



Horseshoe Pitching Newsline

November - December 2023

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

2023 President's Message

We need to work together to grow Membership

By Gary B. Roberts, NHPA President



The most important issue facing the NHPA is the continuous loss of membership on the national level. According to the final membership report for 2023 we now have 6,963 members which represents a loss of approximately 255 members from last year. Rather than trying to place blame for this situation, I would like to do everything possible to make 2024 the first year that membership does not drop. All of us must contribute to making this goal happen. We need to look at those state charters and local clubs that have shown improvement. We need to consider all ideas that might spur membership. Total membership is not the only problem. Our inability to attract younger people to participate in our sport is the most tragic problem. Even children who grow up in horseshoe families are not pursuing the sport. We must decide how we can make participation more attractive. In Southern Utah, the school program has created many junior pitchers. If we are going to stabilize or improve membership numbers, we must all work together with new approaches. I am normally an optimist, but we cannot let membership continue to decline. One thing that does increase membership is the sanctioned league program. In the local club that I participate in, we had 50 NHPA memberships. This is because we had very dedicated officers who are making our league popular to all involved. We have 40 to 50 pitchers on our nine courts for every tournament we hold during the year. At the same time, I see other leagues that have lost members, and some have closed completely.

Another issue that has been discussed previously is that all our cameras no longer work since the company was sold and they are no longer supported. We are in the process of researching new cameras to use in Washington. We will investigate purchasing or leasing appropriate cameras. This is a difficult task that must be completed.

As everyone knows, Jim Kinney, JR. has resigned as Secretary/Treasurer of the NHPA. Brian Poole was selected to replace him. This office is the most difficult of all NHPA offices. We felt that Brian already had a certain knowledge of the work to be done. At the same time Austin Bailey was selected to replace Brian as First Vice President to take over the Rules, Bylaws, and Grievance procedures. Officer duties can always be changed but placing him there was the choice of the Council.

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President's Message...continued

The current vacancy is now the Fourth Vice President as Barb Carson's term expires on December 31, 2023. There are currently about six applicants for that position.

In summary, the year 2024 must be about increasing membership. Your ideas and hard work can make this happen.

Gary

Excited to Join the NHPA Council

Austin, 1st VP

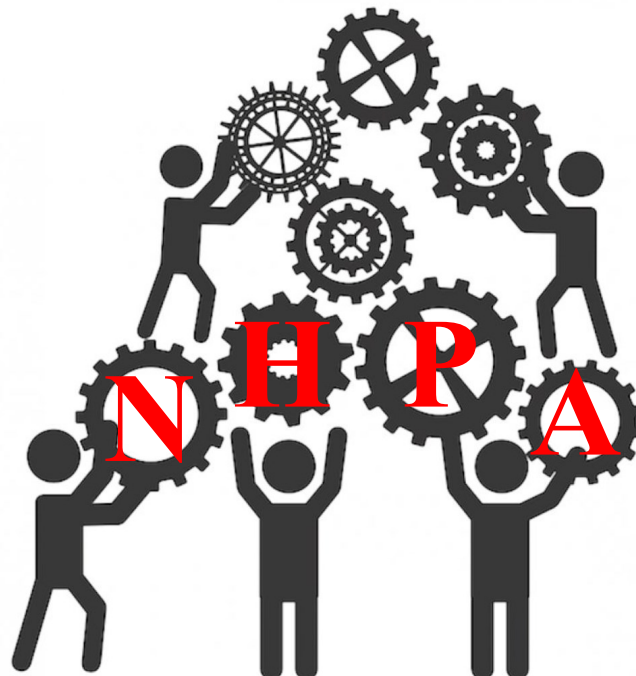
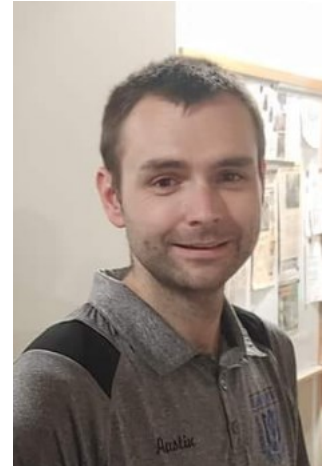
I want to start out by saying that I am very excited to start this new journey of being on the NHPA council. I am thankful to have had the support of the charter delegates and the NHPA council. I look forward to being your 1st Vice President and being able to help the council and NHPA in any way that I can.

If you have any questions regarding the rules, by-laws or grievances please feel free to call, text or email. I will make sure to respond to you in a timely manner to any issue. I will be looking over our rules and by-laws committee members and reaching out to those members soon. I believe that it is good to have a committee and look forward to working with everyone on the committee too.

I know there might still be some questions regarding the new Senior Women's trial division that we are doing. If you have any questions regarding that please reach out to me and I will talk with you about that. I want to wish everyone a happy holiday season. It is hard to believe that the holidays are this close already.

Once again, I want to say thank you for everyone's support.

Austin



The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association is coming to Tri-Cities, WA!

July 29 - August 10, 2024

Tri-Cities, WA is a growing metropolitan area in southeast Washington where 300 sun filled days offer visitors a year-round outdoor paradise. Known as the Heart of Washington Wine Country®, the Tri-Cities (Kennewick, Pasco, and Richland) in the southeastern corner of the state offers a retreat for exploration and rejuvenation. Tri-Cities, WA is a land of discovery that offers a diverse culinary scene, hundreds of world class wineries, vast outdoor activities, and a history and science culture that is unexpected, sometimes unimaginable.



The Venues

The Toyota Center is a beautiful, multifunctional facility for everyone to enjoy. The 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.



Where to Stay

The National Horseshoe Pitchers Association has made arrangements with these amazing local hotels to accommodate you during your stay.

Host Hotels



SpringHill Suites by Marriott Kennewick
7048 W Grandridge Blvd, Kennewick, WA 99336



Hilton Garden Inn Kennewick
701 N Young St, Kennewick, WA 99336

More Hotels



SureStay Plus Hotel by Best Western Kennewick Tri-Cities
602 N Young St, Kennewick, WA 99336



Super 8 Kennewick
626 N Columbia Center Blvd, Kennewick, WA 99336



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



RV Camping is also available!

Columbia Sun RV Resort
103907 Wiser Pkwy, Kennewick, WA 99338

Franklin County RV Park
6333 Homerun Rd, Pasco, WA 99301

Horn Rapids RV Resort
2640 Kingsgate Way, Richland, WA 99354

Wright's Desert Gold RV Park
611 Columbia Park Trail Richland, WA 99352

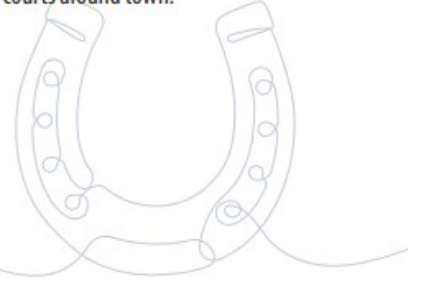


Where to Play



Looking for some practice courts around Tri-Cities? Check out these courts around town!

- **Eastgate Park:** 24 courts, 15 minutes from venue
- **Columbia Park:** 6 courts, 15 minutes from venue
- **Chiawana Park:** 4 courts, 20 minutes from venue



How to Get Around

FLY DIRECTLY INTO PASCO (PSC)

By Air

Direct flights to and from Tri-Cities

FROM:

- Burbank, CA
- Denver, CO
- Las Vegas, NV
- Minneapolis, MN
- Phoenix-Mesa, AZ
- Salt Lake City, UT
- San Francisco, CA
- Seattle, WA
- Los Angeles, CA
- San Diego, CA

VIA:

- Avelo
- United
- Allegiant
- Delta
- Allegiant
- Delta
- United
- Alaska / Delta
- Allegiant
- Allegiant

By Land

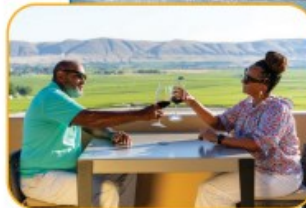
Transportation in Tri-Cities

- Uber / Lyft / Taxi
- Benton Franklin Transit
- TC Black
- A&A Motorcoach
- Aspen Limo Tours
- Eastern WA Transportation

TRI-CITIES FROM	MILES	TIME
Seattle, WA	225	3 hr 30 min
Spokane, WA	136	2 hr 15 min
Vancouver, WA	218	3 hr 30 min
Wenatchee, WA	141	2 hr 15 min
Yakima, WA	83	1 hr 15 min
Portland, OR	218	3 hr 30 min
Boise, ID	293	4 hr 30 min
Coeur D'Alene, ID	167	2 hr 45 min

Things to Do!

