

# Nor-Cal News & Views

Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association website address is: <http://www.nchpa.com>

## Secretary/Treasurer

Happy April Newsletter – hopefully soon we will be able to have our tournaments rolling and not rained out. Spring will be here soon as will the dry weather.

Just a couple of things to bring up this quarter. Number one if you are having medical problems and need to move to short distance under the age of 65, you can find the forms that need to be completed by you and your doctor on the NHPA website. Go to [www.horseshoepitching.com](http://www.horseshoepitching.com) then under Resources/Forms find Medical Exemptions forms. When the forms are completed and signed by you and your doctor, return them to me for the file and your adjustment made in our records.

Clubs – don't forget as you get new members joining your club the NHPA is still sending out the new member packet. Please be sure to get their shirt size and preferred shirt color send it to me with their dues and information and I will order the packet sent to you to give to them. Colors are still Orange, Grey, White, Lime green, Yellow, Navy Blue and pink. Please be sure to include all of their information: Name, date of birth, address, phone number, and email address. Thanks The entry forms for the 2024 State Championships, Nor Cal Championships and Northern Doubles Championships, and World Tournament are attached to this newsletter. Or find them here: [www.nchpa.com](http://www.nchpa.com)

Looking forward to seeing big turnouts at all of our Northern tournaments this year.

Hopefully many of you will travel to S. CA for the State Championships. If anyone would like sponsor the NorCal or Doubles tournaments, please let me know. We would love to build the prize money that's offered. Thank You *Gail Sluys*

## 1st VP

The 2024 Horseshoe Pitching Season is underway. Daylight Saving Time has come, the cold weather and rain are slowly giving way to warmer days and better pitching conditions. During the off season I heard of a sports psychology technique that might have important application to our sport. The technique is called "Quiet Eye."

The importance of vision, the use of our eyes, has long been acknowledged as important in most sports. We all have heard terms such as, "keep your eye on the ball" used to instruct players in improving their games.

Quiet Eye is defined as a period of extended visual attention that helps in optimizing the control and execution of motor skill, particularly in high-pressure situations or tasks that require precise movements. The term "Quiet Eye" in sports psychology refers to a phenomenon observed in athletes where they fixate their gaze on a specific target, absorbing vital information before initiating a movement. This period of stable focus is the "Quiet

Eye.” Psychologists and neuroscientists have identified this as one of the common mental processes that mark out elite athletes. The “Quiet Eye” is a kind of enhanced visual perception that allows the athlete to eliminate any distractions as they plan their next move. It appears to be particularly important at times of stress, preventing the athlete from “choking” at moments of high pressure. “Quiet Eye” is strongly linked to performance. Research has shown that highly skilled players have longer “Quiet Eye” periods than those who played at an intermediate level. The pattern holds across a range of sports, including golf, hockey, basketball, and pistol shooting. For the remainder of my article, I will refer to “Quiet Eye” as QE.

The concept of QE is not new. It was first introduced by Dr. Joan Vickers, a Canadian sports psychologist in the 1990s. She conducted research on aiming and motor skills, particularly in basketball free-throw shooting, archery, and golf. Dr. Vickers’ research showed that a steady gaze at the target improved accuracy and precision during the execution of a skill. The optimal duration of the QE varies depending on the task, generally lasting for about 2-4 seconds. QE includes the time before, during, and after a sport skill is performed.

Horseshoe pitching is a target sport. The target is the horseshoe stake. I have heard of pitchers that look at the top of the stake, and some that look at the bottom of the stake, but most often I have heard pitchers aim at a spot 4 inches above the clay on the stake, which even if there are shoes already on the stake, allows the shoe to hit the stake for a ringer. In our sport then, we have an unmoving, precise target to hit when

pitching our horseshoes, so the QE technique should be helpful in pitching ringers.

In applying QE to horseshoe pitching, the first step would be to identify the target. Obviously, this would be a pinpoint spot on the stake, as previously stated 4 inches above the level of the clay. Next you would focus your eyes on the target. This is not just about looking at the stake, but rather maintaining a steady, purposeful gaze at the pinpoint target spot on the stake. The pitcher would maintain the gaze at the target for about 2-4 seconds before initiating the pitch of the horseshoe. After executing the pitch, the player maintains the focus on the target until the shoe hits the stake for a ringer. To start with, incorporate QE into your practice sessions and gradually begin using it in competitive tournament situations. When QE becomes part of your horseshoe pitching technique, you just might start referring to it as “Ringer Eye!”

