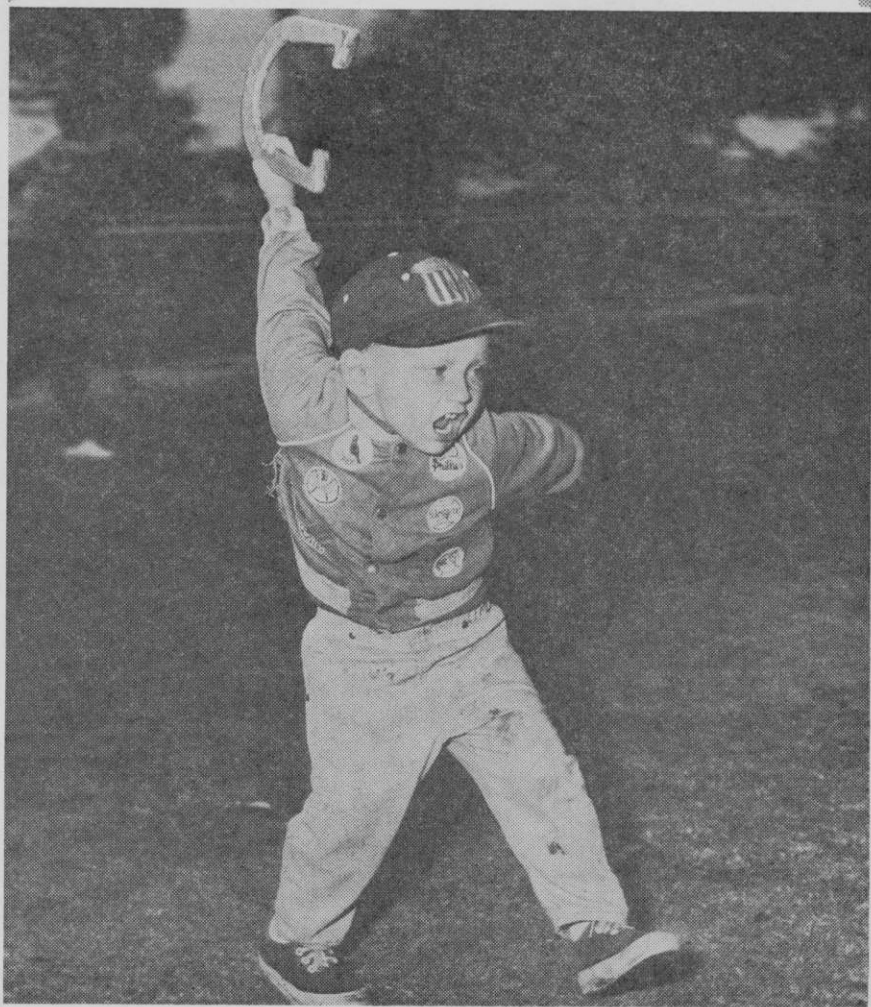


The Horseshoe Pitcher's

News Digest

FEBRUARY, 1969

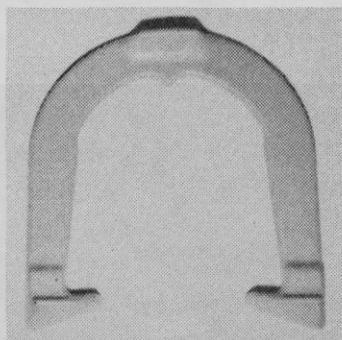


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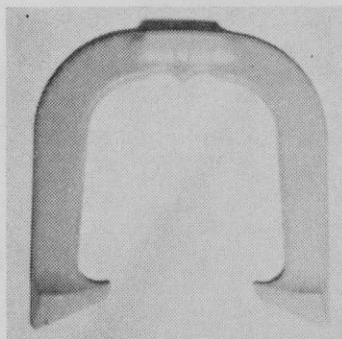
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24 pr. or over..	4.65 Freight Col.

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THE HORSESHOE PITCHER'S NEWS DIGEST is published on the 15th of each month at Aurora, Illinois, U. S. A. by the National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association of America. Editorial office, P. O. Box 1606, Aurora, Illinois 60507. Subscription rate is \$2.50 per year in advance. NHPA membership cards are available through each state secretary for \$1.50 plus any state association dues. Forms close on the last day of each month. Advertising rates on request. F. Ellis Cobb, Editor.

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Volume 13

FEBRUARY

Number 2

1969 World Tournament Plans

The 1969 World Tournament to be held at Glenwood Park, Erie, Pa., Sat., July 26 through Tues., August 5, will follow the same general pattern and program of last year's event in Keene, N. H., with only a couple of minor changes.

Qualifying for all divisions will start at noon on Sat., July 26. Qualifying for Women, Girls, Juniors, Seniors and Intermediates will end at 10 p.m., Tues., July 29, and qualifying for the Men's Division will end at noon the following day.

The schedule for round robin play on Wed., July 30 in the Women's, Girl's, Junior, Senior and Intermediate Divisions will be altered slightly to avoid running so late at night as was the case last year when too many classes were scheduled for Wednesday afternoon. This caused the evening classes to get under way far too late.

The number of Junior classes will be limited to four and several six man classes will be held Wednesday morning to relieve the congestion in the afternoon and evening schedules.

This will cut down the number of courts available for the windup of qualifying in the Men's Division on Wednesday morning. This will make it necessary to assign specific courts and qualifying time for all who qualify on Wednesday morning in the Men's Division. The deadline for entries in the Men's Division will be at 10 a.m. on Wednesday morning and all qualifying must be finished by noon.

Time for opening ceremonies will also be changed in order that play on Wednesday evening will not be interrupted by the proceedings.

A detailed day by day schedule of events and other information will be carried in succeeding issues of the News Digest.

The Tournament Committee consisting of those members of the N.H.P.A. Executive Council will have jurisdiction in conducting the tournament and making all necessary final decisions under the provisions of the NHPA constitution, by-laws, playing rules and specific regulations printed in the News Digest and posted at the tournament site. NHPA President Ralph Dykes, Secretary Bob Pence and Vice Presidents Jim Knisley, Joe Abbott, Jerry Schneider and Ruth Hangen are the members of the Executive Council who will make up the Tournament Committee.

The Erie Horseshoe Club and its officers will be the official tournament hosts in charge of all physical arrangements and facilities. This is a large and well organized local club with efficient and dedicated personnel.

COVER PICTURE . . . This month we show Eugene "Gungie" Strauss about to throw a ringer at South Gate park in California. This little fellow who tips the scales at 30 pounds will be 3 years old this month, and pitches 35 percent ringers at 20 feet using the regulation 2½ pound shoe. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lou Strauss of El Segundo, Calif.

—Daily Signal Photo by W. R. Barnett

"Gungie" Strauss, He's A Wee Bit Bigger Than A Shoe

"Gungie" Strauss, a mite of a lad, weighing 30 pounds, will celebrate his third birthday this month and can be seen pitching horseshoes at South Gate park in South Gate, California.

This young man, Eugene "Gungie" Strauss, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lou Strauss of El Segundo, California and is no novice at the game. He began throwing shoes when he was but a year and a half.

Now, almost three, he tosses in ringers about 35 percent of the time from a distance of 20 feet, the regulation distance being 40 feet. He uses the regulation shoes, weighing 2½ pounds.

"Gungie" has appeared in many exhibitions all over Southern California and has several trophies to prove his prowess. He plays against boys up to 15 years of age and manages to beat them.

The blonde, blue-eyed lad and his proud father, practice several times a week in South Gate park.

Valley City, N.D. Winter Show To Be Scene of All-Star Tourney

The first National Horseshoe Pitchers All-Star tournament will be held Saturday, March 8 at the North Dakota Winter Show at Valley City.

Jim Knisley, the 1968 United States champion based on his runnerup finish in the World Tournament, heads the six-man field which will compete for nearly \$1,000.

Knisley fired 84 per cent ringers while finishing second to Elmer Hohl of Wellesley, Ontario at Keene, N.H. He is a 25-year-old right-hander from Bremen, Ohio.

Danny Kuchenski, 19-year-old from Erie, Pa., who won the 1967 World title at Fargo and took third last year, and his 16-year-old brother Ronnie will also enter.

Two Californians are in the tourney — Gerald Schneider of Pico Rivera, and Ron Simmons of Los Angeles. Schneider is the California state champion and Simmons is one of the sport's most colorful pitchers.

Frank Stinson, a 12-time World tourney entrant and many-times Minnesota state champion from Minneapolis, will enter.

Also entered is Stan Manker of Columbus, Ohio, a veteran tosser and also one of the game's real sharpshooters.

The tourney, conducted by the Red River Valley League of Fargo-Moorhead, will also include 32 area pitchers entered in the morning session at the spacious arena. During the past two years local pitchers made up the field.

