

Registration Now Open for 2017 Horseshoe Tour National Championship

Officials with The Horseshoe Tour recently announced the new 2017 Horseshoe Tour National Championship and pre-registration is now open to all competitors. The 2017 Championships will take place on November 18-19 in Florence, South Carolina, also known as the host site for the 2018 NHPA World Tour.

Competitors are encouraged to register early for a free gift and the chance to win a free hotel stay during the November tournament. The first 20 competitors to register will receive a free PIT BOSS by Thoroughbred, the perfect all-in-one horseshoe tool...plus those first 20 entries will go into a raffle and someone will win a free 2-night hotel room for this tournament and a locally handmade horseshoe sculpture.

The 2017 Horseshoe Tour National Championship is a “no limits” event and open to all competitors (pre-registration required) which means there will be major cash prizes up for grabs. Plus Florence is the only Triple-Points site for the tour and the final tournament of the year. Officials have also announced the first ever Horseshoe Tour Hall of Fame Inductions & Banquet, which will take place in Florence during the weekend festivities.

[MORE INFO: 2017 Horseshoe Tour National Championship](#)

President's Message

by [Stu Sipma](#), NHPA President

I want to take a moment and wish everyone a happy summer. Horseshoe season has started throughout the country and I want to thank everyone for their efforts in recruiting new members. Based on our preliminary numbers, it appears numbers are down a little from last year. Dave Sidles reported our 2016 membership count was at 9334 adults and 662 juniors.

The 6th Annual HOF Invitational was hosted by the QRHC this past May at the Hall of Fame building located at Wentzville, MO. In talking to the QRHC, it sounds like it was a very successful tournament. I want to apologize to the participants and the QRHC for not being able to attend. The NHPA would like to thank all the sponsors who sponsored this event and look forward to another successful tournament next year.

Charter Presidents who are appointing their delegates for the 2017 delegate meeting at St. George, UT - Please take some time to go through their packets and educate them on what they need to be doing to support their Charter.

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This year we have the positions of Sec/Treas, 2nd VP, and 4th VP. For the position of Sec/Treas Dave Sidles (Incumbent) is running unopposed. For the other VP positions we have Tina Hawkins (Incumbent) and Laura (Laurie) Lampkin running for 2nd VP. For the position of 4th VP, we have Ron Smith and Rob Hagman. The NHPA Council wishes all the candidates the best of luck.

The 2017 World Horseshoe Tournament will be held July 17 – July 29, 2017 at the Dixie Center in St. George, UT. Dave Sidles (W.T. Director) has reported a total of 1041 pitchers this number is up from when it was last hosted in St. George in 2013 where we had 1032 pitchers. The NHPA is very pleased with the number and look forward to working with Kevin Lewis and his team on hosting another successful tournament. The city of St George provides a wide variety of attractions and things to do, so make sure you check out their website. For everyone who makes the trip, I know you will not be disappointed and will enjoy the scenery, especially the Zion Mountains.

I look forward to visiting with everyone, especially all the new members and 1st time W.T. attendees. The NHPA Council was really excited to see the large number of juniors and cadets who will be pitching this year. I want to recognize Seth Ohms for all his work in promoting the juniors in the Utah area. I am really looking forward to watching the Junior and Cadet Divisions. For the members who will not be attending the W.T. feel free to contact me anytime to on how we can make this a better sport for everyone to enjoy.

The Future of Horseshoe Pitching

by [Gary Roberts](#), *1st Vice President, By-Laws, Rules and Grievance Director*

It is truly an honor to be an officer of the NHPA. My hope is that I may contribute to the viability of the NHPA.

However, I realize that this is a crucial time in the history of our sport. Our focus must be on stopping the continuing decline in our membership. I hear many opinions concerning the reason for this decline. Some believe the myriad of activities available to children and families have an impact. Some believe that 30-foot/40 foot controversy is to blame. Whatever the reason, membership must be our primary focus. No single NHPA officer or member has the answer to reverse the membership decline. We must look at all ideas and develop specific strategies. This will be a topic at the 2017 convention in St. George.

League and tournament direction are important in recruitment of new members. I have the utmost respect for those who do all of the hard work to assure that the rest of us have a place to pitch. Many of our new members in Ohio joined because of leagues.

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Fred and Carol Sanford of the Ross County Horseshoe Club in Ohio are a good example of league and tournament directors that promote our sport and help bring in new members. As officers of the Ross County Club, they develop schedules, make sure the courts are in good shape, and keep all of the statistics. They also conduct a tournament at the Ross County Fair each year. They are at the fair every day for a week conducting the tournament. They also conduct the Ross County Open in Chillicothe. In addition, they attend almost all tournaments within a hundred mile radius. They not only pitch but also always help keep score. This year several new members joined the NHPA as a result of their efforts.

I would like to thank all of the league and tournament directors for their contributions. Without them, our membership would be even lower.

Follow Along from Home

By [Tina Hawkins](#), 2nd Vice President, Publicity and Promotion Director

The 2017 NHPA World Horseshoe Tournament is just around the corner! There will be approximately 1,036 competitors along with their family and friends visiting St. George, UT, and the Dixie Center for the event.

There's no need for those unable to attend the event to miss out on the entire horseshoe pitching action! Once again, the NHPA will be providing live webcam coverage of all courts! Links for viewing will be prominent on the NHPA website, www.horseshoepitching.com.

You will also be able to catch up on interesting tidbits and happenings in the onsite newsletter, The Daily Shoe, which can be accessed online on the World Tournament coverage page. Daily pitching results and photo albums will also be posted here.