In general, QE will improve your focus and concentration for your pitch. Specifically, QE should help to keep your head still which will provide more accuracy in putting the shoe on the stake. QE will help with two of horseshoe pitching’s biggest challenges, distance and alignment (getting the shoe to the stake, and not right or left of the stake.) Finally, by occupying the conscious mind with focusing on the stake and its pinpoint target spot, you will help turn the pitching of the shoe over to the subconscious mind where the ringer will be successfully thrown without overanalyzing your technique. When it comes to pitching ringers, QE will help you get out of your own way, and “just do it!”

There are videos on YouTube which might help you further explore QE. Two that I would recommend are by a Dr. Laby, Part 1 is entitled “The Best Exercise for Athletes, The Quiet Eye,” and Part 2, “A How-to Guide for Using Quiet Eye for Sports Success.”

I wish everyone success in the coming 2024 pitching season. It is just possible that “Quiet Eye” will help you throw more Ringers! *George Davis, NCHPA 1<sup>st</sup> VP*

### 3rd VP

The NCHPA 2023-2024 season started immediately after Labor Day 2023 and as of early April 2024 NCHPA has pitched 28 tournaments and cancelled/postponed 12 tournaments. Three hundred forty-three NCHPA pitchers and 7 non-NCHPA pitchers have pitched in our tournaments to date. Stay healthy and keep on a' pitchin'!

Now that we are using eShoe you club statisticians may now upload your tournament statistics directly to eShoe any time after your tournament is complete, but you still must email me (meanderson99@yahoo.com) the comma-separated-values Results file (1 per tournament), the Class Boxscore files (1 per tournament class), and the All Class Standings Results file (1 per tournament) for my work. If you do not care to upload your tournament statistics to eShoe yourself then I will be glad to do it for you. Just let me know that you would like for me to do it. The files that you send me are the same files that I have always asked for you to send me. And please be sure that the boxscore files that you send are generated in HSMaster as Tournaments, Reports, Format, Results [not Results (Brief) ]. Keep in mind that I need to

see member numbers in every file that you send. That means I want the long version, not brief version, of every file. Note that for doubles tournaments HSMaster will produce only the brief version of the Class Boxscore files and the All Class Standings Results file. I will add the member numbers that I need to each file.

These files can be produced in HSMaster by:

- 1) Open HSMaster (Version 1.1.232 or newer)
- 2) Create comma-separated-values Results file  
( Results03-<2 digit year>-<3 digit tournament number>.txt )  
Tournaments, Play Singles (or Play Doubles), <select desired tournament>, Clean Up, in Post Results to Player Stats box <select desired tournament>, Results File when the window pops up  
<select desired destination folder>, <select desired file name>, Open  
(A common destination folder is C:/HSMasterData)
- 3) Create Class Boxscore files  
(03-<2 digit year>-<3 digit tournament number><TournamentName>-<Class>.txt)  
Tournaments, Play Singles (or Play Doubles), <select desired tournament>, <select desired class>, Load, Standings checked, Box Scores checked, [Brief NOT checked], (Preview if desired), <select Path to desired destination folder>, <select desired file name>, Export Produce a boxscore file for each class in the tournament.  
(A common destination folder is C:/HSMasterData) Note that for doubles the class boxscore files do not have pitcher member numbers.
- 4) Create All Class Standings Results file  
( 03-<2 digit year>-<3 digit tournament number><TournamentName>.txt )  
Tournaments, Reports, <select desired tournament>, <All Classes>, Results selected [NOT Results (Brief)], (Preview if desired),

<select Path to desired destination folder>,  
<select desired file name>,  
Text File (A common destination folder is  
C:/HSMasterData) Note that  
for doubles the class standings results file does  
not have pitcher member numbers.

Thanks for all your help. If you have any questions about how to produce these files then please contact me by email or phone 408-738-4661.

For those pitchers who pay their membership dues using NHPA eShoe and are not new members of NHPA be sure that you select that you are a returning old member and not a new member. Also for all pitchers who pay their membership dues using NHPA eShoe remember to be an NCHPA member in good standing you must pay local club dues (if your local club requires it). NCHPA rules require all pitchers to be a member of a local club. Contact your local club representative to find out how much local dues are and where to send them. Thanks, *Mike Anderson*

## Regional Director

Most of you are aware of the amount of transition taking place within the NHPA council, but I'll attempt to clarify it a bit for you.

