



Newsline

Official Publication of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

2023 President's Message

NHPA Council Is Fully Staffed

By Gary B. Roberts, NHPA President



As you read this, we are approaching the end of 2023. There have been many changes during the year. First, we have had many changes in the Council membership. Jim Kinney, Jr. resigned as Secretary/Treasurer and was replaced by Brian Poole who was the First Vice President at the time. Jim has been very receptive in helping Brian with necessary training. Austin Bailey, who was elected as Fourth Vice President, moved to the First Vice President position. Austin was very interested in working with the Rules/Bylaws area. Jerry Smith retired as of December 31, 2023. Ben Webb of Kentucky was voted by the Council to replace Jerry. Jerry will provide necessary training for Ben. The council also voted to retain Barb Carson as the Fourth Vice President. Her experience will assist the council during this transition in many Council positions.

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

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

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President's Message...continued

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

Two new rules were passed in 2023 that are worthy of discussion. One rule was allowing women over 65 to pitch up to the 20' line. This will be voted on at the 2024 Convention as to the experimental results that we obtain prior to that date. We are working on tracking the results of this experiment on e-shoe. In Ohio, we are already tracking all such people to get credible data. Another rule was allowing people from one State to play in the State Tournament of another state under certain difficult circumstances. Difficult circumstances could be driving a long distance in your state when you live and pitch in a neighboring State. Also, people who live in more than one State may choose which state they want to pitch in. The Council has decided that a pitcher should submit evidence as to why they want to pitch in a neighboring State. This rule was not implemented to allow people to switch to another State just because they have a problem with their home State. Let's see how this goes.

As the year of 2023 comes to an end, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2024.

Gary

Jerry Smith—A Remarkable Member of the NHPA

By Gary Roberts, NHPA President

Jerry Smith has been a member of the NHPA Council since July 2014 and has resigned as of December 31, 2023. None of us are happy to see him go. Once you meet Jerry, you realize that you are dealing with a person who loves our sport, and one who has spent many hours of his life helping to support it.

Jerry, a native Ohioan, was married to Diane who passed away on July 14, 2019. This was a very tragic event for Jerry. Jerry and Diane had two children, Douglas (Yanette), who resided in California with Jerry's special grandchildren, Howie, who is still in high school and Kayla who is on her own. His daughter and her husband Rob, reside with Jerry in Reynoldsburg, Ohio with two other special grandchildren, Savannah, and Olivia. His daughter also has an older grandchild, Rebecca, who resides in Chico, California.

Jerry graduated from West Liberty Salem High School in Logan County, Ohio in 1964. Jerry was a good athlete and played on the varsity football team in every game throughout all four years of high school as a running back and was also the captain of the team his Senior year. His speed also helped in track and Jerry still holds the school record of 10.3 seconds in the 100-yard dash. After high school, Jerry attended Ohio State University for 11 quarters and later graduated from the University of San Francisco with a degree in public administration.

You may hear us referring to Jerry as the "warden" because of his career working in the Department of Corrections. He started his career in California in 1974 as a Supervisor for Correctional Industries, and then became a Vocational Instructor and followed that by becoming a Supervisor of Vocational Instruction (Principle). When a new prison opened in Vacaville, California, Jerry became responsible for over 20 Vocational Programs. He continued in this capacity for the next 19 years until he retired.

Jerry's contact with formal horseshoe pitching was accidental. He was practicing pitching horseshoes in a park when a NHPA member told him there were 24 horseshoe courts with clay only 8 miles away. Jerry discovered that the Yolo Horseshoe Club operated this facility. He went there in 1985 and then became

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Jerry Smith—...continued

President in 1986. Jerry was a natural administrator and ended up running several California State Tournaments and was also a statistician. In 1989 the California State Tournament had about 350 pitchers. Once Jerry retired from the Department of Corrections, he moved to Idaho in 2004. He became the Secretary/Treasurer there and ran several state tournaments. He also became the newsletter editor as well as the statistician.

With all his experience, it is not surprising that Jerry became an NHPA Council member in 2014. As many of you know Jerry has been very active as the Sanctioned League Director. Jerry would like to thank Pat and Kevin Snelgrove for their help with this task. Jerry also ran the Sanctioned League Horseshoe Tournament for several years.

In his spare time, Jerry was involved with writing two horseshoe related books. He wrote the “World Horseshoe Tournament; Volume II” that updated the results of the World Tournament results since Gary Kline’s Volume I. He also wrote “The Legendary Don Titcomb: His Life, His Game, His Way”. Both were very good books.

Because of Jerry’s involvement in horseshoe pitching, he has been rewarded many times for his efforts as follows:

- 1995 Jerry was inducted into the Yolo HPC’s Hall of Fame
- 1999 Jerry was inducted into Northern California Hall of Fame
- 2012 Jerry received the NHPA Achievement Award
- 2013 Jerry was appointed to the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee
- 2018 Jerry was inducted into the Idaho Hall of Fame
- 2018 Jerry received the coveted Stokes Award
- 2018 Jerry became an NHPF Board Member
- 2019 Jerry is appointed as NHPA Historian
- 2023 Jerry was inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame

As I prepared this article, I am amazed at the time and effort Jerry has contributed to our sport. Fortunately, although he will not be on the Council, he will be available in his other duties. Jerry is truly a remarkable member of the NHPA.

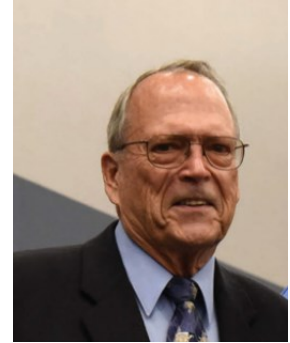
Gary



Farewell my Friends...see you in the next NHPA Opportunity

Jerry Smith, Previous 5th VP

Well, my time as an NHPA Officer has come to a close and I am left with a variety of great memories and emotional feelings. First, I am happy for Ben Webb who has been appointed as my replacement. I will continue entering league data from 2023 as I teach Ben the ins and outs of this complex job. No, the job is not rocket science but it is many faceted. Ben is enthusiastic and will do an excellent job, though he will be surprised at the many types of responsibilities the league Director handles. I well remember when I took it over and David Sidles asked me if I knew what was coming. I, of course, did not have a clue and probably said, "how bad can it be?" David and were good friends at the time and soon became attached at the hip. Ha Ha To say the least, David was a big help in the transition and is the first person I want to thank.



As I moved forward, I soon found that the league program needed major software upgrades and/or original new software. I had been sitting on the HSMaster Committee which was formed to help Kurt Whaley prioritize HSMaster upgrades. I, with Rob Hagman, was running the World Tournament (WT) Statroom for the first time. We were using HSMaster at the WT for the first time. I first met Kurt in the Statroom in Cedar Rapids on day four of the tournament. He sat there and watched me enter the data and said. "Oh my, I have work to do." He also said, "I'm not even sure HSMaster will run a tournament this big" and then smiled. He said your job on the HSMaster committee is WT needs and are high priority. I thank Kurt for all his amazing work and am proud to have gone into the NHPA Hall of Fame the same night Kurt went in. I mention this mostly because the HSMaster Committee was my introduction to Kevin Snelgrove which led to my introduction to his wife Pat. I asked Kevin if he could help with my software needs. Kevin took the basic EXCEL spreadsheet I was using and completely upgraded it with macros automating it where possible. Together, we, (said loosely LOL), built a terrific and mostly foolproof league software. I say loosely because all I did was ask for things and if possible, Kevin programmed my needs. He has maintained the software from those days forward. His lovely wife then volunteered to write a program in ACCESS which would figure the Annual "Top Ten" lists for the Sanctioned League program. That program also works very well, and Pat maintains it for me. Needly to say, I want to thank them both for the hundreds of hours they donated and for picking up the phone the hundreds of times I called in panic having screwed something up.

