

Nor-Cal News & Views

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

Secretary/Treasurer

Please don't forget the Annual Meeting will be held on November 12 that President Joe and First Lady Mary Summers' home. This meeting will also be available on Zoom and it will start at 9:30 AM with lunch scheduled for 1:00 PM.

I will be emailing the information to your club contact person with the number of delegates available for voting and the other reports. We hope to have all clubs represented either in person or on Zoom. NCHPA Championship plaques and Year End Awards will be presented at this meeting during lunch which follows the meeting.

A Big THANK YOU to Mike Anderson for his diligence in getting the information to me for the year end award winners and for providing his program sign in for us to use Zoom during this meeting. I will send that along with the other information to all clubs.

I want to give a big Thank You to Raymond's Trophy and Awards. They have been processing our awards for a few years now and my contact Kaitlyn is fantastic to work with, even though they are located in Bakersfield.

We have a few things to vote on this year for the combined State Playing rules and possibly some Northern By-Law changes will be presented by Jeff. Hope to see you there?

Gail Sluys

First VP

The 2022 Pitching Season is all but history. It is that time of the year to look back on the past season, and to look forward to next year.

At the World Tournament in West Monroe, LA, Alan Francis won his 26th World Championship. Northern California was

represented in the Men's Championship Group by Bobby Bartell, who had an epic game with Gary Bearpaw, one of the top flip-pitchers in the game. Bearpaw won the game 41-38, but the contest stood at 38-38, and Bartell was on the verge of a huge upset. Bobby had 4 games at 60% or better in the championship so he represented us well! Bobby's game against Alan Francis was a 41-2 loss (Alan throwing 80.5%), but the opportunity to play against the greatest horseshoe pitcher of all-time was a game Bartell will likely never forget.

One of the best stories at the World Tournament was Wisconsin's Sarah Chaffee winning the Women's World Championship in her first year up from the Junior Girls Division. Sarah is a fabulous talent, and should make some history before her pitching career is over!

Madera's Hastiin Begaye finished 3rd in the Junior Boy's Championship with a 72.9% ringer percentage.

The California State Tournament was held in Bakersfield in sweltering heat! The heat was so bad that there is discussion under way to move the State Tournament from its traditional Labor Day date. It was proposed that the State Tournament be held earlier in the year such as over the Memorial Day three-day weekend, or that it be held later in the year such as in October without the benefit of a three-day weekend. The other alternative brought up was to have the tournament on Labor Day, but to avoid having it at hot-weather locations such as Stockton or Bakersfield. Most states in the country have their State Tournaments traditionally on Labor Day. There are "hot-weather" states such as Florida and Arizona that have their State Tournaments in the Spring. If you have an opinion on the State Tournament Date and Location, be sure to let a board member know of your opinion before the November 12th Year-end Meeting, or let your club's representative who will be attending the

meeting know your opinion. The issue will be discussed and voted on at the meeting.

The biggest story at the State Tournament was Southern California's Allen Jackson winning the Men's Championship. No one seemed to know much about Allen before the State Tournament. I heard he had come up through the "non-sanctioned" route, pitching in Arizona or New Mexico before moving to California and joining the NHPA. He is a young man that throws a beautiful 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ turn, and he certainly shocked the California Horseshoe Pitching world! This is the first time a 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pitcher has won the State Tournament since newly-elected NHPA Hall of Famer Ronnie Simmons won the 1981 State Crown in 1981 in Stockton with an 82% tournament, that's 41 years ago! Allen beat every one of the Championship Group pitchers until he lost to defending Champion Rick Bermingham in the final game. Bermingham finished one game back in second place. Rick's 63.04% ringer average was high for the Championship Group, and his high game of 84% also topped the group. A couple of shocking early losses denied Rick a chance for his 8th Men's Title. I look forward to knowing more about Allen Jackson and anticipate his skills will make him a force in our sport at the State and World level in the future. Bobby Bartell finished 3rd, and Dave Lane was 4th. Nathan Williams was 5th.

Tulare's Diane Luiz was undefeated in winning her 2nd Women's State Championship.

Norcal's Ramiro Coronado was the Senior Men's Champion.

