THE HORSESHOE PITCHER



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EDITORIAL

When you receive the next issue of THE HORSESHOE PITCHER, the August number, your Editor will have completed his first year as a publisher. It looked very dubious every once in a while as to whether I would be able to continue for a whole year. This magazine was started as "a labor of love" but I really hoped that I might break even. If the subscriptions continue to come in up to the end of August, it looks like I will be in the black to the extent that if I add a few dollars to my year's profits, I may be able to buy myself a new suit. The time and labor that my printer, Norman Compton, a real horseshoe fan, and myself have put in are not being counted, for to do that would mount up to a loss of many dollars. The only cost to me was to the pressman, the binder and the price of Uncle Sam's postage. Under these circumstances I only had the actual number of magazines printed each month to take care of my subscribers with a few extra copies to send out as samples. As I intend to continue to publish under these same conditions for the following year I am asking all those whose subscriptions expire to use immediately the subscription blank that will be sent you for a renewal as I WILL HAVE NO BACK NUMBERS. I want to thank all you folks who subscribed, sent in news items and those advertisers who helped pull me through my first year as an Editor.

BYRON JASKULEK

SPECIAL ATTENTION

I am in receipt of a letter which states that Mr. Harris has been broadcasting over a loud speaker, statements which are lies. Mr. Harris at Canton, Ohio, on June 19th in an interview over the loud speaker stated that the Buckeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association's charter was not legal. Let me tell you that Mr. Harris is the President of the National, but as for the issuing of charters, or saying what is legal, he has nothing at all to say, any more than any one of the other four executive board members.

This is only one of about a dozen charters which I have sent out this year, and if this charter is not legal, then the rest are not legal either for he has signed them all. I want to tell you also that the other four executive board members all voted in favor of the issuing of this charter, and it is absolutely legal, and what ever Mr. Harris says regarding this is false.

The Ohio association, which were issued a charter, and whom Mr. Harris is trying to defend, have caused so much discord within the

National association that it is just possible that steps might be taken to revoke the charter which was issued to them; it will only take a majority of the executive board members to do just that.

I will issue sanctions to the Buckeye association, as well as any other association, for all of their tournaments.

I want to clear this thing up for the benefit of the horseshoe pitchers of Ohio, and to assure you that whatever Mr. Harris, or the Ohio association say, I ask you to ignore, for I am in charge of this office and have full charge of sanctions and certificates which are issued.

Your National Secretary-Treasurer,

HARVEY W. CLEAR

CALIFORNIA

By Joseph Tway

Here are the records of the San Francisco Golden Gate Horseshoe Club Annual Memorial Tournament held each year at the San Francisco Golden Gate Club courts.

This starts the Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers activities for the year. From now on, the different clubs around northern California will put on their own individual tournaments, which will keep the average horseshoe pitcher busy.

The next big tournament will be at the Santa Cruz Horseshoe Club on the 3rd and 4th of July. They always put on one of the finest tournaments of the year and we are looking forward to some good pitching and a lot of fun.

To get back to our own tournament just played, we had about 55 men qualify—the top 16 men making the tournament. We split the 16 men up and made two 8 men round robins. The lowest man to make this tournament qualified at 201. There were two very fine round robins and there were some very fine percentages made in the two divisions. The next day after this tournament, we held our club picnic and our Ladies' Tournament. That is the day the men entertain the ladies by cooking, keeping score, washing dishes and anything else to make this a memorable day for the ladies. Here also, are the score of the Ladies' Day Tournament.

GROUP ONE

	AND IN COST OF	Won	Lost		The property of	Won	Lost
1.	Mori	7	0	5.	Ollason	2	5
2.	Zimmerman	. 6	1	6.	Blexrude	2	5
3.	Titcomb	5	2	7.	Pipe	1	- 6
4.	Gallas	4	3	8.	Mike	. 1	6

GROUP TWO

		Won	Lost			Won	Lost
1.	Tway	6	1	5.	Lyon	3	4
2.	Jozwiak	5	2	6.	Griffin	3	4
3.	Hoxmier	4	3	7.	Bradt	3	4
4.	Tomsic	4	3	8.	Hill	0	7

LADIES' TOURNAMENT

	Wo	n Lost				Won	Lost
1.	Mrs. Freyen 7	0	5.	Mrs.	Mori	. 4	3
2.	Mrs. Cabauntous6	1	6.	Mrs.	Clark	. 3	4
3.	Mrs. Doggett 5	2	7.	Mrs.	Tway .	. 1	6
4.	Mrs. Callas 4	3	8.	Mrs.	Smith .	. 1	6

CONNECTICUT

By Michael Vecchitto

On May 29th the Manchester Horseshoe Club played an 18-18 tie with the Providence, R. I. horseshoe team. Peter Heroux is the New England Champion (unofficial) from the tournament held in New Hampshire last year. The match was played at Pope Park, Hartford, Conn.

