### President's Message **Communications and Game Related Sales Benefits** by Stu Sipma, NHPA President

Over the past years as your President, the Council has addressed some major changes to the way we conduct business, and share information.

We have added Charter Communications. The idea behind this was to bring closer communications between the Charters and NHPA. Jerry Labrosse is the lead on this. We feel this is an important position to have to keep the communications highway open and to answer questions. We next started Facebook, which is another way of sharing information (social media). Tina Hawkins has the lead on this. We then took a look at what is costing the NHPA money from our General Fund to run our business. It was very noticeable that the *Newsline* magazine was the biggest one. So with the latest software, we turned *Newsline* into an electronic version that is shared with every NHPA member who has access to email. This is also made available to anyone who is not a member but interested in horseshoes to view. The reason why I am bringing these items to your attention is that if we don't make changes on the way we support the NHPA, we are going to have to make some more changes.

The next potential change is Game Related Sales (GRS). I don't know how many of you buy direct, use Amazon.com to purchase items and it is a way to save money and is a convenience. However, did you know that utilizing options like this does little to nothing for our business of raising revenue to offset cost of doing business and grow our sport?

As many of you are aware, we have a branch of the NHPA called NHPA GAME RELATED SALES. This organization purchases horseshoes, tools, scoring supplies, cases & bags, garments & a few miscellaneous items for sales to our NHPA distributors, club distributors, retail distributors and at the annual World Tournament. Dee Vadnais-Null & Gary Null are the Directors of NHPA GRS and work very hard (in a volunteer capacity) to keep this merchandise in stock for daily shipping to distributors and customers. The business is currently based in Wentzville, MO, at the Hall of Fame and Museum facility. This is where all the merchandise is warehoused and ships from throughout the year.

It is extremely important that our members purchase their horseshoes and related items from our member distributors and clubs because this helps keep the NHPA organization viable. We cannot emphasize enough how very important this purchase activity is to the NHPA. This activity is a "service" to the membership and without everyone's support and purchases the NHPA stands to lose an important aspect of the organization; the ability to supply our membership with high quality tools and merchandise that MEETS THE NHPA SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS.

Unfortunately, in this day of Internet access and all of our suppliers also having websites, the competition is quite intense. Better prices can sometimes be found purchasing from another

source or free shipping can be enjoyed; but, this does NOT help to support the organization of which you are a member and the NHPA certainly needs that support from the membership!

If you are a member of a local club, your club can also become a Club Distributor, which will give your club some benefits and help support the NHPA organization. Please contact Dee or Gary at the NHPA GRS office for details.

NHPA GRS Distributors are listed on the NHPA website under "Resources" or you may call the NHPA GRS office at 636-327-5271 for direction to the most convenient distributor or club. PLEASE BUY FROM YOUR NHPA ORGANIZATION AND HELP SUPPORT THE SPORT WE ALL LOVE!

The 5th Annual HOF Invitational was hosted by the QRHC this past May at the Hall of Fame building located at Wentzville, MO. Jerry Smith once again was the Tournament Director and in talking to Jerry; it sounds like it was a very successful tournament. I want to apologize to the participants and the QRHC for not being able to attend. The NHPA would like to thank all the sponsors who sponsored this event and look forward to another successful tournament next year.

The 2016 World Horseshoe Tournament will be held July 25 – August 6, 2016 in Montgomery, AL. The host site, the Multiplex located at the Cramton Bowl is within the city limits and close to downtown Montgomery. David Sidles (W.T. Director) has reported a total of 934 pitchers will be participating over the two weeks.

With the huge success of qualifying and certifying judges for the W.T. last year, Your 1st VP Dan Sanders will once again take the lead on running classes during the W.T. to certify more members to become judges. If you are interested in this please contact Dan Sanders directly or when you arrive in Montgomery, during your registration at the Multiplex, look for the signs. The Council feels this is a step in the right direction to make sure all players get the best experience while competing in this event.

In conclusion, I look forward to visiting with everyone, especially all the new members and 1st time W.T. attendees. I am really looking forward to watching the Junior and Cadet Divisions. If you weren't able to attend the W.T. feel free to contact me anytime on how we can make this a better sport for everyone to enjoy.

I wish everyone a safe travels to Montgomery.

Stu

## Press Release: World Tournament Takes On Montgomery, AL

by <u>Tina Hawkins</u>, 2nd Vice President and Publicity/Promotion Director

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association is pleased to announce the 2016 NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Championships to be held July 25 - August 6 in Montgomery, AL. Up to sixty portable horseshoe courts will be installed in the Multiplex at Cramton Bowl for the competition and practice.

This two-week event is held once each summer to crown a World Champion horseshoe pitcher in each of eight divisions - Open Men, Open Women, Senior Men, Senior Women, Elder (short-distance) Men, Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Junior Cadets (12-years old and under).

This year's entrants hail from the United States, Canada and, for the first time, Switzerland - all vying for titles of World Champion and a share of the over \$160,000 in prizes. Previous years have seen competitors from Norway, South Africa, Namibia and Japan.

Current Men's World Champion, Alan Francis of Defiance, OH, earned his twentieth world title in the 2015 Men's Division and will be vying for number twenty-one this year with his 89.25% ringer percentage. Hoping to block Alan's charge are previous World Champ, Brian Simmons, who boasts a 79.8% ringer average; Charlie Meredith, KY, posting 81.50%; Dan Watson, AL with 78.9% and Gale Greene, VT, with 74.12%. Also carrying ringer percentages above 70% are Austin Bailey, IL, and Rick Howe, MA.

The Women's Division should prove exciting as well, with the top five contenders posting ringer averages above 70%. The number one seed is 7-time World Title holder, Joan Elmore, with an 84.61% average, who will be striving to regain the championship. Challenging her are Shalee Cason, FL; Marlene Ray, TN; Debra Odum, TX; and rounding out the top 5, Kathy Brazier, AL.

The top four contenders in the Elder's Division all hold averages greater than 80%. They are defending champion, David Holmes, WV; Virgil Rife, OH; Russ Phillips, WA; and David P. Jagers, FL; they will not have an easy time, as the entire class of top-seeded players in their division holds averages in excess of 70%.

Final championship rounds for Men, Women and Elders begin Thursday, August 4 and continue through Saturday, August 6, when the overall World Champion will be decided in each of those divisions.

Adding to the excitement of the event are the Junior Boys, Girls and Cadets. Their competition begins Thursday evening, July 28, with champions in the three divisions being decided on Saturday, July30, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Other competitors of note are Marcus Dubach and Patrick Fischer, who are members of the American Horseshoe Pitching Association of Switzerland. Participating in both the American and

German disciplines of the sport, Marcus is the current Swiss titleholder at the American discipline.