John Garcia won his second Elder's Title, but he needed to beat Stockton's (by way of Oakdale) Wayne McGhee in a three-way playoff that also involved Lincoln's John DeMello. McGhee's second place finish was a remarkable feat of grit, determination, and competitiveness! DeMello also had a great State!

Lily Strong won the Jr. Girls Championship, and Hastiin Begaye was the Jr. Boys Champ. Evelyn Espinola was the Cadet Champion.

Stockton's Fay Dumont won the Women's B Class. Always regarded as one of the sports best scorekeepers, Fay has now proven she is a fine pitcher as well! Fay had an 8-1 record.

Tri-Valley's Richard Robbins was the undefeated Elder's B Champion.

Gold Country's Marshall Merino went 9-1 with a nice 40% high game to take Men's F Class (F Troop.)

The NCHPA Championship (The Norcal) was played on the Vallejo Courts. Nathan Williams won the Championship group by beating Rick Bermingham in a playoff, finishing at 6-1.

Josie Tellers took B Class with a 7-1 record.

Jeff Williams was undefeated at 6-0 to be the king of C Class, pitching almost 4 points over his average.

D Class winner was Marshall Merino with a perfect 6-0 record and a ringer percentage 8.16 over his entry average.

Deanna Balderama went 6-0 to take the Class E honors.

Lisa Dicharry pitched almost 2 points over her entry average to rule Class F.

Jo Ellen Lagg went 4-0 to reign in Class G.

The NCHPA Doubles Championship was held in Vallejo on Sunday the day after the Norcal Tournament. The competition was friendly and relaxed, and the pitchers seemed to have a lot of fun. Josie Tellers teamed with Dave Lane to win Class A with a perfect 5-0 record. At one point Dave said to Josie, "Come on pick me up!", paused for a second and added, "I know I'm heavy, but pick me up anyway girl!" Rick Della Santina and Richard Robbins finished second with just one loss. In Class B Gina Cyr and Thomas Larson of Sonoma were the winners. They went undefeated to finish a game ahead Mona Larian and Jeff Williams. Gina and Thomas were the only team in the tournament that pitched above their entry average.

As we look ahead to the 2023 season it will be interesting to see how the new Rule allowing 65-year-old men to move up to the 30-foot distance will affect the game. The intention is to draw more Canadian Elders (who pitch from 30 ft. at 65) to next year's World Tournament in Michigan, and to keep current 65-year-old NHPA pitchers from dropping out of the sport as the affects of age make it more difficult for them to pitch 40 ft. It is inevitable that there will be consequences that can't be completely anticipated. There could be more 30-footers filling our Championship Groups therefore irritating or discouraging 40-foot pitchers. We might see a

return of the old- time grumblings and resentments between 30 and 40 ft. pitchers that you used to more commonly hear. More 30-foot male pitchers might adversely affect women pitchers. Time will show us how it all works out.

Nick and Deanna Balderama have been doing some great things with the Madera Club, and in 2023 they are going to see if they can “rescue” the Turlock Club. Let’s all support the Balderama’s efforts to “resurrect” the old Turlock Club. That would be a great thing for the NCHPA! Thanks Nick and Deanna!

I hope you all have a great Holiday Season with your families and friends. I hope to see you all on the courts in 2023. **George Davis**

Third VP

The NCHPA 2021-2022 pitching season officially came to an end on Labor Day 2022.

The COVID-19 pandemic eased a bit in 21-22, but it was still with us. It did not seem to impact our 21-22 season as much as it impacted the 20-21 season. The 2021-2022 pitching season got off to a start with our first NCHPA tournament on Sep. 11, 2021. During the course of the 21-22 season 9 tournaments were cancelled due to COVID-19 or weather and 98 tournaments were pitched to completion. With luck we will have fewer cancellations due to COVID-19 in 22-23. And we can hope that we get some cancellations due to rainout! :)

I hope to see you on the courts.

As always you club statisticians can make my task pretty easy if you send your HSMaster files (boxscore files, one file per class, tournament class standings file, and comma-separated-values Results file) to me in a timely manner. I would like to have them as soon after your tournament as is convenient. Please email your HSMaster files to me at: meanderson99@yahoo.com. 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 member numbers in every file that you send. That means I want the long version, not brief version, of every file.

