

**Volume 22 #2**  
**Apr., May, June., 2019**

# Nor-Cal News Views

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

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

**Entry forms? here they are...**

## **Secretary/Treasurer**

March has come in like a lion so let's all hope it will go out like a lamb. It's time for the rain to back off and our tournaments to get going. We all appreciate the rain we have received but seeing the sun would be so nice, help dry out the courts, and let the games begin.

Please send in any of your new and returning membership dues that you have collected to date. When you send a brand new members information PLEASE include the size and color needed for their NHPA shirt. We would like them to have their shirts ASAP so they have time to add their name on the back if they plan to pitch in the World, State, NCHPA or the Doubles Championships. So far this year we have 180 members, it's early so let's all try to make our clubs grow for 2019. See you at the courts. *Gail*

## **1st. VP**

I was saddened last month to hear of the passing of Ottie Reno, the author and horseshoe Hall of Famer. Ottie passed away on February 11, 2019. Those of you who read my News and Views article a couple of years ago entitled

"How Ottie Reno and Walter Ray Williams, Jr. changed my life," know how significant of a role that Ottie's book Pitching Championship Horseshoes played in my becoming involved in the sport of horseshoe pitching.

Ottie Reno's achievements in horseshoe pitching are legendary. He is a member of four horseshoe pitching Halls of Fame: the National Horseshoe Pitchers Association in 1978, the Ohio in 1978, the Alabama in 1977, and the Ohio Senior Olympics in 2008. Ottie held an NHPA Office continuously for over 20 years. In 1964 he received the Stokes Memorial Award, perhaps the NHPA's most prestigious award, from Mrs. Stokes herself at what has become known as the greatest ever World Tournament in Greenville, Ohio. Not only did Ottie win the Stokes Award, but his cousin Harold Reno won the Men's World Title, and his nephew Gary Roberts won his fourth consecutive Junior World Title that year. Over the years Ottie had pitched exhibitions at fairs, schools, penitentiaries, and amusement parks, and in recent years had been a member of the "Reno Family Horseshoe Pitchers" a traveling road show featuring NHPA star Gary Roberts with over 300 performances in West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Canada, and Mexico. Ottie is well known for attending the World Tournament 59 times, winning the world title in his class twice. He designed and manufactured the "Reno" horseshoe, and wrote four books on horseshoe pitching. Ottie was best known as a Promoter/Organizer, and in his book he wrote, "I am not one of the outstanding pitchers myself," but his 14 Alabama State Championships speak otherwise. He pitched over 60% in six of those years with a high tournament of 66.7%, and had a high game of 90% (27 out of 30); pretty good pitching for a "promoter!"

Ottie's horseshoe accomplishments are well known, and most of you probably knew all about them. What I learned about Ottie Reno in

reading his obituary last month, and a few other biographical details I found on line, was what an incredible, full life that he lived outside of horseshoes! What a remarkable man!

Ottie Reno was born on April 7, 1929 in Pike County, Ohio, and would live there his whole life. Ottie had two brothers and two sisters that preceded him in death. It is told that when Ottie was 5 years old, his father hired a lawyer, and young Ottie watched his dad interact with this important man, listening to every word he said. When Ottie later learned that the man was a judge and a lawyer, he decided, even at that young age, that he wanted to do the same thing with his life. Although his family was poor and no one believed he would be able to afford law school, Ottie set a solid goal, and devoted every effort to his dream. He attended High School at Piketon High School and graduated as class Valedictorian in 1947. It was also in 1947 that he married Janet McCann who would be his wife of 60 years. Their happy marriage produced three children including Jennifer Reno, who was the 1971 and 72 Junior Girls World Champion, and Lorna Reno who was a 2 time Ohio Junior Girls State Champion. From 1947 to 1949, as a newly-wed, and likely under the pressure of working his way through College, Ottie earned a Pre-law degree in Business Administration. He then took his Law Degree in 1953 and was admitted to the Ohio Bar Association at the tender age of 23. He started practicing law in Pike County at that time. It was in 1956 that Ottie took up his chief hobby of pitching horseshoes, and managed to win the Pike County Horseshoe Championship. Ottie wrote that he was a baseball and basketball player when he renewed an early enthusiasm for horseshoes “when the base paths began to feel uphill and the basketball courts got longer.” He took over as president of the Pike County Horseshoe club when it had eight members and “one court in the woods.” Ottie increased the membership to 200 pitchers with multiple outdoor courts and three indoor courts

