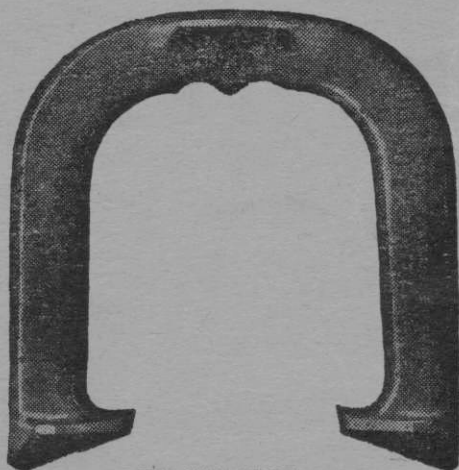


THE HORSESHOE PITCHER

Official Organ of
**The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
of America**



THE OHIO SHOE

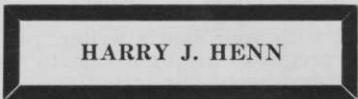
MAY, 1951

Vol. 3

No. 9

EDITORIAL

Heretofore only a small percentage of top flight horseshoe pitchers in the eastern part of our country have attended our world championship games. Of course, the main reason for this was the distance factor. This year, August first to the fourth, they are going to hold the Eastern National Horseshoe Tournament at Clearfield, Pa. about three hundred and twenty miles from New York City. This will give many of the pitchers from the East the opportunity to enter a fine tournament, one that will not take too much money for transportation and time from their vacations. There is no doubt about it—this is going to be the best year for horseshoes that we ever enjoyed.



HARRY J. HENN

I regret to report the death of Harry J. Henn which occurred on March 23, 1951. He was fifty-six years old and a veteran of World War I. He passed away in Soldier's Hospital at Dayton, Ohio due to stomach trouble and pneumonia. He is survived by his wife and three sons and two daughters, all grown.

* * *

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (N.H.P.A.)

Each year at tournament time, we hear demands that more should be done to promote horseshoe pitching on a nation-wide basis. Naturally, I am in hearty agreement with promotion, but I feel that there are certain factors that we must in retrospect, consider, to get a clear picture of promotion possibilities.

Horseshoe pitching is as old as our nation, and through the years the public has come to think of it as an old man's game. In fact, many considered it in the same class with poolrooms, etc. Any person who plays horseshoes today realizes that this is not true, but John Q. Public still thinks along the same lines today as before.

Horseshoe pitching is a poor man's game, and I know that you who have promoted the game realize that when you try to collect dues, extra assessments, or money for tournament activities. Perhaps we should class it as a cheap game. Many people who play horseshoes will not even pay their club dues—state, or national. Yet this same group of individuals will go to a bowling alley or a bar and think nothing of spending \$5 or \$10 in one evening.

In other sports, the manufacturers have been instrumental in providing promotion and publicity. In horseshoes, manufacturers lack the vision to spend any money in promotion. Last year when we wanted to raise the tax on each pair of shoes from 5 to 10 cents, only one manufacturer favored the proposal. The other manufacturers turned the idea

down. Naturally, we are not in a position to enforce payment. Some manufacturers don't even bother to buy stamps. Such a short-sighted policy on the part of manufacturers not only hurts the National Association, but also hurts their sales, too. All one has to do is look around to see what manufacturers in other sports have done to build up the sports. Bowling is an example of this.

Today as never before there is a chance for us to promote the game and increase interest, if everybody will "get on the ball." Americans are working shorter hours, and with all of the mediums that are available for publicity purposes such as magazines, newspapers, radio, television, and exhibition pitching by certain pitchers, we could do a bang-up job of promotion. The rise or fall of this sport depends on your work.

May I suggest for consideration the following items:

1. Encourage the manufacturers to "get on the ball" and put some money into our treasury by increasing the stamp tax. After all, they pass it on to the pitchers anyway.

2. Promote tournaments in your area, even though you only give trophies and medals to all classes of pitchers.

3. Get acquainted with your sports writer, radio, or television station. Make sure that programs are broadcast to the public, or at least that the public is informed about our activities.

4. Eliminate this constant bickering which goes on between certain groups and individuals which is detrimental to the progress of the game. Every club in our Nation probably has a few disgruntled individuals who do all that they can to forward their own interests and ideas, regardless of their effects on the game and the other players. The same trouble exists on the state and national level. There is no reason why we can't all get behind and push rather than have a few pulling and tugging in different directions?

5. We need one big organization which all state groups will belong to. There are differences of opinion, but can't we be big enough, each and every one of us, to accept the desires of the majority?

This is your association. You know about its faults and weaknesses as well as its strong points. Can we count on all of you to start pulling in one direction with the rest of us to improve our status with the public and the horseshoe pitchers through out the Nation?

See you in Murray.