Create the HSMaster files as follows:

1) boxscore files, one per class: Tournaments, Play Singles or Play Doubles, Tournament (your tournament number and name), Class X, Load, Standings checked, Box Scores checked, Export; repeat for each class in place of X

2) tournament class standings: Tournaments, Play Singles or Play Doubles, Tournament (your tournament number and name), Reports, Results [not Results (Brief)], preview if desired, Text File

3) comma-separated-values Results file: tournaments, Clean Up, Post Results to Player Stats set to (your tournament number and name), Results File. You may put these files in any folder you like, but C:\HSMasterData is a pretty common folder to put them in. Thanks for all your help. **Mike Anderson**

Fourth VP

History has taught us that change is good, I don't always think that it is a good thing, progress! I was learned that after a period you start a new sentence with 2 spaces. Now it says (the computer internet) just 1 space is needed. I've been thinking of doing 3 spaces. And what is word wrap? Okay, enough already! If it's not broken!!! By-Laws for any kind of sport, are there so we don't have "chaos"... A group of people that don't get along with others, be quiet and listen, I'm always interrupting a conversation. We should get rid of the Delegate voting system we use for the NCHPA Annual Meeting, 1 member, 1 vote, if present/live streaming??? We/NCHPA should be paying for more memberships, out of the treasury we have. As I've made it this far in horseshoes, 1969, a junior in the 1970 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships, I've seen and watched pitchers come and go, and not because of age or disability, they want to change the sport towards their needs, not what's in the best interest of our "Sport"! I remember a lady, Billie Sue Pennington, she did and did and did not give up on horseshoes... So, this year is the change the by-laws year and will be discussing at the

Annual NCHPA Meeting in Nov. 2022. I now need to write another article for my club, McBean, I always wait until the last minute to do things...**Jeff Williams**

Fifth VP

First of all I would like to say thank you for allowing me to be part of our NCHPA Board. It has been a pleasure working with some great people whose main focus is the success of the NCHPA and all of its members. Please remember the annual horseshoe meeting is coming up and it really needs the membership support so please do your best to attend either in person or via Zoom; we need you. There is a lot to talk about and vote on

As my title of 5th Vice President is coming to an end, I would like to say thank you for allowing me to help out our organization. It would be a pleasure to be re-elected. My highlight of the year was making the decision to get myself set up with my printer and computer for horseshoe master and sat in with Gail on one of Vallejo's tournaments and started to learn how to run the program. I think it was a success. It was actually fun putting in all the stats. I will keep on practicing for next year. I think it would be a great idea for others to try to learn it also. Believe me if I can do it, you can too! Happy Holidays and until our shoes touch each other, Happy Ringers. Thanks, **Dave Lane**

Regional Director

Since you've already read Mike's column you know that San Jose will again use the Half Moon Bay Club for their tournaments. The Half Moon Bay Club is to be commended for their generosity by allowing the San Jose group to host the tournaments there. *Thank you Half Moon Bay!* More news on clubs; is that San Francisco is part of history once again. The SF city council, board of supervisors and others have deemed it necessary to ban motor vehicles on Conservatory Drive in Golden Gate Park. There was no access to restrooms, water had been turned off thereby created an unmanageable venue in which to host tournaments. The alternative of Stern Grove

was viable in 2021, but a broken water main there flooded out those courts and their restrooms. SF decided to renovate that small park and those plans did not include horseshoe courts.

If we dwell on the number of facilities that have been eliminated because of the bums and junkie situation in the US, you can include the Tulare, Sacramento, San Jose and now for a second time San Francisco. Tulare has moved to a new facility though with beautiful courts at their golf course. (Tournament restrictions will apply at the new facility please follow them) *Peter Zepponi thanks for your efforts, your friendship, your innovative ideas and your inspiration. Please pitch with us somewhere in 2023?*

The initial outreach has begun with horseshoe pitchers in Hanford. They are asking questions about becoming a sanctioned club. If you know anyone in that area please help us out by supplying them with information.

