

Nor-Cal News & Views

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

Secretary/Treasurer

Hi everyone – The new pitching season is upon us. We hope you are all ready to get started pitching and that the weather will cooperate for our early tournaments. Yes, we need the rain but if it would rain on Monday or Tuesday the tournaments could run on the weekend. Let's all think positive.

Per our NCHPA BY-LAWS, please remember if you pay your NHPA dues online, to pay your local club dues to your club. The amount you pay your local club helps keep our clubs going – to be able to buy plates, plaques, coffee, donuts and raffle prizes, but also helps to defer amounts your club has to pay to the local entity that owns the space your courts are on.

Club Secretaries – the NHPA Liability Insurance for 2024 has been emailed to you. Please keep it available at your tournaments in case you need to show it to the facility owners.

The State, Nor Cal and Doubles entry forms are out – Please be sure to get your entries in by the due dates. The facilities for the State in S. CA look real good and I hope many of you will attend and bring the titles up to N.CA.

We look forward to seeing you at the courts.

Gail Sluys

1st VP

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and I hope 2024 has been good so far. If you are like me you are already tired

of the winter cold and rain, and are thinking about the coming horseshoe pitching season!

The 2024 California State Tournament will be held in South Gate. The courts are located in South Gate Park at 9200 Hildreth Ave. The horseshoe pits are East of the tennis courts. South Gate is 7 miles southeast of Downtown Los Angeles. The courts are 5 ½ hours from my house in Lodi. I've never pitched there, and I'm looking forward to pitching on the South Gate Courts! These courts were the site of the 1963 and 1970 NHPA World Tournaments, so we will be playing on hallowed horseshoe pitching ground!

I'll take a quick look at all of the California World Tournaments with particular emphasis on the South Gate Tournaments

When the 1963 World Tournament was played in South Gate it was the 2nd time that the NHPA Big Event was held in California. In 1934 the World Tournament was held at the Goodyear Athletic Field in Los Angeles. Goodyear Rubber Company had a factory located just 6 miles from South Gate Park which, of course, is long gone. I assume that the Goodyear Athletic Park was adjacent to the factory on South Central Ave. Gary Kline in his book, The Official NHPA History of the World Tournament 1909-1980 wrote, "This tournament has to be the wackiest event in the history of the sport. It is the World Tournament that was, then

wasn't, then later was. Although billed and advertised as a World Tournament, the NHPA did not sanction it! Ted Allen proposed at an NHPA Convention in 1954 or 1955 that the 1934 tournament be considered as a World Tournament and the delegates adopted the proposal. The 1934 meet was arranged, conducted, and promoted by John Gordon, horseshoe manufacturer and designer of the Gordon Horseshoe. The winner of the 1934 Tournament was, not surprising, Ted Allen who went 23-0, pitching 73.9%/ Caroline Schultz of Illinois pitched 81.3% to win the Women's Crown.

In 1963 the World Tournament was held in South Gate, so the World Tournament returned to California after an absence of 29 years! Northern California's own Don Titcomb was making his first appearance in the World Tournament since winning the World Championship three years earlier in 1960 in Muncie, Indiana. Don would finish 6th at 79.6%. Fernando Isais, 8-time World Champion and a Los Angeles resident, was pitching in his first World Tournament since 1958. Fernando finished 8th in South Gate with a 78%. The 1963 South Gate World Tournament was won by John Monasmith, a former railroad worker from Yakima, WA. John went 32-3 and pitched 82.3%. Elmer Hohl finished second, and Carl Steinfeldt was 3rd. Legendary Ted Allen saw his streak of 19 consecutive World Tournaments averaging 80% or better come to an end, and finished 7th place. The Women's Title was won by 10-time World Champion Vicki Winston of Missouri with 61.46%. Esther Williams finished 6th in the Women's Championship Class!