Competition will begin by 8:00 a.m. each morning through the preliminary rounds, starting Monday, July 25, with a break for NHPA convention and Hall of Fame banquet on Sunday, then will resume at 8:00 a.m. Monday, August 1.

Spectators are encouraged for all levels of competition. Concessions and souvenirs will be available.

To follow the event online via live webcams, or to learn more about the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, visit www.horseshoepitching.com or contact NHPA 2nd Vice President, Tina Hawkins.

### World Tournament: What to Expect Your First Day

by **Bill Marvin**, 5th Vice President and Regional Director and Court Sanctioning Director

First time pitchers at the World Tournament sometimes feel overwhelmed and a bit intimidated on their first day of pitching. The excitement in the air, adrenaline pumping, ready to go after all the preparation; it can take its toll on the nerves. There are a few formalities that must be taken care of that first day. Here is what to expect:

Pitchers should plan on arriving one and a half hours ahead of your pitching time to complete the check-in process, which involves a few steps. Yes, there will be a line. Yes, there will be a certain amount of waiting time. Yes, all the questions are necessary. Yes, you will eventually make it to the courts and pitch.

You will be asked to show your 2016 NHPA membership card. Why? Charters submit membership reports at different times, some monthly, some quarterly, some semi-annually and some once a year. The only way to ensure that everyone has paid their dues is to ask to see their card. If you forget to bring it, you will be required to pay a \$20 deposit until your 2016 membership can be verified by you Charter Secretary.

Questions two and three: what brand of shoe do you pitch and what is your pitching style? Why? Each year members are interested in what shoes are popular and how they are being pitched. This data is sent to Mel Yockstick, NHPA statistical guru, and he puts it on the web page and in the forum. Just interesting information, nothing else. "Inquiring minds want to know."

Your shoes will then be weighed and checked to make sure they are within NHPA specifications. Each year there are a few that are either warped, have been illegally modified or will not fit in the jig for one reason or the other, and a few are over the weight specification. If shoes cannot be straightened or ground to fit the jig, they are held until after the competition is completed. This is a very good reason to bring two pair; if your favorites don't pass, you will need a backup pair. If you have a pick up stick, it will be checked. Sticks cannot be longer than 36" in length and the hook cannot extend 2" from the center of the main shaft.

After these things have been completed, your shirt will be checked to make sure you have your name and state on the back. Make sure the letters are professionally lettered, at least 1" in size. No sleeveless shirts, no open toed shoes, no cut-offs are allowed. You will receive your round robin card for the first day. So now you are ready to pitch, right? Well, not quite.

Each class will have their picture taken (and listen to Ernie's corny jokes). These pictures make an excellent souvenir. There will also be a few important announcements so PAY ATTENTION! After this, you will be dismissed to begin your competition. DO NOT TAKE THE COURTS TO BEGIN PRACTICE UNITL YOU ARE DIRECTED TO DO SO. There will be plenty of time to warm up so don't panic. Shift Directors will tell you when to start your games, so wait until that announcement is made.

On days two and three, be at the arena 30 minutes ahead of time to pick up your round robin card for the day. No other check in is needed. Again, do not take the courts to begin practice until you are directed to do so. If for some reason you cannot pitch the second or third day, please notify the NHPA office as far in advance as possible so a Pacer can be put in your place.

Good luck and lots of ringers to everyone – see you in Montgomery. Easy does it.

### **Charter Communications**

By <u>Jerry LaBrosse</u>, 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President, Charter Communications Director

I must start by apologizing for not placing an article in the last *Newsline*, a miscue on my part.

I would like to take a minute to speak directly to the delegates that will be attending the convention on July the 31st. I am sure you are all aware of how the system works, but I would like to just briefly review it for those who may not fully understand it.

The NHPA works much like a representative government. Each charter has delegates that they send to the convention to represent their memberships. The number of delegates is based on the number of adult members in your charter. It works out to one delegate for every 100 adult members in your charter. At the convention, the delegates listen to the moderators speak about the different topics, ask questions, and vote on things such as rule/bylaw changes, and elections. It is the charter's responsibility to survey your members about the topics that will be addressed at the convention, and then go to represent their wishes.

This year we have no rules or bylaws to vote on. We do, however, have officer elections. This year we have one incumbent officer running for another term, and that is Jerry Smith. Dan Sanders has announced that he is not seeking re-election as 1st Vice President after serving for over 12 years. I want to go on record as saying that Dan has had a very successful and productive career as an NHPA officer, and has many great accomplishments to his credit. The NHPA owes Dan a great deal of gratitude for the countless hours he has devoted to our great sport, and the endless contributions he has made. I really got to know Dan way back when we re-wrote the rulebook and created what is now known as the RGS booklet. He and I and George Nick worked weekly for a couple of years on that project, and there are both good and bad memories from it. In the end, thanks to Dan's attention and insistence to detail, we produced a great product that will stand the test of time.

Another thing that we do every year at the convention is decide where the World Tournament will go two years down the road. This is where I have a few comments and suggestions for the delegates.

Far too often what I see the delegates do is to automatically vote for the bidding site that is closest to their home charter. There are many things to consider when selecting a site, but there is one consideration that I believe goes largely un-noticed, and I'd like to shine the light on it.

I believe it is hugely important to have a horseshoe community in the host area. It could be a club, or it could just be a group of members that live in the area. The local CVB cannot be expected to know everything that needs to happen because they aren't horseshoe people. They don't know what committees are needed and what details need attention. Their focus is the facility and accommodations and such. Yes, for them it is all about getting you into their town and spending money.

Here is a consideration for all of you to think about. This sport is struggling to grow, as we all know. Our World Tournament is the biggest promotion event of the year, and we should do everything we can to exploit that. If there is a horseshoe club in Topeka and we have the World Tournament there, that club is going to grow based on the exposure we had from the event. TV coverage, newspaper, radio, billboards, etc all draw attention to our sport. If there is no horseshoe presence in the host community, then there really isn't much chance for the sport to grow there.

So I am challenging all of you delegates to research the bidders every year and make an intelligent decision based on the important facts...not just how close it is to your charter!

I have been in discussions with the Montgomery hosts about a variety of things, including what will happen to the clay once the event is over. The city has made claim to use the clay for a couple different things. The local horseshoe facility will receive much of the clay, and then the rest of it will be designated for the National Senior Games to be held in Birmingham, AL in 2017. So unfortunately this year there will be no clay available after our event.