for winter play. He somehow found the time and energy to become involved as an officer in the Ohio Buckeye Horseshoe Pitchers Association in 1957, and as an NHPA officer in 1960! As if his family, legal career, and horseshoe hobby didn't keep him busy enough, Ottie managed to earn a Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree in 1966, and in 1973 he received a Graduate Degree from the College of Juvenile Justice at the University of Nevada. What a prolific career Ottie had in the legal field! Judge Reno served as the County Recorder in Pike County from 1957 to 1973, and then became a Judge in the Probate and Juvenile Division from 1973 to 1979. In 1974 he was awarded six Outstanding Judicial Service awards from the Ohio Youth Commission. From 1979 until retirement Ottie served his community in private practice.

Ottie Reno was very active in Local, State, and National Democrat Politics. For three years in the early 60's he was the President of the Local School Board, and served on several Ohio Democratic Committees. In 1966 he ran for the US Congress from Ohio's 6<sup>th</sup> District. In 1992 he ran for the Ohio House of Representatives from the 88<sup>th</sup> district. Ottie served as a Hubert Humphrey delegate to the 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami, giving a televised seconding nomination speech. The 1972 nomination eventually went to George McGovern. Two weeks after the Convention, Ottie was due to be at the World Tournament in Greenville where daughter Jennifer would repeat as Junior World Champion. In 1996 he was a Bill Clinton delegate at the convention in Chicago.

It is hard to believe that Ottie found the time to write seven books! Besides his horseshoe pitching books he wrote State of Ohio vs. Isaac Milton Smith Murder, in 1990, a book about a murder committed in Ohio, and Reno and Apsaalooka Survive Custer, written in 1996. In 2010, on my way back to Iowa for the World

Tournament, my wife and I visited the site of Custer's Last Stand in Wyoming. In reading about the Last Stand, I had remembered Custer's second in command being a Major Marcus A. Reno. I had no idea at the time, but it turns out that Major Reno was a relative of Ottie Reno. Major Reno, who was also a distinguished Civil War veteran, was a bit of a controversial character. The scandal press of the day looked for someone to blame for Custer and his 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry being wiped out by Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse. Custer's widow, along with a Custer biographer accused Reno and others of "doing less than their duty" even of "being cowards or traitors" contributing to the massacre. Reno was exonerated at a court of inquiry that he requested, but the cloud of accusation hung over Major Reno's head for the rest of his life. Eventually, on charges unrelated to Custer's Last Stand, he was found guilty of "conduct unbecoming of an officer," and he was dismissed from the Army. Ottie's book is about how the Reno family and other Civil War buffs fought to reopen Major Reno's case and restore him to his rank. In 1967 the Pentagon corrected the injustice done to Marcus Reno, returned his rank, and reburied him with full military honors on the Montana battlefield. You can still get the book on Amazon and I would like to read it one of these times.

As if all I've described about Ottie is not enough for two lifetimes, I would finally add that he served three years in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict as a member of the 166<sup>th</sup> Regimental Combat Team, Ohio National Guard, and received an Honorable Discharge.

Finally, Ottie was a Christian, active in his Church, and for a time sang in a gospel quartet!

I always admired Ottie Reno for his contributions to our sport. His promotional activity, his writings, his service to the organization, his participation on the courts, his love of the game have made him an

incomparable legend of horseshoe pitching. Now that I have learned about the rest of his life I'm in awe of what a brilliant and accomplished man he was! Ottie, the Grand Old Gentleman of Horseshoes, will be greatly missed by all those whose life he touched! Those that knew Ottie remember him as a story teller, a profoundly good man with an endearing smile and a wonderful sense of humor. His daughter Jennifer wrote, "Dad loved his friends, family and life as much as anyone I know."