Indiana State Association Meeting — Mar. 16 — Lebanon

The Indiana Association will hold its annual meeting, Sunday afternoon, March 16th at Lebanon, Indiana, in the Community Center of the 4-H Fairgrounds.

This will be a "covered dish", carry in dinner, with the members urged to bring their families.

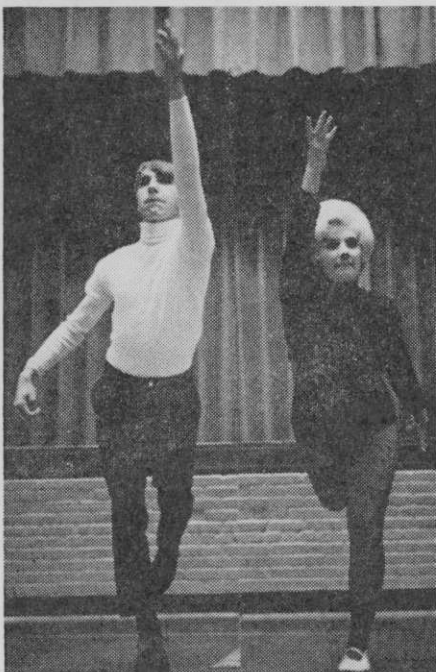
Time of the dinner will be 12:00 noon, Eastern time, and the meeting will follow the dinner. Plans for the coming season will be made. The election of 1969 officers will be held and the tournament dates assigned.

Last year's meeting at the same location was well attended and the officers hope this year's meeting will find even more members present with their families, and every club in the state should be represented.

The 1969 membership cards will be available. The membership fee will be \$5.50 which includes the subscription to the Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest and \$3.00 without the magazine.

Kuchcinski and Gillespie, Pitching Duo, Now On Tour

The Pitching Spectaculars — Danny Kuchcinski and Sue Gillespie — will present a first-of-its-kind act at fairs and sports shows across the United States in 1969.



Both former World Tournament champions, they present a new and exciting performance which includes an array of trick shots with the regulation horseshoes and portable courts.

Danny won the 1967 World Tournament at age 18 at Fargo, North Dakota. Sue, who is now 21 and a senior at Purdue University, captured three women's world titles while in her teens.

Danny and Sue team up on most of the acts, but Sue has a solo which finds her bending over backwards while having her feet placed on chairs and picks up a handkerchief with her mouth. This is one of her extra acrobatic feats.

Both will compete in the 1969 World Tournament at Erie, Pennsylvania, Danny's home town. Sue hails from Portland, Indiana.

Danny appeared more than 200 times as a solo act last year, including a spot on the Johnny Carson Tonight Show. Sue appeared on the Mike Douglas Show.

The duo opens its performances at the Kansas City Boat, Sports and Travel Show, Jan. 31 - Feb. 9 and will be at the Northwest Boat,

Sports and Travel Show, Mar. 28 - April 6. They are available for booking through Manager Will Gullickson, 1608 - 17th Street South, Moorhead, Minnesota 56560.

Bert Snart Wins Ringerama Tournament Recently Completed At Dauphin, Manitoba

Golden horseshoe recipient, Bert Snart of Dauphin, Manitoba, won the championship event in the District Ringerama horseshoe tournament recently completed. He went through the summer-long tournament winning all his matches and proved he still has the "pitch" when he defeated veteran and senior champion Bill Morley in a ringer studded final. Clarence McTavish, who is always around when the jewelry is handed out, garnered third prize with William Ready coming in fourth.

In the A event draw, it was Charlie Beer over Walter Kalichuk of Sifton, this set going down to the wire with some really fine and expert-like tossing of shoes.

In the B event draw it was Tony Symchyshyn over Archie Rea in a match that kept each player on his toes to the very last shoe.

The kick-off of activities for the District Ringerama took place in early June and wound up in October. The tournament provided many hours of interesting and exciting play as competitors moved from pitching court to pitching court and from one class to another.

J. Rademacher Top Man In Plant City, Florida Open

CLASS A

	W	L	%
J. Rademacher, Florida	4	1	58.9
A. Clingan, Florida	3	2	45.1
G. Rademacher, Florida	3	2	54.7
J. Hinkson, Florida	3	2	46.6
J. Clingan, Florida	1	4	48.0
W. Dittmer, Florida	0	5	39.4

CLASS B

	W	L	%
Wm. Figy, Ohio	4	1	46.6
R. Whittemore, Maine	4	1	41.9
A. Yount, Ind.	3	2	44.4
T. Harrison	2	3	40.0
F. Sumpter, Ohio	2	3	34.2
I. Eilers, Ill.	0	5	35.3

CLASS C — J. Hightower, Ill., 4-1-44.3; R. Gravink, N.Y., 3-2-38.3; A. Hodgman, Mich., 3-2-41.6; L. Peary, Florida, 3-2-41.7; F. Durham, Neb., 1-4-35.5; L. Miller, Florida, 1-4-23.7.

CLASS D — H. Spiess, Florida, 5-0-35.6; J. Ellis, Florida, 3-2-37.2; H. Wells, Ind., 3-2-37.0; J. Taylor, N.D., 2-3-31.2; O. Gaudetter, Florida, 1-4-29.1; O. Corbett, Penna., 1-4-25.5.

CLASS E — C. Hewett, 5-0-42.9; H. Kemp, 4-1-35.7; H. Garman, 3-2-35.8; J. Thonert, 2-3-41.5; H. Mullett, 1-4-33.0; E. Drager, Ohio, 0-5-25.6.

CLASS F — O. Autrey, 5-0-44.3; E. Johnson, 4-1-26.4; T. Corbett, 3-2-23.2; C. D. Rogers, 2-3-25.3; M. Myre, 1-4-21.8; H. Hookway, 0-5-11.1.

CLASS G — D. Toney, 4-1-15.0; B. Webster, 2-3-17.2; F. Statzer, 2-3-20.5; H. Cook, 2-3-16.6; G. Phillips, 2-3-15.7; H. Porter, 2-3-14.5.

JUNIORS — F. Statzer, 5-0; W. Warner, 4-1; S. Warner, 3-2; J. Rademacher, 2-3; T. Hayes, 1-4; K. Cothron, 0-5.

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Many New N.H.P.A. State Secretaries

The largest turnover of NHPA State Secretaries in history has taken place for the coming year, as 13 new scribes have taken office, plus three others who replaced incumbents late in the 1968 season.

The NHPA is sorry to see so many long time and faithful workers retire to the sidelines and wishes to thank them for their excellent work in the past. A new NHPA record for both memberships and News Digest subscriptions was set in 1968 and this was the direct result of the co-operation and work of the various state secretaries.

At the same time the NHPA wishes to welcome the new secretaries and urge the membership to give them full co-operation and help. Their work is most important and the lifeblood of the game.

Northern California — The Northern California Association has a new secretary for 1969 in the person of Roger Bell, 1381 Bockman Rd., San Lorenzo, Calif. 94580. The new secretary was elected at the annual meeting and replaces Genevieve McNailey who took the place of Herschel Morrison midway through the 1968 season. At present the Digest has no word on the other Northern California officers for 1969.

Colorado — Ted Allen, 1045 Linden Ave., Boulder Colo. 80302 is the new secretary and as the most famous figure in the game today needs no introduction. He takes over from another longtime veteran of the game Eino Tiilikainen of Colorado Springs, who has served the NHPA for many years. Jack Beebe of Denver is the new state president, and he has been the game's leading promotor and supporter in the state for the last few years.

Kansas — Ray Lee, 205 Ballard St., Haysville, Kan. 67060 replaces the veteran Roland Kraft, who has been active as an outstanding player and state secretary for many years. Paul Branine of Mulvane is the new president and state champion, Merlin Potts is Vice-President.

Maine — Dominic Pepin, Pond Road, Lewiston, Maine 04240 steps into the shoes of Bill Hood. The work of Bill Hood who was responsible for the very attractive Maine State brochures and annual reports will be greatly missed. Roger Bolduc is the state president and in 1968 the Maine Association hit a new high in NHPA membership.

New Hampshire — Walt Pelitz, Charlestown, N.H. 03603, one of the state's top players, succeeds the personable George Buskey.

New Jersey — Al Price, 14 Cayuga Rd., Cranford, N.J. 07016 takes the place of Ron Vogel. Other New Jersey officers for 1969 include President Phil Zozzaro and Vice Presidents Vince Yannetti, Joe McCrink, George Fleck, Ralph Coleman and Paul Puglisle.

New Mexico — Jim Gibbs, Box 264, Moriarity, N.M. 87035, returns to the post he held once before and succeeds Lou Franken of Albuquerque as the New Mexico Secretary. Plans are already underway for an expanded program in 1969.

New York — Betty Steinfeldt, 44 Ridgecrest Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14626 takes the place of Joe Pollock who has served as Secretary in the Empire state for many years. Betty comes from a horseshoe pitching family and is an excellent choice, especially in a state where there are so many good women horseshoe pitchers.