I want to thank all the Council Members that I have had the pleasure to work with and probably irritated with my continuous suggestions for change. I did my best to change things that I felt needed to be changed. I respect the fact that the function of any board is to act as a board and board votes are always final. Until you sit on a board, it is easy to criticize and speculate that nothing gets done. The NHPA Council works hard and deals with a wide variety of problems.

I want to especially thank all the League Directors who work hard and work only for the love of the game. Sanctioned Leagues are the backbone of the NHPA where new pitchers can come in and pitch and with a handicap system they can compete immediately. The directors make it work. They make my job bearable and are a wonderful group of people. Please continue and may all of the leagues thrive.

If I missed anyone (I am sure I did) I thank everyone who has assisted me, helped me and everyone that has put up with me. It has been a great run. I have met thousands of horseshoe pitchers and think the world of them all. They are my second family and I cherish the thought that I have been so lucky. I am not done, only changing focus. See you down the road.

Jerry

Deadline Extended for Rules/By-Laws Changes

Austin, 1st VP

Well I want to start off by saying I hope you and your family had a wonderful Christmas and I hope you have a great New Year as well. I, for one, am looking forward to a fun and exciting 2024 season of horseshoe's. I have had a great first month serving as your 1st VP of the NHPA.

I have already had a couple challenging issues come up just being in the position for a little over a month now. I can say I really do look forward to more and doing the best I can to help our association and make it better.

There has been some talk about possibly extending the deadline to submit rules/by-laws proposals. With approval of the NHPA Executive Council, the deadline will be extended to March 15th to give me a couple more months to get everything in line and to the rules and By-Laws Committee before the 2024 World Tournament. This will assist in the transition of the role from Brian Poole to myself.

Speaking of the World Tournament I am looking forward to the 2024 World Tournament as this will be my first World Tournament as an NHPA officer. The venue is going to be great and it will be a nice time to make a trip out west if you have not been that far yet. I have never been to the state of Washington and look forward to seeing the beautiful area we will be in.

If you have any questions on any of the new rules that were passed at the meeting last year at the world tournament please feel free to reach out to me via phone, text or email. I have no problem discussing with you any of the rules or by-laws.

I want to take this time to thank Jerry Smith for his years of service to the NHPA as he has done an outstanding job and will be hard to replace. I would like to congratulate Ben Webb on stepping up and taking on the role and look forward to working with Ben on the council. I would also like to congratulate Barb Carson on retaining her role as 4th VP on the council. She will continue to do a great job with our regional directors and look forward to continuing to work with her as well on the council. There has been a lot of change in positions on the council lately and me being so new I look forward to the new year and being able to work with everyone in 2024.

See you on the Courts in 2024

Austin Bailey



Bylaws

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



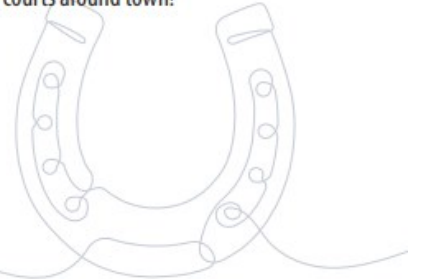


Where to Play



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

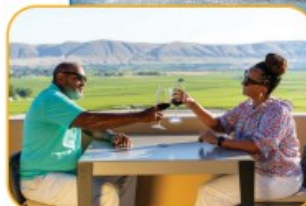
Transportation in Tri-Cities

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

DRIVE TIMES TO 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](https://www.visittricity.com/nhpa) or scan the QR code.

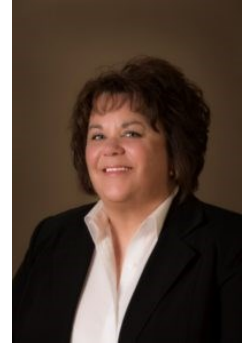
Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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

SO LONG 2023 !

While we have reached the end of yet another year, and we usher in the beginning of 2024, 2023 has been a mixed platter for most of us, with good and some bad throughout the year. Another year of success and happiness has passed. With every new year comes greater challenges and obstacles in life. I wish you courage, hope and faith to overcome all of the hurdles that you may face. There are places we'll remember forever, some not, some of our family and friends have gone before us and some still remain with us. As we start with a blank slate on New Year's Day, let's all try to make resolutions we can keep, and hope that 2024 will be a better year overall for our charters, clubs, and ourselves, our horseshoe families, and friends.

From Buddy and I, Happy New Year Everyone!



SPONSORSHIP/ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

There are several options available for your sponsorships and ads: Newline publications, The NHPA Website, Sponsorship of World Tournament banners on the fencing, Court Sponsorship and various sponsorship of the Prelim and Championship Trophies, any "Live" Streaming Interviews during the World Tournament, Sponsorship of the Cameras on the courts and "Live" Streaming on the NHPA website, World Tournament Program book (we are currently working with Lansing for ad pricing).

If anyone is interested in joining Gillett Electric and becoming a sponsor of any kind, please look at our Sponsorship packet information on the NHPA website. We can create or tweak a sponsorship to suit your needs. There are various sponsorship packages and choices available as well in the Newline and World Tournament Program Books.

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



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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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

SETTING GOALS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN 2024/CLUB MEMBERSHIP IDEAS and SUGGESTIONS

We can never hear this enough, with a new pitching season upon us it's time to think of recruiting new members. So, what works in your club? We all are struggling to get new members out to play horseshoes. So, what do successful clubs do to attract new members? Others are getting the news out through their local newspapers in the "Community News Sections" or by using Social Media outlets, Brochures, etc. Contact your local newspaper and ask what the fee is to publish your weekly league results or a general message to announce your upcoming Horseshoe events.

You may be surprised that some newspapers do this as a "Free" service. Remember, most clubs are non-profit, and sometimes these things can be donated and/or used as a tax right off. Results of local tournaments or leagues are getting printed in the papers about players that won tournaments and championships. Submit your weekly results to be added with the other local sports, look for local sponsors to offset the expense of placing the ad in the paper on a weekly basis. It also helps to build a working relationship with your local Sports Editors.



Clubs are always looking for ways to grow and recruit new members, there are many things club members can do to attract new members. Here, you'll find a few viable approaches that a local club or organization could use to recruit more members.

- Simply ask someone, such as family members, co-workers.
- Update or improve your charter websites and have them linked to other sports groups or City Parks and Rec departments and city websites, state Travel and Tourism offices.
- Contact your state Travel and Tourism office (CVB), give a list of all the clubs in your state and physical addresses and GPS information and have them list it on their website. You never know who may be traveling through your state and want to stop and pitch in a tournament.
- If you have any local clubs such as a Rotary Clubs, Masonic Lodges, American Legions, your local schools, churches, send out invitations to pitch on one night a week. **"Club vs Club."**
- Create a Junior/Cadet group. Have your Junior Directors, if applicable, get into the schools and host a tournament/challenge between the Football Teams and Basketball Teams or other groups in the schools. **"Club vs Club" format and bragging rights.**
- Advertise in Newspapers & local T.V. Stations, Radio. Invite these same media people to your tournaments and leagues each week. Create a media contact list.
- Create your own Social Media pages and posts for your own clubs, and charters such as Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, Twitter, etc. Create a Social Media director position in your clubs.
- Have open to the public tournaments. Anyone and any age can pitch,
- Have a booth at malls, local county and state fairs, festivals etc., also hold public exhibitions of pitching on portable pits.
- Place pamphlets/brochures in doctors' offices, hospitals, cafeterias, libraries, local grocery stores, convenience stores, or as inserts into your local newspaper, etc.
- Hold a membership drive, give prizes for the member that recruits the most members to join in a calendar year. Set a goal of how many new members you want to attract this year, Make it a goal.
- Send letters to people in the news with an invitation to visit the club when your hosting events.