One last thing I need to mention is the setup process this year. We will be starting the setup a day early this year, Tuesday July 19th, to allow enough time to repaint the foul lines on the rubber walkways. Anybody who would like to volunteer a few days of your time to be a part of the setup process, please contact me, or just show up at the Multiplex that morning about 8 AM in your work duds. (That mean your work clothes Fisher)

This year we are planning to install 48 tournament courts in 6 banks of 8 courts each. We will have room to place at least 6, possibly 9, courts along the side of the arena. Two of these courts will be designated as playoff courts and on playoff days you may be required to vacate those courts at the end of any shift for playoff games. There are also practice courts available in a nearby park. Directions to this park will be available at registration.

That's all I have for now. I invite any of you to look me up and visit. I love meeting new folks and making new friends. Don't forget that there is no substitute for practice, so throw lots of shoes in preparation for this great tournament. Please familiarize yourself with the rules and procedures and be on time to all of your functions. Be courteous and respectful of people and property. We hope you have a fantastic World Tournament experience, and that you'll want to attend every year.

See ya'll in Montgomery

# World Warm-Up Tournament 2016

By Rob Hagman, NATSTATS Director

- This tournament will be held at Montgomery,AL
- Saturday 7-23-16.
- All sign ups will be on site from 8am to 9am Max of 96 entries.
- The tournament starts at 10am.
- Entry fee is \$25, 100% payback minus scorekeeper fees.
- NO handicap will be used.
- 6 person classes and 40 shoe games.
- We are using this format to simulate a day pitching at world.
- Current Natstats will be used for seeding
- Tournament Director: Rob Hagman
- Scorekeepers will be paid \$10 for the shift.

If you have questions about this please Email <u>mailto:natstats@horseshoepitching.com</u> or call @ 612-600-3777.

## Announcement: Convention Day Practice

by <u>Tina Hawkins</u>, 2nd Vice President and Publicity/Promotion Director

The competition courts at the Multiplex in Montgomery WILL BE OPEN FOR PRACTICE on Sunday, July 31 (convention day).

According to Kay McCreery, Recreation Superintendent at the Parks and Recreation Department, the facility will open at 8:00 am and remain open until 6:00 pm.

Of course, you will be expected to practice proper court etiquette and leave the facility in the same condition (or better) as you found it, and limit your practice time so that others may have opportunity for practice as well.

Please be courteous and appreciative toward the Multiplex staff, whom will be giving their Sunday so you can pitch a few shoes.

# Pitching at the World Tournament? Tell All About It!

by <u>Tina Hawkins</u>, 2nd Vice President and Publicity/Promotion Director

Are you pitching in the 2016 World Tournament in Montgomery, AL? If so - tell all about it!

To your local press, that is...a visit to your hometown sports editor could very likely net an article in the newspaper about your world-class competition.

Take along a printed tournament schedule and be prepared for an impromptu interview. Remember to tell them it is the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA), that the tournament dates are July 25 thru August 6, that it is being held at the Multiplex at Cramton Bowl in Montgomery, AL, and that they can follow the action on the NHPA website through live webcams, daily results, Daily Shoe newsletter and photo galleries.

You can also share the World Tournament Press Release that is published in this issue of *Newsline* magazine.

And, of course, the most important piece of information you can give to be included in the article is this:<u>WWW.HORSESHOEPITCHING.COM</u>.

When your story is published, please share the online link by sending it to publicity@horseshoepitching.com.

# Announcement: World Tournament Junior Parties

by <u>Aleena Cook</u>, 2nd Vice President and Publicity/Promotion Director

Who doesn't like VIP service? I know I love it! This year in Montgomery Alabama, we will receive the VIP treatment. On Wednesday evening we will get a private showing at the Gayle Planetarium followed by a cookout with an ice cream eating contest and large Bubble Soccer balls. This will be a great way for us to kick off the start of the tournament. Come and meet up with your old friends and make some new ones too!

On Sunday during the banquet, we will have a private behind-the-scenes access at the Montgomery Zoo and a full interactive experience at the Mann Museum with dinner to follow. This will be a fun way to wind down after an exciting and fun filled week.

## Act Like a Tourist

by <u>Tina Hawkins</u>, 2nd Vice President and Publicity/Promotion Director

People take vacations and go on trips every day and many have the desire to "blend in," so they won't look like a tourist.

Well... What's wrong with looking like a tourist?

Okay. So you don't want to stand on a street corner, holding a map trying to figure out which way to walk...but you DO want to tell people why you are in town!

Specifically, the Montgomery area businesses. Many of them have made large contributions toward getting the NHPA to come to town and they need to know their investments are paying off.

Mention the reason for your visit to your server when you go for dinner; the checker at the grocery store, the desk clerk at your hotel...Are you planning to take in a movie or play a round of golf? How about visit the Hank Williams Museum or take a Segway tour?

When you participate in any of these activities - let the provider know "the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association has come to town."

The more they see us and hear about us, the more they will want us back in the future.

# National NHPA Sanctioned League Tournament: October 1-2

by Jerry Smith, 3rd Vice President and Sanction League Director, Junior Scholarships

The 2016 World Tournament (WT) is rapidly approaching and I am excited and looking forward to a great tournament. As the Sanctioned League Director, I am always looking ahead and planning so the WT is not the only event on my mind. The National NHPA Sanctioned League Tournament is scheduled for October 1st and 2nd, 2016 and is the 3 person team Championship for sanctioned league pitchers.

The tournament is a "count-all," handicapped team tournament where a bonus point is awarded if a team can win at least two of the three games they play against another team. All three games are played in the same round. The teams are made up of any three pitchers from the same charter or league.

The tournament is held in Wentzville, Missouri at the NHPA's Hall of Fame (HOF) Facility which is home of the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club as well as the NHPA's beautiful collection of HOF memorabilia and displays. The NHPA and White Distributors, manufacturer of many pitching shoes, sponsor the event.

The entry fee is \$150.00 per team and the top prizes are \$1,500.00 for the winning team and \$750.00 for the runner-up team. These two teams are the winners of the two, 10 team brackets and meet in a one game, "winner take all" championship game. Cash prizes are also awarded for the 2nd through 4th place finishers in each 10-team bracket, plus the top "high game over average game" in each bracket. For details and an entry form, please see the information listed on the NHPA website, horseshoepitching.com, under "Coming Events."

It is a fun event and the format is unique and geared to challenge and entertain its participants. Only the first 20 teams to enter will get to pitch and I will accept entry forms now. Team needs to have a Captain and get their entry form and money (made out to the NHPA) to me ASAP.

Don't miss this great event and think of White Distributors when you need shoes. If you have questions, call me @ 208-467-2524 or email me at <u>mailto:horseshoepitcherjds@msn.com</u>.

