

NEWSLINE Text

Published January-February 2017

President's Message

New Year, New Opportunities

by [Stu Sipma](#), *NHPA President*

Happy New Year! I hope all of you were able to spend the Holiday's around family and friends. Here in Bismarck, winter started right away in the first week of December with 18" of snow the first week and then another 12" the second week along with subzero temperatures and wind chills down to -30 degrees F. As you know, horseshoe for me is on hold until spring however I hope the rest of the Charters are able to get out and pitch.

Our 2017 NHPA Council Winter Meeting is scheduled for January 20-21, 2017 in Las Vegas. I have scheduled this meeting for two full days. Items on the agenda include rearranging the duties of the Council Officers and Directors, reviewing and setting our 2017 goals, review our NHPA financials, creating a 2017 budget, review the 2016 budget, planning the 2017 World Tournament, Charter concerns, membership growth ideas, 5 year plan, GRS, NHPA Directors concerns, just to name a few.

The NHPA Council would like to welcome Gary Roberts to the Council. Gary starts his duties January 1st, 2017. Gary will be handling the Rules and By-Laws along with other duties that will be announced after the winter meeting. We would also like to thank Dan Sanders for his years of service on the Council. Dan did an outstanding job (over the years) as the RD Director, Director of the Rules and By-laws, served on the rules re-write committee, and was instrumental in creating the Medical Exemption to name a few.

I would also like to announce one other duty change, which is the World Horseshoe Tournament Coordinator. I have currently been leading this duty however starting January 1st, 2017; Tina Hawkins will be taking over this duty. Tina has been attending the SPORTS conference the past few years and just last year, she attended TEAMS with me. I am positive Tina will do a good job handling this duty.

Each year the NHPA recognizes members for their contributions to the NHPA, their Charter, and/or local club. The Council is asking all the Charters to provide a list of individuals who you believe would be a good candidate to receive an NHPA Achievement Award. These awards will be presented at the 2017 World Tournament in St. George, UT. To obtain a form, visit our website at www.horseshoepitching.com.

The NHPA is also looking for your assistance in providing candidates who you believe would qualify for the NHPA Hall of Fame Award. Candidates for this prestigious award must have been an NHPA member for at least 10 years and may qualify based on their distinguished outstanding performances in World Tournament Championship play or as a person who has made significant and beneficial contributions to the NHPA. Nominations for this award should be submitted to our NHPA Hall of Fame Director Vicki Winston. This form is also available on our website.

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I would like to remind everyone that elections are open for the positions of 2nd VP, 4th VP, and Sec/Treas According to our By-Laws, candidates for NHPA office must announce their candidacy in writing to be received by the President and the Horseshoe Pitching Newline editor no later than April 1st, 2017. Incumbents however, must announce their candidacy in the same manner, by February 1st, 2017. I encourage competition therefore those of you who are interested in one of these positions, please let me know.

The 2017 World Horseshoe Tournament will be held July 17– 29, 2017 at the Dixie Center located in St. George, UT. The NHPA trailer has already arrived from Montgomery, Al Topeka, and plans are being finalized for the preparation for this event. People looking at attending, should begin making your plans and getting your reservations made. Information regarding the World Tournament can also be found on our website.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for all your efforts in making horseshoes what it is today – whether you've been involved at a local level, state level, or just a pitcher enjoying the game. Stay warm and look forward to seeing you soon.

Stu

RESULTS: Individual State Tournaments

as reported by a Chapter Representative

>> Michigan State Championship Tournament

| <i>Class</i> | <i>Name</i> | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Men's | Tom Williams | 7 | 0 | 66.52 |
| Women's | Terry Beagle | 6 | 0 | 62.00 |
| 30' Men's | J.D. Drake | 7 | 0 | 67.20 |
| Junior Boys | Eric Sulton | 1 | 3 | 6.00 |
| Cadets | Daven Lockwood | 3 | 1 | 9.00 |
| Men's A | Douglas Bailey | 9 | 1 | 50.00 |
| Men's B | Barry Thompson | 8 | 2 | 40.97 |
| Men's C | Brent Kadwell | 8 | 2 | 32.33 |
| Men's D | Quincy Johnson | 7 | 3 | 31.10 |
| Men's E | Edward Sulton | 12 | 2 | 24.78 |
| Mixed 3A | Tom Williams | 9 | 1 | 70.25 |
| Mixed 3B | Russ Sageman | 8 | 2 | 50.87 |

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| | | | | |
|----------|---------------|----|---|-------|
| Mixed 3C | Judy Curtiss | 8 | 3 | 41.57 |
| Mixed 3D | Carl Van Note | 10 | 0 | 53.72 |
| Mixed 3E | Dawn Seese | 8 | 4 | 21.40 |

