

Nor-Cal News & Views

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/568662210169482/>

President

Hello everyone, I'm tired of the rain but we need it. Was looking forward to hosting at Vallejo. Had the shop vac and weed torch on standby, but no break in the weather to dry the clay. Reluctantly we had to cancel.

The officers held our first meeting of the year. The team is excited for the year and looking forward to seeing all of you.

Work has been hectic. Lots of mandatory weekends, but the civil division is all caught up. Just in time to start pitching... funny how it worked out. Ha ha

If you need anything give me a ring, my phone number is listed on the schedule.

Joe Summers

Sec/Treas.

Hi all – Thank You to Lois Edwards and the Feather River Club for your donation to the NCHPA. As you know Feather River has disbanded which makes all of us sad – hopefully the members that belonged to Feather River will join another club and keep pitching.

Speaking of members – it's a New Year and time to pay your dues for the 2018 season. With the increase of National dues the cost of NCHPA/NHPA this year is \$35.00. Please pay that to your club secretary along with your club dues so we can get your card

out to you. Dues for Junior and Cadet Members remain the same at \$7.00.

Please welcome our 2018 new members Mike Caster, Stan Cummings, Bill Harrison, Craig Cannon, Emily Soldivar, Thomas Flores, Mona Larian, Byrum Swinford, Simon and Brylyn McCormick. When you meet them please show them the ropes. It's really great to have new members and we haven't even had five tournaments yet.

As a member of the NHPA rules committee I can tell you we had thirty-one rule changes presented to us for review and possible presentation for voting on at the WT Convention. The rules committee spent many hours/days discussing the pros and cons of all 31 requests, some were the same only written a bit different some were for changing wording, in the end we all agreed these nine were the ones to move forward. Casey has sent that list of changes out to everyone in N. CA for review hoping your members would look at them and have opinions to share. Club contacts please talk to your members then let Casey know how the majority of your club feels our delegates should vote at the convention. It's important - what our membership feels, matters. Thank You. *Gail Sluys*

1st VP

I've sent out New Member Packets to 17 new pitchers this year. New members, and club growth continues to be the number one priority for all the clubs in the NCHPA, and for some clubs their very existence depends on generating new pitchers! Casey has started a Facebook Page dedicated to Promoting Horseshoes. Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/568662210169482/> and become involved in growing our sport.

The Board members are all relieved that Lorena has survived her heart attack, and I know from personal experience that heart stents are a wonderful thing! We're all looking forward to Lorena returning to health and happiness. She is a key person for Northern California Horseshoes, and we look forward to seeing her smiling face back at the horseshoe tournaments! *George Davis*

3rd VP

Leon Moore and I are still getting into this NorCal Statistician job. We have managed to enter data in our spreadsheets for all those who pitched in the NorCal tournaments pitched to date and we have sent off tournament results files for each tournament to NCHPA Statistician Wayne Callicoatte. We will continue entering data in the spreadsheets and sending Results files to Wayne Callicoatte as the season progresses. As has been said before you club statisticians can make our task pretty easy if you submit your results in a timely manner. We would like to have them within two days after your tournament is complete so that the pitchers will have their averages submitted to Natstats in time for the following weeks update. Please email results to me at: meanderson99@yahoo.com. Thanks for all your help. *Mike Anderson*

4th VP

Hello all. Another pitching year has passed and we are looking at a new season and a new year. I hope all of you are healthy and happy and anticipating winning many tournaments and having enjoyable meetings with old friends as well as making new ones to enrich your lives. This is the year for by-laws changes so as you pitch and socialize be thinking of changes you might be interested in submitting to the membership at our annual meeting. I wish you all a peaceful and able-bodied season and look forward to seeing you all soon. *Lorena Tournour*

5th VP

Jeff Vieira your Fifth Vice-President, yes that is correct your Fifth Vice-President. I am not too sure what I am getting myself into but I hope I can make an impact to NCHPA. I hope everyone is well and ready for the 2018 horseshoe season. I was informed at the first board meeting that I was in charge of paper products. No, I will not be bringing toilet paper, paper towels, coffee cups, etc... but I will have score sheets, round robin cards, and master summary cards. If you like you can email the week before and if I am attending your tournament I can supply you or one of your club members with any of these products.