NHPA has a one-time sanctioned tournament with a "Free" trial membership, or you can try the provisional membership as an incentive.

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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

PLEASE - UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH YOUR LOCAL CLUBS AND CHARTERS

With a new year around the corner and new officers on board, it's a good time to begin getting your "charter members" contact information updated with your charter books and record keeping and on your charter websites and social media pages. Many people do not have or want a computer, and cell phones can be tedious. It is a nice gesture to print out a hard copy of the current Newline and share with your members, so you can place a copy on the bulletin board at your local courts. Blaine Scott is the NHPA newline editor, and we have been discussing how many email addresses are getting kicked back/returned from not being corrected or updated. He has done some research recently to see how many people actually "READ" and receive the Newline. He compared the numbers of how many people receive the Newline and how many people do not receive it due to emails not being current or updated or that no longer are active with your charter secretaries. When this happens, the news and information is not getting out to the charters and their members.



Here is what Blaine has found in his research:

The biggest issue is that people are not taking the time and reading the messages in the Newline. If 60% are not being read, there is a lot of information they don't know about.

As a friendly reminder, I would like to encourage everyone to please check with your charter secretaries/treasurers to make sure that your contact information is updated, current and correct. It's your responsibility each year/season to keep your contact information updated with your local clubs and charters when things change. Most importantly for safety reasons, we would like to make sure that your mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses are correct and current so that everyone can receive the Newline, and for your local clubs to also be able to contact a family member in case of an emergency. For the charters that need assistance or guidance with their current websites, here are a few suggestions. We understand that not every charter or club has the finances, computers, technical background, or knowledge to create or maintain a charter website. Contact your local IT Department head at your local community college, university, and ask them to have their class assist your organization in setting up and maintaining your website, this will be a "FREE" service, or you can contact the NHPA Newline editor Blaine Scott for assistance or the NHPA IT director Josh Olsen for suggestions and any technical questions or concerns you may have to get your charter website updated and current. The NHPA relies on the local charters and clubs for local information. We truly appreciate all your hard work.



Some people include a vacation when traveling to a World Horseshoe Tournament, some do not. However, for those that are die-hard attendees, here are some suggestions and recommendations to help you plan accordingly and hopefully keep you safe while traveling.

REMINDER: Passport Processing Time – U.S. State Department and TSA

Per TSA, Some people will travel domestically with a passport versus a "REAL ID" which is faster as well as getting Pre-TSA on your airline tickets to avoid long waiting lines. The Passport processing time can take as long as 11 weeks for routine requests and 7 weeks for expedited service. Be sure to give yourself plenty of time to get a valid passport before you travel whether you are traveling domestically or internationally. If you already have a passport, you will just need to "Renew" it or if you are applying for the first time. You can drop by your local Post Office or go online at <https://travel.state.gov/> and follow the instructions.



Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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

TRAVELING & SUGGESTED CELL PHONE APPS TO USE

Traveling to and through various time zones whether you are flying or driving can take a toll. For safety purposes, here are a few suggestions to help you along your journey. If you have AAA or any other travel companies that you use when traveling, contact them as well to get the most current and updated information on the highways.

There are also apps you can download on your cell phone that you may need while you travel or on vacation that you may not know about! Here are some suggestions:

Citymapper: This one helps you find the fastest route to your destination, even giving you step-by-step instructions on where to find the nearest bus or train station. I find this really helpful when you're in a new city and you have to navigate new transportation.

When we travel by car, truck etc., we try to stay hydrated and we tend to consume liquids such as water, coffee, sodas, etc. When traveling with children you will always need to locate a bathroom at some point. Here is an app to help you with that.

Flush: Trying to find a public bathroom in a new place is tough. This app has a database of more than 200,000 bathrooms and it'll let you know where the closest one is to you, even without an internet connection. It also lists which ones you can use for free, which ones need a key and which ones will make you pay.

Now, depending on your destination, "jet lag" can be an issue for some people. Here is an app that you can download on your cell phone to help you avoid jet lag.

Timeshifter: This app helps you avoid the jet lag battle. It gives you personalized recommendations on when you should sleep, avoid sunlight and coffee, etc. You can enter your flight information and details and it will do all the work for you. You can try the app "Free" for the first trip you take.

RV TRAVELING

Before you begin your journey, whether you are headed to a World Tournament or any other destination, check the "Transportation Cabinet" websites in each state that you plan on traveling through. On these transportation websites, you will find highway construction information and notices, road closures, construction zones, and detour information to make your trip easier to navigate and save you time before you hit the road. If you have AAA, contact them as well for information. Always remember to have plenty of gas and keep your phones charged.

AIRLINE HACKS

If you are a frequent traveler/flyer, and you use rewards points or have joined an airline rewards system, try this tip! "**Delta Airlines**" offers a baggage claim reward. If you're checking a bag, when your flight gets to your destination, if your bag takes longer than 20 minutes to get to the baggage claim, you get bonus miles!

The clock starts when the boarding door opens. Immediately start the timer on your phone as soon as the boarding door opens and take a screen shot as proof of time. You submit your name, SkyMiles information on this website form within three days of your arrival and if you qualify, you get 2,500 bonus miles. Look for "**BAGS on TIME**" on the DELTA AIRLINE WEBSITE.

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Membership, Sponsorship, Promotion, Publicity

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

Sports and ageing:

A review of the determinants and trends of participation in sport for older adults:

According to the National Library of Medicine, Sport, and ageing: a systematic review of the determinants and trends of participation in sport for older adults how many men and women 65 or older compete each week in a league, tournaments etc. How many do not compete in sports because of health and safety issues or the insecurities of falling? Given the negative stereotypes towards aging and the elderly that prevail in Western society, perhaps the tendency of seniors to avoid physical activity and sports is not overly surprising.

Certain studies have suggested that seniors themselves internalize these negative attitudes and stereotypes, which in turn influence their decisions to partake in any physical activity, sport, and other health-promoting behaviors. In particular, evidence suggests many older women believe activities that involve exertion and are physically fatiguing are too risky for their health; consequently, they tend to avoid sport and exercise. *Populations throughout the world are ageing, and the number of people aged over 65 years is shortly expected to outnumber children under five years old.* As people age, they are more likely to suffer from ill health, including chronic disease. Physical inactivity is a significant contributor to the development of chronic diseases, therefore regular physical activity is important for older adults' health and quality of life.

The health benefits of physical activity, specifically for older adults, have been comprehensively researched. For older adults, physical activity can be beneficial for physical, mental, and social health. Besides the health benefits of regular participation, other aspects of participation among older adults have also been reviewed. Previous systematic reviews on physical activity in this population group have for example focused on: the physical health risks involved in participation, the differences between determinants of physical activity and exercise, whether older adults are meeting the recommended physical activity participation levels, the health benefits, strong social networks and the effect of physical activity in alleviating depression in older adults. Although the health benefits of generic physical activity have been extensively researched for older adults, there is little research on sports as a form of leisure-time physical activity for this population group.

