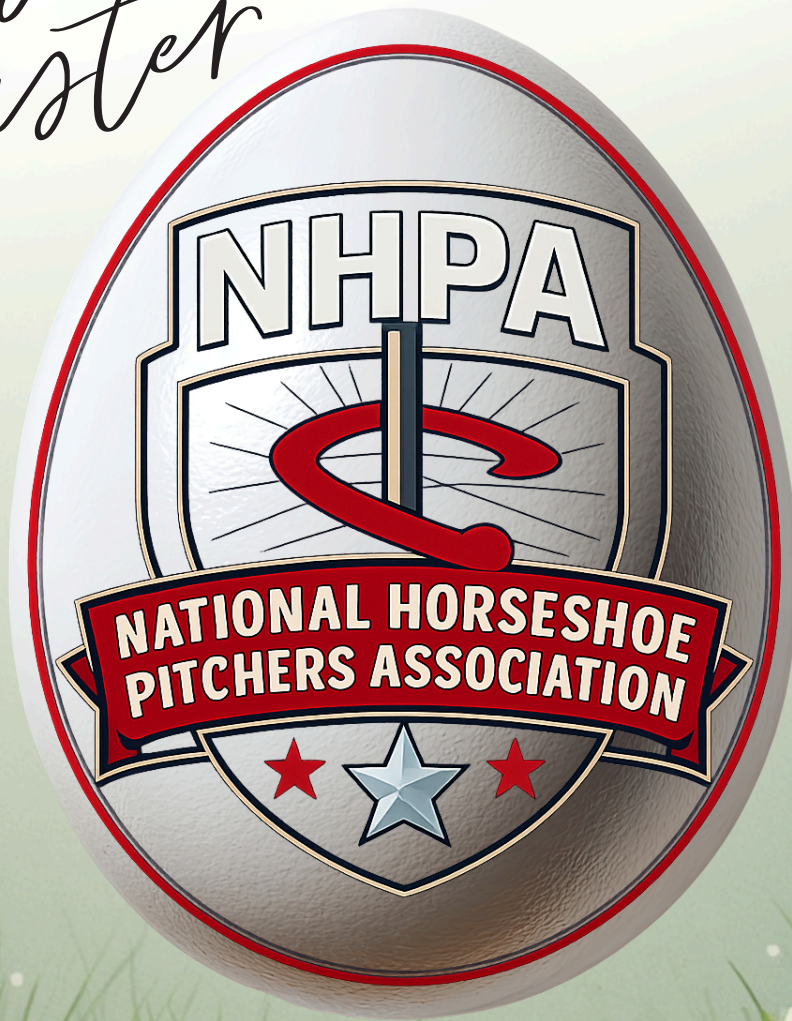


NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

APRIL 2026

*Happy
Easter*



NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

April 2026



**NHPA PRESIDENT
BEN WEBB**

Happy Easter!

It seems like yesterday was Christmas time and we were rounding into a New Year and just like that Spring is here! I have been busy around our home installing a new court in the backyard in anticipation for the coming season. When I look online, I see all variations of court layouts from full walkways to partial walkways, partial stepping stone walkways and everything in between, it seems everyone's court is unique in it's own way!

One thing on our horizon is our first 2026 regional event in ABQ, NM in just a few short days. We appreciate the New Mexico Charter, the local officials responsible for bringing the event to life and especially 2nd VP

Dalton Rakestraw's efforts in putting the event together from beginning to end! It truly takes everyone to make anything work and I'm glad to see when something like this comes to life. This is the first year I can recall where the NHPA will run 4 different events in the same calendar year with ABQ and Hutchinson, Kansas regional events, the world Singles in Wausau, Wisconsin, and the World Doubles in Wentzville, MO again this fall.

Speaking of special events, signups are almost closed for the Newberry, SC Horseshoe Tour season kickoff so sign-up ASAP to get into that phenomenal event. Before we know it, summer will be here and it'll be time for the Ringer Classic in Greenville, Ohio again this year. If you've never been to Greenville I encourage you to take the trip and be a part of one of the longest running NHPA events left today!