>> Nebraska State Championship Tournament

| Mens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Marcus Thomsen | 11 | 0 | 61.72 |
| Mike Thomsen | 8 | 3 | 50.60 |
| Cole Pearson | 8 | 3 | 48.04 |
| Allen Stenzel | 7 | 4 | 46.98 |
| Dale Caldwell | 5 | 6 | 45.27 |
| Kelly Petersen | 5 | 6 | 43.01 |
| Gary Berg | 5 | 6 | 37.14 |
| Dan Bailey | 5 | 6 | 35.91 |
| Richard Schrader | 4 | 7 | 41.15 |
| Jim Sybrant | 3 | 8 | 34.71 |
| Jake Berg | 3 | 8 | 31.73 |
| Russell Clodfelter | 2 | 9 | 32.49 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Mens Class A</i> | John Wemhoff | 5 | 0 | 28.50 |
| <i>Mens Class A30</i> | Archie Hubl | 5 | 1 | 14.58 |
| <i>Mens Class AA</i> | Chris Standing Bear | 5 | 0 | 41.07 |
| <i>Mens Class B</i> | Don Brown | 5 | 1 | 26.67 |
| <i>Mens Class BB</i> | Sid Dubs | 4.5 | 0.5 | 27.50 |
| <i>Mens Class C</i> | Carl Baehler | 5 | 1 | 26.25 |
| <i>Mens Class CC</i> | Josh Shaske | 6 | 2 | 22.19 |
| <i>Mens Class DD</i> | Tim Roggasch | 4 | 0 | 16.00 |

| Womens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Lyn Booker | 5 | 0 | 26.03 |
| Krystal Gabel | 4 | 1 | 44.21 |
| Malinda Hodge | 3 | 2 | 27.50 |
| Alice Dubs | 2 | 3 | 17.46 |
| Eleanor Mcknight | 1 | 4 | 17.29 |
| Stephanie Willmer | 0 | 5 | 12.95 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Womens Class A</i> | Becky Parmenter | 5 | 0 | 24.00 |

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| Elders Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Don Branting | 5 | 0 | 55.15 |
| Don McCance | 4 | 1 | 54.00 |
| Delmar Doc Roberts | 2 | 3 | 32.98 |
| Bill Nelson | 2 | 3 | 32.24 |
| Fay Kapke | 2 | 3 | 29.78 |
| Edward Ellwood | 0 | 5 | 23.76 |

| Junior Class | Name | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Cadets | Braxton Richards | 7 | 0 | 29.64 |
| Boys | Christian Blank | 6 | 1 | 20.36 |
| Girls | Stephanie Barry | 5 | 2 | 15.71 |
| | Nick Blank Jr. | 4 | 3 | 17.14 |
| | Kaden Stenzel | 3 | 4 | 6.79 |
| | Brandie Messersmith | 1 | 6 | 4.29 |
| | Benjamin Standing Bear | 1 | 6 | 3.21 |
| | Savannah Roggasch | 1 | 6 | 1.79 |

>> New Jersey Championship Tournament

| Mens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Paul Sexton | 6 | 0 | 52.7 |
| Rick Leonhardt | 4 | 2 | 43.9 |
| Bill Rizzolo | 4 | 2 | 42.8 |
| Levi Pierce | 4 | 2 | 41.7 |
| John Forti | 2 | 4 | 38.1 |
| Brent Kazmerski | 1 | 5 | 30.7 |
| Frank Doughty | 0 | 6 | 28.2 |

| | | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Mens Class A</i> | Wayne Parker | 4 | 1 | 52.5 |
| <i>Mens Class B</i> | Dave Samler | 6 | 1 | 29.2 |
| <i>Mens Class C</i> | Lou Cataldi | 5 | 1 | 23.7 |

| Womens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Christine Taylor | 3 | 0 | 45.1 |
| Brenda De Mott | 0 | 3 | 26.6 |

| Juniors | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Anthony Colucci | 6 | 0 | 15.0 |
| Russell Hollister | 3 | 3 | 10.8 |

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| | | | |
|-------------|---|---|-----|
| Andrew Funk | 3 | 3 | 9.1 |
| Logan Drake | 0 | 6 | 4.5 |

