



# HORSESHOE PITCHING NEWSLINE



**Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association**

**January/February 2025**

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2025**

Renew your NHPA membership  
for 2025 today!

- Program Information
- 2025 Updates
- World Tournament Entry Form
- Upcoming Events
- and more!

*All in this edition of the  
Horseshoe Pitching Newsline*



Which NHPA Publication  
featured this photo on the  
cover?



Guess the cover contest  
information on page 6!

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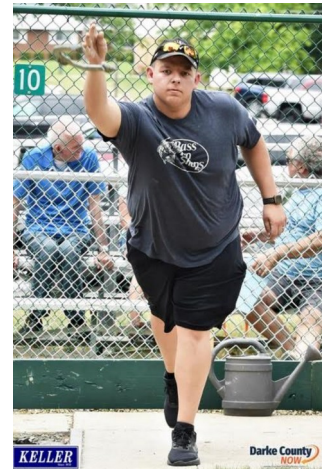
# Horseshoe Pitching NEWSLINE

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

## *Are you ready for an AWESOME year?*

*Ben Webb, NHPA President*

Starting off this edition of our Newsline, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy new year as we enter 2025! Hopefully everyone had a fantastic holiday and Christmas season! Now with the holidays in the rear-view mirror, it's time to look forward for 2025. With a new year comes new challenges but the year also brings new opportunities. As we enter the new year, we have a lot of exciting things to roll out in the next few months. With our revised standard operating procedures now complete and soon to be uploaded on the website, we have established a clear direction for each officer, committee member and our association as a whole. This is very important for our growth in the future, how can we get somewhere if we don't know where we're going? Admittedly, this foundational work of revising the SOP's, revising the forms and processes used by our association, revising the sponsorship and promotional models, reformatting our committees and directors' responsibilities, (etc.) took longer than anticipated, with some things still under review. This work was very important to ensure our success in the coming months and years, I'm happy to report we have a much more solid base to build from entering the new year.



## **Updates for 2025**

### **Youth Membership Fees Waived**

The NHPA Council unanimously voted to waive youth membership dues for 2025. Many states have also elected to waive youth dues for the coming season. This allows our youth pitchers to participate in 2025 events at very reduced or even no cost for the 2025 season!

### **Early Bird Pricing for 2025 World Tournament**

World Tournament entries are open earlier than normal this year! With more than 50 pitchers already signed up for the 2025 event, we're anticipating a large turnout in Sandy, Utah for the World Tournament! Our World Tournament entry fee increased slightly this year to \$150 per adult entrant. However, there is early bird pricing in effect until February 1<sup>st</sup>. Take advantage of this early bird pricing of \$130 and get your entry in early for the 2025 World Tournament!

### **Grouper Partnership Benefit**

The NHPA has partnered with Grouper to provide another benefit to our members. Grouper offers reimbursements for members with qualifying health care plans at 0 cost to the member or the NHPA. Reach out to Grouper to see if you qualify for this membership benefit today and take advantage of this new incentive for qualifying members!

### **NHPA Apparel on Amazon**

Our NHPA shopfront on Amazon has been a great success so far! Our members have long been asking for NHPA branded products to promote the sport, we've been able to do this through our program with Amazon. We will continue to make new updates to our shopfront on Amazon periodically but I encourage you to take advantage of this, each purchase you make for your NHPA apparel through our Amazon shop directly benefits the association!

### **New Sponsorship Model**

The NHPA has long had very few sponsors, this is why we have totally rewritten our model, our approach and our options to potential sponsors and partners. With the aid of our sponsorship director, reformatted committee and newly revised pricing will be published shortly, I have full faith that we will be able to obtain much more success with sponsorships in the coming year. The model is priced affordably for small businesses, individuals and any other entity who wishes to officially sponsor the NHPA!

*Continued on Page 4*

*Ben Webb, NHPA President, continued*

### World Doubles Championship

The Sanctioned League Tournament in Wentzville has been declining in participation numbers for many years, something players have been asking for much longer than this though is a World Doubles Tournament. We currently have a verbal commitment from the Quail Ridge club and we're currently looking to host the first World Doubles Championship in Wentzville in 2025 around the same time as the Sanctioned League Tournament would have normally been. Once the details of this are finalized, we'll make an official announcement regarding the installation of the new event.

### Quarterly Meetings

We will be shifting away from zoom in 2025 but beginning to utilize teams for our monthly council and committee meetings. We will also begin to schedule quarterly meetings for sanctioned league directors, regional directors and one for charter officers. These meetings will be filled with updates about what's taking place from the council level and I encourage you to join whenever you're able. Be on the lookout for e-Blasts about these meetings as they're scheduled.

### Our Focus in 2025

2025 is the year in which the NHPA will fully shift its efforts away from full World Tournament focus and back onto the full scope of organized horseshoe pitching, it's original purpose. The NHPA was never established to essentially run one singular event but to promote and foster the growth of organized horseshoe pitching everywhere, year-round. This is the focus of our council, our committees, our directors and our partners as we enter the new year. True membership growth will come from the charter level, but the NHPA will be behind those charters 100%. In the coming days, there will be forms online for your charter officers, tournament directors, and other promoters needing assistance from the NHPA to request that needed help. We will be able to provide different types of aid depending on the need of the individual request. Some examples of this would be: Custom fliers for your event, banners for your events, promotional assistance for your organization and events, etc. We are focused and committed to fostering this growth on a local level with you and your associated organization, I look forward to the installation of these new efforts to grow our membership in 2025 and the growth those efforts will yield!

### Nominations Open

Nominations are now open for all NHPA awards to be presented at the annual NHPA banquet in Sandy at the 2025 World Tournament. Hall of Fame, Arch Stokes Award, VanSant Award, League Director of the Year, Achievement Awards, All of these categories are open for nominations. If you have an individual you feel is worthy of one of these awards, please find those nomination forms and submit those to the responsible individual as soon as possible for 2025 consideration.

One thing we began in 2024 was to give achievement awards on a more frequent basis, not just at the world tournament. Consistent with our mission there is much work done for the NHPA outside of the annual world tournament and we felt it would be best to honor those who do the ground work that may never attend the annual event. This started in 2024 with an achievement award to Robert Taylor of Kentucky for his countless hours of work to preserve our sports history, along with his work as a dedicated Kentucky officer for many years before stepping into the Kentucky presidency in 2024. Jerry Smith became the second person to receive one of these independent achievement awards, receiving the award at the 2024 Sanctioned League tournament in Wentzville, Missouri, for the second time in his career. Although Jerry left the council at the end of 2023, Jerry continued to help train new council members and devote countless hours assisting the council in 2024 during the difficult year. There are often times we don't know of these individuals doing this work on the ground level, which is why I appeal to you for your nominations.

Do you have a devoted charter official, promoter, league/club leader who has dedicated countless hours of work to grow our sport in your area? Fill out the nomination form listed on our website to put that person up for nomination of one of these NHPA achievement awards! The NHPA council will review and carefully consider each form we receive; we want to recognize these individuals even if they don't attend our annual world tournament.

Jerry LaBrosse and his rules committee are now taking proposals for changes at the 2025 convention, please see Jerry's article in this Newline for information about 2025 proposals.

We're always seeking members to join our committees for the growth of our organization, if you're interested in joining any of our committees please contact me or the committee chair for more information about how you can get involved in the NHPA's leadership teams.

2025 council elections are also on the horizon. This year will see the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (incumbent Austin Bailey), and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President (incumbent Jerry LaBrosse), up for election. Candidates must submit their candidacy, in writing, to the NHPA President and Newline editor no later than April 1<sup>st</sup>. Incumbent's deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>, per the NHPA bylaws. If you're considering running for one of these positions in 2025, please be mindful of and submit your candidacy by these deadlines.

# Word Search

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F M Y N W O O M S Y K S U D S F V L N O	NEWSLINE
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	WORLD RANKINGS

*Continued on Page 6*

# Guess the cover contest information

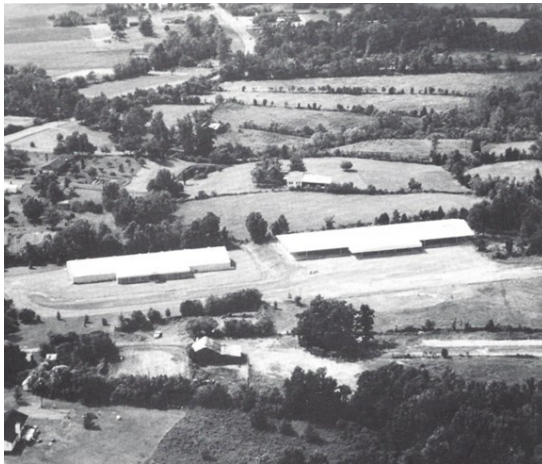
Our Publicity committee has committed a \$25 gift card to the first individual who submits the correct answers from this contest! The original idea was to include 1 cover from the past but how much fun would that be? Attached to this article you'll find 5 previous NHPA publication covers from the past, we used a range of cover page photos from different publications ranging from Barnyard Golf to the current Newline series. All of these former publications can be found under the Newline/Media tab on horseshoepitching.com. Submit your answers to NHPA President Ben Webb by email to participate, the first person to correctly identify all 5 covers will receive a \$25 gift cart courtesy of the NHPA Publicity committee!



