



Newsline

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

President's Message

Hoping to see you all at the World Tournament!

By Stu Sipma, NHPA President

Happy New Year to everyone! I know I am not the only one when I say I am glad to have the year 2020 behind us.

As our nation navigates the COVID-19 global pandemic, the NHPA Council is focused on taking all necessary actions to first and foremost ensure the health and safety of our membership. We have been meeting monthly to discuss this matter along with our business. Jim Kinney Jr. reported to the Council the membership numbers are down (which we expected due to the pandemic) however the numbers are not as bad as we thought. Jim reported 6,723 adult members and 2,915 juniors for 2020. He also presented the financials to the Council and the year-end business for 2020 had shown a profit.



The NHPA Council Winter Meeting has not yet been scheduled due to the pandemic. I have not decided if we're going to Winnemucca for our winter meeting or if we will hold a ZOOM meeting. Details will be posted in the next issue of Newsline.

The Council would like to recognize Laurie Lampkin and Stan Griggs for their work in creating and distributing the 1st set of the NHPA trading cards. If you have not gotten yours yet, there are still some left. Each year the NHPA recognizes members for their contributions to the NHPA, to their Charter, and/or to their local club. The Council is asking all the Charters to provide a list of individuals who you believe would be a good candidate to receive an NHPA Achievement Award. These awards will be presented at the 2021 World Tournament in Winnemucca, Nevada. To obtain a form, visit our website at www.horseshoepitching.com.

The NHPA is also looking for your assistance in providing candidates who you believe would qualify for the NHPA Hall of Fame Award. Candidates for this prestigious award must have been an NHPA member for at least 10 years and may qualify based on their distinguished outstanding performances in World Tournament Championship play or as a person who has made significant and beneficial contributions to the NHPA. Nominations for this award should be submitted to our NHPA Hall of Fame Director Vicki Winston. Instructions are found in her article on page 20.

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President's Message continued...

I would like to remind everyone that elections are open for the positions of President and 5th VP positions. According to our By-Laws, candidates for NHPA office must announce their candidacy in writing to be received by the President and the Horseshoe Pitching Newline editor no later than April 1st, 2021. Incumbents, however, must announce their candidacy in the same manner, by February 1st, 2021. I encourage competition therefore those of you who are interested in one of these positions, please let me know. As I have mentioned in my prior Presidents message, I will not be running for another term. I have loved my 18 years of serving on the Council, six (6) years as your 5th VP and thirteen (13) years as your President. I felt it is time to step down. I know there are several you who would be qualified to do this job. Feel free to call me or email me if you have any questions.

The 2021 World Horseshoe Tournament will be held July 19th- 31st, 2021 at the Winnemucca Events Complex. Members who are interested in attending should go on-line and fill out the entry form and make your motel reservations. Many of you have asked me if we were planning on having the same format and schedule. It is our intentions not to change anything at this time however each year is a challenge when working with different groups in different locations.

The Council encourages all of you to do your part in promoting our great sport and (if possible) attending our World Tournament this year in Winnemucca NV. Try to do your best in getting it planned. We would like to see a record breaking turn out this year.

Thank you.

Stu



Plan today to attend the 2021 World Tournament in Winnemucca, Nevada

July 19 - July 31, 2021 – Winnemucca, Nevada will be the host of the 2021 World Tournament.

Kim Petersen and his staff are excited to have all of the participants and their families in Winnemucca next summer.

Please visit <https://winnemuccahorseshoes.com> for any information you may need to prepare for the 2021 World Tournament. You will find information regarding the area, travel, camping, motels and RV parks, restaurants, festivals, attractions, and the Winnemucca Events Center.

Book your lodging now to insure availability during the busy summer season. Many different activities are on the agenda, including tours of a nearby open-pit gold mine, wine walks, themed luncheons with historic guest speakers like Mark Twain or Sarah Winnemucca, shopping excursions, museum visits, golf and bowling tournaments, a trap shoot, and a casino slot tournament.

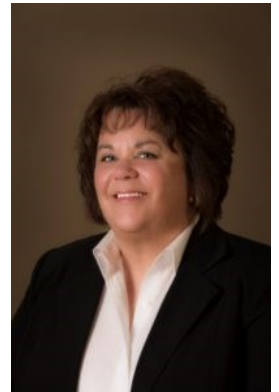
Winnemucca is also scheduling fun activities for the kids like fishing derbies and visits to a wildlife sanctuary. All contestants will be entered in a drawing to win a solid 32-ounce silver horseshoe with Nevada silver donated by Coeur Rochester Mine and caste by Omega Horseshoe Company.



2nd VP Message

Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director



Many lasting effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic for 2020 and 2021

Looking at the way the pandemic is spreading, we observe various facts that are caused by it either directly or indirectly. The virus is not selective; it kills young and old, any race, any status. It has no respect of geographical or political boundaries. It has exposed the fragility of the globally connected economy, and what happens when confidence is siphoned out of it.

It has shown that even the deepest reserves in central banks are all but futile when there is a wholesale rout in markets. Indirectly, the virus has shown us that even free-market nations need a centralization of government control and police enforcement to combat this enemy as we have watched in the National News.

Events major and minor have been canceled, moved, or postponed, as athletes, officials and spectators worry about the spread of the virus. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the most significant disruption to the worldwide sporting calendar since World War II. Across the world and to varying degrees, sports events have been cancelled or postponed. And lastly, it has shown that mankind will break almost every rule to socialize in times like this, regardless of the implications.

Everyone has their own opinion or why they will or will not...or cannot wear proper PPE (Proper Protective Equipment) and face masks regarding the Covid-19 Virus. When social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, wearing face masks (and these include cloth facial coverings) help reduce spread by providing what is called source control.

This means that by me wearing a face mask, I am doing my part to protect those who I meet from possible aerosols through my speaking, coughing, or sneezing that could contain the virus even while I may be asymptomatic. Disposable face masks also help prevent the wearer from spreading respiratory droplets.

Cloth face coverings are only intended to help contain the wearer's respiratory droplets from being spread. We can all help prevent further spread of the virus by wearing masks.

Now the CDC has a great web page <https://www.cdc.gov/> explaining how to select, wear, and clean your masks, that the public should reference. Some key points from the page are 1) wear masks constructed with two or more layers, 2) do not wear masks intended for healthcare workers, for example N95 respirators, 3) the use of gaiters or face shields without wearing a mask are not recommended. Evaluation of these face covers is ongoing, but effectiveness is unknown currently.

Going forward for 2021, what does this mean for work and play?

In the scramble to shut down, every organization, business, and sports had to embrace a mobile way of working and playing. Having arrived home and set up, we have all had to get used to the technology which enables us to work anywhere, anytime. It has propelled IT and technology to the forefront. The companies who had already embraced a dispersed structure, or even a degree of agile working have a significant head start over more traditional sports interactions and events.

2nd VP Message...continued

All sporting organizations are currently experiencing a serious decline in attendance, scheduling upcoming events, event centers and venues to host these events which is forcing them to consider taking a hard look at how they operate. And with the need to surgically cut costs, every aspect of every profit-making machine will be passed under the spotlight to assess whether it adds sufficient value to the effort to justify its being retained. Success is to survive the present maelstrom.

Travel has also become a real issue during this pandemic. For the latest updates on travel information for your state, visit <https://www.travelpulse.com/> for a state-by-state update. Please check the TSA website at <https://www.tsacg.com/> for any airline requirements, restrictions, shutdowns, etc. These websites are keeping current with information from the CDC.

So even if this virus is contained and conquered within the year (and that will be a medical triumph) the financial markets and the global economy face an altogether more daunting road to recovery.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to everyone that have lost a family member related directly or indirectly to the Covid-19 Virus. We cannot possibly understand the loss of not being able to be with our loved in the last minutes or seconds of their life. Just know and remember that we are one big Horseshoe Family, and despite our difference of opinions, beliefs, attitudes, we all should take care of each other in a time need. Prayers and condolences to all.

Update on 2021 World Tournament in Winnemucca, Nevada

A visit was made over this past weekend to Winnemucca and everything is coming together. Please visit the NHPA website and watch the video. RV information, Hotel, Casino's, Restaurants, things to do and places to visit when you are not pitching or competing are on the Video. Contact phone numbers are also listed as well. We are at this time planning our winter meeting at Winnemucca, and any additional update and information will be posted on the NHPA website. Travel information is also discussed and posted. There will also be a "Special Giveaway Item" and the information will be coming soon to the NHPA website.

Purchasing your NHPA TRADING CARDS

With the first four sets of the new NHPA trading cards being sold, these were a huge success. We ordered an additional 50 sets of the Groups to be sold. We are now looking forward to the next round. Stan Griggs, along with the NHPA council will be getting together in an upcoming Zoom meeting to make decisions on when and what groups we will begin printing on the next sets of trading cards. An E-blast announcement along with the ordering information (link) will be posted on the NHPA website. Go to the Main NHPA Website at <https://www.horseshoepitching.com/> and go to the center of the main page and Click the link to order your NHPA Trading Cards <https://www.horseshoepitching.com/about-us/nhpa-trading-cards> and make your purchases.

The checkout process we are using is PayPal...just follow the prompts. As before in the first round of cards we limit the number of 1st Edition's sets to 100 sets of each, which make these very collectable. There will also be "special" cards in some of the packs. If you are fortunate enough to receive a "Special Card" in your packs, please take a photo of yourself holding your "special" card and post it on the NHPA Official Facebook page (the NHPA logo will be on the page so you will see you are on the "Official" Facebook Page showing the NHPA logo.)

We will also be creating all the other divisions as well, Elder's, Seniors, Cadet's, and Juniors, previous officers, etc. The next sets of trading cards will also have 1st edition sets and a chance for a "Special" card inside some of these packs as well.

2nd VP Message...continued

This project has not been possible without the assistance of Stan Griggs! We want to thank him for all his dedication and sacrifice of his personal time making phone calls, putting the information together, creating the card layouts, etc., We also thank the NHPA council for brainstorming and helping the back end of this to come together, and for every one of the pitchers past and present that gave the NHPA permission to include them on the cards. We hope all of you make your purchases and enjoy trading and collecting these one of a kind NHPA trading Cards.

NHPA WEBSITE – US MAP

In the previous Newslines, I created an article needing several charters to update their website and bring them current. After going back and revisiting these charters from the previous list, only 2 Charters Michigan and Oklahoma have either updated or created a whole new website. Social Media outlets such as Facebook, is just an enhancement to promote your charter, it does qualify as an Official website that will suffice for potential contact information for Convention Visitors Bureaus, General Public, or to attend tournaments, tourists traveling through your state that may want to obtain contact information, GPS locations of Horseshoe courts. We (NHPA) are constantly getting calls or emails asking about several of the charters and local clubs across the U.S.



This is a map of Indoor horseshoe pitching locations. If you have any places to add please email Wayne nhpa.4thvp@gmail.com with name and address.

Currently, these states (listed on the next page) DO NOT have an active or updated website for their charters. We know there are several more than what is listed. However, these are the states that really need attention. When attending Sports conference’s throughout the year to possibly get bidders, we have issues with some of these websites and cannot pull up the information to get a point of contact for that charter, or to show a CVB (Convention Visitors Bureau) what they want to see or to possibly submit a bid and prepare to host a future World Tournament.

For the charters that need assistance or guidance with their current websites, here are a few suggestions. We understand that not every charter or club has the finances, computers, technical background, or knowledge to create or maintain a charter website. With the recent passing of Steve Summerlin, it has been a challenge to locate a replacement to fill Steve’s shoes. Here are a few ideas or suggestions that may help. It will require a little effort, and time for someone in your charter or organization to take the lead.

Please try to contact Wayne Callicoate, 4th VP at nhpa.4thvp@gmail.com or by phone at (281) 844-4828. Wayne can assist you with your website.

We also recommend/suggest that you try to contact a local High school, Community College or University computer website design class, or a computer programming class to see if the teachers, professors would be willing to assist or donate the time to you and the organization in creating a website for your charter, and/or possibly updating what you currently have in place. The schools may do this as a class project and may not charge anything to do this. They can also assist with maintaining the website, or at least teach someone how and what to do. In return, your charter can give a “reference” as working for a few weeks for a non-profit as a community project in exchange for their time.

2nd VP Message...continued

After conducting an inventory of the US Map on the NHPA website, here are the charters that need updating or need to create a new website altogether.

1. North Dakota
2. Montana
3. Alaska
4. New Mexico
5. Hawaii
6. Eastern Nebraska
7. Western Nebraska
8. Arkansas
9. Mississippi
10. West Virginia
11. Washington DC

There are many companies that offer website assistance and “Free” Hosting, see the list below. Depending on what you want on your website, and how you design it will determine if there are any charges or not. Some websites just need updating with GPS information, Photo’s, Tournament Schedules, and any upcoming events. Kurt Whaley has suggested a few sites to try.

- Weebly
- GoDaddy
- Wordpress.com
- Wix



Tired of Loose Stakes?