North Dakota — Frank Ihli, 818-10 St., NE., Minot, N.D. 58701 takes over in a state where the game is growing by leaps and bounds. The new Secretary's Minot club is one of the top local groups in the country. He takes the place of Henry Wisness of Fargo and the Red River Valley League, who along with Will Gullickson were responsible for the success of the 1967 World Tourney which helped build up the game in North Dakota.

Oklahoma — Roger Griffith, 4668 North Iroquois, Tulsa, Okla. 74126 takes over from Leonard Holey in the Sooner state with the state's NHPA membership at a record high.

Oregon — Ted Miller, Rte 1, Box 968, Beaverton, Ore. 97005 took the place of Ernie LaVoie during the 1968 season.

NOTICE TO ALL NEWS DIGEST SUBSCRIBERS

It is not the purpose or intent of the NHPA staff or that of the News Digest to overlook any member or subscriber in his receiving his NEWS DIGEST.

From time to time during the tenure of the publishing of the NEWS DIGEST, letters have been received from those who have not received their NEWS DIGEST.

The NHPA staff and the NEWS DIGEST are most willing to right any wrong that has occurred. Many subscribers DO NOT IMMEDIATELY notify the National secretary or the News Digest editor, but will often wait three or four months and sometimes an entire year has passed before any notification is made.

SO, IF ANY SUBSCRIBER MISSES AN ISSUE OF THE NEWS DIGEST, PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR IMMEDIATELY. ALSO IF YOU MOVE, PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF THE NEW ADDRESS.

Many New — (Continued)

Pennsylvania — Joe Abbott, 5840 Peck Rd., Erie, Pa. 16510 is the most important change of all. Joe served in triplicate during 1968 as Pennsylvania prexy, Erie Horseshoe Club Secretary-Treasurer and NHPA Vice President. Now he succeeds Herb Pinch as state secretary and with the 1969 World Tourney coming to Erie, he will indeed be a busy and important NHPA cog this year. Clyde Martz of Pittsburgh is new Pennsylvania President and Herb Pinch stays on as NHPA Regional Director and in charge of NHPA sales in the east.

Utah — Dr. Gilbert Moesinger, 1332 - 31st St., Ogden, Utah 84403 is an old timer in the game and will make a good state secretary. However the NHPA is sorry to lose the services of the former secretary Maurine Cook of Salt Lake City. Daughter of former NHPA President, Arch Stokes, Maurine has contributed beyond measure to the game for many years.

Vermont — Lewis Prouty, 54 Clark St., Brattleboro, Vt. 05301, the present state champion is a vigorous pusher of the game and succeeds Wayne Amsden as state secretary.

West Virginia — Howard Barnett, 126 Valley Dr., Nitro, W.Va. 25143 replaces the veteran Bernard Hull as secretary and falls heir to the post Anna Lindquist occupied for so many years. The state's NHPA membership is at an all time high thanks to Bernard Hull, but the new secretary is no stranger to the game.

Ross Carl Winner of Sunnyslope, Arizona Invitational

In the Sunnyslope, Arizona Invitational tournament held at Monfort park in that city, Ross Carl defeated John Woodin in the play-off game after each had come up with 6 wins each. Max McKissock was third with 5 and 2, while Al Smith tagged 4 wins and 3 losses for fourth spot. W. Phillips dropped into fifth with 3 and 4 with E. Robinson and T. Darrough each having 2 and 5 records for sixth and seventh while J. McKissock settled for last position with 0 and 7.

Shamrock Open — Texas — March 15-16

The Shamrock Open will be held on March 15 and 16, 1969 on the courts of the Lakeside Club in San Antonio, Texas.

Since this is the start of a new season, the Shamrock is a rather special tournament. We stick a green shamrock on all the pitchers hats, throw a bunch of chickens on the barbeque pit, ice up some refreshments and concentrate on our pitching under a nice warm Texas sun.

Anyone that enjoys a good time, good food, and good horseshoe pitching should come. It's not too far out of the way, just down the road a piece in the middle of Texas.

We are so happy to see pitchers from out of State that we feed you barbeque free of charge. We also forget about the \$3.00 entry fee. We think it's a nice way to treat guests. For further information, write Jim Woodson, 235 Rainbow Dr., San Antonio, Texas, 78209.

Oscar Engle Wins January Washington, Penna. Open

Oscar Engle, the 1968 Pennsylvania State Champion, went undefeated to win the first of four scheduled Washington winter tournaments. Even though Oscar had not thrown since the end of the summer, he had no trouble making ringers — especially when he needed them, as Clyde Martz of Pittsburgh and Howard Shriver of West Virginia will testify.

Some of the highlights of the tournament were: Jimmy Solomon's tremendous 92% game in group A 2 play-off with Richard Maroni of Arnold, Pa.; Clyde Martz's 80.8% tournament average — his highest to date; Cindy Dean of Virginia capturing Class C by throwing a strong 71% in the play-off with Frank Oliverio of Washington, Pa.; and Charlie Semans coming from behind to win the Class B title from John Ruskin of Pittsburgh.

CLASS A-1

	W	L	%
Oscar Engle	4	0	76.4
Clyde Martz	3	1	80.8
Sam Sutton	2	2	66.3
Robert Dean	1	3	62.8
Pete Sowa	0	4	62.6

CLASS A-2

	W	L	%
Howard Shriver	3	1	77.6
James Solomon	3	1	74.0
Richard Maroni	3	1	70.0
Jack Rainbow	1	3	59.9
Al Booth	0	4	42.2

CLASS A PLAY-OFF

	W	L	%		W	L	%
Oscar Engle	3	0	79.0	Howard Shriver	1	2	78.1
Clyde Martz	2	1	72.5	James Solomon	0	3	69.8

CLASS B — Charles Semans, 3-1-63.1; John Ruskin, 3-1-59.0; Vernon Wellington, 3-1-57.0; Clyde Sprowls, 1-3-59.3; Vince Sedlacek, 0-4-42.6.

CLASS C — Cindy Dean, 3-1-53.1; Frank Oliverio, 3-1-52.5; Jake Fiore, 2-2-53.6; Charles Sowa, 1-3-48.6; Mike Churley, 0-4-36.0.

M. Merritt Upset Victor In Twin County (Mass.) Tourney

(Delayed Report)

In a delayed report to the Digest, Percy Howe reports that in the Twin County (Mass.) Singles tournament held during last season on the Wheelock park courts in Keene, New Hampshire, Mel Merritt scored an upset victory winning all his games to take the Twin County Singles title. The Kaddy-Richardson game was the longest game, going 88 shoes with Kaddy winning 51-45 with 73.9 percent against Richardson's 71.6. Class B was won by Paul Aube with 5 and 2, while Class C went to F. Klockars who racked up 6 wins and 1 loss. Spacky Lane came through Class D with a 7 and 1 record.

In Memoriam

From Bradenton, Florida, comes word that one of its wintertime residents, Hallie Ehmke passed away suddenly. He was in the midst of a three-game series of the new season's league schedule, when he became ill. He was helped from the courts to his home from which he was taken to the hospital where he passed away.

He loved the game and played it well and to all that knew him, it will always be a proud remembrance. He lived a true and upright life.

To his bereaved family the heartfelt sympathy of the Bradenton club with that of the Florida association and the NHPA is extended. The example that he set will be an inspiration to all that follow.

Rainbow In "Hairline" Finish Over Tuttle At Youngstown

Jack Rainbow, a previous winner of the Class A meets being held at Youngstown, Ohio, indoor courts, took a 50-49 victory over Harold Tuttle of Youngstown, Ohio. This made his second win of the current winter season. Herman Boyer of Beaver, Pennsylvania, copped Class B with 5 straight wins.

CLASS A

	W	L	%
J. Rainbow, Penna.	5	1	68.2
H. Tuttle, Ohio	4	2	67.0
F. Peluso, Penna.	3	2	63.0
D. Roberts, Ohio	2	3	60.3
C. Bruce, Penna.	1	4	62.8
C. Elder, Penna.	1	4	58.2

CLASS B

	W	L	%
H. Boyer, Penna.	5	0	50.0
O. Reno, Ohio	3	2	41.3
J. Yukich, Penna.	2	3	40.0
A. Stahlbeck, Penna.	2	3	36.3
L. Allen, Ohio	2	3	33.1
R. Hetrick, Ohio	1	4	27.3

1971 World Tournament Bids

The 1969 NHPA convention will be held on Thurs. morning, July 31, at Erie, Pa., during the World Tournament and the most important item on the agenda will be the awarding of the 1971 World Tournament by the delegates on the basis of sealed bids presented at that time. Clubs considering placing a bid should contact NHPA President Ralph Dykes.

Three substantial bids for the 1970 tourney were received at Keene last summer. The winning South Gate, Calif. bid of \$5250.00 was higher than successful bids of the past, but it was considerably lower than the bid of Middlesex, N. J., which had excellent facilities to go along with its financial provisions.