>> New York State Championship Tournament

| Mens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| David Conrad | 9 | 2 | 58.04 |
| Tim Collier | 8 | 3 | 50.38 |
| Pidge Cole | 7 | 4 | 49.44 |
| Paul Black | 7 | 4 | 49.15 |
| Tom Bernard | 6 | 5 | 51.21 |
| George Harageones | 6 | 5 | 45.37 |
| Dennis Leonard | 5 | 6 | 46.59 |
| Jerry Bernard | 5 | 6 | 45.95 |
| Ken Fraser | 4 | 7 | 45.49 |
| Alan Overbaugh | 3 | 8 | 42.97 |
| G Dave Scott | 3 | 8 | 42.42 |
| Pat Spruce | 3 | 8 | 37.04 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Mens Class B</i> | Richard Marks Jr | 6 | 2 | 45.67 |
| <i>Mens Class C</i> | William Whitehead | 6 | 0 | 39.58 |
| <i>Mens Class D</i> | Adam VanValkenburgh | 6 | 1 | 41.15 |
| <i>Mens Class E</i> | Richard Maston | 7 | 0 | 41.43 |
| <i>Mens Class F</i> | Dave Mattison | 5 | 2 | 29.93 |
| <i>Mens Class G</i> | Robert Mills | 5 | 2 | 25.00 |
| <i>Mens Class H</i> | Ronald Bowerman | 5 | 0 | 27.50 |
| <i>Mens Class I</i> | Ed Cobin | 6 | 2 | 14.29 |
| <i>Mens Class J</i> | Kevin Thomas | 5 | 0 | 13.00 |

| Womens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Karen Graham | 8 | 2 | 63.50 |
| Ellen Perry | 7 | 3 | 62.45 |
| Sue Laughlin | 6 | 4 | 62.72 |
| Julie Bernard | 5 | 5 | 57.80 |
| Sarah Gooch | 2 | 8 | 49.40 |
| Carolyn Slaughter | 2 | 8 | 45.40 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Womens Class B</i> | Rosemarie Wright | 5 | 0 | 40.00 |

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| Elders | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Jack Stenberg | 7 | 0 | 70.36 |
| Harold Uncapher | 6 | 1 | 57.63 |
| Dale Catlin | 5 | 2 | 60.11 |
| Al Montroy | 4 | 3 | 50.00 |
| Lee Coon | 3 | 4 | 39.58 |
| Gregory LeBoeuf | 1 | 6 | 36.13 |
| John Mosher | 1 | 6 | 29.04 |
| Chuck Reigles | 1 | 6 | 27.08 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Elders Class C</i> | Robert Trank | 5 | 2 | 28.08 |
| <i>Elders Class D</i> | Robert Best | 5 | 0 | 23.13 |

| Junior Boys | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Dakota Frank | 3 | 0 | 28.37 |
| Stanley Andersen | 0 | 3 | 16.00 |

>> Oregon State Championship Tournament

| Mens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Todd Liles | 8 | 2 | 50.8 |
| David Brown | 6 | 4 | 37.9 |
| John Adams | 5 | 5 | 38.8 |
| Russ Watkins | 4 | 6 | 38.2 |
| Jim Postell | 4 | 6 | 37.9 |
| Doug Bowen | 3 | 7 | 32.6 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Mens Class B</i> | Billy Heater | 12 | 2 | 32.6 |
| <i>Mens Class C</i> | Bob Petrie | 10 | 2 | 19.2 |
| <i>Mens Class D</i> | Devon Kurtz | 9 | 3 | 16.9 |

| Womens Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Tami Gilbert | 6.5 | 4.5 | 63.3 |
| Blanca Hettinga | 4.5 | 6.5 | 62.3 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Womens Class B</i> | Mary Figueira | 11 | 1 | 17.3 |

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| Elders Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Bernie Martell | 8 | 2 | 53.6 |
| Barry Chapelle | 6.5 | 3.5 | 63.3 |
| Jerry Pufahl | 5.5 | 4.5 | 46.4 |
| Jim Hinks | 5 | 5 | 48.8 |
| Al Holland | 4 | 6 | 47.4 |
| Wes Honn | 1 | 9 | 39.8 |

| | | <i>Wins</i> | <i>Losses</i> | <i>Ringer %</i> |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Elders Class B</i> | Bill Jarvis | 10 | 0 | 53.0 |
| <i>Elders Class C</i> | Richard Beck | 10 | 2 | 16.4 |

| Jr. Boys Class | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Gus Clark | 7 | 5 | 15.23 |

>> Washington State Championship Tournament

| Class | Name | Wins | Losses | Ringer % |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Mens | Matt Fuller | 12 | 0 | 66.74 |
| Mens A | Barry Gentle | 12 | 1 | 29.14 |
| Elders | Russ Phillips | 16 | 0 | 79.44 |
| Elders A | Bert Pack | 9 | 1 | 33.19 |
| Womens | Kaiti Reeves | 8 | 1 | 42.70 |
| Juniors | Micalah Renshaw | | | 3.13 |
| Cadets | Melikai Orozco | | | 4.38 |

Introduction: Newly Elected 1st Vice President – Gary Roberts

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

As of January 1, 2017, I will officially be the new 1st Vice President of the NHPA. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the membership in this capacity. I will make every effort to not disappoint those who elected me to this position. I will always be responsive and accessible to the membership.