**Want to pitch horseshoes but
Can't or Won't Dig a Hole
to fill with concrete or
a wooden block for the stake?**

**Just want to drive the stakes
in and play?**

**Stay Erect
with**

**DRAGONTAIL™
HorseShoe Stakes**

Visit us at or by scanning QR Image -->:
<https://www.pinoypitmasters.com/Dragontail>

Watch the DragonTail in action by scanning -->:
<https://youtu.be/XR9HQUpo45M>

Pat. Pending with the US Patents and Trademarks Office

Sponsorship Opportunities

By Laurie Lampkin

(If Interested in any of these, please contact Laurie Lampkin or mail payments and artwork to Jim Kinney)

Bronze Level \$2,500 (annually)

Sponsorship at this level will entitle your company to:

- One 2' x 3' banner prominently displayed on the event site throughout the competition.
- Your name listed on posters displayed at charter events throughout the country, along with other bronze level sponsors.
- Footer banner ad in two issues of the NHPA's NEWSLINE e-newsletter.
- A quarter-page ad in the event program for the World Tournament.
- Your logo on the NHPA website (www.horseshoepitching.com) through the completion of the event.

Silver Level \$5,000 (annually)

- Sponsorship at this level will entitle your company to two 3'x5' banners prominently displayed on the event site throughout the competition.
- Your name listed on posters displayed at charter events throughout the country, along with other silver level sponsors.
- Large right column ad in two issues of the NHPA's NEWSLINE e-newsletter.
- A half-page ad in the event program.
- Your logo, linking to your website, on the NHPA website through the completion of the event.

Gold Level \$7,500 (annually)

- Sponsorship at this level will entitle your company to four 3' x 5' banners prominently displayed at several locations on the event site.
- Your name listed on posters displayed at charter events throughout the country, along with other gold level sponsors.
- Large right column ad in two issues of the NHPA's NEWSLINE e-newsletter.
- A full-page ad in the event program.
- Your logo, linking to your website, on the NHPA website through the completion of the event.

Platinum Level \$30,000 (3-year agreement)

- Only ONE Platinum sponsorship will be entered into per vendor.
- Sponsorship at this level will entitle your company/brand to naming privileges of the event, such as "Your brand presents the NHPA World Horseshoe Pitching Championships",
- The event will be called such in all press releases, NHPA and charter websites and news coverage.
- Your brand name or logo will be included on all commemorative merchandise made available for the event, including trophies.
- Your brand/logo will appear on the front cover of the event program.
- Full-page ad in the event program.
- Brand prominently displayed as 4'x 6' fence panels throughout venue.
- Posters will be displayed at events throughout the country prior to the competition each year.
- Headlining ad in two issues of the NHPA's NEWSLINE e-newsletter.
- Listings in the newsletters and on websites of NHPA charters.
- Your advertising banner, linking to your website, on the NHPA website for the duration of your sponsorship.

Types of Sponsorships/Advertising available during the World Tournament:

- Leader Board
- Website
- Web Cams
- Back Drops
- Front of Podium
- HOF Banquet
- Result Sheets
- W.T. Fences (Sponsor name on the top, horseshoepitching.com on bottom)
- Shirts

3rd VP Message

Greatest Of All Times!!!

By Jerry Smith, 3rd Vice President, NHPA Historian



In the sporting world the term GOAT refers to the “Greatest Of All Time”. GOAT discussions are everywhere in every sport and at every level. In bars, backyard barbecues, class reunions, and wherever people get together, they may and do discuss GOATs. The GOAT may be discussed by era, by position, and from Little league to the majors. It just happens. In the horseshoe pitching world of today, we probably have only one GOAT and Mr. Alan Francis is undoubtedly that choice and why not. He is a machine and virtually unstoppable. I would not get into that discussion and certainly not dispute it. However, as a history buff I have given this subject a lot of thought. My research proceeding the writing of my books on horseshoe pitching expanded my thinking on the GOAT subject as did conversations with the late Don Titcomb. I talked for hours with Don about the “old days.” He played them all from Frank Jackson to Alan and most all the great ones in between. Don would not say who he thought was the GOAT but most of the talk was about Alan Francis and Ted Allen. Don always pointed out the rigors of 36-person round robins and 50-point games. Most tournaments in the last 30 some years of the 50-point era consisted of 5 days of seven game schedules. With six to ten 80% pitchers in the group, the games often exceeded 100 or more shoes. On the last day, the champion might well face all 80% pitchers involving over 600 shoes in all kinds of weather. By comparison, today’s championship final round is five games to 40 points in an air-conditioned facility. As the usual number one seed, Alan has been facing one or two 80% pitchers in the whole 15 game slate. That being said, it is not Alan’s fault who he plays and what the format is. The real wish for most GOAT discussions comes back to, “wouldn’t it be nice to see Alan pitching back in the 50s in his prime?” It is hard to say what the championship list would look like if we could drop Alan back in time, but it would definitely be different. Would Alan have 24? Would Ted have 10? We will never know, but we will continue to speculate.

Speaking about GOATs, in my opinion it is not about a single category. I expand my thinking by using much broader perimeters. I will post my GOATS in multiple categories and in the case of the Woman’s and Men’s, divisions, I include the 50 and 40 points eras. The criteria for my lists will be defined in terms of the number of World Championships won. While this seems simple and leaves room for other opinions and discussions, it certainly does quantify the problem. If you buy into these parameters, then the lists are accurate. Here are one man’s opinions, enjoy.

G **Greatest**
 O **Of**
 A **All**
 T **Times**



Greatest OF All Times (GOATS)...continued

NHPA Horseshoe pitching GOATS

Men 50 point

Ted Allen 10
 Fernando Isais 8
 Frank Jackson 7*
 Elmer Hohl 6

* Early not 50 points

Men 40 point

Alan Francis 24
 Walter Ray Williams Jr.** 6
 Brian Simmons 3
 Dale Lipospy 3
 Jim Knisley 3

** Both eras

Women 50 point

Vicki Winton 10
 Laura Lanham* 6
 Ruth Hangen 5
 Mayme Francisco* 4

Women 40 point

Joan Elmore 9
 Sue Snyder 7
 Phyllis Negaard,** 5
 Sylvianne Moisan 4

Elders

Ed Arionus 5
 David Holmes 4
 Frank Bohun 4

Senior Men

Ron Deckard 6
 John Paxton 5
 Stan Manker 5

Senior Women

Sheila Shepard 7
 Teddy Guillotte 4
 Marge Spray 3

Junior Boys

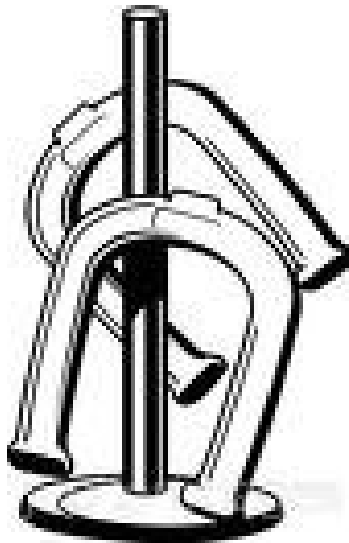
Jim Walters 5
 Alan Francis 4
 Gary Roberts 4

Junior Girls

(T)Shalee Sebastian 4
 (T)Debby Bestul 4
 Celeste Polak 3

Other categories were omitted as too limited in numbers. Did I dodge the bullet or what?|

Jerry Smith
 NHPA 3rd VP



*5th VP Message***2021...A year of change...We hope!***By Dalton Rakestraw, 5th Vice President*

Happy New Year to all! Welcome to 2020, I mean... 2021. It seems that 2020, was a year of surprises and we hit the skip button...or wishing we could have hit the skip button. I am glad we made it safely through the year. We are mourning those who we lost and celebrating with those who have survived. We are hoping that in 2021 we can look up and start our horseshoe pitching season with safety, fun times, and competitive spirits.

The Horseshoe Tour has announced their 2021 destinations. This tour season is shaping up to be a great one with the addition of a mid-west stop! Calling all players everywhere...this is your chance to join the tour. The classic opener of the 'Summer Fun' tournament kicks off April 17-18 in Newberry, South Carolina. Check out the Tour's website for more information at www.thehorseshoetour.com and like them on Facebook, at *Horseshoe Tour*

The Regional Directors addition on eShoe has really made waves of improvements for the NHPA! I want to first start off by saying a HUGE thank you to the man behind the scenes helping train all the RDs, Kurt Whaley. Without his help and time, we would not have been able to 'roll out' these new features with as much ease as it has been. Again, thank you Kurt! As members of the NHPA, HCA, and other horseshoe pitching associations, you are now able to see a master list of ALL tournaments sanctioned by the NHPA. You are able to put in travel dates, select specific charters, and even choose which tournaments best fit your pitching schedules in your charter. Regional Directors now enter your charter's master schedule into eShoe which then creates the sanction numbers for tournaments, creates tokens for the new uploading features of HS Master, and even provides real-time cancellation or additions to tournaments. Just think, now if you wake up on a Saturday morning to a potential rain-out or even the "COVID restrictions" not lifted, instead of calling everyone, the TD can call the RD and have them cancel the event in eShoe and players are able to get on and check before leaving the house instead of waiting for a phone call, or getting one on the way to the event. "For cancellations, check eShoe by 8am" could be a potential game changer for TDs in the future. I am anxious to start getting this together and get things in gear for the future of eShoe and the RDs position. Check out the schedules on the eShoe website after clicking "Event Search."

Winnemucca...are we there yet? We, the NHPA officers, are planning the World Tournament as we speak. We will make every effort that you, as athletes, are safe during the tournament and if that means 'masking up' we must honor those restrictions/policies set forth by the CVAs, county requirements, and health officials. Now that I have your attention, we are keeping our fingers crossed that we can get back on track and crown our annual world champions. Winnemucca is a little town with a western kick. Book hotels now! Book flights now! Make your plans to attend. Let's all make this world tournament a huge hit. After a one-year unforeseen hiatus, we need a little spark to get us all back in the action. Looking forward to seeing everyone in Nevada. As always, volunteer help is needed the week before to setup this event for you. We would appreciate all the help that is available. Yeehaw!

Have you ever gotten a face lift? Well, guess what? The tournament patches sure did! In 2020, the patches saw a much 'bluer' appearance with a blue and white stripe and baby blue background. For 2021, the patches went under the needle again, lifting to a white background with a red and blue stripe pattern. Work hard and pitch well to try and get once again 'the new patch!'



5th VP message continued...

As I close this article, I would encourage everyone to reflect on 2020 and ask yourself “am I better off now, then once 2020 started?” The obvious answer is “Yes!” The beginning of the end has started. However, when you truly begin to decipher the question “am I better off now, then once 2020 started,” there are many factors to look at. I would encourage everyone to take some time for yourself these next few months. Set aside some days to do something that makes you happy. We all need to “Recharge our batteries.” Life has handed us all some obstacles this year. So, take some much needed “self” time and re-focus back on you. I hope each of you had a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Best.

Ringer Percent Quick View

20 shoe Percentage Chart

Ringers	Percent
20	100.00%
19	95.00%
18	90.00%
17	85.00%
16	80.00%
15	75.00%
14	70.00%
13	65.00%
12	60.00%
11	55.00%
10	50.00%
9	45.00%
8	40.00%
7	35.00%
6	30.00%
5	25.00%
4	20.00%
3	15.00%
2	10.00%
1	5.00%

40 shoe Percentage Chart

Ringers	Percent	Ringers	Percent
40	100.00%	20	50.00%
39	97.50%	19	47.50%
38	95.00%	18	45.00%
37	92.50%	17	42.50%
36	90.00%	16	40.00%
35	87.50%	15	37.50%
34	85.00%	14	35.00%
33	82.50%	13	32.50%
32	80.00%	12	30.00%
31	77.50%	11	27.50%
30	75.00%	10	25.00%
29	72.50%	9	22.50%
28	70.00%	8	20.00%
27	67.50%	7	17.50%
26	65.00%	6	15.00%
25	62.50%	5	12.50%
24	60.00%	4	10.00%
23	57.50%	3	7.50%
22	55.00%	2	5.00%
21	52.50%	1	2.50%

50 shoe Percentage Chart

Ringers	Percent	Ringers	Percent
50	100.00%	25	50.00%
49	98.00%	24	48.00%
48	96.00%	23	46.00%
47	94.00%	22	44.00%
46	92.00%	21	42.00%
45	90.00%	20	40.00%
44	88.00%	19	38.00%
43	86.00%	18	36.00%
42	84.00%	17	34.00%
41	82.00%	16	32.00%
40	80.00%	15	30.00%
39	78.00%	14	28.00%
38	76.00%	13	26.00%
37	74.00%	12	24.00%
36	72.00%	11	22.00%
35	70.00%	10	20.00%
34	68.00%	9	18.00%
33	66.00%	8	16.00%
32	64.00%	7	14.00%
31	62.00%	6	12.00%
30	60.00%	5	10.00%
29	58.00%	4	8.00%
28	56.00%	3	6.00%
27	54.00%	2	4.00%
26	52.00%	1	2.00%

From the desk of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

eShoe...The Future of NHPA Statistics

By Jim Kinney Jr., Secretary/Treasurer



The first tournaments in 2021 have been pitched and are in the books. The NHPA has changed to the eShoe program for all the membership stats and events. NATSTATs is not being used from now on. We are working with the Charters to make the transition smooth. It seems to be going well. eShoe has been an integral part in going forward with technology. Kurt Whaley worked extremely hard spending quite a few hours writing and implementing this program. His team has helped him with the implementation and introduction of eShoe to the Charters. The NHPA has named David Sidles as the Director of eShoe. David will be overseeing the operation of the program. I will be working directly with the Charter Membership Director's and Statistician's, Dalton Rakestraw will be working directly with the Regional Director's, Jerry Smith will be working directly with the League Director's. The NHPA is very confident that this is the future of tracking and editing the membership and events from here forward. The NHPA and the eShoe staff is prepared to work with all charters on any issues that may come up. We just ask for everyone to be patient and give this program a chance to help the NHPA move forward with the changes.

