



2021 NHPA Annual Business Meeting



25 July 8:30 AM

Winnemucca Convention Center - Winnemucca, Nevada

- President Stuart Sipma made some announcements before the meeting was called to order.
- Stuart Sipma stated Covid 19 virus is active, and he asked that everyone attending the meeting please practice social distancing.
- Stuart Sipma stated the Sergeant of Arms and the timekeeper for the meeting will be Austin Bailey from Illinois.
- Stuart Sipma requested all who are in attendance please place cell phones on silent.
- Stuart Sipma stated Russ Phillips will be the NHPA Chaplain for the 2021 church service at 2:00 pm.
- Stuart Sipma stated the Hall of Fame Banquet will start at 5:00 pm with social hour.
- Stuart Sipma stated the NHPA are needing score keepers during play.
- Stuart Sipma requested all charters who will be speaking during the meeting to announce their name and charter before addressing the NHPA council.
- The Meeting was called to order by President Stuart Sipma at 8:33 am.
- Stuart Sipma asked Jim Kinney Jr to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Stuart Sipma thanked all veterans and military members for all they have done for us serving our country.
- Stuart Sipma reviewed the meeting rules. Stuart asked for a motion to except the meeting rules. A motion was made by Buddy Lampkin and Chris seconded it.
- Stuart Sipma introduced the Minutes Approval Committee. This includes Phyllis Quist (WA), Austin Bailey (IL), and Ron Highley (MO).

-NHPA Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Kinney Jr, was introduced. Jim presented the profit and loss statement for 2020. Jim also read the totals in each of the four accounts as of 25 July 2021. Jim asked for questions. A question was asked by Ron Highley (MO) about the junior account. Jim stated there were still a lot of juniors that have not been paid for their winnings from past world tournaments and scholarship money still in the account. No more questions were asked. A motion was made and approved to accept the 2020 financial report.

-Stuart Sipma read the credential report. There was a total of 71 votes present. 2/3 of the votes were 48, 3/4 of the votes were 54, and simple majority was 36 on any issue.

-Stuart Sipma introduced Sheila Snow, Vice president of communications at discover Monroe West Monroe, for a short presentation on the 2022 NHPA World Tournament.

-Stuart Sipma introduced Lansing Michigan with Mike Price and Megan Ziehmer the 2023 NHPA World Tournament site with a short presentation. Move in is on July 11th, 2023. The tournament runs from July 17th thru July 29th, 2023.

-Stuart Sipma opened floor for the World Tournament discussion. Kurt Whaley (SD) asked how much thought has been on making the World Tournament a one-week tournament? Stuart stated he would pass the question on to the next NHPA president and maybe start a committee to investigate a study to see if changing the format would be beneficial. Seth Ohms (UT) made a statement that the championship matches need to have a better showcase. Seth made some suggestions that may help the marketing of the championship matches. Seth also suggested to have a press conference or local press for the winners. Stuart stated the NHPA has been trying to get any press in the local community to attend the tournament but had no one commit. The NHPA Newline editor, Blain Scott (UT), stated he would be willing to setup after the championship matches to do interviews in the future.

-Brian Poole, NHPA 1st Vice President, was introduced. Brian stated the new rule books have been revised and are available. Brian stated there are no rule changes or bylaw changes presented for 2021. Brian stated there should be a wording change on page 21, rule 12, sec D. This is due to the legal marijuana laws thru out the country. Sharon Chiddister (IN) asked the question, how are you going to determine when the pitcher is too impaired to pitch? Brian stated we need to make sure the safety of the pitchers be maintained during play so the judges will be the first to make this determination. Seth Ohms (UT) asked what is the merit to the decisions made by the rules committee on what rules make it thru to the convention for vote? Brian stated the rules committee works conservative to make sure the rule, or bylaw, change presented is for the betterment of the NHPA members and the organization. Seth stated the merit should be for the organization, members, and game in general. Seth also continued by stating there should be some sort of communication from the committee stating why the rule/bylaw submitted did not make it to the floor of the convention.

-Laurie Lampkin, NHPA 2nd Vice President, was introduced. Laurie stated 2020 was not a good year for cities in any sport due to the Corona Virus. The reason the NHPA counsel moved Monroe, LA from 2023 to 2022 is the venue originally contracted for Lansing, MI in 2022 was sold. Moving the NHPA world tournament from Monroe, LA to Lansing, MI in 2022 helped Lansing to solidify a new venue for 2023. Laurie stated the NHPA had 11 potential bidders for the 2024 World Tournament site at this time. Laurie stated the NHPA has been working on continuing the NHPA trading cards. Laurie introduced Stan Griggs (MO). Stan stated their committee first introduced the NHPA 2020 set of trading cards producing four different categories, Men's World Champions, Women's World Champions, The Contender's Set, and The Vintage printing 100 sets in each. Stan stated they sold out of the original sets and reprinted 50 sets in each category Stan stated he came up with four categories with 100 sets each for 2021. The four sets for 2021 are Elders World Championship, Seniors World Championship, Hall of Fame, and Juniors. There are 12 card sets in each package. Stan asked the members to support the trading card program that helps solidify the NHPA heritage. Laurie stated this is one way the NHPA is trying to generate income. Laurie stated her team is working on sponsorship for Monster, Bluebell ice cream, and world tournament trophies.