Dana	vidence	. D '	T
Pro	viaence	. K.	Ι.

	Won	Lost	Pct.
R. Pearson	. 6	0	63.8
P. Heroux	. 5	1	63.1
A. Bourgeois	. 2	4	51.3
J. Arnold	. 2	4	49.7
L. Welch	. 2	4	47.1
N. Keenyon	. 1	5	49.7
	-	_	
	18	18	54.0
Manchester, Conn			

	Won	Lost	Pct.
J. Bessey, Jr	5	1	60.3
G. Giorgetti	4	2	58.8
D. Harrison	3	3	51.8
J. Dudek	3	3	50.5
J. Bessey, Sr	2	4	46.7
C. Kaselauskas	1	5	42.1
	-	-	
	18	18	51.9

The Conn. State Horseshoe Pitchers Assn. will hold their State Tournament on Sunday, August 14, 1949, at Beardsley Park, Bridgeport, Conn. Guido Giorgetti of Manchester is the State Horseshoe Champion. *

Convention of the

NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

at

MURRAY, UTAH

August 12th to August 20th

* * *

Also

WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

* * *

I'LL BE LOOKING FOR YOU!——JAKE

ILLINOIS

Selways Rout Chicagoans in U.S. Horseshoe Duel

CHICAGO.—Canton Selway Carpet Cleaners defeated Chicago Pat's Lounge 2793—2612 here Sunday afternoon to gain their first triumph in two National Horseshoe League outings.

Topped by fireman Johnny Sebek's 595 points, the Selways captured each of the five rounds from the Windy City crew, which fell to its second straight loss. The Carpet Cleaners bowed 2810—2802 to Indianapolis last week.

Selways threw 818 ringers for a 65.4 average, only .2 lower than their last week's figure. Chicago scored 750 ringers for a 60.1 mark.

The Cantonians won the first round 536—508 and added 50 points to their margin in the second game, outscoring Pat's 554—504.

However, despite the easy victory, Selways still aren't scoring as they should. Strangely enough, low man for Canton was state champion Russell Yaus with a 525.

Sebek poured on 183 ringers for a 73.2 average. His 130 points in the second round represented high individual round. Ellis Hanna, who recorded 128 points in the fifth round, followed Sebek with 573. Hubert Burt had 564 and Herb Rhoads 536.

Selways will be in action next Sunday, traveling to Covington, Ky., to meet the Shady Shores.

S	ELW	AYS				
			Pts.	Rin	ıg.	Pct.
John Sebek			595	18	3	73.2
Ellis Hanna			573	16	7	66.8
Hubert Burt			564	16	6	66.4
Russel Yaus			525	15	2	60.8
Heerb Rhoads	• • • •		536	15	0	60.0
Totals			2793	81	.8	65.4
	CHIC	AGO				
			Pts.	Rin	ng.	Pct.
Paul Bozzelli			501	14	1	56.4
Don Overhelser			558	16	88	68.0
Don Lindmeir			558	16	64	65.6
Bill Danhauer			509	14	14	57.6
Joe Scabe			486	133	33	53.2
			2012		_	
Totals			2612	78	50	60.1
Selways	536	554	556	567	580-	—2793
Chicago	50 8	504	516	532	552-	—2612

All-Stars Chalk Up Win Over Barberton

In a match called after three rounds because of wet weather, Canton Horseshoe Club All-Stars defeated Barberton 1164—988 in an Inter-City Horseshoe League fracas Sunday on Ringer-Land courts.

The All-Stars won the first round by only 4 points, but out scored Barberton by 95 in the second and 57 in the third.

Robert Lowe and Hiram Hunt, with respective 254 and 253 totals, sparked the winners. However, Emerson Cromley of Barberton registered 281 for match honors. Canton out ringered Barberton 289—232.