President Gary Roberts has terminal cancer he has stepped down, in turn Austin Bailey moved into the president's position until one of three candidates is elected at this year's convention. Austin will then move back to his 1st VP position.

Jim Kinney has resigned as Secretary Treasurer and Brian Poole was named as his replacement.

Ben Webb was Junior Director, but is now 3rdVP due to Brian's move.

Barb Carson was added to replace a vacant VP position. For a list of their various duties please visit:  
<https://www.horseshoepitching.com/officers/>

The three candidates for NHPA president all have their campaign statements in this newsletter. I'm familiar with all three and my vote would go to Ben Webb. He is young, ambitious, has a great vision to move us into a more modern era. He has all the makings of a long time productive president.

Keep on recruiting new members to help with the maintenance at your courts, you can't do it all by yourself folks you need help. Get out there and talk up horseshoes. Waiting for new members to flock in ain't gonna happen. Word of mouth is everything, find some of your friends that are in Rotary, Lion's or any other fraternal organization ask if you could put on a 10 minute clinic of horseshoe pitching.

You set up the meeting and I'll come to help hand out material, flyers, cards, whatever you think will work. Publicize your club folks, write an article about your club, tell us what you're doing send it in for inclusion in this newsletter. Go ahead and use the NCHPA Facebook page to publicize your club. Staying quiet will not increase your participation. Shout it out, no matter how it sounds make yourselves known.



Time is flying by for all you that are going to Tri-Cities, WA to the 2024 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships. This year's format is another first for the NHPA read Brian's statement here:

***From the desk of the NHPA Secretary/Treasurer World Tournament Preparation Is Underway By Brian Poole, NHPA Secretary/Treasurer***

***Hello Horseshoe Pitchers.***

***My thoughts for this article are to give everyone my tentative schedule for the World Tournament in Kennewick. July 29-31 will have 96 pitchers from Men's, Women's, Sr***

***Men's, Sr Women's, and Elders vying for a top position based on percentage for the Championships on Aug 1-3. The youth will pitch in the evening, as usual, on Aug 1-3, Preliminaries on Aug 1-2, Championship on Aug 3. Looking at the last 2 years the percentage cutoff is between 35 - 37 percent. It all depends on the number of entries where the cutoff will be.***

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

***With the courts we have planned to set up, we can handle 1,152 participants using 4 shifts each day. There is some room to add more shifts if needed and we will do what we need to make this a great tournament.***

***We just need everyone that can to get your entry form submitted early. Use the form in this Newsline or the one on our website. You can also enter online from our website.***

Entry form is in this newsletter or our website or go here to sign up online:

<https://www.horseshoepitching.com/wt-signup-online-2024/>

I encourage all of you to sign up, you'll wonder why you haven't done this before now once you go! Casey

**RAINOUTS??? YOU WANT TO  
MAKE THEM UP? LET ME KNOW  
2 WEEKS IN ADVANCE PLEASE  
AND IF POSSIBLE CHOOSE A  
SUNDAY. THERE ARE MANY  
OPEN SUNDAY'S AVAILABLE.**





Past, Current, and Future NHPA Members:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

***Together, We will be raising the stakes!***

Sincerely,

Ben Webb

To the NHPA Committee:

20 Feb 2024

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

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

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

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

Husband to a 21-year Army veteran having a daughter, two sons and blessed with 14 grandchildren. Blessed to be a Servant of the Lord.

I look forward to serving you and working for you.

Clarence W. Lassiter, Jr.



### **Bring Back Stuart Sipma for NHPA President Experienced, and Professional**

It has been three years since I was your President, and I would love for the opportunity to serve this great organization once again. Since I left the office, I have sure missed my second family. Now that I am retired, I have all the time to serve the people of the NHPA to be best of my ability. My motto was and always will be "To make decisions in the best interest of the NHPA."

As I have demonstrated previously as NHPA President, I will once again ensure that the affairs of the NHPA are conducted in a fiscally responsible manner, ensuring the success of this great sport for future generations.