- Paddleboarding
- Kayaking
- Museums
- Hiking
- Biking
- Wineries
- Breweries
- Farmers' Markets
- Golf
- STEM activities
- Axe throwing
- Escape rooms
- Agritourism activities
- Shopping
- **And much, much, more**



Want to know more? Ask for a NHPA Informational Bag!
Email Kaiya Bliss at Kaiya@VisitTri-Cities.com for more information.

More to come! Stay tuned!
We can't wait for you to visit in 2024!

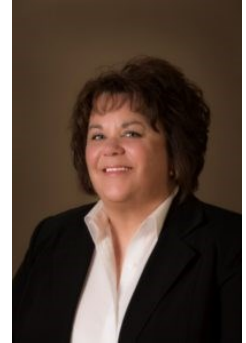


Find out more at VisitTri-Cities.com/nhpa or scan the QR code.

Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP- World Tournament Coordinator/Publicity & Promotion Director

NHPA 2024 WORLD TOURNAMENT KENNEWICK, WA INFORMATION



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/officer 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 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.

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” when making your reservations.

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

PLANNING YOUR TRIP

Whether planning to attend the World Tournament in July 2024, or planning a wine weekend getaway, kayaking, hiking trails, or making plans to attend one of the Tri-Cities’ many festivals and events on a week-long vacation, everything you need to ensure a successful visit is right here! Here is some basic information for you. Please know that the time in Washington is **“PACIFIC TIME”**.

Visitor Center (Main Branch - Kennewick)

<https://www.visittri-cities.com>
 7130 W. Grandridge Blvd., Suite B
 Kennewick, WA 99336
 Open Monday through Friday, 8am - 5pm
[\(509\) 735-8486](tel:5097358486) | [\(800\) 254-5824](tel:8002545824)

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP- World Tournament Coordinator/Publicity & Promotion Director

2024 World Tournament Airport Information



Pasco Washington Airport is the same as the Tri-Cities Airport which is a regional airport. For anyone that may want to fly directly into Pasco Washington to the Tri-Cities Airport, here is a list of airlines that you can book your flight through. The Tri-Cities Airport is approximately 5-6 miles from Kennewick WA. This airport serves Richland, Pasco and Kennewick Washington.

Allegiant - (702) 505-8888
 Avelo - (346) 616-9500
 Delta - (800) 221-1212
 Alaska - (800) 252-7522
 United - (800) 241-6522
 American Airlines - (800) 433-7300

Tri-Cities Airport (PSC)

3601 N 20th Ave
 Pasco, WA 99301
 (509) 547-6352

Terminal Hours of Operation

3:30 am to 1:00 am



If you choose to fly into the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, this airport serves 31 different airlines. The Seattle airport is approximately **3 hr 23 min** (225.2 mi) via I-90 E and I-82 E to Kennewick. Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, branded as SEA Airport and also referred to as Sea-Tac, is the primary commercial airport serving the Seattle metropolitan area in the U.S. state of Washington.

Here are a few airlines that fly into Seattle

American Airlines	Jet Blue
Alaska	Delta
Air France	Emirates
Air Canda	South West (2 check in bags "Free")
Frontier	United Airlines

Seattle - Tacoma International Airport (SEA)

17801 International Blvd.
 SeaTac, WA 98158
 (206) 787-5388 or (800) 544-1965

Terminal Hours of Operation 24 hours/day

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP- World Tournament Coordinator/Publicity & Promotion Director

AIRLINE TIPS & TRICKS

COSTLY MISTAKES YOU COULD BE MAKING WHEN BOOKING FLIGHTS

I took a few days and many hours contacting each Airline listed above, and AAA and other airline experts to get you the best possible advice and tips/tricks to booking a flight to help you save money. The consensus is pretty much the same. Here is what they all have told me.

Everyone wants to find cheap flights, but travel experts and airlines know that finding deals takes more than plugging in your dates and clicking buy. There are extensive booking strategies, but some — even ones you may be using — are completely outdated.

The rules of travel evolve as travel itself evolves, that transparency is helping debunk commonly held travel myths, which, according to some of the major airlines, could be holding you back from saving money.

Here are the mistakes you might be making when booking a flight.

1. Always booking the cheapest fare

United, American, and Delta all offer basic economy fares, which are a cut lower than the standard economy class and often don't allow you to bring a carry-on, choose your seat, or change your ticket.

These fares may look like the cheapest flight option, but you'll have to either play by their rules or anticipate paying extra for things that are included in the economy fare. If you've got bags or need to sit with a family member (or hate the middle seat), you may actually save money by booking the standard economy fare upfront.

2. Booking too early (or too late)

The belief that you can find the best rate by buying flights as early as possible is outdated. You can book flights 11 months prior to departure, but booking more than six months ahead can cost you since airlines set their initial prices conservatively.

On the flipside, booking at the last minute is still going to cost you a premium. Prices typically start spiking in the two weeks leading up to a trip, and it's very unlikely that you'll find a better deal in that window than if you had purchased at an earlier date. The airlines also suggested that booking three weeks in advance is usually where the best prices are found, but to make sure you don't miss a fare drop, apps like Hopper, Kayak, and Google Flights will track the flights you want and notify you when it's time to book.

3. Buying tickets over the weekend

Buying tickets over the weekend may work with your schedule but could hurt your wallet. By shopping for flights at predictable times – or when everyone else is buying – you'll hurt your chances of finding a good deal. Hopper reports that "There are significantly fewer deals available on the weekend for both domestic and international trips."

Instead of hoping to find a deal on a Sunday or Tuesday, set alerts for the trips you want to take using the tools mentioned above.

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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4. Avoiding early morning flights

The red eye is often thought to be the cheapest fare of the day, but according to Skyscanner flying at 5 a.m. is the true sweet spot. Most people want to fly after 8 a.m. and return home from a trip in the afternoon – that means you're more likely to save if you book an early morning return flight too.

Early morning flights are also less likely to be delayed as most planes have landed for the night and the airspace is relatively quiet. Airports are also less crowded in the early mornings with Google traffic data showing that New York's JFK airport is busiest between noon and 10 p.m.

5. Plugging in specific travel dates

According to Travel Pricing Outlook, flights departing on Thursdays or Fridays tend to offer the lowest rates (with up to 10% percent in savings), while flights departing on Sundays were found to be the most expensive. While this is important to keep in mind, the cheapest days to travel varies by flight and destination. Using a booking engine like Skyscanner, Kayak, or Hopper allows you to compare rates over several days or an entire month to see when the cheapest travel days are.

Using this method, you might also be able to take advantage of airline errors or sale fares, resulting in crazy-cheap tickets at the airline or booking engine's expense.

6. Flying home before the weekend

Air travel is almost always less expensive when you fly midweek, and with that rational in mind, flexible travelers often fly home before the weekend to avoid a perceived increase in fare.

7. Forgetting budget airlines

It's easy to plug in your travel dates and let big search engines do the work, but if you go this route, you might miss out on budget airline fares. As of 2018, most budget airlines appear in broad flight searches, but there are some exceptions. For example, Southwest's fares often do not appear in Google Flights. If you know a budget airline flies to your destination, head to their site directly to review rates.

8. Not trying out flight hacking

If you just aren't finding an affordable flight, you might consider alternative booking methods. Skyscanner's Everywhere search allows you to find cheap – and often direct – flights to a city near your destination. From there, you can book a second, separate flight that gets you to your final destination. Another method is to search flights out of nearby airports. Depending on where you live or where your final destination is to travel to, an extra hour in the car may save you hundreds on airfare.

Most people steer away from one-way tickets, but in some cases they work. Consider flying into one airport and out another, and keep an eye on airline sales, which in Southwest's case are often one-way.

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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RENTAL CARS TIPS – TRAVEL LEISURE EXPERTS

Timing can be everything when looking for a rental car — you might find a low rate, but if you sit and wait for a lower price, you may miss out on a deal. But there are other secret ways to find the best price. Use these insider strategies to do a thorough search for the cheapest rental car possible — and maybe even score an upgrade.

