dated and mailed between April 3 and May 15. Entry fee \$50 to NHPA adult members, \$10 juniors and \$55 to non NHPA foreign players. Contact Donnie Roberts for details 614-444-8510.

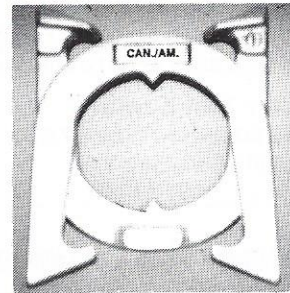
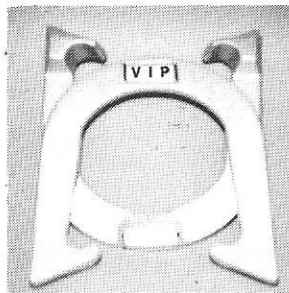
AUGUST 1995

- 19-20 North Central Regional**—Des Moines, IA, at the State Fairgrounds. Pre-register by August 5. Entry fee \$25.00 payable to IHHPA. Mail with NHPA card # and NatStats average to Russ Martin, 28585 205th St., Clarksville, IA 50619. Phone Chet Foster 515-964-0159

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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 state information, you might want to write the NHPA 5th Vice President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 5th VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

REGION REGIONAL DIRECTOR

- | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|---|-------------------|---|
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