This limited research has largely focused on Masters/Senior Games sport participation or on specific sports, such as bowls, golf, curling, rather than general community sport. As the determinants of participation may vary for different forms of exercise, specific research for older adults and general community sport participation is required. A community sport is defined as “a human activity capable of achieving a result requiring physical exertion and/or physical skill which, by its nature and organization, is competitive and is generally accepted as being a sport”.

Deriving benefits of physical activity can influence continuation of participation. In sports, there have been a number of systematic reviews examining the concept of sport being beneficial for health for younger age groups, but not specifically for older adults, who may have different health outcomes. Therefore, with the expected declining health of an ageing population, it is important to investigate the determinants of initiating and continuing sport participation for older adults, to diversify the physical activity options available to this age group.

Using sport as a tool to develop a social/community connection for older adults using sports for the development and maintenance of community engagement for older adults; and using sport to foster social connections had a very positive effect.

*4th VP Message***Submit List of 2023 Sanctioned Courts**

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

Well, 2023 is in the books. Now we look forward to bigger and better things in 2024. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a safe and Happy New Years with family and friends.

I would like to thank 3rd Vice President, Jerry Smith for all of his hard work on the new World Tournament Format that will begin at the 2024 World Tournament. This is a huge milestone for the NHPA and is a step in the right direction that will benefit everyone. I am very excited and proud to be on the council and to be a part of this new change. We have switched up the weeks that the Higher pitchers will pitch the first week and the Lower pitchers will pitch the second week. This will give the classes that will be pitching an opportunity to come a couple of days early to see the Championship Tournament. I would love to see all of the RD's participate and be a part of this exciting new venture.



I have been very busy sending out the 2024 Patch orders. Thank you to all of the RD's that have already submitted their orders. You all make my job easier and I appreciate everything you do to make it run smooth. You will notice that we left the year on the patches for this year. Thank you to everyone that submitted your Charter Votes. We heard your comments and the majority of the Charter Votes were to leave the year on them. We will be discussing this topic again this year during the RD Meeting at the 2024 World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington. Tournament dates are July 29 – August 10, 2024. Please see Laurie Lampkin, 2nd VP for more information on Hotels and/or RV Parks and where to eat and to shop.

Three Rivers Campus

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

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

Attention RD's. Just a reminder, the year 2023 was a Court Sanction year. I have received some of your Court Sanction Lists, but I still need quite a few. I don't need a copy of your Court Sanction Certificates. I only need a list of your state's court facilities that have been Sanctioned. When you have finished your court sanctioning, simply e-mail your list to me at bcarsen848@gmail.com.

(Continued on Page 14)

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

We will also be having a Charter/RD meeting during the World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington. I will let all of you know when that will be scheduled as soon as I have a date and time.

Thank you again to everyone for all of your hard work and dedication. Good Luck and keep pitching those ringers. Hope to see all of you at World in Kennewick, Washington. Have a great winter. Please stay warm and be careful.

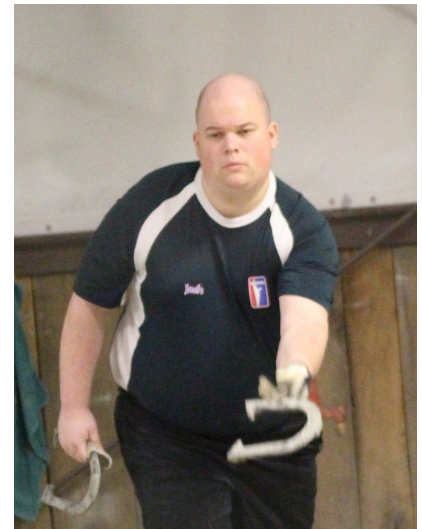
Barb

5th VP Message

Have you tried yet?

By Josh Olson, 5th Vice President—IT Director

Horseshoes and the use of computers has come a long way when it comes to putting stats together with Walter Ray Williams Jr's program that was DOS based to the program we know and use to today, HSMaster/HSScorekeeper that Kurt Whaley created. One thing that has also evolved is going from NATSTATS to eShoe, instead of waiting for that weekly Tournament update, we now can update and send tournament results instantaneously with eShoe right from HSMaster after the tournament has concluded. Now we are on the verge of using a popular mobile app Scoreholio to keep track and keep score of games both cancelation where you can keep track of ringers and points, to just playing games to 21 like we do in the backyard. One thing that I hope we can see in a few years is the use of Scoreholio at large Horseshoe Tournaments. My own personal goal is to use the app more starting in 2024 to get better familiar with the app. Scoreholio has some great resources available on their website www.scoreholio.com and also on Facebook. They have multiple support pages that have super users and even the creator Ben monitors when it comes to answering any and all questions that might arise.



Live Streaming the game we all know and love, and we haven't even scratched the surface. One thing that we are continuing to run into is which pathway we should take when it comes to replacing and updating the cameras of old that have been used for over 10 years at the World Tournament. The NHPA was very fortunate to get some help from the NHPF and many other gracious donors when it comes to the purchase of the Nest/Dropcam wireless cameras that we used for many years up until this World Tournament in 2024.

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The cameras will be unusable anymore as of April 2024, therefore we have to find a new way to bring the World Tournament live streaming to you our Membership going forward. I'm hopeful that we will find a camera that will work the way we need to be able to stream the live action from the courts to our NHPA Website so everyone can watch. We are looking into the possibility of other streaming social media platforms as alternatives as well, these cameras can also be a great opportunity for Marketing and advertising if used the right way. There is a lot of research and development when it comes to testing this process and at the end of the day, I'm hopeful that we are on the right track when it comes to finding a camera that will work and then we can figure out the logistics afterwards.

As I conclude this article, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jerry Smith for his years of service to the NHPA as a Vice President all these years. Jerry is not going anywhere, and we will make sure of that, we just won't see Jerry doing the day-to-day sanctioned league stats and as a council member anymore. Ben, you have some mighty big shoes to fill taking over for Jerry, but I know Jerry will do his best to train you and get you caught up to speed to take over the Sanctioned league stats and many awards that he gives out each and every year. Jerry will still be very much involved with the various committee's that he sits on for the NHPF and HoF. Thank you, Jerry, and enjoy those Bridge Tournaments!

Josh

Rebuilding an Organization from the Ground Up

By Ben Webb, 3rd Vice President

Two years ago, when NHPA President Gary Roberts asked me to step in as Youth Director for the NHPA, I had never had any intentions of serving at a national level up to that point. When offered the position, I found it to be a very interesting opportunity to get involved with and help support and grow our youth divisions at a national level. At the time, I was the 3rd Vice President in my own charter and had been involved in the running of several leagues, tournaments, promoting the sport at a state level, gaining sponsorships, etc. The idea of stewarding the direction of the Youth was very exciting and I feel we've been able to do several good things to support the younger generation of players and recognize them like we've not been able to do in many years. As I began to spend more time working closely with the council members on things going on within the NHPA, I began to not only see a need for more young, fresh minded leadership, but I would start to desire to get more involved with the council to grow and support our association however possible. As everyone knows, 2023 was a very challenging year for the council. We saw not 1, but 2 resignations and several openings as the remaining council members applied to fill the vacancies left by those who were gone. I had thought of submitting my candidacy a couple of times during the fall, but when Jerry Smith announced his resignation, I felt that was the right time and place for me to try to join the council.