Even more goings on will be posted regularly throughout the event on the NHPA Facebook page, facebook.com/NationalHorseshoePitchersAssociation. Be sure to visit it often and look for your loved ones.

Photos will be posted on Instagram, as well! Follow @nhpahorseshoes #nhpa2017world to see them all!

Better, yet... Add your OWN pictures and posts on the pages!! And SHARE so even MORE people will be exposed to the action at our premiere event! Social media is the quickest, most widespread way to deliver information and increase awareness of our sport and association, so SHARE, SHARE, SHARE!!!

Press Release: NHPA pleased to announce 100th Playing of its World Horseshoe Pitching Championships

By [Tina Hawkins](#), 2nd Vice President, Publicity and Promotion Director

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association is pleased to announce the 100th playing of its World Horseshoe Pitching Championships, to be held in St. George, UT, July 17 – 29, 2017.

The two-week long NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Championships are held once each summer to crown a World Champion in each of eight divisions – Open Men, Open Women, Senior Men, Senior Women, Elder Men, Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Junior Cadets (12-years old and under).

Preliminary competition consists of round-robin class play with all entrants seeded in up to 16-person classes, with the exception of the Cadet Division. Most classes play over the course of three days.

At the end of class play, champions are named for each class, with the top qualifiers, based on ringer percentages advancing into the Championship Class of their respective divisions.

Championship play in most divisions spans three days, at the end of which, the individual in each championship class posting the best win/loss record is awarded the title of “World Champion” in that division.

This year’s division champions receive monetary prizes in the amounts of \$4,200, Men and Women; \$1,200, Senior Men; \$800 Senior Women; \$3,500, Elder Men.

World Champion Junior pitchers are awarded scholarships in the amounts of \$600 for boys and girls and \$300 for the Cadet division. Scholarships are awarded to all Juniors and Cadets who qualify into their respective championship classes.

Reigning Men’s World Champion, Alan Francis of Ohio, will be competing for his 22nd world title as an adult – Alan holds the record for most World Horseshoe Pitching Championships and is listed in the Guinness Book of Records.

International competitors are coming from Norway, Germany, South Africa and Canada, hoping to take a “World” trophy home to their own country.

The tournament site is determined two years in advance at the national convention, which is held halfway through the two-week event. A delegation of members representing each charter reviews proposals and selects the location from a pool of site bidders.

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For more information, contact NHPA 2nd Vice President, Tina Hawkins at <mailto:publicity@horseshoepitching.com> or visit the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association website, www.horseshoepitching.com.

Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/NationalHorseshoePitchersAssociation

NHPA LOGO FILES AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD

During the annual delegate meeting in Montgomery, AL, members voted to adopt the winning logo from the 2015 logo contest as an official NHPA logo.

This logo is up-to-date and easily recognizable as horseshoe pitching, making it a great tool for recruiting and promoting the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association and the sport of horseshoe pitching.

It is available for download and use by members, clubs and charters for promotional purposes at this link www.horseshoepitching.com/promotional/logo.html, or by going to www.horseshoepitching.com and picking the “resources” tab, then the “promotional tools” dropdown, then new NHPA logo. It is not for use on items for financial gain. Contact the NHPA for information to use on sellable items.

Beyond the WT: Sanctioned League Tournament set for September 30

By [Jerry Smith](#), 3rd Vice President, Sanctioned League Director

Borrowing from last year’s June message seems wrong on some level, but June is the month to say what needs to be said so here it is again only updated with some exciting news thrown in.

The 2017 World Tournament (WT) in St. George is rapidly approaching and I am excited and looking forward to another great tournament. The 2013’s tournament was a terrific event and the upgrade in clay should ensure an even better event. As the Sanctioned League Director, I am always looking ahead and planning so the WT is not the only event on my mind. The National NHPA Sanctioned League Tournament is scheduled for September 30th and October 1st, 2017 and is the 3-person team Championship for sanctioned league pitchers.

The tournament is a “count-all”, handicapped team tournament where a bonus point is awarded if a team can win at least two of the three games they play against another team as all three games are played in the same round. The teams are made up of any three pitchers from the same charter or league. The tournament is held in Wentzville, Missouri at the NHPA’s Hall of Fame (HOF) Facility which is home of the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club as well as the NHPA’s beautiful collection of HOF memorabilia and displays. The event is sponsored by the NHPA.

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The entry fee is \$150.00 per team and the top prizes are \$1500.00 for the winning team and \$750.00 for the runner-up team. These two teams are the winners of the two, 10 team brackets and meet in a one game, “winner take all” championship game. Cash prizes are also awarded for the 2nd through 4th place finishers in each 10-team bracket, plus the top “high game over average game” in each bracket.

For details and an entry form, please see the information listed on the NHPA website, horseshoepitching.com, under “Coming Events”. It is a fun event and the format is unique and geared to challenge and entertain its participants.

Only the first 20 teams to enter will get to pitch and I will accept entry forms now. Team needs to have a Captain and get their entry form and money (made out to the NHPA) to me ASAP. Don't miss this great event.

Here's the great news. I have selected a host hotel and have reserved a block of rooms for the weekend of the 29th and 30th. The hotel is brand new and located very close to the facility. The rate is \$109.00 per night and comes with a hot breakfast. Here are the details:

This is the Webpage address is: Simply click on it.

http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/groups/personalized/S/STLWZHX-NSL-20170929/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Group Name: National Sanction League Team Tournament

Group Code: NSL

Check-in: 29-SEP-2017

Checkout: 01-OCT-2017

Hotel Name: Hampton Inn St. Louis Wentzville

Hotel Address:

150 Wentzville Bluffs Dr.

Wentzville, Missouri

63385

Phone Number: 636-887-2854

If you have questions, call me at 208-467-2524 or email me at horseshoepitcherjds@msn.com.