LOUIS DEAN

* * *

PAIRING PLAYERS AND OTHER PITCHING PROBLEMS

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

After the boys returned from the "big show" at Murray, last year, some of them told me that it was decided by majority vote to adopt the lottery method (drawing numbers from a hat) for this year's meet. Because I have often been asked for my opinion of this plan, I will answer this question, along with several others. Of course, I do not expect everyone to agree with my analysis, but I believe that nearly all will agree that the time has come when more consideration and planning is essential in staging our major tournaments.

As all tournament players know, two methods are generally used to pair off players in starting a round-robin tournament. These are: **The Lottery Method** and **The Fixed-Rule Plan**. Personally, I prefer the former over the latter. Let's consider the merits and demerits of both plans.

THE LOTTERY METHOD

All things considered, I believe this plan is the fairest and most interesting from both a player and spectator standpoint. Here are several reasons why I prefer this plan: (1) All contestants have an equal chance from the start. (2) Drawing individual schedules by lottery appeals to most players and spectators because no one knows who will play whom until the drawing is over. There is something of the gambler in all of us and the element of chance is appealing. (3) A lot of player and spectator-interest can be built up with the "grab bag" or lottery plan. Special prizes, such as a pair of pitching shoes or a year's subscription to *The Horseshoe Pitcher*, could be offered to the players drawing the highest and lowest numbers. Also a prize for No. 13. (4) If the lowest qualifier is unfortunate in drawing the champion or highest qualifier for his opening game, the low-bracket player cannot blame the tournament director as many of them do now. Drawing either a lucky or unlucky schedule by lottery is part of the game and is subject only to the whim of the Goddess of Luck. (5) Letting the chips fall where they may would keep all players on their toes. Some of the champs will be less inclined to "coast along" because they have no assurance of the weakest competition at the start. Several other reasons can be given but the above are the main ones.

However, we cannot blithely overlook the one, big drawback to the lottery method. That is the unfortunate chance that the two highest qualifiers may pair off for their first game. In a national meet, which is usually a 36-Man Schedule, the odds are 36 to 1 against the highest men drawing together. Put another way, there is one chance out of thirty-six. The smaller the schedule, the smaller the odds. **It can and does happen!** When this occurs, the finals are robbed of a great deal of interest, unless other entertaining features are added to attract and hold the tournament's interest from start to finish.

I still stubbornly maintain that horseshoe tournaments are "shows" in every sense of the word. As such, they should be planned to provide the utmost of entertainment for all who attend. We cannot overlook the fact that it is the taxpayer's money that is used for the prizes and expenses of the tournament. Public demand governs the success of all major sports. Modern sports officials are keenly aware of this. Tournament officials must now plan and conduct their "shows" with these three prime requisites uppermost in mind: (1) **Publicity**; (2) **Showmanship**; (3) **Audience-appeal**. All successful shows are well advertised in advance. Skillful, well-planned direction and clever showmanship are prime essentials. **Show business begins and ends with box office appeal.**

A horseshoe pitching show is composed of three acts. Act I—The Qualifying Rounds or "Curtain Raiser." Act II—The Round-Robin or "Main Feature." Act III—The Finals or "Finale." The players are the performers. The backdrop or setting remains the same throughout the show. Like rodeos and other sports shows, a variety of entertainment or "filler acts" are necessary to maintain interest at the highest possible level. These should include large bulletin boards, scoring machines on each court, a capable announcer or Master of Ceremonies, trick-pitching, musical and comedy acts during intermissions. With such "fillers," the

remote chance of the top performers being featured together, in the opening rounds, will not adversely affect the general interest insofar as the whole show is concerned. As always, the greatest stars are bound to shine the brightest. But, the lesser ones have their places in the galaxy too.

THE FIXED-RULE PLAN

Under this plan, the tournament director matches the highest qualifiers against the lowest ones at the start. That is, the defending champion (or highest qualifier) is given No. 1 and the other contestants are numbered according to the place in which they qualified. This gradually brings the highest qualifiers together in the finals. Thus, the tournament is built up to a climax, which is when the two best players meet to decide the championship. This is the only good feature in favor of this plan.

Compared to the one fault in the lottery plan, the fixed-rule plan has several. (1) To build up interest in the finals, it detracts a lot of interest from the opening rounds. Knowing this, many tournament-wise spectators remain away from the opening games. If they do turn out the first evening or two, they are restless and come and go. Just mingle with an audience during the opening rounds at a big time meet. You can hear something like this: "Those fellows are really sharpshooters aren't they? Do any of the big shots meet this evening? They don't? Well, let's go and come back tomorrow evening." (2) The players and spectators know who plays whom right from the start. (3) The lower qualifiers get all the tough breaks right from the start, i.e., they face the strongest competition for their opening games. Suppose you are No. 36. Your first opponents are Isais, Zimmerman, Allen, Jones, De Leary, Brown, Kraft, Gatewood, etc., right down the line. That isn't a very pleasant prospect is it? No wonder many of the weaker players become the victims of "ringer mortis" before the games start! (4) Getting off to such a poor start, by losing all their first games, discourages many beginning tournament pitchers. By the time they meet others of their class, many are so worn out from tension and the strong competition, their interest is at low ebb.