As of today, the NHPA World Tournament has not been canceled. We are going forward with plans to host the tournament in Winnemucca, Nevada. The entry form will be on the website in the next couple of weeks. I have already had quite a few entries from the 2020 World Tournament cancellation. The NHPA had quite a few entries who decided to apply their entry money to the 2021 World Tournament. We hope all will go well and we will be at a point in the world where we can get back to some normal life for pitching and socializing when this event happens. Hopefully, the Charter's will be able to host more tournaments this year also.

We had quite a few States in 2020 who decided to cancel their State Tournaments. This is unprecedented. The NHPA was able to adapt to the changes and keep our normal operation going forward but we need everyone's help to stay positive and keep promoting our sport. The way we conduct business is a little bit different then we are used to but so far, I feel most people are trying to adapt.

The NHPA is working on updating the webpage. In the next couple of weeks you will see some changes on the page. One is when you go to the NHPA website and hover over Statistics you will not see NATSTATs anymore. This has been replaced with a link to take you to the eShoe site where you can enter a players name or number and see all the information about the player.

Also when you hover over the Statistics it will give you an option that will take you to some How-To instructional videos for eShoe. A new version of HSMaster is also introduced. You can go to HSMaster on the NHPA webpage and download this new version. There will also be a new look at some of the information displayed on the webpage. The NHPA is trying to update any new information we receive on the NHPA webpage to keep the public and our members informed. If you have any questions or comments please go to the News & Events in the tool bar and click on comments. We will answer any questions or concerns.



eShoe...Continued

The NHPA Officers and directors are here to help the members and their charters with any problem or concerns. We welcome anyone who needs information or help with the organization and its charters. Thank you for your patience and support of our organization.

Keep safe and see you on the courts

Respectfully

Jim Kinney Jr

NHPA Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 205 Drexel,
MO 64742
816-738-0868

Junior update

Pie in the Face!!!

By Dalton Rakestraw—Junior Director

Did someone say a “pie in the face?” Well, now you read it. I have been working with the Winnemucca personnel to make sure the youth athletes are set for the junior parties at the world tournament this year. We are looking into several things; however, nothing is set in stone thus far. There has been talks of a dunk tank. (Anyone want to sink an NHPA Officer or director?) I am adding the incentive that there will be one boy, girl, cadet girl, and cadet boy partaking in the “pie in the face.” Well they get to pie one of the NHPA Officers, directors, or even your charters youth director. I know I am in the bunch; we will be getting some others in on this contest. Who knows I may end up having four pies in the face! All you have to do is sign up for the world tournament and pitch in the prelims. The “pie in the face” will take place at the prelim awards ceremony for the youth. I am working on other incentives for 2021, check back in future editions of the Newslines.



I am hoping to start a communication chain with all the youth directors out there. I know in the past I have sent out a message in the Newslines for your charter youth director to get in touch with me. I have had one response so far. I am hoping to establish more communication in planning events, promotions, and overall youth memberships. I am also hoping that in 2021, or in the future we can host the USA Junior Championships. This will need all hands on deck. If you are a youth parent, please send me an email of the best months that would work for you or even if the event would be of interest to anyone?

I am looking to host another online youth tournament that is live on the ‘Just 4 Juniors’ page. If you are not a member of the Facebook page, please look it up and like our page. I will be doing other live draws etc. on the page in the future. I want to thank all the contributors for this issue of the Newslines for the Junior Jabber. Also, I want to congratulate Luke Zepponi, of San Francisco, California, for his essay contest winnings in SFO. He wrote on the beauty, history, and future of the San Francisco Horseshoe Pitching Club in Golden Gate Park. I hope every youth member had a blessed Christmas and hope that you have a Happy New Year and we can get to pitch some shoes together and I can meet you all!

Best.

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Brian Poole

1st VP-/By-Laws/Rules/Grievance Director, Medical Exempt Form

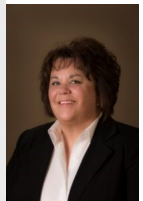
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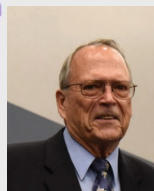
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NHPA

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

"Come Pitch with Us!"

NHPF Director

Growing and Training our Membership

By Casey Sluys

What I envision is for someone, or a group of someone's, to develop a series of 2-3 minute videos of all segments of horseshoe pitching. This could be a series or 5-6 short videos per "chapter". The chapters could be called 1)history, 2)court, 3)equipment, 4)scoring, 5)rules, 6)styles, 7)famous people, 8)world tournament, 9 other countries, 10)website, 11)contacts....and so on. Theoretically we could end up with 2-3 hours of snippets that a person could view at their leisure and browse the complete library of all 60+ video clips. The clips should have enough detail to allow everyone to become comfortable with the sport of horseshoe pitching. I'd love to enlist the assistance of David Qukslvr in WI for assistance in this as he has great experience at creating user friendly clips. Anyone interested in developing a library of this sort please contact me. kclus@sbcglobal.net



We would need a team of people to write up the various segments and pare them down to a reasonable time period. Then we'd need some expert videographers detailing the verbiage for that segment. Then the person editing would need to be one that knows the details and the idiosyncrasies involved with the sport. Then, of course, we'd need a narrator with a succinct speaking voice, like a Mike Rowe. This is a project that is possible if we gather to right people. The NHPF can assist financially if someone can develop a plan along these lines.

A few words about advancing and growing our sport. Simplifying various aspects of our sport could significantly grow it. If we had a separate set of rules for our "everyday" weekly tournaments and the RGS book for the World, State, and Regional events then we could break them in gently to eventually seek out more and better competition. Horseshoe leagues should perform that function if done correctly. Bring your new people in and let them join your league the day they show up. Don't make them wait for 3-5 weeks to join your league. We take them when they sign up and we have a set criteria at the time of sign-in that a minimum of 1000 shoes have to be pitched to be eligible for patches and awards. The league is 80% handicapped and based on wins and losses to determine the champion. All stats are entered into the HSMaster program for the calculation of various awards. I send out the stat sheet to all members so they are able to view their results right away. That encourages people to participate and gives them something to talk about. We even have a satellite bunch of members that use a few courts 30 miles from ours. They take pictures of their score sheets to send them in once a week. Then once a month they will travel to our club and we mix them with other members that week. It worked fairly well the last half of 2020 and we were able to retain 11 new members even through all the restrictions we had to endure. If you'd like more information on this simplified version of league play please contact me for details. Thank you all for your contributions and we sincerely hope that 2021 will be a great year for our sport.



Growing and training our membership...continued

Special Thanks to Our Donors

We express our sincere thanks to the following who have donated as reported in the Jan/Feb 2021 issue of Newsline.

Donating \$150-\$250

Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, MO

Vicki Winston, MO

Lorena Tournour, CA

Joe Summers, CA

Donating \$50-\$150

Alan Trusty, CA



NHPA Chaplain Update

Behind the Mask

By Ken Heinritz, NHPA Chaplain

2000 years ago Jesus said “In the world you shall have tribulation” and He wasn’t kidding. COVID-19 has affected every horseshoe pitcher’s life in some form during 2020. But this article is not about COVID-19 but CANCER, yes cancer. We just received word that my wife has breast cancer and that she most likely has had it for at least seven years, which was never picked up by her yearly mammogram appointments. So where do we go from here? How does one deal with this? How far has it spread? Will she get through this? Should we get a second opinion? What does the future look like? Questions, questions, advice, opinions, advice & more opinions. Everybody has input and a story to tell and sometimes they are in opposition to another’s counsel. Who do we listen to? Which doctor should we go with? How soon can we get this over with? What about chemotherapy? Or radiation treatments? When can we schedule surgery? What about my job? Can I be with my wife?



Suddenly losing ‘that game’ in the State tournament doesn’t really matter! Waiting for sanctioned tournaments to begin again is not a concern for me. The situation we find ourselves in has a way of pulling us back and bringing everything into perspective. Take a moment and imagine if you were given that dreadful news today? Some of you know exactly what I’m saying because you have gone through it. From experience I can say that it turns your world upside down. Everything in life changes. Now what?

Though I don’t have many answers, what I do know is that we have a wonderful God who loves us beyond our wildest dreams. He knows the mental anguish you are currently facing, the physical pain you feel in your body & the spiritual barrenness of your thirsty soul. Oh yes, God cares. He understands your heartaches and feels your pain. He patiently waits for us to come to Him and find that His grace is sufficient for every need. And while He won’t force us to trust Him, He will bless us when we do. What does that mean? He’ll put a new song in your mouth. He will give life where there is no life. He will enable you to continue on with His strength when there is nothing left in the tank. And there will be meaning and purpose for living.

So what is next? Don’t know? But He does and has everything under control. And that’s enough for me. To my horseshoe pitching friends, please pray for courage, wisdom, peace, comfort and faith for me and my wife Kelly as we travel through this dark valley. Thank you!

Ken Heinritz
NHPA Chaplain

“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me.” Psalm 23:3

NHPA Rule Review-Rule 4-FLOW OF THE GAME

RULE 4 - FLOW OF THE GAME

Section A - Possible Delays

1. Scoring - Once the four (4) shoes of an inning have been pitched, the contestants shall walk to the opposite pit, determine the score for the inning, and then retrieve their shoes. No shoe shall be moved before its' scoring value is determined. If this decision is in doubt, a judge shall be called. The judge shall make the necessary measurements and determine the scoring for the shoe(s) in question. To help speed up play, contestants are encouraged to carry measuring tools and to make their own decisions on scoring, whenever possible. Play shall continue in a similar fashion for each inning until the game is completed.
2. Opposite Stake - No contestant shall walk to the opposite stake (except to remove a foul shoe) or ask to be informed about the position of any pitched shoes prior to the completion of an inning.
3. Spare Shoes - At any one time, a contestant shall carry and use only two (2) sanctioned horseshoes during the course of a game. A spare shoe or shoes should be taken along to the courts in case of a broken shoe or if the contestant chooses to switch shoes. Shoes may be switched between innings, but not during an inning, unless a shoe breaks.
4. Wrong Shoe - If it is discovered during an inning that a contestant has pitched the shoe of an opponent (and if the opponent agrees), the remaining shoes may be pitched and the score will be based on the shoes they pitched. If the contestants do not agree on pitching the remaining shoes, then the shoes pitched shall be picked up and the entire inning shall be re-pitched, using the correct shoes. If the contestants fail to discover this error until after all four (4) shoes have been pitched, the inning shall be scored on the basis of whatever shoes they pitched. If agreement cannot be reached, a judge shall be called. Based upon input from the contestants, the judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or void it and order the inning to be re-pitched.
5. Moving The Shoe Or Stake - When a contestant is measuring a shoe and the shoe (or the stake) is accidentally moved, the inning shall be scored only if the contestants can come to an agreement. If no agreement can be reached, a judge shall be called. The judge shall either determine the scoring or void the inning and order it to be re-pitched. When a judge is measuring a shoe and the shoe (or the stake) is accidentally moved, the judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or void it and order it to be re-pitched. Exceptions: Any shoes for which point values have been agreed upon by the contestants (such as ringers which may have been removed to measure other shoes) should not be re-pitched or have their value changed due to a re-pitch of other shoes. Only the shoe(s) in question when the shoe or stake was moved should be ordered re-pitched by the judge. If one or more shoes are below the shoe(s) in question, they shall remain in place for the re-pitch and shall be scored at the completion of the inning.
6. Leaving The Courts - If a contestant has to leave the area of the court complex between games for a legitimate reason, they shall notify their next opponent, the scorekeeper, or a Tournament/League Official and shall return soon after the last game of that round is completed. Failure to return in a reasonable period of time (to be determined by the Tournament/League Officials) will result in the forfeiture of that next game.

Vicki Winston—Hall of Fame

NHPA Hall of Fame

By the time you read this, we will be into the New Year of 2021. Hopefully it will be less stressful than the year we've just endured and the horseshoe pitching activities that have been curtailed for many months will be able to resume as soon as it is safe. I expect there are many sets of horseshoes across the nation that are getting rusty.

I don't have much to write for this issue of NEWSLINE, but did receive a couple of new nominations to add to our list of candidates, so here is a list of all the peo-



PLAYER

Debra Brown
 Frances Carnahan - 1990
 Cathy Carter - 1993
 Judy Curtiss
 Mike DiMartino - 1997
 Maxine Griffith
 David Holmes
 Willard "Spud" Napier-1997
 Rich Pintor Sr.
 Rivers Prewette
 Marlene Ray
 Karl Van Sant - 1992
 Roger Vogel
 Dan Watson

HISTORIC ERA PLAYER

Glenn Anderson - 1958
 Dave Baker - 1981
 Charles Bobbitt - 1921
 Pat DeLeary - 1953
 Alvin Gandy - 1956
 Clayton "Boo" Henson - 1976
 Monte Latino - 1982
 Arner Lindquist - 1965
 Helen Roberts - 1979
 Ron Simmons - 1984
 Milton Tate - 1960

PROMOTER/ORGANIZER

Allen Baptist
 Charles Bunner
 Alex Cummings
 Alvin Dahlene
 Tina Hawkins
 Jim Shilling
 David Sidles
 Stuart Sipma
 Gail Sluys
 Jerry D. Smith
 Robert "Ron" Taylor
 William Weiss
 Mel Yockstick

ple on the ballot as of Dec. 23, 2020. The deadline for getting additional nominations to me to be included in the 2021 voting is Jan. 31, 2021.