The World Tournament returned to South Gate in 1970. Gary Kline wrote, "After a

lapse of seven years, the World Tournament returned to sunny California. The Southern California Association went all out in every way to make this a first-class event. Three fabulous tours were arranged for the visitors. One was to Disneyland. Another was to Universal Movie Studios. And another was to the Fashion Mart." Ted Allen and Fernando Isais once again pitched in South Gate, although both in the twilight of their legendary careers. Ted and Fernando met for the last time in this tournament, Fernando winning 50-29, marking the end of one of horseshoe pitching's greatest rivalries. Jesse Gonzalez was pitching in his first World Tournament in South Gate! Jesse was the first flip pitcher to make the Championship Class in the history of the World Tournament! Jesse was the Rookie of the Year. The World Champion in the 1970 South Gate World Tournament was Dan Kuchinski of Pennsylvania. Dan went 34-1 and pitched 84.9%! Dan had a well know appearance on the Johnny Carson show; search "Dan Kuchinski on Johnny Carson Show" on YouTube. Elmer Hohl finished 2nd, and Oregon's Bob West finished 3rd at South Gate. California pitchers in the tournament that you might recognize would include John Walker who would be the 1970 California State Champion finished 5th, Jesse Gonzalez finished 12th, Ron Simmons finished 14th, and Monty Latino of Sacramento who was a rookie that year finished 36th and last place. The Woman's World Champion was Ruth Hangen of New York who pitched 72%. Ottie Reno, in his book The American Directory of Horseshoe Pitching tells of how Walter Ray Williams, Jr. got his iconic nickname "Deadeye" at the 1970 World Tournament in South Gate. Erma Turner gave Walter Ray his well-known nickname

when he pitched 45 of 50 and 140 points in qualifying for the tournament.

Three years after the 1970 South Gate Tournament, the 1973 World Tournament was held in Eureka, CA, the first indoor World Tournament. Elmer Hohl won that tournament, while Ruth Hangen won the Women's Title. Jeff Williams won the Jr. Boys World Championship.

In 1988 Pleasanton, California hosted the World Tournament at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. Jim Knisely of Ohio won the Men's Championship and Diane Lopez took the Women's Title.

The last World Tournament held in California was in Bakersfield in 2005. Alan Francis was the Men's Winner and Sue Snyder won the Women's Championship. Rick Bermingham was a rookie in the Men's Championship Group and finished 15th. Walter Ray was 2nd and Nathan Williams was 10th.

South Gate will be a great place for our State Tournament this year. Be sure to plan on attending. There have been 5 World Tournaments in California, you might just wonder when the NHPA Main Event will be held here again, it has been 19 years since Bakersfield! *George Davis*,

3rd VP

The NCHPA Annual business meeting and awards lunch was held Sun. Nov. 12 at Joe and Mary Summer's home in Martinez. At the meeting the following NCHPA Awards for the 2022-2023 season were announced:

Richard Robbins Player of the Year
(based on points, 82)

Michael Contreras Rookie of the Year
(based on points, 33)

Tony Venegas Most Improved
Pitcher (based on ringer percent
+19.62%) increase,

Richard Robbins Top Dog (most
NCHPA tournaments pitched, 34)

Cadet Pitcher of the Year no winner
(based on points) no Cadet pitched the
required 5 or more NCHPA tournaments

Junior Pitcher of the Year Kai-ba Jeff
(based on points, 16) note that Kai-ba Jeff
was the only Junior pitcher who pitched
the required 5 or more

NCHPA tournaments **80% and Over Games Pitched in 2022-23** **Season**

Bobby Bartell – 1 game of 80% or over
7/15/23 03-23-069LeroyWhittle-A.txt
Gold Country, LeroyWhittle 82.5%, 33
ringers, 40 shoes versus Rick Birmingham

Hastiin Begaye - 2 games of 80% or over
5/15/23 03-23-107WorldQuaifier-A.txt
Auberry, World Qualifier 80.0%, 32
ringers, 40 shoes versus Adakai Begaye
5/19/23 03-23-040FridayNightLights-A.txt
Madera, Friday Night Lights
80.0%, 32 ringers, 40 shoes versus Nick
Tranchant