Search With Membership Sites

Memberships are required to access these deals, but the perk really pays off when you have many travel plans on the horizon. If you're already a member of travel clubs, these should be the first places you look for a deal. Instead of providing their own rental cars, these companies leverage their size and customer base to negotiate sweeter deals. You'll find Costco Travel consistently offers lower rates than the major online agencies and AAA has deals on rentals.

Check Your Airline Programs

You might be able to find some nice discounts through frequent flyer programs. However, these sometimes come with stipulations like renting exclusively from the airline partners or limiting your pick-up and drop-off locations to airports. Even if there aren't any discounts, booking through the airline may give you a chance to earn more points. For example, in 2023 Delta announced a new SkyMiles partnership with Hertz, offering four miles for every \$1 spent on a Hertz rental car — this is an even sweeter deal for Gold members who earn six miles per \$1. and Diamond medallion members who earn eight miles per \$1.

Search on Traditional Booking Sites

When the rental car provider doesn't matter to you, you can check "opaque" sites like Priceline and Hotwire, both of which offer deep discounts, but don't reveal the rental agency's name until you've made a nonrefundable purchase. You never know where the best deal is going to be, so it's worth it to do a cursory search on these sites if you want to find the cheapest car rental price possible.

Check for Transfer cars

With so many people picking up rental cars and dropping them off in different places, rental companies often struggle to keep up their inventory in their most popular destinations. For this, it's necessary to hire drivers to get cars to where they're needed most, but it also poses an opportunity for savvy travelers with open schedules. Transfer car is a platform where you can find cars with predesignated destinations for just the cost of insurance and gas. For example, you may find a station wagon that needs to be driven from Las Vegas to San Francisco within three days. That's only a nine-hour drive, which means you can break it up and have plenty of time to make a stop at Yosemite National Park or go up to Lake Tahoe. If it's the RV life you're more interested in, imoova.com is a similar platform for RVs.

Try the Two Minute Trick

If you have patience and two minutes per week, this easy trick can help you get a better deal. The first step is to book your car rental as soon as you need it at whatever rate. Then, you can set a calendar reminder for yourself once per week to check the rate on the same car and see if it dropped. If it is lower than what you originally paid, you can cancel your first booking and then rebook at the lower rate. Before doing so, just make sure you're rental provider won't impose a cancellation fee, which they typically won't as long as the cancellation isn't within 24 hours of your booking. The earlier you book, the more chances you'll have to claim a juicy price drop.

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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Compare With the Direct Booking Rate

Before you pay through a third-party website, always go straight to the rental company's website, and plug in your booking information. You may sometimes find that it is much cheaper to book directly, and you can earn points directly with the company's membership program. This way, you'll know you'll have all your bases covered.

Look for Coupons

You may be able to squeeze a few extra dollars out of your deal with a coupon from AutoSlash.com, a website that searches a database of coupons for the best price. Simply plug in the dates you need for your rental car, and you can customize the search based on the travel memberships, credit cards, and frequent flyer programs you have. Then, you'll receive an e-mail with potential discounted rates. You can also see available coupons listed on the site sorted by company if you prefer to shop your options.

Get a Manual Transmission

If you're going abroad, you'll find that manual transmission cars are the norm in just about every other part of the world, where people prefer them because they use less fuel. That doesn't mean you can't find an automatic in Europe or anywhere else, but you may have to pay a much higher price for it due to there being less demand. If you don't know how to drive a stick shift, taking the time to learn can help you save more down the road.

Avoid Insurance Potholes

Your credit card, personal car insurance, or travel insurance may cover your vehicle during your rental. Look it up before you rent and read the fine print. It could save you \$15 to \$25 a day on the cost of your car. Don't forget to bring proof of your insurance coverage; increasingly, car rental companies have started to demand this before they hand you the keys. A site like Insuremyrentalcar.com can sell you a stand-alone insurance policy that costs a fraction of what the rental companies charge. Also check your personal insurance, you may have coverage without having to purchase additional insurance.

Don't Rent at the Airport

Rental companies often price their vehicles in peculiar ways, too. For example, cars rented at the airport are almost always more expensive because of added taxes and fees. Typically, when you rent at an off-airport location, you could save 20 percent or more. You can take advantage of the airport's public transportation options to get yourself to the city center to pick up your car or take a taxi to a nearby off-airport site.

Look Out for Junk Fees

If you plan on collecting frequent-flier miles with your car rental, be aware that you might be charged up to \$1 per day for the privilege. Other junk fees include renting a toll transponder (about \$5 a day), a GPS navigation system (use your smartphone instead), and satellite radio (sometimes as much as \$8 per day). Try to bring your own car accessories from home, like your charger or smartphone holder if you want to avoid paying for marked-up products at the airport.

Compare Rates Throughout the Week

On occasion, you may find that it's cheaper to book a car for a whole week rather than just the few days that you'll need it. You can click around and compare the difference between returning the car on the day you actually need to leave and a few days later. If it works out to be cheaper to return the car later, you can book that time period and just bring it back whenever you need to leave. To pull this off though, you'll need to confirm, and double-check, that the rental car company won't impose any early return fees.

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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Book the Smallest Car Possible

Rental car companies are known for overbooking to counterbalance the number of people who reserve a car and never show up to pick it up. Although this backfires during times of high demand, you can use this knowledge to your advantage by booking the smallest and cheapest car possible and setting yourself up for an upgrade. Of course, it's still a gamble so don't book anything that wouldn't be big enough to accommodate your entire party.

Set a Designated Driver

If you plan on driving in shifts with your travel companions, you may end up paying more in fees for each additional driver you add to the reservation. These fees typically start at \$10 per day. If you do only put one driver on the reservation to save on fees, don't let the other person drive or you could face very expensive consequences should you get into an accident or get caught speeding while they're behind the wheel. Sometimes rental car companies offer deals or coupons that waive fees for additional driver fees — depending on your itinerary this could be a big way to save money on your car rental.

2026 POTENTIAL WORLD TOURNAMENT LOCATIONS SHOWING INTEREST IN HOSTING

We are receiving several interests for the World Tournament locations for 2026. While we will continue to receive potential bidders, interest and requests, the deadline for a CVB to “Officially” commit is July 1, 2024, for the 2026 World Tournament, 2 years out. A couple of these locations could not bid before due to funding issues, however they have done additional grant writing and have received additional federal funding, so they now can bid for the event. They also see the potential revenue for their areas that is generated from hosting a World Tournament.

While we are currently working with each location on the event details and contractual requirements, etc., nothing is finalized at this time.

- Grand Island, NE
- Peoria, IL
- The Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV
- Kansas City, KS
- Ontario, CA
- Oklahoma City, OK



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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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COURT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

If you're looking for a unique Christmas gift, the NHPA is offering a new opportunity for anyone to sponsor courts. In the past the banner was hung with the sponsors names listed on it at each World Tournament. Over the years, those sponsors and donors have passed on or the business no longer exist. Due to aging, wear and tear, rubber drying out etc., we need to replace the courts with new ones every 3-5 years. This sponsorship opportunity would assist in covering those expenses. Here is the breakdown of the cost: There are two sponsorship options available.

- Sponsorship of a ½ (Half Court) includes 1- complete box pit, stake, rubber mat, rubber backstop and rails. \$200 renewable annually.
- Sponsorship of a Full Court – Includes 2- complete box pits, 2 stakes, 2-rubber mats and 2- rubber backstops and rails. \$400 renewable annually.



Sponsorship Fee – A sponsorship fee depending on the option chosen, ½ (half) court or a full court sponsorship will be paid/received by Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer prior to adding sponsorship name to Banner and posting the banner on the NHPA website. The NHPA is not responsible for any typo's, misspellings, or errors. Type will be printed on banner as listed on sponsorship agreement.

Term of Sponsorship – Sponsorship will be provided on an annual basis, renewable on January 1, each year.

Point of contact - The NHPA Secretary/Treasurer shall be the single point of contact to manage all financial communications between the two parties.

Prelim Trophy Sponsors

The NHPA is looking for potential sponsors for the prelim trophy's in all classes, Men's, Women's, Junior Boy's, Junior Girl's, Cadets Boy's, and Cadet's Girl's. These would be two (2) year contracts or longer depending on the sponsors requests. Each Division will award 3 trophies for a total of eighteen (18) trophies each year. Total annual trophy costs will vary each year based on the cost of materials when trophies are ordered. The deadline for payment in full each year will be June 1st.