(5) The fixed rule method strictly favors the experts. It assures them of fairly easy competition in the opening rounds. Of course, any player capable of qualifying for a big tournament is dangerous, because he may "get hot" and upset a champion when it is least expected. But, barring such a possibility, the experts have a much better opportunity to conquer tension and "get in the groove" before clashing with their strongest opponents. (6) Many players resent the use of such arbitrary power by a tournament manager. Why should he "fix the games" to follow a definite pattern before they start? Why not allow the players a free choice in the matter? Why stack the deck against the lower players and deal all the best cards to the big boys? The less-expert players constitute a vast majority and pay in most of the entry fees. How come that they (like taxpayers) are kicked in the teeth all the time? These are just a few of the many complaints against "fixing the games" by a tournament manager. Of course, "filler features" can be added to this plan as under the lottery method. But all such features simply cannot erase the resentment against dictatorship from the minds of the lower qualifiers who make up a good 75% of the entrants.

COMBINATION PLANS

It is virtually impossible to present a scheduled plan to please everyone. But, after considering the respective merits and demerits of the

lottery and fixed-rule plans, I believe a favorable compromise can be effected by combining the best features of the two plans. That is, for a 36-Man Schedule, number the five highest qualifiers 1, 9, 18, 27 and 36 respectively. This spaces them well enough apart to insure a feature game for each day of the round-robin. Then, let the remaining 31 players draw their numbers by lottery from a hat or box. A plan of this sort might require a slight revision of the master schedule, but I doubt it. At least, the tournament's interest would not be sacrificed at either end of the schedule.

In the February, 1950 issue of this magazine, Mr. Lowell Edmundson of Indiana, presented a plan to increase participation in our national meets. He proposed starting with 72 players and using Count-All to eliminate all but the best remaining 16 players. These would then decide the championship under the Cancellation system of scoring. I believe that Mr. Edmundson's idea is worthy of consideration. We use both Count-All and Cancellation in qualifying and playing anyway so why not expand both systems a little farther to create bigger and better tournaments? I do not believe in adopting a "closed mind" attitude toward either scoring system.

If horseshoes continues to grow, as it has during the past year or so, something like this will have to be adopted in the near future. Even an A and B class of 36 players each, will not accommodate all the entries. Other sports are continually changing their methods to meet public demand. We too should start studying "the facts of life" in this respect. We simply cannot stay in the same old groove we have occupied now for over a quarter of a century. The fine traditions of our sport are all well and good—as long as they do not prevent progress. When they do, I say, "To heck with tradition!" This is the Atomic Age, not the Gas Light Era. "Time and tide waits for nothing, not even horseshoes."

OTHER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. Should a tournament manager allow a contestant to put up more money and qualify more than once for a tournament?

Answer—Absolutely not! Why invite contention and ruin the tournament? Is it fair to allow a baseball player a double chance at bat because he fans out the first time? Why state a specific amount for entry fee on a tournament poster if certain players are to be allowed to "buy" their way into the meet by auction bid? It would be more honest to state that the tournament was for the players who have the most money! What about the fellows who have traveled long distances and cannot afford to pay for two or three times the entry fee advertised? If one just gets in by a few points, he is eliminated by those who are favored with a second chance. All are entitled to equal consideration. A player either gets in or he doesn't. Why chisel?

Why not just spend all the time qualifying and eliminate the round-robin entirely? According to such logic, a player would have a right to demand a second chance at the champion. In my estimation, such a tournament is illegal from start to finish. Our new So. Calif. Constitution and By-Laws strictly forbids this unfair, discriminatory "second chance stuff." It should also be specifically stated in the N.H.P.A. laws. I know of some meets where justice and equality are thrown off the courts. That's why a lot of us do not attend them. I would demand my entry fee back and protest the whole affair. A tournament worth having is worth being conducted on the up and up. Certain, definite rules are necessary in all sports. The first and main

foot stakes. If this were so, the ladies would have no definite foul line because all do not step exactly the same distance. Measuring 10 feet from each of the 40 foot stakes establishes the ladies pitching distance, not their foul lines.

* * *

THE SCIENTIFIC GAME OF GOLF

By Belmont W. Adams

The proponents of wilderness golf (played with queer-looking clubs and pock-marked hard rubber balls, in the great open space something like a marathon cross-country race) speak somewhat vaguely, and wistfully, of another kind of game, played at home, to which they enviously refer with the name of barnyard golf.

This expressive nickname was apparently introduced centuries ago in acknowledgement of the great virtue of a clean and healthy sport that can be enjoyed by young and old of either sex without leaving their own yard. It probably harks back to days of antiquity when the barnyard was the center of activities in every home, the cynosure of neighboring eyes, when this great game of barnyard golf—or scientific golf as it is more appropriately known—was already the loved sport of the upper classes—those who had their own horses—and wilderness golf was still unheard of—their being altogether too much wilderness in those days.