# Mixed Classes – Advantages and Disadvantages

by <u>Dan Sanders</u>, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, By-Laws, Rules and Grievance Director

Please review my last *Newsline* article about Mixed Classes where I discussed what 'mixing' may mean, and then concluded with two paragraphs of information about the advantages and disadvantages of mixing Classes. Suggestions were also made about how TDs could create more competitive Classes without 'mixing'. A final follow-up question was, ' why are some full-distance pitchers so opposed to pitching against short-distance pitchers? And here are some possible reasons:

- Some pitchers truly believe that s-d pitchers have an advantage. Others argue that if the ringer percentage are the same or close, that neither should have an advantage.
- It may be true than in windy conditions, s-d pitchers may have an advantage.
- If it is easier to make ringers at 30 feet than at 40 feet (and most would agree that it is), it is also true that it should be easier to make single points from the shorter distance. But ringer percentages don't take into account this possible advantage of s-d pitchers making more single points during these games. The only answer to this concern is for the TD to use a 'Ringers Only' format for these mixed Classes, and this is being done in several Charters.

Whatever pitching formats may be used in your Charter, I hope that it is acceptable for the majority of your pitchers. And remember that the most important thing is to have fun!

### Locking In the Win

by Aleena Cook, Junior Promotion



Matlock, a name you will be hearing for years to come. Lane and Cale Matlock are typical brothers with a love for the sport of horseshoes. Cale, 11, and Lane, 14, learned this love from their grandfather who built courts in their backyard allowing them to practice whenever they want.

Since they were tired of driving over an hour to pitch, Lane and Cale have helped start a league in their hometown of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The league even had their first time hosting a tournament this year. Both brothers love to compete, win, and meet new friends all over the world.

Lane, who has been pitching for four years, is a two time Cadet State Champion, has taken third at State for juniors, and took fifth in class C juniors last year at world. Cale, who has been pitching for two years, is a two time Cadet State Champion, and took second in Cadet A and Cadet Championship last year at world. When they pitch against each other it can get intense as neither likes to lose. "I always win" followed by "Not true" are common remarks heard when they face off. Even with their competitiveness, the Matlock brothers will root for each other to win and support each other when at tournaments.

Along with horseshoes, both boys are very active all year round. Lane participates in baseball, wrestling, is a wide receiver and corner back on the school football team, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He would like to be a dentist when he grows up. Cale participates in baseball, basketball, is quarterback for a football league, has maintained straight A's all year, and is the current student council president. He wants to be an engineer. Even with their busy

lives and working towards their futures, both plan to continue to pitch as they would like to be a Men's World Champion or "the next Allan Francis". One thing is for sure, these brothers WILL be a force to wrecken with.



### Tournaments Remembered: Horseshoe Facts and Folklore

by Bob Dunn, NHPA Historian

#### FORT GEORGE (NY) OPEN

Fort George is an interesting chapter as hometown pitcher, Vito Feliccia, was one of the all-time great pitchers of New York. Feliccia first won the New York state championship in 1936 and was a legend ever since. He repeated as state champion in 1949. To tell the history of the Fort George Horseshoe Club which was originated in 1933 is this brief article from the December 1958 issue of the Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest: For George Club Observes Silver Anniversary

"The Fort George Club observed their twenty-fifth anniversary with a social and dance at their club rooms, 1672 St. Nicholas Avenue, Manhattan, on Saturday evening, November 15.

Prior to 1933, "the boys" played their games on the courts maintained at their own expense on the property of the George Washington High School. It was in 1933 that the club organized with Thomas P. O'Gara setting the stage for the election of officers, membership and dues.

On behalf of the members of the club, President Patrick Murray commemorated that event by presenting Tom O'Gara with a plaque, inlaid with 25 silver dollars as a token of their esteem. A classic event was reported in the June 1937 issue of the Horseshoe World: Feliccia Wins

"The Open Horseshoe Pitching Tournament held at Fort George Courts to the rear of the George Washington high school stadium, attracted an entry of 30 of the best players on the

East. Representatives from Springfield, MA, Westchester County, New Jersey, Long Island and the Greater City were on hand to compete for prizes.

Vito Fileccia, present New York State Champion and member of the home club, was the winner, with Tom Laurino of Ludlow, MA, runner-up and Henry Christie of Corona, Long Island, third.

Class B honors went to L. Phillips of Springfield, MA, with M. Smith of New Rochelle, NY, second and Bill Leonard of Jackson Heights third.

A field of 14 contestants in Class C was reduced by elimination matches with the final four players entering into a round robin that produced A. Cornier of Springfield, MA, the winner and Eddie Berquist of the Woodlawn Club as runner-up.

Class A	W	L	Pct.	Class B	W	L	Pct.
Vito Feliccia	9	0	68.9%	L. Phillips	5	0	43.5%
Tom Laurino	7	2	62.0%	M. Smith	4	1	38.2%
Henry Christy	7	2	55.3%	W. Leonard	3	2	35.4%
Charles Seacord	6	3	54.1%	D. McQuista	า 2	3	31.2%
James McManus	5	4	48.3%	Lee Davis	1	4	33.9%
Hugh O'Neill	4	5	42.0%	Peter McGill	0	5	20.3%
Eddie Wilms	3	6	49.8%				
Gilbert Brinkman	2	7	45.6%	Class C			
Leonard Zimmerman	2	7	36.4%	A. Cornier	3	0	39.5%
Ralph Forsstrom	0	9	37.4%	E. Berquist	2	1	40.5%
				C. Kuykendal	1	2	21.5%
				Al Anderson	0	3	19.9%

#### 1937 Fort George Open Final Standing

Many of the events reported back in the 1930s, did not report percentages, so this report is helpful and informative. It may be a bit surprising to see that a Class B and Class C were included in the event. That was innovative for the time.

This tournament took place a long time ago and still had ties to our modern day version of the sport. Vito Feliccia was the first big star of the sport in New York, being state champion in 1936 and 1949 and pitched for many years at a championship class level. Ralph Forsstrom was a National Hall of Fame promoter being inducted in 1972. Lee Davis, just 30 years old in 1937, was the Stokes Memorial Award recipient in 1983 and was inducted to the National Hall of Fame in 1979.

Now forward 15 years, and the 1952 Fort George Open was reported in the Horseshoe Pitcher:

#### DALE CARSON WINS FORT GEORGE OPEN

"The annual Fort George Open horseshoe pitching tournament held on Sunday June 29, 1952, was recorded as a classic when 24 of the topflight pitchers of the East answered roll-call to vie for the trophies and medals with Tom O'Gara as tournament director. The field was divided into three eight-man round robins with each contestant playing seven games.