Also writing a quarterly article is one of the job duties of a Vice-President. So if you have any news and views that you would like me to write about please get in touch with me either through email or at a tournament. I will be glad to let your news and vies be heard.

I am getting settled in my new residence in Fresno, Ca. where I recently moved. I attended my first two tournaments in Tulare,

Ca. The first tournament was a very good turnout of 30 pitchers. This meant a morning and afternoon groups. The tournament was handled very well and I got to meet a lot of people that I really had not conversed within the past. I was informed where I could practice at in a nice park in Clovis, Ca. fairly close to my new residence. I was also informed that Madera has league play on Wednesday evenings which is not too far from where I live. There is going to be a lot of horseshoe pitching in my future here at my new location. I will still keep my membership with the Stockton Horseshoe Club and be there to make sure the tournaments in Stockton go on as planned.

The second tournament in Tulare also went very well. The threat of rain keep the attendance down but still a great day. I can say I made an impact already by providing the Tulare Club with scorecards that had triplicates and to provide them with one of the best score keepers Fay Dumont. I like to thank Fay for picking me up in Fresno and keeping score at the Tulare tournament.

Be sure to look for me at your tournaments or at our Stockton tournaments to obtain score sheets, round robin cards, or master summary sheets. Also let me know if you have any concerns, comments, or suggestions you would like me to bring to the attention of the board. Thank you. *Jeff Vieira*

Regional Director

As a reminder please look your courts over and get them in good shape as this is a year to re-sanction all courts in the NCHPA. The biggest concern most years are loose stakes and broken concrete pitching pads. At times there are tree roots that are the cause of the broken concrete pads, but in some cases it is

just plain old wear and tear plus some soil settling. Look closely and let's be sure that your foul lines are clearly marked also and that there are no trip hazards readily visible. Most all of you have received your sanction certificates, I ran short of patches so those of you that are rained out please send back the ones you didn't use. If you intend on requesting a makeup date for any washed out events please consider putting that request in expeditiously so we can announce to everyone. *Casey Sluys*

Half Moon Bay

The Half Moon Bay Horseshoe Club is gearing up for the new season. We have 21 scheduled Club & NCHPA tournaments for the 2018 season. All 16 of our courts pitching platforms have been cemented, with 3 courts setup for cadets. The new Best Western on the corner of HYW 1 & Wavecrest, HMB, is still not completed. I will announce in our reminder flyer when it will be ready.

We all brainstorm every year on how to attract new members. These are some of our ideas and what we have been doing. I write a story for our local newspapers about our club and when we are having our first club meeting. It is important to write your story for the newspaper so they don't have to edit your story and they can just copy and paste. They also like a photo that includes members at the courts (close up). This year I plan to promote horseshoe pitching & tournaments but avoid selling the NHPA. The goal is to get new people to show up, who might otherwise shy away because they think we are professionals. If they like what they see, they will sign up for the NHPA. You will want to have a good rapport with

the editors. We like to invite the local Mayor to throw out the first shoe of our first tournament with newspaper coverage. Posting A-Frame signs on major roads near your courts that let passerby's know a tournament is happening. Take advantage of posting your club info on any multimedia source you have available. See you on the courts! ***Rick Della Santina***

Shasta/Willows

Our first tournament is coming soon. Hopefully we won't get rained out. We're looking forward to seeing our horseshoe friends. Although we are saddened to lose The Feather River Club we welcome those members to our club and wish to Thank Feather River Club and Lois for their donation to our club.