Rick Bermingham – 3 games of 80% or
over 11/26/22 03-105TurkeyOpen-A.txt
McBean/Lincoln, TurkeyOpen 80.0%, 40
ringers, 50 shoes, versus Bobby
Bartell 7/19/23 03-23-069LeroyWhittle-
A.txt Gold Country, Leroy Whittle
80.0%, 32 ringers, 40 shoes, versus Bobby
Bartell 8/19/23 03-23-

078PortCityStateWarmup-A.txt Stockton,
PortCityStateWarmup 80.0%, 40
ringers, 50 shoes, versus Dave Lane

Coy Halstead – 1 game of 80% or over
11/26/22 03-105TurkeyOpen-A.txt
McBean/Lincoln, TurkeyOpen 80.0%, 40
ringers, 50 shoes, versus John Demello

Congratulations to all the award winners!
And to everyone else, better luck next year.
:) For those not present at the meeting your
award was given to someone to deliver to
you.

Below are some stats for NCHPA season
2022-2023. If you need more information
then please email me at
meanderson99@yahoo.com and I will try to
help.

Note that NCHPA season 2022-2023 began
immediately after the 2022 State
Tournament and ended immediately after
the 2023 State Tournament.

1295 total NCHPA pitchers in NCHPA club
tournaments

114 total NCHPA pitchers in California
State Championships (hosted by NCHPA)

45 NCHPA pitchers in NCHPA
Championships

24 NCHPA pitchers in NCHPA Doubles
Championships

1478 total NCHPA pitchers in NCHPA and
State tournaments

57 total Non-NCHPA pitchers in NCHPA
tournaments

1535 total NCHPA and Non-NCHPA
pitchers in NCHPA tournaments

84 NCHPA tournaments were pitched in
season 2022-2023

21 NCHPA tournaments were cancelled for
various reasons (weather, COVID-19,
etc.) in season 2022-2023

As always you club statisticians can make
my task pretty easy if you submit your
results in a timely manner. I would like to
have them within two days after your
tournament is complete. Please email files
created in HSMaster Version 1.1.232 or
higher created as follows: comma-
separated-values Results file - Tournaments,
Clean Up (yellow file cabinet icon), Post
Results to Player Stats <tournament sanction
number and name selected>, Post (visually
check that the tournament pitchers are

listed in the window), Results File, set
destination location to desired folder
(commonly C:\HSMasterData\), File Name
<Results/sanction number/.txt>,
Open. Window should show:
Players Reported <number of players in
tournament> Players in Error <0>
with "File has been created" at window
bottom left. example: For tournament 03-
23-003 LincolnOpen with destination
location set to C:\HSMasterData\ and File
Name set to Results03-23-003.txt then the
file Results03-23-003.txt will be found in
C:\HSMasterData\

Class Box Score files (one file per class) -
Tournaments, Play Singles or Play
Doubles, Results tab at lower left,
Tournament<tournament sanction number
and name>, Class <select desired class>,
Load, Standings <checked>,
Box Scores <checked>, Brief <NOT
checked>, Path <C:\HSMasterData\ (is
commonly used), File <sanction
number/tourny name/-class.txt, Preview (if

you care to) then Export should see "File has been created" in lower left;

If more than one class then change Class, Load, Export for each class.

example 03-23-003LincolnOpen-A.txt, Preview (if you care to) then

Export If Path was set to C:\HSMasterData\ and Class A was selected then

the file 03-23-003LincolnOpen-A.txt will be found in C:\HSMasterData\

Tournament Standings file - Tournaments, Play Singles or Play Doubles Reports,

Tournament<tournament sanction number and name>, Format,

Results <selected, NOT Results (Brief)>, All Classes,

Path <C:\HSMasterData\ (is commonly used),

File <sanction number/tourney name/.txt, Preview (if you care to),

Text File. Should see "File has been created" at window bottom left.

example 03-23-003LincolnOpen.txt, Preview (if you care to) then

Text File If Path was set to C:\HSMasterData\ then the

file 03-23-003LincolnOpen.txt will be found in C:\HSMasterData\

Please email the files to me at:

meanderson99@yahoo.com. And please be sure that

the Class Box Score files and Tournament Standings file are generated in HSMaster with "Brief" NOT selected. This will insure that member numbers for all pitchers will be shown in every file that you send. Thanks for all your help.

