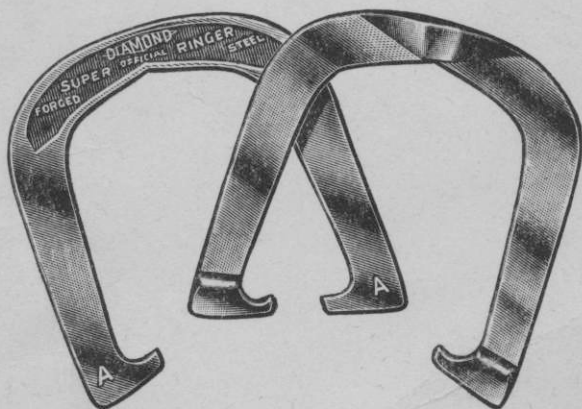


# THE HORSESHOE PITCHER

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



**NOVEMBER, 1952**

**Vol. 5**

**No. 3**

## EDITORIAL

There are quite a few of you good folks who send me articles to publish in The Horseshoe Pitcher for which I am very grateful. But some of you write them with pencil and some use both sides of the paper. You can make it much easier for me if you would use a typewriter or if you have none, pen and ink. But in no case, use both sides of the sheet. Now that the pitching season is over you will have time to think up something that will be good for the game of horseshoes which can be put into next seasons play. Then there is the suggestion you can make to incorporate in our new constitution and by-laws which the committee is now working on. They will welcome any suggestions.

Am glad to report that I now have caught up on space in which to publish all the articles for which I had no room in the past two issues of the magazine. So, keep 'em coming!

\* \* \*

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

The date for the 1953 World's Horseshoe Pitching Tournament is July 21st to July 27th, inclusive, to be held at the Fair Grounds in Salt Lake County, Murray, Utah. These dates are earlier than we have held it in other years. It is an experiment to see if there will be no conflict of dates on which other State Tournaments will be held. We do hope that the larger tournaments to be played will set their dates so that no sanctions will be requested within a week of any one of the above dates. In this way, the fellows who hope to participate in one or more of the big tournaments can do so.

ARCH STOKES.

\* \* \*

## CALIFORNIA

By E. O. BELLER

Huntington Park, September 28, 1952

### Boys Under 18 Championship Tournament

1. Jimmie Gregson, Crestline .....	7	0
2. Ronnie Ohmund, Crestline .....	6	1
3. Dwaine Campbell, Ontario .....	5	2
4. Donnie Gregson, Crestline .....	4	3
5. Gary Brown, South Gate .....	3	4
6. Billy Nottingham, Redlands .....	2	5
7. Larry Gray, San Gabriel .....	1	6
8. Robert Nottingham, Redlands .....	0	7

I think our National Secretary, Archie Gregson, should be highly commended for his idea of sending to all State Secretaries a copy of minutes of National Convention at Murray, Utah, held in August. Also a report on finance and memberships. He has now completely fulfilled

his obligation in this respect. This all important information is now at hand with the secretary of each state to pass out to the membership if they desire it.

The membership at end of year will be considerably higher because of late reports and late joiners. We should all make an effort to join early in 1953. The money will then be in to operate with when needed. It will be easier on both State and National officials. Finance and membership records will present a better picture at Convention time next August.

I think we have had quite a successful round of tournaments in the Southern California Association this past year. There is room for much improvement next year and in the years to come. One thing we need is more members, and for each member to participate in all tournaments in his class. Encourage the youngsters and "C" class pitchers.

I think Dr. Sol Berman's article "Promoting Horseshoes" in the August issue of The Horseshoe Pitcher has much merit. Jake and Mr. Berman should work on a plan to put this in operation.

I have a plan for keeping ringer percentages on each individual member of our Southern California Association. I have a record of nearly all tournaments played during the last five years by each playing member. These include all local, State and National tournaments. These records are all kept in one book. They indicate number of games played, number of shoes pitched and number of ringers. At the end of each year these are added to total of previous year. In this way his exact percentage is always up to date for the past five years, or that portion of the last five years he has played. In 1953 I will drop his 1948 record and include the 1953 record, thus always showing his last five year record. This is an interesting chart to muse over or study for all pitchers, "A", "B" or "C". All pitchers of any class are proud to see their percentages increase and will strive to better it. As a rule they do.

This may sound like a complicated task, but it is not. If the results of each sponsored tournament is sent in to the State Secretary, it is a small matter to file them away in order of date played. A retiring secretary can turn over his record to the succeeding secretary and records continue.

Such records would be of value if a change of qualification is inaugurated at National or State tournaments. Many think the 100 or 200 shoe pitch as now pitched for qualifying eliminates a deserving entry or boosts one into a tournament for which he is not actually qualified to enter.

We of the Southern California Association are proud to have five or six members in our association who finish well up in the National Tournament each year. Among them is Fernando Isais, many times World Champion. Here is the way his record reads for the past five years: Fernando Isais, Los Angeles, Games 211; Years 1948-52; Shoes Pitched 15,210; Ringers 12,671; Ringer percentage 83.3.