Jerry Smith at this point was the most tenured member of the council, with more time in his position than any other current council member. Not only had Jerry been "around a long time" but Jerry had a wealth of knowledge on the administrative side of the NHPA. From the bookkeeping, the history, running the leagues, assisting at the World Tournament, etc., Jerry has been a long-time administrator in not only the NHPA but his individual charters as well. While Jerry will continue to serve the NHPA as historian, and maintain our HOF in Wentzville, Missouri, his departure from the council will certainly leave a hole to fill. Jerry and I will be working very closely over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition of his responsibilities with the NHPA leagues.



(Continued...Page 16)

3rd Vice President (...Continued)

One thing Jerry and I seem to share is that Jerry was perhaps the most outspoken member of the council. Jerry would always make sure you knew what was on his mind and was very passionate about his role, his ideas, and the future of the NHPA. He would also be a major supporter of not only our youth pitchers but getting the younger generation involved in leadership roles within the NHPA. As I come on the council, along with our other council members, I will join three other former youth pitchers in Josh Olson, Austin Bailey, and lifetime pitcher Gary Roberts.

My objective wouldn't be to make major changes to how things operate but rather help in building on and expanding current programs and ideas. I want to bring even more "common sense leadership" to the council, a trait many council members share. My personal work background is in automotive manufacturing, working in several management and leadership roles. Last year, I shifted industries into the building services industry as an account manager with several sites in the Bowling Green region. These roles have allowed me to gain experience in leadership with large and diverse teams along with all other responsibilities that come with running businesses. Much of this experience will translate easily to assisting the council with decisions on the growth of membership, financial planning, charter communications, along with working with all our sanctioned leagues to support and assist them when needed. In the coming months, I'll be reaching out to each of our sanctioned league directors across the nation. My desire would be that all our sanctioned league directors and members feel supported by myself and the council and know that any issue they're facing within their charter is something we'd be glad to work with them on.

With that being said, I would like to mention the combination of the 3rd VP spot with my role as Youth Director. When I applied for this position, I requested the council consider combining these two roles as I thoroughly enjoy working with our youth members and trying to grow that area of our association. I will always give ample attention and time to our youth divisions and those divisions will not go unnoticed or unrepresented. We are still searching for members to fill our Youth Committee and an editor for a youth Newline. A youth version of the Newline is something we've discussed many times; we simply need an editor to bring that project to fruition. If anyone is interested in serving the NHPA in that capacity, please let me know.

Beginning January 1, 2024, we will be implementing a new email address for both league and youth related issues. This is to ensure that we can properly track and give attention to all issues and be sure nothing "gets lost in the shuffle" of a typical inbox. These are also designed to be easily switched between officers during changes in council members or responsibilities. These email addresses are:

nhpaleagues@gmail.com

This will be the official NHPA email to submit league results and other league related issues.

nhpavouth@gmail.com

This will be the official NHPA email for all youth related issues.

As always, my personal email address is abenwebb@gmail.com, and I can always be reached by email or phone. Please do not hesitate to reach out by email or give me a call if I can serve you in any way. The personal relationships with our charter, league and youth leaders will be critical to our success as an association in the future. I appreciate all the comments and support I've received so far and will do all I can to serve each and every one of our NHPA members to the best of my ability. I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is ready for this coming year!

Ben Webb
(270) 597 – 4900
abenwebb@gmail.com
605 Washington Street
Brownsville, Kentucky 42210

Cadets and Juniors Moving on Up

By Ben Webb, Junior Vice President

Cadets graduate to Junior classes while Reynolds ages out

2024 will see at least 4 youth pitchers move into different divisions as Eli Sullivan, Tom Grose and Landon Morgan all move from the Cadet Boy's divisions to the Junior Boy's divisions, while defending Junior Boys champion Derek Reynolds graduates from the youth ranks into the adult division. With the absence of the class favorite in Reynold's, who will step up and claim the world championship in the tri-cities this summer? Landon Morgan made his mark with strong games and a strong finish at the 2023 world tournament in Lansing, Michigan, proving to everyone he was a big game player on horseshoe pitching's biggest stage. Tom "TJ" Grose also made waves, defeating 2-time world champion Eli Sullivan in the first round of their preliminary class last year. TJ finished the year strong with an appearance and class win on the horseshoe tour while observing the 30' foul line to compete on the tour. Defending Cadet Boy's world champion Eli Sullivan also finished the year strong defending his Virginia state championship. Eli would have to be the favorite moving into 2024 amongst the three boys due to him observing the 30' foul line this past year and averaging 80% from that line in the Cadet Boy's World Championship class. Another key player who will be shooting for that allusive Junior Boy's World Championship is Hastiin Begaye. Hastiin has been right at the top in recent years and this coming year could be Hastiin's year to take the World Championship home with him. Will Hastiin capture the Boy's World Title this year, will there be another breakout junior boy in Washington, or will one of the three cadet transfers hammer their way to a World Title their first year in the new division?

Same game different experiences

The holiday seasons have now passed and hopefully everyone has had a phenomenal season with family and friends. With many states already setting their schedules for 2024 tournaments, have you begun planning your 2024 horseshoe season yet? As I normally do, I have begun to look into where I'll be travelling this year to pitch in the big tournaments in the country. I hope to be able to attend the horseshoe tour events in both South Carolina and Tennessee and hopefully hit another before the end of the year. Have you pitched in the Horseshoe Tour yet? With their innovative format and impressive payout scale, along with the hospitality of a tour event, it makes for a perfect weekend horseshoe trip if you've not tried them before. I also intend to travel to our Hall of Fame in Wentzville, Missouri for the HOF invitational this year. The HOF Invitational is one of the premier events in the country where the top 16, 40-foot and top 16, 30-foot pitchers all compete in the 2-day event in a "mini-world tournament" atmosphere with so many heavy hitters in one place. On the fourth of July weekend, in the horseshoe pitching capital of the world, Greenville, Ohio the Ringer Classic will once again take place. One of the longest running annual tournaments where many top pitchers flock to compete against each other just weeks before the World Tournament. I've been fortunate to compete in the past 4 ringer classic, 40' championship events and intend to be in attendance again this year. I will also again this year be donating the first 5 youth entries for the tournament. Please get in contact with Brian Fisher in Ohio if you attend to submit a youth pitcher entry, as the first 5 youth pitchers to enter will have no entry fee!

Then there's the big event, the 2024 World Tournament in Tri-Cities, Washington. Impossible to overstate the World Tournament is the biggest horseshoe event of the year, where world champions are crowned, and legends are made when the best from every state and country come together to compete for their divisions World Championship. We are in the process of setting up several events for our youth pitchers including the normal meet & greet and Junior Party, along with the now annual Brian Simmons Memorial Youth/Adult Doubles. We are looking at a trampoline park and family fun event center for our youth pitchers to ensure we give them the best World Tournament experience possible. Once the details are ironed out, I'll submit the information for all the events in the next Newslines, along with any sign-up information.



(Continued...Page 18)

Junior Director...continued

I look forward to seeing everyone at the tournaments this year. If you haven't begun planning your year, I highly recommend planning to attend some of the listed events. These are some of the best events you can find anywhere in the country, always making for a good time with our horseshoe friends and family.