Tips for an Excellent Experience in [or away from] St. George

By [Jerry LaBrosse](#), 4th Vice President, Charter Communications Director

In this year's world tournament we have approx. 10% of our membership entered. I'd like to remind the other 90% that you could stay connected with all the activity and excitement in St.

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George through our live camera system. We will have cameras on all the courts, and also a special “wave to home” station to connect with family and friends. I’m also hearing that there will be a camera set up to live stream the awards ceremonies at the annual banquet on Sunday July 23rd (sometime around 7:00 pm).

All you need to do is go to www.horseshoepitching.com and click on the link and follow the instructions. We hope that all of the hard work in designing and setting up this system is successful in connecting you to the world tournament action.

For those pitching in St George, and for all pitchers everywhere, I have a few tips to make your experience better for you, and your opponents. The first tip is about painting the stakes. We have had folks inform us that they are highly sensitive to the fumes from the spray paint. There are steps we have taken to reduce this problem, but we also need help from all of you. The NHPA has taken steps to ensure that higher quality spray paint is used. It costs nearly 3 times as much as the cheap paint, but has increased pigment level and covers the stake much quicker and more efficiently, thus requiring less spray. When spraying the stake, shake the can first, and don’t zigzag - spray up and down the stake. Hold the can about 3-4 inches away from the stake and slowly go down the stake favoring one side, then do it again favoring the other side. You will get complete coverage and create way less fumes. And really, the stakes may not need paint after every game.

I am not aware of any other consistent issues out on the courts. So I advise you all to be friendly and cordial to your opponent, introduce yourself and shake hands before starting the game. Use good sportsmanship and proper position etiquette. When you are done pitching your two shoes, cross over to the other side of the court walking in front of it. Of course if your opponent pitches from that side you simply back up after throwing your shoes.

Before going to shoe check, make sure you have all shoes you plan to use in the tournament, along with your pick up stick and NHPA card. Be sure you have a tournament shirt that conforms to the guidelines. Name and state, and no sleeveless shirts allowed. Don’t be late! If you are not there you will not be in your class photo.

And if have never been to the St George area before, you are in for a real sight seeing treat. Explore the numerous national parks and red rock attractions, and make sure you have a good camera. This area is one of the best experiences I’ve had in the last twenty world tournaments I’ve attended, and I’m sure you’ll agree.

Best of luck to all World Pitchers, and I hope you all can connect to the event via live camera feed.

Horseshoe Pitching Facts & Folklore

By [Bob Dunn](#), Historian

The review of the New England Championships continues. This issue looks at the years 1935 – 1940.

New England Championships – Part Two

The 1935 tournament, held in Medford, Massachusetts, had 38 entries, eight more than in 1934. Only the top eight players qualified for the championship finals, which was won by James Leo O'Shea. O'Shea and Herfurth tied with 6-1 records after the regulation round robin and played a best two-out-of-three playoff which O'Shea won in two straight games 54-36 and 51-7.

The 1936 tournament, held in East Providence, Rhode Island, had several highlights and some new names. Only 16 players qualified and the championship finals were expanded to 12 players. Remember that this event is taking place in 1936; it is a prestigious tournament and is probably the only tournament in the whole country at the time that was drawing from six different states. Rather unfortunate that the process at the time was just a single class. That was the style even at the World Tournaments. A young Stanley DeLeary (22 years old) was the winner and clinched the title in the final game. Going into the 11th and final game, James O'Shea was one game behind DeLeary and could have moved into a first place tie at 9-2 with a win. However DeLeary won the game 50-45 and the championship.

1936 New England Championships Final Standing

Player		W	L	R	DR	SP	Pct.
Stanley DeLeary	Amesbury, MA	10	1	510	163	798	63.9%
James O'Shea	Brockton, MA	8	3	515	180	802	64.2%
Eino Tiilikainen	Fitchburg, MA	8	3	461	140	748	61.6%
Carl Larson	Melrose, MA	6	5	503	143	810	62.1%
Ralph Jenne	Reading, VT	6	5	457	125	754	60.6%
Rudolph Malikowski	Anthony, RI	6	3	441	138	762	57.9%
Kenneth Hurst	Providence, RI	5	6	490	126	818	60.0%
Raymon Lamonthe		5	6	457	126	772	59.3%
Edgar Landry	Fall River, MA	5	6	426	143	718	59.3%
Howard Stowell	New Bedford, MA	5	6	427	129	748	57.1%
William Crofut	Connecticut	4	7	431	147	726	59.2%
Irving Harris	Medford, MA	0	11	219	47	550	40.0%

O'Shea had the high qualifying score of 245 points and 73 ringers. Next high was DeLeary with 243 points and 77 ringers. One of the stars of the tournament was **Kenneth Hurst**, just 14 years old and the reigning Rhode Island state champion. Just three years later, Hurst stood in the victory circle. **Eino Tiilikainen** is a name that might be familiar to many who live in the west, as Eino moved to Colorado and won a number of tournaments in that area including the Colorado state championship in 1950 and 1953 and doubles championship in 1949. **Stan DeLeary** is

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another pitcher that moved out west. Before he did move, he won the Massachusetts in 1936. DeLeary won eight consecutive Arizona state championships beginning in 1949 and won two more in 1958 and 1959. His career included a tremendous record at the World Tournaments in Murray, Utah. Stan qualified six straight years from 1947-1953, with a 6th place finish in 1948, placed 5th in 1949, averaging 78.7% and placed 4th in 1950 on a 30-5 record. Stan's wife Pauline "Pat" won the Women's Word Championship in 1950 and 1953. William Crofut was the 1936 Connecticut State champion and won again in 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941.