These are all from games in regular sponsored tournaments. I presume a five year record for two or three of the top pitchers would even top this. I would like to see their records printed in The Horseshoe Pitcher.

\* \* \*

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE HORSESHOE PITCHER

By JACK WEST

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to everyone that made my first World's Championship Horseshoe Tournament a wonderful experience. From the time I arrived until the last minute before my departure I felt I had been a member of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association of America for years. Everyone should have the pleasure to meet the fine group that attends these tournaments.

I would like to make some succinct comments on the things that I particularly enjoyed during my stay in Murray.

Commissioner George W. Morgan, graciously driving Louis Dean, Fernando Isais and myself on a very scenic trip, called the "LOOP." Beautiful, cloud covered, Mt. Timpanogos—America's farthest south glacier . . . Picturesque Provo Canyon . . . Enjoying a wholesome Sunday breakfast in Heber . . . Seeing a hailstorm near the city of Hailstone . . . Talking to Golf Pro Mickey Riley while attending the banquet at the Meadow Brook . . . Watching Guy Zimmerman and Casey Jones in their 126 shoe exhibition . . . Not having to buy any cigarettes for the rest of the tournament—thanks to Isais, Johnson and Dykes . . . Predicting that the only one to defeat Isais would be smiling James Johnson . . . Harman's Cafe . . . Ted Allen's two watches . . . My accommodations at the "El Rancho" with the Dale Dixons', the Ervin Hosiers', Fernando Isais, "Casey" Joneses, the Archie Gregsons', the Ralph Kampschroeders', the John Lindmeirers', Jake and his missus, etc. . . . Muscular Roy Getchell . . . Dean Brown's cap . . . The Ray Gatewood-Lowell Gray match . . . Hardworking Arch Stokes . . . (with Stokes stoking the tournament for '53 it can't help but be a success) . . . Left handed Don Titcomb's 28-7 record . . . The Glen Anderson-Fernando Isais match with Fernando's 26 consecutive doubles . . . The Louis Dean-Isais game when the score was 32-42 with one shoe on the stake . . . Watching "Plugging" Charlie Palm—I wish I could do as well . . . The Marines Tamboer-Isais match . . . The Ted Allen-John Lindmeier match . . . The Beer Bust . . . The vitality of Arn Lindquist . . . The Johnny-on-the-spot referees . . . Murray's Jr. Chamber of Commerce snack shack . . . Hope, Katie and Mary in the tent . . . The scoring machines and their efficient operators . . . The Ohio Shoe taking one-two . . . Combination of Ted and Richard Allen . . . Paying my subscription dues to Jake Jaskulek for The Horseshoe Pitcher . . . The enthusiastic crowds . . . The last eight games played by Fernando Isais . . . Meeting Sara Byers, Katie Gregson and Anna Lindquist 1-2-3 in the women's division . . . Viewing my motion pictures frequently with everyone—the effect is astonishing—they never knew such skilled athletes existed . . . The "Casey Jones-Fernando Isais 132 shoe match . . . Last, but the most important, being able to see the mechanical man, Fernando Isais, in action, he is truly a great champion . . . Thanks again everyone, I will be looking forward to seeing you in '53.

\* \* \*

### CANADA

By HAROLD E. BLACKMAN

The Dominion Horseshoe Pitchers Association held their election of officers with the following results: Bert Campbell, President, E. D. Burrows, First Vice President; G. Edwards, 2nd Vice President and C.

Hansell, Secretary-Treasurer. At the Markham Fair, October 4, we held a four man team tournament with representatives of Toronto Beaches coming out on top; East York, second; Scarboro, third, and Stouffville, fourth. In the Open Singles, Blackman led off with Matthews, Wilkinson and Steel finishing in that order. We wound up with Walter Woodward giving an exhibition.

In 1953 we hope to drive stakes all over the place. We are planning on forming a League in the Spring and expect to organize about forty pitchers for this group. The top qualifiers for the Canadian National Exposition tournament next year will all wear white T shirts with the Canadian Crest on them. They will also have a number on the back of the shirt. Besides this, sweaters will be ordered for all score keepers and pitchers. It is desired that all taking part in this tournament will make a good appearance to the spectators. I believe if this procedure were followed in all tournaments it would enhance the game of horse-shoes.

\* \* \*

## IOWA

By LELAND MORTENSON

Iowa has had one of the best horseshoe pitching years for some time. This is due to the fact that Marion Lange, of Bondurant, contacted the Iowa State Fair Board early in the year and arranged for them to stage the State Championship Tournament at the annual Fair. Dale Dixon, of Des Moines, plunged into the promotional part in August and he saw to it that the tournament was provided with a tent for the head score keeper and that a large blackboard was set up.

Lange and Dixon are respectively President and Secretary of the Hawkeye Association, and they held Statewide tournaments during the Summer at Cedar Falls, Des Moines and Blakesburg. Dixon won the State Title at the Fair and the meet at Cedar Falls. Joe Hill, of Radcliffe, won the tournament at Des Moines, while Harold Darnold, of Burlington, defeated Dixon and other top notchers at Blakesburg, the latest of the contests.