Note: The year after some names indicates the last year that person played in a Championship Class at the World Tournament.

Please use the official nomination form as found on the Hall of Fame link of the NHPA website, or a facsimile thereof. Nominations sent via e-mail will not be accepted. Please mail a hard copy of all documents being submitted to: Vicki Winston, 10326 Highway D, LaMonte, MO 65337. Nominations can only be submitted by a current NHPA member or a NHPA sanctioned club.

I thank everyone who takes the time to prepare a nomination and send it in. It often isn't easy to gather all of the necessary information, but without your efforts, many deserving people would never have the opportunity to be elected to the Hall of Fame. If you know of someone you think is deserving of this honor, but has not yet been nominated, please consider taking it upon yourself to remedy that oversight. Your help will be appreciated.

Junior Jabber

Cadet Spotlight—James Baker

James Baker is nothing short of amazing. This 11-year-old Cadet athlete pitches with us from the great state of North Carolina. James loves pitching horseshoes and living life. When asked, “What do you want people to know about you?” He responds quick, loud and proud with “I’m AWESOME!” “and autistic.” James’ favorite food includes green beans and pizza. James was asked “Who he would like to have dinner with?” At first “I don’t know....uhh, Lebron James?!” He would like to be a UNC Tarheel when he gets done with high school, and work for John Deere. Maybe we have the next CEO in the making? His other hobbies or interests include running and baseball.

James was introduced to horseshoe pitching by Jeremy Smith, Cecil Bowes, and a few others, at Mayo Lake, NC. He pitches the bandit horseshoes at a single flip. He enjoys pitching horseshoes because “it is fun, and I can hang out!” James is the 2019, North Carolina Cadets State Champion, and naturally that is his claim to fame and favorite accomplishment. James gets fired up on the horseshoe courts when his sister comes out to pitch. The ole’ sibling rivalry is always great competition. James says with a grin “beating my sister!” When asked who your competition is. I then proceeded to ask him who he enjoys pitching, his response “Jeremy, Billi, Cecil, anyone, just for the fun of it!” He loves pitching in his backyard.

James has not attended an in-person world tournament; however, he did participate in the HPO Online World Tournament, he believes he got 5th or 6th. He is an avid online pitcher, but he would really like to go to a world tournament in person and meet everyone and get in on the competition. James loves our sport and hopes to achieve many things and we believe that if you can do it, you can achieve it. James wants everyone to know to “have fun!” Competition is in his blood, now it’s only a matter of time til’ we see world champion after James’ name.

James Baker, Roxboro, North Carolina

Current average: 15.00%

Current rank in US: 21st

Current rank in World: 21st



Junior Jabber

Junior Boys Spotlight—Brandon Benzing

Brandon is a native Wisconsinite from Eagle River. Brandon is fifteen (15) years old and would like to be a contractor or do something ‘hands on’ in his future. He has many hobbies other than horseshoe pitching; he enjoys fishing, hunting, and shooting. Another true outdoorsy youth athlete. His favorite foods are fish, deer, duck, other wild game, and fry bread (it’s a tradition according to Brandon.) Brandon would like to have dinner with the hilarious Jeff Dunham. Brandon is unsure of any colleges at this point; however, he is considering joining a branch of the United State Military. Other fun facts about Brandon are; he is in the Wisconsin Army Cadets Academy that is based in Appleton, WI. He is training to be a second-degree black belt in Taekwondo. He is a Native American, part of the Ho-Chuck and Ottawa tribes. His Native American name is Nacegepiiga, meaning ‘good-hearted.’

Brandon was introduced to horseshoe pitching by his parents. Both his mother and father are horseshoe pitchers, he picked up a shoe and really enjoyed pitching. He currently pitches the Snyder EZ Flips, however he states he is trying to learn to pitch with the Grabit Hifling. His most favorite accomplishment is placing 2nd in his first state tournament. He enjoys the competition and making new friends in our sport. He claims the Jedidiah Sowatzke is his greatest competition. Brandon was asked “who in our sport would you like to meet?” His response is the NHPA Chaplain Mr. Ken Heinritz. He is hoping to receive some pointers on how to become a better player. He pitches at home when he has free time and he is also in the Eagle Rive weekly league.

Brandon has yet to attend a world tournament, however he is hoping that 2022, in Lansing, Michigan will be his first one. His favorite place to pitch is at the Beloit Indoor Horseshoe Club. He credits the club for being a favorable location for overall comfort of pitching, ease of viewing pitchers, and that it is interesting to be able to pitch indoors. Brandon has two other brothers and they all are pitchers, looking all to pitch in more tournaments and hoping to get to play more in 2021.

Brandon Benzing, Eagle River, Wisconsin

Current average: 31.03%

Current rank in US: 32nd

Current rank in World: 33rd



Junior Jabber

Junior Girls Spotlight— Sadie Wolken

Sadie is a thirteen (13) year old youth athlete from Osage Bend, Missouri. Sadie is a real outdoorsy gal. Her interests are archery, kayaking, fishing, hunting, and working on the family farm. Her dirty boots, country roots lifestyle really comes to flourish when this year she shot her first deer! She is currently training two horses on the farm. She enjoys the animals so much that she wants to attend the University of Missouri- Columbia to become a Large Animal Veterinarian. Sadie’s food interests are steaks, mashed potatoes, cheeseburgers, fettucine alfredo, and strawberries. When asked “who would you want to have dinner with?” Her response, “Fallon Taylor.”

Sadie got her interest in horseshoes by her great grandpa and grandpa. They both were horseshoe pitchers. Her father and brother would also join her in the backyard when she as pitching. She enjoyed pitching and when she was old enough her father signed up for the MOHPA. Sadie pitches the single flip with Snyder-Watson horseshoes. Sadie’s best accomplishment was winning the 2020, Fall league with the Capital City Horseshoe Club in Jefferson City, MO. She was first place with 16 wins and 2 losses. She loves the fact that anyone and everyone is willing to help anyone and everyone getting better. She also enjoys seeing people encouraging others when they are having a bad tournament or even game. Sadie credits her biggest competitor to be Mr. James Driver.

When asked “who would you like to meet in the horseshoe world?” Her response was “9-time Women’s World Champion Mrs. Joan Elmore.” Sadie, I’m sure Joan would love to meet you as well! Sadie attended the 2019, world tournament in Wichita Falls, Texas. She took 5th place and then qualified for the championships. She was thrilled but also nervous. With all the nerve wrecking action, Sadie claimed 6th place! She loved meeting the other new youth players in our sport. She hopes she can attend another world tournament in the future.

Her favorite place to pitch is at her home club in Jefferson City, the Steve Johnson Horseshoe Pitching Complex. She loves practicing and pitching with her buddy, James. “He is always encouraging me and helping me become a better pitcher.”

Sadie Wolken, Osage Bend, Missouri

Current average: 26.39%

Current rank in US: 10th

Current rank in World: 11th



Regional Director Spotlight—Rex Robison (Nebraska)

By Rex Robison

When asked if I would like to talk about myself, my first thought was YES, I am my favorite subject!!

☺

I grew up in rural Cozad, Nebraska the eldest of five. All born a year apart of each other...well except my youngest sister which was two years behind my brother. (My other sisters had her convinced she was adopted when she was about 5 to about 25 years of age) ☺

My Robison side of the family were all farmers all living within a 10-mile radius. Grandma Robison had eight sisters and two brothers. Once a month they all met at sister's house and it was known as Sister's Club. Those Sunday's are my earliest memory of seeing horseshoes pitched. My Grandpa, Great Uncles and Uncles would drive stakes in the ground and pitch. Us kids were not allowed anywhere close!

As a preteen & teen I played baseball, basketball, wrestled and ran track and cross country. By high school I went out for every sport possible, so I didn't have to go home and do chores! ☺ No matter how hard a practice was...it was much easier than feeding, chasing cows, fencing, picking up corn or anything else working for my Dad!

Fortunately for myself and siblings, Mom and Dad let us do it all. Between the sibs and I we have eight State Medals. Three of us went on to play college sports.

As a high school Jr. I placed 4th at 112 lbs. State Wrestling Tournament. My senior year I placed 14th at the State Cross Country Tournament leading the team to a fourth-place finish. Then became the 112 lb. Nebraska State Wrestling Champion helping lead the team to the runner up trophy. We were also the 1975 All Sports Team Champions as well as we placed 8th in State Track.

Both Wrestling & Cross Country were coached by Ed Sheen. He was the first person besides my father who taught me/us to work harder than our opponents. Keep our heads up no matter the outcome. Winners never quit and quitters never win! His positivity and determination help make us better. In the fall I became a Husker Wrestler in Lincoln. Although my college wrestling ended a few months later due to injuries to both knees. It is and was quite an eye-opening experience being around such great athletes and coaches like Tom Osborne, Boyd Epley, and trainer George Sullivan.

As I mentioned before the OLD guys in the family pitched horseshoe at nearly every Sister's Club, so I grew up listening all about the local greats Guy Uhlig a one man who pitched fast pitch softball and was a several time State Champion Horseshoe Pitcher who also did exhibitions with the late Great Ted Allen.

The most talked about of course was our 25-time Nebraska State Champion Don McCance who graduated from Cozad in 1956. Don once won the title fifteen years in a row. Both are Nebraska's record still.

As a youngster attending my Dad or Uncle Butch's ball games at Cozad's Munny Park...the sound of a ringer could be heard in the background as the late Ralph Fleaharty could be heard practicing just under 150 feet to the west of right field. (I mention right field because as a 7th grader my first game as a Cozad Midget baseballer was is right) Ralph was a beloved pitcher in not only Nebraska but on the National level as well. He died in 1978 and that same year at the annual State Tournament the Ralph Fleaharty award for promotion was created and still on going.

RD Spotlight—Rex Robison...continued

The summer of 1977 after my daughter was born, I helped in the evenings stacking the old-style square alfalfa bales for my dad. One day he was sweeping bales in faster than I could stack them. When I commented his reply was to HURRY UP and once, we were done for the day we could go pitch shoes with my grandpa. Grandpa Robison was sick with cancer and Dad and my Uncle Jack would go over to pitch with him and it would be more fun with four!

That night my new athletic passion was born! My granddad pitched a beautiful turn and quarter shoe and began teaching me that night. Grandpa could only last a few shoes and then would sit in his rocking lawn chair commenting on each shoe I pitched...higher, further, not so far and get it in line I can still hear to this day!

From that day on when ever possible I would stop in to practice and he would coach every shoe! Basically. I learned to pitch from a guy sitting in a lawn chair!

The following summer I had become so much better than the uncles and Dad that whoever was my partner...were going to win! I still grin about their agreement process of who was going to be my partner and HOW many points I would have to spot the other team!

Later that summer I made mention to Grandpa that I was going to enter the HAYDAYS horseshoe tournament held annually the first Saturday after Labor Day. Grandpa's comment was "you're not good enough to go to town and pitch with those guys" So, I did not go!

The summer of 1979 after practicing at grandpa's one day he handed me a newspaper clipping about the Haydays' tournament telling me that he thought I was now good enough to enter.

I will never forget that day when I approached the two running the tournament and asked to enter. What's your ringer %? HUH, musta been my dumbfounded look because the other guy asked how many ringers do you pitch in a hundred shoes? I don't know I never counted was my reply.

Harlan, who I had seen pitch with Grandpa before placed his big hand on my back and said "That's ok pal we have a spot for you" he smirked with his sly old smirk!

They placed me in the bottom class that day. After my first game my opponent Norm Johnson gave me a huge handshake and was just overjoyed that someone my age could pitch so well and NOT know anything about ringer % or tournament play. Norm took me to his car trunk and took out a PINK score sheet and explained to me how to keep track on it. I still have the ½ used score pad to this day! It was the first time in my life of competition that my opponent was thrilled about losing to me. That didn't happen in Wrestling or Baseball in college or high school.

About round three of the six-man class that day my Grandpa showed up and wanted to know why the H was I in that class when he felt I should be in the upper classes? Heck, you didn't tell me about all the % stuff...he just went to the GOOD end to watch them.

I won every game that day. The two guys running the tournament and a few others convinced me I should go the next day to another tournament. Of course, it didn't take much persuasion to talk me into it but my wife wasn't so happy to have to watch the kids then 2 & 1 by herself on a Sunday...My Mom took care of that problem by baby-sitting in what was the first of many a horseshoe pitching day routine. Take the kids to Mom & Dad's go pitch horseshoes somewhere and pick them up in the morning following!

RD Spotlight—Rex Robison...continued

I entered my first State Tournament in 1980. I had qualified at 48% in the Class C division. Nerves got the best of me as I only placed 3rd tossing about 43% that day. The next year in 1981 I didn't fair much better and I'm not sure if I even got a trophy that year.

The following year the State Tournament was held in Lexington, NE just fifteen miles from my hometown of Cozad and where I had begun to work building combines for Sperry New Holland.

It was there at the 1982 State meeting I was selected State Publicity Director with the main job as producing what we call in Nebraska our Newsletter.