As I'm entering the 26th year of being associated in one way or another with this NCHPA Charter newsletter I sincerely hope it has helped you to stay informed. Even though nowadays there is Social Media which is a much more timely method of communication this newsletter still has pertinent information which all members can use. Whether it's entry forms for the tournament, pitching schedule what's happening at other clubs etc. It's information we can always use and all past issues are available on our website at NCHPA.COM under News & Views simply click on Past Issues of current issue to find useful information.

Please remember this holiday season as you begin your shopping to use AmazonSmile when shopping and mark The National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF) as your charity. To date the NHPF has received \$1,573.93 due to your participation in this worthwhile program. To learn more about it contact

<https://smile.amazon.com/charity/smile/about>

Keep up the good work and the NHPF thanks you many times! **Casey Sluys**

Reminders to everyone for 2023 please take note of the following regarding the pitching schedule?

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 & 10 AM start generally plus 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.
- **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.

GRIPS & TIPS



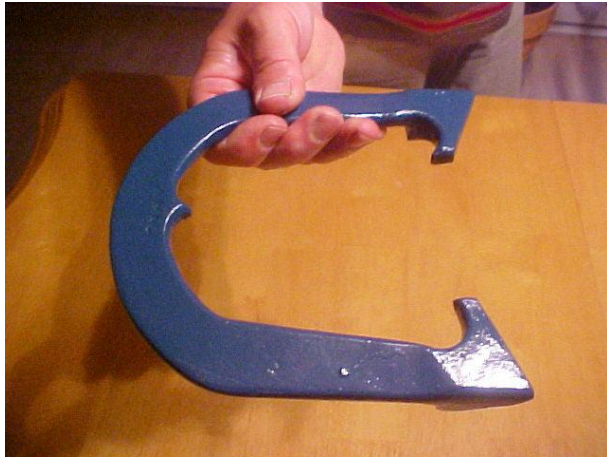
Slower 1 1/4 Turn Grip

By changing your thumb position on the 1 1/4 side you can slow your turn down and give it a little wobble at the same time. I currently use this grip for my 1 1/4 turn. Since over the last 30 years most of the time I pitched a 1 3/4 turn I had to find a way to slow my 1 1/4 down otherwise it also seemed to want to overturn. This seems to have solved the problem and I am very happy with how the horseshoe rotates in the air. For me I look for two things in a horseshoes' reaction, first is how it rotates open to the stake and secondly how it hooks. If you pitch the horseshoe correctly almost every horseshoe that touches the stake will hook and become a ringer.



Quicker 3/4 & 1 3/4 Turn Grip

By changing your thumb position on the 3/4 and 1 3/4 side the rotation will be quicker. Try this if your turn is just a tad too slow. For me when I use this grip the horseshoe will wobble allot more. I recommend using the thumb position as a fine tuner. Every varying degree of movement from straight across from the index finger like the pictures above to this extreme move will have a slightly different reaction.



1 1/4 Turn Grip

This is the 1 1/4 turn grip. The rotation of the horseshoe in flight will be a smooth flat rotating turn with a very slight wobble. To get more wobble and a slower turn move down to the open end of the horseshoe resting your baby finger against the lug while moving more to the closed end will cause you turn to be even flatter and quicker but the horseshoe will have a tendency to nose dive (stand up) because you will be gripping the horseshoe in an out of balance position. In the picture to the left my thumb is almost right on the center of balance of this horseshoe which is good starting point.



Flip Grip

This is the basic flip grip. Thumb flat on top with index finger right of ringer breaker and middle and ring finger on the other side. Baby finger acts as support underneath to stabilize everything. I have seen many variations of this grip one of the more popular variations is to put the ringer breaker between your middle and ring finger which allows your index finger to run along the underside of the blade of the horseshoe adding more support. The goal is to pitch the horseshoe so it flips once in the air then lands open at the stake. Always pitch your flip shoe with the lugs down.



Baby Finger Support

This view is to show how the baby finger supports the horseshoe for almost all grips. On occasion to garner extra support some people use the ring finger along with the baby finger which leaves only two fingers wrapped around the horseshoe and two underneath. If you are just learning it will take you a little while for your baby finger to gain enough strength to support the horseshoe so be patient it will come.