Evidently, in the minds of the delegates, the policy of moving the tourney from one geographic region to another each year was more important than the amount of the bid. If the Middlesex bid had been accepted it would have placed the tournament on the east coast three years in a row.

Suggestions have been made that the highest sealed bid in terms of money automatically be accepted with the delegates voting only in case two or more equal bids are received.

Another suggestion calls for some type of a regional rotation plan to be set up with minimum specifications for an acceptable bid.

Prospects for 1971 bids are nebulous at this time. There are rumors that Fargo may ask for a return tournament. If Middlesex renews its bid the chances are excellent it would be accepted. Also the Ohio-Indiana heartland of the game is due for a return of the event to the East Central states. Valley City, N. D., with its fine indoor facilities is also a possibility.

DID YOU SEND IN YOUR HALL OF FAME BALLOT?

World Tourney Class D Requested

NHPA officials have received a number of requests calling for a Class D to be added to the Men's division of the World Tournament. These requests are under study and no decision has been made so far.

Last year at Keene an unofficial Class D was held on a spur of the moment deal which was conducted by NHPA Vice President Joe Abbott, of Erie, Pa., and involving eight players who failed to make one of the three top classes in the 200 shoe qualifying round.

It should be pointed out that the World Tournament is already a very long and complex affair and a very arduous chore for the tournament officials. It lasts for ten days and has greatly expanded in size, scope and the number of entries compared to 10 years ago.

Ten years ago the total number of entries was less than 100 including five or six women and a like number of Juniors. Class B consisted of 12 players only and there was no Class C, Seniors, Intermediates or Girls' divisions.

A high of 351 entries was reached at Fargo in 1967 and today Class B and C have 32 players each; there are four classes of Women, three classes each in Seniors and Intermediates, two classes of Girls and there has been as many as seven classes of Junior boys.

Last year at Keene, too many classes were held on Wednesday afternoon, with the result that the start of evening play was delayed and lasted far too late in the night.

The point is that the number of courts and amount of time available governs the number of games and classes which can be accommodated, and the tournament officials must work out a careful and detailed time schedule. This schedule must be administered by NHPA officials and the officials of the host club, which calls for 10 days of extremely hard work by these individuals.

It has been pointed out that there were no daytime games on Thursday or on the last two days of the tourney, Monday and Tuesday. However, Thursday is the only day available for the NHPA Convention and dinner, and past experience has shown that Monday and Tuesday must be kept open in case rain interrupts tournament play during the earlier sessions.

With 20 courts available at Erie this year, there may be four courts available for daytime games on Friday and Saturday, during play in Classes B and C. If a Class D is held, it would have to be held on these courts at that time with finals on Sunday, at the same time as the finals in Classes B and C.

Results of the unofficial Class D held at Keene last year under the direction of Joe Abbott follow:

	W	L	%		W	L	%
L. Putnam, N. H.	7	0	46.2	Z. Berdinka, N. H.	3	4	46.2
C. Von der Lancken, N. Y.	5	2	46.6	O. Reno, Ohio	3	4	45.7
B. Hyland, N. Y.	5	2	45.3	B. Davis, N. H.	1	6	36.2
R. Vogel, N. J.	4	3	50.0	J. Abbott, Penn.	0	7	40.2

Casey Bettisworth Winner at Ryner's Indoor Courts

Casey Bettisworth of Galesburg, Illinois, opened the new year with a 4 and 1 record to win the Indoor tournament held at Earl Ryner's Indoor courts at his farm at Gerlaw, Illinois, on New Year's day. Players from Iowa and Illinois took part. Every Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon will find players on the courts to which Ryner extends a most cordial invitation to all to come and enjoy the fellowship and fun.

CLASS A

	W	L	%
C. Bettisworth, Ill.	4	1	60.1
H. Darnold, Iowa	3	2	69.3
B. Haffner, Iowa	3	2	67.8
A. Lester, Ill.	2	3	57.1
R. Sornberger, Ill.	2	3	56.0
A. Jackson, Iowa	1	6	49.5

CLASS B

	W	L
R. Rubison, Ill.	4	1
J. Davis, Iowa	4	1
M. Blake, Iowa	3	2
D. Comingore, Ill.	2	3
L. Cowell, Ill.	1	4
R. St. George, Ill.	1	4

NHPA "State of the Union" Report

Alaska — There is hope that an NHPA chapter will be formed in the 50th state where NHPA members Harold Samuelson and Paul Toole are active.

Alabama — The NHPA group headed by W. C. Jones on the Gulf Coast is still attempting to get off the ground and expand its activities.

Arizona — NHPA membership held steady, the annual Valley of the Sun Open being the big event. Herschel Moore in Phoenix, where a new club has been organized, is doing a good job among Juniors in his neighborhood.

Arkansas — No progress has been made.

California, Northern — NHPA membership fell off slightly due to a change in officers during midseason. Digest subscriptions held even with past years.

California, Southern — Showed a good-sized increase in both membership and magazine subscriptions. Interest is at a new high with the 1970 World Tourney scheduled for South Gate. Secretary Jim Weeks is a real workhorse.

Colorado — Jack Beebe, the new state president is doing a great job in Denver and the Colorado Springs club, headed by Russell Neher is in the process of building a deluxe set of 12 courts. There was a slight decrease in membership and a gain in subscriptions during 1968.

Connecticut — There was a small gain in both NHPA memberships and subscriptions, probably due to the World Tourney being held in nearby Keene. Ervin Van Dine is the veteran Secretary in the state.

Delaware — No progress has been made in this state.

District of Columbia — Allen Bertschey is doing a one man job promoting the game in our nation's capital and nearby Maryland and Virginia and has the NHPA on the move there. He recently uncovered a local club in Annapolis, and they are now NHPA affiliated.

Florida — Wintertime horseshoe activities are at an all time high in the Sunshine state with many northern visitors taking part. Interest seems to be growing although NHPA membership fell slightly in 1968. The Bradenton club is still the top club in the state.

Georgia — Real progress has been made by the NHPA in this state and already it has doubled its membership in 1969 — thanks to our representative Joe Dubie of Toccoa, a real old, old timer. Joe, now in his eighties, was a top ranking player almost 40 years ago when he lived in Illinois and Montana. If he can enlist some promotional help from younger players the game will grow in the state. A number of new contacts have been made including an industrial group headed by Albaugh Lewis at Warner Robbins.

Idaho — NHPA membership held steady in 1968 but subscriptions dropped.

Illinois — One of the few states with more Digest subscribers than members, it has one of the most unusual state tournaments in the country. Under the direction of Ellis Cobb, it is held at the State Fair with 12 courts with lights and under a huge tent with bleachers for spectators, all furnished by the state fair association.

Iowa Hawkeye — Under that most efficient State Secretary, Lucille Hopkins, Iowa again had a high membership total and also increased substantially the number of subscribers. Many new contacts have been made with new groups in the state during the past year. Once again Lucille was first under the wire with a substantial list of members for the coming year.

Indiana — For the umpteenth time Indiana had the highest number of NHPA members in the country with a slight increase over 1968 and a goodly increase in subscribers. Fort Wayne has built 12 beautiful new courts in McMillen Park and hopes to host the Midwest "Ringer Round Up" in 1969. The Scottsburg club has an outstanding indoor setup headed by Wayne Bright. A strong new club was started at DeMotte with eight lighted courts headed by George Kingma. The New Albany club guided by Bob Rambo staged two big opens last year for the first time.

NHPA — (Continued)

The Indiana schedule of sanctioned tourneys is by far the heaviest in the country and the association is lucky to have the services of Secretary Earle Wilmore, who does an outstanding job, and president Walt Wilhoite has really been a "working" president in every sense of the word for the past three years.

Kansas — Both memberships and subscriptions remained at the same level during 1968. A new set of officers take over for this year.

Kentucky — The Bluegrass state came into the NHPA fold in 1967 with Lavern Hawkins the individual who brought a number of local groups together. Progress continued last year, but the NHPA needs more information about the various local clubs and their activities.

Louisiana — There is no NHPA strength in the state.

Maine — President Roger Bolduc and Secretary Bill Hood and the strong Auburn-Lewiston club have built up a first class organization. Both memberships and subscribers increased in 1968.

Maryland — The state has been divided into two NHPA chapters for geographic reasons, which is covered in a special news item in this issue.

Massachusetts — As long as the veteran Ralph Forsstrom continues as Secretary there will be an active state chapter. There are an increasing number of local clubs and groups in the state. The Springfield club, the Fitchburg group and the Tri County league headed by state president Percy Howe are the most prominent of the many local clubs and groups.

Minnesota — With the World Tourney at nearby Fargo in 1967, the NHPA roster reached a new high in that year and understandably dropped some in 1968, but there are a large number of players and local clubs and groups in the state. Perhaps the most outstanding is the Duluth Municipal Horseshoe League headed by Jim Newland, which is 100% in NHPA membership.