I have one regret regarding Ottie. I always wanted to introduce myself, shake his hand, and let him know how important his book was to my getting into horseshoes. One night at the World Tournament in St. George in 2017. I was pitching on a practice court with an empty court next to me, and sure enough up walks Ottie Reno. He just mentioned that he had just bought a pair of light weight horseshoes, and wanted to try them out. Of course, I should have dropped my shoes at that moment and introduced myself, but I couldn't help but see that he was anxious to throw his new shoes so I just kept pitching, satisfied to be practicing next to the legend. In the Foreword to Ben Hogan's classic golf instructional Five Lessons The Modern Fundamentals of Golf the writer is making the point that all golfers are constantly trying, even obsessed, to improve their golf games. He told the story that "Only a few days ago I played a round with a famous pro, an especially serene companion and one of the enduring masters of golf. He was on that day trying out a new set of woods for the first time. He was as happy and uninhibited as a small boy with these new tools of his trade. In the warm glow of his infectious enthusiasm I asked myself, why? Presently it dawned on me. Because they were going to make it possible for him to improve his game." That night in St. George I could see in Ottie a little of the small boy with these new tools of the trade, and I could see the enthusiasm generated by the hope that these new light horseshoes might improve

his pitching the next day. As fate would have it, one of Ottie's friends came along, and they got deeply involved in a horseshoe conversation. I decided to finish my practice, hoping that I would catch him some other time, but that next time never came. Last year Richard Robbins played with Ottie in his group in South Carolina. It made me feel good to know that Richard got to know Ottie, got to shake his hand, and even got his autograph. It is sad that Ottie has pitched his last World Tournament, but what a blessing it was that just a few short months before he went to be with the Lord, he was still pitching ringers! Rest in peace Ottie, you are an inspiration to us all, and thanks for all you have done! **George Davis**

### 3rd. VP

The first 2 tournaments of the 2019 season scheduled for Feb. were cancelled or postponed due to weather. The remaining 3 Feb. tournaments were slipped in between weather events (or during as was the case of the Feb. 9 Gino Rinaldi Tournament in San Francisco Golden Gate Park) and were completed with the results sent to NatStats in a timely fashion and all data successfully entered into the NCHPA statistician's spreadsheet. At this writing March has started off with plenty of rain and it remains to be seen if more tournaments will be cancelled or postponed. Weather allowing, everyone get out there and pitch those tournaments and good luck to you.

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 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. 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 would like to see member numbers in every file that you send. That means I want the long version, not brief version, of every file. Thanks for all your help. **Mike Anderson**

### 4th. VP

2019 IS HERE!!! And the pitching season has begun and the year promises to be just as busy as last year!!!

We are hosting the California State Tournament this year so we begin to prepare for that as well as all our tournaments in Northern California. Hope you are all well and drying out from all the welcomed wet weather. - **Lorena Tournour**

### 5th. VP

Hello everyone, I hope all is well with everyone. I know the rain has put a damper on some of the early tournaments. I have played in three tournaments so far this year and two others I wanted to go to were rained out. I played in the Danny Kyle Birthday Tournament in Bakersfield. This was a very nice tournament. It had a good turnout, good weather and good food thanks to Danny. I have played in two tournaments in Madera. Jason is doing a good job taking over for Harlan. It is not easy putting on a tournament. My hats go off to all of you tournament directors and your crew.

I was envious of all of you that played in the tournament in Phoenix, AZ. That would have been an interesting event to attend.