A Statewide Junior Meet at the State Fair was won by Gary Thompson, of Roland. He is also recognized as one of the best high school basketball players in Iowa; also at the State Fair, tournaments were held for city players and farmers who had not won more than fifty dollars in prize money in any one of the last three years. Walt Downs, of Kelly, won the City Players Meet while Wellington Taylor, of Green River, won over the farmers. In a play off, Downs defeated Taylor two out of three games.

A sensational surprise was provided the pitchers and the fans by the surprise appearance of Putt Mossman, formerly of Eldora, but now located at Box 907, San Bernardino, Cal. Mossman, who is now forty-six years old, was World's Champion in the middle twenties. He told us that he has exhibited his skill in four trips around the World and that he will perform exhibitions in Iowa High Schools on a big scale this Winter. He assured us that horseshoe pitching is and always has been one of

the most important parts of his exhibitions. He is the same Putt; active, talkative, alert and full of "guts". Whenever people see him they feel that here is the "real McCoy." Putt agreed to do an exhibition free for us. He pitched thirty feet, as he has been doing that on the stage, and he did some acrobatic stunts as well. After the exhibition, he played Joe Hill a game at forty feet and was defeated 50—47. He says he will actively take part in the horseshoe game with the pitchers soon in some one or more fields, aside from actual pitching but he is also considering an attempt to regain the Iowa Championship.

Archie Stokes, new President of the National Association, has named me chairman of a committee to re-write the Constitution, by-laws and rules. The other committee members are John Lindmeier and Ellis Cobb, of Illinois, Ted Allen, of Colorado, Cletus Chapelle and John Byers of Oregon and Dale Dixon of Iowa. We are just getting started and for a few weeks we are individually studying and familiarizing ourselves with the stated documents. Any reader having any suggestions might write to any committee member, or better yet, write it for publication in The Horseshoe Pitcher. We want to start with a slogan for the National Association. For a long time the slogan has been "Pitch Horseshoes for Health." Can anyone think of one that would be better? Someone has suggested "A horseshoe court in every back yard." Someone else suggests "every member a champion." Following the slogan is the entire contents of a booklet about the constitution, by-laws and rules. Copies can be secured from the National Secretary. The final product of the committee will be presented, part by part, for approval or rejection by the National Association at its next convention.

Dale Dixon regained his Iowa State title with his own shoe, the Dale Dixon Shoe. He plans to put a large number on the market within a few months.

\* \* \*

## MISSOURI

By EARL WINSTON

Missouri now has a new State Champion. He is John Elkins, who went through the meet without a loss and also made the highest percentage of ringers for a State tournament in recent years.

	W.	L.	%
1. Elkins, Sella .....	7	0	73.0
2. Winston, LaMonte .....	6	1	70.2
3. Wommack, Springfield .....	5	2	61.2
4. Wors, St. Louis .....	4	3	64.8
5. Greenlee, Springfield .....	2	5	62.5
6. Young, St. Louis .....	2	5	59.0
7. Baker, Wentworth .....	1	6	58.1
8. Freeman, Springfield .....	1	6	46.3

Winston had the longest string of doubles with ten followed by Elkins with nine. Elkins had the best game with Winston pitching 85%. The "B" Class finished as follows:

	W.	L.	%
1. Mosby, Kansas City .....	7	0	61.9
2. Coffey, Joplin .....	6	1	56.6
3. Frederick, Wentworth .....	5	2	46.1
4. Carver, Wentworth .....	3	4	45.8
5. W. Winston, La Monte .....	3	4	43.8
6. Morris, La Monte .....	2	5	36.5
7. Tatum, Springfield .....	1	6	41.3
8. Gager, Springfield .....	1	6	35.5

\* \* \*

## NAVY HORSESHOES

By TONY PIAZZA

While we were anchored at Marseille, France, Moose White and I went ashore to pitch horseshoes, as usual, and wound up by putting on an exhibition before an audience of over a thousand people. They gathered around us like flies and watched us pitch with much curiosity. Usually, whenever we go ashore, the most people that gather around are only fifty or sixty people but the crowd on this day was unbelievable. It was a good time to put on a little show and Moose started off by pitching ringers with me standing in front of the stake at "parade rest." Then I squatted about a foot behind the stake and he pitched more ringers. Not much applause for them; just kids and young girls clapped and mumbled some French talk. Next, me and a "gook" held a sweat shirt about three feet in front of the stake and Moose pitched more shoes. A giant ballon was set up the same distance in front of the stake and more ringers went on. The people just watched and did not say much. As the afternoon wore on, I had a few drinks and when Moose told me to sit in front of the stake I didn't hesitate much. He wanted to do a trick Ted Allen does with a paper bag. We didn't have a bag or a hat either so Moose tossed me one of his sneakers. There I was, squatted down about four feet in front of the peg with a sneaker atop my noggin!