While traveling to other area's is always fun, it's always good to be around home. I encourage everyone to get out and get involved heavily with your local clubs and charter this season. It would be good to see more league pop-up this summer as this is a key place for membership growth. If you have courts near you without a sanctioned league, get one started in 2026. You may think that you don't know how to get started but we're here to help. Barb Carson currently oversees the league program and can help you with every step of the league process to get rolling this year.

I was met with a little criticism last year when we sent out the Happy Easter eBlast, a couple of people had felt that we were promoting a religious holiday but who doesn't celebrate Easter? If you go into your local walmart, you'll find an Easter section filled with colorful eggs and candy, easter baskets and toys for the kids. You'll also likely find a small section of bibles in that area of the store. Oftentimes we get so caught up in the egg hunts and family gatherings that we can overlook the true meaning of this holiday. Let's all take a moment to remember the reason we celebrate Easter this year. We'll always continue to listen to any feedback we get but we'll always continue to send out eBlasts for most major holidays when we can. This is just our way of connecting with you, the heart of the association.

Wishing everyone safe travels and good luck out on the courts as the outdoor season kicks off!

Happy Easter Everyone!

The Road to Wausau Runs Through ABQ and Hutch



2ND VICE PRESIDENT
DALTON RAKESTRAW

The 2026 horseshoe season is shaping up to be one of the most exciting in recent years, with standout regional events and a highly anticipated World Tournament ahead. From the Southwest to the Midwest, players will have multiple opportunities to compete, connect, and prepare for the biggest stage in the sport. Albuquerque Regional Championships – Mariposa Basin Park The 2026 U.S. Open Regional Championships heads to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where players will compete at Mariposa Basin Park—one of the premier venues in the Southwest.

The three-day event includes:

- Friday: ABQ Sports Commission Championships
- Saturday: U.S. Open Regional Championships
- Sunday: High Desert Ringers Open

With strong support from Visit Albuquerque, the ABQ Sports Commission, and the Mariposa Basin Horseshoe Club, participants can expect a well-run event and a great atmosphere. Off the courts, Albuquerque offers a vibrant mix of culture, local cuisine, and iconic scenery that makes this a destination tournament.

Hutchinson, Kansas continues its tradition of hosting top-tier competition at Rice Park. Following with the format for our ABQ event our event format will be: Friday - Visit Hutch Championships, Saturday - U.S. Nationals Regional Championships, Sunday - Jim's Rice Park Ringers Open.

The tournament features 8-person classes and 40-shoe games, providing competitive balance and quality play. Entry is \$50 per tournament or \$125 for all three, with scorekeeping included. Cash prizes and plaques will be awarded to the top three finishers in each class.

Hutchinson also offers unique attractions, including the Kansas Cosmosphere and Strataca, giving players and families plenty to enjoy throughout the weekend.

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

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2026 NHPA World Tournament

Our premiere event takes place in Wausau, Wisconsin, Wausau is our host for the 2026 NHPA World Tournament, taking place July 13–25, 2026.

This marquee event brings together the top pitchers from across the country for two weeks of elite competition and community. Wausau provides an excellent setting both on and off the courts, with access to outdoor recreation along the Wisconsin River, scenic views at Rib Mountain State Park, and a welcoming downtown filled with local dining and entertainment.

Players should be aware of the following key dates:

- World Tournament Entry Deadline: May 15, 2026
- Regional Tournament Registration: Early registration is strongly encouraged, as classes may fill quickly

Be sure to confirm all details with your regional director and through official NHPA communications.

With strong regional events in Albuquerque and Hutchinson leading into the World Tournament in Wausau, the 2026 season highlights the continued growth and momentum of the NHPA. These events not only provide high-level competition but also strengthen the connections that make the horseshoe community so unique. We look forward to seeing players from across the country come together for another outstanding season on the courts!