We mailed it out 4 or 5 times a year then. It was quite a task back then. Typing up all the data sent to me by mail. Typing it up, having the local print shop produce a copy for our membership of around 400+. Stapling, licking Stamps and placing address labels on envelopes was quite an undertaking for us (me and my two kids) as I had become a single parent by the first publication. They were KINDA helpful that first year liking to LICK the stamps ☺

The summer of 1983 I had worked my way up to finally making Class A at a tournament. Till that tourney I had never lost a tournament except for the State meets.

I was so happy to finally GET to pitch the best in the state there! I had been practicing and looking forward to being in A class. Well I learned a lot that day! The afore mentioned Don McCance had me skunked and I'll always believe he missed purposely so I could score a ringer. I came close a few games but hadn't won a game in the first four rounds of a six-man class. My last chance was against a fellow that would become a dear friend and an Elder's World Champion, Pete Rebman. We had quite a few 4 deads and I was pitching as good or better than I ever had.

The tournament was under the Custer County fairgrounds arena with bleacher seating for maybe 2-3 hundred and tournament was to be followed up with livestock judging. Pete and I were the last one's pitching, and all eyes were on us. As you know most people outside of our group have no idea how many ringers can be tossed. Finally, Pete scored his last 3 ringers 3 to win the game. When we shook hands and writing down score on our round robin card, he asked, "how many points did you get?" To which I had to reply "NONE" He quietly replied, "Are you sure with all the ringers you pitched?" I said yes, to which he then turned to everyone and blared out with shoes in hand over his head "I skunked the kid!" ☺

It was a long fifty-mile ride home with my traveling buddy Terry whose story is that I cried all the way home! (YES, BS'ing is REAL common in horseshoe pitching) IF any of you hadn't noticed?? Once home that day I went out back and began practicing a tad different to beat those guys! Two weeks later I defeated Pete for the first time!

I'd also like to make mention that on the list of Elders World Champions I believe Pete's final ringer percentage is incorrect. The sixty something percent is what the playoff game victory was. NOT his overall percent of the tourney. Once he stepped up to 30' the 55% Pete went to over 80% at our local tournaments. I'm not even sure IF he ever lost locally in Nebraska at singles play.

RD Spotlight—Rex Robison...continued

In 1983 I made the Men's Championship Class for the first time we had pitched 2-1/2 games to 50 points when a down pour lasting rest of day postponing the 16-man class till the next morning. Also, that night I was elected State Secretary/Treasurer and retained the Publicity Director role as well. It was also decided our annual State Tournament was to be pitched over Labor Day weekend so we could have a extra rain out day. Of course, we've had rain delays but never had to finish a day later. The next morning after considerable work drying out the courts play resumed. After a short break for dinner. It was decided to play to 40 points OR 40 shoes which ever game first. Play last till about 9 pm that Sunday and I received my first Nebraska Men's Championship trophy.

The following year our State Tournament was back in Lexington, my first as the State Tournament Director. It was quite a task lining up 214 pitchers by hand at my kitchen table. However, I had great teaching from the guy before me, Al Rosenbolm. With the help of my kids (someone must stamp and labels envelopes ☺) and the BS'ing Terry Martin it went off smoothly that first year.

It was also the at the 1984 State Tournament we learned that our State had been divided in two charters!

The following year 1985 was a real demanding process of trying to get everything lined up to the satisfaction of the two sides. The first West President, Dick Hanshew had many ideas during our first annual Winter Officers meeting which was held in Ogallala, NE I believe we met in the Elks Club back room?

It was the second Big Meeting of the year for at least the East Charter as we met earlier before in Lexington, NE for what was a huge meeting of concerned pitchers. Many who later became State Officers and for me the first time I had got to speak with some of them. One of which I text almost daily about something...mostly horseshoe pitching!

The 1985 State tournament had the most entries ever at the time of 224 pitchers. The amazing thing about this list is that the West President Dick Hanshew did not enter.

It was nearly 150 from my house to the Courts in Ainsworth. We had of course all the score boards, score sheets already filled out, trophies, and all the other supplies need to run a tournament to haul up. So of course, some things such as the State Entry form was left behind. Which turned out to be an unforeseen problem that Friday afternoon.

Shortly after arrival I was notified that one of our Championship pitchers had a family emergency and was not able to come. An officer meeting was held. It was decided to move up pitchers to fill out the top Men's classes to avoid byes in the top few classes. Phone calls were made, and we stayed up way late to change score sheets.

All was going smoothly in the morning and all classes started on time. I had a good time with all the volunteer WIVES that helped run the head table!
Then Dick showed up explaining why he did not sign up.

RD Spotlight—Rex Robison...continued

Then shortly before we were supposed to begin the Championship round...Dick wanted in demanding to be in a class that his average fit into. It was not going to be a problem till he refused to pay the Late Fee that he had insisted on and which had been on the Entry form. He kept on heckling me about it and demanded to see the Entry which I had left home!

I had been up most of the night and was nervous as H about the day as it was the first year I had a legitimate chance of winning the title as I had beaten everybody in the 12-man class once or twice during the summer. (he had heckled me thru the fence during the 83 state tournament saying I didn't belong) I was a catcher growing up so it didn't bother then.

That day however, I began to cry. (Yes, I know, there's no Crying in horseshoes)

Several of my cohorts in the Championship class took over for me. Don walked me up the hill in Ainsworth's East City Park to calm me down. It was that day I learned that no matter how hard to try to make things good for everyone...there is always someone to complain! (not exactly what I'd say in person) ☺

I did not pitch so hot that afternoon. Later that day I talked Terry into taking the Secretary/Treasure job and I would keep the Publicity Director's job allowing me more time to concentrate on pitching. He did for the next two years. (he was a great promoter and in order to top me...convinced 235 to pitch in the 1986 State tourney held in Cozad)

Two years later we then convinced another friend from Lexington Marty Craig into the job, a job he held for the next eight years. Between the three of us we convinced our East charter into purchasing a computer. Marty turned out to do a great job over the following years!

Sometime early during the 1986 year leading up to World Tournament I was asked to Chair the Ralph Fleaharty & Hall of Fame committee. My job was to help create a format to be used in the selection process of eventual inductees. By doing so I was able to talk quite a lot with the late Donnie Roberts and Earl Winston. Of course, back then we did everything by mail or phone calls. It funny now to think how fast we can decide something with our online or texting technologies.

What took us months to do then...could have been done today in a matter of a few days!
The format we elected to use and signed off on by Earl and Donnie was used till 2005 as I asked to be relieved of my 4th Vice President position so I could concentrate on Robison Machine LLC which I had started in 2000.

At the time we produced thousands of Explosion proof parts used in the Electrical Industry in rebuilding the hard-hit Gulf Coast states after Katrina. These parts are used wherever a spark would cause an explosion, like oil decks, gas stations, grain elevators, coal mines, etc. (The local company moved its operations to Mexico and closed the plant in Columbus in 2011. My contracts with the Mexico plants are now completed) SO anyone interested in CNC lathes let me know...Everything I own is for sale
AT THE RIGHT PRICE!

RD Spotlight—Rex Robison...continued

It was around 2003 or so I began lobbying at our East Charter meeting to collect email data so we could notify members quickly. What really motivated my thoughts then were because IF one of our members died during the Winter off season...often we would not know about it till the outdoor season begin again in the Spring.

In about 2007 I became the Publicity Director again to help our State Secretary out. It was nerve racking for our local club because our Newsletter sometimes did not arrive until after our February tournament.

I would gather the officer's messages and any other news to be mailed out.

2007 was also the year of my first hip replacement which left me plenty of time to help out. In July of 2008 I replaced my other hip. A few days later I suffered a stroke from a blood clot that broke loose. Fortunately, I recognized the symptoms and got help immediately. Within a few hours I had lost my speech and was given my first ride on a helicopter to Omaha Med Center. It was there in bed that night I made a sudden realization that WORK, and MONEY was not everything!

I'd always wanted to have Husker football and baseball tickets and to go to Husker football bowl games!

I have.

I did not realize that not only had I lost my speech, but my right arm does also not work the way it once did.

I had to go to speech therapy classes daily for weeks and then go home STUDY and read out loud to whomever and then answer the questions CORRECTLY (of all the nerve) I did not notice till the next spring that I couldn't hit the broad side of a barn standing inside it with a horseshoe. SO, now I just help run tournaments if needed & communicate in what I now call IN the LOOP.

It took several years of campaigning before our then East President the late Boyd Hageman relented at a Charter meeting in 2008 OR 2009 asking me after I had commented on a poster, he had made showing the members who had not re-signed that year pointing out that three had died.

He then asked IF I thought it was such a good idea...would I be in charge. I accepted and now it has become the main most way we send out all notifications out.

It really took off a year or two later when one of our young members was hurt badly in a car wreck. He survived and his now a fellow officer. The card shower pitchers sent his family made a lot of difference to them.

In 2013 the family of Boyd Hageman was so grateful for what our pitchers sent them I was reduced to tears when his wife, daughter and grandkids hugged me at the next tournament held in his honor.

RD Spotlight—Rex Robison...continued

Also, in 2013 I began producing a magnetic schedule and passed them out at our tournaments or mailed some to the OLD guys without online access. The only problem was that some of the tournaments were not dated correctly. This happened again in 2014. No sooner than I get the schedules in... I'd be notified that such and such date was incorrect.

There were only two or three that were never right SO I contact them to confirm their dates and would pass them on.

By the time we had our 2015 winter meeting (then held in the fall) in North Platte I had contacted all East Charter Tournery Directors and had a correct version. Well, that caused our RD to resign and suggested I take over as Regional Director. All officers from both Charters who were in attendance agreed and I became the Nebraska Regional Director & East Charter Communications Director.

The toughest part I have is to notify everyone when our Nebraska members pass. As mentioned, I have been pitching since the fall of 1979.

Most everyone that has passed in the last ten or so years I have had many good times or have pitched against leaving me with what means more then never being able to win a State Title... The Memories! I've been lucky as hell in life really, I raised two kids who have become GOOD PEOPLE in spite of who raised them!

My daughter became the first freshman from Columbus High to qualify for the State Swim meet. She graduated from ASU in 2000.

Has one second grade son. Owns three animal hospitals and now is busy Home schooling a PERFECT kid...

Hell, if I had known how much fun grand kids were? I would have had them instead! ☺

My son was a wrestling state qualifier whose senior year was ended by a concussion.

He went on then to join the Army in 2000 serving over 5-1/2 years in combat in both Iraq and Afghanistan earning many combat medals including two Bronze Stars.

Now working at the Animal Hospitals too. They both live within a few minutes of each other in the Goodyear, Arizona area.

I may be an EX-athlete and horseshoe pitcher BUT my real claim to fame are my children, Mandy and Chris!

IF you ever meet them...ask them about how much fun licking stamps and envelopes are!

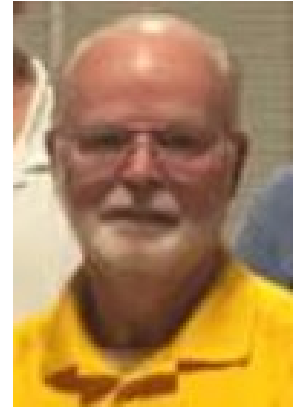
-Rex



Rules Committee Member Spotlight

Richard Altis

By Richard Altis



I have always enjoyed pitching shoes. Ever since I picked up my first horseshoe, I kind of got the bug. I was about twelve or thirteen when I had saved enough money to buy a pair of horseshoes. At that time, I was living with my aunt and uncle in south-central Missouri, about one and a half miles west of Cabool, population 1,234. I found what looked like a good set of shoes in the Sears catalog. It must have been a fairly new catalog because it still had lots of pages. I tore the horseshoe page out and kept it until I had the money for the shoes. The time came to send off for the shoes and then the long wait for them to arrive. Finally, they came. I challenged anyone I could find to a game. To start with there were many takers, but as I got better, the games became fewer. We moved to Tonovay, Kansas, in 1955 and it didn't take long to get my horseshoe pegs in the ground. I had a few new people to pitch with for a while. They soon wearied of playing the game so I put the shoes away.

While going to high school in Kansas, I met this pretty little girl. She was thirteen at the time and I fell in love with her. We went together for five years, and then got married. That was September 23, 1961. Seems like last week.

Do you remember those signs with Uncle Sam wearing the stovepipe hat, pointing his finger at you saying, "I want you!?" Well, in 1961, he got me. This was during the Berlin Crisis and thirty-nine thousand young men were drafted that month. The Army needed more Medics. Most of the guys that I went through basic training with were sent to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, for Medical training at Brooke General Army Hospital. After getting through medical corpsman training, some of us were held over for advanced medical specialist training. After completing that, I was sent to Wertheim, Germany. There I found some guys that liked to pitch horseshoes. Horseshoes and firing on a competitive rifle team were what I really liked to do.

After getting out of the service in 1963, Mary and I lived in Kansas City, Missouri. We were surrounded by some great horseshoe pitchers, but at the time, I didn't know it. While in Kansas City, our first two children were born. We lived there for three years and then moved to the St. Louis area. Over the next dozen years, we moved a couple of times, our third child was born, and we adopted four children. Our eighth child was adopted many years later. I spent most of my free time coaching different sports that the kids were playing. My son's Tuesday night baseball practice, which I coached, was canceled because the field was too wet. I drove to the field and told the parents that didn't get the message that practice had been canceled. Returning from the field, the horseshoe court lights in Ballwin were on, and the four courts were full of pitchers. I stopped and asked about joining. One of the players said to just show up on Tuesday night before seven. Tuesday was my team's practice, but the following year practice was moved to another night.