Cover #1



Cover #3



Cover #2



Cover #4



Cover #5

## What would it have been like?

*Ken Heinritz, NHPA Chaplain*

In my last article, I talked about preparation for big events. We talked about Christmas & the importance of preparing our hearts for this great event! I trust that you all had a wonderful time of celebration of our Savior coming to this earth. Also, I trust that you had a blessed time with family.

So, what was life like, for those witnessing the life that Jesus lived, while here on this earth? I don't know about you, but if God came to earth ... I would expect His words to be absolutely amazing.

Three commonly used words by the Gospels writers, concerning Jesus were: Astonished, Marveled & Amazed – it is the idea of being blown away or shocked by something. These were the words used over & over again of those who heard Jesus. People were constantly blown away after hearing Jesus speak. For example ...

Matt. 7:28 at the end of the Sermon on the Mount "... when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching ..."

Matt. 13:54 "... He taught them in their synagogue, so that they were astonished and said, "Where did this Man get this wisdom ..."

Matt. 22:33 "And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching."

Mark 1:21-22 "... He entered the synagogue and taught. And they were astonished at His teaching ..."

Many other passages speak of the same response: see Mark 6:2, Mark 10:24, Mark 11:18, Luke 2:47, Luke 4:32, Mark 1:27, Mark 10:32, Luke 4:36, Matt. 22:22, John 7:15.

In English class, I remember being told that repeating the same words again & again, are not a good thing to do. They are both distracting & insulting to the readers intelligence. But think about it, what other words could describe the reaction of people, to what Jesus said? Astonished, Amazed & Marveled!! Think about it, if God came to earth, shouldn't we expect to hear unbelievable things? No one could speak as God could speak, and no one had the knowledge or the wisdom that God has. It was always astonishing.

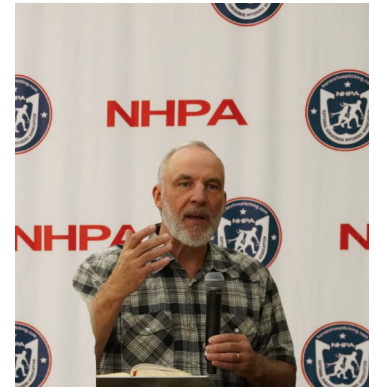
Jesus was more than just a man. He was God in the flesh. John describes Jesus as the Word, the Living Word of God. John 1:1 says "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God." And 1:16 it says "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory". We saw it. God revealed Himself in the Person of Jesus. God communicated with us in Jesus. Jesus is the bridge between God and man. John would record Jesus' own words to Philip "He who has seen Me has seen the Father" John 14:9.

Jesus, the Living Word of God, is fully God and yet fully man. He came to reveal God to man and redeem all who believe in Him & save them from their sin.

Listen my friends, it's critical that we understand this! It's absolutely essential to deal with His claims. These are astonishing claims that He made and they demand an honest look at Him because He says our eternal souls are at stake. Where you spend forever is at issue here, and you will live somewhere forever, in one of only two places.

My fellow horseshoe pitchers, I leave you with this. Jesus said in John 14:6, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."**

This thought-provoking statement deserves careful consideration.



See You Next Year  
*in*



# SALT LAKE!

2025 National Horseshoe Pitchers  
Association World Tournament

July 21—August 2, 2025

FOR HOUSING REGISTRATION  
AND TO LEARN MORE ABOUT  
SALT LAKE, SCAN BELOW:



SPORTS  
SALT LAKE

[visitsaltlake.com](http://visitsaltlake.com)



## *Sponsorships become more affordable in 2025*

*Austin Bailey, NHPA 1st Vice President*

Greetings from Illinois

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I for one cannot believe that we are about to enter a new year. I feel like we were all just at the World Tournament. Now being said now is the time to buy someone a NHPA Membership as an after Christmas gift. What better way to recruit someone than to buy them a membership card and bring them with you to a tournament. We all need to find ways to bring more people back to our great sport.

With the upcoming year we have several great things on the horizon as an organization. Ben is doing a great job of getting all the committees in order and all of them are having regular meetings so everyone can communicate on a more frequent basis. I am looking forward to helping with the sponsorship committee and helping with new partnerships in the upcoming year. We are going to be working on several opportunities for everyone to be some type of a sponsor whether it be big or small. If you know of anyone who might be interested in becoming some type of financial partner with the NHPA please do not hesitate to contact me and I would be more than happy to talk with them about whatever they are interested in doing that may help the NHPA.

Please do not forget to attend the World Tournament in Utah next year, it is going to be a fantastic venue. Another idea for an after Christmas gift is to pay for someone's entry to the World Tournament. If you are still pitching during the winter months I want to wish you the best of luck in your tournaments. I am in the heart of my bowling season now and I normally don't pitch in the winter months. (Never know if I might show up at one of the indoor facilities around though.)

Finally I want to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !!!!

Austin



**Make an even bigger difference to the  
NHPA!**

**Become an official NHPA Sponsor!  
Contact a member of the NHPA  
Sponsorship Committee today!**

# Win a prize...Refer new members for a chance!

By Lucy Strong, Promotions Director

Hello NHPA!

As the director of the promotions committee, it is my duty to grow the membership of the National Horseshoe Pitching Association. The committee brainstormed various ways to do so. As a result, we are kickstarting a referral program!

This referral program will run for the youth, covering cadets and juniors and a second group for the adults which will cover the men's, women's and elder's divisions. When a current member is able to sign up a brand-new pitcher, there will be a google document that can be filled out at the new member's first tournament. Filling out this document will enter the existing member into a raffle.

The raffle prize will be of high value and promote horseshoes. These prize baskets are still to be decided. So, the promotions committee is in search of any horseshoe-based companies looking to be showcased in the prize. Whether it be player memorabilia, horseshoe sales, keepsakes, etc., we would like to include these in the baskets. Including your business in this raffle prize will be advertising and hopefully promote sales. Please reach out to me if you would like to be involved!

I would like to draw winners in June and December. However, the more prize baskets we can put together, the more drawings will happen. If you would like to reach out, I can be contacted at [nhpa.promotionsdirector@gmail.com](mailto:nhpa.promotionsdirector@gmail.com)

Thank you to Brandy Morehead, Sharla Fontenot, Deb Scully, Mike Marshall, Manuel Garcia and Dalton Rakestraw for the help orchestrating this raffle!

Lucy Strong



## *Seeking Publicity Committee member*

*Dalton Rakestraw 2nd Vice President*

Happy New Year to everyone! It is once again that time of year where we start our New Year's resolutions and try to set goals to better ourselves. Hopefully, we can achieve some horseshoe goals as well but definitely take time to soul search within and make your goals achievable. Moving on to the NHPA and horseshoes, down here or over here, however you want to call it, in Southern California our horseshoe season never stops. I fortunately live in a charter that has weather that allows for all year pitching. I have recently made it to a few more of my clubs down here and I am always surprised at all the friendships and family atmosphere that abounds at these tournaments. If you are ever in the Southern California region, look at our tournament schedule and choose a tournament to pitch. We love to have everyone pitch!



It is now that time of year where the NHPA planning ramps up for the upcoming World Tournament. Please take note that the tournament will be played in the city of Sandy in Utah, which is Salt Lake County. Tournament dates are set for July 21-August 2, 2025

**Location:** Mountain America Expo Center  
**Address:** 9575 State Street. Sandy, UT. 84070

**Host hotel:** Hyatt House Salt Lake City/Sandy  
9685 Monroe Street. Sandy, UT 84070

The promotions committee spearheaded by Lucy Strong has met several times and we are working on a referral program to hopefully encourage membership to increase. See her article elsewhere in this issue.

The publicity committee is working diligently to spread the word and publicize the NHPA. We are currently looking into places in Salt Lake County to start. Currently we are utilizing Steven Gibson, who lives in Salt Lake City to accept the pages in social media and groups that live in the area and become our main POC for the area on these local social media pages. We are finalizing our postcard flyer to be put in each sale from the horseshoe distributors. This committee is working out great. Thank you, Barry Webster, for your quick service, good luck on your endeavors. We are looking for a replacement for him on our team, if you'd like to join us please let me know!

As mentioned in the previous article I was starting a sports connection and going to get some articles from other sports professionals from these conferences. I reached out to Vered Lopez, President of US Catchball. She is busy planning their Nationals event coming up in February so she has not gotten back to me but I am excited to bring you her article in the future. She was a real great pleasure to meet in Wichita last October. Vered lives in Las Vegas so she is close to home for me as well. I am hoping to attend the US Catchball Nationals to watch, observe, and learn.

We have already received one signed bid for 2030 and that city is... Lubbock, Texas! I am working with their CVB to assure that their bid is acceptable and all the lines are met. Also, we are working to begin running regional/national style tournaments, as early as late 2025/early 2026! We have already received one signed bid for these events from Hutchinson, Kansas that we will be reviewing at our winter council meeting. We are considering several format options for these events, one of which being the former Dakota Magic tournament style where there's three individual tournaments over three days. In regards to our bid from Kansas, Jim Newboles and the Hutchinson Horseshoe Club along with VisitHutch are anxiously awaiting this event. They have been in contact with me consistently since October's sports conference and they are really looking forward to the opportunity to host the event. Stay tuned!