Top 64 Juniors – March Madness

I mentioned in the previous Newsline that I would be getting our World Tournament Predictions group back together to determine the best Junior Pitcher in world tournament history. The 64-player bracket has been set and will be picked and included in the next Newsline, just in time for March Madness. The seeding was done based off these factors:

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

Game by Game predictions will be determined by the opinions of the group members based on the selection factors along with a more in-depth analysis of each youth pitchers' performances. However, no consideration will be given to what was done after the pitcher entered the adult divisions due to this being only about their youth division performances. It's worth noting that the only active youth pitchers in the bracket are Eli Sullivan and Hastiin Begaye. Derek Reynolds has subsequently aged out of the division and Sarah Chaffee's previous 2 years of World Tournament performances were in adult divisions. However, Sarah Chaffee is the only Junior Girl to be a #1 seed in the bracket. She joins Jim Walters, Alan Francis, and Walter Ray Williams Jr as the 4, #1 seeds in the bracket with Jim Walters being the #1 overall seed in the entire bracket. Will Jim Walters prevail as the top youth pitcher in World Tournament History, or will our selection group eye a different winner after reviewing the data?



Kentucky's Here - Topeka, Kansas, 2015 WT

An article I've been wanting to put together for a while begins with my home state, the goal is to highlight those rare "turning points" that put charters or individuals in a national light they're either seeing for the first time or seeing for the first time in a while. The latter would be the case with Kentucky, historically home to many good pitchers, often well represented in the adult divisions of the World Tournament. Charlie Meredith, James "pop" Johnson, Jack Fahey "Kentucky Jack", Sue Snyder, Becky Kemper, Tony Hankins, and many more often travelled to the World Tournament and even claimed championships in different years. With Sue Snyder being the most infamous of the bunch, Kentucky even laid claim to a former Men's World Champion in Don Titcomb at one time. While Kentucky has always been represented well in adult divisions at the world tournament, the youth division wasn't as strong in many years. Tony Hankins claimed the 1986 World Championship in the Junior Boys division, in a field including Alan Francis, before moving into the Men's division claiming several state championships. Son of Kentucky legend Charlie Meredith, Ronnie Meredith lays claim to being the best Junior pitcher in Kentucky's long history with many 80%+ tournaments, and several state

(Continued...Page 19)

Junior Director...continued

championships. Ronnie would've undoubtedly become a Junior Boy's world champion, had it not been for one of the best Junior Boys in history in Jim Walters standing in the way, along with other top tier Juniors in Vorn Ven. After Ronnie, it had been over two decades since Kentucky put a junior boy in the spotlight at the World Tournament.

Tyler Howard would first appear at the World Tournament in 2009, and I would first attend the World Tournament in 2012 making the championship class with both Tyler and Alex Humes of Kentucky. 2013 and 2014 would be strong years for Kentucky's Junior Boys pitchers as well, I was able to finish 3rd in the 2013 World Tournament, then both Tyler and I would meet in the championship class in 2014, in Buffalo, New York. When 2015 rolled around both Tyler and I had good odds of performing well in that year's World Championship. Being centrally located in Topeka, Kansas, the event drew better numbers than recent years producing a wildly unpredictable field of pitchers who could win that year's championship. Both Tyler and I would find ourselves in the Junior prelims A-class where we would meet in a playoff to determine the preliminary world class champion. In this playoff, I was able to get off to a hot start jumping ahead of Tyler in the first half of the game. After that I just needed to run out the clock in the 40-shoe game, I was able to pickup that win and a world class championship against Tyler on that Friday afternoon. The next day would be the championships and with Tyler being the #2 overall seed and myself being the #1 seed the stage was set for a final game between the two pitchers from Kentucky, if we could get through a tough championship field with perfect records each that was. We would both go through the first half of the championship round unscathed, winning key games against the California boys in Travis Sluys and defending champion Hayden Lee. I would pull out a tight game against New Hampshire's Brandon Pearl, but then Pearl would hand Tyler his first loss of the day.

Then the final game would begin, being my last Junior year and Tyler with 1 to go and a rivalry that was already well documented on the state level. We would both be in a must win situation with Tyler needing to win to force a playoff and my win would end the tournament and an eager Brandon Pearl watching from the court over, the World Championship hinged on this game. Tyler and I would have a 94-shoe marathon to get to 40 points before Tyler took the game, forcing a 3-way playoff. The playoff began with Tyler Howard playing Brandon Pearl again. Tyler quickly dropped Pearl with a 21 ringer for 24 shoe flurry, quickly ending Brandon's championship hopes and setting the stage for another showdown between the two Kentuckians. The picture with the article will show the scene before the playoff: Myself, Tyler, incumbent president Stu Sipma, incumbent Sec/Treas David Sidles, Junior Director Aleena Lepak (Cook), and legendary judge Bob Beagle standing idly by as we discussed the coming game. At this time, Tyler and I, along with everyone else had no idea what would happen as every game we played seemed to have a different outcome. The game to come remains the longest game in the last 32 years with the longest game before this coming before either of us were born in 1992 when Jim Walters met Vorn Ven in a 108-shoe battle. Tyler and I would need to pitch a 106-shoe marathon before either of us could achieve the 40-point mark. After several four dead calls in a true battle of wills, at a point where the next missed shoe could end the game, Tyler would have a double laying as I tossed my first shoe covering the double. As my second shoe hit, there was simply too much metal around the stake and with a combined gasp from the crowd, it would come back as fast as it went on, leaving a 3 ringer 3 laying for Tyler. This call at the end of the playoff would give Tyler his first World Championship and put the two pitchers from Kentucky on the World Tournament radar for years to come but wouldn't end the continuous rivalry.



(Continued...Page 20)

Junior Director...continued

Our pitching careers seemed to run parallel before and after this event with Tyler always staying 1 ringer ahead with me catching him from time to time. After this I would take the 2016 year away from the World Tournament while Tyler would pitch his last year as a Junior, defending the World Championship in another playoff with another fellow Kentuckian Seth O’Nan, who has since fallen off the horseshoe map. After aging out of the boys’ division we both quickly met again in the Men’s Championship in both of our first appearances in 2018. This was Tyler’s first adult year at the world where his talent would be on full display in defeating the goat Alan Francis in both the preliminary and championship rounds this year. While Tyler didn’t capture the Men’s World Title that year after having a tough third day, he’s remained a staple of not only Kentucky horseshoes but big tournament play at the world tournament and ringer classic style tournaments in the years since. We’ve both had the best of mentors with Charlie Meredith of Kentucky teaching me the vast majority of what I know about pitching horseshoes and the late 3-time world champion Brian Simmons coaching Tyler in recent years, it’s only a matter of time until we can once again meet in a battle of wills on a big stage and represent Kentucky horseshoe pitchers until the next generation comes along.

Are there other defining youth battles from the same state that have put your state in the national spotlight? If so, send me an email and I’ll likely do another article soon showcasing other states youth history at the world tournament!



First recipient of the Alex Carson Memorial Sportsmanship Award...Tom Grose

From the desk of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

Prepare for the new World Tournament Format!

By Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer

Dear NHPA Members,

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and a joyous holiday season. I send my best wishes for a Happy New Year to each of you.

During this winter season, I have been enjoying snowboarding at my local hill on Ski Patrol and snowmobiling in West Yellowstone with my family over the Holidays.

I want to draw your attention to the new World Tournament Format. We are shifting the schedule to host the Championships at the conclusion of the first week. Pitchers with higher percentages will participate on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the first week, determining the rosters for the Championship Classes on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. The remaining pitchers will compete in the second week. By making this change we hope to increase the spectator experience and support for our Championship pitchers.

The entry form for the 2024 World Tournament follows on the next page. Just a reminder you will need to have participated in four qualifying tournaments.