My top concerns and main goals for the NHPA Council shall be as follows:

- Growing our membership
- Regulate NHPA spending.
- Maintain our HOF Museum and support the Quail Ridge Horseshoe Club.
- Support the NHPF in growing our funds to allow grant money to the Charters to grow your leagues.
- Creating sponsorship packages that will attract not only businesses that have a direct impact on our sport but businesses outside of our circle as well. The knowledge and expertise of our current young council members will be key to making this happen. I will make sure we provide the tools and labor to make this happen!
- Provide open communication between the NHPA and the Charters
- Continue to integrate new technological equipment to streamline our sport.

If you have enjoyed the wonderful pitching venues, great pitching conditions, and proximity to well-known vacation spots then rest assured that I will continue to make this a top priority moving forward.

Some of my accomplishments while serving on the NHPA Council as the 5<sup>th</sup> VP for six years and President for twelve years consist of the following:

- World Tournament Coordinator responsible for attending sports marketing meetings to encourage cities throughout the United States and Canada to bid on our annual World Tournament. This marketing effort led us away from pitching in outdoor parks and into newer



climate-controlled sports complexes for the benefit of the world horseshow pitching community.

- Chairing the Rules, Guidelines & Specifications (RGS) committee in the combining and rewriting of the Rules and By-Laws.
- Outsourcing the Game Related Sales from the NHPA to an outside NHPA member contractor.
- Implementing electronic scoring and posting of World Tournament stats by using HS Master and Scoring.
- Lead the Council in upgrading to a larger W.T. trailer for storing our W.T. equipment.
- Leading the committee to acquire W.T. sponsorships for constructing new portable courts and purchasing rubber mats which are still being utilized today.
- Updating the Newslane magazine from a printed only version to a digital copy allows members to receive their bimonthly Newslane as part of their membership fee.
- Leading a committee in sponsoring the purchase of video cameras enabling spectators to view W.T. pitching from their homes or smart phone devices.
- Eliminating printed membership cards and utilizing E-Shoe for member registration and payment processing.
- Providing membership packages to new members.

In conclusion, I have a unique passion for this sport, with the desire and dedication needed to carry us forward. I am a responsible and professional businessperson with extensive marketing skills. I will put together a diligent Council and committees to assist with the challenges that come with leading any great organization. The future of our sport is alive and well and by working together we can be a very vibrant and unified Association. I appreciate your support in having me back as your next President at the 2024 Convention at the Tri Cities Kennewick, Washington this July/August.

Respectfully,



Stuart Sipma

# CLUBS

## San Jose

Welcome to the 2024 pitching season from San Jose! San Jose Parks & Rec still has not finalized plans for the new park design for the Columbus Park location and still has not begun demolition of the old Columbus Park. Therefore, thanks to the further generosity of Half Moon Bay Horseshoe Club ALL San Jose 2024 horseshoe tournaments will again be held on Half Moon Bay courts.

San Jose's first scheduled 2024 tournament Sat. Mar. 16 Spring Warm Up was cancelled due to weather. We hope to get our other 4 tournaments of the year pitched without any problems. Those tournaments are:

03-24-024 Sat. Apr. 20 San Jose Memorial  
03-24-051 Sat. Jun. 1 Spring Time  
03-24-085 Sat. Sep. 28 Autumn Fling  
03-24-092 Sat. Oct. 26 Winter Coming

We hope to see you there and best of luck in your pitching. Stay healthy. **Mike Anderson**

## Stockton

We are looking forward to our first tournament of the year, the Joe and Millie Schultz Memorial Tournament on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Please join us to celebrate two of the all-time NCPHA greats. We will do our best to have the courts and the clay in great shape, and will put on a memorable tournament!

Early this year Stockton lost one of our great members when Danny Hernandez passed away from complications of Diabetes. Danny loved horseshoe pitching, was a Stockton Club member for many years, and served as our club as President for a time. Danny, in his struggle with Diabetes, faced amputations, and was bound to a wheel chair, but he always was in good

spirits, and supported his love Delia Garza in her pitching.

Always with a smile, always a horseshoe man, Danny Hernandez will be missed by the Stockton Club and by all pitchers in the NCHPA! Danny, rest in peace. **George Davis**

## Half Moon Bay

Like most of the clubs, our season has been a bit soggy! I would like to congratulate Alex Voskes for winning our 2023 Sanction League. Alex had a great season. Glen O'Brien had a great Sanction League season also, pitching 36.5% over his average.