2026 World Tournament Setup Help Wanted

Have you ever wondered how the magnificent setup of 60 portable horseshoe courts is engineered and handled? It is a big project that requires solid planning and coordination with the local team. We need local help to make this happen and this year we have a good start on lining up helpers for the setup process beginning Tuesday July 7th. If you have any interest in learning how this is all done and would like to volunteer to help, make plans to be there on the setup days and watch for further instructions and contacts



NHPA 3RD VICE PRESIDENT
JERRY LABROSSE



National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
2026 World Horseshoe Pitching Championship
 July 13 - 26, 2026 Wausau, Wisconsin



2026

NAME: _____ NHPA Card # _____
 (Please Print Legibly) First Last (or Canadian #)

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell: _____ Birth Date: _____

Email: _____

Circle One >>>>>>> I will Print My schedule Email my schedule Mail my schedule

Circle the Division you are Entering: (You may enter only one Division) (See notes at bottom on page)

Open Men 40 ft	Sr Men 40 ft	Elder Men 30 ft	Open Women 30 ft	Sr Women 30 ft	Elder Women 20 ft	Jr Boys 30 ft	Jr Girls 30 ft	Cadet Boys 20 ft	Cadet Girls 20 ft
	Note #2	Note #1		Note #2		Note #3			

All application information above is required. Form will be returned if not signed below or is incomplete. ENTRY DEADLINE MAY 18, 2026

NO REFUNDS will be made after June 1, 2026. NOTE: A processing fee of \$15 will be deducted from all refunds.

PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA), all officers, employee's, agents and the servants of the NHPA, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. The NHPA and it's legal representatives (NHPA Officers) assigns, and retains the right and permissions to publish, without charge, photographs taken during the 2026 World Tournament. These photos or videos may be used in any publication, or in audio-visual presentations including "Live" interviews, promotional literature, advertising, sponsorships, or in other similar ways that the NHPA sees fit to use on behalf to represent and promote the NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament and the sport.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

* Mail top half only *

Entry Fees Adults -- \$150 before Jan 1, 2026 -- \$170 Jan 1 to May 18, 2026
 All Juniors/Cadets -- \$25 All Fund must be US Currency
 Canadian Entries must use a Money Order if sending payment Entry Fee includes Scorekeeping Fee

Mail to: NHPA Telephone & Email inquires to:
 2660 S Fairway Drive Phone: 208 201-3326
 Pocatello, ID 83201 Email: sec.treas@horseshoepitching.com

All Entries must be on this signed form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 18, 2026. You may enter anytime prior to May 18, 2026 using this form or on our website link. Entries received with a postmark after May 18, 2026 shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the World Tournament only as spaces are available. All Adults must have pitched in a minimum of four (4) US/Canadian sanctioned events in the twelve (12) months prior to May 18, 2026 in the same division you are entering. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors/Cadets. Exceptions for US Armed Forces members and family and Foreign competitors (other than Canadians) are outlined in Rule 11, Sec D.1 of the RGS Book. Contact NHPA for more information regarding qualifying exceptions. All Averages used will be the average on record in NHPA-eShoe as of May 18, 2026. Anyone qualifying under an exception must have those scores recorded by the same date. All NHPA and any special tournament rules apply. Please see note regarding refunds.

READ CAREFULLY: Any Adult male pitching from the full distance platform 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 Division, you must be 60 years of age or older before the end of 2026. Any Man/Women that turns 85 years of age in 2026, or has an approved Medical exemption may enter the Elders Division. Entrants in the Jr Boys and Jr Girls Division eighteen (18) years old or younger for the entire calendar year OR through September 30th of the year of completing high School - not to exceed 19 years of age. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Division entrants must be 12 years old or younger for the entire 2026 calendar year.

NOTE #1: 30 ft Men with a Medical Exemption must be in NHPA eShoe as "Exempt" to pitch in this Division. A copy of the Exemption Form must be sent with this application.
NOTE #2: For Prelim Class play, a minimum of 48 pitchers must enter Sr Division's or it may be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Division if canceled.
NOTE #3: Junior Boys & Junior Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play.