Mel Ingram started the club in 1987 for the Ballwin Days festival. He ran the Ballwin Days tournament, which was the third-largest tournament in the state. I joined the Ballwin Horseshoe club in 1987. The club met on Tuesday night and drew for partners and court. The winners moved toward the number one court and the loser stayed put. The object is to get to the number one court and try to stay there. In 1989 we added four more courts. Several of us players had joined the NHPA because we belonged to, or played at, other clubs that were sanctioned. I joined the NHPA in 1992 and the New Melle/Quail Ridge club in 1992. In 1993 we took a vote to have sanctioned tournaments once a month from May to October at Ballwin. Shortly after that, Mel got sick with cancer and then passed away in 1995. Mel was inducted into the Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame in 1998.

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

I had a lot of encouragement from the New Melle club members when I first joined. Back then, Charlie Killgore, Elwyn Cooper and Don Harris, all from the Kansas City area, were regular players during the winter months at New Melle. Those guys, along with Roy Evans, Bob Diekamp, Rose (Thompson) Diekamp, Sam Carter, Tim Henderson, Rick Stockamp, Mick Gillette, Oley Burnett, Jerry Dumstorff, Charlie Webb plus many more pitchers, were the players that pulled me along with them. I thought I was a pretty good flip pitcher until I started pitching against those players.

With the flip shoe bouncing off the stake, I decided in 1995 to change to a turn shoe. Most of the better pitchers had been telling me that I needed to switch. Roger Schnur pitched a three-quarter turn and I liked how it looked. I asked him to show me how he held his shoe to get it to turn like that. Being left-handed, my shoe turned in the opposite direction. It took the better part of the year to get my percent up to where it was with the flip, roughly fifty-four percent

I have been a tournament director since 1992 and was the men's assistant league director in 1994 and 1995. I became the director in 1996 when the New Melle Men's League had 48 players with eight teams of six. I inherited the tournament statistician and tournament coordinator jobs. I was elected as the MOHPA Zone Two area director from 1999-2009. In 1996 I was asked to write an article on the rules of the game to be put in each issue of the new MOHPA newsletter. My first "What's That Rule" was put in the 1996 August edition of the Quail Ridge newsletter which was called "Shoe Biz". Jeanette Claas was the editor, and she was recruited to take charge of the State newsletter, which she named "Shoe Biz". The first State "Shoe Biz" was published in January of 1997. I did the rules articles through 2014. I still place an article once in a while under the heading "What's That Rule?"

The MOHPA in 1996 was 1,065 members strong, and the New Melle club had 200 members. The number one reason for the growth of the state and club membership was passing the vote to allow mixed pitching. In 1989 there were ten mixed tournaments in Missouri, and in 1990 there were sixteen. By the time 2010 rolled around, Missouri had 115 tournaments on the schedule and most of them were mixed.

Clubs grow by giving a large number of members something to do. The New Melle club had monthly tournaments with a few special tournaments thrown in. Each tournament had a director and one or two assistant directors. We put on pitching clinics to help the new pitchers become more efficient. There were special groups invited to learn to pitch, such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. We also offered coaching for players that were struggling with the game. I enjoyed coaching one on one or very small groups best. Club members could be found putting on pitching demonstrations in the county parks and at town celebrations. Members did radio interviews, and they put on pitching demonstrations for the TV stations. There were pitching challenges made to local sports media celebrities. We did everything we could think of to let the public know our whereabouts. We do the same here at Quail Ridge.

Through the years, starting in 1997, I have been involved in trying to find, or make, a better fixture to hold horseshoe stakes. After joining the Ballwin club, the repair of some of the loose stakes was attempted by driving shims around the stake. That didn't work. Some of the stakes had broken through the bottom of the wood holding the stake. These we pulled out and put a steel plate on the bottom. This kept the stake from going through the wood but accelerated the wear at the top of the hole. Roy Evans was a Ballwin club member and owner of a machine shop. He donated some steel plates that had a center hole large enough to slip over the stake and had holes to put lag bolts through to fasten to the wood. This worked for a while. Eventually, the stake hitting the metal plate caused the hole in the plate to become enlarged, creating a loose stake again. Roy suggested boring the hole in the plates on a twelve-degree angle so that the stake would have the full thickness of the plate to support the stake. This was a big improvement and worked well for a few years. Then I heard, "Hey Rich, we have a broken stake." It was dug out, and the stake had snapped off right at the top of the plate. It wasn't long before another one snapped off.

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

Duff Riek was another of the Ballwin club members. He had worked with metal most of his life. He had been thinking about our problem. Duff drew up some plans to make a set of fixtures to hold the stake to the wood. The metal needed was a 4x6 ½ inch thick steel plate and a two-inch long piece of high-pressure steel steam pipe cut at 12 degrees.

The walls of the pipe were about 3/8 inch thick. George Christ, also a Ballwin member, got the steel donated to the club. Roy bored the center holes in the plates and re-bored the one-inch inside diameter steam pipe to allow the stake to slide through it. Several of us drilled the four ½ inch bolt holes in each plate. Ted Ravens and Duff welded the pipes to the plates. I got the eight-foot-long treated 6x8 inch oak timbers, cut them into two-foot pieces, and then drilled one-inch holes through them.

The first two fixtures that we put together were installed at the New Melle Horseshoe Club and were pitched on during the winter league. We pulled them out in the spring and could not find any damage. That spring, we replaced all of the Ballwin stakes. Our Ballwin group volunteered to build and replace the New Melle Club's twelve courts with the Duff stakes if they would pay for the material

Also around this time, Bill Weindell, a St. Louis Horseshoe Club and Ballwin Club member, asked if I would help him build four courts at a church in South St. Louis County. Bill wanted to get his church members interested in pitching. I was happy to assist Bill with his project.

Larry Volo and Bob Reininger were members of the Ballwin and New Melle horseshoe clubs. They were recruited by the JCCA organization that was the host for the St. Louis Senior Olympics. They were responsible for running the horseshoe competition. The stakes at the JCCA needed to be replaced. Bob asked if I would fix four stakes for them if they provided the material. These pits are only played-on two weeks out of the year, so I picked up an eight-foot 6x8 inch oak timber and cut it into four pieces. I drilled a 15/16 inch hole five inches deep, drove the stakes in, and gave them to Bob to be installed at the JCCA.

The Evans', Roy and Suzanne, are two pitchers that have made my pitching so much fun. In 2003, Roy asked me to pitch on a three-person team that he was taking to Joelton, Tennessee. That was the start of nine yearly trips to the Jack Freeman Courts. Some years we did great, others we struggled, but we always had fun, and we made lots of new friends. I asked one of them if "y'uns" was really a word. That brought a smile to his face. The pitching on Jack's courts was the best!

Roy sponsored the team when we pitched in the Team World Tournament in Beloit, Wisconsin. Roy has also sponsored a team that has pitched in all of the National League Club Team Tournaments that have been held in Tennessee, Indiana and Missouri. The first year the team consisted of Roy, Jan Kreienkamp and I. Mick Gillette joined us the second year and has pitched with us from that time on. Jan joined a couple of her friends in order to make another team for the tournament.

In 2005-2006 the new RGS book was being written. Roy was one of the original members of the re-write committee. Because of my "What's That Rule?" articles that I wrote for the Missouri Shoe Biz newsletter, Roy asked if I would join him and give my opinions. On the back of the front cover of the draft copy of the RGS book, is a list of the committee members, and also of people that helped with the re-write. My name is not there, but I was acknowledged in the last paragraph on the back of the front cover. It states, "We apologize to anyone that was left off the list." Apology accepted.

Because of my involvement with the rules and the decision in 2013 to start a Judging Clinic, Dan Sanders and I got to know each other much better. I think that is why he asked in 2014 if I would join the NHPA Rules Committee. This is how the Judging Clinic was started. While pitching at State and World tournaments, I noticed that there was a need for more knowledgeable judges. Some of the judges were extremely proficient and some were not. Unfortunately, the need for competent judges is

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

greater than the number of said judges. That being said, when you are running a tournament and you need judges, anyone that will put a vest on is going to judge. For some reason, these not so competent ones are the judges that responded to my opponents call for a judge. Sometimes they would get it correct. More often than not, on really close calls, they would, in my opinion, miss the call.

The year 2012 found me complaining, and not for the first time to Jerry LaBrosse about the need for better judges at the WT. Jerry said to me, "You need to do something about it. Talk to Dan Sanders, the rules chairman." I emailed Dan Sanders and asked what he thought about having classes for judges at the WT. I mentioned to Dan that I had taken up Pickleball and was going to referee some matches. To become a referee, I had to go online and take a test of 100 questions. A passing grade of 95 was required. After the test, your results would be returned to you, giving you the correct answer. I told Dan that I have a list of twenty horseshoe judging questions, nineteen of them that were asked of me through the years while I was judging. I also told Dan that I had made a pit model complete with a stake, some shoes or parts of shoes attached to it that would be used for a hands-on demonstration of how to make really close measurements using the correct tools.

Dan liked the idea and he thought a Judging Clinic during the 2014 WT in Buffalo, New York, would be the place to have the first official clinic. The NHPA officers approved of having the clinics. Dan suggested that we revise and address some of the questions for the clinic, such as the "Ringer Rule" and "Is your sight better than your sense of touch?"

In order to develop a good Judging Clinic, during the 2013 Quail Ridge Men's League, I asked all eleven teams (70+ players) to take the twenty-question written judging test. After they were finished with the tests, I went over the correct answers and asked for comments. Then I asked each of the players to show on the pit model how they measure a ringer. I would then demonstrate what I believe to be the most accurate way to measure a very close ringer. I went over the best use of the other tools and then gave them some hands-on experience with the pit model. This allowed me to get feedback from the players and also get some practice running a clinic. Just a small number of those players wanted to be judges, but all of them benefited from the experience and were better equipped to make their own calls.

I think I had seven more models made up by the time we held the first Official Judging Clinic in Buffalo, New York. There were fifty-six players that attended the clinic, a good start to getting a more knowledgeable group of judges. The people that attended the clinic were very impressed. Some wanted to purchase a pit model and some of the tools that we used in the clinic. There was a lot of interest in the R (Bridge) tool and the steel pin that we use as a straight edge. Since then, Dan has made a PowerPoint presentation to use during the clinic, and I made 24 more pit models for the program. Dan asked Gary and Dee Null, the people in charge of Game Related Sales, to talk to me about what to include in a kit for judges. We decided on a straight edge with a divider, a steel pin to use as a straight edge, the R (Bridge) tool, a trowel for removing excess clay, a putty knife for fine work, a feeler gauge, a stopwatch, band-aids, a penlight, a kneeling pad, a small towel, and the RGS rule book. I think we still have a couple of pit models at the Quail Ridge club.

While I am thinking about the R-tool, I want to explain how best to use it to measure a ringer. First, if you are able to get a straight edge on the shoe, use the straight edge. The R-tool is best used when there is another shoe or a gusset that prevents you from using the straight edge or when the shoe being measured is stuck, points down, in the clay. Place the legs of the tool gently against the two points or places on the shoe being measured, and then lean the tool toward the stake. If the top of the tool makes contact with the stake, it is a ringer. If there is a gap between the top of the tool and the stake, it is not a ringer. You may need a feeler gauge or a light to check for the gap.

The New Melle Club, now called the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club, became the caretaker of the NHPA

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

Hall of Fame (HOF). As the construction commenced, there were many jobs that the club members were able to do to reduce the cost of building the Hall of Fame. The first job for me, and there were a lot of pitchers that helped, was to anchor the pit frames in preparation for the concrete to be poured around them. Next was cutting rolls of half-inch belting to fit the bottom and sides of the pits. Larry Langewisch did a lot of the cutting. I am sure there were other people that helped with that job also.

The Hall of Fame is coming along nicely; it is the spring of 2007. We are getting ready for the new stake fixtures, which were designed and manufactured by Roy Evans. The belting provided mostly by Jack Barry has been cut to fit the sides and bottom of the pits. The pits have been cleaned out to a depth of ten inches, and we are waiting for the stakes. I snapped a chalk line across the line of pits to mark where the stakes would be lined up. Then, hacksaws were used to make those lines more permanent. The Kentucky clay for the pits was donated and delivered to the HOF by Charlie Killgore and was stored on the park's maintenance lot. Mick Gillette brought his tractor with a high lift on it to move the clay from the storage lot to the pit area. As Roy Evans dropped off some of the stakes, we started the installation process. Once all of the pits were marked, we started setting the stakes. One crew placed the belting in the pit, another set the stakes, and another backfilled the pit. The process was to put a little clay in the bottom of the pit and check the stake for the correct height. Fifteen inches above the frame is what we are looking for. Then, using a magnetic degree finder, check the twelve-degree angle, and check to be sure that the stake is just making contact with the string that is stretched between the marks on the frame. Then, on to the next pit while another crew backfills that pit. This process continued as we received the stakes from Roy. Other club members were busy with many of the other projects such as painting, drywall, attaching the boards around the perimeter of the courts, attaching the pit backboards to the floor, wiring, and keeping the work area cleaned up.