That is all I have to report for this issue of the Newline. Until next time I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! I send you all best wishes and many ringers!

Best, Dalton

## *Salt Lake World Tournament—Winter Meeting*

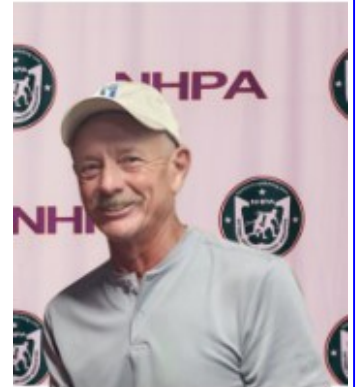
*NHPA Council*

While we are fully focused on the overall scope of horseshoe pitching, we still have the responsibility to put on the annual World Tournament in as extraordinary fashion as ever. The 2025 World Tournament setting is overdue to receive a facelift in terms of promotion around the event and the look of the setup. We are fortunate to have the help of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President and set-up expert, Jerry LaBrosse, to help with this project in the coming year. Outside of the setup though comes a long planning process. Our hosts in Sandy, Utah will graciously be hosting our council for a site visit and winter meeting the second weekend of January. We will be able to see the venue, locations for our annual banquet, and explore many promotional avenues in the area while on site. Once this winter meeting is completed, we will provide any updates we have to the membership following the meeting.

### *Ask the Rules Guy!*

*Jerry LaBrosse, 3rd Vice President*

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas with your family and friends. Now I want to wish all of you a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year! Let's make this your break-out year in horseshoes. Dedicate yourself to more practice and improve your game. Trust me, it's fun to improve your ringer percentage. Also, make this the year you finally agree to volunteer within your club or charter. If you have some special skills such as computer knowledge, maybe you could take a turn at being the charter secretary, or newsletter editor. Or, run for an officer position. If we want our sport to survive and grow, we all have to step up and share the load, and the fun. This leads me to one of the best and easiest ways we have to share the word about our organization and that is online. Facebook, our Newline publication, and most importantly your charter newsletter. Take these publications you receive and forward them on to anyone that could be interested in horseshoe. Make sure that newsletters have the links for easy and secure sign ups for free Newline, and your charter newsletters.



With all that said, I want to talk briefly about what we all can do to make this a prosperous year in the NHPA. I have learned that the NHPA has once again declined in membership overall. Promoting horseshoes is a difficult task, as we all know. I have seen many different ideas tried, some with success, but most maybe not. One of the best and oldest methods that have been proven to be effective is word of mouth. I know, we've all heard it before....."invite a friend or neighbor to come down to your horseshoe club and introduce them to the game". But how many of us have ACTUALLY DONE THAT? Believe me...it works.

#### Rules and Bylaws Update

The deadline for submitting rule and bylaw change proposals has been set to February 1<sup>st</sup>. Any proposals received after that date may not be included in this cycle and may have to wait a year. When submitting proposals, we have a new form for you to use. It is posted on our website. Use the following link below to be connected to the form.

[www.horseshoepitching.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Rule-Proposal-Form-.pdf](http://www.horseshoepitching.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Rule-Proposal-Form-.pdf)

To date, I have no new proposals. As always, you can contact any of the Rules Committee members to submit questions regarding our Rules and Bylaws.



## *Wausau Site Visit*

*Ben Webb*

Our hosts for the 2026 World Tournament in Wausau recently brought me in for a site visit of the facility and Wausau area. Accompanied by Jodi with VisitWausau and her 2026 World Tournament committee members (Sonia Cook, Kent Frailing, Dave Volz, & Aleena Lepak). Our tours went very well and I'm very excited that we will be bringing the World Tournament to Wausau in 2026. Despite the cold weather in Wisconsin, the area offers an extravagant facility for our competition along with a city with many tourist offerings for our competitors when not at the world tournament venue. I look forward to our association working with VisitWausau to put on a great world tournament in 2026! Look to future editions of the Newline for more information as we get closer!



## *Submit your 2024 Sanction League results today*

Barb Carson, 4th Vice President

Hello Everyone,

Happy New Year!! We are saying goodbye to 2024 and hello to 2025. Wow, where did 2024 go. That's incredible how fast this year went. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends and wish you a safe and Happy New Year.

So many wonderful memories with our horseshoe families. I hope all of you had a prosperous 2024 pitching season and reached your goals and expectations.

I had a wonderful 2024 pitching season along with many wonderful changes in my life, and yes, that includes my personal life. Another change that occurred in 2024 is one that I am really excited and honored to accept is my new appointment as the Sanction League Administrator. I am still in the training stage, and everything is starting to fall into place. I truly want to thank everyone of you Sanction League Directors for your patience and support for me in this new journey. I am so blessed to have all of you in my life. It's also ironic that some of you are also my RD's. What a great horseshoe family I have.

As you are completing your 2024 Sanction Leagues, I would like to remind everyone that all Final Stats must be post marked or received by me no later than January 15, 2025 in order to be eligible for the 2024 Top Ten Award. Please email or mail them to me as soon as possible. All proper forms are located on the NHPA Website under the title of Leagues

Barbara Carson  
Sanction League Administrator  
7618 Willow Woods Dr, North Olmsted, OH 44070  
[Bcarson848@gmail.com](mailto:Bcarson848@gmail.com)  
216-548-9337



Hello RD's. The 2025 patches are here. Thank you to all of you who have submitted your patch orders to

*Barb Carson, NHPA 4th Vice-President, continued*

me. All of you who have tournaments scheduled for January should have received them by now. If you have not sent me your patch order and you have tournaments in January, please email them to me as soon as possible. I am pleased to announce that the council has voted and decided to keep the year on them this year. They really went up in price so we will re-evaluate this again for next year. This topic will also be discussed for Sanction League Patches as well and at the President/RD/Sanction League meeting at the World Tournament in Salt Lake City, UT. Time and date of meeting will be announced as soon as I have that information.

Once again in 2025, I will be asking for volunteers to help me with player check-in at the World Tournament. Check-in occurs on the Monday and Thursday of the 1<sup>st</sup> week and Monday and Thursday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week. Times for check-in are based on the pitching schedule and the number of entries. Please let me know if you would be willing to volunteer. It usually takes about 30 minutes out of your day to get everyone checked in. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

In regards to your orders for RGS Books, there is not a new version of this book yet. Jerry Labrosse, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Rules/ByLaws Director is currently updating this book. Meanwhile, you can find this book on the NHPA Website under RULES. The new rule that I am excited about is the new Division for the Elder Women that was passed at the 2024 Convention in Washington. When switching to the new EW Division from the Women's Division to the new EW Division, you must be 65 and older and you must throw 100 shoes to re-qualify at the new pitching distance. The re-qualification results must be sent to your State Secretary to be changed in eShoe. This new EW division is also available this year at the 2025 World Tournament. Just circle the EW Division on your WT Entry Form. Come on ladies, let's all sign-up and show everyone that even though we are older women that we still have what it takes to be a World Tournament Champion.

This year at the HOF Banquet, to be held at the World Tournament, I will be presenting the Regional Director of the Year award to the outstanding 2025 RD. I will also have the pleasure of presenting the outstanding Sanction League Director of the Year award. If you would like to nominate someone for either of these awards, please email me with the names and a short bio on them to Bcarson848@gmail.com

The World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington was a great success in spite of the low entries. The 2025 World Tournament in Salt Lake City, UT is one that you don't want to miss. I hope many of you are planning on attending this tournament. The area is beautiful, the Salt Lake, the Mountains and scenery. There is so much to see and to do. What a great vacation this would be. The dates are July 21<sup>st</sup>-August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. The event will be held at the beautiful Mountain America Expo Center. Please visit [horsepitching.com](http://horsepitching.com) and click on the 2025 World Tournament – Salt Lake City, Utah logo for information and things to do. If you have never attended a World Tournament, this is the one you don't want to miss. I hope to see everyone there.

I am so pleased to be able to be a part of the NHPA Executive Council. This new Council is doing exactly what you elected them to do. These men are very aggressive and have so many wonderful ideas. Believe me, we are working to make the NHPA stronger and doing everything we can to increase membership. Ben is a great leader, motivator and promoter of our sport.

I would once again thank the Sanction League Directors and Regional Directors for everything you do to promote the sport of horseshoes. Also, thank you for your patience and support in both of my positions. I am so proud of all of you and I truly appreciate each and every one of you for a job well done. Thank you again for all of your hard work and dedication. All Sanction League Stats and patch orders for leagues, and RD tournament patch orders should be emailed directly to me.

Barb

## Story Time on the Courts

Josh Olson-5th Vice President



With the dawn of a new year, the world of Horseshoes is poised to deliver another thrilling chapter of unforgettable moments, record-breaking feats, and the relentless pursuit of excellence. I hope everyone had a fantastic 2024 and here is to 2025. I am looking forward to many things as we ring in the new year, just in Minnesota we will have a few new Horseshoe tournaments and also a new venue to hold leagues and Tournaments in this winter which is very exciting, our first tournament in the “Shoe Box” will be January 4<sup>th</sup>.