We will be having two money tournaments this year where there will be added CASH to all groups. These tournaments are April 29th Corning Carpet Jeff Norried and May 5th Robert Sr. & Jr. Gillett Electric. Both tournaments will have a fifteen (\$15.00) dollar entry fee. Hope to see you in Willows.

During the winter Indian Valley horseshoe club lost Gloria Begay (Harry's wife). She will be missed by all of us as will her wonderful raffle tables. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Harry, his family and the Indian Valley club.

On a happier note let us all welcome back to CA. Jerry and Diane Smith. California's gain is Idaho's loss. Welcome Back Home.

Linda Hoelscher

Stockton

The Stockton Club, founded in 1971, is beginning our 47th year this season

Daylight Saving Time has arrived, and so has the rain! The rains are coming just as the Horseshoe Season is beginning, so let's hope that we will be able to get in our early Spring tournaments. I see that Vallejo is forecast for rain each day this week. I know Joe and Dave Lane will be out there with shop-vacs, dry clay, and even Joe's "old persuader" the propane blow torch to do everything they can to make Saturday's (March 17th) Vallejo Tournament happen.

We hope you will plan on being at Stockton's April tournaments. On Saturday, April 21 we will be holding the Annual Stockton Parks & Rec Tournament, and on Sunday, April 22 we will put on the Garza, Hernandez, DeLeon "We are Family" Tournament. Our Pitmaster moved to Fresno, but Jeff assures me that weather permitting, the courts will be in good condition.

Join us at historic Louis Park in Stockton for our 2018 tournaments, the site of 10 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championship Tournaments. ***George Davis***

Sonoma County

After 25 years I've decided to give up the presidency of the club. During those years we've seen growth to a one time membership of 71. We are in one of those down cycles presently, but we are going to do something about it. Our new president Kevin Smith has a plan. This could work for ALL NCHPA clubs.

He proposes to hold a "first responders" tournament for all Sheriff, Police, Firefighters and Medical personnel. He suggest to pit one agency against the other and have the host club prepare the eats for the tournament. How you want to run the event would be up to you. There could be

"walking doubles", there could be "double elimination", there could be a "round robin" format, however you prefer to run it. All it will take is some letters sent to the various agencies in your area with a horseshoe pitching flyer enclosed along with an invitation to pitch. The main thing to remember is to get horseshoes into the hands of people, make it fun for everyone and entice them to comeback and pitch with you on a league night. If you are interested in more information call Kevin Smith 707-953-4077.

Be sure to catch our tournaments this year beginning with the Greeott Memorial in April. There is the R UR EARS ringing tournament look for some surprises at this event. Another special this year is the Marin Trophy tournament this will also have significant prizes with it. We will be hosting the Mystery Money tournament too.

Casey Sluys

San Jose

Welcome to the 2018 pitching season from San Jose! The weather over this way has been pretty changeable with not much pitching or prepping of courts done yet. We do plan to soon get on the court prepping for the San Jose Apr. 14 and 15

tournaments and are looking forward to seeing everyone at these tournaments. See you then and best of luck to you in the 2018 season. *Mike Anderson*

Ukiah

Well it's raining in Ukiah and after the fires and a dry January we are welcoming the wetness. Gil and his work party are anxiously awaiting a dry day to get the courts ready for our April tournaments.

Some of our pitchers are looking forward to Shasta/Willows tournaments in late March as well as other tournaments that are coming up in the beginning of our 2018 pitching season.