I know the subject this time is recruiting new members to horseshoes. I know Casey is going to have far more information on this subject. I can interject the things I do. I practice at the park in Clovis and I get people coming over and watching and I give them information. I meet with a group of 9 (10 with me) almost every Sunday at the park in Clovis. We have a nice get together where we play doubles. We mix up the groups and play with a different partners. I have a license plate cover that says "I'd Rater Be Playing Horseshoes". I get a few comments from that. I work-out at the gym three times a week and I have meet some people that way. I tell them about my weekend horseshoes or they ask me about my weekend. I also belong to a 55+ meet up group. In this group we do walks in the park, dinners, and other activities. I have gotten to know a few people and they all know that I play horseshoes any chance I get. So my suggestion is just talk to as many people as you can about horseshoes and get them motivated to play.

Remember if your club needs scorecards or round robin cards send me an email. Text, or call I can be reached at jvhiker54@yahoo.com or 559 317-0721.

Thanks all and have a good game. **Jeff Vieira**

# 2019 California State Championships

**Sponsor: Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NCHPA)**

**Host Club: Stockton Horseshoe Club**

**Aug. 31, Sept 1-2, 2019**

**Louis Park 3121 Monte Diablo Ave**

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 (60+)(40ft)*    *Elders or Med Exempt (30ft)*    *Open Women*    *Sr. Women (60+)*

*Jr. Boys*    *Jr. Girls*    *Cadets (20ft)*

**PARTICIPANTS LIABILITY RELEASE:** In consideration of participating in such activity, I hereby, waive, release and forever discharge the Northern CA 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 California State Horseshoe Pitching Tournament. In addition it is understood that the NCHPA has sole rights to any and all pictures and/or articles for publication.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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(Keep this section for future reference – Calif. State Championships, Stockton, 8/31-9/1-2, 2019)

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 **\$25** for juniors and cadets; no refunds after the entry deadline date. Adult and Junior prize money based on entry fees & any sponsor funds received.

**Entry deadline** date (or post mark date): **1 August 2019** (Late entries require an additional **\$10** entry fee and will be used on a standby basis only.)

Make checks payable to: **N C H P A** Send entries to: Gail Sluys (707-538-3128 or 707-486-0594 nchpagail@gmail.com)

1721 San Ramon Wy  
Santa Rosa CA 95409

If you must drop out, please immediately **notify** Gail Sluys (707-538-3128 nchpagail@gmail.com).

## 2019 CALIFORNIA STATE HORSESHOE PITCHING CHAMPIONSHIPS



### Awards/Trophy Sponsorship Form



### Northern California Horseshoe Pitcher's Association

The Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association (NCHPA) will host the 2019 California State Horseshoe Pitching Championships tournament In Stockton, California; August 31, and September 1 and 2, 2019. Please consider sponsoring an award for this prestigious event! Both plaques and cash are awarded to the winners of 20-30 groups of players from throughout the state. This tournament establishes California State Champions for both men and women of all ages plus boys and girls under 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 August 20<sup>th</sup>, the award plaque will reflect your support, and if you have a specific group you wish to sponsor please let us know, we will do our best to accommodate your request based on first come – first served.

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

Sponsor's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's phone and/or E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \$50.00 (make check payable to **NCHPA**)

Please send this completed form with your check to the NCHPA awards coordinator:

Alan Trusty  
2734 E Whitmore Ave.  
Ceres, CA 95307

# **Hall of Fame Nomination**

## **Northern California Horseshoe Pitchers Association**

Any member in good standing may nominate any NCHPA member for consideration to be inducted into the NCHPA Hall of Fame. Nominees must have ten years of consecutive membership and may be nominated as a Pitcher or Promoter.

This form must accompany any and all supporting documentation concerning your nomination. Tell us all you can about the person that you are nominating so as to assist the selection committee in considering your nomination for induction. You may use the back of this page and/or include as many additional pages as needed for you to justify why your nominated person should qualify for induction. All submitted documentation must be type written to be considered. Provide copies as materials will not be returned.