In 1939, Ken Hurst, still only 16 years of age, beat Bernie Herfurth in a best of seven playoff for the New England Championship, held in Providence RI. The finals report could not be recovered, but we have the recap of this incredible playoff match. It is impossible to imagine a playoff being any closer, boiling down to the last game and then Hurst winning by one point:

Game 1	P	R	DR	SP	Pct.	Game 2	P	R	DR	SP	Pct.
Ken Hurst	50	49	17	70	70.00%	Hurst	37	77	28	102	75.49%
B. Herfurth	39	46	15	70	65.70%	Herfurth	51	82	32	102	80.39%
Game 3						Game 4					
Ken Hurst	51	47	19	60	78.33%	Hurst	23	67	24	90	74.44%
Herfurth	22	40	15	60	66.66%	Herfurth	51	76	30	90	84.44%
Game 5						Game 6					
Ken Hurst	47	87	35	110	79.09%	Hurst	51	91	34	116	78.44%
Herfurth	54	89	35	110	80.90%	Herfurth	44	88	32	116	75.62%
Game 7						Totals					
Ken Hurst	50	78	29	100	78.00%	Hurst	309	496	186	648	76.54%
Herfurth	49	77	29	100	77.00%	Herfurth	310	498	188	648	76.55%

DeLeary won another title in 1941; the summary was in the November issue of Horseshoe World:

DELEARY, HOPI INDIAN, WINS 1941 NEW ENGLAND TITLE

"Stanley DeLeary of Amesbury, a Hopi Indian, won the New England horseshoe pitching championship at the all-day round robin event at General Plate Company in Attleboro, Massachusetts. DeLeary was presented with a gold medal by James Ramsey, tournament director and will retain the trophy given by the Connecticut State Association for one year.

Winner of the title in 1939, 18 year old Kenneth Hurst, of Providence, was defeated, 50-31 by Bernard Herfurth, of Northampton in a playoff match for second place. Herfurth was a three time winner of the New England crown, having won the championship in 1931, 1933 and 1934. He and Hurst were awarded silver and bronze medals and all three top finishers received cash prizes.

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The field narrowed to 12 contestants as a result of morning qualification play in which James O'Shea of Brockton, present state champion, topped the field with a score of 257 points. DeLeary amassed 243 tallies and Donald Jackson, of Dartmouth, finished third with 242 points.

Of the 11 matches played by the champion in the round robin series, DeLeary met defeat but once. Herfurth was the only man to triumph over the Indian but lost a chance to tie for first place in his last match to Carl Larson of Melrose, former New England Champion.

Assisting Ramsey were Charles Heater, Fred Meier, of Foxboro, past president of the Massachusetts Horseshoe Pitching Association and Ralph Forsstrom of Springfield, secretary of the association.

Referees were: Ed Hawkins of Framingham and Frank Bristol of Medford."

1941 New England Championships Final Standing

Player	Hometown	W	L	SP	R	Pct.
Stanley DeLeary	Amesbury, MA	10	1	768	557	72.5%
Bernard Herfurth	Northampton, MA	9	2	742	539	72.6%
Kenneth Hurst	Providence, RI	9	2	716	489	68.2%
James O'Shea	Brockton, MA	7	4	654	464	70.9%
Carl Larson	Melrose, MA	7	4	794	515	64.9%
Gerald L'Abbe	Salem, MA	6	5	740	452	59.6%
Joseph Comeau	Lynn, MA	5	6	784	485	61.8%
Peter Heroux	West Watwick, RI	4	7	708	425	60.0%
D. Jackson	North Dartmouth, MA	4	7	692	405	58.5%
Grant Hoard	Lakeville, MA	3	8	640	300	43.7%
Albert Bourgeois	Providence, RI	1	10	668	330	49.2%
Corey	Georgesville, RI	1	10	618	267	43.2%

Carl Larson is mentioned as a former New England champion. That gives further credence that just maybe the New England Championship began earlier than 1929 even if the tournament was called Eastern States Championships. **Ralph Forsstrom** was involved in running the 1941 event, and he went on to be involved for many years as well as promoting the sport in many other directions. Ralph was inducted to the National Hall of Fame in 1972.

The New England Championships website states no events held in 1940 and 1942-1949. L'Abbe bio in Ottie Reno's Horseshoe Pitcher's Directory states he was the 1940 champion. The fact that the results of the 1948 Championship was found in a copy of the October 1948 Horseshoe News in the NHPA Hall of Fame Museum archives, gives reason to believe there may have been more tournament in the 1940s but just never recorded for us to find or maintained to be recovered. The statement that Jimmy O'Shea was the defending champion, leads one to believe that a tournament was held in 1947.

NatStats: Calculating Ringer Averages

By [Wayne Callicoate](#), NATSTATS Director

Well I'm six months into being NHPA Natstats Director and boy have I learned a lot.

There are a lot of pitchers (new and old) that do not understand how their Ringer % is calculated. You can't just add the percentage of your 3 highest tournaments over the last 12 months or last 10 tournaments and then divide them by 3 to get your average.

This is how your average is calculated.