The peculiarly scientific aspects of this remarkable game are evident upon reflection, even to those so unfortunate as never to have learned its charms. Most have heard, though few have tested, the time-honored saying, "A horseshoe for luck"; and much though this may mean to sooth-sayers and water-dowsers, those he-men and she-women who have the hardihood to play this game will find that luck was never more elusive, than in the deceptively simple act of throwing the horseshoe around the stake—technically known as getting a ringer. From their vague belief that the game is all luck, these brave souls quickly come rule of good sportsmanship is to refrain from according one player any favors over another.

2. Do the rules forbid players from talking to each other as they walk to and fro between stakes during a tournament?

Answer—No, there is no rule to this effect. If he wishes, a player can whistle or sing "The Barber of Seville." If more players knew this, it would help them conquer tension and play a better game. Rule 7, Section (a) of the Playing Rules states: "No contestant, **while opponent is in pitching position**, shall make any remark or utter any sounds within hearing of opponent, nor make any movement that does or might interfere with the opponent's playing." When players are walking to and fro, neither of them are in pitching position. Neither can players on other courts legally object because they are not your opponents at the time. However, this must not be misinterpreted to mean that you can verbally abuse and ridicule your opponent. There is a definite rule against that.

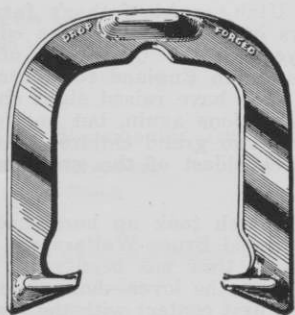
3. How are women's foul lines established on a 40 foot court?

Answer—Measure ten (10) feet from the men's foul lines at each end of the court. Men's foul lines are 34 feet apart. Women's foul lines are 24 feet apart. The women step up to their foul lines the same as men. **They do not stand on a line measured 10 feet out from the 40**

to a firm conviction that it is all science. This saves their faces during the brief but trying period while they are learning to get a few ringers of their own.

A highly educational endeavor is a brief comparison of the degrees of scientific profundity involved in the two sports—scientific golf and its junior sister, wilderness golf. Compare the shape of the projectile, for instance—the plain simplicity of a wilderness golf ball which is perfectly round and not even egg-shaped, against the complex complexity of a regulation horseshoe, with its highly irregular shape, the dozen or so specified measurements (all different), and all the ramifications of the difference in style produced by different manufacturers. Compare the simple variables on the one hand, involved in launching the ball by hitting it with a stick, against the intricacies of projecting a horse's slipper from the five fingers of the human hand supported by practically all the two-hundred-odd muscles of the human body. Compare the flight of the missile—the turning of the ball being utterly unimportant, since it will drop into the hole in the ground with equal ease regardless of which end gets there first. On the other hand, the precise turning of the horseshoe is of the greatest importance. One of the first things the aforesaid wistful novice learns, is the extreme difficulty of achieving a ringer when the shoe reaches the stake with the opening pointed to the rear. He also finds out a certain propensity of the horseshoe: (a) to avoid maintaining a horizontal position in flight, which is generally regarded as desirable; (b) to turn in the reverse of the intended direction after leaving his hands; and (c) to turn about 90 degrees too far, thus

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"In Horseshoe Pitching it is the shoe that counts, especially when a championship is involved. For the Second consecutive year, the Championship was won by Fernando Isais who each time he won pitched the Gordon Spin-On Horseshoe. Gordon Spin-On shoes have been tried, and found capable of doing the job. The 1951 Gordon shoe is ready now; get your pair today."

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resulting in what might be termed a lateral presentation of the shoe to the waiting stake, which is almost as bad as a completely wrong-end-to presentation, if not worse.

Having properly diagnosed these ailments, and having administered the proper treatment with due persistence, the novice begins to achieve successful deliveries with increasing regularity, until his growing percentage of perfect circles and twin ringers proclaims him a practitioner worthy of the respect of the most seasoned veterans in the business.

Such difficulties of course are not found in the newer game, which incidentally is only played by professionals, sedentary workers, and those who have never been fortunate enough to learn the fine points of the more scientific game. It would seem probable, however, that wilderness golf does have a place—a minor one—in modern living, for it is undoubtedly highly beneficial to some people, such as greenskeepers and professionals, and it is fanatically enjoyed by some adherents, primarily of course those whose knowledge of scientific golf is circumscribed by the very general ideas and vague terminology mentioned in the first paragraph hereof.

* * *

HORSESHOE HOO'S HOO!

Our First Vice-President

This is the fourth in a series to be known as "KNOW YOUR OFFICERS". I believe that our membership at large will be interested to know the type of officers at the head of their organization—Editor.

Arch Stokes was born in Draper, Utah, on his father's farm and that is where he spent the early years of his life. He was educated in the public schools and spent one year at the University of Utah when he was called on a two-year mission to England for his church. In 1910 he married Mary S. Howard. They have raised eight children, all of whom are married. This left them alone again, but not for any lengthy period because they have thirty-two grand children who visit them at one time or another. The three oldest of the grandsons are now in the armed forces.