**Return form:** Linda Hoelscher: 24334 Hoag Road, Corning CA 96021 (530) 824-1392, [linal74@aol.com](mailto:linal74@aol.com)

<b>Nominee Name:</b>
<b>Number of Years as NCHPA Member:</b>
<b>Nominated By:</b>
<b>Nominated as a Pitcher or Promoter:</b>

### **Highlights of Pitching Career**

Tournaments Won	Where	Date	Average

### **NCHPA or Club Offices Held**

Office Held	Where	Date

### **Provide Examples of Promotional Efforts**



# NCHPA CHAMPIONSHIPS ENTRY FORM October 5th and 6th



(One or Two Days of Pitching depending on number of  
Entries)

## HOST CLUB – Vallejo Horseshoe Club

*PRE-REGISTER - \$ PRIZE MONEY & PLAQUES*

*ENTRY DEADLINE POSTMARKED **September 24, 2019***

Participants must have pitched in (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournament before September 24, 2019. **New members** who joined after August 1, 2018 and **Junior/Cadet** entrants need a minimum of one (1) NCHPA sanctioned tournament before September 24, 2019.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEE \$20.00 FOR ADULTS NO CHARGE FOR JUNIORS OR CADETS

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

No refunds after schedule is completed.

-----CUT HERE-----CUT HERE-----  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
NHPA CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

*Please circle the group you are entering.*

MEN, WOMEN, ELDERS MEN, JR GIRL/BOY,  
CADET 12 & UNDER, SR.MEN, SR.WOMEN.

\*SENIOR GROUPS NOT HAVING A MINIMUM OF 6 PLAYERS WILL BE  
MIXED WITH OPEN CLASSES. ENTRY FEE \$20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# 2019 NCHPA DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

**ENTRY= \$50.00 per team % Cap = 110%**

The 2019 NCHPA Doubles Championship Tournament will be held at the **Half Moon Bay Horseshoe Club on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019.**

Pick your partner from any NHPA, SCHPA. Send \$50.00 per team plus completed entry form to Lorena by September 7<sup>th</sup>. Each team will pay the scorekeeper \$2.00 per game. (\$1.00 per player) The cap on the 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. We hope to have at least two (2) groups with awards and prize money in each group.

Send entry form and entry fee to **Lorena Tournour PO Box 113 Calpella 95418. Phone 707-485-7894.**

Food will be available for sale at Half Moon Bay. More information to follow as the tournament nears.

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Player 1 \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2 \_\_\_\_\_ % \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_



NHPA Members,

The NHPA Council has been informed by Gary Roberts, First Vice President, has resigned due to personal reasons effective immediately. Per the Bylaws, Brian Poole of Idaho has been appointed to complete the remainder of the term of office as First Vice President. Brian will be taking on all duties of the position effective immediately.

The office of First Vice President is up for election at this year's delegate convention. Those interested must announce their candidacy in writing to the President and Newsline editor by no later than April 1, 2019. For a description of duties of this office, refer to the President's Letter in the March/April Newsline edition or give me a call.

Thank You,

Stuart Sipma  
NHPA - President



Each club  
should have a plastic set to set up for the  
little kids when they stop to look.

# CLUBS

## McBean/Lincoln

March 18 2019

McBean/Lincoln Horseshoe Pitching Club

McBean Park in Lincoln CA is going to be a renewed Club for NCHPA. McBean Park has 8 Horseshoe Pitching Courts with complete concrete walkways, 3 courts clay, 4 courts sand, 1 court needs repair from tree roots from a big shade tree for those 100 degree days. Also in McBean Park we have the Lincoln Potters Baseball Team and (Jessup University Teams), a Skateboard Park, Dog Park, Basketball Courts, Swimming Pool, Swings and a Kids Playground, also restrooms. Don Titcomb helped put these courts in around 2001. Gladding McBean <https://www.gladdingmcbean.com> is the Company/Industry where the "Awesome Clay" comes from, Lincoln #9 and #8 it's on their web page, very interesting. We are starting a Thursday Evening League, hopefully will have some more Pitchers'. Our New Members - Bobby Bartelli, Stan Cummings, and Josie Tellers, Welcome aboard. We have our Big Tournament June 29<sup>th</sup>&30<sup>th</sup> 2019, weekend before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Hopefully we will be getting a sponsor to help our Club, "Sierra Pacific" <https://www.spi-ind.com/>

Good Luck to Everyone,

Lots Ringers, Jeff.

