



Horseshoe Pitching

Newsline

March - April 2024

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

2023 President's Message

NHPA Council Is Fully Staffed

By Gary B. Roberts, NHPA President

As you read this, we are beginning 2024 with many Council changes. There have been many changes during the year. First, we have had many changes in the Council membership. Jim Kinney, Jr. resigned as Secretary/Treasurer and was replaced by Brian Poole who was the First Vice President at the time. Jim has been very receptive in helping Brian with necessary training. Austin Bailey, who was elected as Fourth Vice President, moved to the First Vice President position. Austin was very interested in working with the Rules/Bylaws area. Jerry Smith retired as of December 31, 2023. Ben Webb of Kentucky was voted by the Council to replace Jerry. Jerry will provide necessary training for Ben. Barb Carson has been appointed to continue her duties as Fourth Vice President. I would like to thank Jim Kinney, Jr and Jerry Smith for training their replacements.



One bright spot of the year was the World Tournament held in Lansing, Michigan. The facility and the closeness of adequate hotel rooms nearby was very convenient. Our Lansing hosts were exceptional. Anything we needed was provided to make our stay very successful. The attendance exceeded expectations as we received 947 entries. The result was some excellent pitching in all divisions. We should not forget our set-up crew who had all the courts available for starting time. Pep Plummer, Clarence Lassiter, Roger Vogel, and many Michigan charter members helped with this effort. We should also thank Empire Photography and Ron and Polly's Horseshoe Pitching Supplies for their presence at our tournament. Hopefully, Lansing will ask us to return in the future.

Another important happening was officially designating the 2024 World Tournament to Tri-Cities (Kennewick) Washington. Our old friend, Kevin Lewis, is now the President and CEO of Tri-Cities Washington. As many of you know, Kevin was our host for the St. George Tournaments. We will be happy to work with Kevin and his staff. The Council has been working on the details of this tournament. Kevin will be willing to host another Tournament in 2027. Shortly thereafter, the 2025 World Tournament was awarded to Salt Lake City, Utah. This will be one of the most beautiful settings you have visited. The Tournament will be held at the Mountain America Exposition Center in the Sandy area. If you have time, please look at the facility on the Internet. Salt Lake City will be willing to host another Tournament in 2028. We have received some very good news about bids for the 2026 World Tournament in the Midwest area.

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President's Message...continued

As I indicated in the last Newsline, the bad thing that happened in 2023 was the continued decline in membership and the lack of new Junior pitchers. The ability to change this decline is the responsibility of the NHPA, State charters, and local clubs. One of our major efforts in 2024 will be to look at any ideas that could have a major impact on membership. We can look at areas who have increased membership and those that have successful clubs.

As you are aware, the NHPA maintains insurance coverage for liability for all clubs and for property that we own, and for Director's and Officer's Insurance. This year the insurance company required us to submit a new packet of information. The result was that the premium doubled since last year. The biggest part of the increase was our Hall of Fame Building. We had been paying based on the value of the property in 2007. Once the real estate people evaluated the current value of the building the value had almost tripled. Obviously, we will get other quotes from other companies for our insurance needs. As you know, our membership continues to decline as expenses continue to increase.

As we approach the Spring pitching season, there will be special tournaments coming up. The 11th Annual Hall of Fame Tournament will be happening on May 4th and May 5th, 2024. This is a great invitational tournament at our Hall of Fame Building. Also, the 38th Team World Tournament will occur on May 17-19 in Beloit, Wisconsin. This is a fantastic tournament. The Greenville Ringer Classic will occur in July, 2024 in Greenville, Ohio. The City of Greenville continues to keep the facility in good shape. The Valley of the Sun Tournament has just completed in Mesa, Arizona.

As we proceed into future years, the primary challenge of increasing membership is our primary focus.

Gary

Special announcement from the NHPA Council

As you are aware, Gary has announced that he will not be running for NHPA President for 2025 due to health challenges. Gary will begin immediately to undergo cancer treatment and will be unable to continue to serve as the NHPA President in 2024. He will submit a letter of resignation effective May 1st, 2024.

As defined in the NHPA Bylaws, Austin Bailey will assume the duties as NHPA President and will work jointly with the NHPA Council on all issues. Our prayers are extended to Gary and his family during this time. He has expressed appreciation to his many horseshoe friends and feels that he has done his best to represent you in all aspects of the sport. We are sure that he would welcome your notes of support. His email address is: gbroberts5542@yahoo.com.

NHPA Council

NHPA President Candidate– Ben Webb

Past, Current, and Future NHPA Members:

I am formally announcing my candidacy for NHPA President and ask for the support of all who share my belief that our organization needs to embark on a new, constructive course. I believe my candidacy will be healthy for the National Association and the State Charters

I am running because I have grown increasingly concerned about the course of events that have taken place over the past 20+ years. While we all enjoy the premier event of the NHPA, the World Tournament, we have experienced a substantial membership decline, a shrinking budget, and a major disconnection from our leadership to membership, over this period.

In my opinion, the root of these problems lies right here – in the leadership. We have become complacent with an “ineffective” system that has become increasingly insensitive to the needs of the members who support it with their dues.

It is difficult to find leaders who are independent of the forces that have brought us our problems. If the NHPA and the organized sport of horseshoes is to survive for my generation, and move forward, this must change.

It will only change when the members vote for a leadership that listens to them, relies on them, and seeks to return their association to them. We must begin to continue to embrace our core values and uphold our traditions but begin to blaze a path forward through the issues we face. This begins at the charter level; we must help our membership grow by working hand-in-hand with them at a charter level.

I have spent the last 2 years of my 18-year tenure as an NHPA member working indirectly with the NHPA council as Youth Director, and now directly as NHPA 3rd Vice President. I now see it is time to tap into the technology that is available and bring horseshoe pitching into the 21st century. Utilizing my previous business experience, through my leadership and the support of our great members, we will do just that.

An organization that is growing and thriving is one that will solve its problems head on, instead of deflecting them. We must offer progress instead of the “business-as-usual” approach; the truth instead of promises; partnership instead of disconnection.

In the coming months I will take my message and plan to you. I will talk in more detail about how we will work together as a responsible, responsive, association. I have a new vision that will foster leadership transparency, honesty, and input from members.

Together, We will be raising the stakes!

Sincerely,

Ben Webb

NHPA President Candidate– Clarence William Lassiter, Jr.

To the NHPA Committee: 20 Feb 2024

I, Clarence William Lassiter, Jr. with careful deliberation and much thought have decided to launch my name for consideration for the duties of the office of the Presidency of the National Horseshoe Pitching Association. My passion and desire for this wonderful national sport is great.

Since joining in 1999, I have enjoyed being a participant and an officer in various positions at the State and World levels. At State, served as Director of four different sites in North Carolina and member of NC-Hall of Fame Committee. Of course you know me as the Set-Up Committee, World Judge, Instructor of Judges and Scorekeeper.

Retired from service for my country of 22 years in the United States Army Finance and Accounting Corp and received the Meritorious Service Medal for service while serving in the countries of Germany, South Korea, and Bosnia. As a Sergeant First Class I also managed a \$7-million-dollar budget during my time at Ft Liberty. I have been in a leadership position since the age of 19.

I have been a Commissioner of Soccer and Basketball for ages 6-18. A Coach for over 20 years' experience in basketball, softball, volleyball and horseshoes. I have coached Women and Men softball teams. I know how to handle all age groups.

Husband to a 21-year Army veteran having a daughter, two sons and blessed with 14 grandchildren.

Blessed to be a Servant of the Lord.

I look forward to serving you and working for you.

Clarence W. Lassiter, Jr.



Call for Candidates

If you are interested...the NHPA President
and NHPA 5th Vice President positions are open
for candidates.

SECTION 7. Candidates for NHPA office must announce their candidacy in writing to be received by the President and the Horseshoe Pitching Newslane Editor no later than April 1st. Incumbents, however, must announce their candidacy in the same manner by February 1st.

Don't Forget...submit all rules/by-laws proposals ASAP

Austin Bailey, NHPA 1st Vice President

Wow where has the year gone I for one cannot believe that it is March already. I am excited to start getting out and throwing some shoes here soon. I hope everyone is getting their tournaments in and will be ready for the World Tournament this year in Washington. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

I want to let everyone know that the rules/by-laws committee are looking forward to looking over all the new rules/ by-laws proposals. If you have sent any form after the world tournament last year to now, I would appreciate that you resend those to my email now just to make sure that I receive those and I can get them to the committee. Please remember that I did extend the by date to get the rules and by-laws proposals in because of the transition between Brian and me. Speaking of the committee I am pleased to announce that I have added Tina Hawkins to our committee, and we look forward to having her join us.

I feel as if I need to remind everyone that the Senior Women's Trial that we have going on right now is just a trial. We have not created a new division for it yet and we will revisit this at the NHPA Delegate Meeting at The World Tournament. I will say that you can throw from the shorter distance in tournaments if the tournament director allows you to and all charters are to be keeping stats for this as we stated back in October. I will say that I have had several charters tell me they are keeping the stats separate from eshoe, so the average does not change for them if they do have to move back to the normal distance. I am more than happy to talk to anyone about this trial that we have going on so there is no confusion as I know we have some right now.

I am having an awesome time being an NHPA officer. This is something that I have always wanted to do and with being a member of the NHPA for 26 years now, it just feels right. I look forward to serving you for as long as I can and hope I can make things easier and smooth for the NHPA in any way that I can. I must take this time to Thank our current President Gary Roberts...it has been great working with you, and I look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the rest of your term as President. You have been a tremendous help when I have had questions and are always good about answering the questions in the best way you can. So, with that I will say Thank You!!!

Good Pitching to all!!!!
Austin Bailey



Call for Rules/Bylaws Proposals
Deadline was extended to March 15th. If
you have recommended changes, submit
them to Austin Bailey ASAP!!!

Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

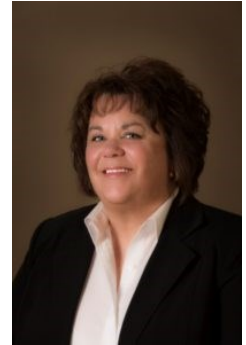
Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

NHPA - VARIOUS SPONSORSHIP/ADVERTISING OPTIONS AVAILABLE

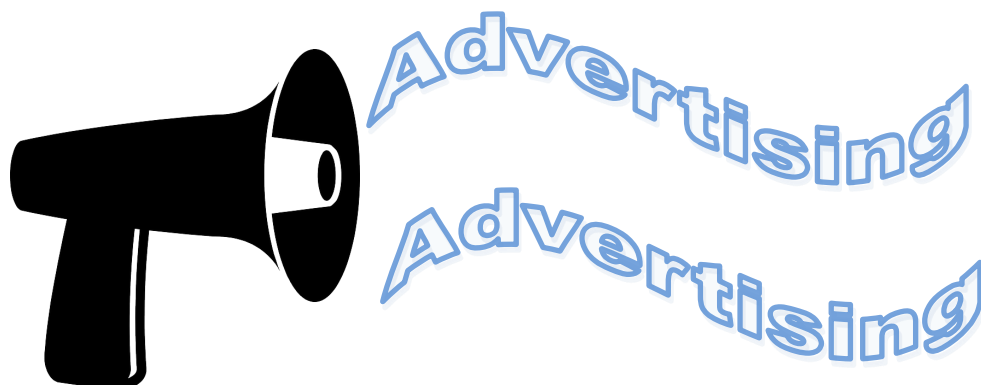
We are continuously reaching out and submitting the NHPA sponsorship opportunities to all persons and companies large and small which contain various dollar amounts for sponsorship opportunities.

Please know that despite any negative outpouring or people's opinions on social media, efforts are constant in working year-round toward getting sponsors of all sizes and types, as well as major sponsors large and small.

There are several options/choices available for your sponsorships and ads: Quarterly Newline publications, The NHPA Website, Sponsorship of World Tournament banners on the fencing, various sponsorship of Prelim and Championship Trophies, logo on the NHPA trailer, any "Live Streaming" on the leaderboards, and mentions during interviews with various media outlets that cover large, medium, and small markets/divisions during the World Tournament, Sponsorship of the Cameras and the courts, and the World Tournament Program book (we are currently working with Tri-Cities CVB for add pricing).



If anyone is interested in becoming a sponsor of any kind, on any level, please look at our Sponsorship packet information on the NHPA website. We can create or tweak a sponsorship to suit your business needs and budgets.



Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

There are various sponsorship packages and choices available as well as in the Newsline, and World Tournament Program Books.

The artwork required for banners, and other displays and news articles will need to be in the forms of jpeg, png, vector, etc. Please contact Blaine Scott or me if you are interested in becoming a sponsor or patron of the NHPA. Our contact information is on the NHPA website.

NEW MEMBERS PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE FOR 2024

If you would like to get your membership bags for your new members, the information and process are listed below for you. We hope that you send those names to us soon so that they will be able to get their items. Once you have your shirts, take a group photo, and send it to me. Mix up your group with some front photos and back photos of your shirts.

If your charter has any newly elected people, please update their contact information with the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Brian Poole. It is very possible that the emails have not been forwarded onto the new Secretaries.

To receive a new membership bag for your new 2024 members, your charter secretary has been asked to follow the protocol listed below so that we can track these bags and justify the costs. This is a tool to help retain your new members or recruit new ones. Send me your request and I will send the form to you for you to fill out and return it to me. You will list your new members along with their NHPA Membership card number. New Members only need 2 events in a calendar year to receive the bag of goodies. These events can be tournaments, leagues, or a combination of both.

THE COLORS OF THE SHIRTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Orange, Gray, White, Golden Yellow, Navy Blue, Bright Safety Yellow, Dark Purple, Pink. If you need another size that is not listed, please let me know and we will special order that for you, please know this will be a special order and I will need adequate time to place the order and get that printed in advance. Sizes range from Small, Med., LG, XL, 2X, 3X, and larger – (No Youth sizes are available). Please keep this list for future reference. Please email me at laurie_r@bellsouth.net if you have any questions or concerns.



**2023
World Tournament
Program Book**



Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

NHPA Banner Program Continuing in 2024

We are continuing the banner program for 2024 and if any interested clubs and charters would like to place an order, please contact me at:

laurie_r@bellsouth.net. I will email you a form to fill out and return. There is no limit to the number of banners you may purchase. Please check all spelling for any errors before returning the form. Recent weather conditions may have damaged or destroyed your banners if they were left outdoors.



The information on the banner will be laid out as shown with your club or charter name on top, and your website just above the NHPA website. You can also reference your social media pages if you have any. Cost is \$35.00 each (no tax) payable to the NHPA. The price increased due to supply chain issues and the cost of vinyl. If you want a size larger than the normal size of 2' foot x 4' foot grommated banner, let me know and I will get the pricing/quote for you before you make the purchase.

58TH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME BANQUET TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE.

Please make plans to attend the 58th annual Hall of Fame Banquet. Tickets are now on sale by placing your orders with our NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Brian Poole or online on the NHPA website. You can contact Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer by emailing him at sec.treas@horseshoepitching.com.

Ticket prices are **\$35.00** each, or, if purchased online, **\$35.00** + online service fees. Ticket sales will be available until July 15th by mail. Banquet tickets will also be on site at the tournament, at the NHPF booth and at the door on the evening of the banquet.

The Hall of Fame Banquet will be held at the Red Lion Hotel Columbia Center with doors opening at 5:00 p.m. for cocktail hour and light music. For anyone donating any items to be auctioned off at the "Silent Auction" at the NHPF booth or the "Live Auction" during the Hall of Fame Banquet, please contact Dave Sidles or Phyllis Quist.



NOTE: If anyone has food allergies or dietary restrictions with any specific requests, please contact me at laurie_r@bellsouth.net so that we can make sure the caterer has sufficient time to prepare something for you as well.

Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

The schedule for the evening festivities:

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – Cocktail Hour/ Light Music

Cash Bar (open all evening)

6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. – Dinner

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. – Awards, Hall of Fame Inductee

9:00 p.m. -11:00 p.m. - “LIVE AUCTION”

(Bring any donations to the NHPF Booth)

Location for the Banquet:

Red Lion Hotel Columbia Center
1101 N. Columbia Blvd.
Kennewick, WA 99336

The 2024 Hall of Fame Menu

Backyard BBQ Buffet

- BBQ style beef tri-tip
- Grilled honey glazed chicken
- Potato salad
- Mixed seasonal greens with tomatoes, shredded carrots, croutons, and cucumber. Served with ranch & vinaigrette on the side.
- Buttered Corn
- Brown Sugar Baked Beans with Bacon
- Cornbread with Butter
- Chef's Choice Dessert
- Iced Tea and Coffee, Water (various Soft Drinks will be available at the “Open Bar”).



Awards, Banquet and Auction

Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

NHPA 2024 WORLD TOURNAMENT KENNEWICK, WA INFORMATION



Golf Courses Around the Kennewick Area

Here are a few choices for those avid golfers to get out and test your skills. Prepare yourself for an unparalleled golfing experience. These courses are a pleasure for golfers of any skill level to play. Test your accuracy with our fairways, water hazards and sand traps; they have everything you need to challenge yourself and improve your game.



Canyon Lakes Golf Course

3700 W. Canyon Lakes Drive
Kennewick, WA 99337
(509) 582-3736

[HTTPS://WWW.CANYONLAKESGOLFCOURSE.COM/](https://www.canyonlakesgolfcourse.com/)



Zintel Creek Golf Club was designed in 1938 originally as the Twin City Golf Club by the Conservation Corp. The greens are original "push-up" style greens with tree lined narrow fairways and great bunkering.

Zintel Creek Golf Club

314 N. Underwood
Kennewick WA 99336
Office: 509-783-6131
Golf Shop: 509-783-6014
General Manager: Clint@Zintelcreek.com

Located in this waterfront park featuring a path along the river, plus soccer fields & play equipment for kids.

Columbia Park Golf Tri-Plex

2701 Columbia Park Trail
Kennewick, WA 99336
509-585-5195
<https://www.playcolumbiapark.com/>



Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS IN THE TRI-CITIES AREA:

If you don't want the added expense of renting a car, here are some local options for you to have access to various modes of transportation. The hotels will have shuttle service to and from the Pasco Regional Airport.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

Benton Franklin Transit

[Home](#) | [Eastern Washington Transportation \(ewatransportation.com\)](#)

RAD Cab

(509) 585-2944

Amigo Taxi

(509) 440-8580



Ubers and Lyft's are available in the Tri-Cities Area.

PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION:

TC Black

Kennewick, Washington 99336

(509) 596-1248

[TC Black Tri-Cities Premier Luxury town car service. From weddings to an airport shuttle, we've got you covered. \(tricitieblack.com\)](#)

A & A Motorcoach

310 S Main Ave

Pasco, 99301

(509) 575-3676

[A&A Motorcoach - Charter Bus Service & Wine Tours in Central Washington \(aamotorcoach.com\)](#)

Aspen Limo Tours

2406 S. Olympia St

Kennewick, Washington 99336

(509) 572-7494

<http://www.aspenlimotours.com/>

Eastern Washington Transportation

750 Swift Blvd., #14

Richland, Washington 99352

(509) 316-9997

[Home](#) | [Eastern Washington Transportation \(ewatransportation.com\)](#)



Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

FLIGHT TIPS

Many of us are sick of the cold weather and ready for a trip. If you're planning on attending the World Tournament in Kennewick Washington this year, I have researched several travel companies and travel advisors websites, and airlines and these are the tips and the booking sweet spots to capitalize on.



FLIGHT FORECAST

If you're looking to travel somewhere in the country, current airfares are averaging \$256 round-trip, which is down 2% from this time last year.

WANT SOME BOOKING TIPS TO SAVE MONEY ON FLIGHTS?

