

Keith Schafer

Inducted in 2025

Keith's story begins with the blind date he had with Tina on May 1, 2004. Tina's co-worker Paula Summerlin invited both to see horseshoe tournaments in late 2004.

Keith was introduced to pitching in 2005 by Steve and Paula Summerlin and was immediately hooked. He qualified with a ringer percentage in the single digits and is now pitching mostly in the upper 40 percents. Keith has always been one of the hardest workers in the Association, having served as St. Jude Coordinator (2010-2018), Publicity Chair (2015-2017, 2019-2023), Assistant Regional Director (2019), Regional Director (2019-2023), Statistician (2019-2023), and Tournament Director for Lansing, for Holt, and for St. Jude tournaments in Jackson.

As Statistician, he compiled the full accumulated tournament results from 1992 forward and the results as found before 1992 into an Excel spreadsheet to make the historic statistics more accessible.

As a pitcher, Keith was part of the Class F Doubles championship team in 2009 and also won state class championships in 2018 (Class F) and 2021 (Men's Class B). The biggest accomplishments on his resume are the runner-up finish in 2024 in the Men's state championship, 8th place in the Senior Men's championship at the World Tournament at Lansing in 2023, and 2nd place in the Men's Class F1 at the World tournament in Montgomery, Alabama.

In the recent winters, he has gone to Florida and joined the Highland County Horseshoe Club in Sebring and has been president of the club for 4 years. He winters at Lake Bonnet Village in Avon Park, and has been the park singles horseshoe champion 4 times, including the previous 3 years. For those who know Keith, knows that he is very passionate about pitching shoes. He encourages people all the time to join him and is very supportive of his competitors as well, always encouraging them to throw well, which they usually do. He's always telling his opponents "A lot of deads, a lot of fun".

After his 21 years in horseshoes, we induct Keith Schafer into the MHPA Hall of Fame.