## Half Moon Bay

We are looking forward to the upcoming season. We have 25 tournaments scheduled. 15 sanctioned NCHPA plus we will be hosting the NCHPA Doubles Championship on September 21 & 22.

Every year we brainstorm on how to increase our membership. Our marketing goal is to keep it fun for our current membership. We try to give everyone more than just Horseshoe Tournaments. Each member gets a season schedule. This schedule also goes out to potential new members. It has all the info needed about our club. Newspaper articles are sent out to two local newspapers and we are mentioned each week in community activities. We are attempting to be part of the HMB Recreation Department, offering classes in Horseshoes, to coincide with the same night our club meets. We have a web site that covers everything about our club & other horseshoe related info. This site also includes the yearly NATSTATS for the last 5 years of members & associate members. Our Goal is to make every event at our courts fun for anyone who attends while trying to make sure they feel welcome. It's that environment that will help attract new members have them want to come back, regardless of their ability. See you on the courts! ***Rick Della Santina***

## Ukiah

Our first tournaments are the day after our youngest grandson graduates from high school! So we'll be a little rushed but ready to welcome you all to our wonderful Ukiah Valley. Hope you can join us for some pitching, friendship and food. God bless you all. ***-Lorena Tournour***

# Sonoma County

We've blanketed all the area horseshoe pits with various flyers and business cards advertising the club in Santa Rosa at Doyle Park. We will again use rotating banners in various parts on the city to attract new pitchers. Our first night of league went okay we had to use various pits as some were still sloppy from the rain. Fortunately we converted 15 and 16 to sand pits and they were playable. Our first tournament is on April 20.

## San Jose

Welcome to the 2019 pitching season from San Jose! With all the rainy weather not much has been happening at the San Jose horseshoe courts. Some of us have managed to get in a few outings pitching on our 2 sand courts. We hope to do some court prepping to get ready for the April 7 Tri-Valley tournament (if the Tri-Valley courts are not available) and the April 14 and 15 San Jose tournaments. It will all depend on the weather. San Jose had another break-in of our club shed. Brian Zelmar repaired the damage and improved our security by adding a locked bar across the door. Thank you Brian! This should help with the break-ins, but probably will not prevent every possible break-in attempt. :( The latest break-in resulted in the loss of all our canopies, our Quick Connect water plug-ins, our barbecue grill, one trash can, several shovels, and other small items. Replacement costs for the canopies alone will probably approach \$400. This time Russell Zelmar has come to the rescue and will provide a replacement barbecue grill. Thank you Russell! We will replace the other items over time and all tournaments should happen as scheduled. We look forward to seeing everyone at our tournaments and wish everyone the best of luck in the 2019 pitching season. *Mike Anderson*

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### More on PUBLICITY

Ask the radio station to advertise for you in return run a benefit for whichever charity the radio station chooses. Below are complete instructions on how to put on a horseshoe pitching clinic. You could ask the local Lions Club, Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis, VFW, Veterans groups like that and volunteer to run a tournament for them at their annual picnic. Or even use your courts as a base for their picnic.

**Check this out for a great instruction manual for teaching the kids?**

<http://www.horseshoeamerica.com/>

**Wanna go to Texas? Here's the WT entry form, fill it out online and pitch in the World Tournament.**

[https://www.horseshoepitching.com/world2019/WTEntry\\_2019.pdf](https://www.horseshoepitching.com/world2019/WTEntry_2019.pdf)

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Ever thought of creating a sanctioned league at your club? Here's the man to ask: Jerry D. Smith at [horseshoepitcherjds@msn.com](mailto:horseshoepitcherjds@msn.com) He can answer all your questions for you. Call him at 208-250-9282. This is the very same Jerry D. Smith who lived in CA and served as your Sec/Treas. for many years.

Every club should try this work with the local Parks Dept. in your area to contact possible candidates for membership

## How to put on a Horseshoe Pitching CLINIC

Contributed by Dean Schmitz, who was awarded an NHPA Achievement Award in 2001 for his efforts.