Laurie asked that each charter try to keep this information updated. Laurie asked for everyone who is on social media to please refrain from posting negative remarks on social sites and to contact the NHPA if they have any issues. Seth Ohms (UT) asked if the NHPA was generating any income from the advertising on the NHPA webpage also if the NHPA is giving free advertising to products on the webpage? Jim Kinney Jr stated the NHPA is working on trying to clean up the website. Stuart stated the NHPA will not provide free advertising to any company.

-Jerry Smith, NHPA 3rd Vice President, was introduced. Jerry thanked Paul Stewart, Blaine Scott, and Dave Sidles for updating the NHPA website. Jerry stated he runs leagues in each charter. Jerry stated the NHPA has between 280 and 300 leagues a year but in 2020 he had 109 leagues. Jerry stated the sanction league tournament is still scheduled for the first week in October. Jerry stated he was the person who ships the trading cards and he had offered a special at the World Tournament for \$70.00 for all four sets because there was not any shipping cost.

-Dalton Rakestraw, NHPA 5th Vice President, was introduced. Dalton stated as NHPA 5th vice president his duties were Director over Charter Reginal directors, World Tournament Set up director, and Junior director. Dalton stated he has given Reginal Directors access to eShoe to enter and edit tournaments within their charters. Dalton also stated he has been hosting quarterly Zoom meetings bringing different topics to each one. Dalton stated Kurt Whaley (SD) has been attending some of the meetings to answer questions on the eShoe program. Kurt has answered every question posed to him helping the Reginal Directors be better in learning and navigating the program. Dalton stated anyone who has any questions on tournaments in their charter needs to contact their Reginal Director. Kelly Glidewell (VA) asked if there was any chance of outsourcing score keeping during the World Tournament? Stuart Sipma stated the NHPA has reached out to boy scouts and cheerleader groups but do not get many responses. Stuart stated that was up to the host of the Tournaments. Dalton stated the idea was outstanding. Stuart Sipma ended by saying the NHPA would like the charters to step up to the plate wherever the world tournament is being hosted. Buddy Lampkin (KY) asked if the NHPA could put on a clinic and have juniors keep score during the world tournament? Buddy stated who ever keeps the most during the tournament receives a prize. Dalton stated that would be a great idea for juniors. Peter Zepponi (CA) asked if there could be some scheduled activities thru the week for

the juniors who come to the tournament with their parents who are participants? Dalton stated he has been approached by parents asking if there could be more events for the juniors. Dalton Stated that is very possible and he would investigate it. Seth Ohms (UT) stated it would behoove the NHPA to have more activities for the juniors throughout the world tournament. Seth Ohms asked what he was doing as NHPA Junior director to increase junior growth within the organization. Dalton stated since he took over NHPA junior director in 2020 he has started online Junior tournaments and has generated new junior members. Dalton stated he has been approved for a youth fund to look out to promote and increase junior participation. Dalton stated he has joined the National Alliance for Youth Sports to get some feed back on how to manage and facilitate youth sports.

-Stuart Sipma asked for a moment of silence for the NHPA fourth Vice President, Wayne Callicoatte (TX), who passed away 15 June 2021. He fought to attend the world tournament right to the end.

-Jim Kinney Jr, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer, was introduced. Jim stated this time in 2019 we had no idea how many pitchers we had in each charter until we received the end of year report. Jim stated the eShoe program has made it possible to track instantaneous how many pitchers are in each charter, who has paid, or not paid, and other areas needed to track the NHPA membership each year. Jim stated the eShoe program has helped manage his job tremendously and has also helped all the charters. Jim Kinney Jr asked Kurt Whaley (SD) to address the convention participants with an update on the eshoe program. Kurt stated he was nervous rolling out the program, but it has been accepted with positive feedback. Kurt stated he set up the program to be introduced in three different phases. Kurt stated he wanted to talk about what is left in the last phase. Kurt stated they just implemented a new page on the NHPA webpage for new members to join without going thru a charter. Kurt stated one of the items he is still working on is how to clone a schedule so the Reginal Directors would not have to recreate the schedule every year. They could just edit and update in eShoe. Kurt stated they are trying to make the results a little more user friendly when viewing them in eShoe. Kurt stated they are working on a way members can upload the results for all events in the charters. Kurt stated they are working on a way to put entries into each tournament right in eShoe. This would allow the Tournament Directors to download tournament results right out of eShoe. Kurt stated they are working to

help charters maintain charter fees thru eShoe. Kurt stated there will be a few bugs throughout the process, but he will be there to edit them. Blaine Scott (UT) asked if there was a way to automatically generate a report from eShoe to send to Lauri Lampkin to help with new member packets? Kurt stated it is an easy thing that could be created. Kurt stated he hopes everyone who has a mobile phone, or I pad, has the links to eShoe and the NHPA website. Kurt stated the NHPA is working on everything being mobile friendly and paperless. Jim Kinney stated the 2021 world tournament entries were closed at 730 entries. Jim stated there had been 75 dropouts and there are 719 entries to date. Jim stated the world tournament has gone well and smooth. Jim stated the NHPA team has done a fantastic job of running the tournament.