Following Dan Sanders into this role is a challenge. Dan's knowledge and dedication would be very difficult to replace. Dan has graciously offered to assist me in any way during the transition and beyond. Other Council members have also offered their assistance. I very much appreciate this willingness to help.

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The sport of horseshoe pitching faces many challenges as we move forward. Obviously, the declining membership is the most glaring problem. This decline contributes to financial difficulties. Nobody has all of the answers to immediately recover from this decline in membership. However, we must look at innovative ways to recruit and maintain members. Your ideas and recommendations are very much encouraged.

Kevin Lewis and I are planning to travel to South Africa in March. Our primary goals are: to invite both South Africa and Namibia to send representatives to attend the 2017 World Tournament in St. George, Utah; to promote horseshoe pitching; and to participate in the Jukskei Championships in Kroonstad, South Africa. I am still trying to recruit others to join us. I want to make it clear that the NHPA is not providing any financial support for this trip. All participants must pay their own expenses.

I look forward to contributing to the success of the NHPA. Members can feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 740-835-1925. I would like to wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Continued Redesign of Sanctioned League Patches

by [Jerry Smith](#), 3rd Vice President, Sanction League Director

I am sitting here in Idaho with four inches of snow and temperatures in the single digits. So with not one indoor facility in this state to pitch horseshoes in, you might believe that the Third Vice President is slacking, and I am. Oh wait, the sanctioned league program never goes dormant, it only slows down a little. Let's take a look.

The deadline for Junior Scholarship applications was December 31st. The last day to receive 2016 leagues for consideration in "Top Ten" rankings is January 15th. After these deadlines pass, a tremendous amount of work goes into the calculating of winners, the publishing of lists, and the ordering awards and successful delivering of these awards. But that's coming up you say, "What's the slacker doing now"? Well let me tell you.

Last year I decided to re-design the major individual league patches since they had been the same for over 30 years, how boring, enough was enough. The patches came at a little higher price, story to follow. The new patches were well received in the league pitching communities as many positive comments were received. So in the last month, I have re-designed or changed all of the remaining sanctioned league patches. The process is still being finalized, but I am excited and anxiously awaiting the design team's samples.

I am particularly interested in my design for the "League Member" and "League Director" patches. These new updated patches will be awesome and it is my hope that league members and directors will purchase and proudly display them for the world to see. The cost will be one dollar each, which brings me back to the "little higher" prices story.

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After getting the bill for last year's re-designed patches, particularly the very awesome "League Champion" patch, Mr. Sidles, watcher of all NHPA \$'s, grinningly chided me about the extra costs. That led me to ponder this question, "Why don't the leagues pay something for the patches and awards they receive?" after all, they are the ones receiving them. The obvious answer is, "it's just part of the NHPA due structure". While that statement is true, it is also true that the sanctioned league budget is now the largest in the NHPA next to the World Tournament.

After some thought, I composed and sent out a letter detailing possible ways and guidelines for contributing to the sanctioned league coffers. The concept is and was presented as voluntary in nature. The response has been very positive as over \$1300.00 was donated in 2016. I want to thank everyone and express appreciation to those clubs and leagues that chose to contribute and hope that the trend will expand and continue moving forward. Most contributions seemed to be tied to patch orders, but consider this, the annual patch expense is less than half of the total sanctioned league budget.

I hope everyone had a happy and fulfilling holiday season and were able to gather and enjoy family gatherings, because I know I did. I look forward to the 2017 calendar of events and hope to see many of you on the courts. Thanks for all of your support; it's what we do.

Tournament Patch Distribution Under Way

by [Bill Marvin](#), 5th Vice President and Regional Director and Court Sanctioning Director

Welcome to 2017!! Last year was certainly one for the books. No longer will my Cub fan friends have to say wait till next year. As a lifelong St. Louis Cardinal fan, I tried to explain to them what it felt like to back a World Champion team and always came up a little short. Now they have had that experience, ending 108 years of frustration. There were many other high lights in 2016, and they will be topics of discussion for years to come.

As NHPA 5th Vice President, one of my assigned duties is to ensure that the Regional Directors receive the tournament patches for their charter. This process is well under way and I have been able to send over 8500 patches to the RDs, and am confident that the rest will be out of my office in the next couple of weeks. When you attend a local tournament, be sure and thank your local tournament director. These folks work very hard to hold these events. Ask them if they need any help preparing courts, keeping score, any of a multitude of tasks that may go unnoticed but are necessary for successful events.