As I was putting some things together last minute and getting all of the gifts I had wrapped for Christmas, I had glanced over at something in my house that caught my eye and it was a frame full various tournament patches I have won over the years. My Mom had collected some of the patches I had won over the years and framed them, and the one that really still is almost a shock to me that I have was my very first State Championship patch. I won my first State Championship back in 2010, I was just about to start my Senior year and just a few days before was always the State Horseshoe Tournament. We traveled down to Mankato that year for the annual event, my family and I drove the almost 4 hours down to Mankato for the event, the tournament for us started with competition on Saturday of the long 4-day weekend of pitching, the Juniors have always played around the noon hour in Minnesota the Saturday of the State Tournament weekend. So, we got to the arena ahead of time to scope out the place, get our class photo taken and then warm up just before we played. As I was heading out to my assigned courts to start my warm up, two people waved me over and wanted to wish me luck, it was Edi Holland and Paula Mead, both long time horseshoe pitchers at that time, I had played against Paula and her husband Ron many times in Upsala and always saw Les and Edi at those same tournaments, so they both wanted to wish me luck. The one thing about this story that still sticks with me to this day is, Edi had called it before it happened that I would win my 1<sup>st</sup> State Title that day. It is a day I will never forget in my horseshoe career. The State Tournament has to be one of my favorite Tournaments of the year, its always a nice enjoyable 3-day weekend now, with being fortunate in Minnesota we have 16 court indoor facility to hold the event, so setup is a breeze and once the electronics are all setup and ready to go, the tournament runs itself just like a World Tournament almost.

What are some of your favorite stories you have on the horseshoe courts? This one was just one of many that I have and I plan to share with you.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next big horseshoe tournament, I would say for me right now the next big Tournaments I have on the horizon for the 2025 season for me right now would be, HoF Invitation-al, Team World, Ringer Classic (hopefully), Salt Lake City World Tournament and World Doubles. What are the big Tournaments you are going to this year? See you on the courts!



2010 Junior State Boys  
Champion

## Website Update Coming Soon

*NHPA Council*

Many people have pointed out outdated information on our website. We are in the beginning stages of a total website update coming in early 2025. We intend to reformat many of the pages, increasing the content on our site and make things more user friendly for our members using the website for it's resources. We have been in the process of updating all of our forms, moving all of those to one location as well. Please stay tuned to horseshoepitching.com in the coming weeks to see these changes as we begin to improve our website.

# 2025 World Tournament...See who has entered!

By Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

We are excited to be getting pitchers signed up for the 2025 World Tournament in Sandy, Utah. You are able to look at who has entered by selecting the “Featured and Favorite Events” in the blue area of the home page in eShoe. You can sort by division and see where you are at by ringer percentage. If you have entered and you don't see your name please email me so I can investigate and get you entered. There is still an issue with the online entry that I am not getting the information sent to my email when you submit your entry.



I hope that everyone will take advantage of the early entry fee and send me your entry before Feb 1, 2025. The fee will increase to \$150 on Feb 1. There will be a full refund if you need to cancel before May 1st. After May 1st there will be a \$15 processing fee deducted until June 1, then there will be no refund after the schedule has been published.

The Council is excited to be meeting at the Expo Center for our winter meeting on Jan 8-11, 2025. We have a great group of people working hard to make this organization grow and to make the World Tournament great and exciting for everyone.

The screenshot shows the eShoe website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, Stats, and Events, and a Login button. A welcome message is displayed, followed by a blue button labeled "Featured and Favorite Events". Below this is another welcome message and a table of events. The table has columns for Action, Event Name, City, State, Begin Date, and Start Time. The event "2025 World Tournament Prelims" is highlighted. Below the table, there are two buttons: "View Entries" and "Find Court".

Action	Event Name	City	State	Begin Date	Start Time
	2024 WT Warmup	Kennewick	WA	2024-07-27	9:30AM
	2024 World Tournament Prelims	Kennewick	WA	2024-07-29	9:00AM
	2024 WT Championship	Kennewick	WA	2024-08-01	9:00AM
	2025 World Tournament Prelims	Sandy	UT	2025-07-21	





**National Horseshoe Pitchers Association**  
**2025 World Horseshoe Pitching Championship**  
 July 21 - August 2, 2025      Salt Lake City, Utah



2025

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ NHPA Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
First (Please Print Legibly) Last (or Canadian #)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One >>>>>> 

I will Print My schedule	Email my schedule	Mail my schedule
--------------------------	-------------------	------------------

Circle the Division you are Entering: (You may enter only one Division) (See notes at bottom on page)

Open Men 40 ft	Sr Men 40 ft	Elder Men 30 ft	Open Women 30 ft	Sr Women 30 ft	Elder Women 20 ft	Jr Boys 30 ft	Jr Girls 30 ft	Cadet Boys 20 ft	Cadet Girls 20 ft
		Note #2	Note #1			Note #2	Note #3		

All application information above is required. Form will be returned if not signed below or is incomplete. **ENTRY DEADLINE MAY 19, 2025**

**NO REFUNDS** will be made after June 1, 2025. **NOTE:** A processing fee of \$15 will be deducted from 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, employee's, agents and the servants of the NHPA, 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 2025 World Tournament. These photos or videos 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 Pitching Tournament and the sport.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Mail top half only \***

Entry Fees	US Adults --	\$130 before Feb 1, 2025 --	\$150 Feb 1 to April 30, 2025 --	\$170 on May 1, 2025
	All Juniors/Cadets --	\$25		
	Adults outside US --	\$135 before Feb 1, 2025 --	\$155 Feb 1 to April 30, 2025 --	\$175 on May 1, 2025
	<i>Canadian Entries must use a Money Order if sending payment</i>			Entry Fee includes Scorekeeping Fee

Mail to: NHPA      Telephone & Email inquires to:  
 2660 S Fairway Drive      Phone: 208 201-3326  
 Pocatello, ID 83201      Email: sec.treas@horseshoepitching.com

All Entries must be on this signed form and mailed with a postmark no later than May 19, 2025. You may enter anytime prior to May 19, 2025 using this form or on our website link. Entries received with a postmark after May 19, 2025 shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the World Tournament only as spaces are available. All Adults must have pitched in a minimum of four (4) US/Canadian sanctioned events in the twelve (12) months prior to May 19, 2025 in the same division you are entering. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors/Cadets. 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 19, 2025. 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 2025. Any Man/Women that turns 85 years of age in 2025, or has an approved Medical exemption may enter the Elders Division. Entrants in the Junior Boys and Junior Girls Division must be 18 years old or less for the entire 2025 calendar year. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Division entrants must be 12 years old or younger for the entire 2025 calendar year.

- NOTE #1:** 30 ft Men with a Medical Exemption must be in NHPA eShoe as "Exempt" to pitch in this Division. A copy of the Exemption Form must be sent with this application.
- NOTE #2:** For Prelim Class play, a minimum of 48 pitchers must enter Sr Division's or it may be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Division if canceled.
- NOTE #3:** Junior Boys & Junior Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls Divisions will be mixed for preliminary class play.

The pitching schedule will be finalized by May 31, 2025 and published on the NHPA website [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com). If you indicate above to receive the schedule by mail, it will be mailed to the address you have listed above during the 2nd week in June. Please write address clearly & readable.

**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 or any false or misleading information on this form, cannot validate 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 above deadline. No pitcher will be moved from a class or pitching time, without notification, after the final schedule has been published.

## Sponsorship opportunities are available

*By Don Sorenson, Publicity Director*

Hello everyone of our horseshoe family, I would like to start by saying I hope everyone had a great holiday and a safe one.

I want to reach out to some of our Utah chapter members along with Idaho , Nevada and surrounding areas. I need some more support on the sponsorship committee by either joining our committee or even giving some support in anything that will help our sport get much needed sponsors so that we have a successful year to come.

We have put together some great packages for our sponsors, you can text me or email me if you would like to help out. We have a good start on the committee but we will need much more to make it successful. I look forward to doing a great job on the committee and will do everything I can to make it happen and will accept all ideas so reach out and let me know. Ben has worked hard with myself to make the package appealing to our sponsors, we are excited to share with the businesses in your area and in Utah. Let's make this year great together and show that our sport is a great sport to be involved in . Contact info: 385-456-1691 email :[donaldsorenson71@gmail.com](mailto:donaldsorenson71@gmail.com)

Thank you Members!  
Your Sponsorship Director - Don Sorenson

## What does the future hold?

*By Aleena Lepak, Junior Director*

A new year is fast approaching, and the youth committee is ready to face the future. Many ideas and plans were discussed at our last meeting. All in attendance were happy with the council's decision for the 2025 membership dues and world tournament entry fees. The committee feels that this was a great first step in showing how important our youth are.

The group continued, and will continue to brainstorm, generate, and implement new ideas to generate youth membership growth. Some ideas that were discussed were: a drawing for entering into the World Tournament with various prizes, having a raffle where the youth sell the tickets, have a design contest for the world T-shirt, a youth/adult tournament during the World tournament, youth pitching with local dignitaries, and ways to target middle and high school students. With so many options for youth and many other sports staring kids at a young age, we need to target them early.

A large goal of this committee is to look at ways we can aid in youth retention for our sport. One idea was having a fund that could be applied for to help them in coming back to the world tournament when they are on their own as adults. This is still in discussion and the group is still looking into more ideas to aid membership.

As always, we will never turn down any ideas from the members of our organization. If you have any questions, ideas, or thoughts, please contact any of us and we will be happy to listen and work through the ideas. Let's make 2025 the best year!

Happy New Year!!