I don't have a new heart but I do now possess a completely rebuilt heart with 4 STENTS that were placed in my clogged arteries during the months of February and March! Hopefully I won't need any more rebuilding this year and will be able to recover and travel to see you in the near future. In the mean time, make your plans to come to Ukiah in April, May and June and enjoy our unbelievable hospitality:) God bless you all. *Lorena Tournour*

Sacramento

Hello horseshoe pitchers, looking forward to a great season this year as Sacramento has our tournaments in June and July. I visited long time horseshoe pitching legend John Sylvester from the Palermo club. He is in a Oroville senior living home. He is doing good and tells everyone hello. He said he really misses pitching. I think he is approaching 90 years old. I hope to see good turnouts to all the tournaments and great weather, especially the nor cal championships, State tournament in Bakersfield See you on the courts,. Good luck to all going to South Carolina World Tournament. ***Rick Bermingham***



The following are some of the ideas that were brought up during the two meetings that I proposed we would participate in during the World Tournament in Utah. Neither was well attended though Wednesday of the first week was better attended than the second one on Saturday. Even though my idea was to assign some ownership to these ideas that did not prove to work out as I had anticipated. The meeting ended up being an airing of what worked in each section of the country more than what will work in ALL sections of the country. I will list the items mentioned in no particular order or priority, but will let all of you decide what could be implemented nationwide as a method to gain and retain membership. All progress requires change, but not all change is progress.

1. Each Charter name a promotional director
 - a. That person works with youth groups
 - b. Organizes athletic department meetings with school Park and Rec etc
2. League guest cards
3. Horseshoe Mania, New England area
4. Solicit softball groups to pitch
5. Solicit pitching to Bowling Leagues
6. Bulletin boards...use them
 - a. develop NHPA generic material to post
 - b. Each Charter received 250-500 flyers to blanket their bulletin board with info
7. Mix sanctioned league with non-sanctioned leagues
8. Need shorter games, 21 points or 20 shoes
9. Nothing in it for the members
 - a. develop a generic "new member" packet.
 - b. include a T-shirt with NHPA logo as a gift
 - c. logo should have an eye catching phrase with it
 - d. include an NHPA patch
10. Less emphasis put on W-Ls & % more of

fun

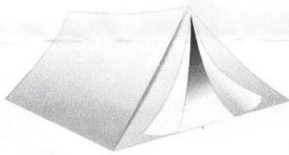
11. Use a sliding scale foul line
12. Develop a solid 40 foot division and an open 30 foot division (open = mixing 30's men, women, and handicapped)
13. Use shopping malls as a venue to display horseshoe pitching
14. Gather sponsorship
15. Use Physical Education programs in local schools for pitching
16. No qualification get rid of mandatory criteria
17. Develop an age demographic to reach out to
 - a. specific plans for each age group
 - b. brand new members begin at the 27 ft foul line until they hit the stake at 50%
18. Use ALL social media outlets use our younger members to assist here
19. Use Survey Monkey to develop questions
 - a. we write the questions
 - b. the entire online membership
20. Visit with Pediatric offices to explain the exercise attained when pitching horseshoes
21. Charter pays for Jrs., no scorekeeping fees for Jrs.

Implement whichever one you prefer to gain and retain membership as long as it does not conflict with the current RGS book..

Thanks, **Casey Sluys**

Breakfast

THE FORTUNA CLUB AND THE BLAIR ROWLEY FAMILY WILL BE SERVING BREAKFAST BOTH MORNINGS AT OUR JULY 28TH An 29th tournaments.



set up your own tent, we have the tents and air mattresses available, RV'S WELCOME -let us know—707-443-1913

Two fun filled days of eating, pitching, and socializing with your fellow pitchers. ALSO : try your luck at playing cornhole

GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES; everthing you need to for a tournament.

MIGHT EVEN BE ADDED MONEY FOR 1ST PLACE WINNERS

AUGUST 11TH 12TH WILL BE "DASH FOR CASH" \$\$\$\$

Those that have attended this one , know we do some special things for the pitchers.

707-443-1913



2018 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships

Awards Sponsor Form

The Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA) will host the 2018 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships Tournament at the Bakersfield Shoe Crew Horseshoe Pitching Club, Beach Park, Bakersfield, California, during the 1-3 September weekend. Please consider sponsoring an award for this prestigious event! Both plaques and cash are awarded to the winners of 15-20 player groups from throughout the State of California. This tournament establishes California State Horseshoe Pitching Champions for both men and women of all ages plus boys and girls less than 19 years old. If you wish to sponsor a first or second place plaque award, each plaque costs about \$50. If we receive your plaque sponsorship by the 15th of August, the award plaque will reflect your support. The SCHPA is a not-for-profit association and 100% of your donation goes towards the awards.