Deanna and I would like to wish each and every one a joyous and successful new year and we hope to see you in St. George.

Easy does it.

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State Championship Tournament Results & Stats Posted

by [Mel Yockstick](#), NHPA World Statistician

All NHPA State Championship Tournaments have been completed for 2016. I have updated the NHPA website (Recognition – State Champions) page. This page lists men with 10 wins or more, women with 5 wins or more, elders, boys and girls with 3 wins or more and, lastly, cadets with 2 wins or more. Also, new on this file is the complete list of all 2016 State Champions as sent to Dave Sidles, NHPA Secretary Treasurer. Kudos goes out to Alan Francis from Ohio for winning his 30th State Men's Championship title, Missouri (10) and Ohio (20).

The below 2016 State Champion pitchers have been added to the NHPA website for the first time:

| Wins | Name | Division | State | First Win | Last Win |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 10 | Rick Richard | Mens | Louisiana | 2009 | 2016 |
| 10 | Marcus Thompson | Mens | Nebraska | 2003 | 2016 |
| 5 | Janet Larson | Womens | Minnesota | 2008 | 2016 |
| 3 | Jim Ellison | Elders | Alabama | 2014 | 2016 |
| 3 | Maynard Warman | Elders | Maine | 2011 | 2016 |
| 3 | RJ Miller | Boys | S. Carolina | 2014 | 2016 |
| 2 | Amylynn Medina | Cadets | Colorado | 2015 | 2016 |
| 2 | Braxton Richards | Cadets | Nebraska | 2015 | 2016 |
| 2 | Zander Potts | Cadets | Ohio | 2015 | 2016 |
| 2 | Ryan Hare | Cadets | W. Virginia | 2016 | 2016 |

You can also enjoy two new files available on the website:

New World Location 1909 – 2016 + Top Entries

([World Tournament – WT-Location + Top Entries](#))

1909 – 2016 NHPA World Tournament Prelim & Championship Winners with 3 or more titles

([World Tourn – WT Statistics – WT Plus 3 wins](#))

History: Midwest National Tournament (Des Moines, IA) Part II

by [Bob Dunn](#), Historian

Ted Allen regained his title by winning the 1938 Midwest National Tournament. Allen went through the preliminaries undefeated, winning all 32 games. He also went undefeated in the finals, 15-0 while pitching 84.58% ringers. Isais dropped to 4th place as his average slipped to 78.1%. This year's event was truly a national contest as stars from coast-to-coast entered the tournament. Jimmy O'Shea came from Brockton, MA, Dean Brown and Eddie Packham came from California, Marines Tamboer came from Wichita, Kansas. Brown and Tamboer would later

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be inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame. The ringer averages again were exceptionally high, but the Horseshoe World did not publish the ringer percentage for all players.

1938 Midwest National Open Final Standing

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| 1. Ted Allen, CA | 15-0 | 84.58% | 9. Robert Bales, MO | 7-8 |
| 2. Elis Griggs, IL | 12-3 | 75.76 | 10. Lyle, Brown, IA | 6-9 |
| 3. Alvin Gandy, KS | 11-4 | 77.00 | 11. Sam Somerhalder | 5-10 |
| 4. Fernando Isais, CA | 10-5 | 78.10 | 12. Alvin Dahlene, KS | 5-10 |
| 5. Dean Brown, CA | 9-6 | 74.00 | 13. Sidney Harris, NE | 5-10 |
| 6. Casey Jones, WI | 9-6 | 82.30 | 14. Roland Kraft, KS | 4-11 |
| 7. Eddie Packham, C | 9-6 | 77.00 | 15. Dale Dixon, IA | 3-12 |
| 8. Jimmy O'Shea, M | 8-7 | 77.50 | 16. John Paxton, IA | 2-13 |

Leland Mortenson added a few tournament highlights in the Horseshoe World:

- Basing our estimates on a continuing changing crowd, we estimate 50,000 to 60,000 persons watched the horseshoe pitching contests during the 28 hours it lasted.
- John Gordon, of Los Angeles, who furnished score sheets free of charge and who manages several pitchers, said he is going to fly here with his boys next year; that he is going to give me a free ride in his airplane too.
- Doesn't it seem a shame that Garland Goble and Vyrl Jackson should get eliminated? During practices Goble continuously averaged over 80 per cent ringers and Eddie Packham told me that Jackson averages about 85 per cent at home.
- Packham tells us that Warner Baxter and John Boles of the screen are consistent 65 per cent pitchers.
- Packham's expenses here and back plus \$15, were aid by the Douglas Aircraft Co. He was told to win at least third or it was his neck.
- "Pee Wee" Collum, stunt motorcycle rider, showed up at the fair and said Putt Mossman is stunting in England.
- Some mean person stole Casey Jones' suitcase containing \$60 worth of clothing and \$16.00 in cash and a pair of horseshoes.
- Such good will do the horseshoe pitchers have toward one another that it gets to be almost comical. For instance Jimmy O'Shea's heart seemed almost broken when he beat little Casey Jones. There were many other similar examples.
- Harry Duncan, of Denver, who handles the Allen shoe, was a visitor, and boy was he happy about Ted's showing. He calls him Theodore.
- Ellis Griggs and Alvin Gandy were not exactly dark horses, but they certainly were surprises. We know they were experts, but frankly, we did not have any idea they would be ahead of such pitchers as Isais, Dean Brown, Jimmy O'Shea and Casey Jones.

With viewing pitcher traveling from all corners of the country, we need to recognize the difficulty in qualifying. All participants would pitch 100 qualifying shoes and the top 38 scores went on to pitch in the preliminary round robin, the rest went back home as there was no Class

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B or C and some pitchers were a long way from home. A couple new names in the 1939 roster of qualifiers were Raymond Frye (Richmond, VA) and Ohio state champion Grover Hawley.

Guy Zimmerman lead the 1939 preliminary round with 35 wins and 2 losses, followed by Ted Allen, 33-4; Casey Jones, 31-6; Ira Allen, (Ted's brother also from California) 29-8; and Dean Brown, 29-8. Even though Zimmerman pitched 80.01% ringers in the finals, he lost two games allowing Ted Allen to go on to win the championship and the \$125.00 first place prize. Allen pitched 82.77% and went undefeated in 15 games. Casey Jones also pitched an 80% tournament to earn third place. Dean Brown pitched 80.16%, but lost 6 games and ended in 6th place. This is the first tournament in the sport's history where there were four players topping the 80% mark and there were 14 players surpassing 70% ringers. This certainly speaks to the prestige of this tournament.

1939 Midwest National Open Finals Standing

| <i>Player</i> | <i>W</i> | <i>L</i> | <i>Pct.</i> | <i>Player</i> | <i>W</i> | <i>L</i> | <i>Pct.</i> |
|------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 1. Ted Allen, CO | 15 | 0 | 82.77% | 9. Ira Allen, CA | 7 | 8 | 77.40% |
| 2. Guy Zimmerman, CA | 13 | 2 | 80.01 | 10. Ellis Griggs, IL | 7 | 8 | 74.66 |
| 3. Charles Jones, WI | 12 | 3 | 80.95 | 11. Raymond Fyre, VA | 7 | 9 | 70.86 |
| 4. Alvin Gandy, KS | 10 | 5 | 76.70 | 12. Roland Kraft, KS | 6 | 9 | 70.84 |
| 5. Lyle Brown, IA | 9 | 6 | 75.54 | 13. Dale Dixon, IA | 5 | 10 | 72.60 |
| 6. Dean Brown, CA | 9 | 6 | 80.16 | 14. Sidney Harris, NE | 4 | 11 | 69.32 |
| 7. Grover Hawley, OH | 7 | 8 | 77.21 | 15. Robert Tompkins, IA | 2 | 13 | 65.06 |
| 8. Aden Swinehamer, IL | 7 | 8 | 73.75 | 16. Robert Bales, MO | 2 | 13 | 73.73 |

The tournament continued in 1940, but was sanctioned by the NHPA as a national championship contest, therefore it was been recorded as a World Tournament. First place money for the 1940 event was \$210.00. The Midwest National drifted away mainly due to World War II and the reinstatement of World Tournaments.

Leland Mortenson took on the effort to reinstate a tournament to replace the Midwest National, by hosting the Master's Tournament in 1947 and 1948. Casey Jones won the 1947 event but the competition was not near the level of the original tournaments. In 1948, Casey Jones went undefeated during the 15 game round robin, but the tournament committee decided that with two of the top five pitchers in the world in the tournament and a crowd of 1,500 spectators in the stands, Jones and Ted Allen would pitch a best of three playoff. Allen won the first and third games to win the championship.