The pitching schedule will be finalized by May 31, 2026 and published on the NHPA website www.horseshoepitching.com. If you indicate above to receive the schedule by mail, it will be mailed to the address you have listed above during the 2nd week in June. Please write address clearly & readable.

Please note: The NHPA reserves the right to disallow your participation for any of the following reasons: Any errors on this form, if your records don't appear in NHPA eShoe or any false or misleading information on this form, cannot validate Medical Exemption, or for any other reason by majority vote of the NHPA Council. The NHPA also reserves the right to add qualified entrants and to make class participant changes after the above deadline. No pitcher will be moved from a class or pitching time, without notification, after the final schedule has been published.

PRINT AND MAIL IN TODAY OR ENTER ONLINE!

eShoe & NHPF Reports



**NHPF President
Jim Kinney JR**

Hope everyone is having a good month. We are getting closer to the start of the outside pitching season. Along with more tournaments and leagues starting, there are more stats at each charter. The eShoe program has been a great tool for tracking these stats. We are working to educate tournament directors to help host tournaments using eShoe without HS Master. I am working on a how-to-video that will take you thru this process step by step. If you are a Tournament Director and would like to run your tournament in eShoe please contact me and I will set up a login for this to be possible.

I have had numerous people contact me on eShoe issues. If you need something, please email me. If you need an issue handled asap you will need to text me. Either way I will contact you.

I have been nominated to fill the position of NHPF President. Our council is made up of the President, Vice-President and five other directors from around the country. The NHPF is based out of the Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame and Museum located at Wentzville, Missouri. We conducted a zoom meeting to discuss here the NHPF organization is going in the future. We are working as a council to get information to the pitchers on what is happening and which direction the NHPF is going. The NHPF and the NHPA work together on different levels. Hopefully the NHPF and the NHPA can work together to accomplish many projects to accent the members experiences. If anyone has any ideas or have any questions on the NHPF please contact me.

“He is not here: for he is risen”



**NHPA CHAPLAIN
KEN HEINRITZ**

The big day will soon be upon Wisconsinites. Wisconsin is hosting the 2026 World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. Back in 2003 we (yes I'm from this great state) last experienced the World Tournament in Wisconsin, up in Eau Claire. I still have fond memories of that tournament. Are you ready? Have you signed up? Are you bringing friends, family members? This is our opportunity ... if not now ... when? Now is the time to act!

This reminds me of what we are told in Scripture: “Now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation” (II Cor. 6:2). Oftentimes we put off important things that we should act upon immediately. The Bible says that all have fallen short of what

God expects. Adam’s sin was passed on to all mankind. But in God’s love & mercy & grace, He sent His own Son to take care of our ‘sin problem’. Jesus bore God’s wrath on the cross, as He was made to be sin for us. This was God’s solution to Man’s problem. Jesus paid the price we owed on the cross. He

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suffered and died on our behalf. And then Jesus rose from the dead. He is alive today! Now the ball is in our court. The choice is ours: we either receive the Savior who died for us or we can reject the Savior, by putting off the decision. With Easter coming up, let's remember 'He did this for each of us.' Now is the time to act.

"Happy Easter" or better yet "Happy Resurrection"

"...sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned." Romans 5:12

"God made him (Jesus) who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." II Cor. 5:21

"Yet to all who did receive him (Jesus), to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12

NHPA Hall of Fame Spotlight

by Stan Griggs

Dale Carson Maryland

Dale Carson from Baltimore, Maryland pitched horseshoes for fifty years and was inducted to the NHPA in the year of his golden wedding anniversary.

He won the Pennsylvania State Championship in 1936 and then went on to win 18 Maryland State Titles from 1947-1960 and then again in 1969-1972. Dale pitched in the Men's Championship Class at the World Tournaments in 1969 – Erie, Pennsylvania averaging 71.83% and then again in 1972 – Greenville, Ohio with a 73.99%. Continuing to pitch in World tournament competition in the Seniors Championship in 1971, 1974 and 1976 as well as the Elder's Championship in 1983.