Everyone stay safe and I hope to see you on the courts in 2024. *Mike Anderson*

4th VP

Welcome to 2024! What makes a good horseshoe pitching club? With my little experience, I've notice, that some pitchers have a busy life with family and working and so when pitching in a tournament it's time to relax and have fun, we all want to have fun... even if my fun is different than yours. I've been pitching horseshoes since 1969 ad I was only 8 years old... I do remember some of the highlights from back then, most of it about Deadeye my brother. I was almost always second under the light of my awesome brother. Made my father was very upset when Deadeye broke his finger the night before the World Jr. Championships, especially when the news cameras came out to see my awesome brother Deadeye and find out that he broke his finger fighting with me the night before competition. I had to go on National TV and explain how it happened and why I won the Jrs World Championship... It was the first indoor world tournament and if you've ever been to a Championship it requires a lot of team work and then someone has to give the orders... I know times have changed but come on pitchers we all need to do our part at the tournament. Big thing is keeping score, I know someone else can do it. If we all keep score for half as many games as we pitched, no problem. Setting up for a tournament is of course a big thing, or we wouldn't be pitching as we do. Just because you are in "A" class doesn't mean you can watch everybody else do the chores of running a tournament, I use to be an "A" pitcher and almost always helped with scorekeeping and moving things where they are suppose to go. Try to be friendly to the other pitchers, I still need to work on that one. I'm getting old and my abused body won't take what I want it to do, like in the 1980s - 1990s. Times are different, the

phone isn't attached to the wall, technology has come a long way, I can finally say that I've seen changes. Now if that is good or bad is up to you... I've notice that my problem is I don't ask for help, which leads to me doing to much, which is my choice! Why don't we have more kids pitching? When I was in High school, I got bullied teased at for being a Jr. World Champion, it seem that horseshoes wasn't "Cool". Of course we didn't have all the tech of today. For entertainment we played in the street, ate mud pies, rode bicycles and tried to get lost with "hide and seek", always wanted to get found by that cute girl. It seems that with all the tech we've lost some communication skills! Just asking some to pitch with can be challenging.

Now places are closing their horseshoe pitching courts because of liability. Getting hit with a bean bag is a lot different that getting hit with a horseshoe, I know, I've been hit a couple of times....

OH, what adventures I've had pitching horseshoe, places I seen and visited, makes these trips all the more fun. Practice doesn't make you perfect, it can make you better. My brother, Deadeye(Walter Ray Williams Jr), yes the GOAT of Bowling, put in a lot more time practicing horseshoes than I did, I was kinda of a "clown" trying to get people to laugh... He got 80% within 6 months of practicing, while it took me 3 years. What was I doing? Off playing by myself! Even after I got good, I got an attitude! BUT, I do Love this game of horseshoe pitching. Started out pitching horseshoes 1969.

Always pitched in clay. Didn't pitch in sand or dirt until about when I pitched in the Air Force, 1979, they even gave me temp/duty for pitching in the World Championships, 1980-1981. Many Ringers to All, *Jeff Williams*

5th VP

Happy 2024 to all of you. I hope the new year brings you all good health and happiness and of course, many Ringers. We are approaching the start of the 2024 horseshoe pitching season. That means it's time to start checking your club supplies making sure you have enough score sheets, clipboards, pencils, and all other supplies it takes to run a great tournament. If you need score sheets, please reach out to me so I can get them to your club. Please try to give me plenty of time to get supplies to your club. I will also have them with me at the tournaments I attend. You can reach me at 707-208-4649 or by email at movingdave@yahoo.com

See you at the Pits. Until our shoes touch again, *Dave Lane*



2024 NCHPA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Pick your partner from any NCHPA, SCHA, 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.

CUT HERE.....CUT HERE.....

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.

-----CUT HERE-----CUT HERE-----

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** \$ _____

Do your part toward the promotion of horseshoe pitching. Print a few copies of the various entry forms in this issue and pass them out to folks who need one please? This is one way you can participate in a recruitment drive for the NHPA to increase its participation in these big events. Who knows you might find a person to share some of your work load?