Calculating Ringer Averages

[See Rule 11, Sec. C](#)

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

The above method for calculating ringer averages applies to individual games as well as an individual's complete tournament average for all games pitched. Note: In the event a pitcher played in more than one class in the same tournament, as a contestant, a single tournament average must be based on the totals of all ringers and shoes pitched.

Tournament lineups seed pitchers according to their official "3-high" ringer average which is based on the three highest NHPA sanctioned tournaments pitched in the preceding 12 months or the last ten tournaments during the same period, whichever occurs first ([See NHPA Rule 11, Sec. D](#)).

NHPA national statistics center (NATSTATS) maintains the official records on all sanctioned tournament results and publishes NATSTATS 3-HIGH AVERAGES reports.

Tournament Directors: You need to get the results submitted to Natstats or your State statistician to submit to Natstats as soon as possible after your tournament is over in order for everyone's percentage to be current as updates are run each Wed evening.

Tournament Directors: You need to download your state's Natstats from the website before each tournament to ensure you have the most current information for the pitchers. Go to www.hsmaster.info, click on HSMaster then click on Downloads on left side of page to get instructions on how to do this. You need to update everything, averages and names as information is updated each Wed. By doing this you will have the most current information when submitting your results the errors will be cut down and save both of us time.

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HSMaster is very good software to run your tournaments with. Rob Hagman has created a website call www.hsmaster.info that is excellent information for new users and current users alike. If you are still running your tournaments on paper and typing in the results to send to Natstats there is an option in HSMaster to enter from paper and it will create the file to be sent to Natstats in the correct format.

If you need help or would like to start using HSMaster contact myself or Rob Hagman and we will be glad to assist you.

Everyone be sure that when you change categories (men to elders, cadets to juniors or boys to men) that you notify the TDs and Charter Secretaries and Secretaries be sure to notify Natstats. This will ensure that all percentages are correct and save me time when stats are rejected because of this.

Secretaries, with the NHPA cards not having the NHPA# preprinted anymore not only saved the organization money it also means that you don't have to reassign numbers. You can just take the largest and bump it by 1 for the next new number until you reach the max for your state. You can still reassign numbers but just remember that Natstats maintains data for 2 years plus current year, so right now we have 2015, 2016 and 2017.

I wish more ringers for all and great success at the World Tournament if you are going. But most of all just have fun and enjoy pitching.

NHPF: 2017 Project Recap

by Casey Shuys, NHPF Director

The year we completed a couple of major projects. We bought a monument type stone in memory of Jack Freeman. You can see that directly in the center of the beginning of the brick plaza. Just take a look on our website at www.nhpf.info. It has a nice picture on it. You can also see it on our Facebook page if you'd like that is at this URL: facebook.com/National-Horseshoe-Pitchers-Foundation

On our website now we have a donate button which allows you to use either your PayPal account or your credit card for a 100% tax deductible contribution to our Foundation. When visiting either site if you have any ideas for improvement please let us know.

Another major project was to install new siding on the entire building this need to be done as some of the original siding was beginning to peel, split, fade etc. There is a class action lawsuit against the Hardy siding co regarding these defects we have joined with that suit to perhaps recoup some of the money we spent to put new siding on. It may take a few years before anything will become of this.

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The Saint Charles County Parks Department where we are located has agreed to get rid of the bark on the outdoor courts. They will level the ground between the walkways and put grass in there. They also agreed to maintain it. What a nice aesthetic improvement that will be. If would be nice if all facilities had the great working relationship that the NHPF has with the parks folks.

All the indoor court have been restriped, the Highway signs have been re-installed, the storeroom has been cleaned out and marked as per the fire code and there is a new rug in the front lobby.

The Parks Department is opening up a new historic building in St, Charles and asked for a loan of some horseshoe memorabilia to display, this was done. Not only to show that the HoF is in the County, but also in an attempt to garner new members for the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club.

At our May meeting it was agreed to search out some new blood as potential NHPF directors. With that thought in mine two individuals were asked to come aboard as Associate Members. One agreed right away and the other will give it some thought. Next issue I will let you know who they are.

Our AmazonSmile account has brought in \$180.07 so far. When buying online stuff you should try in here: smile.amazon.com/ch/62-1671910. This would work also if you buy things through your company of business and they allow you to use the NHPF as a designated charity. My daughter does it through her job and it certainly adds up.

Toward the end of the meeting we all agreed to assist the NHPA in any way possible to gain and retain new members. At the WT in Utah please look for us at our table/booth. Be sure to check out the two meetings, one each Wednesday, I intend on holding a brainstorming session, then creating a MUST and WANTS list with the expected results of gaining new members nationwide. They should not be more than two hours each and will have a stringent set of ground rules. This will be done in an effort to accomplish things and formulate some conclusive methods that could be implemented Nationwide. I don't need a good luck wish - I do need ideas though! Come join the effort we all need to do this.

Special Thanks to Our Donors

We express our sincere thanks to the following who have donated as reported in the July August 2017 issue of *Newsline*.

Donating \$10-\$95

Mel L. Yockstick, CO

Charles Bunner, WV

Gretchen McCarthy, FL

Ron Schmidt

Goldendale Horseshoe Club, WI

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Minot Horseshoe Club, ND
(In Memory of Marlene Mosser)
Dean Schmitz, MI

Donating \$100-\$200

Colorado Horseshoe Pitching Assn.
Vicki Winston, MO
Dineta McIntire, MO
Alan & Amy Francis, OH
Milstadt Horseshoe Club, IL
Central Connecticut Horseshoe Club

Donating \$450-\$550

Florida State Horseshoe Pitching Assn.