*4th VP Message***Plan now for 2024!**

By Barbara Carson, 4th Vice President/World Tournament STAT Room, RD Director, Court Sanctioning



Hello fellow horseshoe pitchers. I hope this finds all of you happy and healthy. Fall is here already. I hope all of you had a great 2023 pitching season and most of all had fun and enjoyed your horseshoe families. The holiday season is fast approaching, so I will wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. Only 2 months until Christmas. Where has the year gone. I want to thank you all for your love and support this year. October was a year since Alex passed and it was a very hard year for me, but having your support and your kindness really helped me get through it. I am ready to start my new chapter in 2024.

Well, it's that time of year again. The 2024 patches have been ordered and are in production. I should be receiving them around the 1st or 2nd week in November. I will be processing your orders based on when your first tournament for 2024 begins. I know that some of you pitch starting in January, so those orders will be processed and shipped first. If you already have your tournaments scheduled, you can go ahead and send me your order form and I will fill them after the ones starting in January. I have ordered a few extra patches this year, so go ahead and schedule more tournaments. The year 2024 will be on all patches this year, but we need to think about not putting the year on all of them. I have gotten feedback from a lot of you that have voted on this at your annual State meeting. The consensus is to have the year on any State patch (State Champion, State Class Champion, etc.). The Class Champion and any patch that does not have State on them will not have the date on them. I do have quite a few 2023 patches left. Please let me know if you need any and I will send them to you. The leftover patches will be thrown away, except for a few of them that I will keep in case any of you need them. That is also money that will be thrown away. I have ordered 11,900 patches at a cost of \$8,700. Please do me a favor and talk to your clubs about only having the year on the State patches. The NHPA can save money by doing this and will allow the purchase of other equipment such as cameras and new computers for scorekeeping. Thank you all so much.

Okay, now let's talk about the 2024 World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington. It is a beautiful facility and the area is unbelievable. I hope you are already making arrangements to be there. There is so much to do and see in that area. Also, like last year I will need your help at the check-in table on day 1 of each new session. It is on a voluntary basis, but it really helps get everyone checked-in in a timely manner. I would appreciate your help if you are going to be there and can spare a few minutes out of your day to help me out with this. Thank you to those of you who helped me last year in Michigan.

Please welcome our 3 newest RD's.

The first one is Victor Magnus from Washington State. Victor is very involved in the planning of the 2024 World Tournament. Welcome Victor and thank you for your hard work and jumping in and performing your RD duties so quickly and efficiently.

The second one is Jed Manion from Connecticut. Jed has taken over the Connecticut Charter, which will relieve some of the pressure from Debbie Michaud. Debbie was handling the entire New England States by herself. Thank you Debbie. Jed will be a great addition to our family. Welcome Jed and thank you in advance for taking on this position. I know you will do great.

(Continued on Page 14)


The third one is Kelsey Klundt from Montana. Kelsey is excited to be taking over this position and I know he will do an amazing job. He is very enthusiastic and I am looking forward to working with him. Welcome Kelsey and thank you for all you are doing for the state of Montana.

The council has voted and decided that you no longer have to fill out Tournament Sanction Certificates. All of your tournaments are added to eShoe which includes the Sanction Number and the Token Number, therefore Tournament Sanction Certificates are not needed. If it's not a Sanctioned Tournament, of course it will not be in eShoe anyway. If you feel that you still want to fill them out, just let me know. I do have some left, but if a lot of you want them, then I will have to order some more.

I want to thank you all again for your hard work and dedication to horseshoes. Again, thank you for your love and support during the last year. I am looking forward to working with you during the 2024 season and you all are the Best. I couldn't have made it through the last year without you and this job. Love you guys and I'll see you on the courts. Keep up the awesome work that you guys do.

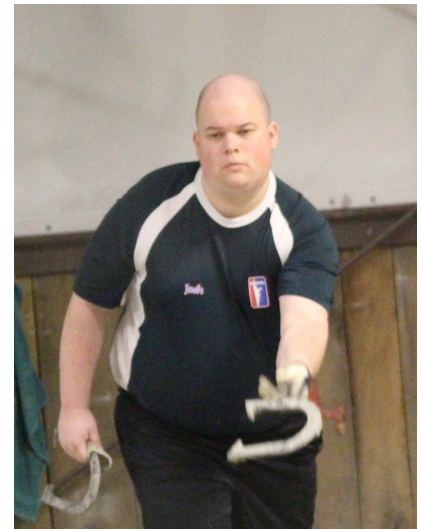
Barb

5th VP Message

Have you tried  yet?

By Josh Olson, 5th Vice President—IT Director

The popular app has been available for cancellation scoring now for a few months and it looks like it could really be the way of the future for tournament play. I decided to take a break from throwing horseshoes this winter. I'm hoping to see some more results and clubs giving Scoreholio a chance for some tournaments and maybe even league play. I know Tom Moffat from up north in the British Columbia Providence has had some great success with testing the horseshoe side of Scoreholio. If anyone would like some help getting more information about Scoreholio, there is a couple of Facebook groups that are dedicated for troubleshooting and all things Scoreholio. Ben Budha and a bunch of others that use Scoreholio on a daily basis are available to ask questions. There is also a resource (below) that is great for tips tricks and all things horseshoes specific for using Scoreholio.



If you have had some success running Horseshoe Tournaments while using Scoreholio please feel free to send me a email if you would like to share any thoughts you might have with the app. I know its new and not everyone is familiar with it, but tablets are not that expensive these days and if you have an internet source, it works great for running tournament, especially if you run into issues with not having enough score keepers at your tournaments. This could be a very good alternative.

Scoreholio could be the future for the world tournament when it comes to keeping score. I think we are a few years away from that, but I can see it being used for sure. I'm hoping to purchase a few more tablets myself for the Spring/Summer and planning to do some more testing.

(Continued on Page 15)

A little update on the camera situation, we haven't narrowed down a product yet for replacing the streaming cameras that we have used in the past. A project like this, in my opinion, requires a lot of research, and it should include some testing as well. Unfortunately that part might be difficult. Ideally, we would use a facility that can replicate a world tournament when it comes to having Wi-Fi access when competition is going on. Right now there is only 2 facilities that I know of that have access to wireless internet in their pitching facilities, one is the Hall of Fame in Wentzville and the other is the Central Connecticut Horseshoe Courts. I wish I lived close to one or the other to make this a little easier before we get to Kennewick. I have some ideas in the works, and we have found a camera that might be worth trying.

Happy Holidays to everyone this holiday season and I will see you on the courts!

<https://scoreholio.com/scoremagic-horseshoes/>

Josh

Junior Director

Rebuilding an Organization from the Ground Up

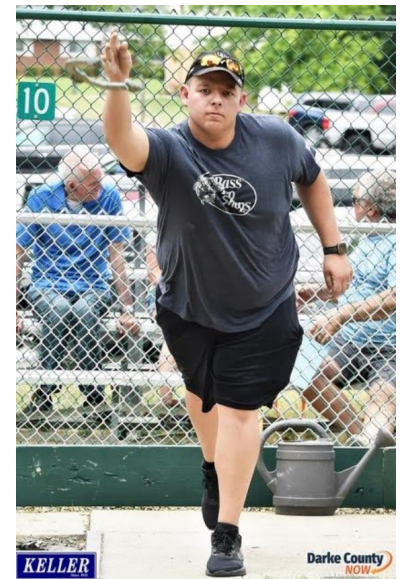
By Ben Webb, Junior Director

Rebuilding, how do we want to be perceived?

By this time the leaves have fallen and it's beginning to turn cold in many parts of the country, meaning that most, if not all major events are wrapped up for the 2023 season. Congratulations to all the League, State, World, Horseshoe Tour and other champions across the country for your 2023 efforts! I was fortunate to have one of my best seasons in my pitching career this season and can only hope to continue to improve next season. There will always be some bad where there is good though, and while this season has been one of success for myself and many other NHPA members, it's also been one of many challenges. This season (from an NHPA perspective) we've seen great triumphs along with great pitfalls with poor sportsmanship, several charter conflicts, etc. A simple fact of life is that there will always be trials and obstacles to overcome just as John Chapter 16 will remind us. We often cannot control when these things happen, but we can control our reactions and responses to these things. It is easy to want to react to issues in anger but that will almost certainly always have a negative impact on how the association is viewed. We all want things to improve, and we all want issues resolved efficiently but we must use the proper channels and let the process run its course. All of this is to say that for us to grow as an association, we must maintain a positive reputation in the public view and keep open minds while conducting business as honestly, and by our standards, as possible.