After getting too old for baseball, Arch took up horseshoes. At one time, his horseshoe pitching ability eased Bruce Walters out of the County Championship. Most of his leisure time has been spent in organizing boys clubs and promoting the game he loves—horseshoes. His trip to Des Moines, Iowa, in 1946 was his first contact with the National. When he returned home, it was with the conviction that the horseshoe playing folks were the finest people he had ever met. He it was who convinced the powers that be, to bid \$2,000 for the 1947 world tournament at Murray, Utah. That was when they built the 18 finest courts in the world with the best lighting conditions. Arch is now employed in the Salt Lake City Post Office. In two years he will be eligible to retire and when that happens he expects to devote much more time to the development of our game.

* * *

JOIN and SUPPORT . . .

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NATIONAL HORSESHOE
PITCHER'S ASSOCIATION**

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UNLESS YOU SEE
THE
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Aden Swinehamer, 2nd V. P.
437 North Avenue
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William McCleary, 3rd V. P.
159 E. 7660 South
Midvale, Utah

Marie Kampschroeder, 4th V.P.
810 South Cedar
Ottawa, Kansas

Mary Jones, Treasurer
1006 East Main
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Archie Gregson, Secretary
Crestline, California

CALIFORNIA

By E. O. Beller

Results of tournament for men 60 years of age or older, held at Long Beach April 15, 1951, conducted by So. Calif. H. S. A. (affiliated with NHPA).

1. Harper	8	0	63.2
2. Wendt	7	1	59.0
3. Green	6	2	62.1
4. Beller	4	4	44.5
5. Dolan	3	5	52.0
6. Onken	3	5	43.5
7. Johnson	3	5	41.7
8. Scott	2	6	38.1
9. Ganger	0	8	26.6

By L. J. Braun

The Candlestick H. C. of San Francisco played the Santa Cruz club there on Sunday, April 2 and in a 49 game series we lost, 25 to 24. Will play them a return game in Burlingame on Sunday April 22. In another 49 game series, against the Golden Gate Club of San Francisco, on Sunday, April 9, we went down to defeat again, score 27 to 22. We're still living in hopes of eventually winning from these clubs in a series.

* * *

CONNECTICUT

By Michael Vecchitto

The Conn. Horseshoe Pitcher Association held their annual meeting in the club room at the Garibaldi Society, Middletown, Conn. on April 8th. Plans, schedules and election of officers were taken up at the meeting and am hoping that this year will be a good one for our association. After the meeting, refreshments were served.

All men were re-elected in their respective office, they are as follows: Frank Wagner, President of Stamford; Donald Harrison, Vice-President of So. Windsor and Michael Vecchitto, Secretary-Treasurer of Middletown, 33 Cherry Street.

At the meeting, I mentioned about The Horseshoe Pitcher being given as a prize in our coming tournaments this year and all present were in favor of it.

* * *

KANSAS

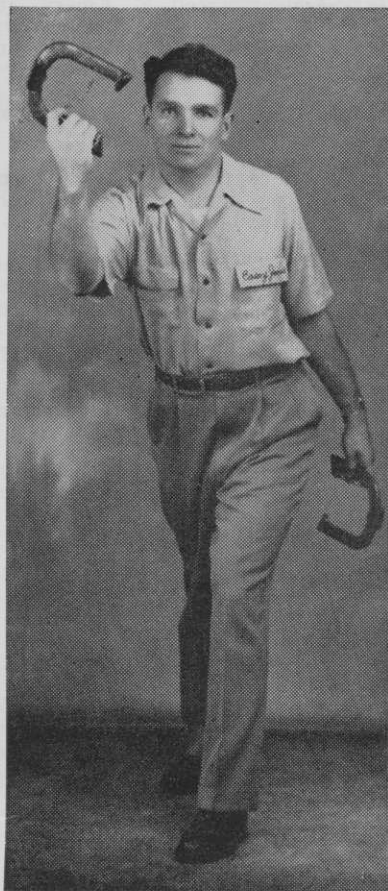
By J. L. Wikus

The Topeka Horseshoe Association elected new 1951 officers on April 15, 1951 as follows: J. L. Wikus, President; Courtney Rogan, Vice-President; Pep Pepple, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Topeka Horseshoe Association will sponsor the following in 1951: (1) Horseshoe tournament at "All Sports Event" July 4, 1951; (2) American Legion State Tournament at Topeka, Kans. in Sept. 1951. (3) City Tournament this summer. (4) State Tournament is indefinite yet, but Manhattan, Kans., is only bidder so far.

* * *

Pitch Ohio Horseshoes and Increase Your Ringer Percentage



★

"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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Price \$3.50 per pair postpaid.
Write for quantity prices in
lots of 4 or more pairs.

Made in four tempers—hard,
medium, soft and dead soft.

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OHIO HORSESHOE COMPANY

(Makers of quality pitching shoes for 30 years.)