If you plan on leaving on Tuesday or Wednesday, you could save more than 30% off your total airfare! If you are planning a trip for July, book your flights NOW. Prices are in a good spot. **You should book your trip as early as possible to give you an opportunity to call back later and get a cheaper rate later if the airlines begin to run sales or have discounted ticket prices.**

BEST DEPARTURE AND RETURN DATES:

Whether taking a 2-night, 3-day vacation for the weekend or extending it for a little longer, flying on the right days can **save** travelers. For 3-day weekend trips within the US, plan to depart Saturday and return Monday to **save** an average of \$38 per ticket. For longer 4-day weekend trips, plan to depart Friday and return Monday to **save** just under \$50 per ticket. Traveling mid-week can **save** those heading out on a week-long vacation hundreds of dollars this summer season. Trips starting and ending on Tuesday and Wednesday are 29% to 38% cheaper than departing and returning on peak weekend dates. Starting a week-long vacation mid-week can save travelers as much as \$150 per round trip domestic ticket on average this spring. Domestic travelers can expect to pay under \$250 per ticket for 7-day trips departing on Tuesday or Wednesday, compared to almost \$400 per ticket on Saturday or Sunday.

CAR RENTALS

Considering a road trip to Washington, or planning to pick up a car once you arrive at your destination? You're in luck! Average rates for rental cars this year is \$41 per day nationally, down from \$45 at this time last year. Most travelers are booking 5-day rentals.



For those planning to travel the highway and see the country, relief is expected at the pump as gas prices are down around 15% compared to this time last year.



Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP Publicity & Promotion Director

Kennewick Washington – Tri-Cities Informational Packets as mentioned in previous Newsline's

Mark your calendars for the 2024 World Horseshoe Tournament which will be held in Kennewick WA, **July 29-August 10, 2024**, at the Toyota Center in Kennewick WA. For any charter secretary/treasurer that may have members interested in attending in 2024, we strongly recommend that you contact the Tri-Cities CVB directly.

Please contact **Kaiya** on the Tri-Cities team at Kaiya@visittri-cities.com, or call 1-800-254-5824. and let her know you would like the NHPA Informational Bags/packets (please let her know the quantity and mailing address to mail them) to give out to your members that may want to attend next year.

In these packets you will find the Hotel and RV information as well as local tourism information such as local places to visit, eat, shop and tour while in the Tri Cities area. You can also click on the “Washington” link on the NHPA main page and look around. The link is constantly updated from the CVB side with the latest and most current information.

We have completed the hotel contracts negotiations, and the RV and Hotel reservations can be made “NOW”, by calling “**Directly**” to the hotels and RV parks. The numbers are listed for you to call. Please **“DO NOT”** USE THE NATIONAL RESERVATION HOTEL NUMBERS WHEN YOU CALL. Ask for the “NHPA Horseshoe Discounted Rate” or “Horseshoe Rate” when making your reservations.

Please keep your reservations numbers in a safe place so that you can reference this information in the event you need to update/change/cancel your reservation.

POTENTIAL 2026 WORLD TOURNAMENT LOCATIONS

These are the serious inquiries that we have received information from cities that are interested in bidding for the 2026 World Tournament. We are also waiting on others to send their information over to us that have shown a very strong interest as well that are in the centrally located areas of the U.S.

- Springfield , Illinois
- Shreveport/Bossier, Louisiana
- Kansas City, Kansas
- Wichita, Kansas



www.horseshoepitching.com

NHPA
Come Pitch with Us



Let the Countdown Begin

Ben Webb, 3rd Vice President

We're officially 3 months into 2024, which means we're only 5 months away from the marquee NHPA event, the World Tournament. Around this time everyone is beginning to attend tournaments across the country after a long winter period. Those who don't have access to indoor facilities in the colder regions are likely coming off a 4 -5 month offseason. I've already set my sights on the Sue Snyder Memorial Horseshoe Tour tournament in Newberry, South Carolina in April. The annual event has become one of my favorites as a "season kickoff" with a fun 2-day tournament, the Horseshoe Tour Hall of fame banquet, and the annual "pork in the park" BBQ festival in Newberry. If you leave Newberry on that weekend hungry, you've got no one to blame but yourself. Setting my sights further ahead though is the 2024 World Tournament in the Tri-Cities. My prediction panel will regroup once the schedule is finalized to attempt to predict the winners and move-ups for our 2024 event.



The Washington CVB and I have been busy planning several events for our youth pitchers this year as well. After witnessing our Youth event attendance in recent years, we've made the decision to "switch" our Wednesday and Sunday events due to more youth pitchers being there on Wednesday than Sunday in recent years. For our Wednesday event, we're looking at the Quake Family Fun Center. This center features a Ninja Course, an indoor trampoline park, an arcade and many more activities for our Youth pitchers. On Sunday, we're looking at a trampoline park close to the venue of the hall of fame banquet for our event that day. Please stay tuned to the next edition of the Newsline for any information on sign-ups for either of these events.

We've also confirmed the return of the youth/adult doubles that we held last year. This year we'll be continuing the inaugural name as the Brian Simmons Memorial Youth/Adult Doubles. This tournament will take place on Sunday morning between the weeks and will pair the top 10 averaging cadets out of the **preliminaries** with our adult pitchers.

I look forward to seeing everyone this season and at the 2024 World Tournament in Kennewick!

Presidential Candidacy Announcement

As many are already aware, I have formally announced my candidacy for the position of NHPA President in 2024. While I'm positive there will be other candidates, some with more experience, and some with less, I feel this is the right time for me to run for this position.

Someone asked me "You just joined the council, how could you be ready to be President", a very reasonable question. I've worked with the council for 2 years, as the Youth director for 2 years before joining as 3rd VP in 2024. This experience has allowed me to gain firsthand knowledge of the issues with the operations of our association as it stands. In addition to this, I have been an NHPA member for 18 years. Personally, I've been fortunate to gain several years of management and operations experience with my work. Independent of that, I've been involved in the startup and success of more than 5 independent small businesses. Council experience is important, but only if it's good experience, even then it's not the sole factor in a good candidate.

(Continued on Page 15)

Ben Webb...continued

Every candidate to run for the presidency has run on two pillars: Membership Growth and Sponsorship. Meanwhile, we have produced no notable results in either category. We have less members year by year on a sharp membership decline and very, very few sponsors to boot. This has resulted in a consistently shrinking budget causing us to make cuts in areas that affect you, the members that fund the NHPA.

We're at a critical point in our association, a point where we will begin to progress and grow, or we will slowly dissolve as we continue to lose members. We must begin to give more focus to the individual charters, as that's where true membership growth comes from. We must offer potential sponsors something of value to begin to gain that much needed sponsorship. We must begin to lead in a transparent, hand-in-hand, common sense style of leadership to foster those connections with our charters. Focusing more on the needs of the charters and individual members will be critical to our success. While the World Tournament is important, we must divide our focus to spend more time solving the issues that are pushing us in a negative direction.

In this Newsline edition is my official candidacy announcement that was shared on social media. As I mentioned in that announcement, I will not simply promise "membership and sponsorship", I will set forth a plan for our success that we will deliver, together. In the coming editions of the Newsline, I will begin to discuss certain aspects of this plan that I believe will be the keys to our success. I appreciate all the support I've received so far and continue to receive. I encourage anyone who would like to discuss the issues that are important to them to please reach out to me.

League Director Transition

Jerry Smith's processes for league operations has been a definite but interesting learning curve for me. I appreciate Jerry's support during this transition, I also appreciate the patience of all our league directors and members across the country during this period. As of today, I believe I've gotten all the pending leagues entered and patches distributed to the league directors. If you notice one missing that's been submitted, please don't hesitate to let me know. Top 10's for 2023 are currently in the works and should be completed soon.

Our leagues are at the heart of the NHPA. Without local level leagues, the members that support them, and the directors that run them, our association would be much weaker. These local level weekly events at the core of the NHPA keep members invested, bring in new members, and give members a sense of unity that other tournaments simply don't.

I appreciate all of the support of our league directors across the country that keep these leagues going on a weekly basis. One thing I wasn't aware of before taking this position was that we receive several donations to the sanctioned league program every year. It would be impossible to overstate just how appreciated these are and how much they help to drive the program, funding the patches, awards, and materials for it. I encourage anyone who would like to donate to the sanctioned league program to mail that to me and I can get it to Brian. Please ensure the checks are made out to the NHPA, with a memo of "SL Donation" or similar.

“Club vs Club”?

One idea that we have ran in Kentucky for several years is the “club vs club” competition. We’ve ran this program for several years, as just a fun competition between the different clubs in the state, the rules are simple:

- Each club will be matched for a maximum of 40 total games to be played.
- The club that achieves the highest number of games won of the total 40 will be crowned CLUB CHAMPION.
- The CLUB CHAMPION will take possession of the "Traveling Trophy" for the following horseshoe season signifying their victory.
- All chosen matchups are made within classes from our regular season's KHPA events. Matchups are chosen and made at the discretion of the Club VS Club Director.
- Matchups are chosen using a range of 7% ringer percentage as a high/low guide.
- Matchups are tracked on the number of higher or lower percentage of matchups that have been made for each club and will be kept as even AS POSSIBLE.
- Any matchup made that takes place in a class with a "double round robin" will always use only the FIRST meeting between the matched players.
- As the competition nears a conclusion, it will become necessary to use "one-sided" matchups to complete the game totals.
- Each participating club must have at least 5 regular participating KHPA players on their roster.
- With a 5 Player minimum, no player will exceed more than 9 games played during the competition.
- It is the responsibility of each Club's designated leader to supply the Club VS Club Director with an updated roster with legitimate club players and to encourage enough participation from their club players throughout the season to complete the designated 40 total games.
- Any player on a club's roster must be a regular or semi-regular in that club's weeknight sanctioned or non-sanctioned league.
- A player may only participate for ONE club of choice if they play in more than one club on a regular basis.

At the end of the season, typically at the State tournament, the team with the most wins will take possession of the traveling club vs club trophy. Each year the trophy is updated with the winning team’s plate.