Important information you should know

Note: The following will apply to all NCHPA scheduled tournaments not having code numbers.

- NHPA/NCHPA sanctioned tournaments are open to all pitchers from the U.S. and Canada with valid membership cards, except those so noted and excluding the NCHPA Championships and CA State Tournament.
- Tournaments shall be mixed distance competition, unless otherwise noted.
- Tournaments are subject to handicapping if there is a 15% or greater spread in a group.
- The **Tournament Director** has the decision to handicap. It is not guaranteed.
- Tournaments have a 9:30 am entry deadline generally and a standard entry fee of \$10 unless otherwise noted. Read carefully before going and there'll be no surprises.
- NCHPA Officers must approve any changes or rescheduling of dates once the schedule is printed. *The Regional Director shall be the liaison between the NCHPA council and updating eShoe.*
- **Payouts:** The minimum payout in all groups is double the entry fee to 1st place and an amount equal to the entry fee to the 2nd place. This is in addition to plaques, patches, and/or event plates. NCHPA officers must approve all exceptions.

WHAT'S THE RULE

RULE 9 - BROKEN OR CRACKED SHOES

Section A - Broken Shoes 1. **Upon Delivery** - If a shoe breaks into two or more pieces as a result of striking the stake, striking another shoe in the pit, or from landing into the pit substance, the pieces shall be removed and a replacement

shoe shall be pitched in its place. If the shoe breaks when striking the backboard or other "foul" territory, it shall be considered a foul shoe and may not be re-pitched.

2. After Delivery - If a shoe has landed in the pit and becomes broken by having another shoe land on it, it shall be scored, as it appears to lie. If there is any disagreement, a judge shall be called. The judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or order a replacement shoe to be re-pitched.

Section B - Cracked Shoes -If it is discovered that a shoe is cracked (but not completely broken into two or more pieces), it shall be scored as it lies. If there is any disagreement, a judge shall be called. The judge shall either determine the scoring for the inning or order a replacement shoe to be re-pitched. In any event, a cracked shoe must be replaced before the game can continue.

As Regional Director I recommend May 18th be cleared for Stockton and June 1st be cleared for Tuolumne. Those 2 days are overloaded on the 2024 pitching schedule . We have to begin to use some common sense here folks. Having 5 tournaments on one day is insane, this charter cannot sustain that. What fun is it to have 5 or 6 people show up for a tournament? Please strongly consider altering your dates with the exception of the two clubs mentioned. *Casey Sluys*



CLUBS

Tuolumne

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

We will be starting our year off on April 13th, with our annual Tuolumne Park and Rec. tournament.

Our scheduled tournaments are April 13th, May 4th, June 1st, and July 13th, so mark your calendars.

Currently Tuolumne Club has only 7 members, trying to keep the club going for another year.

Looking forward to seeing the Horseshoe family again in the upcoming tournaments.

JoEllen Lagg

Ed note: Come up to Tuolumne, it's a beautiful drive and a great place to pitch!

Vallejo

The Vallejo Horseshoe Club hopes that everyone had a good holiday season and

wishes everyone a healthy and happy 2024. It is the time of year to get those arms and legs moving. As you are sitting and reading this, think about all the muscles it takes to pitch in a horseshoe tournament, hands, fingers, eyes, arms, legs, knees, elbows, ankles, shoulders, wrists, and most importantly, the mind. So before going out and starting to pitch, remember to stretch and strengthen those muscles. The Vallejo horseshoe club will only be hosting 2

Tournaments this coming year. Our first tournament will be on Saturday, March 9th. This tournament will be the Spring Warm Up, (Count All). Our Second tournament will be on April 13, 2024, the Remembrance of Past Members tournament. Please try to make these 2 Tournaments. For the Remembrance Tournament please bring pictures or articles of past members. We will have a great share.