Station F

Columbus, Ohio

MAINE

By Colby G. Berry

The annual meeting of the Portland Horseshoe Club was held at the Granville R. Lee recreation center Thursday, April 12, at which time the following officers were elected: President Ercell E. Emery, 152 Noyes Street; Vice-President, Paul Conroy, South Portland; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Marion Adams; Manager, Thomas E. Barker; and Coach, Colby G. Berry.

Elected to the executive committee: Carrie Emery, Paul Conroy, Thomas Barker, Alvin Strout, and Colby Berry.

Delegates and alternates to the state convention: Colby Berry, Thomas Barker, Ercell Emery, Paul Conroy, Carrie Emery, and John White. Alternates: Marion Adams, Helen Adams, and Irving Sawyer.

Colby Berry, Portland 3, Maine was elected President of the State Horseshoe Pitching Association at that group's annual convention held recently. Raymond E. Adams, Auburn, was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Named to the executive committee were Paul Conroy, South Portland; Fred Poulin, Auburn; and Robert Golightly, Bangor.

Portland was selected as the site of the two-day state tournament. Dates will be Aug. 25-26.

Attending the convention were representatives from Lewiston, Brewer, Hebron, Chosholm, Farmington, Portland, South Portland, Hermon, Bangor, and Auburn.

* * *

MISSOURI

By John Elkins

We, here in Missouri, are planning another successful season for 1951. In "Jake's Jottings" he speaks of the Horseshoe Compendium. It carried information up to 1949 and I think Jake's idea of a new one is a fine idea. Am sure the scoring devices will help the spectator interest 100 per cent at Murray this August.

I have all the Missouri records in my possession right up to the present time from the 1939 reports in the Compendium and they will be ready for the new issue if and when it is published. In closing I would like to say that I am very much in favor of the plan to give a subscription or two as tournament prizes, to The Horseshoe Pitcher in all our contests this year.

The Southwest Missouri Fair will again sponsor our 1951 State Tournament at the Fair this Fall. And prospects look good for a meet at Springfield, Mo. to be held at Grant Beach Park this Summer. The Kampschroeders' have loaned us their films of the 1949 National Meet which we showed our interested players and fans. Will send dates and details later.

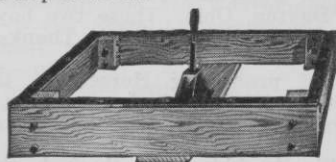
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NEW YORK

Representatives of the majority of the clubs forming the Metropolitan Horseshoe Pitchers Association have decided to discontinue the league or inter-club games this summer. Instead, they decided that any club in the New York area, whether members of the Association or not, hold one or more open tournaments.

With this idea in mind, they have listed a set of dates from which any interested club can pick a date or dates on which they would like to hold an open tournament. You will find these dates listed below. When you decide your dates, please advise me immediately so we can give each club a schedule. The Hilltop club will start off with May 20 on their courts in Central Park at West 106th Street. The Empire State Branch of the N.H.P.A. will hold theirs on May 30 at the same place. Now, look this over!

June 10, 17, 24—July 4, 15, 22, 29—August 5, 12, 19, 26—September 9, 16, 23, 30. Try to have this information in to me by May 25th PLEASE.

* * *

OHIO

By A. B. McCoy

I believe the first thing we should talk about are our members that worked very hard for membership during 1950. Herman Oney took first place, as he conducted County and District Championship Tournaments at Delaware, Ohio, and Kenton, Ohio, besides conducting his own County and District Tournaments.

Mr. Oney lives at Westerville, Ohio, and was, without a doubt, the hardest worker for membership in our Association during 1950. Thanks a lot, Herman.

Harry Sibert, Union, Ohio, and Paul Focht, Dayton, Ohio, did another fine job around Dayton, Ohio. These two boys always do a fine job of promoting our game in their District. Thanks to both Harry and Paul.

Another fine job of promoting Horseshoes this past year was Stanley Manker, Wilmington, Ohio, and we expect great things from Stanley in 1951. Thanks to you, Stanley, and all of the boys around Wilmington.

Frank Eachus, Gallipolis, Ohio, came through with a fine job around Gallipolis again in 1950. Mr. Eachus is a past State Champion, and he always promotes Horseshoes in and around Gallipolis. Thanks very much, Mr. Eachus.

We wish to thank everyone that extended his efforts to make 1950 the best year we ever experienced. Now it is 1951, and with the help of everyone we can make 1951 STILL BETTER. Can we count on all of you?

THE HORSESHOE PITCHER MAGAZINE

Now I am making a special request of each of you. Our National Magazine—and I do mean OURS—is the finest Horseshoe Magazine ever published for Horseshoe Players. No player that is interested in Horseshoes should be without it. This magazine keeps you posted on all Horseshoe activities throughout the U. S. A. and the entire world, and it also includes what is taking place here in your own Association. Those of us that take this Magazine always look forward to receiving it each month.

It costs you only \$2.00 per year. Send the \$2.00 to: Byron Jaskulek, Editor, The Horseshoe Pitcher, Box No. 22, Kingsbridge Station, New York, New York. Take my word for this. Subscribe at once—then tell me how you like it.