ALL-STARS	\$							
	Pts.	Ring.	Pct.					
Hirman Hunt	253	65	43.3					
John Eastman	216	499	32.7					
Robert Lowe	254	67	44.7					
Harvey Deckerd	233	58	38.7					
Hal Fritter	208	50	33.3					
Totals	1164	289	38.7					
BARBERTON								
	Pts.	Ring.	Pct.					
Emerson Cromly	281	74	49.3					
Robert Bollinger	227	62	41.3					
Sylvester Cromley	206	41	27.3					
Ahmed Lahir	169	41	27.3					
Maurice Hagemas'r	99	14	10.1					
Handicap	6							
Totals	988	232	30.9					
All-Stars	354	413 39	7—1164					
Barberton	350	318 32	0 988					

MICHIGAN

By Frank Lewandowski

Annual Blue Water Festival Open Horseshoe Tournament
Sat. & Sun., July 23rd and 24th, 1949
Entries Close at 10 a.m., Sat., July 23rd
Entry Fee \$2.00—Open to Anyone
Pitch 200 Shoes to Qualify——Round Robin for the Finals
Ties to be Played Off for Final Standings
Trophy Awarded to Winner and Runner-Up
Emblems Awarded to All Entries
Held at—Pine Grove Park Courts and Mueller Recreation Courts

* * * *

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"CASEY" JONES champion horseshoe pitcher and holder of two great world's records (87½% ringers and 13 games of 90% and over in the Milwaukee National tournament), says, "I changed to OHIO shoes in 1948 and increased my ringer average over 5%. OHIO shoes are well balanced and stay on the stake. I recommend them to beginners and all players who want to improve their game."

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Write for quantity prices in lots of 4 or more pairs.

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Station F Columbus, Ohio

MINNESOTA

By Andy Moehn

In a recent issue of THE HORSESHOE PITCHER several writers suggest ways and means for stepping up the interest in Horseshoe pitching. So here is my two-bits worth to add to the collection.

First, let's take a look at Article Five (5) Section One (1) State Associations shall be organized under the National body and shall be known as the (Name of State) division of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America. Sec. Two (2) Chartered State Associations are granted authority to organize and develop the advancement of horseshoe pitching in their territory, to permit, encourage and aid the affiliation of individuals, clubs, leagues, and associations within their State, with the official state association. "And let's add the National."

Sec. Three (3) State Associations and their affiliated members must comply with this Constitution, its By-Laws, its rules and regulations. No, there is nothing wrong with the above, but why not go a little further and prescribe rules. How to go about organizing clubs and leagues, by adopting a uniform State constitution setting forth a concrete plan how it shall be done, dividing the State into districts with

GORDON SPIN-ON HORSESHOES



This is the shoe that the World's Champion uses and there are more of them used in Tournament play than all others combined, and we predict that this shoe will bring home the bacon at the World's Open in Salt Lake this year. Our 1949 model is truly an improvement over any that has gone before.

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Station C Cincinnati 26, Ohio district commissioner for each district answerable to the State officials for the advancement of their district including the building of regulation courts, etc. But there must be a penalty clause attached so that the National and State officials with power to punish as well as the full duty to help and advise. I do not mean by the above to confine local organization to one set of methods for their home-playing, State's condition have lots to do with adopting a suitable form of home horseshoe pitching.

I would like to see some time devoted to that part of building local association to be fully debated at Salt Lake City during the convention. I believe it would be a much better paying proposition than anything I know of. And by the way, I am opposed to the Count-All System. What do you say, let's take time off to form a debating club with 3, 4 or 5 on the side.

The subject to be "Shall the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association adopt a uniform State Constitution for all State horseshoe pitchers associations affiliated with the National?

NEW JERSEY

By Douglas W. Fogal

FULTON RETAINS ROSSELET MEMORIAL TITLE

High qualifier in a field of 41, John Fulton, Carlisle, Pa., calmly steamrollered his way over a select group of the East's better pitchers to the Second Annual John Rosselet Memorial Open Championship, June 12, at Warinanco Park, Elizabeth.

Winner of the Innaugural last year, Fulton was not a pre-tourney favorite to repeat over such competitors as Dale Carson, Baltimore, Md.; Vito Filleccia, New York; Bill Kolb, Newark, N. J. and Pat Brady, New York. However, the easy going, easy throwing Pennsylvanian waltzed through most of the field and tied with Carson after regular play with 8 wins and 1 loss each, had enough in the clutch to defeat Carson two straight after dropping the first game of a 2 for 3 playoff. Fileccia, high for the meet with 71.3%, lost to Kolb and Carson, but won from Fulton in the final round to send things into overtime. Carson lost his only game in regular play to Fulton, this paving the way for the exciting overtime session.