Write it Down

This may seem insignificant but I strongly suggest that after you just finished having a good practice session write down any tweaking you did to your style which proved beneficial. It may be something simple like if I hold the horseshoe a little flatter it turns better, anything you found that helped. You would be surprised how quick you forget. If it's on paper you can always reference it. I used this one a lot when my game was on the upswing.

Paint Your Horseshoes

I learned this tip from reading an article about Dean McLaughlin a long time ago. Whenever things were not going well he would paint his horseshoes. It accomplished two things. When a horseshoe is painted it gives it a different feel which might help you get out of the slump, but more importantly it will allow you to follow your horseshoe in the air and possibly determine what is going wrong. I will add one other benefit for painting your horseshoes the paint acts like a shock absorber when hitting the stake. You will have less bounce-offs and your horseshoes will most likely last longer if always kept with a nice layer of paint on them. (spray can no, brush yes) Oh and if you live in town the neighbors might appreciate the reduced noise from your painted pair of horseshoes.

Setup

As you practice you should come up with a routine. Once you develop this routine you should always follow the same routine be it in practice or in a tournament. This way it becomes natural and reliable. Under the pressure of a tournament sometimes it is difficult to think but you can still draw some level of confidence knowing that if you go through your normal routine a ringer will be the result. When setting up a routine don't make it so long it becomes annoying and cumbersome. Under practice conditions you are not likely to follow it if it is too long, so it won't help you. Something simple but relevant is best.