COUNTY and DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS

Get busy now on your County Championship Tournament. Don't allow anything to keep you from holding it. Then enter your District Tournament. I will mail the Champion of each Tournament a Certificate of Championship. Each player MUST belong to our Association before he enters either his County or District Tournaments. Your Commissioner has membership cards; however, if you wish you can write me, enclosing the money for as many cards as you wish, and I will mail the cards by return mail.

OUR CHAMPIONS FOR 1950

State Champion Class A, Ralph Lackey, West Middleton. State Champion Class B, Martin Schneider, Springfield. District No. 4, Ralph Lackey. District No. 12, Harold Thompson. District No. 9, Leroy Hill. District No. 13, Leslie Alban, Oak Hill. County Champions: Coshocton, Harold Thompson; Licking, Clyde Fulton; Franklin, Herman Oney; Montgomery, Paul Focht; Gallia, Walter Allison; Clinton, Eddie Fouse; Harding, Carrol Jones; Delaware, Leslie Hilliard. Several Class B Champions received certificates for County and District Championships.

I want all players to work hard for more County and District Championships in 1951! Please do this and you will be happy forever afterwards.

1951 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

Our State Championship Tournament will be held at the State Fair again this year, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 24, 25, and 26. We will only have one week-end to think about. The BIG DAY at the Fair is Sunday and we will end our Tournament that day. We will present the Trophy to the State Champion and the ceremonies concluding our Tournament will follow. We will have all day Friday, August 24 to qualify—and until 9:00 P. M. State dues are \$2.00. Entrance fee to State Tournament will be \$5.00.

* * *

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UTAH

By Arch Stokes

WORLD TOURNAMENT—We are adding six new courts to the eighteen they already have so this will enable sixty men to play instead of the former thirty-six. This will take care of the "B" class tournament. Regarding the teen-age tournament it will have to be conducted as amateur so as not to spoil the kid's chances to compete in their games back home. So, you men, please take an interest in the boys and bring all you can. I can furnish beds for four or five. They can eat out but it will save them the expense of lodgings. Will try to find more homes for the boys so let us get as many of our future champions here as possible. Besides the new extra courts, we are building rest rooms at the rear of the building where we hold our meetings. There will be three showers in the men's compartment and two in the ladies. This will fill a long needed necessity on our Fair Grounds. Mr. Beller is delivering our scoring devices this month so they will be available in August. Don't forget the date, August 8, when we will all meet again in Murray, Utah.

* * *

JAKE'S JOTTINGS

EASTERN NATIONAL TOURNAMENT—Mr. R. G. Kinkead informs me that they have nine lighted courts constructed in such a manner that even after a couple of days of hard rain they can be played on after only a few minutes work. There will be an "A" and "B" tournament. The winners will be decided by a round robin. Plan now to attend, August 1 to 4.

* * *

The Kampschroeders, of Ottawa, Kansas, say they have new lighted courts in Forest Park. Mrs. K says that in the past two weeks they have begun to organize and already have twenty members and just as soon as they have called a meeting they are going to begin on National cards.

* * *

Fernando Isais and Eddie Packham are in show business as partners in a horseshoe pitching act. They are assisted by Beth DuPre who is a champion rope spinner, guitar player, singer and yodeler. They have a very good agent and business manager and he has high hopes for them as a feature act. They have given a number of shows for veterans and many charitable organizations and have also appeared on TV.

* * *

Members of the Empire State Branch of the N.H.P.A. can now get their National dues cards for 1951 by sending me one dollar.

* * *

Make sure you will have your new pair of horseshoes for the coming season by ordering them NOW from your favorite dealer. Steel is on the restricted list. Speaking of horseshoes—You can get a FREE NEW PAIR of horseshoes, your choice, if you send me ten new subscriptions, all at one time. How about canvassing the members of your club?

* * *

Address me or The Horseshoe Pitcher at Box 22, Kingsbridge Station, New York, N. Y., when answering any of these ads, please tell them where you saw it.

* * *

N.H.P.A. EMBLEMS—If I hear from enough fellows who would be interested, I can furnish N.H.P.A. shield, screw back emblems. The emblems would be enameled in red, white and blue and gold plated. Those made of brass would cost you 70 cents and those made in sterling would be one buck. I will have to have orders of at least 100 each before I have them made up.—Jake

* * *

Remember to complain to your local Postmaster if this magazine fails to reach you on time. Any delay of delivery is not on this end of the line. If you have moved, send me your new address because the P. O. Dept. does not forward this class of mail.

* * *

Jimmy Risk, world famous exhibition pitcher, is appearing in the Sports Show at the Pan-Pacific Auditorium, Los Angeles, Calif. His wife, Norma, assists with the act which is a feature of the big outdoor show.