Stanley Brozowski, Trenton, won Class B, dropping only 1 of 9 games. Barney Knapp, Midland Park, pitching in his first tourney, took Class C with 6 wins in 7 games.

This year's meet drew 41 entrants from 29 different cities of Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York and New Jersey. Pop

Woodfield, Honorary President, N.H.P.A., came up with Mr. Perdum, Hyattsville, Md., Boys Club Executive, Mr. Clift and several others from the Washington area. Jake Jaskulek, Editor of THE HORSESHOE PITCHER and N.H.P.A. Vice President, also attended as did Frank Wagner, Connecticut State Secretary.

The winner received the Non-Retireable John Rosselet Memorial Trophy for 1 year's possession, plus a permanent trophy. Other trophies were given the first 3 places in each class.

The meet was under the direction of George T. Cron acting for the Union County Park Commission in the capacity of Asst. Supt. of Recreation, and in cooperation with the N.J.S.H.P.A.

	CLASS A			
		W	L	%
1.	John Fulton, Carlisle, Pa	10	2	66.4
2.	Dale Carson, Baltimore, Md	9	3	62.1
3.	Vito Fileccia, New York, N. Y	7	2	71.3
4.	M. Poppe, Elmont, N. Y			54.3
5.	W. Kolb, Newark, N. J			51.6
6.	P. Brady, New York, N. Y			48.8
7.	D. Fogal, Ramsey, N. J.			48.0
8.	L. Davis, Ridgefield, N. J.			47.8
9.	L. Stines, Maspeth, N. Y			43.0
10.	L. Culmone, Clifton, N. J			32.6
	CLASS B			
		W	L	%
1.	Stanley Brozowski, Trenton, N. J	8	1	41.9
2.	Joseph McCrink, E. Orange, N. J.	6	3	43.5
3.	Joseph Frisco, Brooklyn, N. Y	6	3	38.6
4.	S. C. Lane, Stamford, Conn	6	3	37.2
5.	Ruth Hoelzle, Lindenhurst, N. Y			42.1
6.	F. McCrink, W. Orange, N. J.			41.7
7.	T. Earley, New York, N. Y			41.3
8.	S. Berman, Elizabeth, N. J			39.9
9.	C. Seacord, New York, N. Y			39.5
10.	P. Puglise, Clifton, N. J.		D	efaulted
	CLASS C			
	4	\mathbf{w}	L	%
1.	Barney Knapp, Midland Park, N. J	6	1	
2.	Walter Haley, Hyattsville, Md	6	1	
3.	Harry Haseler, New York, N. Y	5	2	

NEW JERSEY

By Charles L. Juliana

Wildwood-By-The-Sea, N. J., will be the scene of the Third Annual Horseshoe Pitching Tournament on Saturday July 30, 1949, when many horseshoe pitchers from Southern New Jersey as well as many visiting pitchers who find themselves in this popular seashore resort during the time the tournament is being conducted, are expected to take part.

A general invitation is extended to all readers of THE HORSESHOE PITCHER to enter this tournament where very valuable and impressive trophies will be awarded to winners in both the single and double matches.

There is no entry fee for these tournaments and anyone interested is invited to contact Charles L. Juliana, Director of Recreation, Wildwood, N. J., for entry blanks. The City of Wildwood Recreation Department is conducting the tournament.

NEW YORK STATE

On Sunday, June 26th, the Hilltop H. C. held their annual open tournament on their courts in Central Park. This consisted of three groups: "A" and "B" with eight men each and the "C" group of six men. Zichella won in the first group by beating P. Brady in a play off for a tie. The winner of the "B" group was Joe Frisco who also had to play Saladak to decide a tie. The winner of the third group was Millican.