We start our season Thursday April 26. We will be hosting 14 Tournaments that includes a second Thursday tournament on May 30 and two Tuesday Doubleheaders. We also are playing host to the San Jose Horseshoe Club for their last three tournaments. Unfortunately, their first two tournaments were rained out. We hope to see you at our tournaments in Half Moon Bay.

REMINDER: The deadline to sign up for the World Tournament being played in Kennewick, Washington is May 20, 2024. REMEMBER, THIS IS OUR SUPER BOWL AND YOU CAN BE IN IT!

The Half Moon Horseshoe Club would like to Wish All of Our Horseshoe Community and Friends a very good 2024. **Rick Della Santina**

## Sonoma County

For the 2024 season our entry fee will be \$20.00. Exorbitant you say? Well listen to the payouts. First place will be \$60, Second is \$40 and Third is \$20 for each 7 or 8 person group. Groups with fewer pitchers will be adjusted on the spot, but rest assured it's be better than it used to be. **Casey**

Sign up for the CA State <https://www.facebook.com/groups/386770629634023>

ask your contact person to print you out an entry form.

+++++

Sign up for the World online at <https://www.horseshoepitching.com/>

Still looking for a volunteer to take this job from me. I've been involved with this newsletter since its inception when it was a cut-n-paste effort by Genevieve Lavett. Southern Cal is now using Constant Contact (same as the NHPA for Newsline) for their newsletter. A real nice and clean looking format. Let me know your opinion.

Be sure to listen to Dalton Rakestraw's Podcast " The Court Reporter." Found here:

[COURTREPORTERPODCAST.LIBSYN.COM](http://COURTREPORTERPODCAST.LIBSYN.COM)

## **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION**

**Come pitch with us [www.nchpa.com](http://www.nchpa.com)**

**President (HoF)**

Joe Summers  
231 Escondido Drive  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925) 260-0915  
[40ftforever@gmail.com](mailto:40ftforever@gmail.com)

**1<sup>st</sup> VP (New Member Packages, HoF)**

George Davis  
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**2<sup>nd</sup> VP (Club Welfare, HoF)**

Jasmine Brady  
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**Send website updates to Jaz**

**3<sup>rd</sup> VP (Statistician, HoF)**

Mike Anderson  
1614 Longspur Ave.  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
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**4<sup>th</sup> VP (By-Laws, HoF)**

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**5<sup>th</sup> VP (Paper Supplies, HoF)**

Dave Lane  
500 Poppy Circle  
Benicia, CA 94510-3714  
(707) 208-4649  
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**Order scoresheets & plaques from Dave**

**Secretary/Treasurer (HoF)**

Gail Sluys  
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Santa Rosa, CA 95409  
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**Send Tournament Statistics to:  
NCHPA Statistician**

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**Buy a brick and support the NHPF!**



## 2024 NCHPA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

**Entry Fee \$50.00 per team. Team Cap = 110% closing date September 17<sup>th</sup>.  
The 2024 NCHPA Doubles Championship Tournament will be held at the  
Stockton Horseshoe Club on October 6, 2024.**

**Pick your partner from any NCHPA, SCHPA, NEVADA Member. Send \$50.00 per team plus completed entry form in by September 11th. Each team will pay the scorekeeper \$2.00 per game (\$1.00 per player). The cap on a team is 110% combined. (Example player A is 65% player B cannot be more 45%) These are Championships – No Handicapping. Groups will be formed based on the number of entries, with a minimum of two (2) groups. Prize money and awards in each group will depend on number of entries.**

**Send entry form and entry fee to Gail Sluys 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa CA 95409. Phone 707-538-3128. Cell 707-486-0594**

**More information to follow as the tournament nears.**

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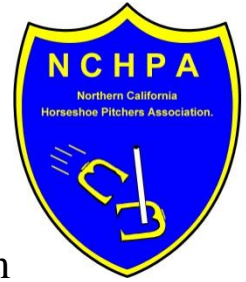
**Player A \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ Charter \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_**

**Player B \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ Charter \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_**

**Entry Fee \$50.00 per team \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



**NCHPA CHAMPIONSHIPS** Entry form  
**October 5, 2024** HOST CLUB – Stockton Horseshoe Club

***PRIZE \$\$ & plates for your plaques***

***ENTRY DEADLINE must be POSTMARKED Sept. 17, 2024***

***Takes just one NCHPA sanctioned event to enter!***

Participants must have pitched in (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournaments before September 17, 2024. New members who joined after August 1, 2024 need a minimum of one (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournament before September 17, 2024.