There were some laughs at first and some French mumbles but when Moose wound up it got so quiet I could hear my heart pounding. I wasn't used to having people pitch two and a half pounds of steel over my head (I hoped) and I had a hard time keeping the sneaker balanced on my head. The first two shoes passed inches over my head and went on for ringers. The third shoe was lower than Moose intended it to be and he hollered look out. But what could I do? I just sat there like a dope and the shoe took the sneaker right off my head? Some of the girls screamed when Moose yelled at me and then the whole crowd started yelling and clapping when they saw the horseshoe on the stake for a ringer with the sneaker wedged in between the shoe and the stake. They were all yelling and clapping for more but I wasn't in the mood for sitting there any longer. By then the crowd was tremendous. Besides the gang gathered around on the beach, they were lined up three and four deep against the sidewalk rail above the bath houses overlooking the Beach. The last trick was when Moose took an inner tube off a kid standing next to him and I held it about the same three feet in front of the stake. The first shoe nicked the tube but it still went on. The

next three went on right through the tube for perfect ringers. Again the crowd went wild and Moose got a lot more applause.

For a game that these people never heard of, they sure know something good when they see it. The people above the bath houses were fighting for the rail, those on the Beach closing in on us and I can't say I minded that much because there were sure some beautiful women there.

So far, we pitched in Gibraltar, Oran, Algiers, Sardinia, Cannes, Golfe Juan, Genoa and Naples and never had we had over fifty people watching. But if our exhibition did not draw more than a thousand people I'll eat a pair of horseshoes and the stakes too, and without salt or pepper.

I do not believe there is a horseshoe pitcher in the World who advertises and builds up the horseshoe game as does Moose White. That's all he ever talks about or reads about. It's his whole life.

(Tony, now that Moose is out of the Navy, it's up to you and Brock to keep up the good work. Jake.)

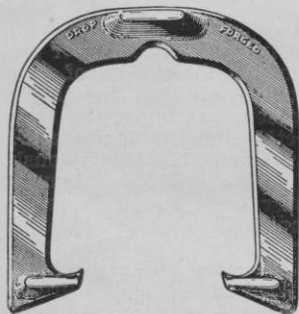
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## OPERATION HORSESHOE STAMINA

By HOWARD "MOOSE" WHITE

I have just finished reading The Horseshoe Pitcher through for the tenth time and after a thorough inspection I still find it to be 4.0.

### GORDON SPIN-ON HORSESHOES



Again in 1952, Gordon Spin-On Horseshoes have led in sales of horseshoes. The pitchers know their shoes, and that is the reason for our big lead in sales of horseshoes. Many horseshoe pitchers have switched to Gordons. When you buy, buy the very best, buy Gordons. Write for prices.

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4.0 in the Navy means anything that can be rated 100% or outstanding. A few more 4.0's and we shall have to award The Horseshoe Pitcher the "E" for top efficiency during 1952.

Charley Gerrish's articles, "Brief Horseshoe Pitching Rules" and "Criteria of Horseshoe Rules" that appeared in the June and July issues of The Horseshoe Pitcher were double ringer jobs. The author presented at Murray, Utah. I believe every reader of this magazine will agree with me 100%, when I say that I consider Charley Gerrish one of the greatest many helpful remedies that should be adopted at the National Convention writers on horseshoe pitching in the world today. Plant owner subscribers to this magazine have been reading the Gerrish column with regularity for the past three years.

Many of the veteran pitchers no doubt can remember his fine game building stories that appeared back in the pre-war magazine, "The Horseshoe World." Charley's brilliant writing is equally matched by his superb pitching. For most pitchers physically after they pass 60, it is the downward trend, but not so in Chuck'in Charlie's case. His saga of ringers continues and to prove my point I use this comparison. In the 1950 New England meet, Charlie's ringer average was 62%, for 1951 72% an increase of 10%. That, fellow horseshoe pitchers, is real improvement, especially after you have devoted 28 years to the game. So there must be something to the Gerrish slogan, "Practice proved way and forms until they are HABIT," or "Pitch horseshoes and stay young."

Most tournament players at one time or other have pitched horseshoes during a heat wave, especially during July and August when most of them are held. (Example this summer).

It is not a rare thing to see many of these tournaments played out under a broiling hot sun with the mercury well over 100 degrees, no breeze stirring.

One particular tournament I played in, and I shall never forget, was played off on one of those scorchers during the middle of August 1947 at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. It was so hot that day that even the snakes had to seek shade. The tournament got underway at noon and the mercury showed no signs of respecting the 100 degree mark on the thermometer. The tournament was an Open City Championship, with many of the area sea coast towns of Maine and New Hampshire participating. It was our first big post-war meet and a large gallery of spectators were on hand to see if champion Charley Gerrish could retain his title after a record breaking 17 straight years as champion. Entered in the meet were several extitle holders who had returned from the war, eager to prove that they were as good as ever under fire. But they were later to learn, it takes time after a 3 or 4 year lay off to come back. The meet got off to a fast pace with ringers hanging on the pegs like grim death, but as the afternoon wore on it became a different story. The blazing sun was just too much fire to fight for some of the players and many of the games had to be forfeited. The end came late in the afternoon, Champ Charley and Moose White met for the final game. The crowd got as quiet as a Saturday night in church as both men were undefeated and that was the way Gerrish finished up, 50 points to my 47. That veteran, Buckdeer Gerrish had just too much elbow moxie for the ringer hunters that day. The Champ admitted the next day that despite the fact he had been in A-1 shape the day before he was going to have

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Salt Lake City, Utah

Mary Jones, Treasurer  
R. 3, Box 804c  
Waukesha, Wis.