Aleena Lepak



# Tik Tok...the clock is ticking...share your horseshoe pics!

By Michelle Foard, Social Media Director

Happy New Year All,

I hope the new year finds you all happy and healthy. As a reminder with the new year comes renewing your membership. For anyone changing divisions you will need to renew with your state secretary.

On the Tik Tok front you may have heard about the Supreme Court reviewing the case to ban it. This is set to take place in January and if it is banned this would take place the day before our new President is sworn into office. President Elect Trump has since changed his stance on Tik Tok and even met with the creator. So for now it is up in the air. I know many are not on the app and do not really understand. I have gained a few member for the NHPA by doing videos on Tik Tok. I can reach a larger audience and people who would normally never see horseshoes. I get comments all the time, "People still play horseshoes?" or "My dad or grandpa use to play." So I reach people that have that connection to horseshoes. It triggers that emotional connection to the past. While others just have a genuine curiosity and ask where they can play. I go live at my tournaments answering questions and also telling people to check out our website. I think Tik Tok is a great platform to reach people we wouldn't normally reach. On Facebook people join pages. So when I post only the people who follow your page can see the content. Now I do post reels which are videos and those can be seen by anyone scrolling through. So I am hopeful they keep Tik Tok so we can reach a larger audience.



On the Facebook front I want to thank everyone who posted pics when I ask. It gives me content to work with. I will be doing more videos and I wanna do more player profiles. I think it's great to hear from our pitchers on what they love about the NHPA. I encourage you all to share any videos or pictures on your own page. Of course if any of you have any suggestions on a video or flyer please don't hesitate to message me. A few people have sent me ideas.

One idea I do have is in would like to get as many club photos as possible. So between now and June when your club starts, get a photo with all club members. I did a video like this with Minnesota clubs. I think it would be great to see as many clubs as possible. Putting a video out like this would show just how many people are pitching.

Happy 2025!  
Michelle Foard



**national.horsesho** National Horseshoes NHPA

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The organized sport of Horseshoes.



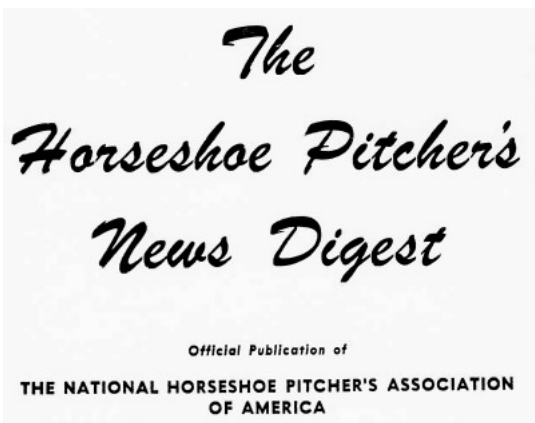
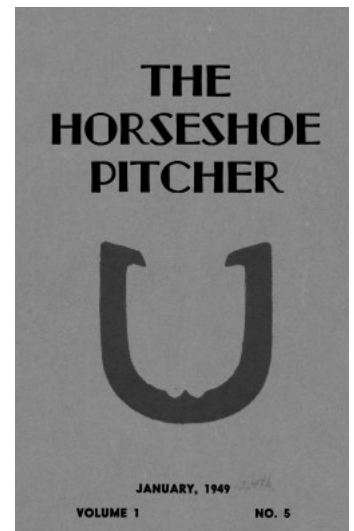
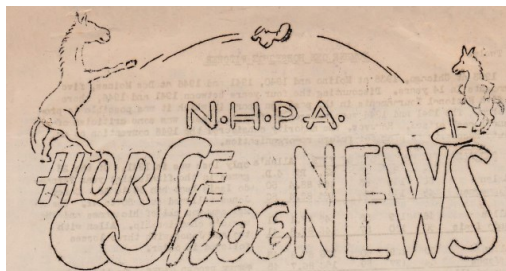
# History of the Newsline...Is it time for a change?

We've recently been studying several old NHPA publications and a few sections that have seemed to go by the wayside are Regional Director reports and "Charter Chatter". Our NHPA Newsline isn't just a means for the council and directors to report their efforts, but for everyone who wished to provide and update to have a platform. I encourage RD's and charter officials to submit articles to our editor Blaine Scott for inclusion in the periodic publication. Even individuals with interesting stories about their time in the game would be interesting for our readers. Let's all come together in the coming year to build up the content of our Newsline for interested horseshoe pitchers everywhere to enjoy. The deadlines for Newsline articles in 2025 is the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month prior to the publication: February 20<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, August 20<sup>th</sup>, September 20<sup>th</sup>, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Please submit articles & photos prior to these deadlines for inclusion in the Newsline.

One interesting thing about our publication over the years is the names:

Barnyard Golf	1922-1923	2 years
The Horseshoe World	1923 – 1943	20 years
Horseshoe News	1947-1948	1 year
The Horseshoe Pitcher	1948-1956	18 years
News Digest	1956-1988	32 years
Newsline	1989-2025	36 years

As you can see, the publication name of "Newsline" has stuck for longer than any name in history, the next most recent being the second longest. Even almost 40 years later, I still hear some pitchers reference the Newsline as "the digest". The point of the table though is that everything evolves, our game is evolving, maybe it's time to give the NHPA's official publication a new name and updated layout?



## Plan your visit to the NHPA Hall of Fame Museum

By Michelle Foard, Social Media Director

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation was originally formed to construct, maintain, and operate a museum, library, and hall of fame devoted to the game of horseshoes, which will provide the public with an opportunity to better understand the history and development of the game of horseshoes and the people associated with it. The Foundation's sole member is the NHPA. The Foundation's Board of Directors are nominated and elected by the NHPA's Executive Council. The NHPA President also serves on this Board.

Funding for the museum comes from a variety of sources, but primarily from NHPA members. Contributions to support the museum are tax deductible and can be made in a variety of ways. Visit the NHPF website at <https://nhpf.info/donations/> and you'll be able to find a method that suites you best. Cash, check, or purchase a brick on the outdoor plaza and honor someone you know that enjoyed this great game in their lifetime.

As with any outdoor structure, the building that houses the museum occasionally needs to undergo some maintenance. This year we had to have some minor maintenance done to the roof and also have it repainted. The total cost of this project was around \$70,000. Fortunately this only has to be done every 10 years or so.

It is our hope that every member of the horseshoe pitching community gets a chance to visit this wonderful facility. In it you will find a display highlighting the accomplishments of all the members of the NHPA Hall of Fame. In this Newline issue we'd like to feature a couple of individuals who made their impact on the sport not so much as elite players, but from the devotion they showed to the game itself.

### Inducted in 1970: Frank Ellis Cobb (Illinois) Organizer:

Ellis Cobb earned a firm place in history by his outstanding contribution to the game as editor of the Horseshoe Pitcher's News Digest. He began producing the Digest in 1956, and growth in membership can be attributed to the publication. He remained editor of the Digest for 32 years, through 1988. Ellis was presented a lifetime NHPA membership, the Presidential Award in 1987 and the Stokes Memorial Award in 1962. A fitting touch as it was Arch Stokes, while serving as NHPA President, who summoned Ellis to become the new editor replacing Byron Jaskulek, as editor of the Digest. Ellis served as Illinois Association as Secretary for over 30 years and had many other efforts in service to the sport. He posed as a model for several companies in their making of figurines for horseshoe pitching trophies. He was instrumental in getting the Championship Horseshoe series on NBC television in the Chicago area in 1956. Ellis Cobb passed away June 15, 1994, at age 84.

### Inducted in 1969: Bob Pence (Indiana) Organizer:

Bob Pence was seemingly born possessed with an undying love for the game of horseshoes. He was an incredible promoter of the sport, a prolific writer of horseshoe pitching articles, and traveled thousands of miles each year in his efforts to boost his favorite sport.

Bob was a good pitcher, with better than a 70% ringer average and joined the NHPA in 1929. Bob was Secretary of the Indiana Association for five or six years before being elected Secretary-Treasurer of the National Association in 1958, a position he held for 24 years. Under his administration several improvements were implemented: Classes C & D were added to the Men's division, the Women's division was expanded to include B & C, a Junior Girls division was begun in 1967, and the Senior Men's division was implemented as well as the Intermediate Men's division. The World Tournament was rotated around the country to help in recruiting more new members. He initiated Game Related Sales, which the NHPA benefited from with increased revenue. He also instituted championship patches and recognition awards and the NHPA Hall of Fame was established in 1965 with his guidance. Bob Pence was awarded the Arch Stokes Memorial Award in 1961. He passed away May 18, 2002.



## Registering tips for new and returning pitchers!

*By Jim Kinney, NHPA eShoe Director*

Christmas is just a few days past and 2025 is coming right behind it. 2024 was a great year for some milestones within the NHPA. The eShoe program has been working great with tracking members and scheduling events. There are new features that have been written into the program, but we are in the test stage and have not yet released them.