**TOURNAMENT is open to all NCHPA members with an eShoe average**  
**ENTRY FEE \$20.00 per adult pitcher**

**Mail Entries to: Gail Sluys 1721 San Ramon Way Santa Rosa, CA. 95409**

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS TOURNAMENT MUST BE MET. NO REFUNDS AFTER SCHEDULE IS COMPLETED.**

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**Mail this half or copy and email it.**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**City \_\_\_\_\_**

**NHPA CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone # \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please circle the Group you are entering.**

**OPEN MEN**

**OPEN WOMEN**

**ELDERS 65+**

**JUNIOR GIRL/BOY (free)**

**CADET 12 & UNDER (free)**

**SR.MEN**

**SR.WOMEN**

**\*SENIOR GROUPS NOT HAVING A MINIMUM OF 6 PLAYERS WILL BE MIXED WITH OPEN CLASSES.**

**ENTRY FEE \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



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

July 29 - August 10, 2024

Kennewick, Washington

**2024 World Horseshoe Pitching Championship**

Name: ( Please Print )		First	Last	2024 NHPA Card # (or Canadian # )
Address:				
City:	State/Prov:		Zip/Postal Code:	
Telephone:	Cell:		Birth Date:	
Email:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check One -----> <input type="checkbox"/> I will print my schedule. <input type="checkbox"/> Mail my schedule to me. (One per household please )				
Circle the <u>Division</u> you are entering:     -     You can enter only one division     (See notes near bottom of page )				
OPEN MEN 40 ft	SENIOR MEN 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)

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  
2660 S Fairway Dr  
Pocatello, ID 83201

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

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

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## **WHAT'S THE RULE**

### **RULE 2 - GAME PREPARATION Section A -**

Court Assignment Each contestant shall find his or her court assignment and warm up on that court for their first game . The court shall be prepared for play in a timely manner so that all games can begin at about the same time .

## **Section B - Pit Preparation and Maintenance**

Contestants (or designee) are responsible for preparing one of the pits of their assigned courts before each game. This preparation includes watering and turning of the clay (if needed), to keep it in a soft, putty-like condition. Upon completion, the pit material shall be level with the pitching platforms, with no evidence of a “dome” or “pocket” within the scoring area. For raised pits, the pit material should be prepared in the same way as above, except that the pit material shall be level with the side rails, and at a depth of four inches (4”), within the scoring area. Once a game has started, clay pit material within the scoring area may not be moved or altered without consent of the opponent. Sand or dirt pit material, however, may be re-leveled during the game, without consent of the opponent. Any pit material moved for the measurement of a shoe or for the removal of a “buried” shoe may be replaced.

**Section C - Painting of Stakes** To make the stakes more visible for the contestants, they may be painted between games (white paint is often used) so that there is a good contrast between the color of the stake and the color of the backboard. The painting of stakes shall not be allowed while a game is in progress, unless both contestants are in agreement.

\*\*\*\*\*

# World Tournament sign-up now

July 29th – August 10th Tri-Cities, Washington

<https://www.horseshoepitching.com/wt-signup-online-2024/>



## 2024 California State Championships Entry Form

Sponsor: Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA)

Host Club: South Gate Horseshoe Pitchers Club

31 August - 1 September 2024

South Gate Park, 9200 Hildreth Ave., South Gate, California 90280

Added prize money from local sponsors! Prize money available to Cadet and Junior players!!!