Dale once said "I would not have my good health today if it were not for horseshoe pitching. My doctor recommends it."

If you have any questions regarding the World Tournament Stats or the NHPA Hall of Fame, you may email me @ moshroe63@gmail.com.



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Stan Griggs,
NHPA World Tournament Statistician
NHPA Hall of Fame Chairman



NHPA STATISTICIAN
STAN GRIGGS

250TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION PART 2



It is now time for Part III of our 250th Anniversary Edition which we are highlighting the 1976 World Tournament which was played in Levittown, Pennsylvania. Before they were pitching in the Men's Division, they dominated the Junior Boy's Division. This might be one of the greatest Junior events ever. Not only did all the players average over 70%, but four of them pitched more than 80% and the pitcher who finished in last place averaged a blistering 76.6%. Brian Simmons from Maine shocked Jeff Williams 51-42 in round six to force a playoff series. The table was now set for the Brotherly Play-off series to begin. Jeff William of Auburn, California had to prove to his brother "Deadeye" three times that he could win, and three times he did. In regulation play Jeff popped him with a 90.4% game of 156 shoes. In the two playoff games he pitched 89.8% and 90.5% with a total of 180 shoes. It must have been difficult for Mr. and Mrs. Williams to watch, but rest assured they knew they were taking the World Championship back to California one way or the other.

W-L PCT.

- 1st Place – Jeff Williams – California 8-1 87.8%
- 2nd Place – Walter Ray Williams Jr. – California 6-3 86.6%
- 3rd Place – Rick Howe – Massachusetts 4-3 82.9%
- 4th Place – Brian Simmons – Maine 4-3 79.0%
- 5th Place – Steve Hohl – Ontario, CN 3-4 83.8%
- 6th Place – Mike Stout – Illinois 2-5 75.4%
- 7th Place – Brian Neff – Ohio 2-5 73.3%
- 8th Place – Randy Hymer – Ohio 1-6 76.6%

"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."

- Benjamin Franklin

Provided key diplomatic and political support as part of the Committee of Five.

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2026 Elections!

Who doesn't just love a good election, right? Right?

Attached is the letters of intent for each position open for election this year

Secretary/Treasurer

One of, if not the most critical NHPA offices is that of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer. Handling the NHPA financials, fielding phone calls and emails on a daily basis and running the annual world horseshoe pitching championships, the Secretary/Treasurer is integral to the operations of the NHPA!

Incumbent - Brian Poole

Brian Poole has served as NHPA Secretary/Treasurer since Q4 of 2023, after being appointed by NHPA President, Gary Roberts, to fill a vacancy left in the role. Brian stated his intent in late January:

“I let the council know that I am running for Sec/Treasurer again and hope I can serve you for another 3 years. It has been a pleasure to be on the NHPA Council and organize the World Tournament each year with the great council members I get to work with. If there is anything that I can help you with, please give me a call.”

Second Vice President

Also on the ballot are the Second and Fourth Vice Presidents, while VP duties can change our 2nd VP currently handles World Tournament Coordination and oversees NHPA Promotions.

Incumbent - Dalton Rakestraw

“I am writing to formally state my intent to seek election for the position of 2nd Vice President for the 2027-2029 term.

Serving in this role has been both an honor and a responsibility I take seriously. During my current appointed term, I have worked diligently to restore relationships with the NHPA and DMOs/CVBs from across the globe as well as take extra initiative to try and update our current operations for membership growth, while remaining committed to the values and goals of the NHPA. This experience has strengthened my dedication to continued service and meaningful leadership.

If re-elected, I look forward to building on the progress we have made and continuing to support the purpose of the NHPA, which shall be to develop, foster, and promote organized horseshoe pitching at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels; as a recreational pastime and as a

Continued on next page

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2026 Elections!