As you may or may not have heard, the GVRD of Vallejo is planning to redesign the City Park. This plan could change or remove the Horseshoe courts for our club. Joe Summers and I attended a public planning meeting. Their plans include only 4 horseshoe pits and that would be horrible for Horseshoes in Vallejo. We talked about the history of horseshoes in the town and a lot of people didn't realize how long horseshoes had been going on in their town. There was talk about relocating the horseshoe pits to a different park and that might be a possibility. There was also talk about changing the plans so we would have a minimum of 12 pits instead of 4. The city's plans are going to take a while so nothing is going to happen soon. They predict that it will be 4 to 5 Years out. During the meeting, there were complaints that the pits were not very often used and that the stakes were a hazard. They believe it is a waste of space and they want the stakes removed. A member of the City board suggested that we put in removable stakes. Joe and I expressed that we could get away with using the bottom courts and the park could remove the stakes on the top half, courts 1 through , and reallocate that space to park use. That would leave us with 12 courts, 9 through 20. In today's era of Horseshoe Pitching that would be enough. Not sure how and when this will be resolved. As of today the gates are locked up

and the Vallejo Horseshoe Club has the only access. Please come out to our Tournaments and show The Greater Vallejo Recreation Department how important this club is to our organization. Thanks, *Dave Lane*

Half Moon Bay

Looking back on the 2023 season, the Half Moon Bay Horseshoe Club had a very good year. In the California State Championships. Rick Della Santina took second in the Men's Elders championship. Evelyn Espinola was third in the Junior Girls Championship. Alva Ramirez was third in the Women's Championship. Javier Espinola was second in the Men's B Class. Teo Espinola won the Men's D Class. Half Moon Bay also did very well during the NorCal Championships as Javier Espinola place third in Group B. Alva Ramirez won Group C. Teo Espinola finished third in Group D. Claudia Espinola won Group E. Richard Robbins & Rick Della Santina won the Northern California Doubles Championship and the team of Alva Ramirez and Claudia Espinola placed second in Group B.

The Half Moon Bay Club did very well with the 2023 Northern California Year End Awards. The Espinola family won the Presidential Award. Evelyn Espinola won the Scorekeeper of the Year, and Rick Della Santina was elected to the NCHPA Hall of Fame. Remember one of the best ways to grow our sport is to attend as many tournaments as you can. Your presence matters to each club when they host a tournament. The Half Moon Horseshoe Club would like to wish all of our horseshoe community and friends a very good 2024.

Rick Della Santina

Willows

We are so excited for 2024 to get started for our Willows club, I am currently acting President for Willows and Lance Taylor is my right-hand man. I have such amazing pitchers in our Willows club to learn a lot from, which I will definitely need the help. I, first off, want to thank Linda Vind-Hoelscher, for giving me this opportunity to follow in her footsteps. I am looking forward to seeing Linda start pitching again with us. I am excited to work with Robert Gillett, Sr. and Edwina Leonardo, I have a lot to learn from them both. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and enjoying pitching at each of your upcoming tournaments. Our first Willows tournament is March 23rd and 24th, right around the corner. I will be getting in touch with our Willows members to do our annual cleaning and beautification at our pits for our tournaments. We would love to see you all there. We are excited for the 2024 Worlds and hopefully more of you will come pitch with us, just a reminder to register by May 20, 2024. I would love to see more of our Willows members pitch at State this year in South Gate, CA, just a reminder to register by August 1, 2024, come one come all!

Let's make Pitching great again!

Lisa Dicharry

Stockton

The Stockton Club is looking forward to the 2024 Horseshoe Pitching season. We will be hosting 2 NCHPA sanctioned tournaments at the historic Louis Park Horseshoe Courts. On Saturday, May 18 we will be holding the Joe and Millie Schutlz Memorial Tournament honoring two of Northern California horseshoe legends. On Saturday, June 29 we will hold the Mudville

Ringer Classic. As you sit around a warm fire planning your 2024 pitching schedule, please put our tournaments on your list. We will do the best we can to put on well-run, enjoyable tournaments, with the courts and clay in good shape.

We look forward to holding the 2024 NCHPA Singles Championship on October 5th, and the NCHPA Doubles Championship the next day, October 6th. Make your plans to be in Stockton for the NCHPA Championship Weekend. *George Davis*, President, Stockton Horseshoe Pitching Club.