Mississippi — This was a brand new NHPA chapter in 1967 headed by Bob Currie of Handboro near the Gulfport-Biloxi Gulf Coast. Not much is known about this new group as yet, but when Mr. Currie brought the entire Gulf Coast Horseshoe League into the NHPA fold, the NHPA made a big gain. It is hoped that the two Gulf Coast groups, the Mississippi chapter and W. C. Jones group in Alabama will get together to promote the game in the deep south.

Michigan Wolverine — Interest is high in the state which had such a large representation at the World Tourney. President Jonas Otto and Secretary Jim Compton head a very active state wide program. NHPA membership declined some during 1968 but magazine subscriptions gained. The state has an active Junior program headed by the Dimondale, Burr Oak and Dyke Cowell's Weston clubs. The 1969 National A.A.U. horseshoe tourney is scheduled for the courts in Detroit's Chandler Park.

Missouri — The state had another membership gain in 1968 and a large gain in subscriptions. H. P. Heidel is a hard working secretary.

Montana — This was one of the most cooperative state associations in the NHPA during 1968 under the guidance of Herman Jensen and this was reflected in both membership and subscription totals. The big handicap in Montana is the tremendous distance between the various clubs from one end of the state to the other. Top clubs include those at Culbertson, Baker, Froid, Billings, Wibaux, Fairview, Fort Peck, Sidney, Big Timber and Helena. There are undoubtedly others the NHPA should be made aware of.

Nebraska — under the direction of NHPA Regional Director Don Koso, had the largest increase of any state in both memberships and subscriptions. Totals were more than doubled in both categories during 1968. Mention should be made of the club at Crete headed by Len Werner, the Out of The Way Horseshoe Club at Madison under the direction of Tom Durham and the work of Ralph Fleherty in Cozad and the Kimball club in the western end of the state.

Nevada — has no NHPA organization.

NHPA — (Continued)

New Hampshire — put all of its efforts into the 1968 World Tourney at Keene.

New Jersey — was led to a successful season by the fine Middlesex club headed by Hal Hanania. There was a small membership loss but a gain in subscribers. A number of new clubs and groups have been contacted in the state.

New Mexico — had a small loss in members but a gain in subscribers in 1968 and plans are underway for expanded activity this year.

New York — had a small loss of both memberships and subscribers in 1968 but a number of new leagues and clubs made contact with the NHPA and prospects are that 1969 will be a banner year. Plans are being made for a big state tournament at Syracuse during the state fair with a group headed by Dave Harnden. Top clubs in the state include Corning Hornell, the West Chester County League and the Lockport Club with the largest Women's League in the country.

North Carolina — had an increase in both memberships and subscriptions and staged a number of successful tournaments.

North Dakota — had a loss in membership which could be expected after the banner year of 1967 when the Red River Valley Club hosted the record-breaking World Tourney. Nevertheless the state had a large membership far above what it had previous to 1967. There are a number of fine local clubs among which are those at Jamestown, Kindred, Bismark, Minot, Hebron, in addition to the Red River Valley League at Fargo. The indoor event at Valley City is outstanding and the number of local clubs and interest is increasing by leaps and bounds.

Ohio Buckeye — had a good sized gain in both membership and subscriptions during 1968 and retained its place as the 2nd largest chapter in the NHPA. With more top ranking players than any other state, Ohio has a very busy tournament schedule in the capable hands of Sam Goodlander, Leo McGrath, Paul and Emma Focht. There are a great many active clubs in the state, too many to mention individually except perhaps the Darke County Association in Greenville which must rank as one of the best if not the best local club in the country.

Oklahoma — had a membership gain in 1968 and will continue under a new set of officers in 1969.

Oregon — had a slight loss in membership last year but continued to present an active program of activities.

Pennsylvania — with a multitude of top ranking players had a small membership loss in 1968, but should show a big increase in 1969 with the World Tournament coming to Erie, the top local club in the state. There was a big gain in magazine subscriptions during 1968.

Rhode Island — had no change in 1968.

South Dakota — gave the NHPA an increase in both membership and Digest subscriptions in 1968 with its highest total in history. Secretary Leigh Dunker was again among the first to turn a good sized list of 1969 members, but it was somewhat smaller than a year ago.

Tennessee — had a membership loss in 1968. Most of the activity is concentrated in the eastern end of the state where there are active local clubs in Knoxville, Elizabethton, Cleveland, Oak Ridge, Piney Flats and Jefferson City.

Texas — almost doubled its membership in 1968 under the energetic leadership of Jim Woodson. Due to his efforts and the San Antonio club, interest is growing in the Lone Star State.

Utah — had a small loss in 1968 membership and will have a new set of officers in 1969. The services of Maurine Cook will be missed this year but the new officers Rulon Thurgood and Dr. Gilbert Moesinger are longtime devotees of the game.

NHPA — (Continued)

Vermont — gave the NHPA a membership increase last year and will have the services of an experienced and energetic Secretary, Lewis Prouty, in 1969.

Virginia — had a large gain in both memberships and subscriptions in 1968 with more activity than ever before. Interest is on the increase and the Winchester and Lynchburg clubs are responsible.

Washington — had a large loss in 1968 membership but retained its place as the 3rd largest NHPA state chapter. The efforts of Secretary Winnie Winetroun a couple of years ago had lifted the state to by far its biggest membership in history and a loss could be expected. The present Secretary Gary Alexander, however, is continuing the excellent program started by Winnie.

West Virginia — increased memberships and subscriptions in 1968 under the direction of Bernard Hull and indications are the 1969 Secretary Howard Barnett will continue his good work.

Wisconsin — took its place as one of the strongest state chapters in 1967 and last year had even more members. Ben Trolsen and Bob Phelan are giving good leadership and there are a number of excellent local clubs and leagues, chief among whom are the groups at Eau Claire under Curt Bestul, Combined Locks under Jerry Kamp, Green Bay, Eagle and others.

Wyoming — had a small loss in 1968 membership. Decline of the game in Cheyenne is probably responsible. The top clubs, Laramie and Riverton are at opposite ends of the state and geographic distance is a handicap. World Junior champ, Farron Eisman is from the Riverton club and the Digest should have more news from this group.

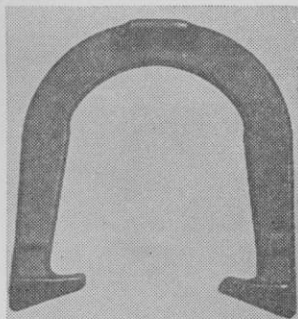
Canada — had by far its biggest NHPA membership in 1968 and more than doubled its Digest subscribers. Ontario under George Schummer and Ross Stevenson and the fine group in British Columbia led by Bernie Lepper, supplied most of the NHPA members. The NHPA has only a small membership in Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Ottawa area and there is a lot of horseshoe activity in all of these areas.

Hawaii and South Carolina — are the only states missing on the NHPA roster.

1969 Florida State To Be Held In April

John Rademacher, secretary of the Florida state association has announced that the annual 1969 Florida state tournament will be held in April this year.

SEASON'S BEST for 1969 playing with TED ALLEN HORSESHOES



The reliable shoe to depend on, in more ways, than just for records.

They became the leading shoes for 30 years. Starting with the first year, they were winning World titles and setting World records, plus many lesser tourney records being set.

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BOULDER, COLORADO 80302

"Horseshoe Week" in Galesburg, Illinois Culminated With 10th Annual Galesburg Open — Byron Hafner Winner Of Title

(Delayed Report)

The Galesburg, Illinois Horseshoe Club culminated their "Horseshoe Week" which included competition among all the surrounding clubs with the 10th annual Galesburg open. It was preceded the evening before with the 10th National Open banquet. In attendance were 67 players and their wives and many visitors from six midwestern states.

The MC and speaker of the evening was Mr. Ralph Dykes, NHPA president, who had just returned from the World tournament held at Keene, New Hampshire, where he had been awarded the Arch Stokes Memorial award for outstanding contribution to the game of horseshoes.

"The Banjo Masters" furnished entertainment for the evening. They were accompanied by Jack Stout on his harmonica. They entertained us for 30 minutes with some very fine music. Byron Hafner and his daughter Gloria, of Letts, Iowa, showed some of their home movies of various tournaments in Iowa and Illinois. These were enjoyed by everyone.

With the help of Mr. Dykes, our 10th National Open ran smoothly and on time with 64 top players. The day was beautiful with a temperature in the 80's. The members of the Galesburg Club wish to thank each and everyone who helped to make this years tournament a success.

Class A competition ended in a 2 way tie between Byron Hafner of Letts, Iowa, and Charley Rhoades of Whitehall, Illinois. Hafner winning 50-43 in the play-off. John Paxton, World Senior Champion won Class B. He's 70 years young and a wonderful sport.