Continued

competitive sport; by providing direction, organization, published materials, and approved equipment; in an effort to enhance the sport. I am committed to collaboration, transparency, and representing the best interests of our members.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued trust. I would be grateful for the opportunity to serve in this role for the upcoming term.”

Fourth Vice President

Our 4th VP currently oversees Regional Directors and League operations for the NHPA

Incumbent - Barbara Carson

“I am pleased to announce that I am seeking re-election for this position. I have been involved in this great sport and the NHPA since 2009. I was appointed to this position in 2021 and am currently responsible for the Court Sanctioning and all Regional Director and in 2024 I was appointed as the Sanction League National Director.

Here are a few of my accomplishments within the NHPA Administration:

2010 - Began working in the stat room at the annual world tournament. I began pitching in the tournament in 2011

2013 - I was appointed the Regional Director for the state of Arizona until 2019

2015 - I was awarded the Gene and Mary Van Sant Award at the Hall of Fame banquet

2016 - My husband and I joined the Horseshoe Tour, formerly known as The Pro Tour. I have attended every tournament on the Tour, except 1.

2020-Moved back to Arizona and was honored to be inducted into the Arizona State Hall of Fame and also won the Arizona State Women’s Division Championship.

2021 - Appointed to NHPA 4th Vice President, overseeing regional directors and the stat room at the world tournament

2024-Took over the responsibilities of the Sanction League National Director.

I have re-vamped both the Tournament Sanction Certificates to include the Token Number for sending results to eShoe and the Court Sanction Certificates to include the current Officers signatures. One of my major responsibilities is ordering the Tournament Patches for all 50 states. The RD’s send me their patch order request and I fill those orders and send them to them, along with Tournament Sanction Certificates, if needed. I have sent each RD a copy of the Tournament Sanction Certificate, and quite a few of them fill it out print it themselves. Also, this year, 2026, I was on the committee to completely redesign the NHPA tournament patches I feel the experience and knowledge I have gained from being part of the NHPA, as a pitcher, a promoter, a leader, a Tournament Director, a Regional Director, and Executive Officer, both at the State level and the current NHPA Council qualifies me for this position. If I am re-elected, I will continue to maintain the supportfor the sport and the NHPA.”

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Candidate - Don Goers

My name is Don Goers from Illinois, a member of NHPA for 23 years and I am writing to you to put my name in for the position of the NHPA 4th vice president.

I am interested in this position because I love the sport of horseshoes and there are a lot of great people involved that over the years became good friends with. I know everybody says that and that's why we are all here. I would like to continue pitching and help grow the sport. I am very active in our State charter; holding the position of Secretary/Treasurer and the Publicity Director. In this role I run the ILSHPA website. My family and I have been involved in the NHPA for over 15 years. I raised my 3 daughters around the sport where they all went through the cadent and junior program. They are all still pitching in the women's class. Now I have my granddaughter playing as a junior. We all are following my dad. Over the last few years I have been getting more involved in the sport by traveling a little more to pitch in other tournaments like by going out the Valley of the Sun for 3 years now and enjoying playing and meeting more people outside of my area.

Who am I everyday? I am a Head custodian for my career and what I can bring with me for this is leadership, organization, computer skills, ownership, event setups, hard work, and communication. I know running for this position will give me the opportunity to meet more people in the organization throughout the nation. Thank you all for considering me to be your next 4th Vice president of NHPA. Have a good day and Happy Pitching.

How are council members & directors determined?

Oftentimes we hear people say the council should do this, or should do that, or this would be good, or that would be good, but more rarely do we hear someone wanting to step into the administrative side of the NHPA and join the team that drives the association. Now we know that not everyone can or has the desire to be involved with all of the administrative stuff that goes on behind the scenes but it's good for everyone to know how to get involved! If you're ever interested in joining a committee or serving as an NHPA director, the process is simple. All you have to do is send in your intention to NHPA President, Ben Webb, and I'm sure the NHPA can find a spot for you to get in and help the team!