GRO	UP	A		GRO	OUP	В	
	W	L	Ptc.		\mathbf{W}	L	Ptc.
Zichella	8	2	65.8	Frisco	7	1	48.4
Brady, P	7	3	66.7	Saladak	6	2	41.7
Fileccia	5	2	70.3	Brumek	5	2	46.0
Penridge	4	3	61.2	Berman	4	3	55.3
Earley, Jr	3	4	59.2	Puglise, P	3	4	42.8
Seacord	2	5	50.7	Culmone	2	5	42.9
Kolb	2	5	50.6	Brady, V	1	6	33.4
Stines	0	7	47.4	Schmidt	1	6	28.8

GRO	OUP	C	
	W	L	Ptc.
Millican	5	0	48.4
O'Connell	3	2	36.9
Haseler	3	2	34.5
Hardwick .	2	3	35.2
Richardson	2	3	31.7
Hart	0	5	34.2

BROWNELL LOSES N. Y. STATE CROWN TO FILECCIA

The Empire State Branch of the N.H.P.A. held the N. Y. State Championship tournament in Central Park on July 2, 3, and 4. The games consisted of a twenty man round robin which ended in a tie for first place between Brownell and Fileccia, both having won eighteen games and losing one each. Brownell lost one to Fenicchia and Fileccia lost one to Brownell. To decide the championship it was agreed that whoever won two out of three games in a play off would be declared the winner. Shortly after the first game got under way, a terrific wind storm came up with a velocity of more than sixty miles per hour. They were asked if they would care to postpone the games until the wind had subsided, but they elected to continue. The storm was responsible for the low percentages they pitched in the play off. This is it!

Fileccia Wins Title With 2 Straight Victories

	P	R	DR	SP	Pct.
Game One—Brownell	47	43	8	80	53.7
Fileccia	50	44	11	80	55.0
Game Two—Brownell	41	40	14	62	64.5
Fileccia	50	43	18	62	69.3

FINAL STANDING

		W	L	Pct.			W	L	Pct.
1.	Fileccia	18	1	73.8	11.	Stines	10	9	58.9
2.	Brownell	18	1	77.6	12.	Ruth Allen	8	11	59.5
3.	Steinfeldt	16	3	69.7	13.	Fenicchia	7	12	56.2
4.	Brady	15	4	68.5	14.	Harrison	7	12	50.4
5.	Sauro	15	4	64.7	15.	Lucente	6	13	56.7
6.	Zichella	14	5	67.2	16.	Compton	5	14	52.8
7.	Penridge	12	7	61.9	17.	Seacord	3	16	47.2
8.	Benish	11	8	59.8	18.	O'Ree	2	17	48.4
9.	LaRose	10	9	65.2	19.	Armenia	1	18	48.7
	Earley, Jr.	10	9	62.3	*20.	Ayvaliotis	2	17	47.4

^{*} Forfeited all games and prize money.

There were distributed to all contestants, cash prizes to the amount of four hundred dollars. In addition, the winner received a trophy and the runner-up received a golden horseshoe mounted on a placque which was donated by Charles Seacord, President of the Hilltop H. C. All those who participated in the games as well as the score keepers were invited to attend an open meeting of the State Assn. on the evening of the Third of July. At the meeting, the same officers as last year were unanimously elected to hold office for the next year. Refreshments were served and the party broke up at midnight.

ROCHESTER

By Warren G. Karr

A summary of the first horseshoe match of the season.

		G.	Hdcp.	T.P.	R.	Pct.
1.	Chuck Graves	9	28	380	220	48
2.	T. Natale	9	0	374	272	60
3.	F. Trelly	9	12	360	215	48
4.	F. Lurz	9	123	351	188	41
5.	C. Grieco	9	18	336	206	46
6.	O. Pareschi	9	57	332	193	43
7.	Nims	9	18	321	241	53
8.	L. Zorn	9	41	290	175	37
9.	J. Englert	9	34	260	165	36
10.	Gleichauf	9	0	241	196	43

Chuck Graves won over Tony Natale by the handicap. Graves pitched for the nine games a total of 380 with his handicap, while Tony Natale pitched a total of 374 scratch.

The match was played according to "Karr's cancellation handicap system."

The first time used in Rochester, probably the first time a cancellation handicap has been used any where in the world?

The system does not change the regulation scoring play by play.

The handicap is added to the scratch score.

The length of the game is 50 shoes.

The 50 shoes would make some games longer, while some, would be made shorter, this is a change, it is an experiment.

"SCIENCE AT THE STAKE"

This 66 page book is a complete analysis of the Scientific art of tossing ringers. Contains 1001 hints from the champions on how to improve your game. Well illustrated. No horseshoe pitching fan can afford to be without this book. Send only 50c in coin or (3-cent) stamps. No checks or C.O.D. orders please.