Bricks Purchased By

Judith Penfold, MO
Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, MO
Capital City Horseshoe Club, MO
Richard A. Beckley, MI
Sonoma County Horseshoe Club, CA
Darrell & Lorraine Koistinen, WA
Minot Horseshoe Club, ND

Other Income:

NHPA Game Related Sales	
	Rent \$500.00
AmazonSmile Sales	\$37.67
NHPF Sales	
(Made by Dee McIntire)	\$140.00
Silhouette Yard Art Sales	\$20.00
Museum Donation Box	\$29.00

6th Annual Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament

by Jeanette Claas

The Quails and Quaillettes at the QRHC was praying the rain, storms, winds and cold weather would go away and the highways would be open for all horseshoe pitchers traveling to Wentzville. Some came by plane, others traveled by car, and we heard it rumored some might be coming by boat. By Friday, May 5, Mother Nature was kind to us and the sun proved to us it did exist. It turned out to be a beautiful weekend.

NEWSLINE Text

Published July – August 2017

The two day event included a 40' Men's Division and a 30' Mixed Division consisting of Men over 70 years and Women of all ages. The format of each division consisted of a 16 person round robin with fifteen 40 point games. Eight games were played on Saturday and seven games pitched on Sunday. The \$8,000 purse would be divided between the two divisions.

Tournament Directors Joe Faron, Gary Buehler, Bob & Rose Diekamp reported we had some new faces coming to the 6th Annual HOF Invitational Tournament. It was good to see some of the familiar faces that have been coming from time to time. New in the 40' footers were: Gary Oppen-IL, Joshua Olson- MN and Dalton Rakestraw-IL. Making their first appearance in the 30-foot division was: Daniel Dunn-IN, Jim Ellison-AL and Jim Culver-KY. Russ Phillips-WA was present and scheduled to play but due to extreme pain in the right arm kept him from pitching, so Amy Francis-OH filled in for him.

Special Guests at this tournament were Casey Sluys CA-President of the NHPF, and on the NHPF Board of Directors were-VP Joe Faron-MO, Treasurer Gary Buehler-MO, Secretary Phyllis Quist-WA, and Jim Scully-CT. Also visiting were NHPA Historian Bob & Paula Dunn-MN and special guest 10X Women's World Champion Vicki Winston-MO. Not present this year was Sue Snyder-IN due to illness. Herschel Walters was not present but we want to extend our congratulations to him as he will be inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame at the Horseshoe World Tournament this July 2017 in St. George, Utah.

Bob Diekamp made introduction of the horseshoe players on the Dave Loucks Court in the North Pavilion. The National Anthem was sung by Dalton Rakestraw-IL and the sound of horseshoes filled the air as the competition began. At the end of the eight games for the 40' Division played on Saturday, Alan Francis-OH and Gale Greene-VT remained undefeated. On the Jack Freeman Courts in the South Pavilion Courts those left undefeated were: Dan Dunn-IN, Joan Elmore-TN and Kathy Brazier-AL.

After Saturday's competition, the QRHC members served a delicious buffet dinner for the horseshoe pitchers and their families to enjoy. Marlene Ray mentioned she enjoyed this part of the tournament the best. Larry Brown-MO led a most impressive dinner prayer. At the banquet each horseshoe member received a certificate depicting the number of years each had pitched in this event. This tournament has been held for 24 years, and it seems that Alan Francis-OH has attended the most years – 21 years. For some fun and entertainment after dinner, the QRHC invited Larry Brown, a horseshoe pitcher from Fulton, MO to come and tell some of his famous stories and then to sing a few horseshoe songs, "I want another ringer, I need another ringer, to keep this game alive!" He was enjoyed by all.

The pitchers arrived early Sunday morning to complete the tournament. After two days of exciting horseshoe games in the Men's 40' division, Alan Francis-OH earned 1st place with 15 wins and zero losses pitching an average of 81.8% which marked his 18 Title as HOF 40' Champion. On the south courts the 30 footers were battling it out for the prize money, too.

NEWSLINE Text

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Joan Elmore-TN claimed her 7th Title as the HOF 30' Champion, with 15 wins and zero losses and an average of 78.8%.

Pitching high scores of 80% and above in the 40' division were: Alan Francis-OH 90.5%, 83.3%, 86.1%, 83.3%, 88.3%, 92.3%, 86.4% and 81.6%; Dan Watson-AL 84.2%, 82.4%, 81%; Gary Bearpaw-OK 80.4%; Stan Griggs-MO 80.4% Pitching high scores of 80% and above in the 30' division were: Joan Elmore-TN 82.1%, 81.3%, 82.6%, 81.8%, 88.2%, 83.3%; Marlene Ray-TN 81%, 82.6%, 83.8%, 80.8%, 81%, 81.8%; Dan Dunn-IN 93.8%, 84.1%, 87.5%, Rich Altis-MO 85.%, 84.4%, 85.2%, 85%; Roger Vogel-KS 80% & 80%; Kathy Brazier-AL 80%, 83.3%, 84.1%; Jim Ellison-AL 80.8%, 81%, 83.3%; J D Drake-MI 84.8%, 81.5%; Ed Griffith-MO 86.1%, and Maxine Griffith-TN 80%.

By 3PM on Sunday it was all over, except for giving out the Prize Money, which the players were anxious to receive and be on their way back to their home states. We would like to thank all our sponsorships for helping us out to keep this "event alive" and to all who donated for the raffles. We wished the horseshoe pitchers a safe trip home and that we look forward to seeing them again next year, same time, same place. Horseshoes – that's what it's all about! Hey!