Jimmy did not go to Paris, France, as planned. After signing the contract and going to New York, preparatory to sailing, Jan. 5, the sponsors tried to slide out of some of their commitments. Instead of supplying Jimmy with a round trip ticket, they wanted to pay one way only and partly reimburse him with francs instead of good, old American mazuma. Risk refused to risk being stranded over there and take the discount of the currency exchange. Anyone in show business nowadays has to watch certain shady promoters. They are slicker than a greased eel in a barrel of mineral oil.

* * *

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COMING EVENTS

- May 20, New York, N. Y.—Open Tournament at Hilltop
May 30, New York, N. Y.—Empire State Open, Class A, B, C.
June 9-10, Santa Monica, Cal.—So. Cal. Open, Class "B".
June 10, Hartford, Conn.—Open, Pope Park
July 4, Topeka, Kan.—All Sports Tournament
July 7-8, Huntington Park, Cal.—Amateur, boys under 18.
July 21-22-29, Exposition Park, Cal.—Class A Championship.
July 28, Wildwood, N. J.—Invitation Open.
July 29, Bridgeport, Conn.—Fairfield County, Bearsley Park
July 29, Hartford, Conn.—Northern Conn., Pope Park
August 1-4, Clearfield, Pa.—Eastern National Tournament.
August 8-14, Murray, Utah—World's Championship.
Aug. 12, Bridgeport, Conn.—Conn. State, Bearsley Park
August 24-26, Columbus, Ohio—State Tournament, Fair Grounds
August 25-26, South Gate, Cal.—Amateur Championship
August 25-26, Portland, Me.—State Tournament
September 1-3, Long Beach, Cal.—Western Class A Open.
September 16, Bridgeport, Conn.—Conn. State Open, Bearsley Park
October 13-14, Ontario, Cal.—So. Cal Class B Championship.

* * *

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WHERE TO PLAY WHEN YOU'RE AWAY

- ARIZONA—Casa Grande Park, Casa Grande; Rendesvous Park, Mesa; Encanto Park, Phoenix.
- ARKANSAS—Fair Park and Boyle Park, Little Rock.
- CALIFORNIA—Community Center, Compton; Exposition Park, Los Angeles; Union Pacific Courts, Long Beach; Mosswood Park, Oakland; Golden Gate Courts, San Francisco; Candlestick Cove, Lincoln Park, Santa Monica; Crocker-Amazon Courts, San Francisco; McNear Park, Petaluma; Ives Memorial Park, Sebastopol.
- CANADA—Dieppe Park, East York.
- CONNECTICUT—Bearsley Park, Bridgeport; Pope Park, Hartford.
- DIST. OF COL.—Commerce Courts, Washington.
- FLORIDA—South Waterfront Park, St. Petersburg.
- ILLINOIS—Welles Park, Chicago; Athletic Park, Canton; Riverside Park, Moline; Long View Park, Rock Island.
- INDIANA—Brookside Park, Indianapolis.
- IOWA—Birdland Park, Des Moines; Riverside Park, Ottumwa; Crapo Park, Burlington; Island Park, Cedar Falls; Ellis Park, Cedar Rapids.
- KANSAS—Gage Park, Topeka.
- KENTUCKY—Shady Shores, Covington.
- MAINE—Auburn, Riverside Courts, Bangor, Bangor Club, Farmington, City Park, Hebron, Community Courts, Portland, Deering Oaks, Rumford, High School, So. Portland, Wilkinson Park.
- MARYLAND—Carroll Park, Baltimore; Magruder Park, Hyattsville.
- MASSACHUSETTS—Municipal Playgrounds, Westfield.
- MINNESOTA—Como & Elfelt, St. Paul; Soldier Memorial Field, Rochester.
- MISSOURI—Municipal Park, Carthage; Neosho, Fair Grounds, Springfield, Grant Beach Park.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE—South Playground, Portsmouth; Ryan H. S. Club, Dover Point; Pop Ryans, 14 Central Ave., Portsmouth.
- NEW JERSEY—Warinanco Park, Elizabeth; Branch Brook Pk., Newark. Wildwood, Beach Park.
- NEW YORK—Central Park, Innwood Hill Park, New York City; St. Mary's Park, Williamsbridge Oval Park, Woodlawn, Van Cortlandt Park, all in the Bronx; Parade Grounds, Fort Green Park, Brooklyn; Belmont Lake State Park, Babylon, L. I., Kirk Park, Syracuse.
- OHIO—Jermain Park, Toledo; Cedar Point, Sandusky.
- OREGON—Laurelhurst Park, Portland.
- PENNSYLVANIA—District Courts, Pittsburgh; Pt. Marion, Frank Murphy's Courts; Joe Mett's Courts, Revere; Oakhurst Courts, Johnstown.
- RHODE ISLAND—Athletic Field, West Warwick; Schartner's Courts, Hamilton.
- UTAH—County Fair Grounds, Murray.
- WASHINGTON—Wright Park, Tacoma.
- WEST VIRGINIA—Bar B-Q Courts, East Nitro.
- WYOMING—Union Park, Cheyenne.

IF YOU ARE NOT LISTED HERE, GET BUSY!