Dale Carson of Baltimore, MD was the king-pin with a clean slate of seven wins. Vito Fileccia was runner-up and Joe Zichella in third place.

In Class B, Dr. Sol Berman of Elizabeth, NJ was tied with Jene Durham of Baltimore, MD for first place with six wins and one loss each. In the play-off game, "Doc" drubbed his opponent his opponent by pitching a 76% game.

The Class C players journeyed to Inwood where three Jerseyites were the winners: Barney Knapp of Midland Park in first place, Walter Haring of Westwood the second man and A. Ward of Midland Park the third place winner.

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Class A	W	L	Pct.	Class B	W	L	Pct.	Class C	W	L
1. Dale Carson	7	0	77.5%	1. Sol Berman	6	1	55.1%	1. Barney Kn	app 6	1
2. Vito Fileccia	5	2	70.7%	2. Jene Durham	6	1	62.3%	2. Walter Ha	ring 5	2
3. Joe Zichella	5	2	67.2%	3. Glynn	5	2	55.9%	3. Al Ward	5	2
4. Pendridge	4	3	70.8%	4. Paul Hanas	4	3	58.2%	4. George Ha	art 4	3
5. Joe Hardwick	3	4	63.1%	5. Lee Davis	4	3	55.5%	5. Paul Puglis	se 4	3
6. Bill Kolb	2	5	59.0%	6. Bob O'Conne	ll 2	5	48.4%	6. Kaplin	3	4
7. DiStefano	1	6	61.5%	7. Brennan	1	6	34.1%	7. Rehfeld	1	6
8. Ed Earley	1	6	61.5%	8. Charles Seaco	ord C	) 7	7 34.8%	8. Haseler	0	7

#### 1952 Fort George Open Final Standings

There are some name players in this group: Dale Carson is a member of the National Hall of Fame and many time Maryland state champion; Bill Kolb was a 14 times New Jersey state champion; Sol Berman is a member of the National Hall of Fame; Jene Durham was the AAU National Champion in 1951 and Maryland state champion in 1961; Paul Puglise is known as the "father of horseshoes" in New Jersey. He founded the New Jersey State Association in 1933 and 1971 when the New Jersey Hall of Fame was founded, Paul was the sole charter inductee. And the 1953 event was reported in the Horseshoe Pitcher also:

#### **1953 Fort George Open Final Standings**

1. Dale Carson, MD	7	0	78.9%	5. Joe Zichella	4	3	68.2%
2. Vito Fileccia, NY	4	3	72.1%	6. Pat Brady	4	3	65.4%
3. William Kolb NJ	4	3	70.5%	7. Jene Durham, MD	1	6	59.6%
4. Ed Earley	4	3	70.4%	8. Bob O'Connell	0	7	49.5%

Vito Feliccia keeps on winning as he was the 1957 Fort George Fall Classic champion:

#### FORT GEORGE FALL CLASSIC

"Vito Feliccia of Fort George came through to defeat Joe Zichella in the final game of the Empire Open horseshoe pitching tournament held at Fort George Park on Sunday, September 25th with Tom O'Gara as director.

The threatening weather of the morning was a factor in accounting for a small but selective field of competitors. Refreshments and a social followed after the tournament at the Fort George Club. The summary:

1957 Fort George Fa	II Classic Final Standing	
	Class D	1.4

Class A	W	L Pct.	Class B	W L Pct.
1. Vito Feliccia	5 (	0 70.4%	1. Brumak	5 0 52.2%
2. Joe Zichella	4 2	1 73.7%	2. Lugo	4 1 45.9%
3. Hardwick	3 2	2 63.1%	3. Kirk	3 2 48.9%
4. Lee Davis	1 4	4 54.6%	4. Bob O'Connell	2 3 41.8%
5. Own Farmer	1 4	4 53.8%	5. Hoodiman	1 4 30.6%
6. George Hart	1 4	4 52.4%	6. Puglise	0 5 31.6%

Vito Feliccia claimed another title in 1958 by beating Dale Carson in playoff. Vito pitched 72.3% to Carson's 71.2%.

An all-star crew showed up for the 1959 Fort George Memorial Day Open:

#### STEINFELDT WINS AT FORT GEORGE HOLIDAY OPEN

"The Memorial Day holiday tournament staged by the Fort George Club of New York City, on Sunday May 31, drew competitors from far and near to vie for the trophies in three class of competition. Carl Steinfeldt set a terrific pace of 74.8% for the seven games. John Fulton of Carlisle, PA, followed close behind with six wins but with a ringer average that was higher than that of the first place winner. In the Class A division there were no games under 50%. John Fulton had one game in which he pitched 45 ringers out of 50 shoes for an average of 90%. The distances traveled by the entrants covered a radius of 400 miles from the metropolis, coming from Rochester, NY; Carlisle, PA; Baltimore, MD; New Jersey; Connecticut; Long Island and the Metropolitan area.

At the close of the tournament the players and their wives adjourned to the clubrooms where they enjoyed refreshments and sandwiches and "Batted the breeze."

#### 1959 Fort George Open Final Standings

Class A	W L Pct.		W	L	Pct.
1. Carl Steinfeldt	7 0 74.8%	5. Bill Kolb	4	3	64.8%
2. John Fulton	6 1 76.8%	6. Vito Feliccia	3	4	65.7%
3. Joe Zichella	4 3 67.6%	7. Willie Paradis	1	6	62.6%
4. Dale Carson	4 3 66.4%	8. Joe Hardwick	0	7	53.0%

The star pitchers did show up in 1959. Carl Steinfeldt one of the all-time greats of the sport, was world champion in 1976; John Fulton is one of the greatest pitchers to come out of Pennsylvania, and he was their first big star: Willie Paradis was the Connecticut state champion in 1958, 1961 and 1962 and a star of the New England Championships, winning the championship in 1961.

John Fulton won the 1960 tournament pitching 75.0%, being the only pitcher to exceed 70%. Dale Carson was runner-up (68.3%), Porter fourth (69.6%) and Jene Durham fourth (68.9%).

#### Jottings

If you are coming to the World Tournament, please stop by my booth and look at the recently book written on our sport's history. A special offer will be available; any person purchasing any two books will receive a free copy of Gary Kline's "The Official History of the World Tournament." Hopefully you have noticed the book "The World Champions of Horseshoe Pitching" on our website. If you would like a hard copy of that book, email me and if you do so right away a copy can be available for you at the 2016 World Tournament. My email address is bobcharlesdunn@aol.com.