Hall of Fame Invitational 40-Foot Results

Pos.	Name	Entry%	Won	Lost	Pts	Ringers	Ovr%	Shoes	R%	Money
1.	Alan Francis-OH	85.69%	15	0	616	597	3.91-	730	81.78%	\$1,000
2.	Dan Watson-AL	79.46%	11	4	567	618	7.10-	854	72.37%	\$ 800
3.	Gary Bearpaw-OK	76.71%	10	5	575	580	7.67-	840	69.05%	\$ 600
4.	Stan Griggs-MO	67.84%	10	5	539	542	0.77-	808	67.08%	\$ 450
5.	Gale Greene-VT	68.26%	10	5	507	525	2.14-	794	66.12%	\$ 350
6.	Austin Bailey-IL	74.89%	9	6	500	584	9.86-	898	65.03%	\$ 250
7.	Gary Roberts-OH	63.68%	9	6	540	540	0.01-	848	63.68%	\$ 200
8.	Steve Johnson-MO	65.58%	8	7	501	483	2.37-	764	63.22%	\$ 100
9.	Gary Oppen-ID	70.18%	8	7	484	484	7.16-	768	63.02%	\$ 75

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10. Gary Urish-IL	62.74%	8	7	485	463	4.43-	794	58.31%	\$ 75
11. Ray Bedard-MA	70.73%	7	8	425	431	14.47-	766	56.27%	\$ 50
12. Rick Howe-MA	65.28%	6	9	429	464	3.75-	754	61.54%	\$ 50
13. James Driver-MO	59.44%	5	10	393	395	2.53-	694	56.92%	
14. Joshua Olson-MN	59.75%	2	13	355	372	7.80-	716	51.96%	
15. Channing Herrell-MD	59.78%	2	13	324	352	10.07-	708	49.72%	
16. Dalton Rakestraw-IL	63.36%	0	15	297	354	13.92-	716	49.44%	

**Hall of Fame Invitation 30-Foot Results**

Pos.	Name	Entry%	Won	Lost	Pts	Ringers	Ovr%	Shoes	R%	Money
1.	Joan Elmore-TN	80.72%	15	0	627	681	1.91-	864	78.82%	\$1,000
2.	Marlene Ray-TN	78.93%	13	2	603	739	2.59-	968	76.34%	\$ 800
3.	Daniel Dunn-IN	82.22%	11	4	589	627	6.50-	828	75.72%	\$ 600
4.	Rich Altis-MO	79.91%	11	4	563	665	6.03-	900	73.89%	\$ 450
5.	Roger Vogel-KS	77.17%	10	5	554	612	5.85-	858	71.33%	\$ 350
6.	Kathy Brazier-AL	77.86%	10	5	500	574	7.86-	820	70.00%	\$ 250
7.	Jim Ellison – AL	72.20%	8	7	510	636	0.23	878	72.44%	\$ 200
8.	JD Drake-MI	72.35%	8	7	470	620	2.22-	884	70.14%	\$ 100
9.	Ed Griffith-MO	66.21%	7	8	457	509	0.45-	774	65.76%	\$ 75
10.	Maxine Griffith-TN	74.45%	6	9	428	508	10.64-	796	63.82%	\$ 75
11.	Jim Culver-KY	71.55%	5	10	402	558	6.06-	852	65.49%	\$ 50
12.	Gregg Craven-MO	72.37%	4	11	467	625	3.69-	910	68.68%	\$ 50
13.	Larry Shaw Sr.-OH	73.74%	4	11	468	658	5.20-	960	68.54%	
14.	Terry Beagle-MI	70.65%	4	11	407	575	3.32-	854	67.33%	
15.	Paul McGee-MD	70.37%	3	12	440	555	6.43-	868	63.94%	
16.	Amy Francis-OH	61.52%	1	14	282	404	4.94-	714	56.58%	

World Records Status Update

by Mel Yockstick, The Statman

In 1974 I started pitching horseshoe in the Denver Metro Horseshoe League. At that time I met Ted Allen the 10-time World Champion and the all-time World leader in “consecutive doubles”. Ted Allen from Colorado pitched in the 1955 World Tournament, held in Murray, Utah. There he threw 72 Consecutive Ringers In-A-Row. At that time NHPA used the 50 Point game format. He is listed in the Guinness Book of Records for his accomplishment. After the upcoming 2017 World tournament the 1955 world tournament score sheet will be on displayed at the NHPA Hall Of Fame building in Wentzville, MO.

I just completed compiling the score sheets from the 40 - 50 point world tournament eras for consecutive ringers. Unfortunately, in the 50-point era many years of score sheet are missing and as well as a few years in the 40-point era. The 40 - 50 point era file listed CR with 30 plus and the listing by division show the highest CR for the year. The file is on the NHPA website and is listed under “WT Statistics” then “WT Consecutive Ringers”.

Hope to see you at the 2017 World Tournament in St. George, Utah.

Snowbirds from Washington Visit NHPA/NHPF Hall of Fame

by Rich Altis

On their way to warmer climate in the south, Darrel and Lorraine Koistinen of Washington stopped by the facility on Wednesday, February 22. Darrel pitches with the Skagit Valley Horseshoe Club.