A little more complex but not that difficult is trying to join the NHPA Council. All you need to do to get on the ballot annually is submit your letter of intent to the NHPA President and Newsletter editor by the deadline of April 1st each year to apply to be on the ballot for that years' elections. NHPA Officers are elected to three year terms, with 2025 seeing 1st and 3rd VP's decided, 2026 holding elections for 2nd & 4th VP's and NHPA Secretary/Treasurer, and 2027 completing the cycle with the President and 5th VP spots being decided.

But how do I vote? Every state sends a series of delegates to the annual convention each summer, we also do mail-in ballots for unrepresented charters for elections. Get with your state representative to let them know your preference each year and get involved in the process!

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Charter Tournaments Kicking Off!

Well here we are already in April. Tournaments are in full swing and hopefully warmer days are ahead. Each month I would like to feature different tournaments. If you would like to have your tournaments featured in the monthly digest, please send me a brief email with the information about the tournament you would like to have featured. This month I am featuring the Georgia Horseshoe Pitchers Association:



NHPA 4TH VICE PRESIDENT
BARBARA CARSON

Although it was a little chaotic at the first of the tournament, as it always is for the first one, we had a great day pitching the first tournament of the 2026 season. We had preregistered in hopes to have it a little easier to get started and to use the new eshoe and scoring on the tablets. I think most enjoyed the tablet scoring and being able to track fellow players throughout the day! We will continue to work and learn about the new system in the coming months. We had 46 pitchers to show up and pitched two shifts. We do want to welcome Tommie Golden, a new pitcher from Columbus , and current leader of Rookie of the Year. Thanks to all the people who helped with food, drinks, scorekeeping and cleanup! Next tournament is this coming Saturday in Hull. Call Jeff Coile by Wednesday to get registered. His phone is 706-207-9831.

Class 30A

1st - Royce Byrd (5/0- 38.50%)

2nd - Sherry Folds (4/1- 43.5%)

3rd - Michael Manigo (3/2- 27.5%)

Class 30B

1st - George Schmidt (5/0- 44.5%)

2nd - Stevan Tiggles (4/1- 27.0%)

3rd - Randy Morris (2/3- 27.5%)

Class 40A

1st - Ronnie Miller (4.5/.5- 23.5%)

2nd - Jack Lester (3/2- 25.0%)

3rd - James Rozier (3/2- 23.5%)

Class 40B Champion

1st - Michael Exner(4/1- 33.5%)

Class 40C Champion

1st - Larry Myers, Jr. (3/1- 16.88%)

Class Championship 30

1st - Ray Hudgins (4/0- 45.63%)

Class Championship 40

1st - Matthew Braswell (4/1- 46.5%)

Class Mixed

1st - Leonard Cooper (4/0- 25.63%)

I would like to send sincere condolences to Regional Director Mary Williams of Arizona who lost her husband Tom yesterday after a long struggle with cancer. Our prayers and thoughts are with Mary and her family.

Thank You to all of you for everything you do to support our sport. See you at the Pits!

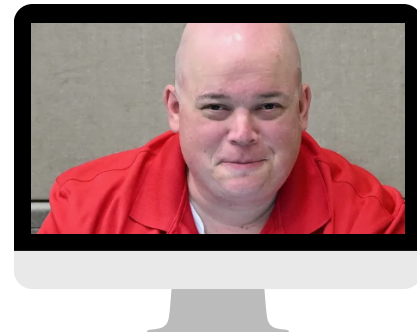
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Minnesota missed the NCAA tournament, don't miss the WT!