## World Tournament 2016: Players by Location & Division

by Mel Yockstick, NHPA World Statistician

As I look forward to seeing everyone in Montgomery, I thought it would be appropriate to share how player entries are split across state and division:

STATE	INT	NUMBER OF ENTRIES
Missouri	MO	79
Ohio	ОН	63
Alabama	AL	48
Georgia	GA	46
Illinois	IL	42
Texas	ТΧ	40
Indiana	IN	36
Kansas	KS	36
Tennessee	ΤN	35
Oklahoma	ОК	34
Florida	FL	32
Wisconsin	WI	32
Pennsylvania	PA	28
Louisiana	LA	26
Michigan	MI	25
Minnesota	MN	23
North Carolina	NC	23

ColoradoCO20KentuckyKY20VirginiaVA20New YorkNY18ConnecticutCT16West VirginiaWV15ArkansasAR14Ontario, Can.ON13
VirginiaVA20New YorkNY18ConnecticutCT16West VirginiaWV15ArkansasAR14Ontario, Can.ON13
New YorkNY18ConnecticutCT16West VirginiaWV15ArkansasAR14Ontario, Can.ON13
ConnecticutCT16West VirginiaWV15ArkansasAR14Ontario, Can.ON13
West VirginiaWV15ArkansasAR14Ontario, Can.ON13
ArkansasAR14Ontario, Can.ON13
Ontario, Can. ON 13
Nebraska NE 10
Utah UT 10
Maryland MD 9
South Dakota SD 9
Arizona AZ 8
Iowa IA 8
Delaware DE 7
Maine ME 7
New Mexico NM 6
North Dakota ND 6
South Carolina SC 6
Vermont VT 6
Washington WA 6
Massachusetts MA 5
New Jersey NJ 5
Alberta, Can. AB 4
Idaho ID 4
Oregon OR 4
New Brunswick-Can NB 4
Rhode Island RI 2
Switzerland CH 2
Alaska AK 1
New Hampshire NH 1
Hawaii HI O
Montana MT 0
Nevada NV 0
Wyoming WY 0
Total Players 934
DIVISION ENTRIES BY %
Men 354 37.90%
Elder 279 29.87%
Women 110 11.78%
Sr. Men 85 9.10%

30	3.21%
28	3.00%
28	3.00%
20	2.14%
	28 28

## Hall of Fame Annual Meeting Report

by <u>Casey Sluys</u>, President, National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation

During the Hall of Fame tournament that was held at the NHPA Hall of Fame building in Wentzville, MO the Board of Directors held their annual meeting. Much was discussed and all directors were informed of the various projects that were undertaken in order to keep the building and its premises in tip top shape. The various projects and their costs were presented, the brick plaza drainage, the new paint, the added paneling, new LED light fixtures, and the court striping machine.

The Quail Ridge Club has replaced all 5 of the upper light fixtures with new and much more efficient LED lights. These new lights do not require ballast and there are no bulbs to change, that alone will save money. We kept all the ballasts and bulbs for the lower fixtures. The brightness of those lights is so intense that they are not feasible to use on the lights that light the pits, otherwise they would be replaced also.

We have new Interstate highway signs and had to renew the contract with the MO Highway Dept. These signs are on I-70 which is the major East West Interstate. All the other signs we had on I-64 were given to us and are being used as guideposts in the park. If you have not been there lately, or even if you have, you may not know about the new street running from Highway Z all the way to Prospect Rd. Prospect is the road you used to take into the park and to the HoF, but now you can come in off of Highway Z on Interstate Dr. and it goes right by the Hall of Fame.

With the increased traffic and more and more people using the park it was decided that we would install some security cameras. Jim Scully volunteered to install and hook the cameras up. There are 4 on the outside of the building covering the parking areas, one covering the entry was and one more in the snack bar area. The camera issue is a touchy subject because our drop cams that show folks at home the action on the courts can't be used, because out internet provider does not supply us with enough bandwidth. That issue will be investigated by Joe and Gary and the provider.

If you purchase goods online, please don't forget our AmazonSmile program, every little bit helps. When you log in to Amazon smile use this code for the NHPF 62-1671910. If you have not visited our website please take a few minutes to read the information presented there and learn about us. http://www.nhpf.info There is also a Facebook page that you can visit and post

on if you wish just use the Facebook account you have a search NHPF. Let's all of us continue to promote horseshoe pitching with all our actions.

### Special Thank You to Our Donors

by Casey Sluys, President, National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation

We express our sincere thanks to the following who have donated as reported in the July/August 2016 issue of *Newsline*.

**Donating \$10-\$100** Charles M Bunner, WV

**Donating \$100-\$200** Ron & Gloria Deckard, FL Vicki Winston, MO

**Donating \$500-\$600** Central CT Horseshoe Club, CT

**Bricks Purchased By:** Sonoma County Horseshoe Club, CA Roger L. Schnur, MO Howard E. Reed, KS

**Other Income:** NHPF Merchandize Sales - \$30.00 NHPA Game Related Sales - \$700.00 Rent

# Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament: April 30 – May 1, 2016

submitted by Jeanette Class, member of Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club





Springtime in Missouri is most beautiful. The dead of winter turns green and a few April showers bring on May flowers. So what do May flowers bring? Read on. No one paid much attention to the rain as the 32 horseshoe pitchers arrived for the 5th Annual Hall of Fame Invitational Tournament.

Among these pitchers were many World, National, State and Local Champions showcasing Alan Francis-OH current 20 X Men's World Champion; Joan Elmore-TN 7 X Women's former World Champion; Sue Snyder-IN 7 X Women's former World Champion; Herschel Walters-IN 2 X Elders World Champion; and Michael Bowman-MO 2 X former World Junior Champion. Some have been inducted into the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame and many of them have been inducted into their home state's Horseshoe Hall of Fame.

We were honored to have the National Horseshoe Pitcher's Foundation's President Casey Sluys-CA, and the Board Directors Joe Faron-MO VP, Gary Buehler-MO Treasurer, Ron Deckard-FL, Jim Scully-FL, Phyllis Quist-WA Secretary. Also visiting were NHPA officers Dan Sanders-OH, Dave Sidles-NB and Historian Bob Dunn-MN. Visiting as a guest was 10 X Women's World Champion Vicki Winston-MO.

The two-day event included a 40' Men's tournament and a 30' Mixed tournament combining the talents of women and men (men over 70 years of age) competing at 30 feet. The format of each division consisted of a 16 person round-robin consisting of fifteen 40-point games – eight on Saturday concluding with 7 games on Sunday.

On Saturday morning introduction of each player was announced by Bob Diekamp. The National Anthem was led by Gregg and Audra Craven-MO. The sound of horseshoes was in the air as the competition began.