Darrel won the NHPF raffle at the 2016 World Tournament in Montgomery AL. They used that money to purchase some of the seven bricks that he has bought for family and friends. They were anxious to see those bricks that they had purchased in the Dr. Freeman’s Brick Memorial Walkway. They were also interested in finding bricks that other pitchers had bought from the state of Washington, in particular Russ Phillips, Barry Chapelle and Phyllis Quist. As they found Barry’s brick, Rich informed him that he was a brother to Vicki Winston who was the only 10 X Women’s World Champion and 20 X Missouri State Champion.

After they spent about forty minutes going through the Hall of Fame Museum they left, as it was time for them to check into their hotel. As today was a Wednesday I told them we would be open until about 11pm, as the Wednesday Night Men’s League would be pitching. Darrel said they would return to watch the players pitch. When they returned Darrel had two American Flags on standards and gave them to the club for usage, in which we were most grateful.

NEWSLINE Text

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I enjoyed showing the Koistinen's around the facility and found that we had several things in common. We were in the Army, both of us in the Medical Core and we were both stationed Germany.

J-Net's notes. . . . When Phyllis Quist was here for the Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament in May, she reported to me, that the Koistinen's said the visit to the HOF facility was the highlight of their trip. Rich was an outstanding host and they learned many things while visiting. So maybe some of you will be passing through Missouri sometime and would like to stop by for a visit. Just call J-Net Claas at 636-734-9095 for more information. We'll leave the light on for you.

Noon Lions of Weatherford is Sponsoring a High School Horseshoe Pitching Tournament for Public Schools of Parker County

Submitted by Coyce Allen, Texas

The Weatherford Parks Department and Noon Lions Club collaborated to build new horseshoe pits in Weatherford. The 12 pits are located in Love Street Park and were sanctioned and certified by the Texas Horseshoe Pitching Association. Weatherford can now officially host tournaments within the THPA schedule. The pits are named "Noon Lions Ringer Alley." They were dedicated June 30, 2016.

The contest will pit teams from Aledo, Brock, Millsap, Peaster, Poolville, Springtown and Weatherford schools in which four contests will take place; two male categories; one female; and one partners category. Each group will compete against a group from the other schools, six games in each category. Each time a contest is won, 10 points will be added to the total of each school. A traveling trophy with the overall school winner and individual students names will be awarded at the end. Five students will make up a team.

The event is set for Saturday, April 29, beginning at 9 a.m. Each game will be played to a total of 21 points, or a time limit of 15 minutes.

"The Noon Lions Club is excited to host the tournament," said John Allison. "As you may know, the National Lions organization is known worldwide for assisting in eyesight and diabetes problems. This is an opportunity to introduce how Lions Clubs serve their community."

For more information about the contest contact Allison at taddison@millsapisd.net.

WHS Claims Trophy at Noon Lions Horseshoe Tourney

Submitted by Coyce Allen, Texas

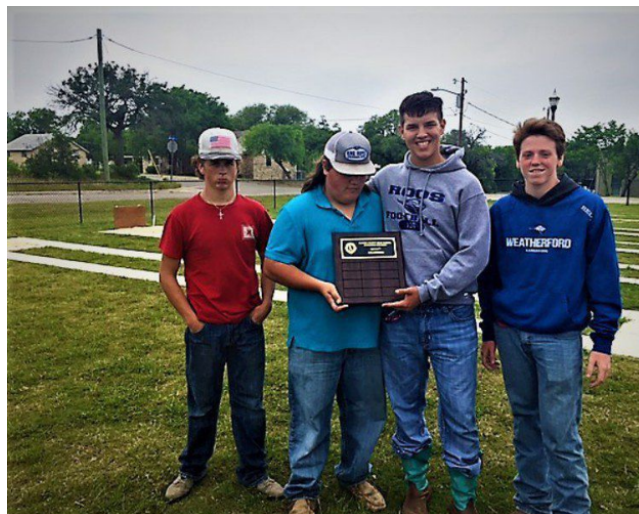
NEWSLINE Text

Published July – August 2017

The Weatherford High School Horseshoe Pitching Team came to Saturday's event ready to see history made. Participating in the first ever Parker County High School Horseshoe Pitching Tournament, ringers were quite common and led to a tie in the single male event. Two champions were crowned from Weatherford High, Alex Soap and Kaden Bell. Their record was 4-1. The NoonLions sponsored the tournament at the new horseshoe pits located in Love Street Park.



All seven Parker County public high schools were invited to be a member of this historic event. Weatherford students showed their stuff by pitching and winning two events: single male and the team trophy. The team trophy was awarded to Weatherford after all games were completed and points counted. Each game points were awarded to the winning student. The school with the most points at the end won the team trophy. Weatherford won the tournament over a close second, Springtown. Games were played to 21 points or 15 minutes. When the whistle blew, game over, points awarded.



NEWSLINE Text

Published July – August 2017

Soap had close games by winning margins of 2, 4, 5, 4, and his only loss was by 2. Bell won by 3, 3, 7, 8 and his loss was by 4. The partners champion event followed the singles. The Weatherford students who teamed up as partners were: Soap and Bell, WHS 1 and Cole Wright and Dakota Shafer, WHS 2. Cole Wright and Dakota Shafer were in the final game for the partners championship but were nosed out by the Springtown partners. Springtown pitched a ringer on the last pitch. Just earlier the Weatherford team had a ringer knocked off, which would have won the game. Soap and Bell won third place in the partners event.

The Noon Lions of Weatherford want to congratulate the students from Weatherford High for their great effort in this historic event. The Lions would like to thank Principal Kristy Dowd for putting the Weatherford team together.

Besides sponsor Noon Lions Club were First Financial Bank, Comanche National Bank and Prosperity Bank.