McBean/Lincoln

It's a New Year, again! Welcome to 2024, and the McBean/Lincoln Club, where tournaments are bigger and better than ever, HaHa! The McBean/Lincoln Club had a good 2023 season, trying different tournament formats. Today we had a tournament cancelled due to the weather, love it, the rain. Now to find a new date for that sanction number. Tomorrow, we'll be pitching Walking Doubles, the scoresheet is a little different, but makes sense. It's like having 2 games on 1 court, walking back and forth each inning, pitching your own shoes. I'll try and attach a copy. Our Horseshoe Pitching courts at McBean Park Lincoln, Ca., have pitchers pitching horseshoes almost every day of the week and weekends, weather permitting. At the Dec. 31st, couple weeks ago, almost all of the pitchers had their highest tournament every... We pitch 20 shoe games X 11 opponents. 20 shoes is great, if you're having a bad game it's over quickly, and if you're hot you don't have to hold on that long. A 20 shoe game last about 10 minutes and then a break to the next game. They pitch 20 shoe games on Facebook, SHOP ,

Live stream... A lot of pitchers from our club will be going to the 2024 World Championships, how about you?

Jeff Williams

Sonoma County

We'd like you to tell us what we can do to entice you to come visit us? I know, lower gas prices, lower motel rates, larger prizes, better raffle table, etc etc. Here's our 2024 schedule block out a date and come to Santa Rosa.

March

12) Sat. 23 Jesse Bergeron Smokin' Hot Shoes

April

28) Sat. 27 Tim Brady Battle of the Shoes

May

42) Sat. 18 Chris McDonald Keep it in the Clay

June

58) Sat. 22 Alan Diskin Stompin' in the Wine Country

July

67) Sat. 13 Roy Douglas Riding on in Open

August

77) Sat. 24 Brian Wainwright Red Truck Classic

September

80) Sat. 14 Roy Miller Put it around the Pole

October

90) Sat. 19 Gail Winds are a Blowin' Sluys

Casey Sluys

Turlock

Turlock will be opening up the spring season in the Central Valley with its Spring Opener on 3/2, so come out and get the rust off. We will be hosting a total of 4 sanctioned tournaments including a tribute to one of the great horseshoe families of the Club, The Rice/McCormick Family Tribute Tournament on 4/27. We will be wrapping

up the season with a competitive NorCal Showdown on 6/22. Lots of horseshoes around the corner so plan your dates and get ready! *Nick Balderama*

Madera Big Valley

Big Valley Madera- Madera will open up the spring season with a Madera Animal Fundraiser Tournament on 3/9. We will post a list of items needed for donation to the shelter prior to the tournament. This is one of four tournaments this season including the return of Friday Night Lights on 5/10 and finishing off with The Big Valley Shootout on 6/1. Make sure you get your 3 tournaments in for States, but above all...get out and test yourself and have fun! *Nick Balderama*

Ukiah

Hello from Ukiah. It's raining today and probably will for a few more days in January and February so you can watch all those football games in the cozy comfort of your home or for the brave the cool comfort of the stadium seats!

We've had an interesting holiday and new year beginnings - some friends passing and some illnesses we have had to endure, but we are looking forward to a really good year of pitching. Our first tournament is in April then May and June so the weather should be fine by then so you can all come on up to get your pitching arms ready for the World Tournament in Washington then the State Tournament in Southern California.

Ukiah club is welcoming back all our faithful members and seeking new members too so if you know of any new or old pitchers in our area, let us know and we'll make them a deal they can't refuse!

Be careful when driving on our wet roads and don't text and drive!

Blessings, *Lorena & Gil Tournour*

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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.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

Come pitch with us www.nchpa.com

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Send website updates to Jaz

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Send tournament fees to Gail.

**Send Tournament Statistics to:
NCHPA Statistician**

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Buy a brick and support the NHPF!

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

ask your contact person to print you out an entry form. Technical difficulties beyond my control prohibited me from publishing the CS State entry.

Sign up for the World online at 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 and it seems like we should use it also. Seems a bit more up-to-date than a Word based newsletter. You want to become part of this more up-to-date newsletter format let me know. I'll find out what costs are involved.