Archie Gregson, Secretary  
Crestline, California

to pick up the pieces and start building again if he expected to be one of the top ringer producers in the state meet a week later. I know darn well I couldn't have lasted out to finish the game with Gerrish if I hadn't been in good condition and drank a quart or two of my ringer stamina drink, ice cold buttermilk.

Most players in long athletic events need some sort of refreshment to keep away that old devil fatigue. A horseshoe tournament played off under a hot sun is plenty tough and saps plenty of stamina. Now the average horseshoe pitcher, after he passes a certain age doesn't always feel like getting out and grinding away long practice sessions in a hot sun to get in shape for a tournament. It would take away the fun and enjoyment of pitching, so what does he do if he isn't in top condition to fight a hot sun and ringer competition all afternoon? The chances are he will require more water than usual to keep him going and we all know what too much water can do on a hot day. Yes sir, that is where a good drink of buttermilk or some other healthy beverage comes to the rescue. Of course, we all know it to be a proven fact that there is no substitute for long hours of practice to build up endurance and game. But there are times when work or other things interfere and we can't devote as much time to the game as we would like to. As Roy Smith put it, "tension causes fatigue, fatigue causes tension," so to eliminate those two physical and mental discomforts we must come up with a remedy. That is why I believe it would be wise for pitchers to carry with them to tournaments, something they can rely on to keep them going strong when the sun threatens to knock them out. Myself, I endorse buttermilk. It is a good healthy drink, generates plenty of stamina, and relieves a big part of tournament tension and jitters. I have been caught short at times with only a couple of games to go to be a winner, and couldn't keep up my regular game at the end, when I knew I could if I had felt stronger. From now on I'm taking along my rabbit foot, BUTTERMILK.

\* \* \*

## NEW JERSEY

By DOC BERMAN

Dr. Sol Berman of Elizabeth is king of Union County's horseshoe pitchers for the fourth consecutive year. The Rahway Avenue physician swept honors in yesterday's twenty-sixth annual tournament at Warinanco Park, winning the qualifying round with 92 points and going undefeated in seven round-robin matches.

Runnerup honors went to Steve Kaplin of Linden with five wins and two losses. Tied for third at 4—3 were Ralph Hill of Mountainside, Ed Horwitz of Plainfield and Joe Paulikas of Elizabeth, and trailing were Joe Bishop of Plainfield, 3—4; John Majcher of Elizabeth, 0—8, and Harry Thiele of Roselle, 0—8.

John Brunner of Elizabeth topped the Class B pitchers with 6—1, followed by Irv Rolband of Linden, 5—2. The latter defeated Randolph Berling on a match. Eighteen competed in the tourney.

\* \* \*

## OREGON

By R. L. BYERS

### TO ALL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS:

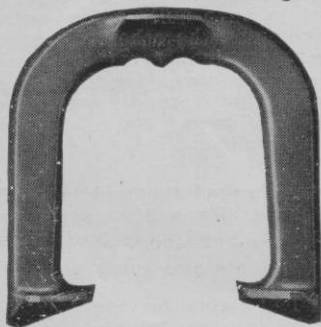
Greetings from Oregon. The horseshoe pitching season is rapidly drawing to a close but the weather here remains ideal for all out door sports.

Out here we have to hibernate during the Winter, but we keep the subject of horseshoe pitching alive by holding monthly meetings, combining business with social activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to call to the attention of all members of the Association the action of the President in appointing a Committee to consider suggesitons for possible changes in our Constitution and By-Laws and to submit a report to our next Annual Meeting for approval or rejection.

We need your help. If you have any suggestions which you feel will improve our present set-up, please write out your views and mail at once to L. S. Mortensen, 863 West 41st Street, Des Moines, Iowa. He is the Chairman of the Committee.

### Pitch Ohio Horseshoes and Increase Your Ringer Percentage



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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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Station F

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Please give this matter your immediate attention. We assure you that any and all suggestions will be welcome and will receive careful consideration.

By getting a cross section of views from all parts of the country, we are hopeful of coming up with a report to the Convention that will be satisfactory to all, or at least most of the membership.

If you feel that our present Constitution and By-Laws are satisfactory, we hope you will write and give us your approval.

Our Association is for the purpose of promoting good fellowship and healthful out door recreation. Our success depends on the degree in which we cooperate with each other for the good of the game.

We need all the information we can get relative to the wishes of all Members. Give us a chance to act intelligently and for the best interests of the Association by giving us promptly any suggestions you may have to make.

Naturally, we do not want to make changes just for the sake of a change but any suggestions for improvement will be welcome.

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By TED HUFF

For a long time I've been wanting to write and tell you that when I first received your magazine it seemed to have quite a few negative articles, some of the better pitchers condemning the other pitchers and generally finding fault, but lately your magazine seems to be more positive and constructive. I think this is a good omen for the future of the game, for your magazine is probably the strongest weld among horseshoe pitchers nationally that exists outside the National Association. Personally, I enjoy your magazine very much.