ROY W. SMITH 1442 East 153rd Street Compton 3, California

TEXAS

By Mouse Williams

Panhandle.—Sam Alexander—who lives at the Bivins Booster Station just across the line in Moore County, whose mailing address is Channing and who calls Amarillo his home—is the first undisputed king of Panhandle horseshoe pitchers.

The Canadian River Gas Company employee won all of the six games he played to capture the Class A championship of the first annual Great Plains Horseshoe Pitching Tournament held here today.

The Class A bracket was composed of the eight highest point-makers from a qualifying round of 50 pitches and thus pitted the more experienced pitchers against each other.

Harold Yingling, general manager of the Cities Service Booster Station located 11 miles South of Higgins, also went undefeated through five contests to take the Class B title. John Franklin, former three-sport letterman for Panhandle High School who now is farming near Panhandle, gained the Class C trophy by five straight victories.

S. M. Clayton, retired Borger merchant whose 87 points was tops among the tourney's 22 qualifiers, teamed with Ray McNally, another Borger resident and an announcer for an Amarillo radio station, to grab the open doubles championship.

Play in all three of the singles divisions was on a round-robin basis with three defeats eliminating a contestant. A lack of time and entries forced the doubles to follow a single elimination schedule. Trophies were to be awarded to all singles champions and the three top doubles teams, but that did not arrive in time for the meet and will have to be mailed to the winners.

Alexander, who was runnerup to the singles champ in the 1941 state tournament at Houston, did not coast to his title. At one point in his finals battle with Bob Ziegler of Amarillo he trailed 4—28 but rallied to win the match and the trophy. The winner made nine ringers during his last 14 throws. There were 12 ringers on ringers in this game which thus cancelled each other's points.

The Clayton-McNally duo were surprise victors over Alexander and Ziegler in the deciding doubles fray. They downed the singlists finalists 50—35 with a total of 49 ringers circling the stake. Ziegler, who belonged to several horseshoe pitching clubs when he formerly lived in Brooklyn, N. Y., made 15 ringers in 28 throws in this game for the best average of the day.

Over 500 people from all over the Panhandle attended the George Rohan barbecue which was a noontime sidelight to the tournament, and most of that number looked on at the pitching courts at one time or another.

The tournament, which was co-sponsored by Old Tack of the Amarillo News-Globe and the Panhandle VFW, was part of a full day's program scheduled by the people of Panhandle. A Caprock League edged the Panhandle nine 10—9. Then a big dance climaxed the day's activities.

NATIONAL LEAGUE STANDINGS

By John Kovacs

	W	L	Pts.	R	\mathbf{SP}	R. Pct.
Indianapolis	3	0	9805	2930	4300	68.1
Chicago	0	1	2550	739	1256	58.9
Covington	0	1	3789	1075	1800	60.0
Canton	0	1	2802	820	1250	65.0

Indianapolis beat Canton June 19th, 2810 pts.—815 r.—288 d.r. to Canton's 2802 pts.—820 r.—272 d.r., only eight points difference for a 1250 shoe match.

League Records

Team Series—2900 pts.—Indianapolis against Chicago.
Team Game—620 pts.—Indianapolis against Chicago.
Team R. Pct.—74 Pct.—Indianapolis against Chicago.
Individual Series—626 pts.—L. Edmonson of Indianapolis.
Individual Game—138 pts.—45 r.—20 d.r.—J. Johnson, Covington.

Team Sponsors

Indianapolis—City Ice Cream Co. (Paul Lutane) Canton—Selway Carpet Cleaners (Claude Selway) Covington—Shady Shore Lake (Mr. McNeil) Chicago—Chicago Horseshoe League

Results of Poll on Counting or Scoring System

While every horseshoe pitcher who subscribes to this magazine did not bother sending in a vote for either system of scoring, there were enough votes cast to reveal which system should prevail. Most of the voters prefer the cancellation system under all circumstances but a few thought the point system might be used in State and local tournaments. The following States were in the majority for cancellation.

California, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and West Virginia.

Only three States were definitely for the Point system and they were Indiana, Kentucky and Michigan.

Illinois, Washington and Wyoming were fifty-fifty and believe it or not, Ohio went for the cancellation system by five to one! I'll bring the votes along with me when I get to Murray.