March Madness – Best NHPA Youth Pitcher!*Ben Webb-4th Vice President*

As promised in the last edition of the Newsline, attached is the 64-youth pitcher bracket to determine the greatest youth pitcher in NHPA history. Keep in mind that these are solely opinions of a small panel of NHPA members where the only factors are World Tournament based as well. Unfortunately, compiling different states records for something like this would be a huge, nearly impossible task. The seeding factors were:

- World Tournament Championships
- World Tournament Prelim Class Wins (A-class)
- Averages in the World Tournament
- Appearances Strength of class at time of performance

The panel has populated the bracket and determined the “Elite Eight” the finals will be announced in the next Newsline. Undoubtedly, this bracket has produced some predictable results with few upsets so far. Were these games to play out, with the pitchers in their prime youth years, there would certainly be some lengthy games between them. One of the most interesting matches in the “sweet 16” could’ve very possibly happened, as Sarah Chaffee met Derek Reynolds. This was a very tough call, seeing both in recent years. One factor that was used for Sarah was her performances the last couple of years. Even though Sarah pitched in the Women’s division, her age made her eligible to pitch in the Youth division. Because of this, we used these stats when looking at her game by game in the bracket. The “Elite Eight” shows: Jim Walters vs Jeffery Williams playing the winner of Sarah Chaffee vs Kipp Barody. Across the bracket we’d see Walter Ray Williams Jr vs Mark Seibold playing the winner of Alan Francis vs Steven Hohl. The most interesting aspect here would be if Jeffery could survive Jim Walters and the winner of Chaffee/Barody, while Walter Ray gets through Seibold and the winner of Francis/Hohl. This would set up a final game that took place in the early 1970’s, a brother vs brother match, one more time? That’s only if both of their individual stats can push them both to the finals.

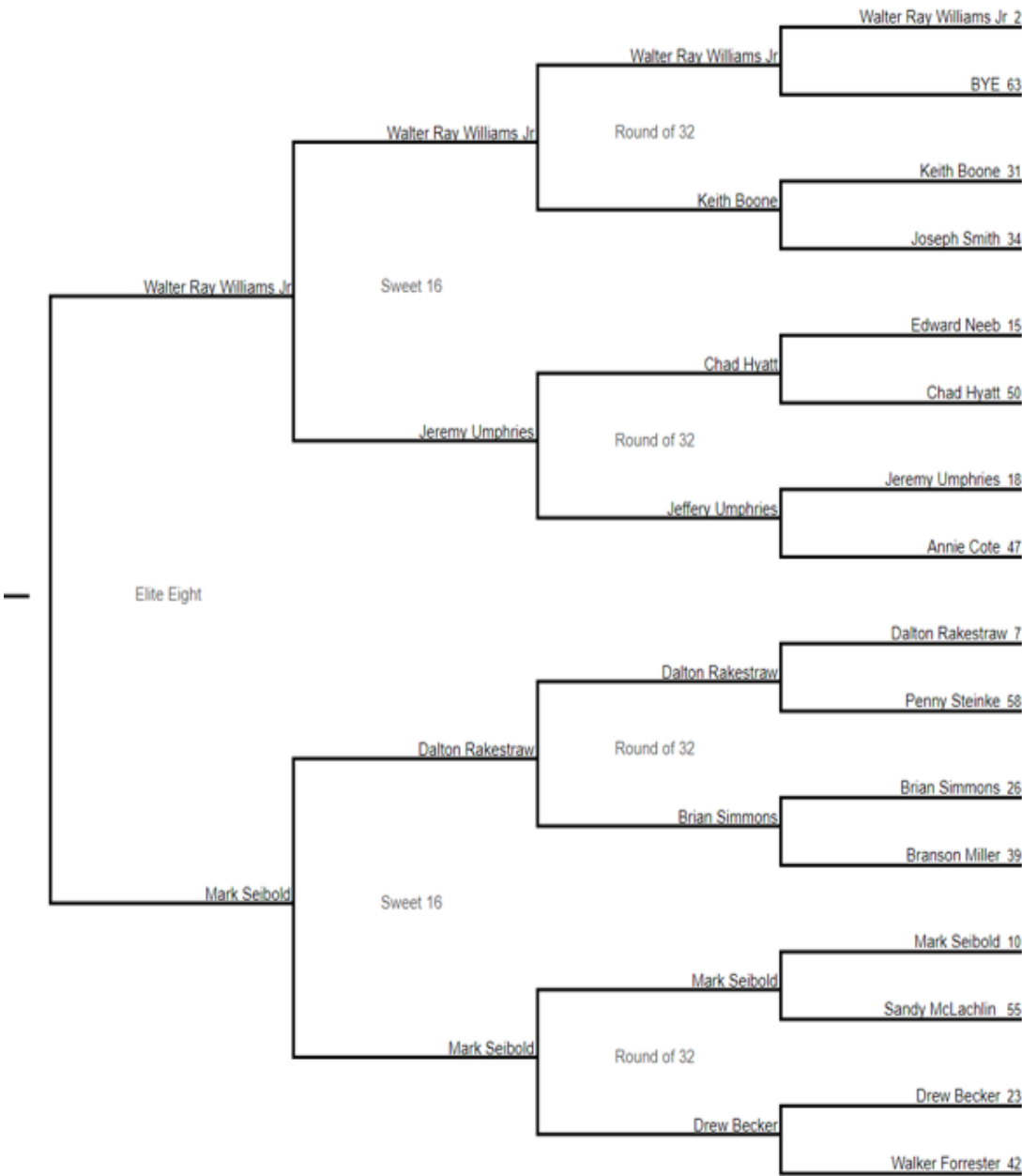
Stay tuned to the next edition of the Newsline to see who makes it to the finals and ultimately comes out on top!