I appreciate your understanding as I navigate and learn the responsibilities of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Position. If you have previously attempted to contact me without success, please reach out again, as I am committed to addressing all inquiries.

Looking ahead, I am excited about the upcoming 2024 World Tournament in Kennewick, Washington, and am dedicated to ensuring its success. I encourage you to promote participation in your clubs and leagues among your family and friends, contributing to the growth of our membership.

Thank you for your continued efforts in fostering this enjoyable and inclusive sport. I look forward to seeing you on the courts!

Best regards,

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

Brian





ENTRY FORM (READ CAREFULLY)
National Horseshoe Pitchers Association
 July 29 - August 10, 2024 Kennewick, Washington
2024 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships

Name: _____ **2024 NHPA Card #** _____
 (Please Print) First Last (or Canadian #)

Address: _____

City: _____ **State/Prov:** _____ **Zip/Postal Code:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Birth Date:** _____

Email: _____

Check One -----> I will print my schedule. Mail my schedule to me.
 (One per household please)

Circle the Division you are entering: - You can enter only one division (See notes near bottom of page)

OPEN MEN 40 ft	SENIOR MEN 40 ft (See note #2)	OPEN WOMEN 30 ft	SENIOR WOMEN 30 ft (see note #2)	ELDER MEN / ME 30ft (see note #1)	JR. BOY / JR. GIRL 30 ft (see note # 3)	CADET BOY / CADET GIRL 20 ft (See note # 3)
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All applicable information above is required. No refunds will be made after May 31, 2024
 Entry Deadline May 20, 2024 Form will be returned if not signed below or is incomplete.
 Note: A processing fee of \$15.00 will apply to all refunds.

PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE: In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby waive, release and forever discharge the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association, all officers, employees, agents and servants of the afore stated organization, and all fellow participants of this event, for any and all action, cause of action, damage, loss or injury, which I may suffer as a consequence of participating in the World Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. In addition, it is understood that the NHPA has sole rights to any and all pictures and/or articles for publication.

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____

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

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

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

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

TO: NHPA Direct Telephone & Email Inquiries to:
 2660 S Fairway Dr 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 20, 2024**. You may enter at anytime prior to May 20, 2024. Entries received with a postmark after May 20 shall be put on a waiting list and entered into the tournament only as space is available. All adults must have pitched in a minimum of four (4) US/Canadian sanctioned events in the twelve (12) months prior to May 20, 2024, in the same division you are entering. Only one (1) event is required for Juniors. Exceptions for US Armed Forces members and family and foreign competitors (other than Canadians) are outlined in Rule 11, Sec D.1 of the RGS Book. Contact NHPA for more information regarding qualifying exceptions. All averages used will be the average on record in eShoe as of **May 20, 2024**. Anyone qualifying under an exception must have those scores recorded by the same date. All NHPA and any special tournament rules apply. Please see note regarding refunds.

READ CAREFULLY: Any adult male pitching from the full distance platform may enter the **OPEN MEN'S DIVISION** regardless of age, just as any adult female may enter the **OPEN WOMEN'S DIVISION**. To enter the **SENIOR DIVISION**, you must be 60 years of age or older before the end of 2024. Any man that turns 65 years of age in 2024, is older than 65, or has an approved medical exemption may enter the **ELDER MEN'S DIVISION**. Entrants in the **JUNIOR BOY and JUNIOR GIRL DIVISION** must be 18 years old or less for the entire 2024 calendar year. **CADET BOY AND CADET GIRL DIVISION** entrants must be 12 years old or younger for the entire 2023 calendar year.

Note # 1. 30 ft Men with Medical Exemptions must be in eShoe as exempt to pitch in this division.
Note # 2. For class play, a minimum of 48 must enter this division or it will be canceled. All entrants will then pitch in the Open Preliminaries.
Note # 3 Junior Boys & Junior Girls divisions will be mixed for preliminary play. Cadet Boys & Cadet Girls divisions will be mixed for Preliminary play.

The pitching schedule will be finalized by **May 25, 2024** and published on the NHPA website. If you indicated above to receive the schedule by mail, it will be mailed to the address you have listed above during the second week in June.

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

NHPF Report

Consider a Tax Deductible Donation!

By Dave Sidles, NHPF Director

As we go into the new year, the NHPF would like to welcome a new member to our Board of Directors. Mark Neubauer has replaced Gary Buehler as treasurer. Mark is member of the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club in Wentzville and very familiar with the Hall of Fame and the facilities there.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to Gary for his many years of dedicated service to the NHPF and the NHPA's Hall of Fame Museum.

Your continued support is vital to keeping the museum operating and continuing the NHPF's mission to advance the sport of horseshoe pitching through our grant program. We want to thank all those who have made contributions in 2023. Remember, your contributions are tax-deductible.

Respectfully,
David Sidles
NHPF President



Hall of Fame Nominations Due by Jan 31, 2024

By Vicki Winston, Hall of Fame Committee Chair

Quick reminder to everyone that an NHPA current member or a sanctioned club can still submit a NHPA Hall of Fame Nomination. The deadline is January 31, 2024. It cannot be emailed and must be sent via some sort of mailing service to: Vicki Winston, 10326 Hwy D., LaMonte, MO 65337 and must arrive to Vicki by January 31st.



NHPA Website/Newsline Advertising options available

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

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

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



NHPA Website Advertising

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

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

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

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

Sponsorship Opportunities

By Laurie Lampkin

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

Bronze Level \$2,500 (annually)

Sponsorship at this level will entitle your company to:

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

Silver Level \$5,000 (annually)

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

Gold Level \$7,500 (annually)

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

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

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

Types of Sponsorships/Advertising available during the World Tournament:

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

NHPA OFFICERS



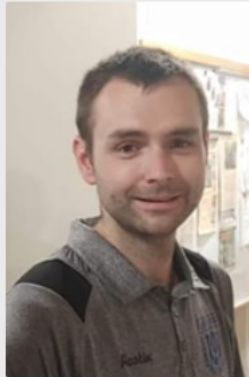
Gary Roberts

President

gbroberts5542@yahoo.com

638 Salem Cave Road
Beaver, Ohio 45613

(740) 835-1925



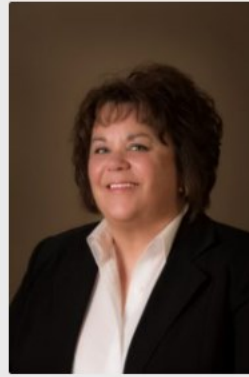
Austin Bailey

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

2ringersix08@gmail.com

215 Dickinson Rd.
Springfield, IL 62704

(217) 891-6531



Laurie Lampkin

2nd VP-World Tournament
Coordinator/Publicity
Promotion Director

laurie_r@bellsouth.net

278 Chaplin Rd.
Bloomfield, KY 40008

502-507-2597 - Cell



Ben Webb

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

abenwebb@gmail.com

605 Washington Street
Brownsville, KY 42210

(270) 597-4900



Barbara Carson

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

bcarson848@gmail.com

106 Reserve Circle
Wellington, Ohio 44090

(216) 548-9337



Josh Olson

5th VP, IT Director

itnhpa@gmail.com

503 SW Brown St.
Verndale, MN 56481
(218) 639-4641



Brian Poole

Secretary/Treasurer

bjpoole3564@gmail.com

2660 S. Fairway Dr.
Pocatello, ID 83201

208-201-3326



NHPA

National Horseshoe Pitchers Association

"Come Pitch with Us!"