JAKE'S JOTTINGS

Ken Huber, General Secretary of the St. Paul, Minn. Municipal H. P. A. has sent me a cute little mimeographed booklet of forty pages containing a full page ad of every sponsor of the teams in their association. Ken says that in order to improve conditions between the pitchers and the sponsors and also to make it easier to get sponsors, he compiled the book. Every player and sponsor in the league received a copy of this booklet and he wants to know if any league has ever done this. He gave this magazine a free page ad too. Thanks, Ken.

Correction—It was stated on page eight of the June issue of THE HORSESHOE PITCHER, in the article "Horseshoe Pitching, 1940-1948" that in 1922 there were 130 American colleges and universities which included horseshoe pitching in their intramural sports programs. The date should have been 1942.

The September issue of this magazine will contain a full report of the results of the World's Championship Games to be held in Murray, Utah, this August. If your subscription expires with the August number, send in your renewal subscription at once, AS THERE WILL BE NO BACK NUMBERS!

Members of the Empire State H. P. A.—I expect to go out to Murray, Utah, and when I get out there I would like to represent as many New Yorkers as possible. You can help me do this by sending me one dollar for your National membership card, if you have not already done so. How about you Vice Presidents digging up a few more members?

Know anyone who wants a sample copy of this magazine?

If you answer any of these ads will you please tell them you saw it in THE HORSESHOE PITCHER!

* * :

Harold E. Fredricks, President of the Arizona H. P. A. has informed me that he has moved to Blythe, California, where mail to him should be addressed to General Delivery. He is the Past President of the Wisconsin Assn. but having left Milwaukee in Sept. 1948, he moved to Phoenix Ariz. While there he organized the boys in Arizona. The fact that he now lives about 170 miles away from Phoenix he still goes back there to attend a tournament or two.

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The World's tournament to be held in Murray, Utah, is just about three weeks away, and I suggest that you get in touch immediately with Goff A. Berger, P. O. Box 113, Murray, Utah, regarding hotel reservations. If you are still undecided about attending this meet, I would suggest that you make your decision to go because this affair is going to be the biggest and best one that was ever staged. Be prepared with your suggestions and recommendations for the new Constitution and By-Laws.

NOTICE — ALL STATE SECRETARIES!

I want to urge you all to have your delegates selected well in advance of our convention meeting at Murray, Utah, on August 14th. We would like these delegatees there two days before the convention meeting to assist in rewriting our new Constitution and By-Laws. Please give me the names of your delegates as soon as you have them selected.

Every horseshoe pitcher should secure his National Card BEFORE he comes to Murray.

Also, each Secretary should send me all the dues he has collected up to August first. Won't you cooperate?

HARVEY W. CLEAR, National Secretary, 912 Melrose Avenue, Santa Cruz, Cal.

SOME QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Roy W. Smith, Author of "Science At The Stake" and Secy.-Treas. So. Calif. H. P. A.

On page thirteen of the June issue of THE HORSESHOE PITCHER I noticed that Dr. C. W. Vandas of St. Paul, Minn., requested the answers to several questions which he asked about the horseshoe pitching sport. The last sentence in the paragraph at the top of the page stated: "This is a job for some of you experts." While I do not claim to be an expert or to know all about the game, I believe that my eighteen years of experience in playing, studying and writing about the sport may make it possible for me to answer the good Doctor's questions. And as long as I have started this "Dorothy Dix Column" about some of the things that a horseshoe pitcher should know. I will endeavor to answer several additional questions asked by other individuals. Dr. Vandas asks:

1. What is the best way to get into shape for a season of play in a league or tournament if your work keeps you busy eight hours a day? Alone or with a partner?

Answer—Play and practice on weekends and a half hour or so during the evenings two or three times a week if possible. This should enable you to get into shape. Too much practice can be as bad as not enough because it might cause you to become stale. Seek good strong competition from other pitchers to develop your nerve and confidence under fire. But practice alone some too because it will enable you to concentrate better in perfecting your technique. Pitch your shoes in groups of 50 or 100 and keep them under count. Concentrate on each pitch and on the fundamentals that you are trying to master. It takes a lot of concentration to replace a bad hibit with a good one because you have to contend with both of them at the same time for a while. Practicing without a definite objective in mind doesn't do much good. It's HOW you train that counts.

Play lots of walking games to develop your legs: Breathe deeply from the diaphragm and relax as you walk back and forth. When you become tired, quit playing and rest, otherwise you may beg'n to force your turn and fight your shoe. Keep your delivery free from tension and make the shoe do the work. Watch your diet and get plenty of sleep. If you are an experienced pitcher, a few weeks of such training will put you in pretty good shape for a tournament. Remember that both mental and physical training are important. Several chapters could be devoted to training and psychology but the above points are the main ones.