The NHPA has been trying to educate the pitchers and the charters on navigating the eShoe program when members are searching, changing, or renewing within the NHPA. One of the main areas some members are not realizing is the renewal on the website. When a new pitcher to the NHPA wants to join they would be directed to the NHPA website at [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com) and click on the "JOIN" button which will take them to a form to fill out all their contact information. If a pitcher who has already been a member of the NHPA wants to renew their membership they would go the NHPA website and choose the "RENEW" button that will take you to the eShoe main page. Once you are at the [www.nhpa-eshoe.com](http://www.nhpa-eshoe.com) page you will enter your name, or your membership number. When you see your name click on it and this will bring up your Player information. At this time, you would choose "Renew" to renew your membership. If your division is not the correct division or if you cannot complete this process, you would have to contact your Charter Membership Director/Secretary. If a current member chooses the "JOIN" button it will create a new membership number for them and the member will have two numbers associated with their name. The members' years along with the events played in the prior 12 months will not be able to update with the membership number they have held in the past. This is an easy fix, but we encourage members to make sure and choose the right button when joining or renewing.

Another area in the eShoe program that some pitchers, tournament directors, and secretaries are not sure of is the changing of division. When a member changes division, they will not be able to renew on the website with the new division. The members will have to contact their Charter Membership Director/Secretary to have their division changed. They can do this before they renew online or after. Also with the division change the member will have to reestablish their ringer percentage by pitching 100 shoes at the new division. Once the member has pitched 100 shoes their pitching percentage can be entered in eShoe by the tournament director manually when setting up their tournament or the Membership Director/Secretary can enter it into any tournament that has already been reported by adding the member in the tournament with the shoes pitched and the ringers only. This will allow any tournament director to be able to pull the member from eShoe with the percentage created. We recommend that the member be deleted from the tournament where they were initially added once they have completed their first event so eShoe does not count the 100 shoes pitched as an event.

The NHPA eShoe Director is aware that there is going to be mistakes made while entering members contact information, entering tournament information, or just entering general information within eShoe. The NHPA is here to help members or Membership Directors/Secretaries with anything within eShoe that needs to be addressed. This is only possible if everyone helps monitor his/her information and reports anything that needs to be addressed. Please contact me with any questions concerning eShoe.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

See ya on the courts next year.

**Jim Kinney Jr**  
**NHPA eShoe Director**  
**P.O. Box 205**  
**Drexel, MO 64742**



# World Tournament Stats

By Stan Griggs, NHPA World Tournament Statistician

All World Tournament Stats are now updated and online.

To get to the Master File that lists every pitcher that has ever pitched in a World Tournament go to: <https://www.horseshoepitching.com/participation/> and click the green bar to download the database, you will need Excel to view.

Please note due to the size and years of stats if you notice an error, let me know so I can update our records as we want all records to be accurate.



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## WORLD TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

1909-2024

NHPA World Horseshoe Tournaments Participation Award Patch



World Tournament Results by all players:



Clicking the button above will let you download the Excel file.

You will need Microsoft Excel to open it.

For all the other stats go to: <https://www.horseshoepitching.com/world-tournament-stats/> Simply click any of the red links to view the stats for that category.



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## World Tournament Records and Site Information

### World Tournament Records

- All Time Game Wins
- 3 Or More Tournament Wins
- Perfect Games
- 90 % Games

### World Tournament Sites

- Site List By Number Of Entries
- NHPA World Titles by States

### World Tournament Participants

- Entries ( All Events ) By Division
- Results Archive Page

Continued on Page 24

Stan Griggs, NHPA World Tournament Statistician...continued

Past Winners ( Championship and Prelim Classes )

- Open Men's Division
- Open Women's Division
- Elder's Division
- Senior Men's Division
- Senior Women's Division
- Junior Boy's Division
- Junior Girl's Division
- Cadet's Mixed Division
- Cadet Boy's Division
- Cadet Girl's Division
- Prelim Class Winners 2021 – 2035
- Prelim Class Winners 2020 – 2006
- Prelim Class Winners 2005 – 1991
- Prelim Class Winners 1990 – 1982

World Horseshoe Records of 40 point games.

- Open Men's Division
- Open Women's Division
- Senior Men's Division
- Senior Women's Division
- Elder's Division
- Intermediate Men's Division
- Elder's 40 Foot Division
- Junior Boy's Division
- Junior Girl's Division
- Cadet Mixed Division
- Cadet Boys Division
- Cadet Girls Division

On this page are the statistics and records of The World Horseshoe Tournament.

This information is collected and updated by Stan Griggs. If you have questions about it please mail Stan at moshoe63@gmail.com





## Valley of the Sun Tournament

*By Robert Chubinsky—Valley of the Sun Tournament Director*

The East Valley Horseshoe Club hosted the 66<sup>th</sup> annual Valley of the Sun horseshoe tournament this year in Mesa, Arizona as the longest running NHPA tournament in the United States. This tournament has players from almost half of all states represented along with Canada. Results of this year's Valley of the Sun tournament may be seen. Go to e-shoe events, and put in the date of February 29 in Arizona. Some of the best and some of the least best players come to play each year for many reasons, they come for the competition, a vacation from wintry weather, to visit friends and family and to enjoy two days of playing horseshoes.

This year's A Class winners were Men: Jacob Fimbres 10-0 w/l record (7-time winner), Elders Mike Massari 9-1 (4-time winner) w/l record, A-30 mixed J.D Drake won with a 11-0 record. In B Classes B-Mixed was won by Roy Callaway going 8-2 In B Men Adam Rodriquez won with a 10-3 w/l after winning a playoff. All A and B classes play on Saturday and Sunday.

This year's tournament may be seen in pictures. We take class pictures, winner pictures and action shot pictures. All our pictures are free, for class and winner pictures you may go to our Arizona website [ashpa.club](http://ashpa.club), open Valley of the Sun, and view pictures. For action shots our camera person will take a couple of pictures and send them to you when they have them sorted out. All you need to do is ask for the action shot when the tournament starts. No money required. If you want a picture to frame or add to your personal file just download the pictures from our website. You can then print them or take them to a photo shop and have them printed. These are high quality pictures just like the World Tournament.

All A and B classes play 40-point games, all other classes play either 40 or 50 shoes. Classes are 6 player double round robin or 12 player single round robin classes. Every effort is made to separate 30' players from 40' players. There are no handicaps except for the very last class which may have more than a 15% difference between the high and low average. All games have score keepers with score boards. All ties for first place have a playoff. Half of all players will win money. In a 12-player class, payouts go to 6<sup>th</sup> place, in 6-player class payouts to 3<sup>rd</sup> place. All classes receive the same payouts. What A classes get, G class gets the same. This year we had \$6,847 to split between classes after all expenses (score keepers, brochures, paper etc.). All donations or sponsors are welcome.

We welcome all players to enter the **2025 Valley of the Sun Tournament**. The deadline for entry is January 14. Games will be held between February 18 and 23. Tuesday and Wednesday February 18-19 will be used if needed. On February 15, the Saturday before we have a warmup tournament at our Mesa site. All contact information for the Saturday tournament is on e-shoe Arizona events. View Dalton Rakestraw's Valley of the Sun Podcast on you tube for some tournament history.

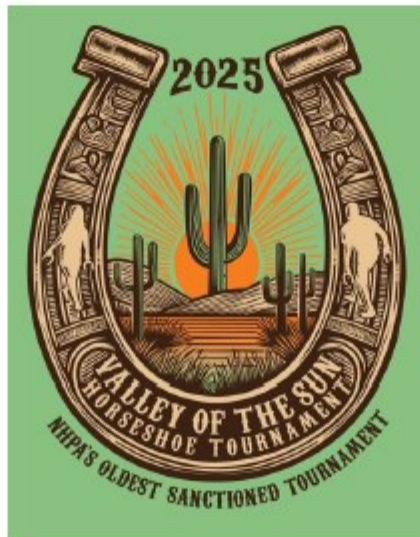
In two days with only twelve courts, we can only host forty-eight players per two days. We have two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. For four days of play we can only host ninety-six players. We will use Tuesday and Wednesday only if we get 108 or more players entered. All players after the first ninety-six will be placed on a waiting list. Enter now! If you mail in your entry in the last week before the deadline, please notify me that your check is in the mail. The waiting list starts when entry is received. Remember it is the holidays, and mail may take 3-6 days to be received. You may also Zelle your entry. Please contact Robert Chubinsky at 619-204-6978 or [rchubs4@gmail.com](mailto:rchubs4@gmail.com) for more information.