Sponsor's Name (business, club, or person): _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

Sponsor's Phone and/or Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Please make your donation check payable to **SCHPA** and mail it along with this completed form to the SCHPA Secretary/Treasurer:

Hal Griswold
32612 Balearic Rd.
Dana Point CA 92629

949/496-0577 or setibird@yahoo.com

Thank you for your support!!!

2018 California State Championships

Sponsor: Southern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (SCHPA)

Host Club: Bakersfield Shoe Crew

1-3 September 2018

Added prize money from local sponsors!

Beach Park, Bakersfield, California

Championships Entry Form

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 Jr. Girls Jr. Cadets (20ft)

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: _____

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(Keep this section for future reference – Calif. State Championships, Bakersfield, 1-3 September 2018)

Adult entrants MUST have participated in at least 3 sanctioned California tournaments during the 12 months prior to the below entry deadline date; for junior entrants, at least 1 sanctioned California tournament.

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.

Entry deadline date (or post mark date): 1 August 2018 (Late entries require an additional \$10 entry fee and will be used on a standby basis only.)

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).

What's the Difference Between a Cast and Forged Horseshoe?

Cast shoes are poured into a mold while forged shoes are stamped out in a huge press. Cast shoes seem to be a bit thicker and seem to be a bit 'softer'. They also seem to break a bit more than forged shoes. —*Walter Ray Williams*,

Casting is the process where metal is heated until molten. While in the molten or liquid state it is poured into a mold or vessel to create a desired shape.

Forging is the application of thermal and mechanical energy to steel billets or ingots to cause the material to change shape while in a solid state. Will handle impact better than castings. Don't get too caught up in whether a shoe is forged or cast. Instead, focus on the basics of the game and with whatever shoe feels comfortable and best suits your game.

Shoe Check:

A Very Interesting Procedure

by Bill Marvin, former NHPA 5th Vice President

One of my duties at the World Tournament was a process we call shoe check. This is where several things are accomplished. You are asked to show your current NHPA membership card. Your horseshoes will be checked for weight as well as dimensions. Your pick up tool (if you use one), and we'll take a look at your shirt to make sure it meets requirements.

3 Steinfeldt, Bandit, Simmons,

Ohio, Hummer

2 Legend, AF Legacy

1 Dean, Henton, Swinger,

Wave, CanAm

This is a sampling of 788 adults that participated in the 2017 WT. Compiled from data at shoe check in and is only as accurate as documented.

Also, you will be asked what brand of shoe you pitch and your pitching style (3/4 turn, 1 ¼ turn, flip, etc.). Why do we need all this information?

Showing your membership card validates that all pitchers are valid NHPA members. Because some charters report their membership information on an annual basis, we may not have the latest list of members. Seeing the cards is the only way to verify everyone is current.

Weighing and measuring shoes makes sure everyone is pitching shoes sanctioned by the NHPA. Every year there are a few shoes that don't fit in the pan, but most of them have been brought into specification with a touch up on the grinder or a tap or two with a hammer. The flip was the majority pitching style.

Pitchers Model Name

141 Snyder EZ Flip

105 Allen

75 Dead Eye

60 Diamond

54 Imperial

39 AF Signature, M&M

33 Mustang

27 American

24 Gordon

19 Elmer Hohl, Synder Flip Grip

16 Python

15 Cal Flip, Bronco ProFlip

12 Challenger

8 Glory, Amac

7 AF Bullseye, Big Foot, Cobra

6 Watson, Condor

5 Stinger, Elmore

4 Pony, Six Pac, GXL

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