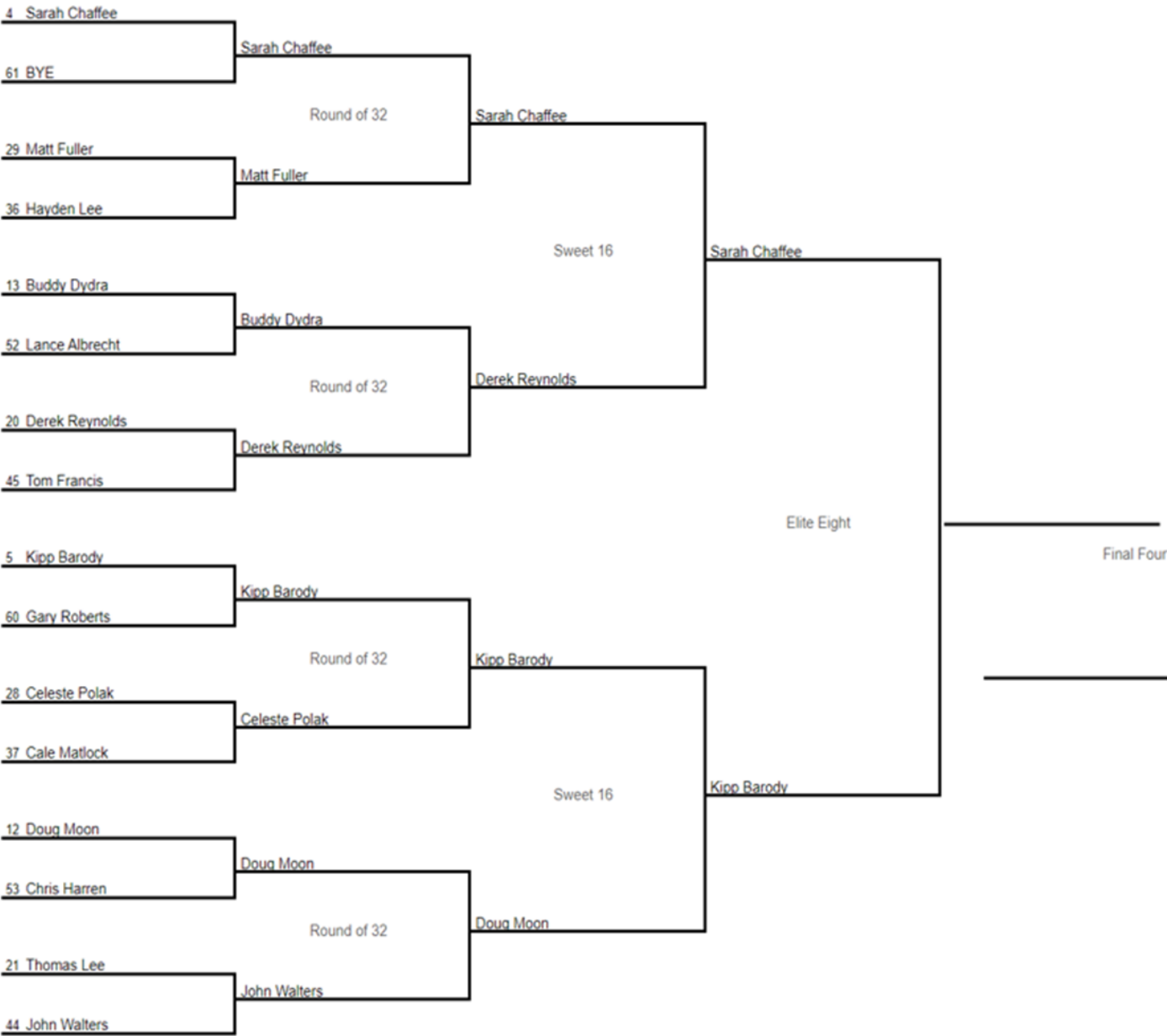


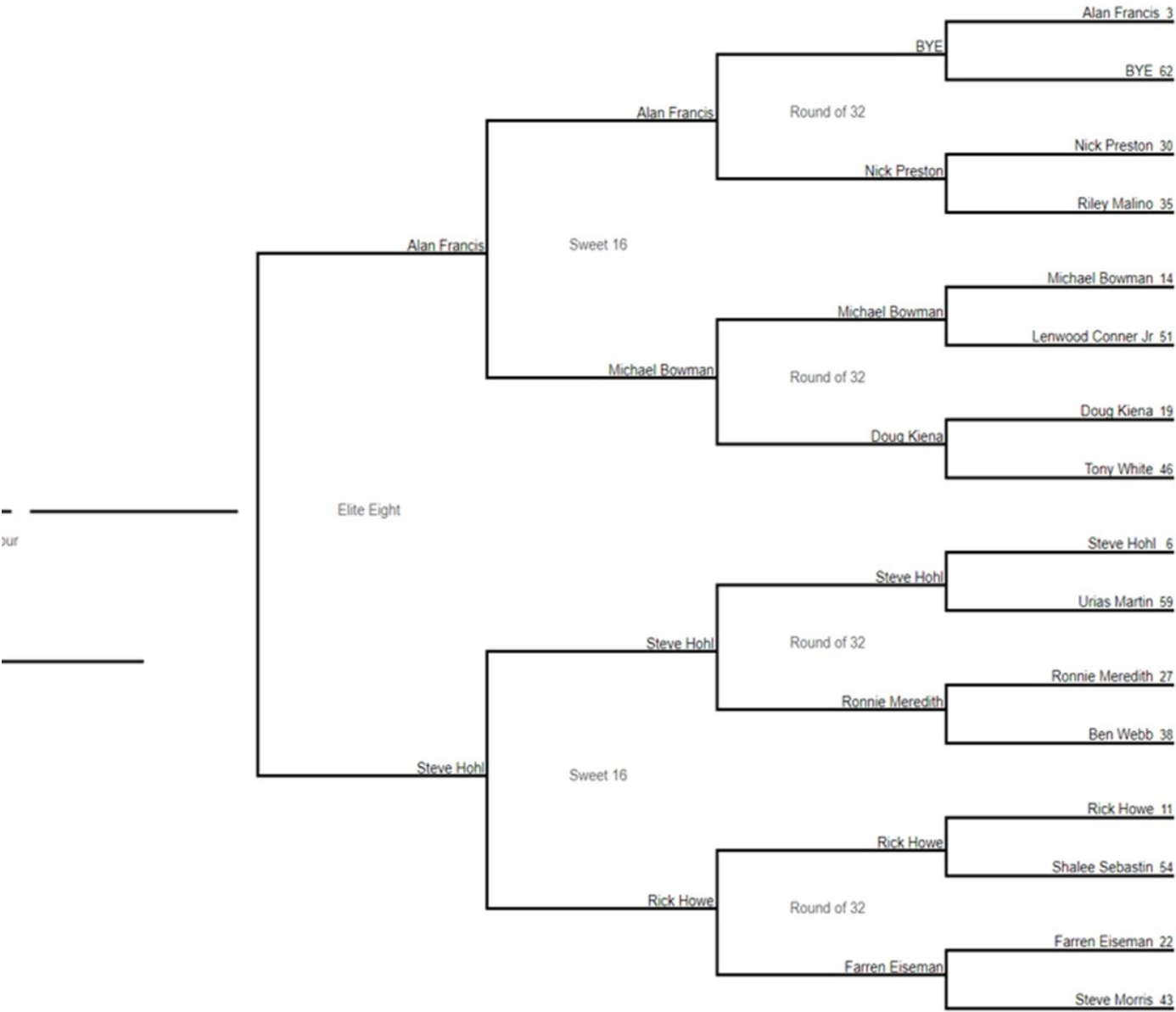
(Continued on Page 18)



(Continued on Page 19)







Patch update

Barb Carson, 4th Vice President

Do you believe it's March already? Happy almost Spring. I hope everyone is having a great start to 2024 and pitching lots of ringers. Some of you are already into your 2024 season while others are waiting for April to begin. I wish you all Good Luck at your Tournaments, but more importantly have fun and enjoy your horseshoe families.

As we look forward to bigger and better things in 2024, we the council have been busy preparing for the World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington. We hope everyone is looking forward to the new World Tournament Format that will begin at the 2024 World Tournament. This is a huge milestone for the NHPA and is a step in the right direction that will benefit everyone. I am very excited and proud to be on the council and to be a part of this new change. We have switched up the weeks so that the Higher pitchers will pitch the first week and the Lower pitchers will pitch the second week. This will give the classes that will be pitching a chance to come a couple of days early to see the Championship Tournament. I would love to see all of the RD's participate and be a part of this exciting new venture.



I have been very busy with sending out the 2024 Patch orders. Thank you to all of the RD's that have already submitted their orders. You all make my job easier and I appreciate everything you do to make it run smooth. Just as a reminder, the Tournament Sanction Certificates are no longer required. Only Sanction Tournaments are in eShoe, therefore you no longer have to fill out a Certificate for each Tournament. You will notice that we left the year on the patches for this year. Thank you to everyone that submitted your Charter Votes. We heard your comments and the majority of the Charter Votes were to leave the year on them. We will be discussing this topic again this year during the Charter President/RD and League Meeting at the 2024 World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington. Please keep in mind the cost of the patches have increased significantly and how many patches that are thrown away at the end of your season. That is money that is being thrown away because you can't use them for the next year. Also, please keep in mind that the year will remain on all State Tournament patches. This would decrease the number of patches and the cost for the next year because if you have Class Champion patches left over, you can use them for the next year and your Patch Order will decrease. Tournament dates are July 29 – August 10, 2024. Please see Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP for more information on Hotels and/or RV Parks and where to eat and to shop.

Three Rivers Campus

Toyota Center and Toyota Arena, located right next door to each other, offer a combined 44,000 sq. ft. of playable floor space for the NHPA World Tournament. Just steps away is the stunning Three Rivers Convention Center, a 75,000 sq. ft. facility, offering multiple breakout rooms and Great Hall space for tournament goers to utilize. All three venues are centrally located in Kennewick, WA with multiple dining, activities, and shopping options just steps away to be explored.

The council has decided to eliminate the formal Shoe Check again this year, and implement the modified version that we used last year in Lansing, Michigan. Your shoes will be measured and shirts and close-toed shoes will be checked on day 2 or day 3 when you pick up your Round Robin Card. On day 1 you will still need to arrive 1 hour before your scheduled pitching time to the designated room for class photos and announcements from the Shift Director. We hope to see all of you in Tri-cities, Washington for the 2024 World Tournament.

(Continued on Page 23)

Barb Carson...continued

Attention RD's. Just a reminder, the year 2023 was a Court Sanction year. I have received some of your Court Sanction Lists, but I still need a few. I don't need a copy of your Court Sanction Certificates. I only need a list of your states court facilities that have been Sanctioned. When you have finished your court sanctioning, simply e-mail your list to me at bcarson848@gmail.com.

RD's, please remember that you are required to renew your NHPA membership before January 1st, 2024. We will also need people to help with the World Tournament set-up process, If there is any possibility that you can come a couple of days early and you are pitching the first week, we would appreciate any help you can give us. I know that a lot of you come early to pitch in the Warm-up Tournament that is held the Saturday before the 1st week. The date of the Warm-Up Tournament is July 27, 2024. Watch for more information as we complete our plans for the World Tournament. I will also need the RD's who are planning to attend the World Tournament to assist me with the Check-In process. It usually only takes about 30 minutes out of your day for each session. I would appreciate your help with this process as it makes the Check-In process go faster.

We will also be having a Charter/RD/League meeting during the World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington. I will let all of you know when that will be scheduled as soon as I have a date and time. Thank you again to everyone for all of your hard work and dedication. Good Luck and keep pitching those ringers. Hope to see all of you at World in Kennewick, Washington. Have a great winter. Please stay warm and be careful.

Barb

Camera Update for World Tournament 2024 and more

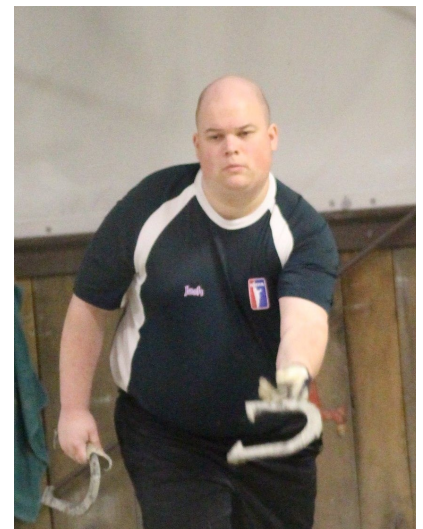
Josh Olson-5th Vice President

We are continuing to do our research on finding a way to provide some sort of live streaming during the World Tournament. Many different avenues are being explored such as starting a YouTube page and other social media platforms to create avenues for streaming. We will provide more information and updates when we have them. Some ideas will also be talked about during our next Council meeting to encourage players to stream live with their own devices, and maybe even the idea of allowing individuals to go live during a shift of competition and possibly receive shift pay for helping with promoting the event. Just some ideas that are being thought about and that will be discussed going forward.

I am excited to finally give Scoreholio a try, as I am putting this together, I have scheduled a Tournament for March 30th in Becker MN. We are going to use Scoreholio to keep score and run the Tournament, keep an eye on the Minnesota Horseshoe Facebook Page and my person page for details on how to follow along, and join us for the Tournament.

The World Tournament will be here before we know it, I can't wait to see everyone in Kennewick, I am looking forward to seeing how the format change will turn out. Hopefully for the best. I am looking to find one more person that would like to be apart of the I.T Staff during the Tournament, looking for an individual that knows the ins and outs of HSMaster and Scorekeeper, as well as basic computer troubleshooting skills. If you are interested and would be willing to help with the entire event, or one week or the other during the competition please contact me so we can work out some details regarding your stay and other things.

That is all for now, See you on the courts. Josh



From the desk of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

World Tournament Preparation Is Underway

By Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

Dear NHPA Members,

Hello Horseshoe Pitchers. It is still cold here in Idaho and I have been busy with Patrolling for our local ski hill, Pebble Creek, and snowmobiling here in Idaho. I hope all of you are staying active and doing something you enjoy.

My thoughts for this article are to give everyone my tentative schedule for the World Tournament in Kennewick.

July 29-31 will have 96 pitchers from Men's, Women's, Sr Men's, Sr Women's, and Elders vying for a top position based on percentage for the Championships on Aug 1-3. The youth will pitch in the evening, as usual, on Aug 1-3, Preliminaries on Aug 1-2, Championship on Aug 3.

Looking at the last 2 years the percentage cutoff is between 35 - 37 percent. It all depends on the number of entries where the cutoff will be.

The next week, Aug 5-10 will be lower percentage pitchers (0-25%) on Aug 5-7, and the remaining pitchers (25-35%) on Aug 8-10. This is my tentative proposed schedule.

With the courts we have planned to setup, we can handle 1,152 participants using 4 shifts each day. There is some room to add more shifts if needed and we will do what we need to to make this a great tournament. We just need everyone that can to get your entry form submitted early. Use the form in this Newline or the one on our website. You can also enter online from our website.