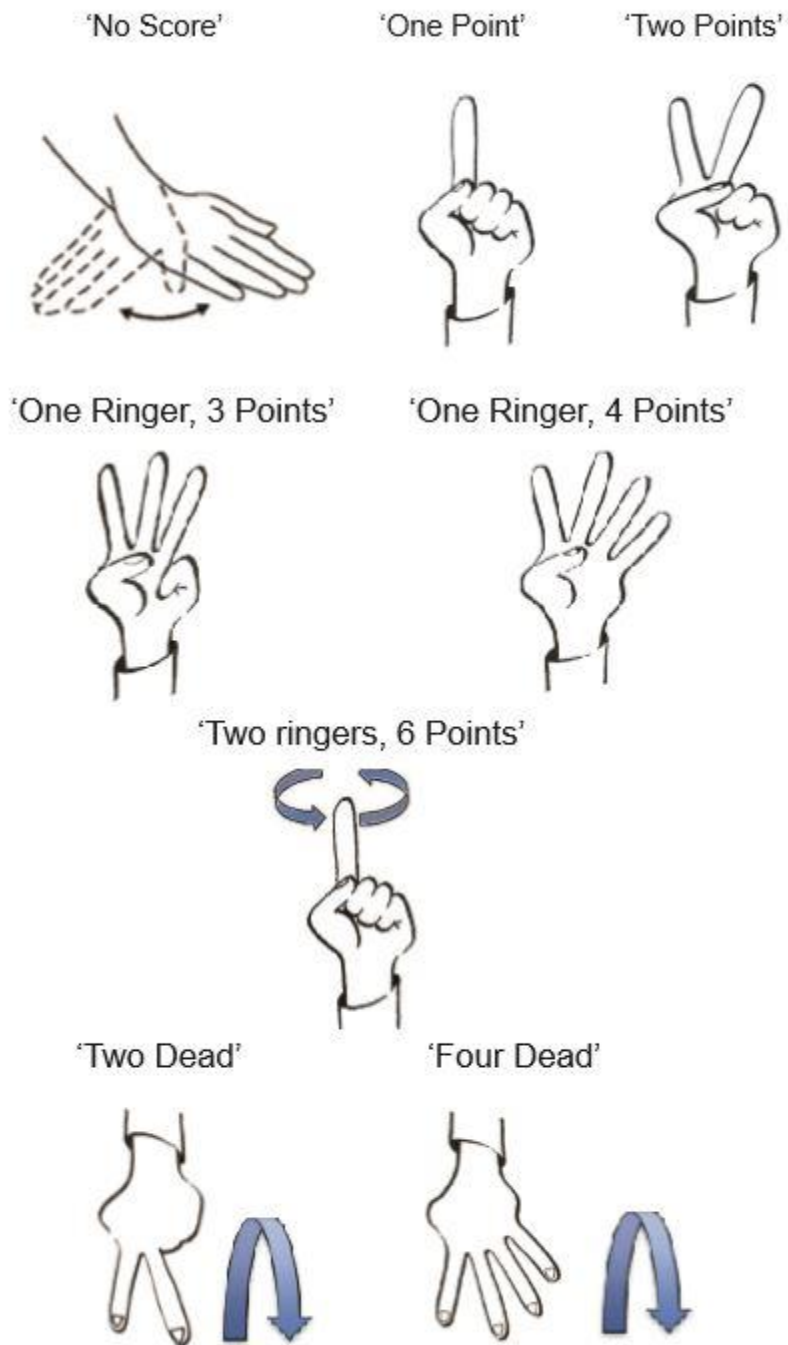
Consistency is the Key

Unlike most sports which there is typically a defined right way and wrong way to achieve results. Horseshoes is a game where any number of different techniques such as swings, grips, heights, speeds can all still achieve the same ultimate response, the perfect ringer. Now I am not saying some styles are better than others and some people should go back to the drawing board but the main key to pitching ringers is to be able to repeat the same motion time after time. My experience with this in the past is the times in my career where I accepted my style for what it was and only worked on perfecting that delivery time after time I had good results but any time I tinkered too much and tried to change things too much my consistency and average suffered. Find a swing/ style that works for you then just keep practicing it until it becomes as natural as walking. *Courtesy of Kevin McLaughlin*

Section C - Recommended Hand Signals

The use of hand signals is optional . but very helpful to scorekeepers who may have difficulty hearing verbal calls, for a wide variety of reasons . Though there may be more than one hand signal for some calls, the following are based on written survey results, and from discussions and the recommendations of many scorekeepers . Alternate hand signals, for some calls, can be found in Newline Magazine articles and/or on the NHPA website .

A. Calls/Signals for Cancellation Play: (**Review Rule 6**, Section B .1 - Calling the Score)



(After the 'two-dead' signal, add either the 'no score', '1 point', or '3 points' signal . After the 'four-dead' signal . a 'no-score' signal can be added)

CLUBS

San Jose:

Congratulations to all the pitchers who managed to attend the 2022 World Tournament in Monroe, Louisiana and to those who made it to the 2022 California State Championships in Bakersfield, CA. I am sure that fun was had by all the World Tournament pitchers. I know that we had lots of "fun" in the 108 degree heat in Bakersfield. :)

The 2022 pitching season is drawing to a close. San Jose tournaments are still being held at Half Moon Bay (Thank you HMB!) as San Jose Parks and Recreation works on their schedule for Columbus Park demolition, reconfiguration, and renaming. The latest word is still that San Jose Horseshoe Club will not be holding tournaments at Columbus Park until at least the spring of 2025!!!! :(So all San Jose tournaments for the foreseeable future will be held at Half Moon Bay. The San Jose Sep. 25 Saunders Family Tournament had a single class of 8 pitchers. (It was suggested that it would be nice for all pitchers to have a chance to be Tournament Champion.) Pat McGowan finished 1st and was Tournament Champion. Richard Robbins was 2nd. Please join us for San Jose at Half Moon Bay Sat. Oct. 29 for the Nakamoto Family Tournament.

Thanks to those who attended our 2022 tournaments. We hope to see you and many others at our 2023 tournaments. Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season. **Mike Anderson**

Vallejo:

The Vallejo Horseshoe Club is sad to say that the 2022 horseshoe pitching season is coming to an close. It was a successful season for the Vallejo Club and looking forward the 2023 season. The Vallejo Horseshoe Club hosted 7 Tournaments and the NCHPA Championships + the NCHPA Doubles Tournament. A big shout out to all participants and all champions Congratulations!

Another huge shout out to all who helped the

Vallejo Horseshoe Club to host these events. We especially appreciate our stat keepers (Steve & Gail), and all those who helped getting the courts in shape for play (Joe, Gina, John, Rich Robbins). A big shout out to Bohnet Engraving for getting us all the plates for our pitchers who won or placed in there groups.