The 40' Men's Division was pitched on the Dave Loucks Courts in the North Pavilion under the direction of Joe Faron and Gary Buehler. At the end of 8 games pitched on Saturday Alan Francis-OH was undefeated. High games of the tournament included 92.6%, 90.5%, and 91.4% pitched by Alan Francis-OH. High games in the 80 percentiles were pitched by Bran Simmons-VT 87.5%; Gale Greene-VT 80.0%, Dan Watson-AL 82.4% and Gary Bearpaw-OK 85.3%.

Tournament Directors Bob & Rose Diekamp of the 30' Division were Bob & Rose Diekamp knew this event held some tough competition with averages ranging from 84.61% – 68.5%. Their games were played on the Jack Freeman courts in the South Pavilion. By the end of Saturdays' games Joan Elmore-TN and Roger Vogel-KS remained undefeated. High games in the tournament were pitched by Joan Elmore-TN 89.7%, Roger Vogel-KS 86.5%, Russ Phillips-WA 85.3%, Kathy Brazier-AL 89.3%, Sue Snyder-IN 80.9%, Ed Pashia-MO 80%, J.D. Drake-MI 84.6%, Mar Ray-TN 80.6%, Gregg Craven-MO 82%, Rich Altis-MO 86.6% and Larry Shaw-MI 85.5%.

After competition on Saturday, the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club members served a delicious homemade meal which the horseshoe pitchers all enjoyed. At the banquet each pitcher received a certificate depicting how many years they pitched in this event that has been held for 23 years. It seems that Alan Francis held the most years of attendance – 20 years.

After two days of exciting horseshoes games in the Men's Division Alan Francis-OH earned 1st place with 15 wins and no losses pitching an average of 85.75% marking his 17th title as Hall of Fame 40' Champion. Second place was earned by Stan Griggs-MO with 12 wins and 3 losses, averaging 67.95%. In the 30' Division Joan Elmore claimed her 6th title as the Hall of Fame 30' Champion with 14 wins and one loss averaging 79.9%. Second place was won by Defending Champion Roger Vogel-KS 79.0%.

For the grand finale the two champions met together on the south courts competing for more prize money. The spectators were in awe as they enjoyed watching this game as two world champions battled it out. After pitching 98 shoes, the final score of this game was 42-25 with Alan Francis as the winner. Alan pitched 88 ringers and Joan pitched 82 ringers.

It was time now to award the prize money of \$8000 to be divided among the pitchers according to their final standings. The pitchers were soon out the door and on their way home. Some say the competition in this event was harder than pitching in the World Horseshoe Tournament. I only heard one complaint and that was from Rich Altis-MO. "There were just too many good pitchers on the courts!" Hope to see you next year, same time, same place. Oh, by the way, Mayflowers bring Pilgrims.

		Result	s of 40	DIVISIO	n			
Name	Entry %	Won	Lost	Pts	Rgrs	Ovr%	Shoes	R%
1.Alan Francis-OH	89.25%	15	0	623	638	3.50-	744	85.75%
2.Stan Griggs-MO	69.53%	12	3	577	549	1.59-	808	67.95%
3.Brian Simmons-VT	81.94%	11	4	561	579	7.52-	778	74.42%
4.Tom Williams-MI	75.22%	11	4	576	565	4.42-	798	70.80%

### Results of 40' Division

5.Gale Green-VT	74.12%	11	4	582	607	3.54-	860	70.58%
6.Dan Watson-AL	79.55%	11	4	533	553	10.26-	798	69.30%
7.Gary Bearpaw-OK	69.84%	9	6	508	605	0.62-	874	69.22%
8.Rick Howe-MA	70.90%	7	8	503	565	4.28-	848	66.63%
9.Austin Bailey-IL	72.17%	7	8	511	527	9.44-	840	62.74%
10.Steve Johnson-MC	D68.41%	7	8	473	443	11.18-	774	57.24%
11.James Driver-MO	60.06%	4	11	413	492	1.21-	836	58.85%
12.Gary Roberts-OH	65.78%	4	11	390	432	7.41-	740	58.38%
13.Michael Bowman-	MO 63.08%	4	11	432	431	5.15-	744	57.93%
14.Ray Bedard-MA	73.74%	4	11	354	416	17.22-	736	56.52%
15.Don Davis-WA	64.85%	3	12	386	440	6.34-	752	58.51%
16.Bret Vogel-KS	62.81%	0	15	265	299	16.81-	650	46.00%
		Result	ts of 30	' Divisio	n			
Name	Entry %	Won	Lost	Pts	Rgrs	Ovr%	Shoes	R%
1.Joan Elmore-TN	84.61%	14	1	624	713	4.68-	892	79.93%
2. Roger Vogel-KS	80.93%	13	2	590	711	1.93-	900	79.00%
3.Russ Phillips-WA	82.31%	10	5	556	683	8.08-	920	74.24%
4.Kathy Brazier-AL	71.82%	10	5	540	684	0.02	952	71.85%
5.Sue Snyder-IN	77.74%	10	5	513	552	10.43-	820	67.32%
6.Ed Pashia-MO	72.10%	8	7	511	577	6.69-	882	65.42%
7.JD Drake-MI	72.96%	7	8	501	612	4.05-	888	68.92%
8.Marlene Ray-TN	75.07%	7	8	465	618	8.19-	924	66.88%
9.Gregg Craven-MO	73.89%	6	9	472	620	2.63-	870	71.26%
10.Rich Altis-MO	74.20%	6	9	452	618	3.98-	880	70.23%
11.Terry Beagle-MI	68.52%	6	9	473	622	0.02-	908	68.50%
12.Larry Shaw-OH	72.01%	6	9	419	554	4.45-	820	67.56%
13.Paul McGee-MD	74.31%	6	9	429	525	10.60-	824	63.71%
14.Herschel Walters-	IN 73.47%	5	10	438	479	10.61-	762	62.86%
15.Ed Griffith-MO	73.91%	4	11	457	575	9.31-	890	64.61%
16.Ron LeGrand-MO	70.11%	2	13	262	341	14.94-	618	55.18%

# Team World: Beloit, WI - May 13-15

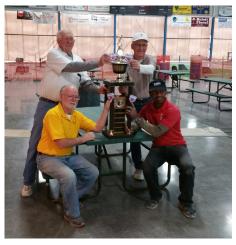
submitted by Jeanette Class, member of Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club

It was a C-O-L-D three days in Wisconsin but the Show-Me State horseshoe pitchers were RED HOT on the 24 courts inside the Edwards Sports Arena in Telfer Park. Everyone who looked at the forecast brought extra layers of clothes, plus earmuffs, gloves, blankets, hand warmers, etc. It was pretty comfortable Friday but Saturday morning at 7:30AM was a windy, winter mornings (with temps in the 30's). Missouri #1 got the privilege of playing at that time.