The Oregon City Horseshoe Club was formed the middle of July, 1951, with 11 enthusiastic horseshoe pitchers. We had 2 courts at Atkinson Park but soon found the need for more and more until we now have 8 nice courts and over 50 members.

During the past year we have installed lights for night pitching, have donated 5 sets of shoes to the park bureau for children's use, have conducted instruction sessions for novices, and have had a wonderful time. In the process we have had inter-city tournaments and our players participate in the county and state tournaments. Last year, the recreation department, at our instigation, established the Oregon City invitational tournament, which includes players from all over Clackamas County. This year we got the Chamber of Commerce to donate a beautiful perpetual trophy and had 24 pitchers qualify and play on Sunday, September 21. This tournament is designed for everyone from the novice to the expert and I am enclosing a clipping showing the results.

Some people may argue with us but our club has no initiation or dues. The only expense we had last year was the printing of emblems for our shirts which we sold at 50 cents each, and installing our flood



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Quality pitching horseshoe equipment: courts, stakes, shoes and accessories. Ask your dealer or write for free rule book.

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• DULUTH, MINNESOTA

lights which cost us \$15.00 (The balance was paid for by the city.) This year, our expenses were only \$2.50 for the light bill which we pay to a private club where we have hooked onto their wiring. We believe this is pretty cheap and healthy entertainment—the boys love it and attend our Tuesday night meetings regularly during the summer and until the final tournament in September.

The success of our club has been helped materially by Kenneth Kerr, Oregon City Recreation Department Director, and by the fine co-operation of some of the boys in Portland, particularly Duke Wright, Roy Getchell, Cletus Chapelle, Leroy Bryant, Howard Peterson, and others.

Keep up the good work on your magazine and I think horseshoes will come back to its rightful place nationally. We feel that it has done this in Oregon City and Clackamas County in the past 2 years. Horseshoes are clanging everywhere!

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### PEDERSEN NIPS WRIGHT, GETS SHOE TROPHY

**OREGON CITY**—Arnold Pedersen, Oregon City horseshoe club challenge board leader and high qualifier in the Oregon City invitational horseshoe tourney, swept the field to win the Chamber of Commerce perpetual trophy and trousers donated by Bernie Herrmann in the annual Oregon City invitational horseshoe tournament at Atkinson Memorial Park. To win, Pedersen upset Lee Wright, defending champion, who had to be satisfied with second place.

Leonard Millspaugh, present county champion came in third and Otto Johnson, four times state champion, had to be satisfied with fifth. Eldon Harvey was fourth and Hugh Granquist, Bud French and Fred Alexander finished in that order.

Pederson pitched a careful, steady game but had a close squeeze to beat out Fred Alexander, 50—49. Wright was slow getting started, losing his first two games, but, when he finally warmed up shot the amazing total of 32 ringers out of 36 shoes for a ringer percentage of 89 in one game.

Carl Lewis, the Barlow hop farmer, got hot as the thermometer and won the second flight trophy without losing a game. Herman Buse, Lloyd Read and Ted Huff played a 25 point game of cutthroat to decide second place in the second flight with Buse winning second and a pair of Gordon shoes, Lloyd Read, third, and Ted Huff, fourth. Archie Tainer, Lloyd Bair, Mit Persyn and Gordon Klusman finished in that order.

Fred Matteson beat out Nick Katherin for first place in the third flight to win an ash tray with a horseshoe pitcher figurine.

Kenneth Kerr, Oregon City recreation director, was very pleased at the conduct of the players, the high quality of pitching, and the attendance of spectators.

“This was the biggest and best horseshoe tournament in the history of Clackamas County, and perhaps the state. We intend to make it an annual affair.”

\* \* \*

## PENNSYLVANIA

By R. G. KINKEAD

The N.H.P.A. members of Pennsylvania held a meeting in Clearfield on Sunday, September 28th and Clearfield was selected as the site for the 1953 Pennsylvania State Championship. H. S. Gamble was in charge of the meeting which had more than 60 horseshoe pitchers voting unanimously in favor of Clearfield. Tentative dates were set as July 3rd and July 4th, 1953.

Before the meeting we held a Round Robin Match with the 10 high qualifiers taking part. Jim Mayes lost only one game and that to Roy Carson. Carson had the high percentage for the match as well as a high single game of 81.7 per cent.

The match had some very close games as well as some very lopsided ones. Thurston lost to Clingan 50—49, then defeated Carson in his next game by the same score. Dick Irvin pitched 77 per cent in his game with Clingan and won by a score of 50—47. Fenton had 56 per cent but scored only one point in his game with Clingan. Dean Mayes was the high qualifier with 133 points out of 50 shoes but had to withdraw because of a sore finger.

	W.	L.	%
1. Jim Mayes .....	8	1	68.0
2. Roy Carson .....	7	2	71.3
3. Clingan .....	7	2	70.7
4. Irvin .....	6	3	64.0
5. Thurston .....	5	4	63.0
6. Joe Mayes .....	5	4	58.0
7. Jones .....	3	6	49.0
7. Rowles .....	2	7	48.0
9. Zebrun .....	2	7	49.0
10. Fenton .....	0	9	41.0

\* \* \*

## WASHINGTON STATE

Roy Getchel, Portland, restored the Northwest horseshoe pitching championship to the Getchel family and carried it out of the state of Washington for the first time when he won the tournament, one of the annual features of the Central Washington Fair.