The council has developed our budget for 2024 and it will all depend on the number of NHPA members that join if we are good or in the red for this year. We based it on our numbers for last year and hope that will be low and we change the current trend of losing more members each year. This is not just a council problem about membership. It is every NHPA member's problem. We can't exist and keep providing a World Tournament every year if we don't work together and increase our membership back to where it was.

Thanks for your support and please call if you have questions and I will do my best to help you find an answer.

See you on the Courts!

Best regards,

Brian Poole
Secretary/Treasurer
National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA)

Brian



ENTRY FORM (READ CAREFULLY)**National Horseshoe Pitchers Association**

July 29 - August 10, 2024 Kennewick, Washington

2024 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Name: _____ | | 2024 NHPA Card # _____ | |
| (Please Print) _____ | | (or Canadian #) _____ | |
| Address: _____ | | | |
| City: _____ | State/Prov: _____ | Zip/Postal Code: _____ | |
| Telephone: _____ | Cell: _____ | Birth Date: _____ | |
| Email: _____ | | | |
| Check One -----> <input type="checkbox"/> I will print my schedule. <input type="checkbox"/> Mail my schedule to me. | | | |
| Circle the <u>Division</u> you are entering: - You can enter only one division - (See notes near bottom of page) | | | |
| OPEN MEN 40 Ft | SENIOR MEN 40ft (see note #2) | OPEN WOMEN 30 Ft | SENIOR WOMEN 30ft (see note #2) |
| | | ELDER MEN/ME 30FT (see note #1) | JR BOY / JR GIRL 30ft (see note #3) |
| | | CADET BOY / CADET GIRL 20 Ft (See note #3) | |

All applicable information above is required. Form will be returned if not signed below or is incomplete. **Entry Deadline May 20, 2024****No refunds will be made after May 25, 2024**

Note: A processing fee of \$15.00 will apply to all refunds.

PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NHPA), all officers, employees, agents and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. The NHPA and it's legal Representatives (NHPA Officers) assigns, and retains the right and permissions to publish, without charge, Photographs taken during the 2024 World Horseshoe Tournament. These photo's, video's may be used in any publication, or in audio-visual presentations including "Live" interviews, promotional literature, advertising, sponsorships, or in other similar ways that the NHPA sees fit to use on behalf to represent and promote the NHPA World Horseshoe Tournament and the sport.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

----- mail top half only -----

ENTRY FEES: U.S. ADULTS -- \$135.00 • ALL JUNIORS/CADETS -- \$25.00 • U.S. FUNDS ONLY
ADULTS OUTSIDE US - \$138.00

CANADIAN ENTRIES MUST USE MONEY ORDER IF SENDING PAYMENT - ENTRY FEE INCLUDES SCOREKEEPER FEE

MAIL THE TOP PORTION OF THIS FORM ONLY along with REGISTRATION FEES (PAYABLE TO NHPA)

TO: **NHPA**
2660 S Fairway Dr
Pocatello, ID 83201

Telephone & Email Inquiries to:
 Phone: 208-201-3326
 Email: sec.treas@horseshoepitching.com

All Entries must be on this signed form and mailed with a postmark no later than **May 20, 2024**. You may enter at anytime prior to May 20, 2024. Entries received with a postmark after May 20 shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the tournament only as space is available. All adults must have pitched in a minimum of four (4) US/Canadian sanctioned events in the twelve (12) months prior to May 20, 2024, in the same division you are entering. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors. Exceptions for US Armed Forces members and family and foreign competitors (other than Canadians) are outlined in Rule 11, Sec D.1 of the RGS Book. Contact NHPA for more information regarding qualifying exceptions. All averages used will be the average on record in NHPA-eShoe as of **May 20, 2024**. Anyone qualifying under an exception must have those scores recorded by the same date. All NHPA and any special tournament rules apply. Please see note regarding refunds.

READ CAREFULLY: Any adult male pitching from the full distance platform may enter the **OPEN MEN'S DIVISION** regardless of age, just as any adult female may enter the **OPEN WOMEN'S DIVISION**. To enter the **SENIOR DIVISION**, you must be 60 years of age or older before the end of 2024. Any man that turns 65 years of age in 2024, is older than 65, or has an approved medical exemption may enter the **ELDER MEN'S DIVISION**. Entrants in the **JUNIOR BOY** and **JUNIOR GIRL DIVISION** must be 18 years old or less for the entire 2024 calendar year. **CADET BOY** and **CADET GIRL DIVISION** entrants must be 12 years old or younger for the entire 2024 calendar year.

Note # 1. 30ft Men with Medical Exemptions must be in NHPA-eShoe as exempt to pitch in this division.**Note # 2.** For class play, a minimum of 48 must enter this division or it may be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Preliminaries.**Note # 3** Junior Boys & Junior Girls divisions will be mixed for preliminary play. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls divisions will be mixed for Preliminary play.The pitching schedule will be finalized by **May 31, 2024** and published on the NHPA website. If you indicated above to receive the schedule by mail, it will be mailed to the address you have listed above during the second week in June.

Please note: The NHPA reserves the right to disallow your participation for any of the following reasons; any errors on this form, if your records don't appear in NHPA-eShoe, any false or misleading information on this form, if the NHPA cannot verify through its established procedure the validity of any Medical Exemption, or for any other reason by majority vote of the NHPA Council. The NHPA also reserves the right to add qualified entrants and to make class participant changes after the deadline. No pitcher will be moved from class time or division, without notification, after final schedule has been published.

NHPF Report

Consider a Tax Deductible Donation!

By Dave Sidles, NHPF Director

We've all visited a museum at some point in our lives, whether it was during a school field trip or with family on vacation. Approximately 850 million people visit American museums each year, but have you ever stopped to wonder how many people that museum impacted or why it came to be?

The purpose of modern museums is to collect, preserve, interpret, and display objects of artistic, cultural, or scientific significance for the study and education

of the public. To city lead-

ers, an active museum community can be seen as a gauge of the cultural or economic health of a city, and a way to increase the sophistication of its inhabitants. Museums are, above all, storehouses of knowledge. In 1829, James Smithson's bequest funding the Smithsonian Institution stated that he wanted to establish an institution "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge"

Museum purposes vary from institution to institution. Generally speaking, museums collect objects of significance that comply with their mission statement for conservation and display. Apart from questions of provenance and conservation, museums take into consideration the former use and status of



an object. On display in the NHPA's museum are many items portraying the history of our sport. But there is more. Also located within the museum is the National Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame.

What is the Hall of Fame? A hall, wall, or walk of fame is a list of individuals, achievements, or other entities, usually chosen by a group of electors and honored by enshrinement, those individuals who had exceptional careers, and recognizing others for their significant achievements. 178 individuals have been inducted since 1966 when the first 7 charter members were named. Their list of accomplishments and achievements is truly amazing as well as inspiring. It's all there in a display at the museum as well as on the NHPA website.

Also within the museum you can see several plaques recognizing donors who have, over the years, contributed amounts of \$500 or more. On the NHPF website you can also see a list of "Legacy Donors". This list contains names of individuals, NHPA Charters, horseshoe pitching clubs, and various other entities who have cumulatively given \$2000.00 or more.

We invite you to visit the Hall of Fame and Museum and of course, your support is always welcome.

David Sidles
NHPF President



*NHPF Report***Consider a Tax Deductible Donation!***By Dave Sidles, NHPF Director***Special Thanks to Our Recent Supporters****Donating \$25 - \$100**

Dan Sharp, MO
 Susan Moore, NY
 Central Iowa Traveling Horseshoe League
 Lamb Weston

Donating \$100 - \$199

Joe Santel, MO (Brick)
 Karen Meredith, KY
 (Brick)

Donating \$200 - \$500

David and Carla Sidles

SANTA COMES TO THE NHPA/NHPF HALL OF FAME!*Jeanette Claas*

Santa arrived in the St. Nick of time at the NHPA/NHPF facility during the December 2023 Christmas season. He was all lit up with eight tiny reindeer with Rudolph leading the pack! It was a beautiful sight for all members and visitors to behold. What made it so special was that it was made from seventy small horseshoes and a few larger horseshoes making up the sleigh. White Christmas lights was strung through the reindeers and Rudolph had a very red nose that was all lit up to boot!



ED Pashia, a longtime horseshoe pitcher from Potosi, Missouri handmade this creation. He delivered it to the courts in his pick-up on a Saturday when two of our members, Margie Furlong and Betty Debold, were hosting that day to greet visitors when they arrived. They were overwhelmed when they saw it and couldn't wait to call me and let me know about it. We all soon discovered that Ed had more talent than just pitching shoes on the courts. A proud moment came to him when he was inducted into Missouri's State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame in 2019. His creation is mounted on a seven-foot board and weighing approximately thirty pounds. Ed said he enjoyed making it and donating it to the NHPA/NHPF Hall of Fame for everyone to enjoy.

So instead of putting up a Christmas tree this year, the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club members decided to replace it with this piece of art. Ed has made several of these displays. One that he made he raffled off and the money that he collected was donated to the St. Jude's Hospital for Children with Cancer problems in Tennessee. The person with the winning raffle ticket won the Santa display.

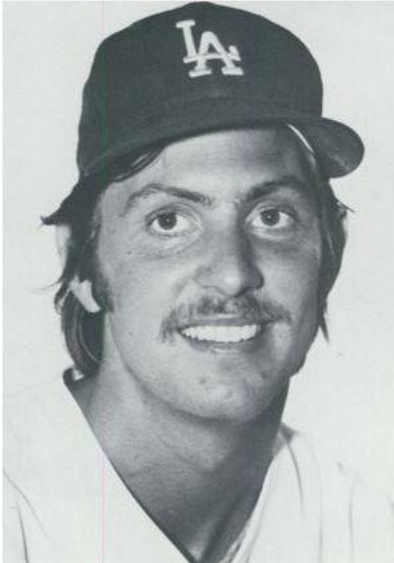
The QRHC held the "Jingle Bell Rock" Tournament on December 9 with Tournament Director, Steve Gamache, directing his first tournament, assisted by Rich Altis, hosting 62 pitchers. The "A" Class was filled with tough competitors with Don Gillette earning the grand Championship Title with an average of 70.6%. High Game of 80.95% was pitched by Pam Meyer. A good time was had by all. The Santa horseshoe display received many good comments.