So how does this impact the Youth?

In order to grow youth membership, the parents must be willing to bring them. If our organization were to get a negative reputation of poor sportsmanship, corrupt activities, retaliation, badmouthing, unwillingness to work together and progress, etc., a parent would be much less likely to bring their youth to join the NHPA, even if this reputation is simply perspective and not the reality. We must get back to the family friendly, sportsmanlike, progressive viewpoint if we wish to see major growth. The NHPA is designed to have divisions for each age group to enjoy the sport no matter age or gender. These are the points we should focus on. Perception is reality from a public perspective and though us members may know that most of the internal issues the NHPA faces are minor they can easily be overstated in public view causing people to not want to join.



(Continued...Page 16)

Junior Director

The youth committee was created to deal with issues like this along with growth of membership. The committee was started, and then got off track along the way. The committee currently has 4 sitting members: Austin Bailey, Aleena Lepak, myself, and our newest member Dow Buford of Kentucky. We are currently looking for 3 more members from the Midwest to west to fill out the committee from a geographic standpoint. We will be beginning our regular meetings the first of November and will be reviewing several ideas for youth membership growth and plans for the 2024 World Tournament in Washington.

If you are interested in joining the youth committee please reach out to me at (270) 597-4900.

What can charters do to grow their youth membership?

The age-old question always seems to be what the NHPA is doing to build the youth membership and membership in general. Many times, we all find it easier to point fingers regarding the membership decline, but the truth is that membership growth and decline has as much (if not more) to do with individual charter efforts rather than the NHPA council and directors. Don't get me wrong, the council and directors are there to support, guide, assist and direct any efforts when needed, but a 7-person council would have an impossible task attempting to appropriately drive membership in 50 different states at any given time. Along with the NHPA decline comes the decline of youth pitchers and poor youth to adult retention rates. Here are several things that you and your charter can incorporate in 2024 to grow your youth numbers:

- Promote using local media outlets (TV, Radio, Newspapers, etc)
- Build and maintain a Facebook page for your league or charter.
- Hand out fliers or business cards in your town's Christmas parade and events
- Do a restaurant fundraiser to raise money and awareness for your league.
- Target your advertising to a family oriented and youth league environment.
- Connect your tournaments with an event in the town (Fairs and Festivals).

Former Youth Pitchers perform well in their State Championships!

It's always great to see our Youth winning their state championships in each division, it's also good to see the few that hang on into adulthood go on to have much success. Former youth players performed well again in their 2023 state tournaments. Tyler Howard and I continued our longtime rivalry in Kentucky with Tyler retaining the state championship in a close final game. This year is the 4th year in a row that both Tyler and I have been 6 – 0 in the Kentucky state championship class when we met in the final game. Matt Fuller retained his Men's championship in Washington, Austin Bailey successfully defended in Illinois, Alan Francis clung to victory in Ohio, Denise Daly won the Michigan Women's State Championship, and Sarah Chaffee remained undefeated in defending her Wisconsin State Championship. Lindsay Hodgins and Drew Becker won their respective division championships in the Canadian championships. Drew Becker was inducted into the Canadian Hall of Fame, joining the likes of Elmer Hohl and Sylvianne Moisan. Lindsay was also inducted into the BC Hall of Fame on the same weekend. The current top 10's in both the Men's and Women's divisions are made up of 5 or more former youth pitchers as well! It's always refreshing to see youth pitchers not only stick with the sport into their adult years but continue to have great success.



(Continued...Page 17)

*Junior Director***Social Media, What's it for?**

Along with my article about perspective, I thought it would be appropriate to talk about social media a bit. I've often said that social media is one of our greatest creations along with one of our worst creations. Social media is an excellent tool for the communication of any group of people along with a channel to distribute information to millions of people in seconds. However, social media can be used to spread misinformation, and to leak sensitive or private communications and information. This is due to no restrictions on who can post on Facebook and other sites. Social media can be weaponized for or against a cause, person or event, and this is never ok. Often when social media is weaponized it's used to get people in one corner of an issue using a small portion of the truth, keeping the rest behind the curtain. While I always believe it is ok to discuss issues openly and be transparent with the membership on issues, there is a fine line where discussion can turn to an attack. The best rule of thumb for social media is to stick to the truth eliminating all speculation. Posting things you don't know to be true can cause a huge stir and unnecessary arguing between the people watching. This is another thing that will help our organization. If people see our members openly discussing issues and finding solutions online, we will be viewed as a transparent, progressing, and growing organization. If people see us arguing online and being close minded on things they will view us in an opposite light. Think before you post, comment or react to posts online "How would this look to an outsider", if the answer leaves your intentions unclear, it's probably best not to put it online. Now that we have a new NHPA Facebook page let's work together to not only talk among other members to find answers and solutions but share more positive content and be kind to one another especially when we have partial information.

**Austin Bailey appointed first VP!**

Due to resignations within the NHPA council, Austin Bailey has been appointed as the NHPA 1st Vice President. Austin Bailey is a former Junior pitcher and has been a long time VP in the Illinois charter, even running the Illinois State Championships. Making the Men's World Championship class 10 times in the past 12 years Austin is a proven pitcher as well. The 1st Vice President is a very important position within the association, dealing with rules, bylaws, and grievances. In addition to those responsibilities, the most important part of the role is to be ready to step in given an absence of the president, if it were ever necessary. Congratulations to Austin on this move into the 1st VP position!

TJ Grose performs well on the Horseshoe Tour!

Following in the footsteps of the defending cadet world champion Eli Sullivan, who blazed the trail for cadets competing on the Horseshoe Tour earlier this season, Tom Grose would compete in the Horseshoe Tour event in Buffalo, Texas. The rules of the Horseshoe Tour are simple, there's a 40' and a 30' division. You pitch the first day in qualifying against randomly selected opponents and then you're seeded into 4 person brackets based off your ringer percentage the first day for the 2nd day of competition. When it's bracket time, it's best 2 out of 3, win 2 games and you advance, lose twice and go home.



(Continued...Page 18)

Junior Director

TJ would need to observe the 30' foul line, a feat that Eli also trailblazed on the tour and at the 2023 World Tournament in Lansing, averaging over 80% in the championship round. TJ would qualify well on the tour, landing him firmly in the B class with Tim Gilmore, Don Gillette, and 2023 Sr Women's World Champion, Maxine Griffith. In the first round TJ would defeat Tim Gilmore, with Don Gillette upsetting the reigning world champion. For the final match TJ would pitch back to back 70% games to take out Missouri's Don Gillette and become the B-class, 30' champion in Buffalo, Texas! I look forward to seeing TJ back in 2024 at the world tournament in Washington, along with all our other youth pitchers from this season!



52nd Annual Bob Evans Festival

I was recently able to attend the 52nd annual Bob Evans Festival in Rio Grande, Ohio. Here we got to watch Gary Roberts with the Reno Family Horseshoe Pitchers do a couple of shows, the Reno family has been doing these shows for the entirety of the festival. The show would begin with 2, 30' pitchers Dave Rose and Donna Shoemaker pitching from 30' followed by 2, 40' pitchers pitching after them. After a few down and backs the show would begin with Gary demonstrating the 1 1/4, 3/4, and 1 3/4, turns both forward and reverse, followed by both flip and double flip pitches, then finally a "knuckleball" type pitch that is held like a flip and fly's straight through the air. After this the trick shots begin, Gary would throw 4 shoes with his son standing over the stake, then with 2 people lying in front of the stake. In the finale, the family changes it up with the shot you see below, look at how tight the margin of error is on this one!

After the show the family gives the audience an opportunity to throw a couple of shoes and if they can get a close point, they'll win a prize. This is great advertisement for the sport in general with the court being setup right in front of the entry gate, putting tens of thousands of people in front of the game within the 3-day event!



(Continued...Page 19)

*Junior Director***Washington World Tournament**

The 2024 World Tournament is fast approaching. As the council has finalized the format, we are beginning to make plans for the Youth activities at the World Tournament. Stay tuned to the Newline for details on those events as we finalize them. It's a good idea to begin making travel arrangements and planning for your trip to Washington next year. From what I've seen we will be headed to a great location with plenty to do for the whole family!