He went through the 15-game finals without the loss of a contest and defeated John Monasmith, Yakima, the defending titleholder, 50—37, in the final match. Monasmith, who had lost one match earlier, to Stan Dahl, the British Columbia titleholder, 50—35, would have forced the tournament into an extra game had he won. However, after climbing



up to within one point of Getchel, 38—37, he failed to score a point thereafter.

Henry Knauff, Spokane, the 1950 champion, finished fourth with 11 victories and four defeats. He trailed Ed Fishel, Neilton, by one game.

Monasmith, who first won the title in 1949, defeated the new champion's brother, Lou Getchel, Tacoma, for the championship in the final match last year, Lou had held the title in 1946, 1948 and 1949.

Roy Getchel finished eighth in the national tournament held last month in Salt Lake City.

Getchel, Dahl, who was fifth with 10 victories and five losses, and Cletus Chapelle, Portland, who also had a 10—5 record, tied for the top ringer percentage in one game. Each had 82.4. Monasmith, who is the state champion, had 78.9.

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#### BATTLE LAUNCHED TO SAVE TOURNEY

Yakima County's horseshoe pitchers today launched a fight to save for this city the tournament which they pioneered and promoted into one of the best outside of the \$5,500 National—the Northwest tournament which has annually been staged at the Central Washington Fair.

It was learned today that Northwest Horseshoe Pitchers Association had selected a committee composed of Gene Patrick, Toppenish; Bill Branstetter, Pasco, and Leonard Millspaugh, Portland, to investigate reported bids by Pasco and Oregon State Fair at Salem for the 1953 tournament. Members of the association said that Pasco was ready to offer \$300 in prize money and the Oregon State Fair \$1,000.

However, John Monasmith, Yakima, the three-time Northwest champion, said that the horseshoe pitchers want to come back to Yakima because of its accessibility, but are willing to waive this desire in favor of the purses reported offered by the other cities. Twenty-eight pitchers from Washington, Oregon and British Columbia competed here this year even though no prize money was offered other than that which came from their own entry fees.

Monasmith said that a campaign would be launched here to obtain at least \$300 in prize money for the 1953 tournament. Also planned is a post-tournament match between the four leaders with which to draw a greater number of spectators.

He believes that such conditions will induce the leading pitchers of Montana and Idaho to come here.

Patrick has been reelected president with Branstetter as vice president and Mrs. Monasmith as secretary-treasurer.

\* \* \*

## WEST VIRGINIA

By ARTHUR PORTER

I am one of eight brothers and we are all horseshoe pitchers. All of us have been pitching for the past twenty-three years. I live on Wheling Island, W. Va., and I know at least fifty other good pitchers in our vicinity. I am thirty-five years old, brother Bill is thirty-seven and Howard is forty-seven. Out of the eight brothers, we three are the best pitchers. Bill does not pitch very often because he plays soft ball with a team in Ohio, but when he does pitch, he is tough. He averages from 75 to 95 per cent. My opinion is that if he pitched as much as me he could rate with all the top notchers. Howard and I pitch around the seventy mark but hit in the eighties once in a while.

We would like to have a tournament here sometime next year and run it under the rules and regulations of the N.H.P.A. We would like to name it the Ohio Valley Tournament because the Ohio Valley consists of over half a million people and this territory is all within a fifty mile radius of Wheeling, W. Va. What we are trying to do is to revive the horseshoe pitching enthusiasm we had here about eighteen years ago. Then, we had an Ohio Valley League, consisting of eight teams and it was a great success.

If this tournament we have in mind goes over O.K. we are sure to have an Open Tournament in which we hope to have all the top Eastern and Middle Western pitchers attend.

\* \* \*

## JAKE'S JOTTINGS

It looks like our new President, Arch Stokes, is on the ball. Having set the dates for the 1953 World't Tournament for July 21 to 27 is a step in the right direction. Now, many of those pitchers who will go to the Eastern tournament at Clearfield, Pa., will have plenty of time to make the tournament at Murray next year.

\* \* \*

Another good iron in the fire is the committee set up to revise our present constitution and by-laws. I know every man personally on this committee and want to congratulate Arch Stokes on his selection. But everybody must help them. Be sure to send in your ideas to make the work of these men as fruitful as possible.

\* \* \*

Now that Howard "Moose" White is out of the Navy where he has been for almost eight years, horseshoes in New Hampshire should get quite a lift. He is the one who popularized the game in the Navy and now that he is home again things will be hopping!

\* \* \*

Vito Fileccia of Manhattan and Alvin Winter of the Bronx, won in their divisions for the Greater New York championships held recently in Heckscher's courts in Central Park. Fileccia snapped Joe Zichella's three-year reign in the Senior division. Winter captured the Junior title by defeating Harry Koehler of Queens, in the playoff for first place.