More good news from the QRHC! This year's winter mix league on Monday nights reports they have a larger league this year which included 46 new players! They were brought in by some of our previous members and they all seem to be enjoying themselves! Some have even signed up to play in our monthly tournaments. We are all so happy to have them join our club!

The Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club was so proud to receive the display and so grateful for Ed donating it to us. We thank him for his kindness and generosity; he made the scene of Christmas a little more merrier with the spirit of Christmas filling the air. We would like to invite each of you as you travel on the road to stop by and pitch some shoes with us or maybe join in on one of our tournaments. We wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year and lots of ringers in 2024!

Transition from Baseball in the Big Leagues to Horseshoes

By Dalton Rakestraw



Playing in the major leagues is only just a dream for most parents and children. Always asking yourself if they have what it takes to make it? Are they just chasing a dream? Google suggests 0.5% of high schoolers will play collegiate sports then be drafted to the majors. If making it big was only a dream, there is one man who made that dream a reality! The Southern California Horseshoe Pitching Association has the opportunity to make it big with the celebrities in Hollywood! Being so close makes it a little more surreal to achieve those big names... Ellen DeGeneres, Kim Kardashian, but have you heard of Rick Auerbach? He lives in Calabasas amongst those famous names. Rich is a retired Major League Baseball player!

Born February 15, 1950, in Woodland Hills, California, Rick Auerbach wouldn't know just yet what talent had transpired in him. Growing up Rick states, "I was a very fast runner and had a good arm. I lived baseball and played and practiced as much as I could but honestly to make it to the big leagues, it was really a God given talent." Growing up Rick wasn't sure he

had what it took, but as time progressed, he soon found out. He would sign a contract deal faster than he thought. "I was offered a 13th round pick in the 1968 MLB draft when I completed high school. However, I chose to play junior college and I had only played one year. I was then a pick in the secondary draft of the 1969 and I had a professional contract to sign. I had no college degree completed, I went and started playing for the MLB."

Rick signed with the Seattle Pilots who became the team we call the Milwaukee Brewers in 1971,72,&73. He was then traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1974,75,&76. Traded again to the Cincinnati Reds for 1977-1980, he finally played his last MLB season in 1981 with the Seattle Mariners. He played short stop position and says "it's the best spot in the house." Rick ended his MLB career with a batting average of .220 with 9 home runs and 86 RBI's!

Upon his retirement from the MLB, he soon found himself back in California, and started bowling. Rick would find himself on the bowling lanes far more now that his majors retirement came. He would bowl several 300 games and carry a bowling average around 260. There is a video on YouTube "Rick Auerbach bowls a 300 game." He would be a horse Ferrier by day and an avid bowler come night. "I was a bowler and the torque on my knee with a 16lb bowling ball caught up with me." Rick was looking for something to do. Bending, reaching, pulling, tugging, prying and all the things that would cause the body to be uncomfortable after a while. Rick was working on a horse one day when one of his shoeing friends mentioned to try pitching horseshoes since they were only 2lbs compared to a 16lb ball

Rick states "I have never previously pitched horseshoes before. My friend just suggested it and they were pitching tournaments." Rick found his way to the NHPA horseshoe court soon after. Rick would sign up and become a member and really start to excel at the game. Ending last year with an average of 63.48% "I think a lot of my success in horseshoes can be related to the MLB. Pitching horseshoes combines hand-eye coordination along with concentration and along with a release point, just like baseball."

Rick Auerbach...continued

Rick is a gentleman and a scholar. He definitely keeps his status under wraps. I would have never known anything if he didn't tell me. However Rick did say "Dalton you're 27, I wouldn't expect you to know me playing MLB." We both laughed. I asked Rick what is more nerve-wrecking pitching horseshoes or playing MLB?

His response, "I believe playing for the Reds Big Machine and the Dodgers with 50,000 fans in the stadium watching you every minute, waiting for you to perform with accuracy, and win for them, is just a little more pressure than pitching sanctioned horseshoes."

Rick is a one of a kind on the courts, when he strings his ringers, his form is impeccable and his release point is on target each time. He is a real nice guy to pitch against. Rick has not been California State Champion...yet. However, he has the title of Southern California 30' Champion. Of the 12 tournaments he played last year, he won 8.

If Rick is at the world tournament, or if you happen to come to Southern California to pitch, ask him to pitch a quick game to 21, see how far you can get, because boom, boom, boom, game over.



Submitted by Dalton Rakestraw, 2nd Vice President of Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association

Blast from the past...1926

Here are a couple of articles from The Horseshoe World 1926

<https://www.horseshoepitching.com/HSWorld/March26.pdf>

Defeated Champ Popular With the Horseshoe Fans

"Putt" Mossman, the 19-year-old horseshoe wizard, who successfully pitched through two national championship meets but who went down in defeat at the hands of a fellow Iowan—"War Horse" Jackson—was perhaps one of the most popular champions the game has ever known or ever will know.

Mossman has made friends throughout the United States, pitching exhibition games here and there. His keen eyesight and never-failing ringer ability is attributed to clean habits and a gentlemanly character—a thing that cannot always be said of champions in other lines of sport.

Mossman is defeated but he will not soon be forgotten as perhaps the most popular champion of the horseshoe realm.

KIND OF SHOES PITCHED BY DIFFERENT PLAYERS

During the National Horseshoe Pitchers tournament held at St. Petersburg, Fla., Feb. 8 to 18, 1926, Buckman, Brundige, Arthur Cumming, Jackson, Mossman, Nussbaum, Reed, Coy, Spencer, Buckminster, Estep, Alex Cumming, Deeg, Gouchenour, Hill, Lawcock, McDonald, McLean, McQueen, Les Robison, Witmer, Mrs. Besancon, Mrs. Brioullette, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Francisco, Mrs. Cumming, and Mrs. Young each pitched the Ohio horseshoe manufactured by the Ohio Horseshoe Company, Columbus, Ohio.

Duryee, Gilliland, Thompson, Beesecker, Burdick, Conklin, H. Robinson, Harding and Wagner each pitched the Martin horseshoes manufactured by W. J. Martin, Cleveland, Ohio.

Nunamaker, Leonard and Vite each pitched the National Standard horseshoe manufactured by the National Standard Horseshoe Company, Akron, O.

NHPA Website/Newsline Advertising options available

There are advertising rates and options available for the NHPA website. There is an annual contract and fee of \$100 for each ad.

Please provide the artwork/file and to the NHPA webmaster, Blaine Scott at horseshoepitching@gmail.com. The payment must be submitted and paid in full along with the signed contract to Jim Kinney, NHPA Sec./Treas.

You can print a copy of the contract shown below on the NHPA website under the Newsline/Website Sponsorship tab. The advertisement will not post until payment in full is received.



NHPA Website Advertising

This agreement shall be between the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, herein known as NHPA, and advertiser: _____.

The purpose of this agreement is to outline and confirm certain terms and conditions between the two parties, specifically regarding advertising on the NHPA website www.horseshoepitching.com.

The NHPA grants the advertiser the right to advertise their product on www.horseshoepitching.com. In addition, the NHPA and named advertiser agree to the following conditions.

1. **Advertising Fee** – An advertising fee of \$100 will be paid/received by Jim Kinney, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer prior to posting the ad on the website.
2. **Advertising Image** – The advertiser listed above will provide a jpeg image not exceeding 300 x 150 bpi (.png, .jpg) which will be placed on the website www.horseshoepitching.com in one or more locations.
3. **Link to advertiser webpage** – The advertiser listed above will provide a link to their website where the product can be viewed/purchased.
4. **Website content** – Information/content located on the advertiser webpage must always be appropriate for youth since it may be viewed by cadet/junior horseshoe pitchers any time. The NHPA reserves the right to remove the link if the content does not meet that requirement.
5. **Term of advertising** – Advertising will be provided for a term of 12 months beginning with the date of first posting on the website for a period of 12 months.
6. **Point of contact** – The NHPA Secretary/Treasurer shall be the single point of contact to manage all financial communications between the two parties. The NHPA Webmaster will be the single point of contact to manage all advertising specifics for posting, availability, and adding/removing ads from the website: www.horseshoepitching.com.

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

NHPA OFFICERS

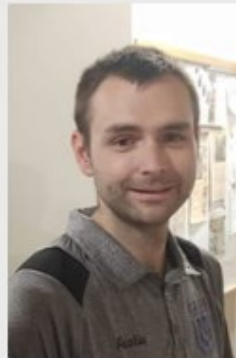


Gary Roberts
President

gbroberts5542@yahoo.com

638 Salem Cave Road
Beaver, Ohio 45613

(740) 835-1925



Austin Bailey

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

2ringersix08@gmail.com

215 Dickinson Rd.
Springfield, IL 62704

(217) 891-6531



Laurie Lampkin

2nd VP-/World Tournament
Coordinator/Publicity
Promotion Director

laurie_r@bellsouth.net

278 Chaplin Rd.
Bloomfield, KY 40008

502-507-2597 - Cell



Ben Webb

3rd VP-/Sanction League
Director, Junior
Scholarships, Junior
Director

bwebb5155@gmail.com

605 Washington Street
Brownsville, KY 42210

(270) 597-4900



Barbara Carson

4th VP-/R.D. Director, Court
Sanctioning

bcarson848@gmail.com

106 Reserve Circle
Wellington, Ohio 44090

(216) 548-9337



Josh Olson

5th VP, IT Director

itnhpa@gmail.com

503 SW Brown St.
Verndale, MN 56481

(218) 639-4641



Brian Poole

Secretary/Treasurer

bjpoole3564@gmail.com

2660 S. Fairway Dr.
Pocatello, ID 83201

208-201-3326



NHPA

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

"Come Pitch with Us!"

Add your advertisement to NHPA History!