Planning the 2024 Pitching Season

As many states begin having their winter meetings and setting their schedules, one thing I like to do is look at each state's schedule and plan out my season in advance. I am fortunate to be in a central area for many of the big tournaments. There are several tournaments that I plan to attend next year such as the Horseshoe Tour events, the HOF invitational in Missouri, the Ringer Classic in Ohio and the World Tournament in Washington. If you've never been to some of these events, I urge you to go if you're able too, they're truly a change of pace from your normal charter tournament. I typically travel out of Kentucky quite a bit during a season, I enjoy seeing different charters and pitching at several great court sites that are just over the state border for me. The change of pace can be refreshing if you've never visited another state for their tournaments. I personally typically will take a pitching hiatus in the winter and start back around April. This year I believe I'm going to attempt to pitch a tournament each month until the spring, this will require me to do a little travelling, but I believe it'll be beneficial when beginning the new season next year. If you're in an area with close neighboring charters, you may find it interesting to visit another charter or pitch in a big event like the Ringer Classic or Horseshoe Tour if you've never been!

**Merry Christmas!**

This will be our last Newline edition before 2024, with Thanksgiving and Christmas shortly ahead, it's best to reflect on the past year. While there are always challenges in life there are more blessings that we often overlook. I worked for a short time at an automotive manufacturing company that was a startup earlier this year. While working there as a night shift supervisor, I would speak to the plant quality manager each morning when he came in. Because the startup process is rocky, almost every morning he would come in with a sour mood but would always ask me how I was. I answered one morning with "I woke up breathing", this became somewhat of a running joke between us, until one day he said it back to me and it resonated just how strong that statement is. No matter what's going on in the world or how bad of day, week, month, year or years you're currently having, you still woke up that morning. As long as you keep waking up there's opportunity, often we overlook the small blessings in life, such as waking up each morning. As you go into the holiday season with your family, always remember the reason for the Christmas season and from my family to yours we wish each of you a fantastic Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year!

Ben



From the desk of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

Requalifying not required for shorter distance

By Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

I would first like to thank all those that have supported and helped me while serving as your 1st VP. I also want to thank the Rules Committee for putting up with me as we muddled through many years of meetings and deliberating on many Rule & Bylaw changes. I wish Austin good luck in this endeavor.

I would like to comment on the new Standing Rule for 65 yr. old Women being allowed to move up from the 27 ft foul line to the 20 ft foul line. I hope this brings back more pitchers to continue pitching in leagues and local tournaments. If you do move up there was some question on whether you needed to requalify. Where we are just keeping you in eShoe under the Women's Division It was decided that we are not requiring it under this Standing Rule. I know I have talked to a few members and told them they should requalify, but this was the consensus of the Council. After three tournaments it will regulate your average in eShoe anyway. Please use this to bring someone back that has quit and lets not worry about someone getting an advantage just so they can win, but that they can be competitive and keep pitching shoes!

We didn't make any changes in eShoe, at this time, to save money in having them do any new programming. We will wait to do this after the Delegate meeting in Kennewick and a vote is taken. We hope that by using this Standing Rule through July 2024, will give everyone experience and data to make a decision on a permanent change. Please be patient and understanding that we just want to include everyone in horseshoe pitching at all levels and have fun while pitching.

I want to let you know I am excited to be the NHPA Sec/Treasurer. I hope to carry on the tradition from the past people who have held this position. Please be patient with us as Jim and I work through the handoff and get stuff in order for me to handle the affairs of the NHPA.

I know the one question that I have been asked lately is when am I going to pitch at Kennewick. It does all depend on the amount of entries that we get, but we will pitch as many classes as we can the first week, with the Championship Classes pitching Thursday-Saturday the first week and the Juniors and Cadets pitching when they have in past World Tournaments. I know that I don't have a final answer and I can't until I have all the entry forms and the entry deadline has passed. But if you have pitched in the first week in past World Tournaments you will be pitching in the second week in Kennewick.

We need to do everything we can to bring new members into the NHPA or being able to hold a World Tournament every year may not be feasible. Let's all make a goal to bring one person into NHPA this year! Please do all you can to help your Charters to grow and build our NHPA membership. This is what I have at the top of my list to do as one of the NHPA Council members.

See you on the courts!

Brian



NHPF Report

Consider a Christmas Donation to the NHPF!

By Dave Sidles, NHPF Director

As we approach the end of the year, it's time to consider whether making a charitable contribution to the Hall of Fame Museum fits into your yearend financial plan. Financial support of the NHPF is vital to keeping the museum open and updated for the enjoyment of everyone, horseshoe pitchers and museum enthusiasts alike. It also supports the mission of the NHPF to promote and advance the sport of horseshoe pitching.



A bill currently in Congress known as the Charitable Act would incentivize millions of taxpayers to give to museums and other charitable organizations by enabling taxpayers who take the standard deduction (about 88% of taxpayers) to deduct charitable donations of up to one-third of the standard deduction, about \$4,600 for individuals and \$9,200 for married couples based on the current standard deduction. The Charitable Act would restore and expand the charitable deduction for non-itemizing taxpayers, also known as the "universal charitable deduction," which expired at the end of 2021.

**NATIONAL HORSESHOE
PITCHERS FOUNDATION**



Total U.S. charitable giving declined in 2022. Those results followed the two best years on record of charitable giving. It is our hope that you consider the NHPA's Hall of Fame and Museum if philanthropy is part of your yearly tax strategy.

Members of the NHPF's Board of Directors are elected by the NHPA Executive Council. The NHPA continues to seek out candidates to fill positions on the NHPF Board of Directors. There is currently one open spot on the seven member board. Board members serve 4 year terms and may be elected within the board to hold one of four offices on the board. If you are interested in serving the NHPF in this capacity, please contact one of the NHPA Council members or the NHPF.

Respectfully,
David Sidles
NHPF President



**NATIONAL HORSESHOE
PITCHING HALL OF FAME
MUSEUM**

Please Submit your Hall of Fame Nominees

By Vicki Winston, Hall of Fame

I hope that everyone had a great time in Lansing. I am sorry that I wasn't able to be there, but that trip just wasn't possible for me.

I do want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that you still have time to send me a nomination of someone you think is worthy of being placed on the NHPA Hall of Fame ballot for the 2024 voting. Only hard copies of nominations that arrive via regular mail are accepted. Nominations sent via email are not allowed. Nominations must reach me by Jan. 31, 2024. Each nomination is reviewed by a screening committee before a name is placed on the ballot. If it is felt that a nominee does not meet the criteria to be placed on the ballot, I will let the sender know and return the nomination. I will also let the sender know if the nomination has been accepted.

Recently I sent an update of nominees who are currently on the ballot for the 2024 voting for the NHPA Hall of Fame to the NHPA webmaster. I have been notified that the updated info is now on the Hall of Fame link of the NHPA website. This may not be the final list if more nominations are received by me before the deadline of Jan. 31, 2024. Also on the HOF link is the Official Nomination Form. I believe it is printable. You must use that form or a facsimile thereof. It will give you some brief information concerning the criteria that we look for in each category. As it takes some doing to gather the proper information for some of the nominees, if you are thinking about nominating someone, I would suggest you get started on that project right away. Please don't wait until the last minute and submit something that looks like you waited until the last minute.

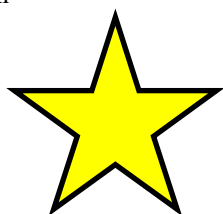
If you have questions, I will be happy to try and answer them. If I don't have the answers I will try and find someone who does. I don't have an answering machine on my landline for the reason that my landline seldom is called by anyone who is supposed to be calling it, except for a few places wanting me to confirm appointments or people who are acquaintances and they want to visit. I am only away from home a few hours at the most, so keep trying now and then. You will catch me eventually. You can also try my email address. I will probably receive your email, but I can't guarantee you will receive my reply. Some folks tell me they don't receive my emails and I tell them to look in their junk mail. Sometimes they find the email and sometimes they don't.