\* \* \*

Just because Winter is upon us is no reason why horseshoes should hibernate. Now is the time to think up new ideas for next season. Put them on paper and send them in. By letting the other fellow know what you are thinking about may help them and the game too.

\* \* \*

Did you move? If you did, send me your new address because the Post Office Department does not forward this class of mail. Lots of magazines are returned to me each month because of this reason.

\* \* \*

Know anyone who would like a sample copy of The Horseshoe Pitcher? Just send me his name and address.

\* \* \*

Regarding proposed changes in our constitution and by-laws; if you do not wish to send them to me direct for publication in The Horseshoe Pitcher, here are the names and addresses of all the members on that committee—

- L. Mortenson, Chairman, 862 W. 41st Street, Des Moines, Iowa
- D. Dixon, 4903 Holcomb Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa
- T. Allen, 1045 Tenth Avenue, Boulder, Colo.
- J. Lindemeier, 2030 S. 18th Avenue, Maywood, Ill.
- R. Getchell, 1408 N. E. 114th Ave., Portland, Ore
- C. Chapelle, 7018 N. Greenwich, Portland, Ore.
- R. Byers, 3935 N. E. Hazelfern Place, Portland, Ore.

\* \* \*

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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, Boyle Park, MacArthur Park, Little Rock.
- CALIFORNIA—Community Center, Compton; Exposition Park, Los Angeles; Union Pacific Courts, Long Beach; Mosswood Park, Oakland; Horseshoe Grounds, Ontario, Golden Gate Courts, Candlestick Cove, Crocker-Amazon Courts, San Francisco; Memorial Park, South San Francisco; Lincoln Park, Santa Monica; McNear Park, Petaluma; Ives Memorial Park, Sebastopol.
- CANADA—Dieppe Park, East York.
- COLORADO—City Park and Washington Park, Denver; City Park, Greeley.
- CONNECTICUT—Beardsley Park, Bridgeport; Pope Park, Hartford.
- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Commerce Courts, Washington.
- FLORIDA—South Waterfront Park, St. Petersburg.
- ILLINOIS—Welles Park, Chicago; Athletic Park, Canton; Riverside Park, Moline; Mineral Springs Park, Pekin; Reservoir Park, Quincy; Long View Park, Rock Island.
- INDIANA—Brookside Park, Indianapolis; Dorner Park, Frankfort; Columbia Park, Lafayette; Forest Park, Noblesville; 3rd Street Park, Bloomington.
- IOWA—Birdland Park, Des Moines; Riverside Park, Ottumwa; Crapo Park, Burlington; Island Park, Cedar Falls; Ellis Park, Cedar Rapids; LeClaire Park, Davenport.
- KANSAS—Forest Park, Ottawa; Gage Park, Topeka; Katy Park, Chanute; Huntress Park, Clay Center; Riverside Park, Iola; Klamm Park, Kansas City; South Park, Lawrence; City Park, Manhattan; Prospect Park, Wichita.
- 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.
- MICHIGAN—Grand Rapids, Franklin Park.
- MINNESOTA—Como & Elfelt, St. Paul; Soldier Memorial Field, Rochester.
- MISSOURI—Municipal Park, Carthage; Neosho, Fair Grounds, Springfield; Grant Beach Park.
- NEBRASKA—Harmon Park, Kearney; Dewey Park, Omaha.
- NEW HAMPSHIRE—South Playground, Portsmouth; Ryan H. S. Club, Dover Point; Pop Ryans, 14 Central Ave., Portsmouth.
- NEW JERSEY—Warinanco Park, Elizabeth; Branch Brook Park, Newark; Wildwood, Beach Park.
- NEW YORK—Central Park, Fort George, 193 Fort George Ave., Inwood 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.; Johnson City, Endicott-Johnson Courts; Kirk Park, Syracuse.
- OHIO—Jermain Park, Toledo; Cedar Point, Sandusky; Williams Memorial Pk., Wilmington. Community Park, Cedarville.
- OREGON—Laurelhurst Park, Portland; Bush Pasture Park, Salem; Atkinson Park, Oregon City.
- PENNSYLVANIA—District Courts, Pittsburgh; Pt. Marion, Frank Murphy's Courts; Joe Mett's Courts, Revere; Oakhurst Courts, Johnstown; Playground Cts., New Freedom.
- RHODE ISLAND—Columbus Square, W. Warwick.
- TEXAS—Will Rogers Park, Amarillo; Elwood Park, Amarillo; Mason Park, Houston; Bellvue Park, Wichita Falls.
- UTAH—County Fair Grounds, Murray; Liberty Park, Salt Lake City.
- VERMONT—Stolte Field, Brattleboro; Memorial Park, Bennington; Ethan Allen Park, Burlington; Local Athletic Field, Springfield.
- WASHINGTON—Zelasko Park, Aberdeen; City Park, Bremerton; Woodland Park, Seattle; Wright Park, Tacoma; Fair Grounds, Yakima.
- WEST VIRGINIA—Bar B-Q Courts, East Nitro.
- WISCONSIN—Washington Park, Milwaukee.
- WYOMING—Union Park, Cheyenne.

IF YOU ARE NOT LISTED HERE, GET BUSY!