This outline, with your own little modifications, will give you an idea of how to go about putting on a horseshoe pitching clinic. Getting started on something seems to be the key to getting things done. This should give you a jump start on putting on that clinic that you've always been talking about.

This is just a suggestion of presentation material and commentary. There are probably more transparencies and commentary than what you will be able to use and still keep your audience interested. Pick out the stuff for a beginners clinic and use it for that. Pick out the stuff for a more advanced clinic and use it for that. After all, YOU will be the presenter.

### PURPOSE OF CLINIC:

1. Recruit new pitchers
2. Information for those who "know it all"
3. General information for the public
4. Sign-up for league play
5. Information for those wavering on joining a club
6. Part of your Club's Open House
7. Orientation before your club begins league play
8. Starting a new Club
9. Recreation Department Information
10. (You can add to this list.)

### CLINIC PREPARATION

**Determine:** DATE, TIME, and PLACE to hold Clinic

If inside, have a portable court setup.

If outside, on the courts, have a presentation area with seating, electrical power, and free from the wind. You could use a building for the classroom portion and then go out to the courts for practical experience.

**Clinic Staff:** Chief presenter, presenter assistant, demonstrators (the "good" pitchers), registrar, fees collector, handout provider, court setup crew (all staff should wear their horseshoe pitching shirts). The chief presenter should definitely be the most informed person on horseshoe pitching "book work".

**Gather Equipment:** Overhead projector, transparencies for the presentation, video player and monitor, video: Basics of Horseshoe Pitching, a fully equipped horseshoe pitching box, different brands of horseshoes, hooks, and other pitching equipment.

**HANDOUTS:** The least that a clinic could bring about is “free” information. Make sure people go away in hand with something about horseshoe pitching. Gather and have plenty of handouts about your local club, state association, NHPA, NHPF, where to buy horseshoes and equipment, horseshoe pitching newsletters, NHPA Newslines magazine, and whatever else you can gather and make copies of.

**Refreshments** and treats are always an ice breaker and gives people something to do when coming in.

**Displays:** You could also have a display area showing individual pitchers trophies and awards (trophies that no one sees after they are won), different brands of horseshoes, newspaper articles about horseshoe pitching, pictures, and whatever else you may think people would be interested in. Anything to peak their interest.

**Advertise:** Through your local recreation department, poster fliers, sending out personal postcards, newspaper articles, radio, local cable TV bulletin boards, posting on the internet, state horseshoe association newsletters, word of mouth, and you may know of other sources.

### **CLINIC PROCEDURE:**

1. Set-up all equipment and make sure it works
2. Set-up tables for handouts, displays, horseshoes and equipment, etc.
3. Register people as they come in
4. Give them “handouts”
5. Take any fees for joining the club and leagues (have applications available for local and state organizations)
6. Make sure everyone has a place to sit or stand and to be able to see the video and overhead projector screens
7. Turn on Overhead Projector
8. (Slide 1) Welcome them to the clinic and the great game of horseshoes, etc.
9. Introduce Clinic Staff

**SHOW VIDEO:** Basics of Horseshoe Pitching

**PROCEED** with remaining set of overhead transparencies

**END** with demonstrations and “guests” pitching on the courts. Answer personal questions by directing them to the proper people.





## **HORSESHOEMANIA RIHPA STYLE**

**Thank you all for your interest in HORSESHOEMANIA. This tournament concept was developed by Dan Molineaux of the Rhode Island Horseshoe Pitching Association to bring non-sanctioned Horseshoe Players into a tournament environment and exposure to our Charter. Here is how it works. Hold a Horseshoemania Tournament and challenge your Charter members to bring a friend.**

**Goal: Challenge all of your "Charter Members" to bring a non-sanctioned player to a HORSESHOMANIA Tournament. Offer a free or a reduced entry to your member.**