Happy Holidays  
Robert Chubinsky  
Arizona State Horseshoe Pitchers Association President  
Valley of the Sun Tournament Director

### Valley of the Sun Entry and Shirt Order Forms

VALLEY OF THE SUN – 2025	February 18- 23 2025	<i>Deadline January 14, 2025</i>
NAME _____	NHPA CARD # _____	
ADDRESS _____		
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____
PHONE _____	E_MAIL _____	
Entry Fee \$70	Circle: 40FT. 30FT. Male Female	
<b>Location:</b>	Mesa, Arizona	Pioneer Park 525 E Main Street

Shirts will be Green as shown



**Tournament Shirt** S- XL \$18.00/ea. 2XL. \$19.00/ea. 3XL \$21.00/ea.  
 Shirt sizes S, M and 3XL will not be available for purchase at the tournament other sizes will be while they last

Shirt Size	Number of shirts	Shirt Cost	Total
<b>Name &amp; State</b>	<b>On Shirt</b>	<b>Add \$10</b>	
First Name on Front	Last Name & State on Back		
		Entry Fee \$70	\$70
		<b>Grand Total</b>	

Make check payable to EVHC

Mail to: 15233 W Eureka Trail, Surprise AZ 85374 or

send payment thru Zelle to [rchubs4@gmail.com](mailto:rchubs4@gmail.com) and e-mail entry form

You may include shirt order money with your entry form check or Zelle

# Missouri #1 Defeats Wisconsin #1 in Amazing Final Match to Take Team World Title

By Jeff Secord

Wisconsin #1 entered Team World this year with an intent to win a 5<sup>th</sup> title in a row. This team, consisting of Sarah Chaffee, Penny Steinke, Jim Bilderback, and John Nawrot once again dominated over the rest of the field of teams in preliminary round-robin play and earned the top seed in the finals with a 79-13 record. The team also earned a bye in the first finals round by being the top team in the round robin. They defeated Ohio 3-1 in the second finals round to advance to the championship round for the 5<sup>th</sup> time in a row. Missouri #1 finished second in the prelims with a 70-22 record. This determined Missouri #1 team consisting of Virgle McCown, Pam Meyer, Jennifer Gegg, and Jason Weiler elevated their game in the finals taking 3 of 4 from Minnesota #1 in the first finals round and all 4 games against Illinois #1 in the second finals round. Missouri #1 bested the defending champions in the final round to end Wisconsin's run as Team World Champions at 4-in-a-row. The final match was one for the ages. John Nawrot defeated Jason Weiler 32-18. This 14-point margin could be critical as a 2-2 tie in wins in the finals is broken by total team points in the round. Virgle McCown faced Sarah Chaffee. The score was 6-3 in favor of Sarah at 20 shoes, but Virgle ran away with an 18-10 victory. The two had ten 4-deads, and 7 in a row, in the 40- shoe match but Virgle's 90% game was too good for Sarah to match as she pitched 82.5% in the loss. Pam Meyer faced Penny Steinke. This game was even more intense than the McCown vs Chaffee match. It too was 6-3 at 20 shoes in favor of Pam. These two had seven 4-deads in these first 10 frames of the game and 11 for the game. Pam was able to extend her lead to 10-3 at 30 shoes. However, Penny closed that lead down to 10-9 with two shoes remaining. Pam was able to add a 2-dead-3 in the last frame to win 13-9 and had 35 ringers (87.5%) to Penny's 34 ringers (85.0%). With 3 games finished, Missouri had a 2-1-win advantage but trailed Wisconsin in total points 49-51. Jennifer Gegg was pitching against Jim Bilderback. Wisconsin #1 would win the title if Jim defeated Jennifer since they had a 2-point total point advantage from the combination of the other 3 games. However, Jennifer was able to hold off Jim and won the game 28-24 to seal the 3<sup>rd</sup> win in the round to win the Team World title. **THIS WAS A TRULY AMAZING FINALS FINISH!!**



Penny Steinke			Name	Pam Meyer		
Rgrs	Points	Score	Shoe	Rgrs	Points	Score
X X	0	0	2	X X	0	0
X X	0	0	4	X X	0	0
X	0	0	6	O X	3	3
X X	0	0	8	X X	0	3
X X	0	0	10	X X	0	3
X	0	0	12	O X	3	6
X X	0	0	14	X X	0	6
X X	0	0	16	X X	0	6
O X	3	3	18	X	0	6
X X	0	3	20	X X	0	6
X	0	3	22	O X	3	9
X X	0	3	24	X X	0	9
X X	0	3	26	X X	0	9
X	0	3	28	X	1	10
X X	0	3	30	X X	0	10
O X	3	6	32	X	0	10
X	0	6	34	X	0	10
X X	0	6	36	X X	0	10
O X	3	9	38	X	0	10
X	0	9	40	O X	3	13
9		Points	13			
34		Rgrs	35			
14		Dbls	15			
40		Shoe	40			
85		Pct	87.5			

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Sarah Chaffee			Name	Virgle McCown		
Rgrs	Points	Score	Shoe	Rgrs	Points	Score
X	0	0	2	O X	3	3
X X	0	0	4	X X	0	3
O X	3	3	6	X	0	3
X X	0	3	8	X X	0	3
X X	0	3	10	X X	0	3
O X	3	6	12	X	0	3
X X	0	6	14	X X	0	3
X X	0	6	16	X X	0	3
X X	0	6	18	X X	0	3
X X	0	6	20	X X	0	3
X X	0	6	22	X X	0	3
X X	0	6	24	X X	0	3
X X	0	6	26	X X	0	3
X	0	6	28	O X	3	6
O X	3	9	30	X	0	6
X	1	10	32	X	0	6
X	0	10	34	O X	3	9
X	0	10	36	O X	3	12
X	0	10	38	O X	3	15
X	0	10	40	O X	3	18
10		Points	18			
33		Rgrs	36			
13		Dbls	16			
40		Shoe	40			
82.5		Pct	90			

*Team World by Jeff Secord...continued*

Competition for 3<sup>rd</sup> place was taking place at the same time as the finals match. Ohio lost to Wisconsin #1 and Illinois #1 was defeated by Missouri #1 in the semi-finals. These two teams faced each other to determine which team would earn 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Alan Francis defeated Austin Bailey 30-11. However, Paul Littlefield defeated Don Epps 31-11 to tie the round 1-1 and take a total points advantage of 42-41 for Illinois. Steve Denault defeated Amy Francis 24-21 to take a 2-1 lead and a 66-62 total point advantage. Ed Hildreth defeated Ken Schaver to make the match a 2-2 tie, but his 20-18 victory was too close as Illinois held the tiebreaker with an 84-82 total point advantage and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. Full results of Team World can be found online at: [www.whpahorseshoes.com/team-world](http://www.whpahorseshoes.com/team-world)

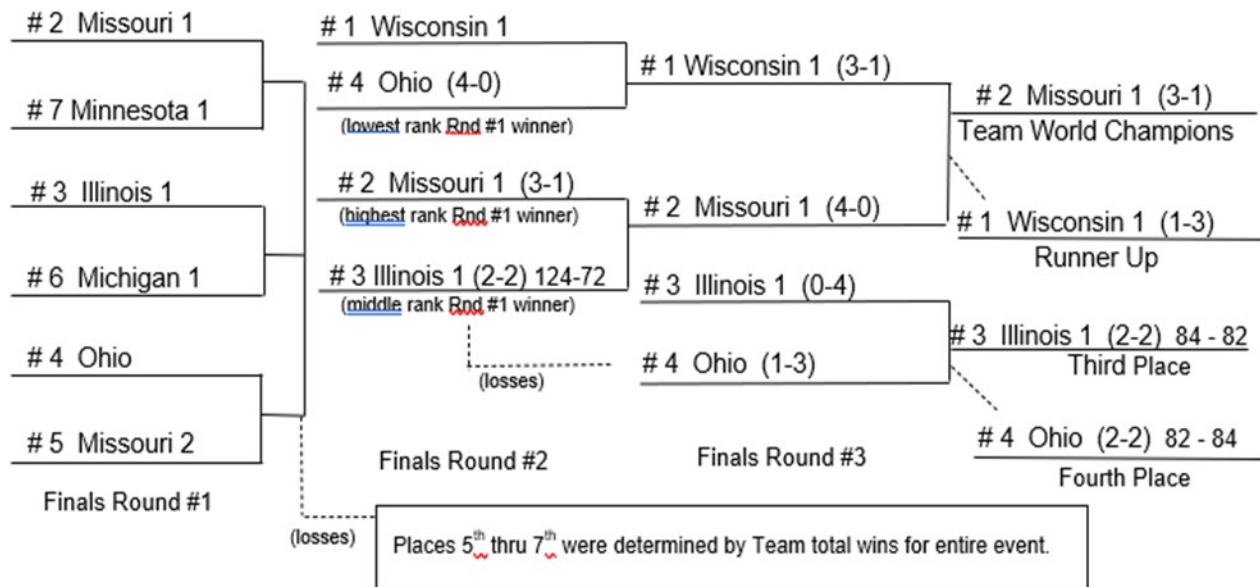
Team World had a record 29 teams entered this year. In fact, it was the first time in the event's 38-year history that the committee received more entries than the 24-team limit. The committee does not fill the rosters on a first come basis. There is priority placed on getting representatives from as many different states as possible and fielding the most competitive field of teams as well. Therefore, the 5 teams with the lowest team entering ringer percentage averages from states that had more than 1 team enter, were the teams that were placed outside of the 24-team group. We encourage all that were turned away to enter a team again. We were fortunate to see the return of Drew Becker and his team from Ontario, Canada, to host a second year in a row of international competition at Team World. The following states were represented at Team World: California, Illinois (2), Iowa, Michigan (4), Minnesota (4), Missouri (3), Ohio, Washington, and Wisconsin (5).

Another notable for 2024 was Team World's first pitcher from a junior division as 14-year-old Hastiin Begaye was a member of the California team. Hastiin was not intimidated by the adult competition as he finished with a 19.5-3.5 record and pitched 74% for the tournament. He lost to Alan Francis on day 1 and defeated Drew Becker on day 2. California fell just short of making the 7-team finals as they ended up finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place. Team World also featured a head-to-head match between the reigning Women's and Men's world champions, Sarah Chaffee and Alan Francis, for a second consecutive year. However, this time the two met once in the prelims and a second time in the semi-finals. Alan was able to make the series record 3-0 by defeating Sarah 25-20 in the prelims and again 21-18 in the semi-finals pitching 34 ringers to Sarah's 33 ringers.