Midwest National Champions

| Year | Player | Hometown | W | L | Pct. |
|------|------------------|-----------------|----|---|-------|
| 1933 | Charles C. Davis | Kansas City, MO | 14 | 1 | |
| 1934 | Charles C. Davis | Kansas City, MO | 14 | 1 | 70.1% |
| 1935 | Ted Allen | Alhambra, CA | 13 | 2 | |
| 1936 | Ted Allen | Alhambra, CA | 13 | 2 | 73.0% |

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| | | | | | |
|------|----------------|-------------|----|---|-------|
| 1937 | Fernando Isais | Mexico City | 15 | 0 | 83.5% |
| 1938 | Ted Allen | Boulder, CO | 15 | 0 | 84.6% |
| 1939 | Ted Allen | Boulder, CO | 15 | 0 | 82.8% |

Juniors: Big Dreams Ahead for Lillyan

by Aleena Cook, Junior League Director



In a small area in Wisconsin between Stratford and Marshfield, lives an amazing nine-year-old girl. Lillyan Kildahl is a fourth grader at Madison Elementary who loves to talk about her family, friends, and her love of horseshoes.

Starting when she was only five years old, Lillyan found a love for a special game that she seemed to have a knack for. She was told pitching horseshoes was fun by her mom and grandma and she came to find out, they were right. At first she would wait until all pitching in league was done so she could come out and pitch, as she got older she was able to participate in league and competed in her first tournament in 2014. She continued to pitch in area tournaments and the 2014, 2015, and 2016 Wisconsin state tournaments. In 2015, she took 5th in her class at the Kansas World Tournament and in 2016 she took 1st in class C at the Alabama World Tournament. In both cases she doubled her entry average and is now at a 7.73%. Her goal is to one day make the championship classes at both the state and world levels. When asked what she likes most about horseshoes she says, "My friendships I make with my family and friends from all over the country."



During the summer she competes in a league one day a week and then practices on the weekend. Her favorite practice partners are her mom, Tava, and brothers, Conner and Braedyn. In league she competes against them along with her grandma, grandpa, and two aunts. Before they passed away, Lillyan's great-grandparents would help her as well. Now she says, "They cheer for me from heaven." Her family is always behind her and supporting her.

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Along with horseshoes, Lillyan plays softball and bowls. Her favorite positions in softball are short-stop, catcher, and third base. In bowling, her current average is an 89. Her top subjects in school are Art and Math. When she grows up she wants to be a Doctor in the same field that her grandpa works in. She even dresses her stuffed animals in scrubs the same color that he wears. Her hero though is her mother, "She teaches me how to do new things and she always loves me and supports me."

One thing is for sure; this little girl has a bright future in all aspects including horseshoes. Lillyan wants to keep pitching for as long as she can to be the best she can be. Keep an eye out for her toothy smile and her family right behind her.

Preserving Your Hall of Fame – Building Needs & How to Contribute

by Casey Sluys, NHFP Director

The siding on our building has been pulling apart at the seams for some time. We investigated another sort of fastener to bring each panel flush again. Upon further investigation it was found that this siding had not been installed as to the manufactures specifications. Now then we are experiencing extensive repairs work on the NHPA Hall of Fame building. Please be aware that there will be work going on with the outside of the building for the next few months. We are looking into the warranty information for this Hardie lap siding and hope to recover some of the expense.

We sincerely hope all of you have a wonderful year in 2017. Please do what you can to promote our sport and gather in some new pitchers. Don't forget that the NHPF is here to assist you in some of the court improvements you need to make. Check out our information at www.nhpf.com under the financials and then the grant program.

We also like to remind you that when shopping online please use this link? When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/62-1671910> and support us every time you shop. It is Amazon Smile and it automatically donated 1/2 of 1% of your purchase to the NHPF. An absolutely harmless way to help your Hall of Fame and Museum.

How does your state rank in relation to others? Have a look at the top 15 right here: If you notice the number of contributors per state, does it seem in line with your membership? Perhaps not in all cases. We can certainly use your assistance in publicizing the fact that we exist.

| Rank | State | Contributors | Donations | \$ Amount |
|-------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. | CA | 134 | 418 | \$58,750.85 |
| 2. | MO | 169 | 353 | \$49,976.44 |
| 3. | MN | 62 | 354 | \$33,286.23 |
| 4. | NC | 36 | 213 | \$29,664.46 |

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| | | | | |
|-----|----|----|-----|-------------|
| 5. | OR | 26 | 159 | \$26,599.00 |
| 6. | TN | 33 | 70 | \$21,777.50 |
| 7. | WI | 46 | 167 | \$16,750.00 |
| 8. | MI | 63 | 173 | \$16,199.65 |
| 9. | NE | 19 | 51 | \$12,658.45 |
| 10. | WA | 39 | 104 | \$12,407.00 |
| 11. | TX | 40 | 76 | \$12,225.00 |
| 12. | IL | 70 | 141 | \$12,163.00 |
| 13. | FL | 63 | 105 | \$11,396.00 |
| 14. | CO | 37 | 102 | \$10,364.00 |
| 15. | OH | 76 | 135 | \$10,993.00 |

Those of you that donated before the HoF was built, we thank you many times. It would certainly be a pleasure to have you back as part of our regular donors. Wouldn't it be nice to set up an ongoing donation program to assist the sport that has given you so many new friends and hours of pleasure, entertainment and in some cases aggravation (smile).