- 1. Horseshoemania is a 7 round random blind draw partner tournament with a twist.**
  - A new partner is drawn after every round. This allows new players to play with players of all different skill levels and allows new players to pitch a variety of different shoes.**
  - Games are played to 25 with a twist. A maximum score of 30 can be attained. Game ends with the final score of the final shoes. (IE: 27-11, 25-22, 30-10) We play cancelation but you can play count all if you desire.**
  - Winners of the Tournament are determined by total points scored not by wins and losses.**
  - In RI we charge a \$20.00 Entry Fee, the RIHPA keeps \$100.00, all other Money collected goes to prize fun.**
  - In RI, we pay the top 2 highest point totals as our 1<sup>st</sup> place team, next high 2 2<sup>nd</sup> place all the way down till all \$\$ are depleted.**
  - Some interesting points about this format:**
    - 1.) The top 2-point scores may never play together**
    - 2.) Players with 1 or 2 loses may finish higher than players with no loses due to higher point finish.**
    - 3.) Many times, due to the luck of the draw players in 1<sup>st</sup> place at round 7 finish out of the money.....**

**One other note that we have noticed is that not always the best players win. Due to the format with a different partner drawn, different shoes, player match up it makes for some interesting games. Rick Howe is a regular at out tournaments and yes, he has won his fair share and he normally comes in the money but many times he has walked away with nothing.**

**I am sure if you use this concept you may come up with a new variation of play. If you do please share with everyone. The folks in Vt. Were the first to use count all they like it. I am thinking about making the 6<sup>th</sup> round a "Wild Card" in which in that round only I would take the highest point total player and pair them up with the lowest point total player, just might make things interesting.**

**YOU CAN DRAW PARTNERS USING CHIPS OR PLAYING CARDS. BUT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED I HAVE COME UP WITH A EXCEL SHEET THAT WORKS WITH A WEB BASED PROGRAM THAT RANDOMLY DRAWS PARTNERS AND ASSIGNS THEM TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COURTS FOR UP TO 50 PLAYERS USING 12 COURTS. IF YOU IM ME WITH YOUR E-MAIL I CAN FORWARD THIS TO YOU. IT COMES WITH INSTRUCTIONS. TRUST ME I AM NO COMPUTER GEEK SO THIS IS VERY USER FRIENDLY AND SAVES ALLOT OF TIME BECAUSE YOU CAN SET UP ALL 7 ROUNDS. YOU WILL HAVE NO WORRIES AS TO WHO CHOSE WHAT CHIP OR WHO DIDN'T PUT THEIRS BACK.**



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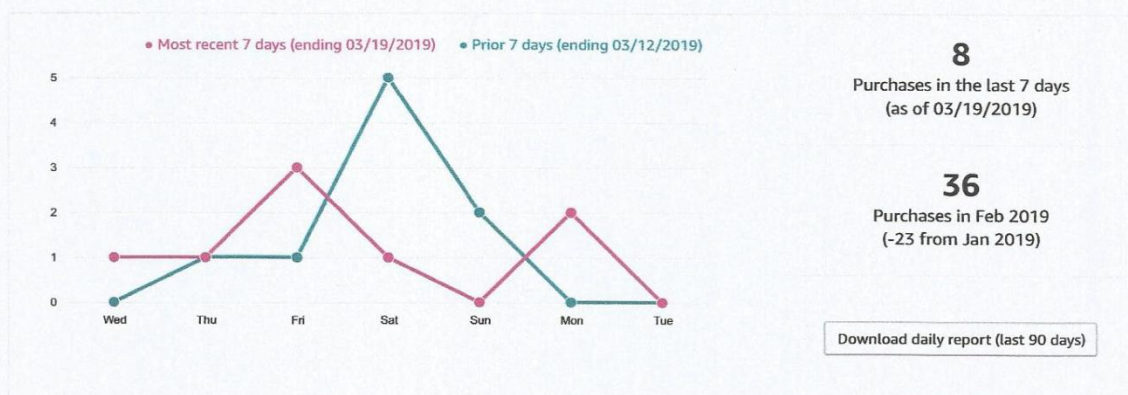
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