Once the stakes were in, my next project was to select the flooring. We wanted commercial-grade vinyl tile for the dining area, kitchen, restrooms, and the two office rooms. The carpet for the Hall of Fame room was selected from some carpet square samples that I had from where I was employed. Bob Rogers was in charge of the HOF room, and he had final say on the appearance of what went into the room. The company that I was employed by was willing to work with us. A year before, I had the chance to pick up some slightly off-color (from the sample) tile at a super good price. This was purchased by me to donate to the New Melle club for the restrooms. About that time, there was some talk of the NHPA HOF being built in our area and that our club may become the host. I decided to hang on to the tile in case it could be used at the HOF. We had a customer refuse thirty-some cartons of tile because it didn't match the sample. It was a light-colored tile and I thought it would work at the HOF. Checking with my boss, I asked if she would let me have the tile at half price for the NHPA HOF. Agreeing to this, I mentioned that we (the company) have several cartons of solid-colored tile that have been sitting on the rack for some time. And the fact that there are no samples of those tiles out in the field, no one is going to buy them. She said, "Let's get rid of them, too." I had another request of her, "How about letting me order at cost, enough carpet squares to do the Hall of Fame room?" She wanted to know if there was anything else that I needed. I offered to buy the adhesive that would be needed, at full price, if I could have the damaged pails that were stored in the warehouse. That was a very productive day for the NHPF. A little later, we ordered the cove base and cove base adhesive.

One other thing that my boss allowed me to do was to store several pallets of Game Related goods in the warehouse. Ken Kosky was Director of the NHPA Game Related Sales (GRS). Ken passed away in October of 2006. The NHPA now needed to find a home for the GRS. Roy Evans wanted to bring the GRS to New Melle to generate some revenue for the club's move into the HOF building. Roy proposed this to the club at the club meeting. The officers wanted more information, so Roy and Suzanne spent two weeks in Wisconsin checking on GRS sales. When they returned, Roy had a meeting with the officers and informed them that it looked like a good deal. The decision was made for Roy to let the NHPA know that he would like to become the GRS director. The NHPA officers gave their blessing. Roy invited me to go to Wisconsin to help him check the inventory and get as much as possible

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

ready to transport to Missouri. The question came up of what to do with it once we have it back there. I told Roy that after clearing it with my boss, I could store a good part of it in the warehouse where I was employed. Roy and some of the club members made the trip to Wisconsin to pick up the inventory. It was loaded into a twenty-foot box-truck. I received a call informing me that they would be arriving at the warehouse within the hour! The truck was full of Game Related material. We palletized the loose stuff, secured the other material on pallets, and then placed them in the racks.

Later that week, on the way home from work, I saw a sign at the CompUSA store, EVERYTHING MUST GO! FINAL SALE! The place was full of people and full of things that might be of interest to Roy. I gave Roy a call, and he said, "I will be there in a few minutes. Can you wait for me?" Roy found me in the store, and we found a salesman that wanted the stuff gone. Roy wanted the heavy-duty racks and talked the salesman down to \$30 per section. Roy bought two or three computers, a two-wheeler, a four-wheel cart, two filing cabinets, a glass display case, and a few other items that don't come to mind right off hand. I was driving my pick-up that day, so I pulled around to the dock and they started loading what they could. The racks would have to wait until the last day or two of the sale so they could break them down. I think I had to make two trips to Roy's garage that day and three trips with the racks later that week. We set up a rack in his garage, and then as Roy needed items from the warehouse, either he would drop by and get them, or I would drop them off on my way home. This went on for six months or so. Once the HOF building was ready, we set up the racks in the GRS room. We then started moving the inventory from Roy's garage and the warehouse to the GRS room at Quail Ridge.

The National Horseshoe Pitcher's Hall of Fame and Museum was to open on October 5, 2007, at 11:00 am. At 10:45, I was just finishing with the last piece of cove base in the HOF room. As the doors open and the visitors came in, they were amazed at how good the place looked. There were the usual people that you find at an opening ceremony: the city Mayor, county officers, the park director, state horseshoe club officers, and other interested people. One of the first people I met was a gentleman that wanted to know if there was anyone that could help him improve his horseshoe game. He told me that at his family get-together each year, he is the last one picked to play. I invited him to show up on Sunday afternoons, and I would work with him. After returning from his family reunion that year, he came in and said, "Thank you, thank you. I will never be last again." Since then, I have worked with hundreds of people that wanted to try their hand at pitching a shoe or just to improve their game.

Through the years at Quail Ridge, I have set up many tournaments and leagues. I have been the tournament coordinator, statistician, league director, and tournament director. I have run or helped run washer tournaments and cornhole tournaments. I have worked with two groups that played Pickleball at the HOF. I have worked with companies that wanted to have a horseshoe party. I worked with school and church groups, with individuals wanting to try horseshoes. I worked with groups of kids in the summer park program and also with homeschooled kids. We worked with a motorcycle club that had one-hundred-fifty riders do a poker run. We've hosted car clubs. The largest group was the Veterans who bused three-hundred-fifty vets to the HOF during the Veterans Olympics. During that time, I worked with sight-impaired vets. They would listen for me to tap with my metal pick-up stick on the stake then pitch in that direction.

After the first seven months in the Hall of Fame, I checked the horseshoe stakes to see if they had moved. Sure enough, they had. They now were measuring 40 foot 4 inches, and some were as much as 40 foot 6 inches. Being set in new, loose clay allowed the stakes to be driven back each time they were hit by a shoe. I got a crew together and we dug the clay from behind and in front of the fixtures. We put a scissor jack in the hole and jacked them back into place, using the original marks on the frames. Then we packed some of the firmer clay in behind the fixtures to help hold them in place. I had to do this three different times. After fighting with these stake fixtures for the last seven years, I have decided to get rid of them. The stakes are breaking at a faster rate. I have purchased and installed the last

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

four fixtures that Roy Evans had, and he is not interested in making any more. Roy is retired and has turned the operation of his shop over to his son. I informed the Quail Ridge officers of these facts and suggested that we try five-foot stakes in the first four courts to see how well they stand up. Well, surprise, surprise, the stake on the south end of court one, after only twenty-four hours, had sunk another two inches. I determined that rainwater is running back under the concrete slab, all the way to court one in the north building. The stake closest to the scorekeeper is wet, and we have 2 or 3 feet of mud under the building. At that point, I talked to the local NHPF officer about this.

While installing the five-foot stakes, one club member who wishes to remain anonymous offered to purchase, or get donated to us, enough stakes to do all of the pits. Once I had determined that these five-foot stakes were not long enough to get into solid ground, I decided to order longer stakes. These one-inch bars come in twenty-foot pieces, so I asked the individual donating the stakes if he would cut the twenty-foot bars into three pieces. He agreed and donated forty stakes that were six-foot, eight-inches long. I had built a fixture to hold the stake while it is being driven into the pit. My main help with this project was Mark Neubauer. I asked Jim Brown, a club member, to weld a steel plate to the back of a three-inch-long pipe that would just fit over the horseshoe stakes. Mark bought a small welder and welded a steel nut to each stake. Now when we put a stake in the pit, it goes through the pipe with the plate, and it is driven down to where the nut stops it from going any further. I still have the water problem. After installing the new stakes, it was time for the park department to hold the Annual County Washer Championship Tournament here at Quail Ridge. I have helped Bekin Youngblood, a county park employee, set-up and break-down each washer tournament from the first one held in 2009 to the last one in 2019. I was telling him about the problem that I encountered with installing the new stakes. I mentioned to him that I thought the problem could be solved if a water collection trap could be located where the water pools behind the building. That trap could be connected to the pipe that drains the water from the court drains. We went outside and looked where the drain is located, and we heard water running through the drain. Since we had not run any water on the court floors, there should not have been any water running through the pipe. Bekin arranged a meeting with the park superintendent and the park maintenance director. They agreed that a collection basin located in the low spot, which is right over the drainpipe, would fix the problem. Because it is outside the building, they want to install the catch basin themselves. Unfortunately, the Covid 19 virus hit, and I have not had any contact with the park department since.

With Bob Dunn's passing in September of 2018, came the question, "What is going to happen to his horseshoe collection?" Just before the Team World Tournament in 2019, I received an e-mail stating that a pallet of cartons that had belonged to Bob Dunn was at the Team World site in Beloit, Wisconsin. They asked if there was anyone from the Quail Ridge area that could take some cartons from the pallet and drop them off at the Quail Ridge club. Several of the players from the Quail Ridge area helped with this project.

Jerry Smith arrived at the Quail Ridge club on October 2nd with a truckload of horseshoes from Bob Dunn's collection. Jerry Smith and Joe Faron built a rack on one of the walls in what was the Game Related Sales room to hold the shoes. I took my "THE SHOE" book by Bob Dunn to the club and started organizing the shoes. After getting the shoes separated and the area cleaned up, Jim Kinney called and said that he was on his way to pick up the rest of Bob Dunn's collection. Jim Kinney arrived at the club on January 20th and had about seven hundred horseshoes. We placed them in the storage room. Norm Pierce and I built another rack from floor to ceiling. I am in the process of identifying and sorting all of the horseshoes. We have a little over 1,200 shoes on the racks. Someone picked up my "The Shoe" book, which I use to help identify the age and origin of some of the shoes. The loss of my book and Biden's China Covid 19 virus has brought me to a standstill with this project. If anyone has one of Bob Dunn's "The Shoe" book and would like to part with it, I would be very interested in purchasing it.

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

I am honored to have received some great awards throughout the years. In 2002 I became a member of the St. Charles Amateur Sports Hall of Fame, and in 2004 I was inducted into the Missouri State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame. I have four Missouri Championship State Doubles titles, with partners Dan Hobbs, Earl Winston, Andy Foulds, and Victoria Highley. Winning the 2010 Missouri State Men's Championship title was very special.

With age creeping up on me, I wasn't sure that I would ever be able to claim that title. While I was working on that one, my youngest daughter, Natalie, was busy winning the 2010 Missouri State Junior Girl's Championship title. We were the only father and daughter to be the Missouri State Champion in the same year.

I have participated in ten World Tournaments, winning the Senior Men's "A" class in 2006 and finishing second in the Senior Men's Championship class in 2006 at Gillette, Wyoming. In 2014 winning Elders class E, and in 2015 winning Elder class A-2. I have finished third three times in Elder Championship play. In 2012 at Knoxville, TN. W/L 10 – 5, ringers 851 shoes 1078 percent 78.9%, in 2015 Topeka, KN. W/L 10 - 5 ringers 771, shoes 1034, ringer percent 74.56% and in 2016 Montgomery, AL. W/L 11 / 4, ringers 811, shoes 1060 percent of 76.509. This was the year that it was discovered that the HS Master was programmed to round up and display percentages in hundredths. To arrive at the correct percentage of these two pitchers that had 11 wins and 4 losses each. The ringer percent needed to be carried out to the thousandths. $710/928=76.508\%$.

The Blanchette Park Horseshoe league, located in St. Charles, Missouri, has been around for many years. The league was made up of mostly non-sanctioned players. I have often said that there are basically two types of pitchers. First are the beer drinkers that pitch. They will always have their cooler with them but may forget to put the horseshoes in the car. Second are the players that pitch horseshoes while having a cold one. There is this small group of pitchers like me that don't like the taste of beer but love to pitch. Anyhow, three of my close horseshoe friends, Roy Evans, Martin Orf, and Joe Buskirk asked if I would put together a team for the Blanchette league. I picked up two more players, Mike Thomson and Mark Neubauer to complete our team. The city ran the league. They had a person that kept the league stats, and each team paid a league fee to the city. After a couple of years, the city replaced the activities director. The new director, Teresa, called a meeting of the team captains to introduce herself and get the schedule for the coming year. I took this opportunity to introduce myself and explained that I had been a Missouri Horseshoe Pitchers Association officer and that one of my responsibilities was to check horseshoe courts to see if they were up to the standards of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association rules. I said these courts have been neglected for years and are really getting run down. We went out to the courts, and I pointed out the lack of marking on the courts and the sad state of the stakes. Some were ten inches tall, while others were seventeen inches tall. The stakes were loose and leaning in different directions. One was even bent sideways because it had been hooked by a riding lawn mower. The backboards were about thirty inches high, with some of them falling apart. Teresa said, "Let me see what I can do." A week later, she asked for pictures of the stake fixtures that we use at Quail Ridge. She then asked, "If the city were to furnish the material, do you think the horseshoe players would do the installation?" They would jump at the chance. Teresa asked if I would take charge of this project, and I said that I would. There wasn't enough time for the park department to fabricate the stakes, so the decision was made to replace the stakes the following spring. The city fabricated the stake fixtures, supplied the lumber, and brought an excavating machine with an operator to assist with the renovation. They provided a BBQ for the workers. The club provided thirty-some pitchers to do the work. At that time, I was having infusion treatments for CIDP and was not physically able to do much actual work. Mary (my wife) and I drove to the courts the day before we were to start replacing the stakes. We marked the pits with a chalk line for the location of the stakes. I had drilled and marked a board to use to center the stake in the pit. Even though I was limited to how much I could do physically, my ability to supervise was not impaired. I could say, "Bring it up a little, forward a bit, that's good. Nail it down." In six and a half hours, we dug out, with the help of the

Rules Committee Spotlight Richard Altis...Continued

excavator, the old stakes and replaced them with the new ones. Joe Buskirk's crew tore out the old backboards and rebuilt and replaced them. The old pit covers were pitched, and I got a donation from my employer of an eighty-foot roll of commercial-grade, six-foot-wide outdoor carpet for the covers. Mary and I were able to cut the carpet into seventy-seven three-foot-wide pieces, more than enough for the pits. All of this was accomplished in time for the summer league. In appreciation for the club pitching in and providing the labor, the city waived the league fees for all of the teams that year.