2. How does night pitching differ from day pitching?

Answer—This depends on how your courts are lighted. If lighting is poor, the shadows are deceiving and it is difficult to watch your shoes in flight. Also the night air is usually more damp and chilly, especially during the spring and fall months, therefore, you might catch cold or become stiff more easily than in daytime. Aside from this, and if your courts are well lighted, I believe that night pitching has many advantages over daytime pitching. You cannot see many things outside the lighted area to distract your attention. Daytime breezes and heat usually subside after sundown and there is often less noise. Scientific research has shown that automobiles and machinery seem to run better at night because the atmospheric density or temperature is more even. Whether this applies to the greatest machine of all—the human body—I don't know. I doubt it although some people do their best work at night.

3. Describe the best lighting effect for a group of courts.

Answer—Although I am not a lighting engineer, I believe that 100-watt lamps with large deep reflectors, hung 14 or 16 feet above the court, about even with the foul lines, is an excellent method. Much stronger lights may be used but the poles should be higher and placed farther back as the candlepower increases to insure a better diffusion of light. Some courts are so well lighted over their entire area that a pin can be seen. Proper reflectors are very important. Without them, lamp glare can be as bad as sun glare.

Several members of the fair sex have asked:

1. Which turn do you think is best for a woman to use in pitching 30 feet?

Answer—I recommend the 1¼ (one and one-quarter) for the 30 foot distance because it requires less effort of the delivery arm and is much easier to watch and time than the 1¾ turn for this short distance. Mrs. Esther James set some new records and won the world's tournament for women at Moline, Ill., in 1935, with the three-quarter turn. If this turn can be successfully used at all, it might work well at the 30 foot distance; however, there are many reasons why it is not a good turn and I have listed them in my instruction book "Science At The Stake." Because of these reasons, I would not advise anyone to start with the three-quarter turn.

2. Who, in your opinion, is the best lady slipper slammer?

Answer—I believe that during her playing career, Caroline Schultz was the greatest of the lady pitchers. She won the world's title in 1933 at Chicago with an average of 73.8% which is over 10% higher than any of the others. Mrs. C. A. Lanham and Mrs. Francisco were both great in the hookless type shoe days of the early twenties. And they,

with Mrs. G. Brouillette, were still in there pitchin' up until 1930. But that Schultz gal and her sister, Charlotte, were tops even if they were tempermental about playing on wet courts. Women are that way about a lot of things.

Here is another question that a lot of fellows have asked me:

Why hasn't a left-hander or southpaw pitcher ever won the world's title?

Answer—This is a rather hard question to answer. There are many fine left-handers in the country. Baseball has many great southpaws in the major leagues. Louis Dean of Pomona, here in this state, recently won the So. Calif. Horseshoe Pitching title for his first time. Don Titcomb of No. Calif. is another fine young left-hander. So far as I know, Dean Titcomb and myself are the leading left-handers here on the West Coast and Louis Dean is the best southpaw I have yet seen. When he is going good, I don't know of another lefty who can down him. Yet, he has no chance of ever winning the world's title because he is too old now.

But so far I haven't answered the question so here goes: The one and only reason why a left-hander may not win the title is because he is usually more nervous and high strung than a right-hander. While the heart is almost in the center of the chest, the lower tip is nearer the left hand side. A person who throws or otherwise employs his left hand more than his right, gradually builds up and enlarges the muscles around his heart. This may cause his heart to work harder, increase his blood-pressure and effect his nerves. In other words, he has to exert himself more than a right-handed man. A right-hander stepping ahead with his right foot does the same thing because it throws him into a contortion and cuts down his endurance by affecting his spinal nerves in the region of the pelvis. Perhaps Doctor Vandas can elaborate and cast more light on this for me. How about it Doc?

There are reasons for all things if we can find them. Perhaps some of the other readers have better answers to these questions than I have set forth. If so, let's have them. These are only my own opinions and I could be wrong. However, if I can help those with questions that are bothering them I will be most happy to do so if they will send them to Jake so he can print them in "The Horseshoe Pitcher." The Good Book says, "Come let us reason together" and "The truth shall make us free" so let's practice The Golden Rule and help each other all we can. If we will all do this, our sport is bound to go places.