Twenty teams were included in this event with five teams coming from Missouri, five teams from Wisconsin, three teams from Minnesota, two teams from Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, and one team from Michigan. Each team meets all other teams for one match in a round-robin format.

On Friday morning Announcer Jeff Secord introduced the pitchers and the National Anthem was sung by Kevin Brekke. The team captains gathered at the scorer's table prior to each match for a coin toss by Jeff Secord to determine who chooses the individual opponent pairings for the team match. And May Madness was about to begin for three full days of competition.

Wisconsin cheese, anybody? Free Wisconsin cheese? When a pitcher would pitch a game of 70% or higher, their name was tossed in a bucket for a chance to win a block of delicious Wisconsin cheese. If your name was drawn you and your team members won a block of cheese. Missouri team members Mick Gillette, Gregg Craven and John Sapper and their teammates all went home with these souvenirs.



The Finals:

Missouri Team #1 (Mick Gillette, Gregg Craven, Rich Altis and 40' Steve Johnson) was 2-2 on every round with seven 4-0 sweeps for a total of 57.5 wins in the 19 rounds (76 games). There was a switch from last year when MO#1 was 2nd seed and Michigan was first. It was Missouri's turn to sit out the first two games and play one game for the championship. This year MO#1 was top seed, MI was 2nd seed. Wisconsin #1 was 3rd, MO#2 (Ed Griffith, John Sapper, Jim Howard and 40' James Driver) was 4th and MN#1 was 5th.



This time Missouri didn't have to face Michigan. They were defeated by Minnesota #1 and MO#2 lost to WI#1. The next round MO#2 defeated Michigan for 4th place. WI#1 beat MN#1. That put Minnesota#1 into 3rd place, which meant WI#1 and MO #1 would play for the Championship Title.

Gregg Craven was not happy with his losing performance in that game and having not seen the other scores yet of his teammates, he was a little surprise to have people congratulating him before finding out that Steve, Mick and Rich had all won their games! A repeat for the team and Missouri's third Team World Championship ever in the 27

years that this event has taken place. Missouri's Team #1 team average of 64.01% was the best for the weekend.

And for the first time in its history Missouri had two teams in the finals. Ed Griffith had the best individual average for the Missouri players with 68.10%, which was 3rd of all players by only 0.11 percentage points.

*Missouri Team #3*: Audra Craven-50.13%, Virgle McCown-51.45%, Cori Stoverink-39.21%, Donra McCown-36.97%

*Missouri Team #4*: Gary Null-40.94%, David Schneider-34.85%, Mel Bruemmer-38.17%, Rich Reina-32.79%, Edgar Stoverink 30%

*Missouri Team #5*: Wesley Stoverink-40.3%, Kevin Chambers-32.37%, Sam Godboldt-24.34%, Carol Howard-22.81%, Edgar Stoverink 30.7%

We wish to thank Tournament Director Earl Paulsen, the Beloit Horseshoe Club and all sponsors who made this event possible. It was a well organized and planned event. We want to thank the 2016 Missouri Team World Committee Mel Bruemmer, Gregg Craven, Jim Howard & Virgle McCown. If you are interested in representing Missouri next year at this event, contact Mel at 573-821-6350 or <u>mlbruem@aol.com</u>. Team World is the most fun event in horseshoes, a little chilly, but fun.

Missouri Team #1	Wins	Ringers	Shoes	<b>R%</b>
Gregg Craven	16	530	800	66.25%
Mick Gillette	15	530	800	66.25%
Rich Altis	16.5	512	800	64.0%
Steven Johnson	13	478	800	59.75%
Missouri Team#2	Wins	Ringers	Shoes	<b>R%</b>
<b>Missouri Team#2</b> Ed Griffith	<b>Wins</b> 19.5	Ringers 572	<b>Shoes</b> 840	<u>R%</u> 68.10%
		-		
Ed Griffith	19.5	572	840	68.10%
Ed Griffith John Sapper	19.5 15	572 508	840 840	68.10% 60.48%

### Head of Mon Horseshoe Tournament Winners Crowned

submitted by Charles Bunner, as written in the Times West Virginian

Winners were crowned in six classes at the 30th Head of the Mon Horseshoe Tournament at East Marion Park.

Cindy Hoffman of Pennsylvania won Class A with a 5-1 record and 73.67 ringer percentage.

She was followed by Paul Salisbury of West Virginia (3-3, 51.67), Robert Faidley of Pennsylvania (2-4, 66.67) and Glen Leonard of West Virginia (2-4, 54.67).

Billy Breeden of Virginia won Class B with a 6-1 record and 59.09 ringer percentage.

He was followed by Randall Weakley of Virginia (5-2, 52.65), Kevin L. Bowman of Virginia (1-5, 48.18) and James Carpenter Jr. of West Virginia (1-5, 40.88).

Sara Powroznik of West Virginia won Class C with a 6-1 record and 48.26 ringer percentage.

She was followed by Nate Shelton of West Virginia (5-2, 42.47), Charles Varney of West Virginia (4-3, 36.28), Jerry Nelson of West Virginia (4-3, 31.29), Wilfred Kahrig of Ohio (3-4, 30.73), Meredith Kahrig of Ohio (2-5, 37.57), Bill Cole of Ohio (2-5, 31.00) and Roger Wehr of Ohio (2-5, 27.14).

Arjay Whipkey of West Virginia won Class D with a 5-1 record and 40.46 ringer percentage.

He was followed by Jay Cunningham of West Virginia (3-3, 35.92), Ken Burkhard of Ohio (2-4, 35.56) and Joe LeRoy of West Virginia (2-4, 30.14).

Ken Wilhelm of West Virginia won Class E with a 6-0 record and 38.60 ringer percentage.

He was followed by Stacy Hudson of West Virginia (5-1, 35.17), Burton Hare of West Virginia (3-3, 24.14), Alan Stover of Tennessee (3-3, 22.93), John Shuster of West Virginia (2-4, 23.67), Charles Casey of West Virginia (2-4, 19.93) and Greta Shipley of West Virginia (0-6, 15.41).

William Buckel of Maryland won Class F with a 5-1 record and 25.00 ringer percentage.

He was followed by Doug Shipley of West Virginia (3-3, 16.35), Ron Weiss of Pennsylvania (3-3, 14.00) and Adam Nelson of West Virginia (1-5, 12.67).

A total of \$2,285 was paid to winners.