This years publicity for the Galesburg Club was excellent. We had 1500 program books, plus 50 posters which were distributed in a 50 miles radius. The Galesburg Register Mail carried pictures and stories of the tournament. Harry Anderson, President and Ross Sornberger, Treasurer were on the WAIK Radio Station for 30 minutes on Galesburg Speaks Program. WQAD TV Moline, Channel 8 took movies for their 10 p.m. sports program.

The Galesburg Chamber of Commerce donated a fine trophy this year for the "Best Dressed Player" which was won by Harold Darnold of Burlington, Iowa.

CLASS A

	W	L	%
B. Hafner, Iowa	5	2	70.6
C. Rhoades, Ill.	5	2	69.6
S. Logsdon, Ill.	4	3	69.6
P. Lattery, Mo.	4	3	67.3
C. Bettisworth, Ill.	4	3	64.7
D. Manker, Ohio	3	4	69.4
D. Maroon, Ill.	2	5	62.6
H. Darnold, Iowa	1	6	62.1

CLASS B

	W	L	%
J. Paxton, Iowa	7	0	70.2
E. Damarin, Ill.	5	2	65.3
E. Danielson, Iowa	5	2	64.5
J. Stout, Ill.	4	3	65.4
L. Miller, Ill.	4	3	57.2
B. Rambo, Ind.	2	5	51.0
R. Kampschroeder, Kan.	1	6	56.8
F. Hammitt, Pittsfield	0	7	41.8

CLASS C — B. Randall, Ill., 5-2; M. Lange, Iowa, 5-2; R. Ehlers, Ill., 5-2; R. Sornberger, Ill., 3-4; P. Jensen, Ill., 3-4; A. Austin, Ill., 3-4; C. Sjurset, Ill., 2-5; C. Van Dusan, Ill., 2-5.

CLASS D — W. L. Waddle Jr., Iowa, 7-0; N. Willick, Iowa, 6-1; A. Lester, Ill., 5-2; H. Hardister, Ill., 4-3; S. Brooks, Ill., 3-4; Comingore, Ill., 2-5; I. Eller, Ill., 1-6; R. Slater, Ill., 0-7.

CLASS E — J. Davis, Iowa, 5-2; R. Rubison, Ill., 5-2; A. Jackson, Iowa, 5-2; V. Darger, Ill., 4-3; R. Dykes, Ill., 3-4; W. Williamson, Ill., 3-4; A. Reed, Iowa, 2-5; E. Pursell, Ill., 1-6.

Galesburg Open — (Continued)

CLASS F — H. Anderson, Ill., 5-2; V. Blume, Ill., 5-2; J. Jones, Ill., 4-3; J. Wiles, Ill., 4-3; C. Hess, Ill., 4-3; J. Jackson, Iowa, 3-4; O. Darby, Ill., 2-5; J. Willi, Ill., 1-6.

CLASS G — F. Hart, Ill., 7-0; C. Neal, Ill., 6-1; G. Hintz, Ill., 5-2; M. Blake, Iowa, 4-3; C. Chusman, Ill., 3-4; A. Moore, Ind., 2-5; B. St. George, Ill., 1-6; D. Simmons, Ill., 0-7.

CLASS H — W. Killip, Ill., 6-1; R. Fults, Ill., 6-1; E. Anderson, Ill., 4-3; C. Warner, Ill., 4-3; L. Cowell, Ill., 3-4; A. Michael Arnold, Ill., 3-4; J. Sprinkle, Ill., 2-5; W. Campbell, Ill., 0-7.

Horseshoe Tournaments In Full Swing In Florida

By HAL PORTER

How time flies! Here it is February and the folks up north frozen in for the winter and we in the sunny southland, well on the way to what may be the most interesting and useful horseshoe schedule we have ever yet known.

The Plant City Open was probably the best in the history of Florida pitching circles. It had its beginning as the brainchild of Florida's state secretary, John Rademacher. There were more entries and more spectators and more close games than ever before. The Plant City club now has a complete new ringer yard with six new courts.

Down here in Bradenton, the new staff headed by Jack Ellis, assisted by Earl Johnson, Al Hodgman and Jay Guernsey keep the courts at the Trailer park in working order. They just completed the annual Manatee County Fair Open meet which attracted ringer artists from far and wide.

In the first week of March action will return to Plant City for the annual Strawberry Open Festival meet. The middle of March will see the annual Suncoast Open at Bradenton, with the annual DeSoto Open meet following in the latter part of March.

The Miami-Metro group is staging a benefit for a Children's Hospital at Lummus park in Miami, February 22-23. Everybody able to pitch shoes will be there.

Scott In Clean Sweep Of San Bernardino, Calif. Meet

In the annual San Bernardino, California Club's annual fall tournament held for the membership at the Perris Hill Park courts, Chuck Scott came through with a clean record of 5 wins in a row. Joe Raykowski was runner-up. Sam Haigh had a 5-0 record to win Class B, while Virgil Dickey had 5 and 1 to take Class C. Trophies were awarded to top three winners in each class.

CLASS A — DECEMBER 15, 1968 **CLASS B — DECEMBER 8, 1968**

	W	L	%		W	L	%
C. Scott, San Berdoo	5	0	52.5	S. Haigh, Loma Linda	5	0	34.2
J. Raykowski, Rialto	3	2	39.7	S. Brown, San Berdoo	3	2	31.1
E. Alborn, Fontana	2	3	42.4	H. Morin, San Berdoo	3	2	27.0
V. Wasetis, San Berdoo	2	3	38.0	L. Whitrock, San Berdoo ..	2	3	26.9
J. Lambert, San Berdoo	2	3	38.0	E. Miller, Bloomington	1	4	24.3
E. Harkness, San Berdoo ..	1	4	40.3	Zimmerman, San Berdoo..	1	4	18.4

CLASS C — DECEMBER 1, 1968

	W	L	%		W	L	%
V. Dickey, San Berdoo	5	1	23.5	M. Holmes, San Berdoo ..	3	3	27.1
D. Dodson, Highland	4	2	28.8	H. Ives, San Berdoo	1	5	12.2
A. Meeh, San Berdoo	4	2	26.6	E. Jenson, San Berdoo	0	6	9.2
V. Johnson, San Berdoo	4	2	22.5				

Two New NHPA Chapters

Two new NHPA chapters are being added to the roster in 1969, both in areas with very little previous NHPA affiliation and both brought about due to unusual geographic situations.

The state of Maryland is completely cut in two by the Chesapeake Bay and nestled in one section is the District of Columbia and our nation's capital.

Allen Bertschey has been the NHPA representative in the D.C. area and has done a tremendous job promoting the game and signing members in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, which includes nearby parts of Virginia and much of Maryland. This chapter will continue and be known as the D.C.-Maryland Division.

The new chapter includes the Eastern Shore section of Maryland and the state of Delaware as well, and will be known as the Maryland-Delaware NHPA Division. This chapter was announced in the Dec. issue and is spearheaded by the active Wicomico club in Salisbury with Dick Schleicher as Secretary.

The Michigan Upper Peninsula Chapter is being organized by NHPA Regional Director Earl Grable who recently moved to that area. He reports much horseshoe activity in the area which is far removed from the rest of Michigan where the large Michigan Wolverine chapter will continue to have jurisdiction over the state tournament.

Indoor Open Meet Set For March 8 — Ottumwa, Iowa

March 8 is the date set for the Annual Indoor tournament in the Ottumwa, Iowa, Coliseum basement, on portable courts with qualifying March 8 until 5 p.m., or send scores to Lucille Hopkins, 124 S. Cherry, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501. Entry fee, \$4.00. Finals at 5:30 p.m. Trophies will be given in each class. 1969 NHPA cards available.



James Kanaly of Westport, South Dakota is shown with the scoreboard that he and his son made as a winter-time hobby. It is very simple and very strong and the numbers are large and can be seen from either side by the spectators.

COMING EVENTS

March 7-8, 1969 — Strawberry Festival Open, Plant City Fairgrounds. Write John Rademacher, Box 1589, Plant City 33566

March 13-15, 1969 — Sun Coast Open, Horseshoe U. Bradenton, Fla. Write Horace N. Kemp, 4504-5th St. W. Bradenton, 33505

March 20-22, 1969 — Desoto Open, Horseshoe U. Bradenton, Fla. Write Horace N. Kemp, 4504-5th St. W. Bradenton, Fla.

June 15 — Annual Crete Open, Crete, Nebraska. Qual. scores to Lenord Werner, Crete, Nebraska 68333.

July 4 — Annual 4th of July tournament, Mound City Missouri. Send qual. score to Stanley Brickey, Mound City, Missouri 64470.

July 13 — Annual 4-State tournament, Falls City, Nebraska. Send qual. score to Don Koso, 803 East 12th St., Falls City, Nebraska 68355.

August 10 — Mound City Open tournament, Mound City, Missouri. Send qual. score to Stanley Brickey, Mound City, Missouri 64470.