I think that was the year I noticed the club stats were not accurate. I talked to Teresa and explained the problem. The number of games was not consistent, and the handicaps appeared to be incorrect. I suggested that they switch to the HS Master Horseshoe program the next year, and I volunteered to set it up and show them how to use it. This is the program that I was using at the Quail Ridge club for my league stats. They took me up on my offer to set up the HS Master program. The following year I put the league information together on a flash drive, took it to the park department and showed them how to use it. They needed a little assistance the first few months and at the end of the league. Other than that, they did a great job with the stats.

I have been the host at the HOF on Sundays from the first day it opened. I've missed a few Sundays in the last thirteen years but not many. There are not very many tournaments held here, including the Cornhole, and the Washer Tournaments, that I have not been in or helped run. Such as stats, score-keeping, changing broken stakes, etc. My youngest child, Natalie, was ten years old when she joined the Monday Mixed league with me and she has eleven years in the NHPA. John and Jessica, two of my middle kids, as Juniors have pitched in tournaments and State competitions. Mary, my wife, has helped with cleaning at the club. Most importantly she has been the club cook during the Monday, Wednesday and summer league play for the last four years. During the year of 2019 Mary and I have made 130 trips to the club. Seventy-six times to be the host and fifty-four times for meetings, tournaments and special events held at the club. In 2019 I drove a little over seven thousand miles between my house and the Hall of Fame. All of this in search of finding the next person that will say, "Yes, I would like to try that."

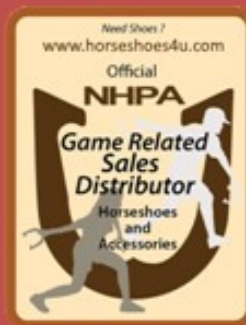
If I could do this again, I don't think I would change anything... Well, maybe a couple of things.



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Ringers Heard “Round the World” ... Part 1

By Stan Griggs

The series for 2021 will highlight some of the most competitive World Tournaments we have ever seen in all divisions.

It is only appropriate that we start off with the tournament that would be hailed as the greatest of all time. The 1964 World Tournament held in Greenville, Ohio.

Fourteen men would end up pitching a total of 37 games over 90% and another 124 games that averaged over 85%. Capping it off with another 267 games pitched over 80%.

The 1962 World Champion, Paul Focht, had 502 points in qualifications and did not make the field! The qualifying jinx had once again struck down a past champion as the magic number this year was 505. Six rookies made the field; Paul Latray (MO), Don Owens (IN) and Dick Carpenter (IN) were making their only championship appearance. Joe Carmack (MO) and Jim Solomon (PA) were in their initial chase. Glen Riffle (OH) a four time AAU National Champion would be voted the most improved pitcher of the year.

The year's field would only have 35 men at the finish as Art Dugle (IL) became the second man in history to be expelled from the courts for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Let the games begin... After Day 1 with seven games played the leaders were rookie Latray, Ray Martin (IL), Glen “Red” Henton (IA) and Elmer Hohl (CAN) all undefeated. Close behind at 6-1 were Ted Allen (CO), Curt Day (IN), Carl Steinfeldt (NY) and Harold Reno (OH). Defending World Champion John Monasmith (WA) became the first champion since C.C. Davis in 1929 to lose twice on opening day. Day 2 and 14 games in, everyone had a least one defeat with Martin the last to fall. The leaders were now Steinfeldt and Reno, each at 13-1. The quartet at 12-2 were Allen, Martin, Day and Henton. Tied with 11-3 marks were Latray, Zadroga and Hohl.

21 Games played at the end of Day 3 and Reno headed the pack at 20-1. Knotted at 18-3 were Hohl, Henton and Steinfeldt. Next at 17-4 were Day and Martin.

After five days and 28 games pitched only five were still in the hunt. The leader was Reno at 26-2. At 25-3 were Steinfeldt and Hohl, each won all seven games this day. Close behind were Henton at 24-4 and Day at 23-5 and trying to stay alive.

Of the 21 men who looked at 90 percent games, poor Dale Dixon (IA) had to look at them four times. After Game 30 - Reno now led by two games, In Game 31 - Ralph Maddox (WV) defeated Reno 52-31. Steinfeldt moved to within one game of the leader.

In Game 32 – In a 170 shoe classic which featured a new World Record of 15 consecutive four deads, Steinfeldt (88.2%) prevailed over Hohl (85.3%) by a score of 53-37. This was another of history's great rounds.

Reno clinched at least a tie in Game 33 by beating Allen. Steinfeldt, only mathematically alive took a loss from Martin. Henton, Day and Hohl had now all bowed out of the picture.

With a win in Game 34 – Harold Reno locked up his second World Title and Carl Steinfeldt latched on to second place by defeating Curt Day.

Ringers Heard Round the World...continued

Unbelievably, 13 men averaged better than 80% for this great tournament. Fernando Isais' 1963 record of 2,478 ringers and 3,070 shoes pitched were smashed to pieces. Floyd Toole (AR) tossed 62 straight ringers on Jim Solomon (PA) for the second longest string of all time.

For the first time in his career, Ted Allen was not in the top 10, halting this streak at 23 World Tournaments and a period of 30 years. John Monasmith finished 11th place, becoming the first defending World Champion not to finish in the top 10 in the history of the World Tournament.

**1964 World Tournament
Greenville, Ohio – Aug. 1-11, 1964**

		Qual	W	L	R	S	Pct.	
1.	Harold Reno	Sabina, OH	533	32	3	2371	2820	84.08%
2.	Carl Steinfeldt	Rochester, NY	558	30	5	2767	3316	83.45%
3.	Glen "Red" Henton	Maquoketa, IA	538	29	6	2481	2956	83.931%
4.	Elmer Hohl	Wellesley, Ont, CAN	534	29	6	2538	3024	83.929%
5.	Curt Day	Frankfort, IN	555	28	7	2594	3074	84.39%
6.	Ray Martin	Philo, IL	538	28	7	2634	3178	82.89%
7.	Floyd Toole	Pine Bluff, AR	514	28	7	2531	3086	82.02%
8.	Al Zadroga	Elizabeth, PA	511	26	9	2397	2958	81.04%
9.	Ralph Maddox	Poca, WV	533	25	10	2903	3476	83.52%
10.	Paul Lattray	Webster Grove, MO	528	25	10	2484	3064	81.07%
11.	John Monasmith	Yakima, WA	DC	24	11	2374	2968	80.00%
12.	Ted Allen	Boulder, CO	539	23	12	2410	2980	80.88%
13.	Henry Knauff	Spokane, WA	529	23	12	2470	3072	80.41%
14.	Ed Fishel	Neilton, WA	524	22	13	2224	2824	78.76%
15.	Glenn Riffle	Dayton, OH	526	21	14	2156	2854	75.55%
16.	Marines Tamboer	Wichita, KS	520	20	15	2332	2944	79.22%
17.	Clive Wahlin	Salt Lake City, UT	512	20	15	2166	2846	76.11%
18.	Wilbur Kabel	New Madison, OH	519	18	17	2308	2934	78.67%
19.	Herb Pinch	Sharon, PA	509	17	18	2024	2742	73.82%
20.	Jimmy Solomon	Uniontown, PA	524	16	19	2311	2948	78.40%
21.	Marvin Craig	Parker, IN	522	15	20	2224	2946	75.50%
22.	Floyd Fowler	Greencastle, IN	505	15	20	2169	2900	74.80%
23.	Bob May	Glenwood, IN	531	14	21	2193	2924	75.00%
24.	Lee Bennett	Middletown, OH	520	13	22	1850	2564	72.16%
25.	Don Owens	Summitville, IN	523	13	22	1825	2530	72.14%
26.	Joseph Carmack	Lecoma, MO	508	11	24	2172	2930	74.13%
27.	Dick Carpenter	Union City, IN	507	11	24	1999	2730	73.23%
28.	Charles Fortenberry	Knoxville, TN	520	10	25	1922	2666	72.10%
29.	Jim Johnson	Cincinnati, OH	519	9	26	1943	2716	71.54%
30.	Frank Stinson	Minneapolis, MN	508	9	26	1868	2648	70.55%
31.	Dale Dixon	Des Moines, IA	531	8	27	1845	2602	70.91%
32.	Homer Moefield	Long Beach, CA	508	6	29	1551	2326	66.68%
33.	Wellington Taylor	Grand River, IA	511	5	30	1660	2440	68.04%
34.	Arner Lindquist	Morgantown, WV	508	5	30	1652	2434	67.88%
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36.	Art Dugle	Chicago, IL	523	0	35		Forfeited	

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By Blaine Scott, NHPA Newsline Editor (Email: newsline@horseshoepitching.com)

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Womens Top 100 Stats *10 Jan 2021*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	330030	Maxine	Griffith	TN	Women	96.33	28
2	330031	Marlene	Ray	TN	Women	93.83	29
3	330173	Joan	Elmore	TN	Women	90.16	14
4	220237	Debra	Odum	TX	Women	83.38	8
5	320182	Becky	Holmes	KY	Women	81.40	2
6	470146	Diane	Mason	NH	Women	81.02	17
7	300336	Terry	Beagle	MI	Women	80.17	20
8	220130	Doris	Hieden	TX	Women	79.74	9
9	460050	Debra	Brown	VT	Women	78.83	15
10	350626	Shalee	Cason	FL	Women	77.81	4

Mens Top 100 Stats *10 Jan 2021*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	360940	Alan	Francis	OH	Men	90.04	6
2	320292	Tyler	Howard	KY	Men	84.11	20
3	10058	Matt	Fuller	WA	Men	82.97	8
4	260084	Dan	Watson	AL	Men	79.88	5
5	460128	Brian	Simmons	VT	Men	79.70	11
6	420271	Jerry	Dean	MD	Men	78.00	1
7	290652	Austin	Bailey	IL	Men	74.63	8
8	350369	Walter Ray	Williams Jr	FL	Men	74.33	22
9	30370	Rick	Birmingham	CA	Men	74.12	10
10	190007	Stan	Griggs	MO	Men	73.61	5

Elders Top 100 Stats *10 Jan 2021*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	370139	Marcus	Rice	WV	Elders	90.23	30
2	10135	Russ	Phillips	WA	Elders	87.54	19
3	360839	Virgil	Rife	OH	Elders	86.33	25
4	200026	Al	Ross	OK	Elders	82.24	19
5	340080	Zane	Goggin	GA	Elders	80.18	17
6	370121	David	Holmes	WV	Elders	78.79	4
7	330059	Bobby	Fields	TN	Elders	78.73	9
8	420097	Paul	McGee	MD	Elders	78.18	8
9	420337	Tom	Mills	MD	Elders	76.04	7
10	320022	Jim	Culver	KY	Elders	75.51	11

Girls Top 25 Stats *10 Jan 2021*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	280216	Sarah	Chaffee	WI	Girls	85.00	12
2	490476	Skyla	Rioux	CT	Girls	77.80	23
3	490491	Lizy	Jordan	CT	Girls	52.01	7
4	95051	Ellyn	Ohms	UT	Girls	51.43	10
5	320265	Sarah	Neagle	KY	Girls	39.33	3
6	320004	Abby	Rose	KY	Girls	39.14	3
7	180473	Danyelle	Russell	KS	Girls	36.07	8
8	801060	Kalie	Trujillo	NM	Girls	29.11	1
9	280523	Brooke	Lazaris	WI	Girls	27.27	1
10	191533	Sadie	Wolken	MO	Girls	26.39	12

Boys Top 50 Stats *10 Jan 2021*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	320075	Seth	Onan	KY	Boys	88.49	9
2	210074	Derek	Reynolds	AR	Boys	78.47	8
3	490452	Riley	Malino	CT	Boys	62.71	22
4	190778	Leon	Wolken	MO	Boys	60.93	9
5	360330	Alex	Francis	OH	Boys	56.45	2
6	180269	Ryan	Russell	KS	Boys	55.83	8
7	260172	Tyler	Harris	AL	Boys	55.77	9
8	360365	Caiden	Hogue	OH	Boys	54.95	2
9	360274	Zander	Potts	OH	Boys	53.34	3
10	300469	Kayden	Fowler	MI	Boys	52.20	10

Cadets Top 25 Stats *10 Jan 2021*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	31151	Hastiin	Begaye	CA	Cadet Boys	74.67	2
2	200245	Walker	Forrester	OK	Cadet Boys	66.88	1
3	220641	Isaac	Nelson Jr.	TX	Cadet Boys	58.41	12
4	360444	Cameron	Hogue	OH	Cadet Boys	47.08	4
5	280127	Blake	Benzing	WI	Cadet Boys	37.08	6
6	360449	Kedan	Mathews	OH	Cadet Boys	35.65	2
7	150396	Uria	Gabel	ND	Cadet Girls	35.44	4
8	800982	Zeke	Renteria Jr	CA	Cadet Boys	31.36	2
9	220815	Preston	Beusch	TX	Cadet Boys	30.97	5
10	280103	Mason	Chambers	WI	Cadet Boys	29.15	4



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