-Blaine Scott, Newsline editor, Social Media Director, and webpage Director, was introduced. Blaine stated he appreciated all who submitted articles to the Newsline.

-Phyllis Quist, board member for the NHPF, was introduced. Phyllis stated she was giving a report in place of Casey Sluys, NHPF president, who is going thru some serious health issues. Phyllis stated the NHPA Hall of Fame building is closed for now. If there is someone who wants to tour the Hall of Fame, they need to call to schedule an appointment. On behalf of the NHPF Phyllis would like to thank everyone for their donations. Phyllis stated Joe Faron has stepped down as an NHPF board member and Norm Pierce will take his place. Phyllis stated Joe Faron was one of the main driving forces on the construction of the NHPA Hall of Fame. Phyllis stated a brick will be placed in the plaza for Joe Faron. Phyllis stated if anyone wanted to purchase a brick to be placed at the Hall of Fame you can go online and to make the purchase. Stuart Sipma stated the NHPF provides grants for those in charters who want to build new pits to start a league and if they are interested to contact the NHPF.

-Stuart Sipma stated election of officers in 2021 are the President and the Fifth Vice President. Stuart stated each officer would be on a three-year term per the NHPA bylaws. Stuart stated there were two candidates for 5th Vice President. Stuart stated he would be reading Don Epps (OH) bio because he could not be present and then he would introduce Dalton Rakestraw (IL). Stuart read Don's bio and ask Dalton to address the convention with his bio. Dalton read his bio then Stuart asked

the convention delegates to cast their vote for the person they would like to have as the 5th Vice President. Stuart introduced Gary Roberts (OH) who by rule of acclamation, in Roberts Rule, was the only candidate for NHPA President therefore was inducted as the next President of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association effective Jan 1st, 2022. Gary Roberts stated the NHPA owes a huge debt of gratitude to Stuart Sipma for all his years of service. Gary stated when he thought of running for President, he had two important things necessary to determine his decision. Gary stated his Wife was the first thing. It was important to know that she supported his decision. Gary stated the second thing was to talk to his employer where he was Director of Operation for 12 community health centers. Gary stated he has been able to locate a replacement for his position and is planning on retiring to coincide with becoming NHPA President. Gary stated he thinks it is important to know the horseshoe family he comes from. Gary stated over seventy members of his family have pitched in sanction leagues or tournaments. Gary read all the achievements his family has accomplished over the years. Gary stated the reasons for him wanting to be NHPA President is the NHPA team and the enjoyment of the sport. Gary stated we are all aware of the problems in our sport. Gary stated he did not think anyone has all the answers, but he has the passion and the ability to work hard towards our goals. Gary stated everyone is going to have to work together. Stuart Sipma stated he will be working with Gary till the end of the year on all critical decisions.

-Stuart Sipma stated the results for the 5th Vice President was in. Dalton Rakestraw had 69 votes and Don Epps had 2 votes. Stuart Sipma announced Dalton Rakestraw was the NHPA 5th Vice President for the next 3 years.

-Stuart Sipma stated he and the incoming president, Gary Roberts met and appointed an NHPA 4th Vice President to replace Wayne Callicoatte (TX). Stuart Sipma introduced Barbara Carson (AZ) as the new 4th Vice President. Barb stated it was an honor to be elected to the NHPA Council and looks forward to working with all the wonderful people. Barbara stated she wanted to thank her husband for all the support he gives her.

-Stuart Sipma stated he and Gary Roberts also met and changed some duties on the NHPA Council. Stuart stated, Barbara Carsons 4th Vice Presidents duty will be the new National Regional Director over all the charters replacing 5th Vice President, Dalton Rakestraw. Effective immediately.

-Stuart Sipma asked for open discussion. Pam Gloppa (FL) asked why the ringer percentage is still averaged by taking the top 3 of the last 10 tournaments as apposed to just taking the last 10 as an average? Stuart stated we felt like if we took the last 3 high it would be the fairest way to establish an average for the world tournament. Seth Ohms (UT) stated the top 3 tournaments are an average of our competitive potential. Seth stated it was a really good way of establishing the average. Stuart asked Gary Roberts to take a note and have the council research this further.

-Stuart Sipma stated before we adjourn, he wanted to thank everyone for the 12 years he was allowed to serve.

-A motion was made and passed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Kinney Jr

NHPA Secretary/Treasurer