Ron & Polly's

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Supplies

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Grapeland, TX 75844

(936) 687-5149



You can find us at this year's
World Tournament



One-Stop shopping for all your horseshoe pitching needs.

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Sanctioned horseshoes

By White Distributors, Ted Allen, Elmer Hohl,
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And pitching accessories

NHPA approved tools & Pick-up sticks. Carrying
bags & boxes, Steel stakes, Score Towers, towels,
hats, jewelry and much more.



www.horseshoes4u.com

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 December 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	83.13	18
3	350626	Shalee	Cason	FL	Women	82.50	6
4	330030	Maxine	Griffith	TN	Women	79.46	18
5	623905	Lindsay	HODGINS	AB	Women	79.35	7
6	664710	Sylvianne	Moisan	QC	Women	79.05	13
7	490476	Skyla	Rioux	CT	Women	78.18	8
8	330173	Joan	Elmore	TN	Women	77.93	17
9	280078	Penny	Steinke	WI	Women	76.02	25
10	220130	Doris	Hieden	TX	Women	75.47	13
11	360294	Amy	Francis	OH	Women	74.83	12
12	802026	Blanca	Hettinga	OR	Women	74.20	18
13	800439	Pam	Meyer	MO	Women	74.11	17
14	190217	Lachelle	Cook	MO	Women	71.25	5
15	300441	Denise	Daly	MI	Women	70.52	11

(Continued on Page 29)

Mens Top 100 Stats *31 December 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	16
3	657381	Drew	BECKER	ON	Men	76.74	8
4	320063	Ben	Webb	KY	Men	76.43	23
5	390143	Randy	Zeiders	PA	Men	73.73	15
6	290652	Austin	Bailey	IL	Men	73.44	13
7	440124	Ken	Fraser	NY	Men	72.96	10
8	300151	Andrew	Adams	MI	Men	72.94	11
9	460059	Gale	Greene	VT	Men	72.87	17
10	260084	Dan	Watson	AL	Men	72.52	9
11	10058	Matt	Fuller	WA	Men	68.94	13
12	100290	Brandon	Tenijieth	AZ	Men	68.87	2
13	350369	Walter Ray	Williams Jr	FL	Men	68.30	16
14	190007	Stan	Griggs	MO	Men	67.48	10
15	480259	Raymond	Bedard	MA	Men	66.79	29

Elders Top 100 Stats *31 December 2023*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	350350	Bob	Gray	FL	Elders	78.94	14
2	370121	David	Holmes	WV	Elders	78.78	12
3	370298	Junior	Peters	WV	Elders	78.35	12
4	660765	Jacques	HOULE	QC	Elders	75.94	7
5	191256	Virgle	Mccown	MO	Elders	75.82	16
6	614016	Tom	MOFFAT	BC	Elders	75.16	13
7	480354	David	Bliss	MA	Elders	74.18	10
8	420337	Tom	Mills	MD	Elders	73.96	10
9	220577	Danny	Patterson	TX	Elders	73.96	20
10	95094	Benj	Rains	UT	Elders	72.98	24
11	350071	Dale	Marteney	GA	Elders	72.86	17
12	190103	Ronald	Legrand	MO	Elders	72.82	17
13	280236	Jim	Bilderback	WI	Elders	72.67	23
14	10092	John	Bruhn	WA	Elders	72.50	8
15	340080	Zane	Goggin	GA	Elders	72.46	7

(Continued on Page 30)

Girls Top 25 Stats *31 December 2023*

Rank	Card #	First Name	Last Name	State	Division	Ringer Percent	Events Played
1	490491	Lizy	Jordan	CT	Girls	57.54	11
2	340280	Lily	Strong	CA	Girls	49.36	12
3	191533	Sadie	Wolken	MO	Girls	46.25	12
4	280115	Lillyan	Kildahl	WI	Girls	39.72	8
5	31233	Kaidence	Begaye	CA	Girls	33.13	1
6	802674	Madeline	Workman	NV	Girls	32.04	10
7	180473	Danyelle	Russell	KS	Girls	30.17	7
8	615391	Asia	BOWDEN	BC	Girls	30.11	1
9	95085	Kayla	Julander	UT	Girls	30.04	11
10	190110	Eli	Delacruz	MO	Girls	28.38	5
11	803569	Aislinn Raye	Klapik	CT	Girls	25.34	12
12	652230	Emma	CALHOUN	ON	Girls	25.00	2
13	800812	Lilli	Light	MT	Girls	24.58	4
14	130865	Cherie	Harges	IN	Girls	24.01	3
15	150396	Uria	Gabel	ND	Girls	23.96	7

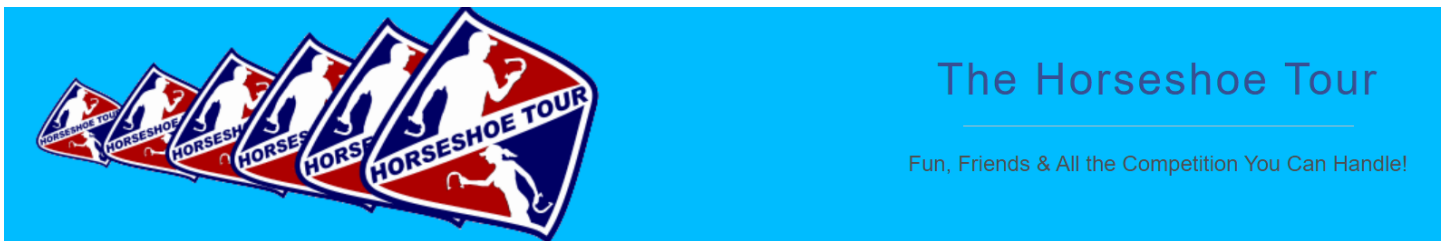
Boys Top 50 Stats *31 December 2023*

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	Grzembski	MA	Boys	58.33	20
4	360365	Caiden	Hogue	OH	Boys	58.25	7
5	280127	Blake	Benzing	WI	Boys	51.77	6
6	490452	Riley	Malino	CT	Boys	51.72	6
7	220641	Isaac	Nelson Jr.	TX	Boys	50.24	3
8	260172	Tyler	Harris	AL	Boys	49.23	6
9	95078	Coulson	Ohms	UT	Boys	45.44	7
10	231968	Tristan	Dehkes	MN	Boys	44.58	1
11	150403	Jackson	Johnson	ND	Boys	44.31	11
12	190085	Warren	Highley	MO	Boys	41.76	28
13	803169	Ryder	Smith	MT	Boys	41.61	3
14	280226	Bradley	Benzing	WI	Boys	37.66	5
15	40606	Dillon	Kyle	CA	Boys	36.80	3

(Continued on Page 31)

Cadets Top 25 Stats *31 December 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	58.29	25
3	803710	Joshua	Russell	NV	Cadet Boys	52.14	16
4	801315	Evan	Bedard	MA	Cadet Boys	51.35	11
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	370009	Max	Martin	WV	Cadet Boys	27.87	4
10	802539	Zachary	Smith	IA	Cadet Boys	25.54	11
11	803323	Bryant	Seegmiller	UT	Cadet Boys	25.41	4
12	803456	Jeremiah	DeMello	WA	Cadet Boys	25.26	8
13	803216	Beau	Dehkes	MN	Cadet Boys	25.00	1
14	800315	Ethan	Knighten	AL	Cadet Boys	24.69	3
15	803792	Jacob	Barney	UT	Cadet Boys	23.01	8



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