The weather is finally starting to warm up; I am looking forward to the first outdoor tournament on my schedule this year. Don't forget to check out the website or eShoe for the upcoming spring/summer schedule of tournaments here in Minnesota! Doesn't hurt to get a few in before the World Tournament to stay focused and in tip top performance. Speaking of the world tournament. Don't forget to get signed up for World!! As I am putting this article together, we are at 74 signed up that are from MN, we have a goal in Minnesota to send at least 100 members, I think we will achieve that for sure!!! You can get the online signup right from our



NHPA 5TH VICE PRESIDENT
JOSH OLSON

website or by visiting the NHPA website as well to get signed up. We have a few months left to go, ARE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

I want to say good luck to everyone pitching in the Albuquerque New Mexico Tournaments coming up in April! Good luck also to everyone who signed up and will be pitching in the annual 30ft and 40ft Hall of Fame Invitational in Wentzville MO at Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club. That is one tough grind of a tournament packed into 2 days. See you on the courts!

Team World, HOF Invitational, & Wausau!

I don't know how everyone else's weather has been but ours has been crazy one day it is warm enough for shorts and the next day it is back to winter clothes. I have been wanting to get out and practice but it seems like when I try it is either too windy or the weather is not warm enough. I hope everyone will be taking advantage of the new tournaments that the NHPA will be hosting this is a great way to try a style of tournament and maybe even travel to somewhere you have not been to before. As I am typing this email the deadlines are approaching for the Hall of Fame Invitational as well as Team World if you got an invite to the HOF invitational I strongly suggest that you send in the invite just to see where you might stand you never know you might make the cut and be able to play in an awesome Tournament to start the season. Team World is another tournament that if you have never attended it is a very fun tournament to participate in as well. This will be the 40th Team World and I know the Tournament Directors and committee's will have a nice tournament set up for us. I am still looking for people to sponsor courts for the World Tournament if you are interested in sponsoring a court at the WT please reach out to myself or Ben Webb. I am also looking for additional sponsorships from either your club or charter for The World tournament there are many different options that we are offering and some would be putting up a banner at the World Tournament to advertise your club or charter. I will be attending both of the Hall of Fame Invitational as well as Team World in the month of May so if you would like to chat with me in person please do not hesitate to stop me and talk. I hope everyone that is close to the mid west will strongly consider attending the World Tournament in Wausau this year it is going to be a very nice facility and area.



1ST VICE PRESIDENT
AUSTIN BAILEY

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Social Media Promotions vs Boots on the Ground



**PUBLICITY DIRECTOR
MICHELLE FOARD**

April is here and so is spring! I am sure many of you are getting stuff ready for leagues. The Marketing Committee is coming out with a flyer of things for you to do to help gain membership. Just a few of the key items to think about.

Good old word of mouth. Invite friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, church friends and ask your kids to invite friends. Another good resource is Facebook. Most cities have a community page. Take a few photos of the courts and pitchers. Make a post talking about your club. Remember kids pitch free again this year. I know our state Mn waives fees for the kids. I also made it a point for my club to waive fees for kids as well. So its totally free. Include, try it free for a few nights for adults to see if they like it. Post on surrounding city pages as well. Also make sure your club has extra shoes on hand for new pitchers. I have found Facebook market place and craigslist are great resources to find old shoes. Check out garage sales as well. Another thing you can do is post flyers up at grocery stores, restaurants, community centers and churches. Just think if each one of us got 1 new person to join. Reach out to old members. Sometimes people leave to raise kids and maybe they are ready to come back and play. Make plans now to get the word out.

Also I invite everyone to send me club photos. I would love to do a video of all the clubs. You can email photos to Lynx3921@aol.com or send them to me on Facebook. Let's see all them smiling faces!

As always I encourage all of you to post anything horseshoe related on our National FB page. Our old page was hacked and several people still post on that one. So go to the search and type in National Horseshoe Pitchers Association-Official Group. The photo has our new logo. So post any tournaments and results you have. We love seeing all our pitchers!

The World Tournament deadline is fast approaching. I know many of you may still have questions. Feel free to reach out to me. If I don't know the answer I know where I can find it. I know especially for first time pitchers this can be confusing and scary trying to figure things out. Believe me I was there in 2023. I asked so many questions. So let me help you figure things out.

Happy Spring and let's start the season strong!

NHPA ADMIN DIGEST

April 2026



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