The Vallejo Horseshoe Club is looking forward to 2023! We will be hosting another 7 Tournaments starting in March. We hope everyone has a great Holiday Season and keep your selves healthy. If possible, practice when you can and until our shoes touch each other's Happy Holidays! **Dave Lane**

Forebay Park:

Forebay park. Summers finally over? Longest hottest, one I have ever seen. This is why we always have our tournaments in the hottest part of the summer up here so you can come up here and beat the heat at 4000 feet. And some good tournaments we had. Like the Bill Harris memorial on June 25th We had 17 pitchers in 4 groups that went no handicap. How often does that happen? I just found out today that the El Dorado county board of supervisors approved 2 million in funds for improvements to Forebay Park. This means new rest room. Thank god, the old one was over flowing. Plus new paved parking lot. And a new gate I hope. The old one sucks! See you all next year! **Rick Eddy** club president.

McBean/Lincoln:

McBean/Lincoln Horseshoe Pitching Club was started 4 years ago coming up November Saturday following Thanksgiving. This means that Josephine Tellers and Wayne Lockhart having been pitching for 4 years now. She, Josie, had to come from behind, doing last place finishes for 2 years and now look at you, stayed with it. Also Wayne has struggled and yet made it to 2 world tournament, and in Hawaii spear fishing, you are awesome. And then we can talk about Bobby Bartell, Let's see,,,,... Met him at a barnyard tournament at Larry King, Memorial Day weekend, 5 years ago, he joined our GSHL Team and has gone to 3 World tournaments, and made the

Championship Class at the 2022 World Horseshoe Pitching Championships, WOW!!! Don't forget John Demello, a wonderful pitcher and person, an Elder. Having so much fun out there on the horseshoe courts, and his wife let's him pitch shoes everywhere, been to 2 World's and wanting more.... As a new club, always was just a helper in the past now I'm in charge, we've made it thru this "covid-virus" thing and have increased our membership and still going higher. Our Club is lucky to have as many great pitchers as we do, thank you lord! In 50 years of pitching, I don't think any club in the NHPA has as many notable pitchers at this early years of McBean/Lincoln HAS.... ok except in the 1980s/1990s with Don Titcomb and the San Jose Golden Eagles.

It's been 2 years since Wayne Lockhart and Stan Cummings set the New Guinness World Record for "Longest Horseshoe Pitching Marathon" 24 hours 16 minutes and some seconds, Congrats for that. The "Thirsty Ringers Thursday" Sanctioned Horseshoe Pitching League has and is growing, that's a lot of work do acc. averages. Going to try some things different this year, pre-registration, early start time, entry fee higher, more payout \$\$, and a Blind-draw doubles, Un-sanctioned, barnyard type tourney after the sanctioned event!!!... Now I'll go back and reread what I've written!!! Always forgetting someone or thing. At the Ca state in Bakersfield Ca. We had a great showing from our Club, Nathan and Bobby in the Championship Group, John DeMello in the Elders Championships, Steve Sharp placing in his group, Josie Tellers coming in 3rd for the Women's Championships and I showed up to pitch 5 games in the Seniors championships, and Jeff Szczesny pitching in C Class, everyone had a great time and pitched well! Thank you to my mom, Esther Williams and Corrina Mills for help running the tournaments and stopping me from pulling my hair out! Did a awesome showing in the NCHPA Championships. Nathan Williams is the NorCal Champion, Jeff Szczesny and Josie Tellers had a playoff for 1st place in Class B. I won Class C with Steve Sharp in 2nd. Mona Larian helped our new pitcher Tony Bodifold pitch the ropes in that class, thank you Mona. Also me and Mona were partners in the

Doubles and came in 2nd to Gina. Josie Tellers and Dave Lane took 1st in A Class Doubles. It's been a wonderful year Pitching Horseshoes, again...**Jeff Williams**

Sonoma County

As the books close on 2022 we hope you will join us in 2023 at one of the best pitching facilities in Northern CA. Ask you friends that have been there they'll vouch for that. We look forward to many new faces in the coming year. We have some unique names and the person to thank for that is Sue Lichua. Very innovative. I'd love to see other clubs name some of their tournaments in a more colorful way... as long as it can be read in church that is.