I grew up in a horseshoe pitching family and was blessed with a talent for the sport of a level that the average pitcher does not achieve. When I had to give up pitching because of back problems, people would ask me, "Don't you miss pitching?" I would reply, "I don't miss all of the pain that went with it." So I have kept on working for the sport as best I can and doing what I was able to do on my charter level, until I had to resign from that position. I have continued with my HOF duties, but I don't know how much longer that will last. My position doesn't have age limits, but don't know how much longer I want to continue with the work that I do. As of this writing I have just started some physical therapy sessions to see if I can get my legs stronger so I can keep on walking. I am also working on being able to get up from normal chairs, but have a lot of work left on that one. I'm currently using a cane whenever I leave the house. I do use a walker at certain times when I'm inside the house. I can get in my van and drive to where I need to go. I do my own shopping. In August I had a fall in the house when I tripped on the leg of a piece of furniture. I live alone, have had two knee replacements, and so I can't crawl. I had quite a struggle getting to where I'd left my cell phone so I could call my son. I learned you don't have to kneel to pray. You can also pray while flat on your back on a carpeted floor. I and my rescuers do not want to go through that experience again, therefore, I signed up with Life Alert. Now we all have some peace of mind. That fall is one reason I started the therapy sessions. Sometimes the Golden Years are not so golden.

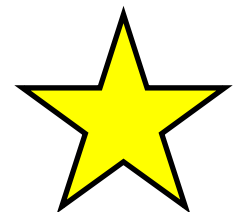
It was nice to hear from some friends that they missed my presence at Lansing. They made me feel good. It would be nice to be able to go to Kennewick, WA for the 2024 World Tournament, but I think that will be a bit much for me to even think about. I hope that many people will take advantage of attending that one. Depending on the places you visit or tour, the Pacific Northwest has a lot of beautiful scenery. I still miss the scenery and I've been in Missouri for ¾ of my life.

Best wishes to all for a Happy and Blessed Holiday Season.

Vicki



Hall of Fame





“To Become a World Champion”

Stan Griggs

“A champion is someone who gets up when they can’t.”... Jack Dempsey

Been crunching some numbers, that’s what I do. Many thanks go out to some help on this project, mainly John Passmore as the research can be very difficult when you are dealing with times that were nearly one hundred years ago. For the Men’s we accomplished it all, unfortunately for the Women’s we missed on just a couple.

When are we at our peak to win a Men’s or Women’s World Title?

For each of us it is different, but the average age of our Men’s World Champion is 37.86 years old and the Women’s comes in nearly two years older at 39.61 years old. That calculation is figured by the age of every champion over the history of our World Tournaments.

Only one woman has won this exclusive title over the age of 70 and no man has ever won the title over the age of 58. Between the two divisions we have had fifteen teenagers win the World Championship in these adult divisions.

Have you reached the peak or are there still goals to be met...

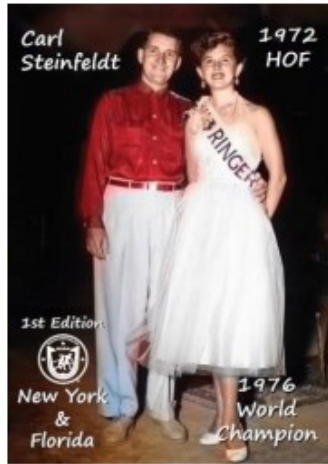
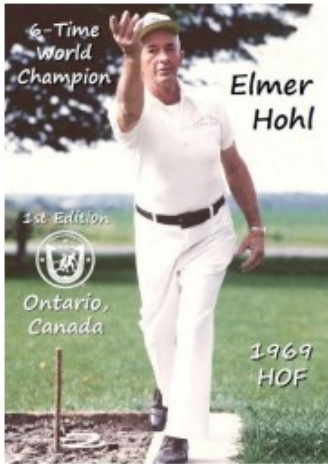
- *Side Note* – Alan Francis just won another World Title this year at the age of 53, I believe his peak has not been reached but more goals on his horizon.



Below are the TOP FIVE in Oldest and Youngest to win the Crown!

(Continued on Page 24)

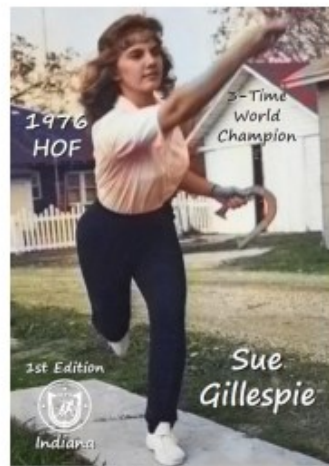
Men's World Champions



Elmer Hohl – 58 Years Old
 Carl Steinfeldt – 58 Years Old
 Curt Day – 57 Years Old
 Elmer Hohl – 56 Years Old
 Frank Jackson – 55 Years Old

Harold Falor – 15 Years Old
 Putt Mossman – 18 Years Old
 Dan Kuchcinski – 18 Years Old
 Walter Ray Williams Jr. – 18 Years Old
 Putt Mossman – 19 Years Old
 Alan Francis – 19 Years Old

Women's World Champions



Joan Elmore – 72 Years Old
 Joan Elmore – 68 Years Old
 Joan Elmore – 67 Years Old
 Joan Elmore – 65 Years Old
 Maxine Griffith – 64 Years Old

Sue Gillespie – 15 Years Old
 Sarah Chaffee – 15 Years Old
 Sandy McLachlin – 16 Years Old
 Sarah Chaffee – 16 Years Old
 Vicki Winston – 17 Years Old
 Sue Gillespie – 17 Years Old

The Statman

2023 State Championship Results

By Mel Yockstick—*The Statman*

The NHPA State Championship Tournaments are now completed for 2023. I have updated the NHPA State Champions website. Wow! Texas has the most State Tournament entries with 131.

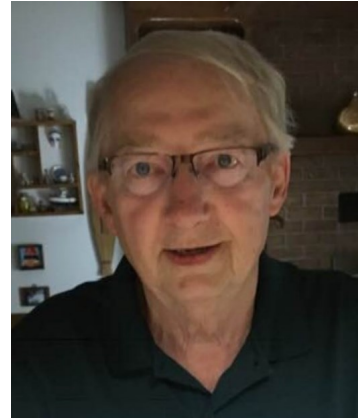
Go to Horseshoepitching.com website. Under ABOUT US.

Click on State Championship. Three Files will pop up.

- 1-2023 State Champions by States.
- 2-2023 State Champion Title by Division.
- 3-Listing of all State Champs by their individual States.

New this year, I have created an excel work sheet file listing all State Championships. This file will show all states and their champions by divisions. One can track any player by state. This eliminates going to each state website to view champions. The file only shows States-Names-Averages-Total wins. Many state champions have missing percentages. Please contact me if you can supply any information.

The State Tournaments are held throughout various months during the year. The NHPA State Championship final report on the NHPA website will be updated in late October/November of the same year. Please report back to me on any error that occurred and all percentages that are missing to: nhpamel@comcast.net



We are the
CHAMPIONS

(Continued on Page 26)

NHPA Top State Championship Wins by Divisions**ALL TIME WINS BY DIVISION (WITH 20 OR MORE WINS)**

Updated 10/16/2023

Updated After 2023		Men's	Women's	Elder's	Jr. Boys	Jr. Girls	Boys	All Total	Last
State Championship		Champ	Champ	Champ	Champ	Champ	or Girls	State	Year
Name	State	Wins	Wins	Wins	Wins	Wins	Cadet Wins	Wins	Win
Alan Francis	MO-OH	37			6			43	2023
Carl Steinfeldt	NY-FL	36						36	1998
Norm Rioux	CT	33						33	2006
Leigh Dunker	SD	33						33	1987
Merlin Potts	KS	23		9				32	2010
Cathy Carter	IA		26			5		31	2022
Dale lipovsky	MN	31						31	2014
Ralph Maddox	WV	30						30	1989
Mark Seibold	IN-FL	23			6			29	2023
Connie Filley	ND-SD-WY		29					29	2020
Walter Ray Williams, JR.	CA-FL	20			5			25	2022
Brian Simmons	5-States	23			2			25	2020
Opal Reno	OH-AR		25					25	1998
Tom Williams	MI	22			2			24	2019
Kevin Hollister	VT	21			3			24	2004
Debra Brown	VT		23					23	2023
Paul Lacrosse	CO	23						23	2010
Dan McCance, Jr.	NE	23						23	2007
Ben Wiedrich	OR	19		3				22	2008
James Lecky	AZ	22						22	1948
Rolan Kleinschmidt	SD	4		17				21	2019
Dale Carson	MD-PA	21						21	1977
Merle Palmer	WY	21						21	1972
Ken Jones	NM	20						20	2023
Gary Opper	ID	20						20	2022
Joan Elmore	TN		20					20	2019
John Kapnis	MS	20						20	2009
Jerry Black	ND	20						20	2001
Vicki Winston	MO		20					20	1999
Liz Downer	VT		20					20	1999
Bonnie Seibold	IN		17			3		20	1986

Contact: Mel Yockstick nhpamel@comcast.net
 Data taken from State Champions Website files.