The Earl Paulson Team World Award is given out in honor of Earl Paulson and was created to give recognition to some of the greatest pitchers and contributors that have participated in Team World. The award presentation took place on Saturday afternoon. Paul LaCrosse and Penny Steinke were this year's recipients of the award. Paul participated in 14 Team World tournaments and his Colorado teams won 6 times from 2000-2009. Paul's career Team World ringer percentage is 69.55%, which is 5<sup>th</sup> highest among pitchers with 10 or more tournaments played. Penny has participated in 12 Team World Tournaments and is the only pitcher to win Team World 4 times in a row and averaged 74.2% over those 4 years. Paul and Penny join Dale Lipovsky, Charlie Webb, Sue Snyder, and Alan Francis as Team World Award recipients.

The Beloit Horseshoe Club and Team World Committee are looking forward to hosting Team World again next year. Whether you have played in the past or have never participated, mark your calendars, and consider being a part of the 39<sup>th</sup> Team World Tournament in Beloit, WI, May 16, 17, & 18, 2025. There is truly no other tournament like Team World.

Team World info, history, statistics, and 2025 entry form can be found online at: [www.whpahorseshoes.com/team-world](http://www.whpahorseshoes.com/team-world). The deadline to enter Team World is April 10, 2025.



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# NHPA

## National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

*"Come Pitch with Us!"*

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Welcome to eShoe, a place for National Horseshoe Pitchers Association members to track stats and renew their membership online. This site uses cookies which are necessary for users with a login. Accept

**Stats**

Alabama	Nebraska-West	Mens Top 100
Alaska	Nevada	Womens Top 100
Arizona	New Hampshire	Elders Top 100
Arkansas	New Jersey	Boys Top 50
California-North	New Mexico	Girls Top 25
California-South	New York	Cadets Top 25
Colorado	North Carolina	Complete File
Connecticut	North Dakota	
Delaware	Ohio	Alberta
Florida	Oklahoma	British Columbia
Georgia	Oregon	New Brunswick
Hawaii	Pennsylvania-East	Ontario
Idaho	Pennsylvania-West	Quebec

<https://www.nhpa-eshoe.com/Home/Stats>

**Womens Top 100 Stats**     *27 Dec 2024*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	330030	Maxine	Griffith	TN	Women	85.24	17
2	330031	Marlene	Ray	TN	Women	84.27	18
3	280216	Sarah	Chaffee	WI	Women	84.15	7
4	350626	Shalee	Cason	FL	Women	82.00	9
5	190875	Jennifer	Gegg	MO	Women	80.32	13
6	490476	Skyla	Rioux	CT	Women	79.80	8
7	623905	Lindsay	HODGINS	AB	Women	79.33	6
8	280078	Penny	Steinke	WI	Women	79.21	22
9	664710	Sylvianne	Moisan	QC	Women	77.32	11
10	800439	Pam	Meyer	MO	Women	77.31	12
11	220130	Doris	Hieden	TX	Women	75.70	11
12	360294	Amy	Francis	OH	Women	75.06	10
13	380221	Kelly	Glidewell	VA	Women	73.92	28
14	802026	Blanca	Hettinga	OR	Women	73.22	26
15	300441	Denise	Daly	MI	Women	71.93	8

*(Continued on Page 32)*

Mens Top 100 Stats 27 Dec 2024

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	360940	Alan	Francis	OH	Men	85.36	10
2	320063	Ben	Webb	KY	Men	78.19	19
3	260084	Dan	Watson	AL	Men	77.97	14
4	290652	Austin	Bailey	IL	Men	74.72	11
5	390143	Randy	Zeiders	PA	Men	74.27	14
6	320292	Tyler	Howard	KY	Men	74.25	21
7	100290	Brandon	Tenijieth	AZ	Men	74.15	3
8	440124	Ken	Fraser	NY	Men	73.71	9
9	300151	Andrew	Adams	MI	Men	71.52	10
10	657381	Drew	BECKER	ON	Men	71.17	5
11	10058	Matt	Fuller	WA	Men	70.35	11
12	190693	Michael	Bowman	MO	Men	70.04	19
13	460059	Gale	Greene	VT	Men	68.32	14
14	420271	Jerry	Dean	MD	Men	67.85	6
15	290100	Dalton	Rakestraw	CA	Men	66.71	39

Elders Top 100 Stats 27 Dec 2024

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	614016	Tom	MOFFAT	BC	Elder Men	81.36	26
2	100192	Mike	Massari	AZ	Elder Men	77.66	28
3	191256	Virgle	McCown	MO	Elder Men	76.50	13
4	310517	Dale	Moles	IN	Elder Men	76.18	6
5	350350	Bob	Gray	FL	Elder Men	75.56	7
6	370298	Junior	Peters	WV	Elder Men	75.36	9
7	420337	Tom	Mills	MD	Elder Men	75.32	11
8	220577	Danny	Patterson	TX	Elder Men	73.67	17
9	802038	Tim	Seagroves	TN	Exempt	73.45	43
10	220870	Tom	Routh	TX	Elder Men	73.30	16
11	290240	Steve	Denault	IL	Elder Men	73.14	7
12	662691	Simon	COTE	QC	Elder Men	73.09	6
13	280374	Cliff	Shave	WI	Elder Men	73.02	22
14	660765	Jacques	HOULE	QC	Elder Men	72.98	4
15	361017	Don	Epps	OH	Elder Men	72.64	14

(Continued on Page 33)



Girls Top 25 Stats *27 Dec 2024*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	340280	Lily	Strong	CA	Junior Girls	49.72	7
2	280115	Lillyan	Kildahl	WI	Junior Girls	43.21	6
3	191533	Sadie	Wolken	MO	Junior Girls	41.31	7
4	95096	Adilaide	Ohms	UT	Junior Girls	37.88	11
5	802674	Madeline	Workman	NV	Junior Girls	34.55	4
6	800889	Lindy	Anderson	UT	Junior Girls	29.83	8
7	800812	Lilli	Light	MT	Junior Girls	29.56	3
8	803569	Aislinn Raye	Klapik	CT	Junior Girls	26.67	13
9	802875	Natalie	Dilger	NV	Junior Girls	26.24	19
10	190880	Rhilynde	Myler	MO	Junior Girls	26.00	9
11	150396	Uria	Gabel	ND	Junior Girls	24.82	7
12	800480	Addison	Ashton	KY	Junior Girls	22.68	6
13	616571	Ericka	MCNAB	BC	Junior Girls	22.40	3
14	804138	Laila	Broken Rope	SD	Junior Girls	22.00	2
15	31141	Evelyn	Espinola	CA	Junior Girls	21.16	1

Boys Top 50 Stats *27 Dec 2024*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	31151	Hastiin	Begaye	CA	Junior Boys	80.59	5
2	380630	Eli	Sullivan	VA	Junior Boys	78.47	5
3	802657	Tom	Grose	NV	Junior Boys	57.79	12
4	480516	Zack	Grzembski	MA	Junior Boys	57.55	16
5	803169	Ryder	Smith	MT	Junior Boys	57.34	9
6	803797	Kai-ba	Jeff	CA	Junior Boys	52.89	2
7	95078	Coulson	Ohms	UT	Junior Boys	48.73	10
8	490452	Riley	Malino	CT	Junior Boys	48.34	6
9	190085	Warren	Highley	MO	Junior Boys	47.98	20
10	280127	Blake	Benzing	WI	Junior Boys	44.55	4
11	220641	Isaac	Nelson Jr.	TX	Junior Boys	43.75	1
12	803828	Matt	Hulse	UT	Junior Boys	43.23	5
13	260172	Tyler	Harris	AL	Junior Boys	42.50	1
14	280226	Bradley	Benzing	WI	Junior Boys	41.03	5
15	803798	Tah-dsoka	Jeff	CA	Junior Boys	40.03	3

*(Continued on Page 34)*

Cadets Top 25 Stats *27 Dec 2024*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	801315	Evan	Bedard	MA	Cadet Boys	64.54	13
2	802539	Zachary	Smith	IA	Cadet Boys	48.17	24
3	804087	Gavin	Begaye Jr.	CA	Cadet Boys	44.40	3
4	804088	Eben	Begaye	CA	Cadet Boys	43.02	3
5	804918	Kendell	Beck	GA	Cadet Boys	40.51	6
6	803456	Jeremiah	DeMello	WA	Cadet Boys	39.38	11
7	804890	Jensen	Martin	VA	Cadet Boys	32.80	3
8	802970	Alexzander	Schmidt	GA	Cadet Boys	28.92	6
9	804923	Brantley	Cook	GA	Cadet Boys	27.54	4
10	803792	Jacob	Barney	UT	Cadet Boys	25.00	11
11	803216	Beau	Dehkes	MN	Cadet Boys	24.38	2
12	802184	Waylon	Basler	MO	Cadet Boys	23.00	1
13	803880	Dominic	McDonald	GA	Cadet Boys	22.79	2
14	804848	Kateri	Navarro	CA	Cadet Girls	21.72	4
15	802463	Jackson	Vancleave	MI	Cadet Boys	21.64	6



[www.thehorseshoetour.com](http://www.thehorseshoetour.com)