August 17 — Annual Falls City Open tournament, Falls City, Nebraska. Send qual. score to Don Koso, 803 East 12th St., Falls City, Nebraska 68355.

August 30-31 — Annual Nebraska State tournament, Omaha, Nebraska. Qualifying on courts there, August 30.

Sept. 1 — Annual State Fair Open tournament Lincoln, Nebraska. Send qual. score to Don Koso, 803 East 12th St., Falls City, Nebraska 68355.

Minutes Of The 1968 NHPA Convention At Keene, N. H.

The 1968 N.H.P.A. convention was held in Keene, N.H., Thursday, August 1, 1968 with President Ralph Dykes presiding. Other officers present were Secretary-Treasurer, Robert Pence and Vice Presidents, James Knisley, Will Gullickson and Joseph Abbott.

A minute of silent prayer in memory of those members who had passed away during the year was observed.

A total of 96 voting delegates from 30 states and Canada were seated.

Minutes of the 1967 Convention were read by Secretary Bob Pence and approved as read upon a motion by Maison (Mich.), seconded by Winetrout (Wash.).

The NHPA financial report for the fiscal year prepared by Treasurer Bob Pence was read by the chairman of the Auditing Committee, James Solomon (Pa.). The report showed receipts of \$38,059.99, expenditures of \$31,607.20, and a balance of cash on hand of \$6,452.79. The report was approved as read upon a motion by Wilhoite (Ind.), seconded by Hyland (N.Y.).

President Ralph Dykes gave the Executive Council's report and a general discussion followed on various aspects of the organization, the game and the World Tournament.

Secretary Bob Pence gave a report on the results of the temporary Booster Membership plan passed in 1967. The provision was discontinued by a voice vote.

The Rules Committee consisting of Pickering (N.H.) and Abbott (Pa.) recommended that the playing rules be amended providing for the official height of the stake be made between 14 and 15 inches in order to allow a one inch tolerance. The recommendation was adopted unanimously.

A motion by Forsstrom (Mass.), seconded by Franke (Ill.), provided for the NHPA to purchase the big board for posting qualifying scores and the new scoring devices used in qualifying, both of which had been furnished by Ralph Dykes and Jack Stout of Illinois.

A motion by McGrath (Ohio), seconded by Melvin (N.H.) provided for the NHPA to pay the president's World Tourney expenses in the future and retroactive to the 1968 tournament. The motion was approved without dissent.

A motion by Henton (Iowa), seconded by Mrozak (Conn.) provided for the cost of the qualifying board, the scoring devices and the presidents World Tournament expenses be submitted to the Executive Council for final approval as to the amount to be paid.

Carl van der Lancken (N.Y.) gave the report of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee recommending the induction of Casey Jones (Wis.), Charlie Davis (Mo.) and Harry Woodfield (D.C.) into the Hall of Fame. The committee report and recommendations were accepted by the delegates upon a motion by Winston (Mo.), seconded by Bestul (Wis.).

A motion by Steinfeldt (N.Y.), seconded by Simmons (Calif.) asked that the entry fee in the Men's division be raised to \$12.00 with a \$2.00 refund to be made to those entrants who act as official scorekeepers for two or more other entrants. The motion carried unanimously.

Sealed bids for the 1970 World Tournament were called for and received from South Gate, Calif., Middlesex, N. J. and Greenville, Ohio. Following the reading of the bids a general discussion was held with a question and answer period. Two ballots were required. The first resulted in a vote of Middlesex 39, South Gate 38 and Greenville 19. The run off ballot gave South Gate 50, Middlesex 44 and two void votes. President Ralph Dykes accordingly awarded the 1970 World Tournament to South Gate, Calif. for its bid of \$5,250.

Upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee consisting of Pinch (Pa.) and McNailey (Calif.) the delegates unanimously elected Robert Pence (Ind.) as Secretary-Treasurer for another term and elected Jerry Schneider (Calif.) 2nd Vice-President replacing Will Gullickson (N.D.) and Ruth Hangen (N.Y.) 4th Vice-President replacing Lucille Hopkins (Iowa).

A motion by Beers (Pa.) was passed unanimously thanking the Keene Horseshoe Club, the city of Keene and all responsible individuals for the excellent manner in which they were conducting and hosting the World Tournament. The convention was then adjourned by President Dykes.

Report To The Membership

Ralph Dykes, NHPA President

Robert Pence, NHPA Secretary

Membership — the life blood of the organization, reached an all time high in 1968, but with only a small gain over the previous year. This marked the 11th consecutive year the NHPA has shown a membership gain. Perhaps the raise on dues to \$1.50 for the national portion and a raise in some state dues kept this year's increase to a smaller total than those increases of the past.

Subscriptions — to our monthly magazine, The News Digest, showed a big increase over the previous year. The magazine is our only real means of communication, making this a most important plus. However a much larger percentage of the membership should be subscribers as well in order to derive full benefit. One unusual item was the surprisingly large number of two year subscriptions which were received.

Financial — The NHPA is solvent and in a very good position, but still lacks a large enough budget to fully promote the game. It is the policy of the NHPA to retain a working balance of approximately \$6,000.00 to act as a cushion for some unforeseen emergency. The balance at the end of the fiscal year was \$6,452.79, a decrease of slightly more than \$200.00 over the previous year. The financial report given by Treasurer Bob Pence at the NHPA convention last summer at the end of the fiscal year follows:

Receipts	Expenditures
Previous year's balance\$ 6,722.81	Mailing Expense\$ 927.30
Memberships 4,996.50	Office Expense 816.55
Subscriptions 5,643.50	New Digest Expense 8,336.85
Mfg. fees 2,209.40	Misc. printing 1,056.31
Sales, Trophies 4,642.69	Merchandise purchases 10,647.88
Sales, Horseshoes 3,855.13	Travel, publicity expenses .. 1,983.30
Sales, Misc. 3,493.96	World Tourney expenses .. 7,839.01
World Tourney 6,496.00
.....	Total Expenditures\$31,607.20
Total Receipts\$38,059.99	BALANCE ON HAND 6,452.79

Publicity and Public Relations — This remains primarily a local club function. The work of NHPA Publicity Director Will Gullickson last year served to prove that it is possible to effectively promote an individual as in the case of the Danny Kuchcinski tour and appearances which were capably handled by Will, but the task of promoting the game and the NHPA is so general in nature that the only effective means is the collective effort of each individual club or state association.

On the plus side during 1968 was the Danny Kuchcinski tour, his TV appearance on the nationwide Johnny Carson Tonight show, a number of TV appearances by Jerry Schneider on the west coast and the TV coverage of the World Tournament in Keene, N.H. by CBS Saturday Evening News by its famous sportscaster Heywood Hale Broun.

Special mention should be made of the publicity generated in Florida by Hal Porter in the Bradenton Herald, in Indiana by NHPA member and sports editor Red Haven of the Anderson Herald, in Rochester, N.Y. by another NHPA member and sports editor Jimmy Castor, the work of Pat Smith in Michigan and the excellent newspaper coverage by Tom Blake in Keene, N.H., especially during the World Tourney.

Bob Pence, NHPA Secretary On Shelf

NHPA Secretary Bob Pence has spent more than his share of time on the shelf this winter. First the "flu" bug hit and that developed into pneumonia. Three days after he returned to work he fell and sustained a badly sprained ankle and torn ligaments which laid him up again.

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Hampton Of Iowa Winner of Warren County (Ill.) Open

(Delayed Report)

One of the late season tournaments in Illinois was that held at Monmouth, Illinois during September. Rain and more rain caused it to be postponed. It finally was run off on the Monmouth park courts in late September. Art Hampton of Iowa City, the current Iowa State champion, was the victor with a 6 and 1 record. Trophies were awarded to the first two places in each of the seven classes.

Bob St. George of Monmouth was in charge of the meet with good help given by his club members along with assistance from others.

CLASS A — Art Hampton, Iowa City, Iowa 6-1; Byron Hafner, Letts, Iowa, 5-2; Glen Henton, Maquoketa, Iowa, 4-3; Casey Bettisworth, Galesburg, 4-3; Ernie Danielson, Burlington, 4-3; Sid Logsdon, Versailles, Ill., 3-4; Harold Darnold, Burlington, 1-6; Nelson Vogel, Manito, Ill., 1-6.

CLASS B — Clint VanDusen, Galesburg, 6-1; John Law, Gladstone, Ill., 5-2; Eldon Damarin, Peoria, 5-2; Ross Sorenberger, Galesburg, 3-4; Bill Randall, St. Augustine, Ill., 3-4; Floyd Hammitt, Pittsfield, 3-4; Vernal Drager, Graymont, Ill., 2-5; Stoney Jackson, Burlington, 1-6.

CLASS C — Ed Kaalberg, Muscatine, Iowa, 7-0; Mel. Schumann, Davenport, Iowa, 4-3; Arnold Lester, Galesburg, 4-3; Ed Purcell, Peoria, 3-4; Andy Jackson, Burlington, 3-4; Jake Davis, Columbus Junction, Iowa, 2-5; Rus. Rubison, Galesburg, 2-5; Walt Williamson, London Mills, Ill., 1-6.