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

| Placement * | Rate ** | Size |
|--|---------|--|
| Header (top 1.25" of page) | \$255 | 1.25" x 7.5" |
| Footer (bottom 1.25" of page) | \$80 | 1.25" x 7.5" |
| Square (4 squares per ½ page vertical) | \$100 | 2.2" x 2.2" |
| ¼ page | \$300 | 3.5" x 4.5" |
| ½ page (vertical or horizontal) | \$400 | Vertical: 3.5" x 9" Horizontal: 4.5" x 7" |
| Full page (pages 3-10 selected by editor) | \$600 | 7" x 9" |
| Full page (pages 11-999 selected by editor) | \$500 | 7" x 9" |

Prepayment is required at time of order

Ads must be scheduled in advance with Blaine Scott, NHPA Newsline Editor

Artwork must be received by the 15th of the month prior to placement

Payment should be mailed to National Horseshoe Pitching Association,

ATTN: Newsline Advertising, P.O. Box 205, 125 Walnut Dr., Drexel, MO 64727

Womens Top 100 Stats 6 March 2024

| Rank | Card # | First Name | Last Name | State | Division | Ringer Percent | Events Played |
|------|--------|------------|-----------|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 280216 | Sarah | Chaffee | WI | Women | 85.16 | 8 |
| 2 | 350626 | Shalee | Cason | FL | Women | 83.75 | 8 |
| 3 | 330031 | Marlene | Ray | TN | Women | 83.13 | 17 |
| 4 | 330030 | Maxine | Griffith | TN | Women | 79.46 | 17 |
| 5 | 623905 | Lindsay | HODGINS | AB | Women | 79.35 | 7 |
| 6 | 664710 | Sylvianne | Moisan | QC | Women | 79.05 | 13 |
| 7 | 490476 | Skyla | Rioux | CT | Women | 78.69 | 9 |
| 8 | 330173 | Joan | Elmore | TN | Women | 77.93 | 17 |
| 9 | 280078 | Penny | Steinke | WI | Women | 76.02 | 24 |
| 10 | 800439 | Pam | Meyer | MO | Women | 75.54 | 17 |
| 11 | 220130 | Doris | Hieden | TX | Women | 75.47 | 13 |
| 12 | 360294 | Amy | Francis | OH | Women | 74.83 | 12 |
| 13 | 802026 | Blanca | Hettinga | OR | Women | 74.20 | 19 |
| 14 | 300441 | Denise | Daly | MI | Women | 72.46 | 11 |
| 15 | 190217 | Lachelle | Cook | MO | Women | 71.25 | 5 |

(Continued on Page 34)

Mens Top 100 Stats *6 March 2024*

| Rank | Card # | First Name | Last Name | State | Division | Ringer Percent | Events Played |
|------|--------|------------|-----------|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 360940 | Alan | Francis | OH | Men | 84.98 | 12 |
| 2 | 320292 | Tyler | Howard | KY | Men | 77.93 | 16 |
| 3 | 657381 | Drew | BECKER | ON | Men | 76.74 | 8 |
| 4 | 320063 | Ben | Webb | KY | Men | 76.43 | 24 |
| 5 | 100290 | Brandon | Tenijieth | AZ | Men | 76.31 | 3 |
| 6 | 290652 | Austin | Bailey | IL | Men | 73.44 | 13 |
| 7 | 300151 | Andrew | Adams | MI | Men | 72.94 | 8 |
| 8 | 390143 | Randy | Zeiders | PA | Men | 72.94 | 16 |
| 9 | 260084 | Dan | Watson | AL | Men | 72.52 | 9 |
| 10 | 460059 | Gale | Greene | VT | Men | 71.56 | 16 |
| 11 | 440124 | Ken | Fraser | NY | Men | 71.43 | 10 |
| 12 | 10058 | Matt | Fuller | WA | Men | 68.94 | 12 |
| 13 | 200023 | Gary | Bearpaw | OK | Men | 66.25 | 4 |
| 14 | 290100 | Dalton | Rakestraw | CA | Men | 66.16 | 27 |
| 15 | 190007 | Stan | Griggs | MO | Men | 66.06 | 8 |

Elders Top 100 Stats *6 March 2024*

| Rank | Card # | First Name | Last Name | State | Division | Ringer Percent | Events Played |
|------|--------|------------|------------|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 350350 | Bob | Gray | FL | Elders | 78.94 | 9 |
| 2 | 370121 | David | Holmes | WV | Elders | 78.78 | 11 |
| 3 | 370298 | Junior | Peters | WV | Elders | 78.35 | 12 |
| 4 | 614016 | Tom | MOFFAT | BC | Elders | 76.55 | 16 |
| 5 | 660765 | Jacques | HOULE | QC | Elders | 75.94 | 7 |
| 6 | 191256 | Virgle | McCown | MO | Elders | 75.82 | 15 |
| 7 | 220577 | Danny | Patterson | TX | Elders | 74.22 | 20 |
| 8 | 420337 | Tom | Mills | MD | Elders | 73.96 | 10 |
| 9 | 95094 | Benj | Rains | UT | Elders | 72.98 | 23 |
| 10 | 350071 | Dale | Marteney | GA | Elders | 72.86 | 19 |
| 11 | 100192 | Mike | Massari | AZ | Elders | 72.83 | 32 |
| 12 | 280236 | Jim | Bilderback | WI | Elders | 72.67 | 17 |
| 13 | 340080 | Zane | Goggin | GA | Elders | 72.46 | 7 |
| 14 | 10092 | John | Bruhn | WA | Elders | 72.42 | 7 |
| 15 | 220870 | Tom | Routh | TX | Elders | 72.11 | 18 |

(Continued on Page 35)

Girls Top 25 Stats *6 March 2024*

| Rank | Card # | First Name | Last Name | State | Division | Ringer Percent | Events Played |
|------|--------|--------------|-----------|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 340280 | Lily | Strong | CA | Girls | 49.36 | 11 |
| 2 | 191533 | Sadie | Wolken | MO | Girls | 46.25 | 11 |
| 3 | 280115 | Lillyan | Kildahl | WI | Girls | 39.72 | 8 |
| 4 | 802674 | Madeline | Workman | NV | Girls | 38.59 | 13 |
| 5 | 31233 | Kaidence | Begaye | CA | Girls | 33.13 | 1 |
| 6 | 180473 | Danyelle | Russell | KS | Girls | 30.17 | 7 |
| 7 | 615391 | Asia | BOWDEN | BC | Girls | 30.11 | 1 |
| 8 | 95085 | Kayla | Julander | UT | Girls | 30.04 | 10 |
| 9 | 803569 | Aislinn Raye | Klapik | CT | Girls | 29.78 | 13 |
| 10 | 190110 | Eli | Delacruz | MO | Girls | 28.38 | 5 |
| 11 | 652230 | Emma | CALHOUN | ON | Girls | 25.00 | 2 |
| 12 | 800812 | Lilli | Light | MT | Girls | 24.58 | 4 |
| 13 | 130865 | Cherie | Harges | IN | Girls | 24.01 | 3 |
| 14 | 150396 | Uria | Gabel | ND | Girls | 23.96 | 7 |
| 15 | 95096 | Adilaide | Ohms | UT | Girls | 23.21 | 10 |

Boys Top 50 Stats *6 March 2024*

| Rank | Card # | First Name | Last Name | State | Division | Ringer Percent | Events Played |
|------|--------|------------|------------|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 31151 | Hastiin | Begaye | CA | Boys | 75.00 | 5 |
| 2 | 360365 | Caiden | Hogue | OH | Boys | 59.02 | 6 |
| 3 | 360274 | Zander | Potts | OH | Boys | 58.22 | 2 |
| 4 | 480516 | Zack | Grzembksi | MA | Boys | 55.43 | 20 |
| 5 | 300469 | Kayden | Fowler | MI | Boys | 54.15 | 2 |
| 6 | 280127 | Blake | Benzing | WI | Boys | 51.77 | 5 |
| 7 | 490452 | Riley | Malino | CT | Boys | 51.72 | 6 |
| 8 | 260172 | Tyler | Harris | AL | Boys | 49.23 | 6 |
| 9 | 220641 | Isaac | Nelson Jr. | TX | Boys | 46.09 | 3 |
| 10 | 190085 | Warren | Highley | MO | Boys | 45.47 | 26 |
| 11 | 95078 | Coulson | Ohms | UT | Boys | 45.44 | 7 |
| 12 | 231968 | Tristan | Dehkes | MN | Boys | 44.58 | 1 |
| 13 | 802657 | Tom | Grose | NV | Boys | 44.57 | 2 |
| 14 | 150403 | Jackson | Johnson | ND | Boys | 44.31 | 11 |
| 15 | 803169 | Ryder | Smith | MT | Boys | 41.61 | 3 |

(Continued on Page 36)

Cadets Top 25 Stats *6 March 2024*

| Rank | Card # | First Name | Last Name | State | Division | Ringer Percent | Events Played |
|------|--------|------------|------------|-------|------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 803710 | Joshua | Russell | NV | Cadet Boys | 52.14 | 13 |
| 2 | 801315 | Evan | Bedard | MA | Cadet Boys | 51.35 | 10 |
| 3 | 31223 | Adakai | Begaye | CA | Cadet Boys | 41.09 | 4 |
| 4 | 231913 | Lucas | Rasmussen | MN | Cadet Boys | 33.29 | 4 |
| 5 | 804087 | Gavin | Begaye Jr. | CA | Cadet Boys | 31.10 | 5 |
| 6 | 370009 | Max | Martin | WV | Cadet Boys | 27.87 | 4 |
| 7 | 802539 | Zachary | Smith | IA | Cadet Boys | 27.68 | 14 |
| 8 | 803323 | Bryant | Seegmiller | UT | Cadet Boys | 25.41 | 3 |
| 9 | 803216 | Beau | Dehkes | MN | Cadet Boys | 25.00 | 1 |
| 10 | 800315 | Ethan | Knighten | AL | Cadet Boys | 24.55 | 2 |
| 11 | 803456 | Jeremiah | DeMello | WA | Cadet Boys | 24.46 | 9 |
| 12 | 803792 | Jacob | Barney | UT | Cadet Boys | 23.01 | 8 |
| 13 | 804088 | Eben | Begaye | CA | Cadet Boys | 22.81 | 5 |
| 14 | 803798 | Tah-dsoka | Jeff | CA | Cadet Boys | 22.49 | 3 |
| 15 | 802463 | Jackson | Vancleave | MI | Cadet Boys | 21.40 | 5 |



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Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association