NHPA #: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ CA ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want your pitching schedule sent? Please circle one: E-Mail US Postal Service

Select Your Entry Division (circle one):

Open Men (40ft) Sr. Men (40ft) Elders or Med Exempt (30ft) Open Women Sr. Women

Jr. Boys (30ft) Jr. Girls (30ft) Jr. Cadet Boys (20ft) Jr. Cadet Girls (20ft)

For Cadets and Juniors, do you want to participate with the prize money awards? Circle either: Yes or No

If yes, we require parental approval: \_\_\_\_\_ (parent's signature)

Participant Liability Release: All applicant information and signature are required. In consideration of participating in this tournament, I hereby waive, release, and forever discharge the NHPA, SCHPA, and NCHPA, all officers, employees, agents, and servants of the afore stated organizations, 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 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships. In addition, it is understood that the SCHPA and NCHPA have sole rights to any and all pictures and/or articles for publication.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
cut here cut here cut here

(Keep this section for future reference – Calif. State Championships, South Gate, 31 Aug. - 1 Sept. 2024)

Adult entrants MUST have at least 3 sanctioned California tournaments recorded in nhpa-eshoe.com during the 12 months prior to the entry deadline date; for cadet or junior entrants, at least 1 sanctioned California tournament recorded in nhpa-eshoe.com as of the entry deadline date.

For a division with less than six entries, the tournament committee reserves the right to combine the division with another division with the same pitching distance.

Entrants must wear shirts with their name professionally printed on the back; do not rely on purchased shirts at the tournament because the vendor cannot guarantee timely deliveries.

Entry fee is \$40.00 for adults and FREE for juniors and cadets; no refunds after the below entry deadline date. All championship classes will have similar payouts and all lower level classes will have similar payouts.

Entry deadline date (or post mark date): 1 August 2024 (\$10 additional entry fee for late standby entries).

Make checks payable to: **SCHPA**

Send entries to: Hal Griswold (949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com)  
32612 Balearic Road  
Dana Point CA 92629

If you must drop out, please immediately notify Hal Griswold (949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com).



# NHPA 2024 Hall of Fame Honorees

## 2024 HOF Voting Results Announcement

The Committee has completed their voting for 2024 and it was my privilege and pleasure to recently speak with our two new honorees. I will give you a little info on each one and hopefully can do a longer article in NEWSLINE at a later date.

In the PLAYER category we have elected Marlene Ray (aka Mar). As you probably know, she has an identical twin sister, (Maxine Griffith (aka Max), who was inducted into the HOF at the 2023 World Tournament Hall of Fame Banquet. The only difference in the two is that Mar is a right handed pitcher and Max a left handed pitcher. Both reside in Tennessee. Although Mar has never won a World Championship, she definitely has had some outstanding performances in the Women's Championship Finals finishing 3rd in 2007, 5th in 2009, 2nd in 2011, 3rd in 2014, 2nd in 2016, 4th in 2017 and 2nd in 2019. You can see she was letting her opponents know that she was there and gave them a battle. She pitches in many other tournaments around the country and is always ready for some competition on the courts. She may not always win, but she tries hard. Mar will now join some other very good pitchers in the Hall of Fame who have never won a World Championship. No matter how large or how small the class is, there can only be one winner. Everyone else has to settle for second or lower.

In the PROMOTER/ORGANIZER category we have elected Mel Yockstick. Mel resides in Colorado. It's hard to state briefly what all has done for the NHPA. Bart Sargent had maintained a World Tournament participation file from 1909-2003. Mel and Jerry Smith corrected and brought that file up to date. Mel kept that file up to date each year from then on and it can be found on the NHPA webpage. In the last year or two, he has stepped down from that position and someone else has taken it over. There were some other things that Mel was developing and getting approved by the NHPA Council. One was the Consecutive WT patch awarded to pitchers who have pitched in 10, 20, 30, 40, or 50 consecutive WT's. Doing all of the research for this took an enormous amount of time and energy. Listing all 90% WT Championship games in the 50 and 40 point era is another thing Mel started and researched. There is a very long list of all of the various records and lists that Mel has researched and created. In reading over his bio, I don't know how the man had time to eat or sleep during all of the years he worked on the projects, while also being involved in a local League and some Colorado Charter work. He's still involved in a good deal of that. In 2010 Mel was given the NHPA League Director of the Year award. In 2003 Mel received a NHPA Presidential Award. In 2018 Mel was appointed to the NHPA HOF Committee by the NHPA President. He is still currently serving on my committee and in case you are wondering, he was not allowed to cast any votes in the category his name was in. He had to abstain from voting in that category, but took part in the voting in the other two categories.

I would like to congratulate the two individuals who will be inducted into the HOF at the Hall of Fame Banquet in Kennewick, WA in July. Both are very deserving of this honor and I hope that many of you will be able to attend and congratulate them in person.

Vicki Winston  
NHPA Hall of Fame Committee Director