CLASS D — Rollie Forner, Colchester, Ill., 5-2; Henry Hardister, Galesburg, 5-2; Joe Willi, Peoria, 4-3; Larry Bender, West Liberty, Iowa, 4-3; John White, Peoria, 4-3; Clarence Hess, Liberty, Ill., 3-4; Harry Anderson, Galesburg, 3-4; Oner Darby, Galesburg, 0-7.

CLASS E — Cleon Chrisman, Peoria, 6-1; Wilburn Miller, Monmouth, 5-2; Walter Killip, Alexis, 5-2; Joe Hightower, Colchester, 4-3; J. Jackson, Burlington, 3-4; Bob Bell, Monmouth, 3-4; Marvin Jackson, Burlington, 1-6; Robin Chrisman, Peoria, 1-6.

CLASS F — Roy Billingsley, Peoria, 6-1; Roy Slater, Smithfield, 5-2; Rabe, West Liberty, Iowa, 5-2; Del. Simmons, Galesburg, 5-2; Chas. Holmes, Oneida, Ill., 3-4; Lloyd Cowell, Monmouth, 2-5; John Spence, Peoria, 1-6; Earl Anderson, Galesburg, 1-6.

CLASS G — Russell McCoy, Peoria, 3-0; Irvin Benson, Colchester, 1-2; Jim McCord, Galesburg, 1-2; Rebbeç, Peoria, 1-2.

Food for Thought

By LEE DAVIS — New Jersey

There are many old sayings all of us have used many times, such as; **EVERY ONE HAS HIS OWN PECULIAR WAY — NO ONE IS BORN WITHOUT FAULTS — A PENNY SAVED IS A PENNY EARNED**, etc. but the one; **BE NOT THE FIRST THE NEW HAVE TRIED NOR YET THE LAST THE OLD TO CAST ASIDE**, will best fit the thought provocation set forth here.

It would be impossible for us to be the first to make changes in the sports world but unless we act soon we will be the last. Practically every sport has made changes to improve or better their game from both a spectator angle and participation. To me the latter is the most important as far as our game is concerned.

Over the years many of us have made suggestions for changes, such as the one I made a few years back, to eliminate pitching 200 shoes to qualify for the National Tournament, but instead actually pitch games and use ringer percentage for qualification, but the suggestions always seem to get bogged down without any action taken.

While I agree no matter what is or isn't proposed or done some will agree and others will disagree. But no one would ever know if it would be better or worse for the game until a project was tried. Let me make myself clear on one point here and that is anything tried should be on a trial basis for a given time only. Then ample study and discussion before becoming a part of our game.

Dr. Sol Berman has a couple of ideas that may have the changes the games needs.

The first one I will discuss at length as we have tried it in practice and use it all the time now. That is eliminate points from the game completely and count only ringers. Score ringers one point and make the game 21 points instead of fifty. This system has many advantages and so far we haven't found any disadvantages.

Some of the advantages are; simplifies the scoring (score sheets, score machines — etc.). Most games are shorter (even though one needs four more clear ringers over a straight ringers scored in a 50 point game) because of the time saved in measuring single points. — A lop-sided score of 16 to 3 doesn't seem as hopeless as 48 to 9 for example. Practically eliminates finishing a game on luck, as Doc. says often a scored point is a poorly thrown shoe. While it is true at times a poorly thrown shoe will ring the peg it is far more likely to be a point. — It will eliminate a person winning a game with a lower percentage than his opponent, as has happened many times, even in the National Tournament. — It has good flexibility for handicap purposes. Some may say it will take too long for a game in lower percentage groups but all one needs to do, is shorten those games to say 15 points or any set lower figure for the percentages involved. It eliminates calipers and other special tools (except straight edge) now needed to judge points in tournament games.

To date the only disadvantages I have found are the ones who are unwilling to give it a real trial. Of course some one will come up with some disadvantages but I am certain the advantages will far off set any disadvantages.

I would like to see everyone give it a good try before commenting on its merits either way.

The other change is for state or local tournaments in which a director finds himself with 10 to 16 players of practically equal ability.

Doc's idea is to take the highest ringer percentage player in one group. The next two highest in the second group, the next two highest back in the first group and so on until the last man is back in the first group. If the entries are uneven as 10 or 14 and you pitch in groups of 6 and 4 or 8 and 6 the eight and twelfth player would be in the first group and the two remaining in each case be in the second group.

Pitch a regular round robin in the groups set up and take the top three men in each group (or top four if conditions warrant it) and let these men

Food For Thought — (Continued)

pitch only the men from the other group carrying games won and lost from the original round robbin. Add games won and lost to the original won and lost list and you have in effect the same as a 10, 12, 14 or 16 man round robbin. For instance if you had two groups of 8 and took the top three you would have the same results as a 16 man round robbin with only 10 games (11 games if you took the top four) instead of 15 games. Some will ask why only play the top from the opposite group and the answer is simply they have already played each other in the regular round robbin.

If a director wanted to break the group down farther he could take the second set of three (or four, or two) and let them play only the equal number from the other group. In effect you would have almost (if not exactly) the same finish as if you had played a complete round robbin of 10, 12, 14, or 16.

Of course the same system can be worked out for larger groups, split up into equal numbers and then paired off to cut the playing time and get the same results as a complete round robbin.

In fact the National could be run on the same basis by breaking the 36 men up into groups of six and going both ways in each group. Each man would play 18 games in four days and the results would be so near the same as a 36 man round robbin that I doubt more than 3 or 4 men would be in a different position than a straight 36 man round robbin as now played.

Most men go to the National with the idea of spending better than a week and playing every one in the group. The one big factor in favor of the above system is the elimination of two days and 17 games of a gruesome grind.

These ideas may not be the answer but we hope it may start someone else to thinking that will come up with the needed changes to inspire more to join our ranks.

A good saying to end our thoughts is — **BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.**

Redwood Open Tournament — Eureka, California

A brand new open tournament will get underway March 15 and 16 at the Redwood Acres Fairgrounds, located on Harris Street about 2 miles east of the 101 freeway in Eureka, California. It will be known as the Redwood Empire Open tournament and will be played on the six indoor clay courts at the Redwood Acres Fairgrounds. Courts are all lighted.

There will be three classes using the round robin system of play, with 12 men in each class. Requirements for qualifying are an official 1968 tournament average, or contestant may pitch 50 shoes for a score anytime from March 9 through March 15 closing at noon. Qualifying fee will be \$1.00 for each 50 shoes and a maximum of two tries. Entry fee for tournament play will be \$3.00. National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association rules will prevail on all phases of the tournament.

Starting time for Class A will be 2 P.M. Saturday, March 15 playing 6 games and continuing on Sunday, March 16 at 2 P.M. and playing 5 games. Class B will start play at 9 A.M. on Sunday, March 16 with two 6-man groups. Class C will play Saturday, March 15 starting at 6 P.M. with two 6-man groups.

Entry fee of \$3.00 and 1968 tournament average should be sent to the tournament co-ordinator, W. Ray Williams, 1627 "C" Street, Eureka, California 95501. He will be assisted by other committee members, Floyd Goldsmith, Tom Peterson and Horace Vinsant.

It is the hope of the Redwood Empire Horseshoe Club that this tournament will be the beginning of many such tournaments to be held on these indoor clay courts, which the members enjoy pitching on each evening and weekends. Funds are now being raised to guarantee a prize fund of \$250. Many of the top players on the west coast are expected to participate in this new, west coast pitching "extravaganza".

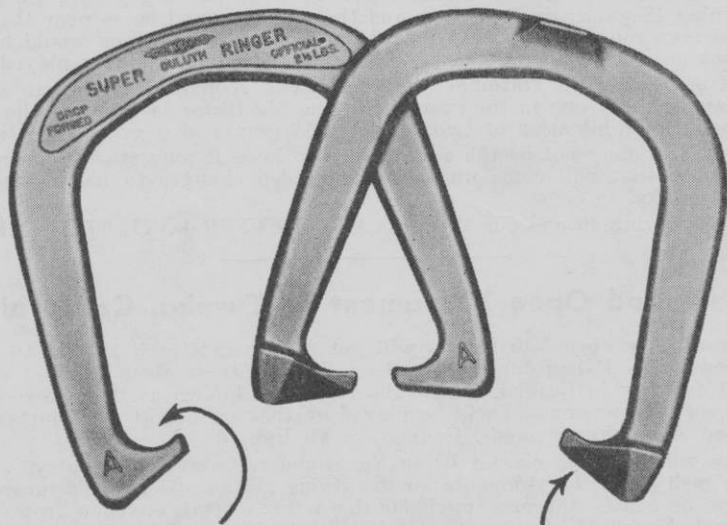
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