Hall of Fame Now Accepting Nominations – Deadline January 31

by Vicki Winston, President, NHPA Hall of Fame Committee

Winter has started early in many parts of the nation and I hope you have stayed safe and have had an enjoyable holiday season with your family and/or friends.

The coming of the New Year brings the HOF Committee closer to beginning our very important work. The deadline for submitting nominations to be considered in the 2017 voting is January 31st. When I get the voting materials and copies of new nominations ready, I will be mailing them out to all committee members about the middle of February.

I want to welcome Bill MacIntyre of New Jersey as the newest member of the HOF committee. NHPA President, Stuart Sipma, appointed him recently to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jerry Schneider last summer. Jerry served as a member of the HOF committee for long period of time. After Bill was appointed, I mailed him a packet containing all of the bios of current HOF nominees, so he has reading material to keep him occupied during the cold winter and he will have a head start on what he needs to know as he takes part for the first time in the HOF voting process.

There have been a few new nominations that have been approved by the HOF screening committee that are not yet on the NHPA website as of this writing. I will be sending an updated list to the Webmaster shortly after submitting this article to Newsline. You will be able to view the names of all nominees to be considered during the 2017 voting. If more nominations are received before the deadline, I will try to make sure the website is updated again. I do thank all persons who have taken the time to submit nominations. Without the help of these individuals, there would never be any new candidates on the ballot.

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I think that's about it for Hall of Fame committee news at this time. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Happy and Healthy New Year. May you continue to enjoy your association with and your participation in the sport of horseshoe pitching for many more years to come.

Special Thank You to Our Donors

by [Casey Sluys](#), *President, National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation*

We express our sincere thanks to the following that have donated.

Donating \$10-\$95:

Charles M. Bunner, WV

Raymond L. Hall, NY

Lawrence & Mary Figueria, OR (in memory of Joe Graffis)

Donating \$100-\$225:

Luella Cave, MN

Bob Dunn, MN (AAU Book Sale Income)

Iowa Hawkeye HPA, IA

Donating \$500-\$600:

David & Carla Sidles, NE

City of Bronson, KS (Repayment of Grant)

Bricks Purchased By:

Tim & Jan Gilmore, LA

Robert & Cynthia Ware, MO

Robert Holden, MO

New Hampshire HPA

Other Income:

NHPA \$550 Rent (National Sanction League Tournament)

NHPA Game Related Sales \$250 Rent

Museum Donation Box \$152.12

Poem: The Horseshoe Pitchers Prayer

by *Carl Terrell, Kentucky Horseshoe Pitchers Association*

Lord, as I lay me down to sleep tonight

I don't know what to say.

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I have been throwing horseshoes all year long
Just waiting for this day.
Why I even drove a thousand miles
And paid my entre free,
And collected all the lucky pieces I could find
I need lots of luck you see.

Why, Lord, I have more horseshoes on my wall
Than a blacksmith storage room.
I have more rabbits' feet in my house
Than Crockett or Daniel Boone.
I have picked so many four-leaf clovers
My fingers have turned sore.
But nothing I do brings me any luck.
I'm still lousy as before.

It seems I can't trust lucky pieces anymore
I hope I can count on You.
And I hope my prayer is not too late,
I need a miracle or two.
I know that's asking quite a lot
Because I'm really not that good,
And I'm a long way from an angel
I haven't done all the things I should.

I know not what tomorrow may bring
But it's time to pay my due.
You know I have waited all year long.
My waiting is almost through.
Lord, I don't have much money,
But I still have my soul.
That's why I'm throwing horseshoes,
Because I can't play golf or bowl.

And tomorrow before I take my place
And look around my station.
I see people of every color and race
And people of other nations.
There are people of every sex and age
From young to very old.
Makes me proud to be a part of
A tradition that all can hold.

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So tomorrow as I prepare to throw
 And gladly take my turn,
If I bounce off or miss the stake
 I will know it's all in fun.
And Lord if by chance I throw a double
 I will not lose control,
For I know what's coming up next
 I will miss six in a row.
Well, Lord, I guess that's all I can ask.
 Just help me not to whine.
Now that you have done your part,
 Just help me to do mine.
Just help me to do my very best,
 And do good in my class.
And do it with the proper attitude
 If I take first or last.