Updated 10/16/2023

Report any errors to:
 Mel Yockstick

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



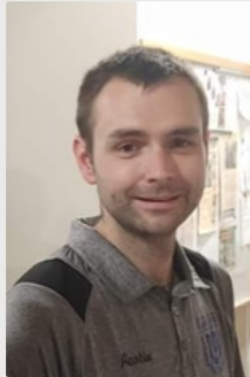
Gary Roberts

President

gbroberts5542@yahoo.com

638 Salem Cave Road
Beaver, Ohio 45613

(740) 835-1925



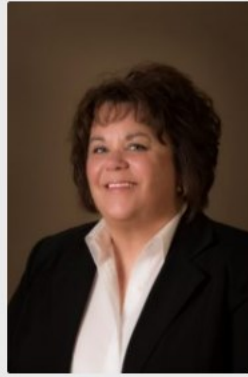
Austin Bailey

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



Jerry Smith

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

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Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

(208) 250-9282



Barbara Carson

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

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(216) 548-9337



Josh Olson

5th VP, IT Director

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Verndale, MN 56481

(218) 639-4641



Brian Poole

Secretary/Treasurer

bjpoole3564@gmail.com

2660 S. Fairway Dr.
Pocatello, ID 83201

208-201-3326



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Office: (936) 687-5149

Ron: (936) 827-5669

Polly: (936) 520-8826

Stop by and see us at this year's 2023 World
Horseshoe Tournament in Lansing, Michigan

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 31 October 2023

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	280216	Sarah	Chaffee	WI	Women	85.16	8
2	330031	Marlene	Ray	TN	Women	82.50	20
3	330030	Maxine	Griffith	TN	Women	81.17	20
4	350626	Shalee	Cason	FL	Women	81.00	6
5	623905	Lindsay	HODGINS	AB	Women	79.35	7
6	664710	Sylvianne	Moisan	QC	Women	79.05	13
7	330173	Joan	Elmore	TN	Women	77.93	18
8	490476	Skyla	Rioux	CT	Women	77.63	9
9	280078	Penny	Steinke	WI	Women	77.00	25
10	220130	Doris	Hieden	TX	Women	75.47	14
11	360294	Amy	Francis	OH	Women	74.83	12
12	802026	Blanca	Hettinga	OR	Women	74.20	18
13	800439	Pam	Meyer	MO	Women	73.81	17
14	190217	Lachelle	Cook	MO	Women	71.25	5
15	300441	Denise	Daly	MI	Women	70.52	11

(Continued on Page 30)

Mens Top 100 Stats *31 October 2023*

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	17
3	320063	Ben	Webb	KY	Men	76.79	22
4	657381	Drew	BECKER	ON	Men	76.74	7
5	390143	Randy	Zeiders	PA	Men	73.73	14
6	290652	Austin	Bailey	IL	Men	73.44	13
7	260084	Dan	Watson	AL	Men	73.36	10
8	440124	Ken	Fraser	NY	Men	72.96	17
9	300151	Andrew	Adams	MI	Men	72.94	11
10	460059	Gale	Greene	VT	Men	72.87	17
11	10058	Matt	Fuller	WA	Men	68.94	13
12	100290	Brandon	Tenjieth	AZ	Men	68.46	3
13	350369	Walter Ray	Williams Jr	FL	Men	68.38	21
14	190007	Stan	Griggs	MO	Men	67.79	10
15	190693	Michael	Bowman	MO	Men	66.40	15

Elders Top 100 Stats *31 October 2023*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	350350	Bob	Gray	FL	Elders	78.94	16
2	370121	David	Holmes	WV	Elders	78.78	12
3	370298	Junior	Peters	WV	Elders	78.35	10
4	660765	Jacques	HOULE	QC	Elders	75.94	7
5	480354	David	Bliss	MA	Elders	74.18	10
6	420337	Tom	Mills	MD	Elders	73.96	10
7	220577	Danny	Patterson	TX	Elders	73.96	19
8	190103	Ronald	Legrand	MO	Elders	73.17	17
9	191256	Virgle	Mccown	MO	Elders	73.16	17
10	350071	Dale	Martenev	GA	Elders	72.86	17
11	614016	Tom	MOFFAT	BC	Elders	72.86	11
12	10135	Russ	Phillips	WA	Elders	72.75	1
13	10092	John	Bruhn	WA	Elders	72.50	8
14	340080	Zane	Goggin	GA	Elders	72.46	7
15	361017	Don	Epps	OH	Elders	71.94	16

(Continued on Page 31)

Girls Top 25 Stats *31 October 2023*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	490491	Lizy	Jordan	CT	Girls	58.59	12
2	340280	Lily	Strong	CA	Girls	49.36	12
3	191533	Sadie	Wolken	MO	Girls	46.25	10
4	280115	Lillyan	Kildahl	WI	Girls	39.72	7
5	220456	Ashlyn	Luster	TX	Girls	35.34	2
6	31233	Kaidence	Begaye	CA	Girls	33.13	1
7	802674	Madeline	Workman	NV	Girls	31.88	10
8	180473	Danyelle	Russell	KS	Girls	30.17	7
9	615391	Asia	BOWDEN	BC	Girls	30.11	1
10	95085	Kayla	Julander	UT	Girls	30.04	11
11	130865	Cherie	Harges	IN	Girls	29.17	6
12	190110	Eli	Delacruz	MO	Girls	28.33	5
13	652230	Emma	CALHOUN	ON	Girls	25.00	2
14	800812	Lilli	Light	MT	Girls	24.58	4
15	150396	Uria	Gabel	ND	Girls	23.96	7


Boys Top 50 Stats *31 October 2023*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	31151	Hastiin	Begaye	CA	Boys	75.00	5
2	360274	Zander	Potts	OH	Boys	58.91	4
3	480516	Zack	Grzembki	MA	Boys	58.33	19
4	360365	Caiden	Hogue	OH	Boys	58.25	7
5	260172	Tyler	Harris	AL	Boys	54.56	8
6	280127	Blake	Benzing	WI	Boys	51.77	6
7	220641	Isaac	Nelson Jr.	TX	Boys	51.58	4
8	95078	Coulson	Ohms	UT	Boys	45.44	6
9	231968	Tristan	Dehkes	MN	Boys	44.58	1
10	150403	Jackson	Johnson	ND	Boys	44.31	11
11	490452	Riley	Malino	CT	Boys	43.78	5
12	803169	Ryder	Smith	MT	Boys	41.61	3
13	190085	Warren	Highley	MO	Boys	40.94	28
14	190045	Memo	Ramirez	MO	Boys	38.77	22
15	280226	Bradley	Benzing	WI	Boys	37.66	5

(Continued on Page 32)

Cadets Top 25 Stats *31 October 2023*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	380630	Eli	Sullivan	VA	Cadet Boys	78.55	9
2	802657	Tom	Grose	NV	Cadet Boys	64.10	23
3	801315	Evan	Bedard	MA	Cadet Boys	51.35	12
4	803710	Joshua	Russell	NV	Cadet Boys	50.33	15
5	31223	Adakai	Begaye	CA	Cadet Boys	41.09	4
6	220815	Preston	Beusch	TX	Cadet Boys	37.83	2
7	231913	Lucas	Rasmussen	MN	Cadet Boys	33.29	6
8	804087	Gavin	Begaye Jr.	CA	Cadet Boys	31.10	5
9	800315	Ethan	Knighten	AL	Cadet Boys	28.53	5
10	370009	Max	Martin	WV	Cadet Boys	27.87	4
11	802539	Zach	Smith	IA	Cadet Boys	25.54	10
12	803216	Beau	Dehkes	MN	Cadet Boys	25.00	1
13	803456	Jeremiah	DeMello	WA	Cadet Boys	23.24	7
14	803792	Jacob	Barney	UT	Cadet Boys	23.01	6
15	804088	Eben	Begaye	CA	Cadet Boys	22.81	5



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