The Mystery Money tournament went over pretty good, but somebody didn't seal the envelopes all the way. As the players walked away their money began falling from their envelopes. All was okay though as they all found the change that scattered. I know of one person that won all their games and came away with \$26.00. Were there any higher numbers? I also know of one wo walked away with 13 cents though, but that's the chance you take in an event like this. Instead of \$6.00 next year we'll put \$8.00 in.

So far the plan is to hold out entry fee to \$10.00. We certainly hope it can be done. The club would like to wish you and your family a Happy Holiday Season. **Casey Sluys**

Stockton

We were proud to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Horseshoe Pitching Club in 2022. We had a successful tournament on April 9th. which was 50 years to the day from our first NCHPA tournament. It was fun to remember the way the world was in 1972 and to celebrate the old pitchers that participated in that first tournament. Thanks, and warm remembrance to all the Stockton Club Members that worked so hard to develop and support our club, our facility, and our sport! Although the schedule is still being finalized for 2023 Stockton plans to hold our tournaments

on Saturdays. We hope as you make your pitching plans for next year that you include our Stockton Tournaments. We are proud of our members Wayne McGhee and Fay Dumont, and their great accomplishments at the State Tournament in Bakersfield!

We plan on bidding for the 2023 State Tournament at the upcoming Year-end Meeting, pending the Board's decision on moving the date of the State Tournament. If we are successful in getting the State Tournament,

we pledge to have the Louis Park facility in condition that we can all be proud of.

Happy Off-Season to you all. Onward to 50 more years of Stockton Horseshoe Pitching.

George Davis,

Coming in the next and all other issues, a column called

WHAT'S THE RULE. What's would you like clarification on?

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION

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What is this?...The olden days?

1991 NCHPA HIGHLIGHTS

There were 95 NCHPA tournaments held with a total of 4356 participants. An average of 45.85 players per tournament.

PLUS:

28 pitchers went to the World in Biloxi

97 pitchers went to the State in Bakersfield

4 tournaments were rained out. 4 tournaments were cancelled

58 High Game Over Average certificates were given out for games of 25% or more pitched over entering average for that tournament.

MOST IMPROVED AVERAGE: (after 3 tournaments)

WOMEN:	Dorothy Rasmussen	YOL	17.93%
GIRLS:	Bonnie Robbins	TV	3.08%
BOYS:	Donny Williams	FR	17.70%
MEN:	Charlie Valsecchi	SON	20.22%
MEN 30 feet:	Charlie DeRose	STK	13.35%

HIGHEST % GAME OVER AVERAGE:

WOMEN:	Lois Edwards	FR	76.66%	-	30.78%	over average
	Foa Remillong	HMB	64. %	-	28.88%	over average
	Gail Sluys	SON	75. %	-	28.63%	over average
JUNIORS:	Cody Richmond	SJ	46. %	-	31.79%	over average
	Donny Williams	FR	62.5 %	-	25.99%	over average
	Kenny Knox	FOR	32. %	-	20%	over average
MEN:	Bob Blow	TV	75%	-	42.46%	over average
	Greg White	YOL	65%	-	40.43%	over average
	Dennis Farmer	SHA	55%	-	38.50%	over average

MOST TOURNAMENTS ENTERED

WOMEN:	Dorothy Rasmussen	YOL	42 tournaments
	Gail Sluys	SON	38 tournaments
	Billie Sue Pennington	STK	32 tournaments
JUNIORS:	Donny Williams	FR	16 tournaments
	Ryan Reilly	SJ	13 tournaments
	Bonnie Robbins	TV	10 tournaments
MEN:	Oliver Smith	TV	54 tournaments
	Chet Carter	TV	52 tournaments
	Derald Rasmussen	YOL	47 tournaments

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL GAME:

WOMEN:	Sharon Paddock	STK	94%
	Gail Sluys	SON	84.37%
	Carol Casados	TUR	82.5 %
	Marthe Dunn	TV	81.25%
JUNIORS:	Donny Williams	FR	62.5%
	Cody Richmond	SJ	46%
MEN:	Walter Ray Williams Jr	STK	95%
	Jeff Williams	SAC	88%
	Dave Loucks	GCN	85%
	Gus Martin	FR	85%

Just look at the average number of pitchers per tournament. Could you handle that again?